NATIONAL LIBRARY of IRELAND

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY, 2009-2011

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I. INTRODUCTION

(i) The National Library of Ireland is the library of record for Ireland, committed to the development of the collections in its care and to their preservation for posterity.

(ii) The Library's holdings constitute the most outstanding collection of Irish documentary material in the world and offer an unparalleled record of Ireland's history and heritage. Books, serials, newspapers, manuscripts, maps, photographs, official publications, prints, drawings, political memorabilia, literary correspondence and ephemera are included among these outstanding holdings.

(iii) Almost all of the material acquired by the Library joins the permanent collection.[1]

(iv) As set out in section (3) of this document, the Board of the Library is required by law to collect, make accessible and preserve a national collection of library material relating to Ireland.

(v) Consistent with its statutory basis the mission of the Library is

> To collect, preserve, promote and make accessible the documentary and intellectual record of the life of Ireland and to contribute to the provision of access to the larger universe of recorded knowledge'. [2]

(vi) In summary, the Library's collection development policy can be described as follows:

- library material on or relating to Ireland will be acquired with a view to providing a record of Ireland's output in print, manuscript and other media for present and future users
- reference material will be acquired to support use of the collections.

(vii) The Library has never had a written collection development policy. In determining the strategic direction of the newly constituted National Library of Ireland, the Board of the Library decided that a primary strategic objective should be the formalising of such a policy.[3]

(viii) This task is being addressed at a time of enormous change in the library world.

(ix) Rapid technological change has transformed the way library content is created and disseminated. There is an urgent need to develop new models for the collection of materials in digital form. Planning for new types of acquisition, access and preservation calls for 'radical changes to old, familiar routines and processes.'[4] The Library will acquire more and more digital heritage materials for

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1. Exceptions include certain reference materials, non-Irish official publications (which are increasingly accessible online) and certain duplicate items.
2. See National Library of Ireland ***Strategic Plan 2008-2010***
3. Strategic objective 1.1 of the ***2008-2010 Strategic Plan*** is "To formalise collection development policy covering all appropriate formats".
4. See Dr. Thomas Lidman (former Director General, Royal Library, Stockholm): *Preservation Policy: An Issue for Experts or Management* at www.kb.se/Eng/Lidman_pa.htm

which a secure digital repository must be provided in order to preserve the integrity of these digital heritage objects, while also ensuring their long-term accessibility.

(x) The 1997 legislation under which the Library is constituted provides for the extension of legal deposit privilege to non-print formats. There is a need to give careful consideration to the implications of this and to explore opportunities for collaboration with other libraries, archives and relevant institutions. In particular, collecting activity and access strategies must complement the work of other Irish memory institutions.

(xi) While the challenge of collecting in the digital world must be addressed, the Library must ensure that more traditional aspects of collecting activity are supported. Similarly, access strategies must continue to provide for collections which are unlikely to become available in digital form.

(xii) Collaboration is central to ensuring that the record of Ireland is collected as comprehensively as possible. The Library is of the view that national collection and access objectives can be best achieved through a collective approach, on various levels.

(xiii) The new information environment offers new opportunities for the development of national and all-island strategies aimed at ensuring that Irish researchers are not disadvantaged by a disparate approach to either the collection or development of digital resources. Irish library users have a right to expect the level of library service which can only result from cooperation and resource-sharing.

(xiv) In considering how best to meet the challenges of (a) collecting in the changing information environment and (b) harnessing some of the immense possibilities offered by technological development, the Library can look to those countries which have already reaped the rewards of a coordinated approach. Throughout the world, strategic initiatives at national and regional level across all areas of library activity have yielded valuable results.

(xv) In Ireland there is a fine history of cooperation between the various library sectors, and between the national cultural institutions. The Library is confident that experience of such cooperation can form the basis of successful collaborative approaches to future opportunities and challenges.

(xvi) In the area of collection development, successful cooperation must be founded upon an understanding of each institution's collections, and collecting objectives. For this reason, it is important that the Library's collection development policy is set out clearly and that it is circulated widely, in particular to other Irish libraries – including public, academic and special libraries – and to archives, galleries, museums and other organisations operating in the field of culture, heritage and the arts.

II. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

(i) This policy document addresses the collecting aspect of the Library's mission, the object of which is to ensure that as the national library for Ireland, the Library collects and makes accessible the most comprehensive possible record of Ireland and the Irish.

(ii) It aims to provide a clear statement of the Library's collecting objectives by setting out the following:

1) the statutory and contextual framework which underpins these collecting objectives,
2) a general statement of selection criteria,
3) a statement of intent with regard to the collection of digital resources,
4) specific collecting objectives in areas of traditional collection strength set out by (a) curatorial area and (b) thematic collection.

(iii) This document is founded upon the Library's own experience and practice and draws upon the experience and practice set out in the collection development policies of other national libraries.

(iv) It reflects the particular position of the National Library of Ireland as the national library of a small country with limited resources and with a library network for which there is no central statutory authority or agency. Furthermore, it reflects the fact that in collecting the record of the island of Ireland, the Library's direct collecting interests extend beyond the boundaries of the State.

1. STATUTORY AND CONTEXTUAL FRAMEWORK

1.1 The National Cultural Institutions Act 1997 provides, *inter alia*, for the establishment of the National Library of Ireland as a corporate entity, managed by a Board appointed by the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism. The sections of the legislation which provide for the establishment of the new corporate entity were commenced on 3 May 2005. From that date the Board replaced the Council of Trustees which had previously exercised a superintending role over the Library.

1.2 The mandate of the Board of the National Library of Ireland is set out in section 12 (1) of the 1997 Act as follows:

> "The principal functions of the Board of the Library shall be to conserve, restore, maintain and enlarge the library material in the collection of the Library for the benefit of the public and to establish and maintain a record of library material (including material relating to the Irish language) in relation to Ireland and to contribute to the provision of access by members of the public to material relating to other countries."

Section 12 (2) of the Act lists a wide range of powers which the Board has been given to enable it perform its functions.

1.3 In meeting its collection objectives in the area of printed books and serials, and their electronic equivalents, including newspapers, the Library is assisted by the legal deposit privilege accorded to it under copyright legislation (as described in paragraphs 1.9 – 1.18 following).

FOR WHOM DOES THE NATIONAL LIBRARY COLLECT?

1.4 The National Library is a national cultural institution charged with collecting for and on behalf of the State. The community it serves is diverse and includes a wide range of users among whom are academic researchers, local and family historians, undergraduate and post-graduate students, secondary-level pupils, film and documentary makers, journalists, picture researchers and recreational users. All share the common goal of wishing to access the research resources and often unique cultural assets in the Library's care.

1.5 For many of its users the Library is the only publicly accessible library in which they may consult the research material they require.

1.6 In common with national libraries throughout the world, the Library also collects on behalf of a community whose needs can only be anticipated – Library users of the future.

HOW DOES THE NATIONAL LIBRARY COLLECT?

