

IRISH SOCIETY  
ARCHIVES  
REPORT

By  
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## PREFACE

by commissioning parties

In 2008 a research report was produced by Valerie McGowan-Doyle, PhD, on behalf of Dr William Kelly, (formerly University of Ulster), and Bernadette Walsh, Archivist Derry City and Strabane District Council, facilitated by London Metropolitan Archives, City of London Corporation. The aim of the report was to establish the nature of the archive collection of the The Honourable The Irish Society relating to the Plantation of Londonderry, held by LMA.

The archive proved to be a wealth of largely untapped information that establishes its importance and the need for considerable further attention. The content spans four centuries and covers a wide range of subjects including economic, social, business, environmental, legal and colonial history. Whilst the importance of The Honourable The Irish Society to the history of the Plantation has been acknowledged, the content of this collection unveils how much of the history remains hidden. The archive is fundamental to the understanding of the origins, evolutions and impact the plantation had on this island and on Britain.

Shortly after the report was completed some work was carried out on the Irish Society archive at LMA to identify misplaced items and address some of the obvious deficiencies in the catalogue descriptions. The catalogue is available online at [https://search.lma.gov.uk/scripts/mwimain.dll/144/LMA\\_OPAC/web\\_detail/REFD+CLA~2F049?SESSIONSEARCH](https://search.lma.gov.uk/scripts/mwimain.dll/144/LMA_OPAC/web_detail/REFD+CLA~2F049?SESSIONSEARCH) and includes some digital documents. It can also be viewed as a pdf at [https://search.lma.gov.uk/LMA\\_DOC/CLA\\_049.PDF](https://search.lma.gov.uk/LMA_DOC/CLA_049.PDF).

A major cross-disciplinary funded project was undertaken in partnership with University College London, completed in 2013, to digitally reconstruct the Great Parchment Book (LMA reference CLA/049/EM/02/018) which is available online via a dedicated website at [www.greatparchmentbook.org](http://www.greatparchmentbook.org). An academic paper describing the project is available at

<https://academic.oup.com/dsh/article/32/4/887/2670757>. The innovative project has won or been shortlisted for several awards for digitisation and conservation. In 2016, the Great Parchment Book was added to the UNESCO UK Memory of the World Register <http://www.greatparchmentbook.org/2016/06/21/great-parchment-book-awarded-unesco-memory-of-the-world-status/>.

The Irish Society records are freely available for consultation at LMA <https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/london-metropolitan-archives/visitor-information/Pages/default.aspx>. The report also refers to the City Livery Companies records of their Irish estates.

These are managed by LMA and catalogued on [the LMA online catalogue](#), but access is at Guildhall Library, for which see <https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/guildhall-library/visit-us/Pages/default.aspx>.

Any questions about these archive collections and access to them should be addressed to [ask.lma@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:ask.lma@cityoflondon.gov.uk).

For further information on the archive collections in Derry City & Strabane District Council. See <http://www.derrystrabane.com/Subsites/Museums-and-Heritage/Museums-and-Visitor-Service>.

**Bernadette Walsh**, Archivist, Derry City & Strabane District Council, Museum and Visitor Services

**Philippa Smith**, Head of Collections, London Metropolitan Archives



**The Records of The Honourable the Irish Society  
at the London Metropolitan Archives**

**Report of On-Site Study  
23 June – 25 July 2008**

**Valerie McGowan-Doyle, PhD  
September 2008**

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### Note on conventions

- Dates are given in Old Style with the year silently amended to begin on January 1.
- Where original documents are cited, names and locations are reproduced as in their source.
- The terms Derry and Londonderry are used interchangeably in many of the Irish Society and London Company records, on occasion within the same document. These terms have been left as is where original documents are cited.

## Introduction

In 1609, in the wake of the Nine Years War (1593-1603), the Flight of the Earls (1607) and the rebellion of Cahir O’Doherty (1608), plans were established for the plantation of Ulster. The City of London was assigned responsibility for what was to become the County of Londonderry. Twelve of the principal guild companies, the London Companies, along with their minor associates, were given this task, and an oversight body, The Society of the Governor and Assistants, London, of the New Plantation of Ulster, within the Realm of Ireland—later known as The Honourable The Irish Society and referred to hereafter as the Irish Society—was created. The Irish Society would maintain its presence over the ensuing four hundred years, and its history is therefore fundamental to the history of Londonderry. The records of the Irish Society’s London office, covering the period 1609-1994 and now housed at the London Metropolitan Archives, constitute an incomparable source documenting that history. They are, in fact, of such substantial importance that any consideration of the Irish Society, Londonderry, or the Ulster plantations, or even indeed British colonialism, cannot be successfully or comprehensively accomplished with consultation of them, yet—with some notable exceptions—few historians have.<sup>1</sup> The approaching 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the plantations marks an apt occasion on which to reconsider this archive. Under the auspices of a Project Management Team consisting of Bernadette Walsh, Council Archivist, Dr. William Kelly, University of Ulster, and Dr. John Wilson, University of Ulster, an on-site study was undertaken from 23 June – 25 July 2008.

This report outlines the results of that study. As anticipated, the Irish Society archive proved to hold a wealth of largely untapped information that establishes its fundamental

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<sup>1</sup> For historians who have utilized this collection, see T.W. Moody, *The Londonderry Plantation, 1609-41* (Belfast, 1939) and James S. Curl, *The Honourable The Irish Society and the plantation of Ulster, 1608-2000* (Chichester, West Sussex, 2000). Moody remains the seminal work to which historians of the early modern period turn. See also the relevant chapters on plantation in Nicholas Canny, *Making Ireland British, 1580-1650* (Oxford, 2001). Note that while Canny did consult the records of the London Companies, he did not consult the Irish Society archive for this study.

importance and the need for considerable further attention. Following an overview of its location, history and contents, this report addresses key findings, outlines available options for digitisation and makes recommendations for prioritization, identifies selected items for exhibition loans, and offers further recommendations, including future research projects and the need for enhanced cataloging. Eight appendices are included to document and complement the observations, assessments and recommendations provided. The key findings and conclusion both draw attention to this archive not only as a source fundamental to the histories of the Irish Society and Londonderry but one that, moreover, establishes Londonderry's position as a key site foundational to the development of early modern plantations and therefore one that also merits comparison within the evolution of larger British and global contexts.

The records of the individual London Companies housed at the Guildhall Library in London were also consulted, though given limitations of time primary emphasis was given to the Irish Society archive. It should also be noted that given limitations of time, emphasis was given to documents relating primarily to Londonderry in both archives. Thus, all lists, appendices, and recommendations (with a few exceptions as noted) do not take into account documents relating primarily to Coleraine.

### **Location, History and Contents of the Irish Society and London Companies Archives**

The London offices of the Irish Society, along with its records, were housed in the Guildhall in London from their inception until 1826 when purpose-built chambers were constructed for them in the Guildhall yard. The Irish Society began transferring its archive to the Corporation of London Records Office in the 1950s, and it is now housed in its entirety in the London Metropolitan Archives. The majority of the records of the individual London

Companies, however, remain in the Guildhall Library with the exception of several documents once in the possession of the Goldsmiths Company now also archived and catalogued with the Irish Society records at the London Metropolitan Archives (notably CLA/049/AD/01/001 and 004).

As catalogued by the London Metropolitan Archives, the Irish Society collection contains 1,556 catalogued entries organized under eight headings: Administration, Cases, Finance, Estate Management, Plans, Related Documentation, Deeds and Files (see Appendix A for a complete catalogue list). The collection is, though, far larger than this suggests. While some of the catalogue entries represent a single item, for example, CLA/049/AD/07/01, a Letter Book covering the period 1664-1687, others represent multiple items. For example, CLA/049/DD/11/002, Coleraine Determinable Leases, is actually a set of four boxes, Box Two of which alone actually contains fourteen separate items. There are additionally approximately 50 boxes of material yet to be catalogued, primarily dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, though the London Metropolitan Archives plans to complete the cataloguing of those items in the Fall of 2009. Though it was not possible to physically count each individual document within the collection during the site study, this is a vast collection certainly extending to thousands of items. Approximately 500 items were consulted, with particular attention given to 17<sup>th</sup>-century material (all of which were consulted) and material relating to Londonderry as noted above.

The Irish Society's archives cover the period 1609-1994 and represent three principal types of material: 1) manuscript items, 2) maps, plans and drawings, and 3) print items. Within the collection of items in print are the series of visitation reports produced between 1802-88 (CLA/049/AD/EM/01/001-060), various collations of earlier documents copied in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (see, for example, CLA/049/AD/14/001, "An abridgement of the principal matters contained in the records belonging to The Honourable The Irish Society" collected by



Henry Schultes in 1819), and secondary material such as T.W. Moody's 1939 work, *The Londonderry Plantation: 1609-41* and volumes of the *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*. The maps, plans and drawings cover the period from the early 17<sup>th</sup> century to the 20<sup>th</sup>. These include maps of townlands and liberties in Londonderry (CLA/049/PL/01/043 and CLA/049/EM/02/008), a copy of John Speed's famous 1610 map (CLA/049/PL/01/075, though it is misidentified as "an old map of Ulster"), an 1847 map of Londonderry (CLA/049/PL/03/020), as well as 19<sup>th</sup>-century drawings and plans for schools, model cottages and farmhouses (CLA/049/AD/05/011, CLA/049/EM/01/04, CLA/049/PL/03/006), and an 1886 map of the Ironmongers' and Brewers' holdings (CLA/049/EM/04/04). The manuscript items include an extensive range of material including court minute books covering the period 1664-1939 (CLA/049/AD/01/001-056), letter books covering 1664-1913 (CLA/049/AD/07/001-013), ledger books covering 1688-1948 (CLA/049/FN/03-001-034), receipt books covering 1663-1809 (CLA/049/FN/04/001-007), rent rolls covering 1674-1970 (CLA/049/EM/03/001-028), solicitors papers (CLA/049/AD/16/001-360) and deeds and leases (CLA/049/DD/01-16/06/002). There are, unfortunately, no copies of the original charters of either 1613 or 1662 within the collection, though it does contain several translations and abridgements (see CLA/049/AD/13/005-006). There are, also unfortunately, relatively few original items dating to the 17<sup>th</sup> century in the collection (see Appendix B for a complete list of 17<sup>th</sup>-century material). Conversely, the 19<sup>th</sup> century is exceptionally well-documented here.

