

Research Studentship

The National Library is an equal opportunities employer

Information for Applicants

1. The National Library of Ireland, in association with the Irish Committee of Historical Sciences (ICHS), is offering a one-year Research Studentship for advanced graduate students (at least in second year of PhD) or post-doctoral students of Irish history.
2. The Student will work in the Manuscripts Department (Special Collections) in the National Library (see Appendix 1).
3. Requirements
The successful candidate will have:
 - Strong interpersonal skills and be able to work as part of a team
 - Ability to work in an organised and productive way with strong attention to detail
 - Ability to meet deadlines and to be able to work on their own initiative
 - Excellent IT skills
4. The Studentship is designed to enable a Student to undertake intensive study of a selected manuscript collection or collections which he/she might use as a major source in a post-graduate or post-doctoral research programme (see Appendix 2). On completion of the Studentship, it is envisaged that the Student will resume their research programme and may continue to exploit the collection for its historical content.
5. The Studentship will be for a 12-month period, starting September 2025.
6. The successful applicant will be offered a contract of employment by the Board of the National Library of Ireland.
7. The current annual rate of pay applying to the Studentship is aligned to the first point of the Clerical Officer (PPC) pay scale, currently €30,797 per annum, and accruing 22 days' annual leave.
8. The Studentship may be terminated by the National Library, at any time, in the event of misconduct by the student or persistent failure for any reason to carry out satisfactorily the duties assigned to him/her.

9. Applicants should send a Curriculum Vitae and a cover letter. The cover letter should indicate the applicants' interest in the Research Studentship at the NLI and should outline their selected manuscript collection from Appendix 2.

Please note: The cover letter should be no longer than 1 page and the Curriculum Vitae should be no longer than 2 pages.

Application documentation should be in a **single PDF** document and submitted by e-mail to the NLI's Human Resources Unit at careers@nli.ie

10. The closing date for all applications is **16th May 2025 at 3:00 p.m.** Applications **will not** be accepted after this date. It is the responsibility of candidates to ensure that their completed application form is received on time.
11. Applicants will be shortlisted on the basis of the information contained in their application.
12. Interviews will take place in June. It is the responsibility of applicants to be available for interview on the allotted date.
13. Candidates who are successful at interview will be required to undergo pre-hire checks including provision of references and a health and character declaration.
14. The National Library of Ireland reserves the right to make such enquiries as it considers necessary in relation to an applicant before making an offer of a Studentship to them.

Appendix 1

National Library of Ireland Studentship Programme

Job Title: Research Studentship
Temporary Fixed Term Contract (12 months)

Library Department: Manuscripts (Special Collections)

Studentship Programme: The position is being offered under the National Library of Ireland's studentship programme for post-graduates who wish to gain experience of working in a library and an understanding of one of the Library's unique archival collections. The Student will work in the Manuscripts Department (Special Collections) of the National Library of Ireland.

Main Duties:

Duties will include but are not limited to:

- Arranging and listing of select manuscript collections from Appendix 2 and such other collections as may be agreed;
- Developing a practical understanding of key aspects of collections management including conservation and digitisation;
- Working with Service team to deliver expert research services on a rostered basis;
- Presentations and lectures to visiting groups of students and scholars;
- Contributing a blog on the Research Studentship post to the ICHS website;
- Other duties as appropriate.

Requirements

The successful candidate will have:

- Strong interpersonal skills and be able to work as part of a team;
- Ability to work in an organised and productive way with strong attention to detail;
- Ability to meet deadlines and to be able to work on his/her own initiative;
- Excellent IT skills.

Learning:

From their involvement in the studentship programme, Students will:

- have an opportunity to become familiar with the National Library of Ireland's extensive and important Manuscripts collections;
- gain a practical knowledge of archiving;
- develop a broad understanding of a significant Library/information environment;
- develop customer service skills.

Appendix 2

Collections available for the National Library Research Studentship in Irish History, 2025-2026 (Please select only one)

Political History

- **The Andrew Boyd Archive**

Papers of Andrew Boyd (1921-2011), journalist and historian, mainly relating to Northern Ireland in the 20th century, including notes, articles, correspondence and other papers. In 54 boxes.

- **Maurice Collis and Louise Collis Papers**

Papers relating to Maurice Collis and his daughter Louise Collis. Maurice Collis was an administrator in Burma when it was part of the British Empire, and afterwards a writer on Southeast Asia, China and other historical subjects. In 47 boxes (box list available).

Economic History

- **Dublin Chamber of Commerce Papers**

Collection of papers relating to the operations of Dublin Chamber of Commerce including minute books, letter books, accounts, reports and other papers of the Chamber, 1783-1940. In 28 boxes.

Papers of Irish Writers

- **Edna O'Brien Papers, 1990-2021**

Literary and personal papers of Edna O'Brien including notebooks, drafts of novels and short stories, correspondence, and photographs, 1990-2021. In 71 boxes (box list available).

- **Bernard MacLavery Papers**

Drafts of Bernard MacLavery's novels, scripts for films, children's books and associated correspondence. In 29 boxes (box list available).

Estate Papers

- **O'Callaghan-Westropp Papers**

Papers of the O'Callaghan family (later O'Callaghan-Westropp), Mills, Co. Clare. In 13 boxes.

- **Westport Papers (Additional)**

Papers relating to the Westport estate of the Browne family, Earls of Altamont and Marquesses of Sligo. Mainly 20th century with some 18th and 19th century material. In 63 boxes (box list available).

- **Waldron Papers**

Papers relating to Hubert Kelly Waldron and the Waldron family of Drumsna, County Leitrim. Mostly 19th century material. In 22 boxes.