1.7 For the most part, the Library acquires material by (i) legal deposit, (ii) donation or (iii) purchase. On occasion, work is commissioned in order to further develop

aspects of the collection, for example the commissioning of documentary photography (see also paragraphs 1.28 and 1.29 following).

1.8 Except for exhibition purposes, the Library does not accept material on loan.

LEGAL DEPOSIT

1.9 Legal deposit is the term used to describe the statutory obligation which requires that any organisation, commercial or public, and any individual producing any type of documentation in multiple copies, must deposit one or more copies with a recognised national institution. It is seen in most countries as an important instrument of national cultural policy and, as a result, most countries rely on a legal instrument of some sort in order to ensure the comprehensiveness of the national deposit collection.

1.10 Effective operation of legal deposit should guarantee to citizens and researchers, within the country and abroad, permanent access to a research collection of the country's published material. Legal deposit also supports the compilation of a national bibliography.

1.11 In Ireland, legal deposit legislation (section 198 of the Copyright and Related Rights Act 2000) obliges all publishers in the State to supply one copy of each publication to the Library (and certain other libraries in Ireland and the UK) within one month of publication.

1.12 Since 1927, when the Library was first granted the privilege (in respect of publications issued within the State) legal deposit has been the primary mechanism through which the modern Irish book collection, the modern Irish newspaper collection and the modern Irish serials collection have been built.

1.13 In common with other national libraries, the Library exercises its legal deposit privilege with the aim of ensuring the continuing preservation of and access to a key aspect of the nation's intellectual and cultural heritage over time. Frequently the Library holds the only copy of a particular item which is readily available to the public.

1.14 The Library aims to acquire a copy of every Irish publication. However, collection by legal deposit is not comprehensive and gaps in the publishing record occur each year. The Library is particularly conscious that this is the case in relation to the output of infrequent and 'once-off' publishers.[5]

1.15 In order to comprehensively acquire and record the output of publishers within the State, the exchange of information between libraries is crucial. For this reason, the Library will further develop and systematise the Bibliographic Notice Network

5. Items such as parish and school histories, sports club publications and the publications of a wide variety of local organisations and societies are of great importance. Frequently, they are produced in relatively small numbers, go out of print very quickly, and are rarely reprinted.

which it established in 2005 for the exchange of information regarding new publications.

1.16 On 1 May 2007, section 198 of the Copyright and Related Rights Act 2000 came into operation. The new provisions set out in section 198 offer additional privileges in relation to electronic publications.

1.17 Provision for the further extension of legal deposit privilege is set out in section 199 of the 2000 Act. This extension applies to material defined as follows:

> material that is of such class as may be specified in regulations made by the Board of the Library with the consent of the Minister... in this definition "material" includes any engraving, photograph, play script, cinematograph film, microfilm, video recording, sound recording, record, diskette, magnetic tape, compact disc, or other thing which has been published and on or in which information is written, recorded, stored or reproduced but does not include local records or local archives within the meaning, in each case, of section 65 of the Local Government Act, 1994 , or books within the meaning of section 56 of the Copyright Act, 1963.

1.18 Planning for the extension of legal deposit in accordance with the provisions of section 199 of the 2000 Act is a stated objective (objective 1.2) of the Library's current 2008-2010 Strategic Plan.

DONATION

1.19 Each year the Library receives valuable donations of library material, as can be seen from the lists appended to each Annual Report.

1.20 The Board is immensely grateful to the donors who contribute so generously to development of the national collection. Without such individuals and organisations the national collections in the care of the Library would be immeasurably poorer.

1.21 Material donated to the Library must meet the same criteria as items and collections identified for purchase. These criteria are outlined in section (2) of this document. Other conditions which apply include:

- donors must have clear title to the material being offered
- except in exceptional circumstances, material will not be accepted with conditions attached
- that, where relevant, copyright and any other rights vested in the material are assigned to the Library at the time of acquisition
- the Library reserves the right to dispose of duplicate materials or other materials acquired as part of a collection which do not accord with collection development criteria.

1.22 Potential donors will be directed to another repository if the Library considers that repository a more appropriate place for the material on offer.

1.23 In certain instances – as provided for under section 1003 of the *Taxes Consolidation Act 1997* (as amended) – donors may be allowed tax relief in respect of the donation of heritage items to the Library. This relief may apply to gifts or "heritage items" such as archives, books, estate records, manuscripts and prints.

1.24 The National Library of Ireland Trust, a registered charity, provides an option for those who wish to endow the Library by donation or bequest. The Trust is an approved body within the meaning of section 484 of the *Taxes Consolidation Act 1997* which means that donations to the Trust of sums up to €12,687 are tax deductible, subject to certain conditions.

PURCHASE

1.25 The Library's acquisitions budget represents a significant percentage of institutional funding, usually in the region of 20% of the overall annual budget.

1.26 Purchase of material falls into four main categories:
- (i) purchase of current or recent Northern Ireland publications
- (ii) purchase of current or recent material of Irish interest published abroad
- (iii) purchase of material that fills gaps in the national print archive
- (iv) purchase of any library material that meets general selection criteria set out in section (2) of this document and the specific collection objectives set out in sections (4) and (5).

1.27 Decisions to purchase antiquarian material, manuscripts and other unique heritage items are made on the expert advice of the Library's curatorial staff.

COMMISSIONING OF WORK

1.28 The Library will, on occasion, commission photographic work in order to ensure that there is contemporary witness to particular events, or aspects of Irish society, which might not otherwise be recorded in a comprehensive fashion.

1.29 The Library will, on occasion, commission artists to produce interpretative or other works inspired by the Library's collections and will commission works in line with exhibition requirements.

2. GENERAL SELECTION CRITERIA

2.1 The Library's general selection criteria fall under the following headings:
- Irish interest (see paragraph 2.1.1)
- heritage value (see paragraph 2.1.2)
- subject of interest (see paragraph 2.1.3).

2.1.1 An item is considered of Irish interest if it satisfies any one of the following criteria:
- it was created or published in Ireland

- it was created or published in another country by Irish citizens or temporary or permanent Irish residents or Irish expatriates
- it was created or published abroad but relates to Ireland
- it documents the experience of an Irish citizen or community abroad.

In considering, for example, the acquisition of books of Irish interest the following will be deemed to fulfil the Irish-interest criteria:

- items published or printed in Ireland
- items in the Irish language
- items published elsewhere by an Irish author (whether the author was born in Ireland, or is a member of the Irish diaspora)
- items published elsewhere by authors who were or are temporary residents of Ireland, such items to be decided on a case-by-case basis
- items published elsewhere of which the subject matter is wholly or substantially Irish
- items notable for design, illustration, or binding by Irish artists and designers
- items with a significant Irish provenance.

2.1.2 An item is considered of heritage value if it is of a rarity and significance such that it may be considered of national importance.