A fire in 1786 at the Guildhall unfortunately destroyed an unknown number of the Irish Society's records. Some attempt at cleaning damaged records was made at the time, and further conservation efforts have been undertaken by the London Metropolitan Archives

since receipt of the collection.<sup>2</sup> Fire (and water) damage is evident in many of the documents, notably in the loss of text due to charred edges, and some remain in extremely fragile condition and in need of further conservation, such as the 1639 Great Parchment Book (CLA/049/EM/02/018). It is impossible to determine precisely how many records were lost in the fire. A list compiled at the time identified some of the lost items as “a number of new leases pertaining to property in Londonderry and Coleraine ... transactions between the Crown and the City before and after King James’ charter of 1613, a volume containing a copy of the Articles between the Crown and the City respecting the plantation” as well as receipt books, treasurers’ accounts and the 1767 survey.<sup>3</sup> However, early in the 19<sup>th</sup> century Henry Schultes, Secretary of the Irish Society, described the attempt to rescue and identify damaged and destroyed material as “badly done.” He noted that “no care was taken to investigate the burnt fragments, they were pronounced useless and thrown together in a mass and deposited in that state under more than half a ton of rubbish consisting of city records burnt to crusts.”<sup>4</sup> While some of the lost documentation is available elsewhere, the Articles Agreed Upon between the King and the City, for example, other documentation key to the reconstruction of early tenant lists and therefore early social history has been irretrievably lost with the treasurer’s accounts and receipt books. This fire likely accounts for the existence of very few original 17<sup>th</sup>-century documents within the collection.

Records of the individual London Companies pertaining to the Ulster plantation housed at the Guildhall Library were also consulted during this study (see Appendix C). Given restrictions on time, consultation of those documents—primarily in manuscript—was restricted to items relevant to the early history of the plantation. These manuscripts are essential in that they provide more substantial documentation for the early period in particular

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<sup>2</sup> See V.E. Aldous, “The Guildhall Fire of 1786, with particular reference to the records of the Irish Society” (Corporation of London Records Office, In-house Research Paper 12.5, 1985).

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 3.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 3.

than the Irish Society records. They also contain vital information not available in the Irish Society records. MS 3115, for example, contains rent rolls from 1628 and 1631 for the Mercers' lands containing names, amounts due, and location; MS 7275 contains the 1618 lease of Ballytemple to George Downing; and MS 5200 contains abstracts of leases to the Skinners, Stationers, Bakers, and Girdlers dating to 1609, 1610, 1613 and 1618 (but copied in 1772). The importance of this information dictates consultation of this archive in addition to the Irish Society archives for any research project.

### **Key Findings**

As noted in the introduction, certainly the initial key finding of this study was the abundance of documentation and detail contained within the Irish Society's archive. Its thousands of items which document four centuries of Irish Society activities in Londonderry define it as a substantial archive of essential primary information that demand consultation. However, the key analytical finding of this study was the archive's conveyance of the fundamentally business-oriented position of the Irish Society. While this may seem a statement of the obvious, given the function of the London Companies as guilds, it is in fact revealing in ways that advance our understanding of the early decades of the plantation and suggest new avenues of interpretation. The re-emphasis of the business-oriented position of the Irish Society leads to yet another key finding: the international significance of this archive.

What we have in the Irish Society archive, though it again seems to belabor the obvious, are the papers and financial records of an oversight board stemming from the merchant community created to administer plantation, and that must be borne in mind when assessing their content, particularly at the outset of the plantation. Neither the Irish Society nor the

London Companies conceived of the plantation project, nor did they compose the documents that justified its creation or devise the policies of implementation, nor did they even offer to participate. They ultimately relented to coerced collaboration and managed the affairs of plantation as they were organized to do: as a business. Their day-to-day records do not reflect the government's concern to establish secure British, Protestant settlements; rather they concern themselves with administration and finance, providing virtually no hint of the larger social or political contexts within which those day-to-day affairs took place. The fundamentally economic nature of the Irish Society's concerns in the early period in particular is poignantly conveyed in the record of an inquisition held at Dungannon in 1622. On that occasion individuals from families who had been historically prominent in resisting English encroachment, including members of the Bath, McDonnell, O'Hagan, and O'Neill families, were called in for questioning, only to be asked about salmon fishing on Lough Foyle (CLA/049/AD/16/283). One is similarly hard-pressed to find Irish Society records that make reference to contemporary socio-political events even for later periods.<sup>5</sup>

Identifying financial interests as the principal concern of the Irish Society in the early period is of direct relevance to historians' lament at the lack of a productive social history of the plantation in that era. The lack of raw data in the form of tenant lists or rent payments and arrears which might help to reconstruct demographic changes on Irish Society holdings has certainly hindered this effort, and in turning to what records do exist, historians have been equally frustrated to find little else to help them. What is *not* in the extant record, though, is as revealing as what one would like to find, for in omitting direct references to social (or political) issues and contexts what the Irish Society records *do* reveal is that they were

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<sup>5</sup> It should be noted that this inquisition took place prior to the 1622 commission, whose concerns also included issues of finance. In spite of searching specifically for documents whose dates coincided with pivotal political events, I could find only two records which made reference to the larger political arena: a notice of reimbursement to two women for property damages sustained during the Siege of Derry (CLA/049/AD/01/005) and correspondence expressing concern that the creation of the Irish Free State might interfere with the Irish Society's charter and boundaries (CLA/049/AD/16/132).

concerned with the economics of plantation and, importantly, the economics of plantation for themselves, not the inhabitants.<sup>6</sup>

Identifying the fundamentally economically-minded perspective of the Irish Society gives us fresh corroboration, expanded context, and new avenues of interpretation for other patterns that have already been identified. For instance, the economic difficulties of abiding by the terms of plantation have been long noted, such as the construction of housing and castles and settlement of British tenants, and Nicholas Canny's recent study of plantation in Ulster provides excellent detailed demonstration of that.<sup>7</sup> However, while that study makes use of London Company records, it curiously did not take advantage of the Irish Society archive. Consultation of it would have permitted his address of economic issues to expand beyond the struggles of those "on the ground" and the complaints of the government at their failure to comply with plantation agreements to consider the perspective of the Irish Society to whom the undertakers were ostensibly primarily responsible. Traditional approaches to the question of the early plantation's failure to achieve the government's desired result have, in other words, taken into account only two of the factors in the plantation equation, effectively leaving out a key factor: the Irish Society, oversight agency for this project.<sup>8</sup> Historians can now use the Irish Society archive to approach the difficulties of early plantation in innovative ways by re-centering the Irish Society and considering the manner in which its concerns and behaviour impacted the nature of plantation.

It is also in identification of the fundamentally economically-minded perspective of the Irish Society that other questions are raised leading ultimately to the international significance of their archive, for it begs comparison of the Irish Society with the other organizations conceived, chartered and implemented in chronological proximity to each

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<sup>6</sup> Such is the case with the example of the 1622 Dungannon inquisition noted above, though even there historians have been given some other key information, notably precisely which members of families who had historically posed difficulties for the extension of English administration continued to reside in the area.

<sup>7</sup> Canny, see esp. Chapter 4.

<sup>8</sup> See, for example, Canny's address of the 1622 commission, esp. pp. 240-53.

other, namely joint-stock companies such as the British East India Company (incorporated in 1600 and whose initial official title was, interestingly, The Honourable East India Company) or the Virginia Company (established in 1606). The interests of these companies were also fundamentally economic, though the Virginia Company, like the Irish Society, was charged principally with settlement, and the development of their activities in the Americas and India would launch Britain ahead of its colonial competitors. The long-lasting global impact of this development necessitates careful attention to its formative phase, and when we turn to that formative phase the Irish Society and Londonderry are there as well, bearing remarkable similarities. It is attention to their differences as well, though, that significantly advances our understanding of these institutions and appreciation of their organization, charges and activities. Neither the history of early British colonial/economic practices in general, nor the history of its colonial/economic activities in the New World or India, nor the history of plantation in Ulster, can be comprehensively understood without reference to each of these other arenas. Yet here again, in spite of the fact that comparisons between Ireland and North America are often noted, and in some cases expanded upon, the Irish Society's records have yet to be given the attention they merit within this context either.<sup>9</sup>

Even historians whose concerns are restricted to plantation in Ulster have tended to rely on T.W. Moody's seminal 1939 study of Irish Society records, in spite of the acknowledged limits of his focus there, rather than examining the Irish Society records themselves. Exceptional as it is in what it accomplished, reliance on Moody has effectively limited the innovative approaches that could be taken to the questions that still plague the history of the Londonderry plantation. For example, the Irish Society archives are clearly an essential source that will assist in teasing out the implications of Allan Macinnes' caution to

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<sup>9</sup> D.B. Quinn and Nicholas Canny are the principal contributors to this field. See in particular, *The Westward Enterprise: English activities in Ireland, the Atlantic and America 1480-1650*, ed. K.R. Andrews, N.P. Canny and P.E.H. Hair (Liverpool, 1978).

differentiate between colonialism and plantation.<sup>10</sup> The Irish Society archive additionally stands to open numerous new interpretive questions, issues and frameworks of analysis for the early modern period.

The abundance of 19<sup>th</sup>-century material in this archive also provides a goldmine of information. Records for that period convey a distinct shift in Irish Society activities in Londonderry as they concerned themselves with issues such as education and social reform. On these subjects the archive provides both ample statistical information that permits the detailed tracking of school funding over time, for example, as well as narrative texts addressing education and impoverished housing conditions. Here again this information is fundamental to a history of Londonderry, but it also has much broader significance when contextualized within studies of 19<sup>th</sup>-century British concerns for social reform, studies to which consideration of the Irish Society and Londonderry can also contribute.

Specific detail on the manner in which these key findings, as well as others, can be expanded upon are addressed below under Further Recommendations—Future Research and in Appendix G.

### **Recommendations for Digitisation**

Digitisation of the Irish Society Archives would enhance the collection's accessibility for both the public and researchers outside London while simultaneously assisting in its preservation, a particular concern given the unique nature of many of the items. Some of the items in the collection are already available on microfilm at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (referred to hereafter as PRONI; see Appendix D for a complete list). This represents, however, only a small portion of the collection. There are at present two options

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<sup>10</sup> Allan Macinnes, "Making the Plantations British, 1603-38" in *Frontiers and the Writing of History, 1500-1850*, ed. Steven G. Ellis and Raingard Esser. Wehrhahn Verlag, 2006), p. 98.

for digitisation—digital imaging and electronic capture—with the additional option of microfilming. All three of these options were explored in meetings held with administrative staff at the Corpus of Electronic Texts project at University College Cork (hereafter referred to as CELT), including Hiram Morgan, Project Director, Beatrix Faerber, Project Manager, and Patrick Kiely, Post-Doctoral Research Fellow and with staff at the London Metropolitan Archives, including Dr. Deborah Jenkins, Head Archivist, Matthew Payne, Senior Archivist (City Partners), and David Tennant, Principal Image and Design Officer. The CELT project is already placed to collaborate in electronic capture of texts (see their database at [www.ucc.ie/celt](http://www.ucc.ie/celt)) and has expressed a commitment to participation in digitisation of the Irish Society's records. The imaging center at the London Metropolitan Archives is similarly already placed to assist in both digital imaging and microfilming, and Dr. Deborah Jenkins has expressed a particular interest in collaboration at all levels of the project's continuation, including research and public education as well as imaging.

The Project Management Team will need to consider a number of factors as options for digitisation are explored. First among the decisions to be made is identification of the ultimate objective of such a project, i.e., whether the goal is to provide access to the material for researchers outside London (as would be provided by access to microfilm copies) or to provide much wider access via a website (as would be accomplished either through electronic capture or digital imaging). In addition to use and accessibility, additional factors that need to be taken into consideration in determining the suitability and desirability of each method include: timeframe for completion, cost, image quality, and the nature of the documents. Taking these factors into account, further detail on each method, its requirements and its advantages, follows below. While digital imaging of the entire collection is ideal, because the documents in this collection exist in a variety of formats, including print, maps, and manuscript—some bound and others in loose-sheet form, and many of which are in extremely



fragile condition—I recommend taking advantage of multiple options. Principally, the CELT project is ideal for the many items in print while digital imaging is preferred for the many maps and drawings. While it would be ideal to digitally photograph the many manuscripts in the collection, microfilming offers a functional and lower-cost, though less flexible and less user-accessible, option.

*Electronic Capture.* The availability of items through a website such as CELT clearly provides comprehensive access and offers the additional benefit of rapidly-searchable texts. The preparatory process of encoding each document means that in terms of time and labor items already available in print, such as the series of 19<sup>th</sup>-century deputation reports (CLA/049/EM/01-025), suggest themselves as most immediately suitable for this method. Documents in manuscript form would require the additional first step of transcription, thus adding to the time and labor involved. However, some of the manuscript items in the Irish Society archive are of such fundamental importance—English translations of the 1613 and 1662 charters or the 1639 Great Parchment Book, for instance—that I nonetheless recommend them as top priorities for this format. Working with CELT offers the additional advantage of an institutionally-established collaborative partner that can provide quality assurance and maintenance.

*Digital Photography.* While electronic capture provides web-accessible and searchable transcripts of texts, digital photography provides an image of each page itself. Digital imaging is to be preferred above all other options for the many maps, plans and drawings in the collection, as well as some of the older or more unique items such as the 1639 Great Parchment Book (CLA/049/EM/02/018). This method is also preferable for the many manuscript items as researchers working with these documents often require the image itself

in order to ascertain elements such as hand, authorship, emendations to texts, marginalia, and modifications made to texts between draft and final or formal copy. Digital imaging is certainly preferable for the many manuscript items in table format such as rent rolls and payments. An additional advantage of this method is the quality of each image and the flexibility of working with each image electronically once captured (“zooming in” or cropping, for instance, whereas microfilm produces a more static and lower-quality image). Initial costs would include labor and the purchase of digital cameras and associated equipment including software. Further cost considerations with this method include long-term maintenance. The captured images could be made available at on-site computer stations or made available even more widely by the creation of a web-site. Either of these would necessitate initial outlay for system and hardware requirements as well as the associated costs of lifetime maintenance by systems staff. It should be noted that staff at the London Metropolitan Archives are available for and interested in collaboration on a project such as this, though the project might wish also to retain its own employee to carry out the digital photography. As many as 1000 images can be taken per day with the use of a tripod-mounted camera, but reduced significantly where tripods are not permitted (as is the case at the London Metropolitan Archives).

*Microfilming.* Microfilming provides the quickest and most cost-efficient method of capture. Approximately 5,000 frames can be taken per day. Initial costs would include labor and a fee of 57p per frame (as of July 2008 if carried out under contract with the London Metropolitan Archives). End-user and maintenance costs would be limited to microfilm reader acquisition, repair and replacement. Unlike electronic capture, which provides availability to anyone with internet access, microfilming would place some restrictions on access by necessitating travel

to locations holding the microfilm. Microfilming would also reduce image quality and flexibility.

As digitisation will be a lengthy process given the size of the collection, prioritization of items for digitisation is essential. Appendix E provides recommendations for prioritization that take into account the above three methods of capture and access.

### **Exhibition Recommendations**

Many of the documents in the Irish Society archives would serve exceptionally well as exhibition items, either as part of a larger exhibition or as the core of an exhibition highlighting the history of the Irish Society's role either in Ulster or in Londonderry more specifically. Items were selected for their historical merit and interest as well as their visual appeal and accessibility (items clearly legible to visitors not equipped to read early modern hands, for instance), and again with special emphasis on Londonderry. Every attempt was made to identify items from across the entire period of the Irish Society's history, though with a particular concern to document the plantation's origins, but again given the nature of the collection's contents many items from the 19<sup>th</sup> century have been chosen as well. The items selected also include a range of subject areas and formats. Documents were chosen, for example, that clearly identify names of civic importance recognizable to a local audience, as have plans and drawings of civic buildings. The many maps in the collection would additionally enhance any exhibition. Particular consideration should be given to CLA/049/AD/13/002, a presentation copy of translations of the 1613 and 1662 charters drawn up in 1778, exquisitely bound in gold-embossed red leather and cased in its original mahogany box. A number of items have also been identified from the Guildhall Library

collection that would make an excellent contribution to any exhibition. However, while the London Metropolitan Archives has expressed its willingness to loan items for such a purpose, no such arrangements have been made with the Guildhall Library (and are not forthcoming at this time). Any items from their collection would require separate permission and additional negotiation. Appendix F provides a complete list of items recommended for exhibition.

## **Further Recommendations**

### Future Research

The wealth of information in this underutilized collection certainly warrants its increased attention and would support sustained research projects of varying size and suitable for varying levels of expertise--upper-level undergraduate, post-graduate and advanced scholar, though any research project should also include attention to the London Company records housed in the Guildhall Library as noted above. As *the* principal archive of the Irish Society, there is more than ample information, for instance, to extend a sustained chronological study of the Irish Society's activities in Londonderry beyond T.W. Moody's excellent 1939 study of the period 1609-41. The abundance of 19<sup>th</sup>-century material in the collection certainly invites a number of projects, though scholars of early modern Ireland who are already experienced in working creatively with the limited extant sources for their period (due to the 1922 fire in the Irish Public Records Office at Four Courts) will also find sufficient detail within the collection upon which to build larger projects. Additionally, transcription of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century material that is contained within this collection will certainly prove that in spite of its paucity, there is significant detail to be had. Several larger subject areas that are well-represented in the collection and would thus be well served by further research are addressed

below, and a fuller list of recommendations for further research with reference to specific items in the Irish Society archives is included as Appendix G.

*Social history.* Historians have long noted the limited attention to social history in Moody's 1939 study.<sup>11</sup> Rather, Moody emphasized the institutional history of the Irish Society with emphasis given to the relationship between the Irish Society and central governance. That focus may have been guided by the documents with which Moody had to work, for the Irish Society archive provides extremely little information on social or religious issues for this early period as noted under Key Findings. At present, the collection does not seem likely to reveal any more detail for analysis than already ascertained by Moody, though again transcription of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century documentation is certain to prove that more detail is present than is initially apparent from the cataloguing records (as demonstrated by the complete contents list for one of these items in Appendix H). On the other hand, the collection contains abundant information for the 19<sup>th</sup> century, much of it raw data on which to build a social history detailing numerous issues. Principal among these issues are education in Londonderry under the Irish Society and a concern for social reform. There is substantial detail on the construction and funding of schools, for instance, as well as both data and narrative texts on the progress of students and the benefits of education. The 19<sup>th</sup>-century material in the Irish Society archives similarly documents a concern for social reform, evident in the concern to improve housing conditions. For either of these projects, though, consideration of the Irish Society's activities contextualized within both Victorian social reform movements and justifications of cultural and political imperialism should be taken into account.

*Economic/Environmental History.* Economic and environmental history—and the relationship between them—are other subjects particularly well-documented in the Irish

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<sup>11</sup> See, for instance, Raymond Gillespie, "Historical revisits: T.W. Moody, *The Londonderry plantation, 1609-41*" *Irish Historical Studies* xxix (1994): 109-113.

Society's archives. Concerns about fisheries and deforestation surface almost with the plantation's inception and are sustained through the 19<sup>th</sup> century. By 1802 Robert Slade would complain that Londonderry was "the worst wooded county in the king's dominions" (CLA/049/AD/05/006), and the overwhelming abundance of detail on fishing rights sustained over the entire course of the Irish Society's history in Ulster makes itself immediately apparent in this collection. From the early modern to the Victorian period these concerns often turned on the debate over whether the Irish Society and the London Companies were within their rights as granted by their charters to use resources for profit or whether they were bound to operate as stewards of Irish resources to the benefit of either the inhabitants or larger British concerns. Historians of the early modern period have tended to rely primarily on Moody's work which, as noted above, though extensively detailed is not comprehensive, rarely consulting the Irish Society archives themselves. Failure to consult this archive risks distorted conclusions by failing to consider economic history more carefully and, in this case, its impact on the environment. Allan Macinnes' statement that "fishing was not integral to plantation in Ireland," for instance, is fundamentally contradicted by the Irish Society's records.<sup>12</sup> This instance offers a case in point for the need for further research on economic and environmental history as well as the critical importance of this collection to any consideration of plantation.