2.1.3 Subject of interest criteria are satisfied if the item or collection in question satisfies one of the following criteria:

- it relates to places, personalities, individuals, groups, organisations, events, activities, experiences or themes of significant national or international relevance to the island of Ireland
- it documents significant aspects of the history, social or cultural life of the island of Ireland, or defining aspects of Irish identity
- it reflects or relates to current research trends in the area of Irish studies.

2.2 Ireland is taken to refer to the island of Ireland.

2.3 Factors which limit selection decisions include:

- cost (see 2.3.1)
- access, storage, and conservation and preservation requirements (see 2.3.2)
- the collecting policies of other Irish libraries and archives (see 2.3.3)

2.3.1 The market for heritage materials has seen considerable price appreciation in recent years and the Library's purchasing budget will never be sufficient to allow it to purchase all of the items which might meet the selection criteria set out above. Curatorial staff must consider all potential purchases in the context of a limited budget. To do so effectively, a good understanding of the market must be informed by an in-depth knowledge of the Library's current holdings.

2.3.2 Every acquisition *per se* poses a storage and preservation problem. Certain items may also be in need of conservation. In making any acquisitions decision, account must be taken of the associated access, storage, and preservation and conservation challenges and costs.

2.3.3 The Library will consult with other institutions collecting in the same or related areas or subject fields to ensure that conflicts of interest are avoided and opportunities for the development of the national collections maximised. In certain curatorial areas, the Library will work with other collecting institutions to further define areas of specialism.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT DECISIONS?

2.4 Responsibility for the identification and selection of material for acquisition is assigned to the Library's curatorial staff. In practice, this means that the active selection of material for the national collection is a collections management function exercised by designated curatorial staff in special collections areas (for example, rare books, manuscripts and archives, prints, drawings and ephemera, and photographs).

2.4.1 All decisions are subject to the following:
- the criteria for selection set out in this policy document
- the financial authorisation limits set for different classes of materials in the budget adopted annually by the Board and including the requirement that expenditure on purchases exceeding €100,000 must be authorised in advance by the Board.

2.4.2 Suggestions from other libraries and archives, other interested bodies and members of the public for additions to the collection are encouraged.

3. DIGITAL CONTENT STRATEGY

3.1 In the area of digital collection development the Library faces immediate and significant challenges. The record of contemporary Ireland is increasingly digital and the successful acquisition and preservation of this witness to our world is a key test of collections policy and systems planning. If the challenge of collecting Ireland's online presence is not addressed, it can be argued that the Library is not respecting its remit as a national memory institution.

3.2 A key strategic aim is the development of a digital collections or content strategy which will set out in greater detail how digital heritage items – whether collected or created – will be preserved and made accessible. All future digital collecting and digitisation will be underpinned by a strategy for digital preservation and long-term access to digital objects. Both formal and informal links with national and international institutions will assist the Library in putting in place best practice standards and procedures.

3.3 The Library already collects some offline and online materials, among which are the following:
- physical format electronic resources[6] which are currently collected if they accompany printed material
- online resources of Irish interest published on the Internet[7]
- electronic versions of reference material, government and official publications.

3.3.1 Online digital resources are purchased either outright or through annual subscription.

3.4 The availability of large aggregated collections of publications in electronic form allows libraries to offer access to an immense range and breadth of resources and represent an obvious extension of traditional collecting activity. The rare books collection, for example, is vastly enhanced by access to resources such as *Early English Books Online* and the *English Short Title Catalogue*. The Library will extend the range of materials of this kind and provide remote access to such materials, where possible.

3.5 The Library will further research digital collection issues with a view to agreeing the range of digital heritage materials which should be collected, and assessing the staffing and other resources required to meet access and preservation objectives.

3.6 It is unlikely that the Library will ever be in a position to collect all material of Irish interest available online. For this reason, priorities will be established and options for cooperative collecting will be explored.

3.7 Further research into the area of Internet archiving will be undertaken with a view to agreeing what should be collected and how it should be collected, taking into account the resources that would be required should the Library undertake Internet archiving in-house or by outsourcing.[8]

3.8 Particular consideration will be given to the implications of the commencement of section 199 of the Copyright Act, 2000 (see also paragraph 1.18 above). Relevant international legislation will be reviewed with a view to recommending additional legislative action as appropriate.

3.9 The expectations of Library users in terms of access to reference sources and other digital resources have increased significantly in recent years. For example, there is significant demand for online access to key sources in the Library's printed, manuscript and visual collections. To meet these expectations the Library has instituted a wide-ranging series of digitisation projects.

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6. Physical format electronic resources are those that are published on a physical carrier and include both analogue electronic resources (e.g. cassette tapes and videos) as well as digital resources (e.g. floppy disks, CD-ROMs, DVDs and VCDs).
7. An online resource is considered 'published', and therefore within scope of this policy, if it is publicly available on the Internet, either free of charge or for a fee.
8. The Library commissioned a whole domain harvest of the Irish web domain in 2007; this was carried out by the Internet Archive.

4. SPECIFIC COLLECTING OBJECTIVES

4.1.1 Notwithstanding changes in library practice in the context of the changing information environment, the continuing development of the Library's traditional printed, visual and manuscript collections remains a core collecting activity.

4.1.2 In planning for the continuing development of its collections, the Library must take into account the following:

- that new books continue to be published in ever growing numbers
- that unrecorded older printed and manuscript material continues to come to light
- that certain printed and manuscript items have a limited potential readership, and would be a very low priority for the creation of surrogates
- that scholars will continue to require access to original documentary material.

4.1.3 All collecting in the Library is founded upon the fundamental principle that as the national library it must collect and preserve the published output - current and retrospective - of Ireland, and that it has defined collecting objectives in relation to manuscripts and other library material.

4.2 The Library has two curatorial Departments to which this part of the document is directly relevant: the Department of Manuscripts and the Department of Printed and Visual Collections.

4.2.1 The Department of Manuscripts has responsibility for the development of the manuscript and map collections.

4.2.2 The Department of Printed and Visual Collections has responsibility for the development of the Library's collections of printed books, official publications, newspapers, periodicals, photographs, prints and drawings, music and ephemera.

4.2.3 In sections 4.3 – 4.11 the Library's traditional collecting areas are outlined and areas of collection strength and weakness briefly described. The Library's collecting activity will focus upon the further development of collection strengths and upon addressing the gaps in the collection described in the following sections.

4.3 MANUSCRIPTS

4.3.1 Manuscripts comprise handwritten, typescript, electronic and other forms of unpublished textual records. Sometimes manuscript collections include material such as photographs, leaflets and pamphlets.

4.3.2 The Library collects manuscript and other unpublished materials of Irish interest, whether originating at home or abroad, which are of national historical, social, cultural or political significance and/or of substantial research value.

4.3.3 The collection traces its origins from a number of manuscript volumes acquired with the Library's foundation collections, the Library of the Royal Dublin Society (RDS)

and the Joly donation. However, it was not until the annual report for 1927-28 that the Library's Council of Trustees for the first time made a separate listing of manuscript acquisitions. By this time the Library was functioning as the national library of a newly independent country. The Trustees' Reports of the late 1920s and the 1930s reveal a steady series of manuscript acquisitions.