*Legal history.* The Irish Society archive also documents numerous legal cases. These include cases involving accusations of the misuse of resources for profit discussed above, the Foyle and Bann Fisheries Case, the lengthy suit of the Skinners vs. the Irish Society, as well as suits involving the bishops of Derry and individual leaseholders. Here again the Irish Society's records document a history of legal battles that span the 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

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<sup>12</sup> Macinnes, p. 117.

*Comparative colonial history.* The issues raised under Key Findings, as well as others identified in Appendix G, indicate that Londonderry and the Irish Society merit consideration within a comparative colonial context and that they in turn offer a significant contribution to comparative colonial history. Suggested projects focus again on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, periods of pivotal importance to the formative phase of British colonialism and its intensification respectively. The nature of the Irish Society and its fundamental business-orientation warrants comparison to other colonial/economic organizations conceived and chartered within the same period for the Americas and India. Attention to both their similarities and differences would provide a larger context within which to consider the Irish Society's activities while simultaneously expanding our understanding of British colonial activities and objectives as well as their impact in this period. Questions of education and social reform in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, so well-documented for Londonderry as outlined above, were also key questions in the governance of India (no less than sub-Saharan Africa). Here again the wealth of information on these subjects in the Irish Society archives suggests that detailed attention to them will not only advance a history of Irish Society activities in Ulster but contribute fruitfully to larger studies of colonialism for this later period.

#### Enhanced Cataloguing

Any future research project utilizing the Irish Society archives, though, would be facilitated by more detailed cataloguing, in particular expansion of the content description for each item. At present, only a very few catalogue records contain content description of enough detail to assist researchers in designing search strategies. CLA/049/EM/02/012, for example, a parish description book for Londonderry for 1831-32 contains sufficient content detail to assist researchers in selecting that item for retrieval. However, the majority of the records contain only minimal information. For example, the catalogue contents description

for CLA/049/EM/04/002 states only: “A volume of copy documents entitled Entry of Leases and Company’s Proportion and other valuable entries, ca. 1700.” This item, in fact, contains 57 separate items dating from 1609-80 though copied into this collection at the end of the century. Appendix H provides a complete contents list for this item which demonstrates the wealth of detail it contains pertinent to the early history of the Irish Society’s activities in Ulster, detail that is currently not available through a catalogue search but only once the item has been retrieved from storage (and thus possibly overlooked by a researcher searching for items dating to the plantation’s inception). Though I recommend the eventual completion of more detailed contents cataloguing for the entire collection, the material dating to the 17<sup>th</sup> century is a priority. The series of Court Minute Books is of particular concern (CLA/049/AD/01/001-005). Item 002 within that series, for instance, a bound volume of 935 folios compiled by the Goldsmiths in 1618, contains substantial detail by virtue of its inclusion of copies of proposals, surveys, letters patent and correspondence addressing critical issues such as religion and the conditions for planting. Research—often limited by time and funding—is thus substantially slowed by the limited cataloguing information available upon which to base a search and retrieval strategy.

The collection of Deeds (CLA/049/DD) and Files (CLA/049/FL) are another high priority for more detailed cataloguing. These two series represent 210 boxes of material for which no cataloguing is available either in the online catalog ([www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a)) or in the paper catalog available only at the London Metropolitan Archives. At present the only cataloguing information available for these two classifications is that as given in Appendix A, kindly provided for me by archives staff upon request. The lack of even date information for these items necessitated blind retrieval of items rather than a focused search based on the period of interest. Additional confusion surfaced once some of the items were retrieved. For example, item CLA/049/FL/03/001-031, Fisheries, was identified as containing 31 boxes.



Retrieval, however, produced only eleven boxes. Similar discrepancies were found with CLA/049/DD/11/001-004, Determinable Leases Coleraine, identified as containing three boxes whereas upon retrieval there were four, and CLA/049/DD/01, a classification entry that seems to have been used for two separate items: both 1) Coleraine Redeemed Fee Farm Grants and Expired Leases, and 2) an item identified only as “Deeds.”

More detailed cataloguing of the entire collection would be a substantial project requiring significant expenditures of time and cost, but it would also accomplish several other enhancements. As it would necessitate the consultation of each individual item, it would also permit the identification of items still in need of conservation as well as items in need of foliation—essential for researchers who require specific citation for documentation. It would also permit the systematic identification of errors for correction or clarification.

CLA/049/PL/01/075, for instance, is currently identified as “an old map of Ulster” but is in fact a copy of John Speed’s 1610 map. This item is also, incidentally, misplaced; items 048-080 of this series are identified as being stored together but the Speed map, item 075—initially thought lost—was found among the items marked 004-035 when they were retrieved for consultation.

Systematic attention to each item in the collection would also permit the identification of other missing items. During the on-site study, approximately 5% of the items requested for retrieval could not be located (a list of these items is provided at the conclusion of Appendix A). Some of the items that could not be located represented single items, such as CLA/049/AD/14/007 and CLA/049/CS/01/006. Some of the other missing items are cases in which multiple items with separate catalogue records have been stored together in boxes or overwrap, but when the storage container was consulted not all of the items listed as being stored within it could be found, as was the case with CLA/049/PL/02/001 (an undated Elizabethan map of Ulster). Similarly, neither CLA/049/PL/03/012 nor CLA/049/PL/03/015

could be found as indicated in their storage box. The series of maps and drawings to which these two items belong, classed as CLA/049/PL/03/001-057, also represented yet another difficulty in retrieval. An initial search was unable to locate the entire set. It was ultimately located after much searching within two storage boxes marked CLA/049/AD/04/132 and 133.

## **Conclusion**

The wealth of untapped information unveiled in the Irish Society's underutilized collection of documents underscores its fundamental importance and the critical need for its further study. Its contents, many of them unique, span four centuries and cover an expansive range of subjects including economic, social, business, environmental, legal and colonial history, demanding much greater attention from researchers. The importance of the Irish Society to the history of Londonderry has long been acknowledged, but this study of its archive reveals how much of that history remains hidden. The Irish Society's archive is fundamental to events at the local and regional level, and it is additionally critically important in grounding Londonderry firmly as a key site through which to understand more fully the origins, evolution and profound impact of the much larger international economic and imperial patterns in which Britain would play a decisive role.

I am most happy to provide further consultation, clarification or detail should the need arise.

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September 2008

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## Appendix A

### Catalogue of Irish Society Records at the London Metropolitan Archives

#### Administration

- CLA/049/AD/01/001-056 Court Minute Books. 1664-1939  
 CLA/049/AD/02/001-007 Court and Committee Minute Books. 1695-1756  
 CLA/049/AD/03/                 Rough Minutes  
     AD/03/01/001-037 Series A. 1768-1833  
     AD/03/02/001-020 Series B. 1791-1833  
     AD/03/03/001-006 Miscellaneous. 1831-1994.  
 CLA/049/AD/04/001-133 Papers. n.d. but before 1833 – 1938  
 CLA/049/AD/05/001-040 Papers. 1699-1963.  
 CLA/049/AD/06/001-002 Committee for purchase of estates. 1846-49  
 CLA/049/AD/07/001-013 Letter books. 1664-1913  
 CLA/049/AD/08/001-054 Letter books, secretary duplicates. 1865-1969  
 CLA/049/AD/09/001-031 Letter books, general agent. 1879-1975  
 CLA/049/AD/10/001         Letter book, miscellaneous. 1854-1861  
 CLA/049/AD/11/001-007 Letter books, solicitor. 1879-1944  
 CLA/049/AD/12/001-003 Declaration books. 1866-1942  
 CLA/049/AD/13/001-006 Charters. 1613-1671  
 CLA/049/AD/14/001-016 History, constitution and powers. 1613-1985  
     (Secondary histories, copies and print items)  
 CLA/049/AD/15/001-004 Appointments. 1806-1929  
 CLA/049/AD/16/001-360 Solicitors' papers. 1824-1926

#### Cases

- CLA/049/CS/01/001-030 Suits and legal disputes. 1638-1911  
 CLA/049/CS/02/001-009 Foyle and Bann Fisheries Case. 1945-52

#### Estate Management

- CLA/049/EM/01/001-060 Deputation and visitation books. 1802-1888  
 CLA/049/EM/02/001-018 Surveys. 1695-1849  
 CLA/049/EM/03/001-028 Rent rolls. 1674-1970  
 CLA/049/EM/04/001-004 Miscellaneous. 1700-1886

#### Finance

- CLA/049/FN/01/001-003 Audit books. 1825-1865  
 CLA/049/FN/02/001-002 Accounts, day books. 1689-1754  
 CLA/049/FN/03/001-034 General ledgers. 1688-1948  
 CLA/049/FN/04/001-007 Receipt books, 1663-1809  
 CLA/049/FN/05/001-014 Miscellaneous accounts. 1785-1930

## Appendix A, cont.

Plans

- CLA/049/PL/01/001-089 Sketches (libraries, schools, churches, roads).  
1625-1965 and many of n.d.
- CLA/049/PL/02/001-088 Maps and plans. ca. 1600-1973 and many of n.d.
- CLA/049/PL/03/001-057 Miscellaneous (maps, drawings for cottages, advowsons,  
lists of parishes *inter alia*. 1831-1933 and many of n.d.

Related Documentation

- CLA/049/RD/01/001-037 Published histories.
- CLA/049/RD/02/001-042 Printed items including newspaper clippings.

Deeds\*

- CLA/049/DD/01/001-003. Coleraine redeemed fee farm grants and expired leases. 1 box
- CLA/049/DD/02/001-017. Fee farm grants, Londonderry deeds. 17 boxes
- CLA/049/DD/03/001-002. Fee farm grants, Londonderry files. 2 boxes
- CLA/049/DD/04/001-005. Fee farm grants, Coleraine deeds. 5 boxes
- CLA/049/DD/05/001. Fee farm grants, Coleraine files. 1 box
- CLA/049/DD/06/001 Perpetuities, Londonderry deeds. 1 box
- CLA/049/DD/07/001 Perpetuities, Londonderry and Coleraine files. 1 box
- CLA/049/DD/08/001-003 Determinable leases, Londonderry deeds. 3 boxes
- CLA/049/DD/09/001 Determinable leases, Londonderry files. 1 box
- CLA/049/DD/10/001-003 Determinable leases, Coleraine deeds. 3 boxes
- CLA/049/DD/11/001-004 Determinable leases, Coleraine files. 3 boxes
- CLA/049/DD/12/001-003 Other leases, Culmore. 3 boxes
- CLA/049/DD/13/001-003 Other leases, Springtown. 2 boxes
- CLA/049/DD/14/001-014 Other leases, miscellaneous. 14 boxes
- CLA/049/DD/15/001-006 Other leases, miscellaneous. 7 boxes
- CLA/049/DD/16/001-002 Lough Foyle deeds. 2 boxes
- CLA/049/DD/16/003-004 Leases and fee farm rents. 2 boxes

Files\*

- CLA/049/FL/01/001-008 Administration. 8 boxes
- CLA/049/FL/02/001-002 Society House. 2 boxes
- CLA/049/FL/03/001-031 Fisheries. 31 boxes
- CLA/049/FL/04/001-007 Schools. 7 boxes
- CLA/049/FL/05/001-013 Finance. 13 boxes
- CLA/049/FL/06/001-046. Secretary's organisation files. 46 boxes
- CLA/049/FL/07/001-006 Grants and loans. 6 boxes
- CLA/049/FL/08/001-032 Property. 8 boxes
- CLA/049/FL/09/001-002 Kilrea Estates files and deeds. 2 boxes
- CLA/049/FL/10/001-016 Correspondence. 16 boxes

\*Note that the records for items classed as CLA/049/DD and CLA/049/FL are not available either in the online catalogue ([www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a)) or in the paper catalogue available only at the London Metropolitan Archives.

## Appendix A, cont.

Missing Items as of July 2008

CLA/049/AD/01/004  
CLA/049/AD/03/02/020  
CLA/049/AD/04/133/12  
CLA/049/AD/04/133/15  
CLA/049/AD/06/001/1  
CLA/049/AD/13/005  
CLA/049/AD/14/007  
CLA/049/AD/14/013

CLA/049/CS/01/001  
CLA/049/CS/01/003  
CLA/049/CS/01/006

CLA/049/EM/02/014  
CLA/049/EM/02/015

CLA/049/FN/05/014

CLA/049/PL/01/043  
CLA/049/PL/02/001

## Appendix B

### 17<sup>th</sup>-Century Manuscripts of the Irish Society

AD/01/001	Court Minute Book. 24 February 1664/65 – 16 August 1666
AD/01/002	Court Minute Book. 1674, 1677
AD/01/003	Court Minute Book. 27 January 1675/76 – 20 January 1689-90
AD/01/004	Court Minute Book. 23 October 1676 – 29 June 1681
AD/01/005	Court Minute Book. 25 March 1690 – 2 February 1698-99
AD/02/001.	Court and Committee Minute Book. 5 December 1695 – 2 December 1703
AD/05/006	Papers (copy documents from State Papers, Ireland). 1699-1700
AD/07/001	Letter Book. 1664-1687
AD/07/002	Letter Book. 3 April 1688 – 9 August 1700
AD/13/002	Translation of 1613 charter. ca. 1650
AD/13/003	Partial Photostat of 1613 charter. 1613
AD/13/005	Translation of 1662 Charter.*
AD/14/002	Court Book and Table of Lands. 1613-18**
FN/02/001	Accounts, Day Book. March 1689 – March 1725/26
FN/03/001	General Ledger. December 1688 – 1754
FN/04/001	Receipt Book. May 1663 – July 1670
FN/04/002	Receipt Book. 1683-1712
EM/02/001	Survey, Londonderry. 1695
EM/02/018	“Great Parchment Book.” 1639***
EM/03/001	Rent roll, Londonderry and Coleraine. 1674
EM/03/002	Rent roll, Londonderry and Coleraine. 1699-1711
PL/02/001	Boazio map of Ulster. Elizabethan, n.d.****

\*No date is given for this item in the catalogue, and as it could not be located by staff on the shelf during my visit I was not able to determine the date of its production.

\*\* These are copy documents, however, and a specific date of production could not be identified though they appear to be contemporary documents.

\*\*\* This document provides detailed lists of holdings and names but sustained considerable damage, presumably in the fire of 1786. Much of its text is lost.

\*\*\*\* This item could not be located by staff on the shelf during my visit.

## Appendix B, cont.

PL/03/015 and 033. Bacon's map of Ireland. n.d.

RD/01/034 "A note of the companies that are behind in the £100,000 promised to be lent for the relief and preservation of the realm of Ireland.  
2 May 1644 copy of 3 June 1642 document

RD/02/034 Council Minutes, Coleraine. 1671/72 – 1710

RD/02/041 Receipts and Accounts, Ironmongers and Coopers. 1683 and 1689

*There are additionally some later copies of 17<sup>th</sup>-century documents. Note that the catalogue often cites the date of the original and does not note that these are later copies. These include:*

AD/13/001 Charter of 1613. 1821 translation and copy.

AD/16/167 Solicitors Papers. Extracts of documents dating to 1617-1663 copied 1836-91.

AD/16/281 Solicitors' Papers. Extracts of documents dating to 1609-1785 copied 1837.

AD/16/282 Solicitors' Papers. Extracts of documents dating to 1609-1637 copied 1837.

AD/16/283 Solicitors' Papers. Inquisition of 1621 copied in the 1830s.

AD/16/284. Typescript of 1629 instructions for John Rowley. n.d.

EM/04/002. Estate management; miscellaneous. Copies of 58 documents dating from 1613-1680 copied ca. 1700 (see detailed contents list given in Appendix G).

RD/01/032. Abstracts of letters from 1662 copied 1842.

**Appendix C**  
**17<sup>th</sup>-century Manuscripts of the London Companies**  
**Consulted at the Guildhall Library**

- MS 2150/1. Poulterers. Book of Accounts, 1619/20-1704/05. Very little of this collection is relevant to their Irish holdings. See, however, notice of Vintners' payment (f. 311) and an account of dividends due from Irish holdings 1693-1700 (f. 325, including other companies).
- MS 3115. Cooks. This item also contains information on the Mercers, Clothworkers and Distillers including rent rolls for 1628 and 1631
- MS 5199. Bakers. Irish Estates: accounts, ca. 1610-ca.1633.
- MS 5200. Bakers. Irish Estates: miscellaneous papers, 1609-1833.
- MS 5325. Masons. Irish Estates: court order abstracts, 1609-1737.
- Ms 5326. Masons. Lease to John Martin, 1696.
- MS 5328. Masons. Irish Estates: mayoral precepts, 1609-20.  
 Contains original receipts for payments to the City of London, 1611-1616 and accompanying correspondence dating 1613-1620.
- MS 6760. Translation of 1613 charter.
- MS 7206. Cutlers. Irish Estates: administrative papers, 1660-1870.
- MS 7275. Fishmongers. Irish Estates: miscellaneous papers. 1613, 1618-1853.
- MS 14689/1. Broderers. Irish Estates: accounts and papers, 1628-33 and 1689-1713.
- MS 14689/2. Broderers. Contains several letters dating 1689-92 and a 1613 list of each company and the amount due in table format.
- MS 15356/1-3. Vintners. Irish Estates: accounts, 1658-1912.
- MS 15443. Vintners. Irish Estates: correspondence concerning leases, 1696-1714.
- MS 15904. Haberdashers. Abstracts of title, 1674-1832.
- MS 17133. Ironmongers. Visitation report, 1618.
- MS 17275. Ironmongers. Irish Estates: charter and memoranda book, 1613-59, 1725.  
 Contains a copy of the 1613 charter and a 1618 lease from the Irish Society.



Appendix C, cont.

MS 17278/1. Ironmongers. ca. 1617. This is a collection of key documents including copies of documents such as Motives and Reasons, Orders and Conditions, Articles Concerning the Irish Natives, as well as letters, lists of members and complains about their forced participation in the plantation.

MS 17297/1-3. Ironmongers. Plan books, 1613-14, 1724, 1765, 1841.

MS 30708/4. Skinners. Copy documents concerning Irish Estates, 1627-1768. Court minute book of 168 folios containing substantial detail about leases.

## Appendix D

### Irish Society Records on Microfilm at PRONI

AD/01/002	Court Minute Book. 1674, 1677
AD/01/003	Court Minute Book. 1676-1690
AD/01/005	Court Minute Book. 1690-1699
AD/01/008	Court Minute Book. 1707-1714
AD/01/009	Court Minute Book. 1714-1726
AD/01/010	Court Minute Book. 1726-1735
AD/01/014	Court Minute Book. 1748-1756
AD/01/016	Court Minute Book. 1757-1769
AD/01/017	Court Minute Book. 1769-1775
AD/01/018	Court Minute Book. 1784-1797
AD/02/005	Court and Committee Minute Book. 1734-1740
AD/02/006	Court and Committee Minute Book. 1740-1746
AD/02/007	Court and Committee Minute Book. 1746-1750
AD/07/001	Letter Book. 1664-1687
AD/07/004	Letter Book. 1708-1721
AD/07/005	Letter Book. 1721-1738
AD/07/007	Letter Book. 1789-1826
CS/01/001	Judgment against the Irish Society and the Twelve Companies. 1832
CS/01/020	Lough Foyle Fisheries Case. 1857
FN/01/001	Audit Book. 1825-1847
FN/01/002	Audit Book. 1848-1861
FN/01/003	Audit Book. 1862-1865
FN/03/001	Ledgers, general. 1688-1754
FN/03/002	Ledgers, general. 1747-1810
FN/04/002	Receipt books. 1683-1712
FN/04/004	Receipt books. 1784-1789
FN/04/005	Receipt books. 1789-1791
FN/04/006	Receipt books. 1791-1796
FN/04/007	Receipt books. 1796-1809
FN/05/001	Miscellaneous, treasurer's accounts. 1785-1827
FN/05/002	Miscellaneous, ledger. 1824-1833
FN/05/003	Miscellaneous, cash book. 1824-1827
FN/05/004	Miscellaneous, petty cash book. 1828-1850
EM/02/001	Description of lands by John Lane, surveyor. 1695
EM/02/003	Surveys, Coleraine. 1738
EM/02/004	Surveys, Derry. 1738

**Appendix E**  
**Recommendations for Digitisation**  
**(in order of prioritization)**

Electronic Capture (in collaboration with CELT)

CLA/049/AD/13/001 Translation of 1613 charter.

CLA/049/AD/13/005 Translation of 1662 charter.

CLA/049EM/02/018 Great Parchment Book. 1639 (Given the date, importance and fragile nature of this document, I also recommend that it undergo digital imaging.)