4.3.4 The Library's Department of Manuscripts was formally established in 1943 and from then on a more active collecting intent was evident. In addition, an Inspector of Manuscripts was appointed to seek out collections within Ireland and an extensive microfilming project was also undertaken covering archival materials of Irish interest held abroad.[9]

4.3.5 Areas of particular collection strength are:

Landed estate papers

The papers of former landed estates make up the largest part of the Library's manuscript holdings and include many important estate archives including those of the Ormond, Lismore, Inchiquin, Clonbrock and Westport estates.

Literary papers

Literary papers are strongly represented and include papers of WB Yeats and James Joyce. Earlier writers such as Maria Edgeworth are also represented, as well as modern writers such as Brian Friel, Colm Tóibín, Dermot Bolger, Marina Carr, Tom MacIntyre, Paul Durcan and Roddy Doyle.

Gaelic Manuscripts

The Library has the largest collection in the world of Gaelic manuscripts, the earliest of which dates back to the fourteenth century.

Women's history

Irish women's history is well represented in collections such as the Sheehy Skeffington papers and the archives of the Irish Countrywomen's Association.

Political papers

There are a number of collections relating to Irish national politics from the eighteenth century onwards, including papers of Edmund Burke, Lord Edward Fitzgerald, Daniel O'Connell, William Smith O'Brien, TC Harrington, Sir Roger Casement, John Redmond, Thomas MacDonagh and Piaras Beaslaí. Collections relating to Northern Ireland politics include the H-Block and Seán O'Mahony collections. The papers of Senator David Norris are a recent acquisition.

Cultural movements

Important collections include the archives of the Music Association of Ireland, the Feis Ceoil, the papers of the Focus and Abbey theatres, the Holloway diaries and the papers of Sir Hugh Lane.

4.3.6 Weaknesses of the collection are identified in the following areas:

- historic and contemporary records of minority religious and ethnic groups in Ireland
- papers relating to modern and contemporary Irish politics and politicians
- papers of individuals prominent in Irish labour and trade union movements
- papers relating to the Irish overseas.

9. The microfilming project continued up to the 1970s. The post of Inspector of Manuscripts was discontinued in the late 1980s.

4.3.7 The invaluable work of the Inspector of Manuscripts in seeking out, surveying and reporting upon manuscript collections and archives of national significance in private keeping will be resumed.

4.3.8 When considering potential acquisitions the collection policies of other institutions will continue to be taken into consideration. Among the institutions which are considered to have a particular bearing on current collecting are the National Archives of Ireland, the Archives Department of University College Dublin, Trinity College Library, the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, University College Cork, Dublin City Archives, the Royal Irish Academy, the National Museum of Ireland, the National Gallery of Ireland, the Irish Architectural Archive and county libraries and archives.

4.3.9 The acquisition by the Library of microfilm copies of manuscript material of significant Irish interest from overseas repositories contributed hugely to Irish scholarship from the 1950s onwards. The Library will seek to cooperate with overseas institutions which hold material of Irish interest with a view to agreeing a cooperative approach to the microfilming and digitisation of such resources.

4.3.10 The acquisition of diskettes and other digital storage devices is already a significant element of literary and other collections acquired by the Library. As archives will increasingly become born-digital, a key aim of the Library's digital strategy will be the development of structures to support access to such archives.

4.3.11 In general the Library does not collect the following:
- manuscript material of very specific local interest
- large collections of deeds post-dating 1708 (copies of many of which are probably held in the Registry of Deeds)
- collections of random news-cuttings
- manuscript material where another Irish institutions already holds or is actively collecting similar material (see paragraph 4.3.8 above).

4.4 MAPS

4.4.1 The Printed & Manuscripts Maps collection covers the cartographic heritage of the island of Ireland from earliest times. It is the result of more than 150 years of collecting and reflects the evolving cartographic history, heritage and cultural perceptions of the island of Ireland.

4.4.2 The collection consists of unique national cartographic treasures of inestimable value. Comprising more than 100,000 items (approximately 20,000 of which were acquired with the RDS and Joly Libraries in 1877), it appears to be the largest collection globally of early printed and manuscript cartographic documents relating to the history of Ireland up to the mid-20th century.

4.4.3 The earliest manuscript map in the collection dates from the 12th century. The greater part of the manuscript maps date from the 18th to the late 19th century. The printed maps date largely from the 16th to the 20th century.

4.4.4 Early printed and manuscripts maps are acquired by purchase and donation. Many are acquired with manuscript collections, e.g. with the papers of a landed estate.

4.4.5 Map holdings comprise a truly national cartographic collection representing the full economic, geographic, intellectual and culturally diverse interests of the island of Ireland. Key areas of collection strength include maps relating to the following subject areas:

- conquest and land settlement
- marine fortifications
- estate administration
- urban surveys
- mail coach road maps
- Grand Jury maps
- Bog Commission surveys
- geological and marine surveys
- Irish Ordnance Survey maps of the 19th and 20th centuries
- Admiralty charts.

4.4.6 The 20th century map collection is weak, particularly for the period post-1940.

4.4.7 In considering potential acquisitions, the collection policies of other institutions will be taken into account, including:

- the map library of Trinity College Dublin
- public authority libraries and archives throughout the island of Ireland which collect maps, plans and surveys relevant to their areas
- the National Archives of Ireland which collects maps, plans and surveys, especially as an integral part of collections of estate papers
- the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland which collects maps, plans and surveys, especially as an integral part of collections of estate papers.

4.4.8 The extension of legal deposit privilege is likely to afford the Library the right to harvest Irish-domain websites with map content. The implications of this will be addressed in the context of a review of the implications for the Library of the extension of legal deposit and collection policy in respect of non-traditional format maps such as those produced on Irish-domain web-sites will be agreed.

4.4.9 In consultation with Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSI) the Library will put in place a strategy for the periodic harvesting of current mapping. With regard to historic Ordnance Survey maps, the Library is committed to providing access to the digital resources created by OSI.

4.4.10 The Library does not collect the following cartographic items:

- relief models, geological cross sections, globes or cartofacts
- maps published to accompany County Development Plans.

4.5 PRINTED BOOKS

4.5.1 The library of Royal Dublin Society (RDS), including the Joly Library which had been donated to the RDS in 1863, forms the basis of the printed books collection.

The RDS library traces it origins back to 1737 and the collection of printed books acquired from the Society reflects its early interest in the sciences and humanities, and its particular emphasis on material of Irish interest from 1836 onwards.

4.5.2 The early collecting history of the National Library reflected a dual collecting focus with the Library aiming to collect as both a national repository and as a library of universal knowledge (albeit with a particular focus upon the humanities and social sciences).

4.5.3 The Library's emphasis on the collecting of Irish material became a more pronounced feature from the 1930s onward, with budgetary constraints a factor as much as collection policy. By the 1980s the Library was focusing almost exclusively on material of Irish interest, predominantly in the humanities. This emphasis on Irish material means that the 'Non-Irish' collection ceased to develop beyond a certain point.

4.5.4 The collection's greatest strengths lie in the areas of Irish studies; Irish history; Irish language; Irish imprints; Irish literature in English, particularly the works of James Joyce and William Butler Yeats (and includes the personal library of William Butler Yeats).

4.5.5 Key areas of collection strength are:

<u>Early Irish imprints</u>

- The Library has a remarkable collection of early Irish imprints. Many of these are to be found in the main Irish and General collections, and in special collections, notably the Dix and Joly Collections. The Library will continue to purchase a significant number of older Irish imprints every year. Content apart, many of these works are important Irish artefacts and it cannot be assumed that all copies of older printed books (particularly pre-19th century) are identical.

<u>Books published in the Irish language</u>

- There is a particular obligation on the Library to maintain a comprehensive collection of material published in the Irish language, including translations of important works originally published in other languages.

4.5.6 Other important collections include the following:

- the Librarian's Office collection of rare and antiquarian books
- the Thom collection
- the Stephen Griffin donation (ongoing) of publications relating to the Irish in America
- the Clodd Collection of material relating to Samuel Beckett
- the Maunsell Collection.

4.5.7 Through legal deposit, the Library aims to collect every book published in the State.

4.5.8 Copies of all books published in Northern Ireland are purchased (the titles are brought to the Library's notice, and often acquired its behalf by officers of the Northern Ireland Publications Resource Board).

4.5.9 The Library acquires by donation, or purchase, the following:

- new books of Irish interest published abroad
- older Irish imprints
- older non-Irish imprints of Irish interest
- books or collections with a significant Irish provenance (for example, the libraries (or books from the libraries) of significant Irish authors and bibliophiles; presentation copies to and from significant Irish authors)
- books which support other Library collection areas (e.g. works on the history of photography and works about or containing images of photographers represented in the Library's collections and select works on the history of art and design, particularly the book arts, as well as select exhibition and sales catalogue)
- Celtic material (the Library aims to maintain a selective collection of important scholarly and philological works relating to the Celtic languages)
- books on the history of libraries and archives together with publications which support information professionals in the pursuit of best practice
- books considered appropriate for acquisition as curatorial objects: for example bindings, artists' books, illustrated books, fine printing, books significant as historical objects, books remarkable for their design or material aspects
- reference materials.

4.5.10 Weaknesses of the collection include the following:

- current material of Irish interest from certain geographic areas (e.g. Australia, New Zealand, South Africa)
- current works by Irish authors on scientific and technical subjects, some of which may not have been acquired because the authors have not been identified as Irish
- local and 'once-off' publications, not acquired because the Library was unaware of them and they are not deposited under legal deposit
- the very earliest Irish imprints.

4.5.11 In the context of the development of the Library's digital preservation strategy, where a monograph type item is published in a variety of formats, printed, physical format electronic or indeed online, a selection process will be agreed so that the format which best meets access and preservation needs is acquired. Policy in relation to the acquisition of e-books will also be agreed.

4.5.12 Given that purchasing budgets are not unlimited, and that some online resources will make available texts which are not held by the Library, non-Irish imprints will be acquired in a selective manner. The Library will not accept donations of printed books of no evident Irish interest.

4.6 SERIALS (PERIODICALS)

4.6.1 Serials are publications consisting of a number of parts issued in sequence and linked by a common title. Usually each part bears an issue number and/or date. Serials are intended to continue indefinitely, and include magazines, newsletters,

annual reports, yearbooks, directories, and journals. Serial literature forms a major part of the cultural heritage of the nation.

4.6.2 The Library is the only library in the State committed to the collection and preservation of all of Ireland's serial publications. Categories of serial titles held, which will continue to be collected, include:

- professional scholarly journals in all disciplines
- literary magazines
- current affairs magazines
- celebrity and lifestyle magazines
- religious magazines
- pastime magazines
- annual reports e.g. semi-State organisations, financial institutions.
- reports of major listed companies
- Registers of Electors (not including draft registers).

4.6.3 The Library collects a representative selection of scientific titles published by Irish-based international publishing houses which have their main headquarters outside Ireland. Selected booksellers' catalogues from abroad are collected.

4.6.4 Serials published within the State are collected under legal deposit privilege.[10]

4.6.5 Serials published in Northern Ireland and those published abroad of Irish interest, or that have an Irish editor, are purchased.

4.6.6 Purchases are made of out-of-print, rare or antiquarian titles where the titles or editions in question are not already in the collection or where the condition of the title or edition already held is poor.

4.6.7 Particular collection strengths include unbroken runs of publications such as those of the 19th century learned societies including the *Journal of the Royal Dublin Society* (later the *Transactions of the Royal Dublin Society* and *Scientific Proceedings of the RDS*), the *Journal of the Geological Society of Dublin* (later the *Journal of the Royal Geological Society of Ireland*) and the *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy*; the journals of local historical societies (many of them established in the last decade of the 19th century and the early years of the 20th century); Nationalist magazines of the 19th century including the *Nation* and the *Shamrock,* trade magazines such as the *Dublin Builder* (later the *Irish Builder*, and later still, the *Irish Builder and Engineer*); and 20th century general periodicals such as the *Irish Homestead*, and the *Irish Statesman,* and those of iconic literary status such as the *Dublin Magazine,* the *Bell, Dana,* and *Envoy*.

4.6.8 Weaknesses in the collection include gaps in titles which have arisen as a result of changing editorships and irregularities in publication patterns. In some cases, a change in title has caused temporary cessation and neglect, on subsequent

10. Section 198 of the Copyright Act 2000 makes very specific provision for serial publications as follows: '[in] the case of an encyclopaedia, newspaper, review, magazine or work published in a series of numbers or parts, the written demand may include all numbers or parts of the work which may be subsequently published".

resumption, of legal deposit obligations. Lesser known local history titles have not always come to attention upon publication.

4.6.9 To ensure that the national print archive is as comprehensive as possible, opportunities for collaboration with county libraries will be explored with a view to ensuring that serials published in their areas are brought to the notice of the Library.

4.6.10 Certain other areas of weaknesses in the collection (school magazines, society newsletters and multicultural publications) will be addressed through regular publicity and direct contact with relevant organisations.

4.6.11 The Library does not acquire the following:

- all copies of serials which consist of generic text accompanied by a cover page that localises the publication for different regional areas. In these cases a sample copy is retained along with the variant covers.
- duplicate titles or duplicate runs of a title except to replace damaged or poor quality holdings.

4.6.12 The transition from printed page to digital screen and paperless reading is most evident and advanced in the realm of serials publication. While Library collecting activity is confined to print-only serials at present, policy on the collection of electronic journal titles will be agreed in the context of the digital collection strategy.

4.6.13 There have been profound changes in the publication of journals with (a) the advent of born-digital journals and (b) the migration of titles from print only to dual format publishing and towards electronic-only publication. Although purely electronic journals are increasingly the norm in many spheres (e.g. medicine, science, mathematics, etc.), the nature of many of the journals published in Ireland (small, local publications) is such that this transformation will not take place for many years, if at all.