CLA/049/EM/01/001-060 Deputation and visitation books. 1802-1888  
 EM/01/001 is of particular importance, Robert Slade's "Narrative of a journey to the north of Ireland in the year 1802." Because these also contain maps, plans and drawings I also recommend them for digital imaging.

CLA/049/AD/14/013 Londonderry and the London Companies, 1609-1629: being a survey and other documents submitted to King Charles I by Sir Thomas Phillips.  
 Note, however, that LMA staff could not locate this item on the shelf, July 2008.

CLA/049/AD/14/001 "An abridgement of the principal matters contained in the records of The Honourable the Irish Society from its origins to the present, collected by Henry Schultes." 1819.

CLA/049/AD/14/008 "A concise view of the origin, constitution and proceedings of the Honourable Society of the Governor and Assistants of London of the New Plantation of Ulster within the Realm of Ireland." 1842 reprint. There was a first printing in 1822 (CLA/049/AD/14/007) but LMA staff could not locate that item on the shelf, July 2008.

CLA/049/AD/14/004 "Statement of facts deduced from ancient records and other authentic sources relating to the Irish Estates of the City of London Companies in Ulster."  
 1898.

CLA/049/AD/14/006 *The Irish Society of London: its management and expenditure.* 1875.

CLA/049/AD/16/284 Instructions given to Mr. John Rowley c. 1629. In typescript.

CLA/049/EM/04/004 Irish Estates. A terrier. 1886.

Appendix E, cont.

Secondary priorities for CELT:

CLA/049/CS/01/030 Draft pardon from the king to the city and livery companies whereby they were discharged from the judgment of the Court of Star Chamber in relation to the forfeiture of the Irish estates. 1638 (transcription required)

CLA/049/AD/16/167 The Skinners Company vs. the Irish Society. A collection of six documents dating to 1617-1663; printed 1891.

CLA/049/CS/21-23 Pleadings and proceedings (1892-99) in the case of Rev. John Johnston, Co. Londonderry vs. the Irish Society and the Twelve Companies

CLA/049/EM/02/014 Ordnance Survey of the County of Londonderry. 1837

CLA/049/RD/01/029 *An appeal to the commons and citizens of London by the Charles Lucas, the last free citizen of Dublin.* 1756. (A call for the unification of Ireland and England similar to that between England and Scotland.)

### Digital Imaging

CLA/049EM/02/018 Great Parchment Book. 1639. This is a top priority given its date, importance and need for preservation as it is in extremely fragile condition. I also recommend that it be made available via CELT, see above (transcription required).

CLA/049/PL/01-001 – 03/057. I recommend digital imaging of this entire collection of maps, plans and drawings (234 items).

All 17<sup>th</sup>-century material is a top priority for digitisation (including 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-century copies of 17<sup>th</sup>-century material). See Appendix X for this complete list.

CLA/049/CS/01/030 Draft pardon from the king to the city and livery companies whereby they were discharged from the judgment of the Court of Star Chamber in relation to forfeiture of the Irish estates. 1638

CLA/049/AD/05/001-013 Surveys, rent ledgers, tenant lists. 1631-1912.

CLA/049/EM/01/001-060 Deputation and visitation books. (also recommended for CELT)  
1802-1888

CLA/049/AD/16/348-349 Poll books for city of Londonderry listing each voter by religion and occupation. #349 also indicates who each person voted for. 1870.

## Appendix E, cont.

- CLA/049/AD/04/001 Papers (deeds, grants, reports, letters, receipts). 1774-1925
- CLA/049/EM/02/002-018. Surveys. 1734-1849
- CLA/049/EM/03/001-028 Rent rolls. 1674-1970
- CLA/049/EM/04/001 Rent arrears. 1831-32
- CLA/049/EM/04/003 Grant book for leases. 1750-1760
- CLA/049/DD/01—DD/16/06/02. Deeds. I recommend digital imaging of this entire set given its importance to social history and the reconstruction of tenant lists. However, given its size (71 boxes of material), if cost is a consideration it should certainly be microfilmed.
- CLA/049/FN/02/002 Accounts: day books. 1726-1754
- CLA/049/FN/03/002-34 Ledgers, general. 1747-1948
- CLA/049/FN/01/001-003 Audit books. 1825-1865
- CLA/049AD/16/132 Irish Society correspondence concerning the government of Ireland.  
1920-25
- CLA/049/CS/01/001-030 Suits and legal disputes. 1638-1911
- CLA/049/AD/01/006-019 Court Minute Books. 1700-1809
- CLA/049/AD/02/002-008 Court and Committee Minute Books. 1706-1756
- CLA/049/AD/03 Rough Minutes. 1768-1833  
Series A – AD/03/01/001-037 and Series B – AD/03/02/001-020
- CLA/049/AD/07/003-013 Letter Books. 1700-1913
- CLA/049/FN/04/007 Receipt book. 1796-1807
- CLA/049/FN/05/001-014 Miscellaneous Accounts. 1785-1930
- CLA/049/CS/02/001-009 Foyle and Bann Fisheries Case. 1945-52

If cost considerations are a factor, items on the above list already available on microfilm at PRONI (see Appendix D) could be eliminated or moved to a later stage of digitisation.

Appendix E, cont.

The following items could be relegated to late in the project or microfilmed:

CLA/049/AD/16/001-360 Solicitors papers. 1824-1926. Several individual items from this set are already identified above.

CLA/049/AD/01/020-056 Court Minute Books. 1809-1939

CLA/049/FL/01/001 – FL/10/016 Files. (139 boxes of material, primarily mid-late 20<sup>th</sup> c.)

CLA/049/RD/02/024. A scrapbook of newspaper clippings relevant to the Irish Society.

## Appendix F Recommended Items for Exhibition Loan

CLA/049/AD/01/002. Seven-year lease to George Squire to farm the fishing in the Bann and Loughfoyle, 12 August 1674 (f. 4r). Short, contained on one sheet, easy for public to see its detail of terms, fees, location, etc.

CLA/049/AD/01/004. Irish Society Court Minute Book, 23 October 1676 – 29 June 1681. Visually impressive, original leather binding and clasps; a rare example of original 17<sup>th</sup>-century material. For the oldest of the Court Minute Books in this collection, see AD/01/001 covering 24 February 1664/65 – 16 August 1666.

CLA/049/AD/01/115. Notice of Irish Society payment to two women for damages sustained in Siege of Derry (f. 15).

CLA/049/AD/05/004. 1814-15 survey of Londonderry listing townlands and tenants.

CLA/049/AD/05/006. 1699-1700 copy documents including copies of several 1631 letters concerning Londonderry woods and rents.

CLA/049/AD/05/011. Illustrations of Londonderry Free School and Poor School.

CLA/049/AD/05/013. Two copies of booklet on stained glass windows produced to accompany re-opening of Londonderry Guildhall in 1912 (with illustrations).

CLA/049/AD/07/01. Irish Society Letter Book, 1664-1687. This is the earliest of the Society's letter books in this collection.

CLA/049/AD/13/001. 1821 translation of 1613 charter.

CLA/049/AD/13/002. Mid-seventeenth century translation of 1613 charter.  
(Note that if the Irish Society had an earlier copy of the 1613 charter, it is not extant in this collection.)

CLA/049/AD/13/006. 1778 presentation copy and partial translation of the 1613 and 1662 charters bound in red leather with gilt decoration, contained in purpose-made mahogany box. Visually impressive!

CLA/049/AD/14/001. Detailed list of each company's 17<sup>th</sup>-century holdings but in 19<sup>th</sup>-century copy (see p. 42 or pp. 137-38).

CLA/049/AD/14/002. Copy documents produced 1615-1616 by Goldsmiths Company. Includes proclamations, proposals, letters, Tyrone's attainder, table of lands granted to the Irish Society.

CLA/049/AD/14/006. Small 1875 pamphlet, "The Irish Society of London," produced in connection with accusations of the Society's mismanagement.

## Appendix F, cont.

CLA/049/AD/15/002. 1830 copy documents of extracts from the city's records in relation to the Irish Society covering period 1609-1787.

CLA/049/AD/16/132. Original letters dating 1920-25 expressing concern over the position of the Irish Society and its charter with the creation of the Irish Free State.

CLA/049/AD/16/243. Set of six documents relating to 1899 case in which a number of items of archaeological value (a torc, bowl, etc.) were found by a farmer on the Fishmongers' land and sold to the British Museum.

CLA/049/AD/16/348. 1870 poll book for Londonderry showing each voter's name, address, religion and occupation.

CLA/049/CS/01/21, 22, 23. A series of documents relating to the case against the Irish Society brought by Rev. John Johnston, County Londonderry, and others, 1892-99, over profits taken from woods.

CLA/049/DD/01. Coleraine deeds (one box of deeds; each is NOT individually designated as are other items in the collection). Though relevant to Coleraine, the second item contains a nice example of the Irish Society's seal.

CLA/049/EM/01/001. Narrative of a journey to the north of Ireland, 1802, including a description of the state of each company's lands by Robert Slade. He notes, for example, that the Mercers' land was completely deforested and makes various other observations such as the depopulation of the Clothworkers' lands due to massive emigration to the US caused by the exorbitantly high rents they charged. Includes various proposals for remedying these situations and calls for formal deputation (the first of which takes place in 1814, see below).

CLA/049/EM/01/014. 1834 "Design for cottage for the Irish peasantry" and "Design for small farm house and offices for the cottier farmers in the north of Ireland" (see below). There is another, larger copy in CLA/049/PL/03/006 (though note that item is stored in a box marked CLA/049/AD/04/133).

CLA/049/EM/01/027 (1844) or (1846). Deputation Reports. These are two items in a series of visitation reports made between 1814-1850. Some are in diary format (as above), others were later printed. For a selection of printed visitation reports, see EM/01/018 (1836) or EM/01/014 (1835). Some of these printed volumes also contain other reports and maps. EM/01/014, for example, also contains an appendix on the Londonderry Free School, a report of the Trustees of the Derry Diocesan School, Mr. Secretary Davies' report on the Fishery Cause, and William Tite's report on the need to create model cottages for the Irish peasantry as a remedy to the "wretched state of Irish dwellings and the dirty and disgusting consequences" (see pp. 59-62).

CLA/049/EM/02/001. Detailed description of holdings, lands, names, boundaries by John Lane, surveyor. 1695.