4.6.14 Collection development must take account of continued growth in paper holdings while putting in place the capacity to collect, make accessible and preserve the wealth of Irish content and reference materials already accessible online or which will become accessible in the future.

4.7 NEWSPAPERS

4.7.1 The National Library is the only library in the State committed to the collection and preservation of all Irish newspapers.[11] To aid in the preservation of the original printed copy the Library microfilms its own print holdings and, to fill gaps in its historic holdings, actively acquires microfilm copies of newspapers held elsewhere (most significantly by the British Library).

11. A total of 1,700 titles are held by the Library of which 270 are current. Current titles can be broken down as follows: daily titles:18; biweekly titles: 4; weekly titles: 238; bimonthly titles: 18; multicultural titles: 8.

4.7.2 The Library's newspaper holdings constitute the largest collection of Irish newspapers outside the British Library. The Royal Dublin Society Library and the Joly Collection newspapers form the basis of the Library's holdings of pre-1890 newspapers. These were considerably enhanced by the transfer of 4,000 volumes from the Office of the Chief Secretary when Dublin Castle was handed over to the new Irish administration. From 1927, the collection has been developed under legal deposit privilege.

4.7.3 In many instances the Library is the sole holder of a newspaper file in the State as many publishers have not retained back issues of their own titles. Titles unique to the Library were identified by the NEWSPLAN Project.[12]

4.7.4 While most of the titles in the newspaper collection fall within the definition of a newspaper agreed by the NEWSPLAN Implementation Committee, viz. "[a] newspaper is a daily or weekly publication carrying general news … [and] not the organ of a particular group or party", the Library's collection also includes all political, religious, special interest and multicultural titles published at regular intervals, on a continuing basis.

4.7.5 Under legal deposit, the Library collects every issue of every current newspaper published in the State – including national daily, regional weekly and biweekly, Sunday titles and those targeted at a multicultural readership – bringing the total number of single issues acquired per annum to almost 20,000.

4.7.6 All variant size editions of national newspapers, and all variant content editions of regional titles, published in the State are collected.

4.7.7 The Library purchases, or receives, by donation, all newspapers published in Northern Ireland.

4.7.8 Selected newspapers from abroad, which are considered to have particular Irish relevance, are purchased.

4.7.9 Weaknesses of the collection arise from the relatively late introduction of legal deposit in 1927 (50 years after the foundation of the Library). As a result, some provincial titles are not represented at all in the collection. Deterioration of the collection has occurred over time due to the fragility of the wood-pulp paper on which newspapers were printed from the mid 19th century onwards combined with deterioration due to handling, in cases where surrogates have not been or are not available.

4.7.10 Purchases are made of out-of-print, rare or antiquarian titles where the titles or issues in question are not already in the collection or where the condition of the title or issue already held by the Library is poor. Full runs of titles already held

12. The NEWSPLAN Ireland Project was established in the mid 1980s by the Committee for Library Co-operation in Ireland (COLICO), as a co-operative project for the preservation Irish newspapers in either public or private ownership in Ireland and the UK. See ***NEWSPLAN: Report of the NEWSPLAN Project in Ireland.*** Revised edition, 1998. Edited by Sara Smyth.

will be acquired if considered to be in appreciably better condition than existing files.

4.7.11 Duplicate Irish newspapers relating to significant historical events are actively acquired, particularly for the 1916-1922 period.

4.7.12 The Library aims to have, as far as possible, a copy of every issue (either hardcopy or microfilm) of every newspaper published in Ireland. Gaps in current newspaper holdings will be addressed as follows:

- through continuing the purchase of microfilm or digital copies of newspapers held elsewhere and, in particular, in the British Library
- through contact with immigrant communities, the Library aims to ensure that titles targeted at these communities are collected
- through cooperation with academic libraries, the Library aims to collect titles aimed at students in the various third-level institutions in the State
- through contact with Irish communities overseas, the Library aims to identify and collect all titles of Irish interest published abroad
- through cooperation with public libraries, the Library aims to ensure that all regional newspapers are collected (in particular free newspapers including those which consist primarily of advertising, product and real estate information).

4.7.13 The Library will initiate and/or participate in digital copying projects to preserve and facilitate access to newspaper resources whether in its own collections or held externally. To this end the collaborative opportunities will be taken up wherever possible.

4.8 PHOTOGRAPHS

4.8.1 The Library's holdings of photographs comprise some 630,000 images. Among the photographic formats held in the collection are daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, tintypes, glass plate negatives, various formats of prints, 4x5" and 2x2" plastics negatives, 35mm negatives, and albums. It is the largest collection in the world of photographs relating to Ireland.

4.8.2 The purchase in 1943 of the Lawrence collection established the basis for the development of the photographic collection. This collection, of approximately 40,000 glass plate negatives, offers excellent geographical coverage of Ireland for the period 1865-1914. A number of other studio collections were acquired in succeeding decades including the Poole collection of 70,000 glass plate negatives. Photographs and albums by pioneering amateur photographers have also been acquired, occasionally as part of the archives of landed estates.

4.8.3 The establishment by the Library of the National Photographic Archive (NPA) in 1998 allowed for the presentation of regular exhibitions of photographic holdings and prompted a renewed interest in the collection. Since the opening of the NPA there have been a number of highly significant acquisitions including, for example, the donation of the photographic archives of Independent Newspapers (Ireland).

4.8.4 The Library acquires photographs in three ways: (i) by donation, (ii) by purchase and (iii) by commissioning original work (see paragraph 1.28 above).

4.8.5 Items are selected primarily on the basis of their evidential value, rather than for aesthetic qualities. The key criteria for selection are:
- relevance to research on Irish history and society
- relevance to the history of photography in Ireland.

4.8.6 All photographic formats are collected.

4.8.7 The following factors are also taken into account:
- the relevance of an item to the broader collections of the Library
- the impact of the potential acquisition on storage and any special storage requirements
- the condition of the item.

4.8.8 In collecting portrait material, identified images are given priority.[13]

4.8.9 Key areas of collection strength are:
- topographical images of the country 1865-1960
- images of the 1916 Rising, the War of Independence and the Civil War
- images documenting landed gentry life and families (for example, the Clonbrock Collection)
- 20th century politics and sport (Independent Newspapers and Colman Doyle collections)
- early photography (Rooke, Tenison and Kilronan material).

4.8.10 Weaknesses of the collection include:
- the under-representation of images of working class life and society in the 19th and early 20th century
- the contemporary photographic record of Ireland including, for example, photographs documenting the new ethnic profile of Irish society.

4.8.11 While collecting activity will focus upon the further development of collection strengths and upon addressing the gaps in the collection described in the following sections, other collection development priorities are:
- portraits of prominent figures in Irish society and history whose contribution is likely to be of sustained interest to the research community
- images documenting the changing nature of the Irish landscape, urban and rural.

4.8.12 The Library does not collect the following:
- second generation photographs (except in exceptional circumstances and when an original photograph cannot be obtained)
- large numbers of photographs or albums where the subjects are unidentified, or context unknown.

13. There are already good examples of most genres and formats of portrait photography in the collection many of which are of unidentified sitters or subjects.

4.9 PRINTS AND DRAWINGS

4.9.1 The Library's holdings of prints and drawings comprise some 100,000 works – individual prints, original drawings and watercolours, and several thousand albums of prints – of which three-quarters were acquired with the Library's foundation collections (the RDS Library and the Joly Library). It is the largest collection in the world of prints and drawings relating to Ireland.

4.9.2 Key areas of collection strength are:
- Irish portrait prints and drawings
- topographical prints and drawings recording the landscape and architecture of Ireland over a period of more than 300 years, including very significant collections of Irish topographical drawings by antiquaries Gabriel Beranger, Austin Cooper and Francis and Daniel Grose
- the Brocas collection of over 2,500 prints, drawings and watercolours by six members of the Brocas family, Dublin artists, covering the period ca.1754 to ca.1873, providing an extensive visual record of 19th century Ireland
- satirical prints and original drawings from the 18th to the 20th century
- newspaper supplements and cartoons from the second half of the 19th century
- British and continental prints from the Joly Collection, including portraits, topography and military and historical events with many works on the Crimean, Napoleonic and Seven Years wars, the French Revolution (documenting *inter alia* fashion and dress including military and naval costume)
- architectural drawings mainly from the 18th and 19th centuries.
- significant collections of prints and drawing by individual Irish artists including Harry Kernoff, Elizabeth Rivers, Norah McGuinness and Liam C Martin.
- special collections of subject interest including the Joseph Holloway collection relating to theatre in Dublin in the first half of the 20th century.

4.9.3 Weaknesses of the collection include:
- the absence of original artwork documenting the Famine
- holdings of topographical drawings have a strong Dublin focus and the rest of the country is not well represented.

4.9.4 While collecting activity will focus upon the further development of collection strengths and upon addressing the gaps in the collection described in the following sections, collection development objectives also include:
- prints and drawings containing a significant amount of factual or descriptive information documenting aspects of Ireland's past and present with the object of making accessible significant primary research material on Ireland's history, politics, social life, customs, arts and culture
- visual works relating to Ireland's written and printed heritage including material relating to Irish writers and the Irish book arts along with outstanding examples of illustration and printmaking
- prints and drawings of relevance to, and supporting, significant collections in other formats held by the Library, i.e. the printed books and periodicals, manuscript and photographic collections
- original drawings and illustrations by Irish illustrators of children's books and illustrations for children's books by Irish authors.

4.9.5 As the evidential value of a work is considered the most significant criterion for selection in most cases, works by amateur as well as professional artists are collected. However, many works in the collection are also of high artistic value.

4.9.6 Material is mainly acquired by donation or purchase. On occasion works are commissioned.[14]

4.9.7 In considering potential acquisitions, the collection policies of other institutions will be taken into account and, in particular, the collecting interests of the National Gallery of Ireland.

4.9.8 In general, the Library only collects works on paper i.e. prints or original works executed in watercolour, pencil, ink or gouache.

4.9.9 The following will not be acquired:
- abstract works
- collections comprising solely or largely of copies of material in other repositories.

4.10 OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS

4.10.1 The Library holds comprehensive collections of the publications of the State from 1922 onwards, of the pre-1800 Irish Parliament and of the official publications of the United Kingdom from 1800 to 1979. In addition the Library holds a large, though not exhaustive, collection of Northern Ireland publications from 1920 onwards.

4.10.2 Since 1927 the Library has received Irish Government publications under legal deposit. Northern Ireland official publications are purchased.

4.10.3 Donations are accepted on occasion from libraries de-accessioning relevant publications, and from Government departments. Donations will only be accepted where they fill a gap in the collections or replace material in poor condition.

4.10.4 The Library is a depository library for a number of international organisations from which a selection of material is received.[15] It is planned to replace print material from international organisations with electronic versions, where possible, and to de-accession print collections where a trusted digital archive of the material in question is accessible online.

14. Works have been commissioned in the past for example portraits of former Directors of the Library. The Library has also commissioned work for exhibition purposes.
15. The international organisations in question are Council of Europe, the European Union, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the International Civil Aviation Organisation, International Labour Organisation, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the United Nations, the United Nations Economic and Social Council, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and the World Health Organisation.

4.10.5 A particular strength of the collection is the completeness of the Irish collection from the late 18th century onwards. By offering full-text searching, the House of Commons Parliamentary Papers Online has made access to much of this material much more straightforward.

4.10.6 A particular weakness of the collection is the incompleteness of the Northern Ireland holdings. The acquisition of a more complete Northern Ireland collection is a key collecting objective.

4.10.7 The Library will consult with other libraries throughout the island with a view to developing of a comprehensive official publications print archive for Ireland.

4.10.8 The Library will consult with Government departments and agencies to ensure that the current collection is complete and that papers and reports which are published in digital form only are acquired in the most appropriate format.

4.11 EPHEMERA

4.11.1 In so far as it can be defined, ephemera comprises printed material which is not intended to survive its immediate purpose or which exists for only a short time.[16] When preserved, such material can provide a rich resource for understanding the social, cultural, religious and political history of a country and its people.

4.11.2 In 2001, after many years of being widely dispersed among other Library collections such as printed books, manuscripts, and prints and drawings, items of ephemera were assembled in one location to form the basis of the Library's Ephemera Collection. The collection now consists of an estimated 100,000 printed items, including historical proclamations, posters, flyers, handbills, theatre programmes, broadside ballads, memorial cards, calendars, postcards, cigarette cards, invitations and restaurant menus.

4.11.3 In general, contemporary items have limited market value and are mainly acquired by donation. Historic material is acquired by donation and purchase. In common with other collection areas, ephemera are sourced through various booksellers catalogues, via the web and through professional contacts.

4.11.4 Collaborative collection projects are a particular feature of collection development in this area. For example, the collection of general election ephemera in 2007 was a successful countrywide project involving the Library and county and academic libraries. The potential for future collaborative collection will be kept under review.

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16. The term 'ephemera' has come to be applied to virtually any 'non-book' printed matter, principally of paper, designed in the main for short-term use – often implicitly for disposal. [It] applies to a huge corpus of miscellaneous papers, some of them more transient than others, most of them destined at some stage for the waste-bin. It includes anything from admission tickets to reward notices, tax forms to summonses, stationery to advertising. The range is so wide it is often easier to list what is does not cover than what it does.
17. See ***Ephemera : the stuff of history***, a report of the working party on ephemera set up by CILIP (the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals). (CILIP, 2003)

4.11.5 Key areas of collection strength include:
- historical proclamations and posters of the 19th and early 20th century
- the Holloway Collection of theatre programmes, playbills and posters.