## Appendix F, cont.

- CLA/049/EM/02/002 and 004. Archibald Stewart, surveyor, book of references to accompany maps of Coleraine and Londonderry, 1734 and 1738 respectively.
- CLA/049/EM/02/008. 1827 Description book of Londonderry with good map of the liberties of Londonderry.
- CLA/049/EM/02/010. Description book to accompany maps of townlands including Ballymagowan, Killea and others. For the maps, see CLA/049/PL/01/043 though note that London Metropolitan Archives staff could not locate this item during my summer 2008 visit.
- CLA/049/EM/02/012. Londonderry area, 1831-32. Lists of lands, names, bogs, etc.
- CLA/049/EM/02/016. Handwritten 1847 census of Irish Society's Londonderry and Coleraine estates.
- CLA/049/EM/02/18. "The Great Parchment Book." 1639  
Another rare example of original seventeenth-century material though in badly damaged state.
- CLA/049/EM/03/001. 1674 Rent roll for Londonderry and Coleraine.  
These hand-written rent rolls are maintained up to 1970 (classified as EM/03/001-027), though some would make better exhibition items than others; in addition to the 1674 item, see in particular EM/03/002 (1699-1711) or EM/03/008 (1849-54). EM/03/028 is unique in containing the rent roll for Kilrea Estate only, 1927-65, property formerly in the possession of the Mercer's Company.
- CLA/049/EM/04/003. Land grants made 1750-1760.
- CLA/049/EM/04/004. Irish Estates, Terrier, 1886. Printed volume with maps of Ironmongers' and Brewers' holdings as well as list of tenants by townland.
- CLA/049/FL/03/003/2. 1872 deed. Nice example of deed in good condition with seals and stamps intact. Part of set of documents which stretch to 1983 addressing hunting and fishing rights between the Irish Society and the Shaftesbury Estate.
- CLA/049/FN/01/002. Audit book covering 1848-61 listing Irish Society payments to schools, charitable organizations, etc. Very clean, neat handwriting, easily comprehensible to public audience.
- CLA/049/PL/01/075. Copy of John Speed's 1610 map if Trinity copy is unavailable for loan. Note that in the London Metropolitan Archives it is both misidentified as "an old map of Ulster" and misshelved with items PL/04/004-035.

## Appendix F, cont.

- CLA/049/PL/02/001. Boazio map of Ulster, n.d. Elizabethan. This would make an excellent addition to an exhibition, but note that it could not be located during my summer 2008 visit.
- CLA/049/PL/03/020. 1847 map of Derry with drawings of various civic buildings. Note this is stored in box with other maps marked CLA/049/AD/04/133.
- CLA/049/PL/03/031. Set of nice hand-colored maps of companies' holdings. Note this is stored in box with other maps marked CLA/049/AD/04/133.
- CLA/049/PL/03/055. Drawing plans for Free School at Derry. Note this is also stored in box with other maps marked CLA/049/AD/04/133.
- CLA/049/PL/056. Drawing plans for experimental farm at Templemore. Note this is also stored in box with other maps marked CLA/049/AD/04/133.
- CLA/049/RD/01/034. 1644 copy of 3 June 1642 document listing companies that were behind in the £100,000 promised to be lent for the relief and preservation of the realm of Ireland.
- CLA/049/RD/02/024. Scrapbook of newspaper clippings relevant to the Irish Society, 1887-1891, primarily from Derry and Coleraine newspapers. For particularly interesting items, see p. 83, notice of the Ironmongers' sale of their estates to the tenants (1889); p. 92, a letter to the editor against the Irish Society's raising of rent (1889); and p. 96, regarding the organization of the citizens of Londonderry to levy complaints against the Irish Society (May 1890).
- CLA/049/RD/02/040. Note of dividends due to the city from the Clothworkers for the Brownbakers portion and from the Ironmongers for the Coopers portion which portions were taken over by the city. One folio sheet. 1632 with notes added 1637, 1646, 1660, 1661, 1672.

***If permission can be gained from the Guildhall Library, the following items from their collection would also make excellent additions to an exhibition as they are all of much earlier date than many items in the Irish Society archives.***

- MS 2150/1. Poulterers Company Book of Accounts, 1619-1705. Very little of this 325 ff. volume is relevant to their Irish holdings with two exceptions: f. 311 notes a 1704 payment from the Vintners from their Irish estates and f. 325 contains an "Account of Dividends Due 1693-1700" (dividends due to the Vintners, Ironmongers, Grocers, Weavers, Bricklayers and Blacksmiths from their Irish estates).

## Appendix F, cont.

MS 3115. Contains Mercers rent rolls for 1628 and 1631 as well as early detail on the Clothworkers, Cooks and Distillers.

MS 5326. Lease from Masons to John Martin with seal. 1 folio. 30 June 1696.

MS 5328. Original receipts for Masons' payments to City of London. 1611 and 1613-1616

MS 7275. From the Fishmongers. Land tax on the city and county of Londonderry listed by each company. 11 April 1699.

MS 7276. Leases from Fishmongers listed by name, location, acreage, rental amount with signatures of some tenants, X for those who could not write. 1852/53.

MS 14689/2. List of companies and amounts paid. 17 December 1613.

MS 17278/1. 1617 copy book of documents dating to 1609 compiled by Ironmongers including 1609 letter from mayor of London to the Ironmongers, lists of members' donations to the plantation, complains about forced payment, statements of their associates payments (including the Brewers, Scriveners, Coopers and Pewterers).

MS 31483. Skinners Company. Doddington Lease. This document lists many names which would remain prominent in Londonderry's history, civic and political realms over the following centuries (names recognizable to the exhibition's audience), and is thus an excellent example of the centrality of the plantation's origins to later developments.

## Appendix G

### Recommendations for Further Research

1. Systematic assessment of 19<sup>th</sup>-century visitation reports. This collection contains printed copies of the series of visitation reports produced from 1802-88 (CLA/049/EM/01/-060). These reports devote considerable attention to social issues such as schools and education as well as industries, primarily coal, timber, and fisheries. Their language is reminiscent of contemporary British parliamentary and commission reports on child labor, working conditions in factories and coal mines, etc. as they depict the Irish population and describe poverty and housing conditions (see, in particular, CLA/049/EM/01/014 which notes the “dirty and disgusting consequences” of “the wretched state of Irish dwellings”). Such a study would enhance understanding of the increasingly active role played by the Irish Society at this time and could be further contextualized within comparative considerations of cultural imperialism and Victorian social reform in this period. Such a study is exceptionally well-supported by the extensive 19<sup>th</sup>-century material contained elsewhere in the collection that provide a wealth of detail, such as rent rolls (see CLA/049/EM/03/005-008), account books (see FN/01/001-002) and administrative records (see CLA/049/AD/07/09).
2. The Irish Society and Education in 19<sup>th</sup>-century Londonderry. The estate management and financial records cited above also contain substantial detail concerning the construction and maintenance of schools, including the Londonderry Free School and Derry Diocesan School (CLA/049/EM/01/014), the Ballywogry School, the Presbyterian Boys and Girls schools (CLA/049/FN/01/001), and the Derry Poor School (CLA/049/FN/01/001). This detail is sufficient to serve as the core of a study on the subject of education under the Irish Society. In addition to the many plans and drawings for schools, the financial records for this period permit the careful tracking of school funding. Such a study could be again productively contextualized more comprehensively within considerations of British imperialism and education in India at the same time (for example) or within considerations of Victorian social reform movements.
3. Extension of T.W. Moody’s 1939 study beyond 1641. This collection serves as *the* primary source documenting the history of the plantation from the Irish Society’s perspective. While James Curl’s studies provide excellent documentation of the plantation’s built environment, this collection would certainly support the detailed extension of Moody’s study over the remainder of the seventeenth century and into the twentieth. Though there is limited documentation which might sustain a social history of the early seventeenth century, there is substantial information on social history for the nineteenth century in particular.
4. The Bishop(s) of Derry and the Ulster Plantation. As with the above item, there is sufficient documentation to track the often conflicted relationship between successive bishops of Derry and the Irish Society beyond the chronological period of T.W. Moody’s study (see T.W. Moody and J.G. Simms, *The bishopric of Derry and the Irish Society of London 1602-1705*, 2 vols., Dublin, 1968-83). These records extend well into the 19<sup>th</sup> century and are spread across court minute books (see CLA/049/AD/01/004 and 006), legal case files (see CLA/049/CS/01/030), and estate

management records (note the 1802 complaint that the bishop was actually residing in Italy, CLA/049/EM/01/001).

5. Legal History. In addition to the legal suits that resulted from conflicts with the bishops of Derry, many other lawsuits emanated from Irish Society activities in Ulster. Principal among these are the case of the Skinners Co. vs. the Irish Society and cases involving the fisheries. See CLA/049/AD/16/001-360, Solicitors' Papers covering 1824-1926; CLA/049/CS/01/001-030, Suits and Legal Disputes covering 1638-1911; and CLA/049/CS/02/001-009, Foyle and Bann Fisheries Case, 1945-52, though disputes over fishing rights and profits date to a much earlier period than this suggests. See #12 below and several individual legal suits noted in items #9 and #10 below.
6. Detailed reconstruction of holdings and tenants. This collection contains extensive documentation of holdings and tenants, particularly for the 19<sup>th</sup> century again, in the form of leases (CLA/049/DD/01-16), deeds and associated correspondence (CLA/049/FL/01-10), rent rolls and arrears, financial records including account books (see #1 above) and estate management surveys (CLA/049/EM/02). There is some late 17<sup>th</sup>-century material (see CLA/049/EM/03/001-002 and CLA/049/FN/02/001), but insufficient documentation for the earlier periods from which to reconstruct a detailed list of tenants. Some of that information is supplied, however, in the London Company records in the Guildhall Library and is possibly buried in extensive but untranscribed documents such as CLA/049/AD/14/02 noted in item #8 below.
7. Tenants and the Irish Society. Closely related to the above item are documents that track a history of contention between tenants and the Irish Society, though primarily for the 19<sup>th</sup> century again. (See CLA/049/AD/14/006, CLA/049/EM/01/002 and CLA/049/CS/21-23.)
8. Preparation of transcripts of 17<sup>th</sup>-century Court Minute Books (CLA/049/AD/01), Court and Committee Minute Books, Rough Minutes (CLA/049/AD/02), and papers catalogued as "History, constitution and powers" (CLA/049/AD/14). Item CLA/049/AD/14/02 alone, a volume of documents collected by the Goldsmiths in 1618, contains 935 folios of material. Complete transcriptions of early material such as this will very likely provide the sort of detail and address of issues not readily apparent in this collection, possibly permitting much greater opportunity to reconsider critical issues such as social history in the plantation's early period. I also highly recommend transcription of the 1639 "Great Parchment Book" (CLA/049/EM/02/018) as a top priority, possibly even a separate project. This is also a substantial document—165 folios—as well as one of the earliest original documents in the collection. It was, however, badly damaged in the fire of 1786, leaving much of its content illegible (the remaining folios have been tied and sorted into 6 boxes). In spite of its state, I strongly recommend the attempt to transcribe as much as possible. From the folios consulted, this 1639 commission report to Charles I (undertaken as Irish Society holdings were being confiscated by the crown) includes substantial detail listed by company holding with names. I also highly recommend that this document be digitally photographed before it deteriorates further.
9. Women's history. A surprising number of women appear as tenants on rent rolls and in deeds, sometimes as widows but often as single women, permitting the