4.11.6 Collecting activity will focus upon the further development of collection strengths and also upon ensuring that the collection includes the following:
- a representative sample of ephemera relating to cultural and sports events and festivals
- material containing a significant amount of factual or descriptive information, either textual or visual, which relates to the history of Ireland's written and printed heritage
- material which reflects all aspects of Ireland's past and present without bias
- pre-1950s historical material.

5. THEMATIC COLLECTIONS

5.1 HERALDRY AND GENEALOGY

5.1.1 The Genealogical Office (and its holdings), formerly the Office of the Ulster King of Arms (or Ulster's Office) became a constituent part of the Library of Ireland in 1943 when it became the Office of the Chief Herald of Ireland.

5.1.2 The collection comprises archives of the Office of Arms dating from the 16th century, including heraldic and genealogical manuscripts, administrative records and records donated by genealogists who worked in the Office at different times. As such, a substantial part of the collection grew organically from the work of the office and was not 'collected' as such. Records were compiled by various officers of arms in the course of their heraldic work, and administrative records generated in the normal course of business.

5.1.3 Certain officers also donated books in the subject areas of heraldry and genealogy and there were also occasional donations of genealogical records, usually from genealogists associated with the office over the years.

5.1.4 A key strength is the collection of 18th and 19th century heraldic and genealogical manuscripts.

5.1.5 The collection is essentially organic, a collection of records that was created as a direct result of the business of the office.

5.1.6 Books and manuscript items relating to the practice of heraldry in Ireland are acquired by the Library to expand the collections. In this regard the following categories of material are of particular interest:
- papers which emanated from the office but which were removed and/or sold at various stages particularly papers relating to terms of office of the Ulster's or Deputy Ulster's Terry, Burke, Betham and Vicars
- heraldic and genealogical records of the 'Wild Geese'

- copies of records created in the Office of Arms which are now found in the collections of a number of libraries and archives including the Library of Trinity College Dublin and in France at the Bibliothèque Nationale and the Archives Nationale.

5.1.7 Donations are accepted where they pertain to past Officers of Arms or their work.

5.1.8 The Library will continue to acquire material of relevance to the history and heraldic responsibilities of the Office of the Chief Herald.

5.1.9 The Library has long been one of the key centres for genealogical research in Ireland. Often as a direct result of research carried out in the Library, a significant number of rare, privately-published family histories as well manuscripts of family historians and genealogists have been donated to the Library over the years. Such material is of great interest and encourage family history researchers will continue to be encouraged to deposit a copy of their research report or publication in the Library.

5.1.10 Through its contact with Irish family history organisations worldwide, the Library will continue to develop its unique collection of genealogical publications and manuscript items relating to the Irish diaspora.

5.2 MUSIC

5.2.1 The preservation, documentation and accessibility of Irish music and related material is crucial to the Library's mission, as music has been and continues to be an integral part of Irish heritage and culture, which is treasured in Ireland and around the world.

5.2.2 The Joly and Additional Music collections (dating primarily from the 18th and 19th centuries), consist of printed scores of music relating to Ireland, either by origin or intellectual content, mostly dating from the 18th and 19th centuries. There is a small amount of material from the 20th century. The collection includes examples of both folk and "classical" or art music, composed or published in Ireland.

5.2.3 In the Department of Manuscripts, significant collections include gifts such as the Joan Trimble collection from 1950-1995, the archives of the Feis Ceoil from 1897-1972, and the archives of the Music Association of Ireland.

5.2.4 The Library also holds a substantial number of books and periodicals relating music.

5.2.5 There are few music sound recordings held, apart from recordings of recent music events and recitals held in the Library.

5.2.6 Material is mainly acquired by legal deposit (for contemporary published material) or by donation. The appointment of a Music Librarian has proven a significant incentive to potential donors as has been evident in the numbers of donations and bequests during the term of such temporary appointments.

5.2.7 Holdings relating to contemporary Irish classical music are weak and are a particular focus of collection development. The development of this area of the collection is a priority and collecting activity will be based upon the outcome of consultation with other music collecting institutions and, in particular, the Contemporary Music Centre.

5.2.8 Key collection development objectives are:
- the further development of the collections to compliment whenever an opportunity for acquisition arises i.e. whenever Irish classical music dating prior to the 1950s becomes available, the Library will, as resources allow, acquire the material in question.[17]
- the archives of music festivals and competitions, a multitude of which are in existence throughout Ireland and which might transfer their non-current records to the Library.[18]

5.2.9 Music by its nature comes in many formats (i.e. printed music scores, music manuscripts, books and periodicals relating to music, ephemera, recordings, mp3s, CD's, records, tapes, etc.). For example, musical scores are now published digitally. The Library's digital content strategy will include provision for the further development of the music collection to encompass all formats.

5.2.10 In consultation with other collecting bodies, the Library will work towards agreeing a collaborative approach to collecting Irish music heritage.

5.3 THEATRE

5.3.1 Material relating to the theatre history and practice in Ireland can be found in all Library curatorial areas.

5.3.2 Key collection strengths include the following:

<u>Manuscripts</u>
- the diaries of Joseph Holloway, documenting Dublin theatre productions over many years
- the papers of Irish playwrights including Brian Friel, Marina Carr and Tom McIntyre
- theatre archives including papers relating to the early history of the Abbey Theatre, and papers of the Focus Theatre and the Project Arts Centre

<u>Printed Books</u>

18. No other Irish repository holds comparable Irish music collections. It is unlikely that any other Irish organisation will proceed, particularly if acquisition is to be made by purchase. Very few, if any, music collecting bodies have an acquisition budget.
19. Irish music festivals include: Feis Ceoil (organisational archives dating from 1897-1972 are held by the Library), Oireachtas Festival, Dublin International Organ Festival (now Pipeworks), GPA Dublin International Piano Competition and Opera Theatre Company, etc. The organisational records of these events often contain the only documentary evidence of Irish performances and contribution by composers and, in addition, such collections document and illustrate the styles and tastes of the Irish musical scene over the years.

- the Clodd collection relating to Samuel Beckett
- the Joseph Holloway library

Prints and Drawings

- several hundred original drawings by Joseph Holloway
- production sketches and drawings ranging from prints in the Brocas collection to original sketches and drawings by Grace Gifford and others of Abbey Theatre productions and actors

Ephemera

- theatre posters, playbills and programmes.

5.3.3 The Michael O'Neill Bequest allows the Library to develop, on an ongoing basis, its collection of books relating to modern and contemporary American, Canadian and European drama.

5.3.4 Key collection development objectives in respect of the Library's theatre holdings include:

- the further development of the holdings of archives of Irish playwrights, theatre and production companies
- the further development of the collection of theatre ephemera including posters and programmes relating to festival and individual productions throughout Ireland and productions of plays by Irish writers, or Irish theatre companies which are produced abroad.

5.3.5 In consultation with other collecting bodies, the Library will work towards agreeing a collaborative approach to collecting Irish theatre heritage.