reconstruction of the place of women in Irish Society holdings. Two cases of particular interest are the Society's notice of reimbursement to two women for damages sustained in the Siege of Derry (CLA/049AD/01/005) and the case brought by Elizabeth Ratliffe in 1746 against the Society for the renewal of her lease (CLA/049/AD/02/007). See also CLA/049/EM/03, rent rolls covering 1674-1970.

10. Economic history. The use—or misuse—of natural resources for profit, primarily timber and fishing, is one of the better documented issues in this collection. A debate over whether the Irish Society was within its rights as granted by its charters to use resources for profit or whether it was bound to operate as a steward of resources in Ireland to the greater benefit of either the inhabitants or Britain surfaces almost with the inception of the plantation and extends into the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. (See CLA/049/AD/14/006 and especially the case of the Rev. John Johnston in the 1890s against the Irish Society for its failure to operate as a trustee of the public good, CLA/049/CS/21, 22, and 23.)
11. Environmental history/deforestation. Closely related to the above would be a study of the economic practices of landholders and its impact on the environment, particularly the subject of deforestation. Note, for instance, CLA/049/EM/01/001, in which Robert Slade reports in 1802 that Londonderry is the “worst wooded county in the king’s dominions.” See also CLA/049/AD/05/006 which contains 19<sup>th</sup>-century copies of 1631 letters concerning forests and CLA/049/AD/07/01 which contains several late 17<sup>th</sup>-century letters concerning forests.
12. Economic-Environmental history/fisheries. The history of fisheries in Ulster is also exceptionally well-documented in this collection. It is the cornerstone—along with timber—of one of this study’s key findings: the essentially business-orientation of the plantation’s management from its inception. Documents relevant to this are spread across court minute books, files (see especially CLA/049/FL/03/001-031 (31 boxes of material on the fisheries), estate management records, and solicitors’ papers, *inter alia*. Note Allan Macinnes’ error in stating that “fishing was not integral to plantation in Ireland,” an error that would have been spared by consultation of this archive (see Allan Macinnes, “Making the Plantations British, 1603-38” in *Frontiers and the Writing of History, 1500-1850*, ed. Steven G. Ellis and Raingard Esser, Wehrhahn Verlag, 2006, p. 117).
13. Business history and colonialism. I also strongly recommend use of this collection as integral to a much larger comparative study of early colonial practices in Ireland, the Americas and India. As noted above, one of the key findings in this collection is the essentially business-oriented agenda of the Irish Society, particularly in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. This could be compared fruitfully to the manner in which business interests and organizations were co-opted into other colonial and economic projects in this period as various companies for other regions were also conceived and chartered (such as the Virginia Company and British East India Company). Of particular interest would be a comparative study of modifications made to all of these companies’ charters over the period of Charles I-Oliver Cromwell-Charles II.
14. William Tite and 19<sup>th</sup>-century Londonderry. Tite emerges in this collection as a key figure in the evolution of the Irish Society’s involvement in Londonderry in the 19<sup>th</sup>-century. He produced the 1834 visitation report (see CLA/049/EM/01/014) in which

he strongly recommended that the Irish Society retain and manage its holdings rather than leasing them out to others. He also recommended substantial construction of housing in particular as a solution for improving conditions for the peasantry, drawing up plans for model cottages and farmhouses. (See also CLA/049/PL/03/006.)

15. History of the relationship between 17<sup>th</sup>-century central government and the Irish Society. The role of James I in the origin of the Ulster plantations is already documented. While there is little early 17<sup>th</sup>-century information in this collection, it would support a study of the relationship between the Irish Society and later Stuart monarchs as well as Oliver Cromwell. Note for instance the revocation of their holdings and charter under Charles I (see #13 above and CLA/049/CS/01/030) and the reissue of their charter under Charles II (CLA/049/AD/13/005). Note also the displeasure expressed by the Dublin administration that they were not consulted in matters concerning the Ulster plantations (CLA/049/AD/16/281).
16. Cataloging. More detailed cataloguing of the collection, specifically more complete contents descriptions for each item, would facilitate use of the archives substantially. This would be an extensive project, possibly accomplished in collaboration with a student or program in library or archival studies. (See above, Further Recommendations, Enhanced Cataloging.) As such a project was undertaken, items in need of further conservation could be identified, errors in the catalog corrected, and a systematic search undertaken for the many items that could not be located by staff on the shelves during the summer 2008 site study.

## Appendix H

### Detailed contents list for CLA/049/EM/04/002

Note that the catalog record identifies this item's contents only as "Entry of leases and company's proportion and other valuable entries, ca. 1700." Below is a complete list of this bound manuscript's contents in demonstration of the benefit to be gained by more detailed cataloguing descriptions as well as the wealth of information it contains.

1. Excerpts from letters patent in Latin. 10 April 1662. ff. 1-11
2. Letter containing references to origin of Ulster plantation, the Flight of the Earls, the London Companies' initial unwillingness to participate in plantation, note that it was the Earl of Salisbury's plan to involve London Companies in plantation funding. ff. 13-14
3. Articles agreed upon between the Privy Council on the King's behalf and the committee on the behalf of the Irish Society. 28 January 1609/10. ff.14-17
4. The principal motives that led King James to grant to the London Companies their charter of the lands therein mentioned. f. 18
5. Ardent demonstrations and strong arguments proving against the London Companies. Letter includes accusations of London Companies failure to plant their lands with Protestant British settlers and notes that this could have been one of the strongest areas but is instead in the most danger. ff. 18-28
6. Letter from the King to Chichester asking for survey and report on whether or not the London Companies upheld the terms of plantation. 21 December 1613. ff. 29-30
7. Letter from Tristan Beresford, London agent to servant of Thomas Philips. 7 January 1610/11. f. 31
8. Letter from judges of the assize to the Lord Deputy. 17 March 1610/11. ff. 31-32
9. Letter from Lords of the Council to the Lord Deputy. April 1611. f. 32
10. Letter from the Irish Society governor and committee in London to Thomas Philips. 24 August 1611. f. 33
11. Letter from Tristan Beresford, London agent to Privy Council (concerning removal of Irish tenants). 20 April 1612. f. 34
12. Letter from Lord Deputy Chichester to the Lords in England. 25 April 1612. ff. 35-36
13. Letter from Lord Deputy Chichester to the Lords in England (notes the Irish "flocking" to settle Loughinsholin). 29 April 1612. ff. 37-39
14. Identification of points in Chichester's letter (above) to which the London Companies are to make answer. ff. 40-41
15. Letter from the Court at Whitehall concerning the London Companies' failure to comply with the terms of plantation. December 1612. ff 42-45
16. Letter from the Mayor and commonalty and citizens of [illegible, Londonderry?] to His Majesty's Counsel for Irish Causes. ff. 45-46
17. Petition of the inhabitants of the County of Londonderry to the Deputy and the rest of the Counsel for London's plantation. f. 47
18. Petition of the inhabitants of the Barony of Loughinsholin in the County of Londonderry to the Council appointed for the reformation of abuses in the kingdom of Ireland. f. 48



19. How the Society of London hold of the city and town of Londonderry with others paying by the year. (provides lists of holdings and amounts in both £ Irish and British) 1628. f. 49
20. An estimate of the London receipts since the beginning of the plantation in Ulster from 28 January 1609/10 to the year 1629. f. 50
21. An estimate of the London Companies disbursements in the plantation of Ulster from 28 January to the year 1629 listed by company. ff. 51-52
22. A particular of the levies and collections of such sums of money as have been received by the several companies in London to be employed for the plantation in Ulster listed by company. ff. 53-60
23. Lease from the Society of waste cabins without Butcher's Gate to the mayor, commonalty and citizens of Londonderry. January 1679-80. ff. 62-66
24. Lease from the Society to the mayor and commonalty of the city of Londonderry of tenements in Gracechurch Street. 13 January 1679/80. ff. 67-70.
25. Lease from the Society to the mayor and commonalty of Londonderry for a plot of ground on the east side of Gracechurch Street. 13 January 1679-80. ff. 70-71
26. Lease from the Society to the mayor and commonalty of Londonderry for the wharf at Merchant Quay. 1679. ff. 72-75
27. Lease from the Society to the mayor and commonalty of Londonderry for Lariske in the County of Londonderry. 13 January 1679-80. ff. 75-77
28. Lease from the Society to the mayor and commonalty of Londonderry for the ferry over Lough Foyle. 1679. ff. 78-80 (Note that at this point there are either two folios missing—81 and 82—or the manuscript folios are misnumbered here.)
29. Lease from the Bishop of Derry to the mayor, commonalty and citizens of Derry for Molenan, Ballyougherry, Ballydongan, Termonbackoe, Bally-ny-gowen, Termonderry, Creeragh and Killeagh. 11 June [year burned away]. ff. 83-87
30. Lease given by the Mayor of Londonderry to Alderman Smith, Alderman Norman and others for the poor of the parish of Templemore. [date burned away] ff. 88-90
31. Lease given to Alderman Smith of the mill ferry in satisfaction of a sum of money that he laid out for the use of the city. 30 June [year burned away] ff. 91-97
32. The names of the Twelve Companies that have lands in the County of Derry (in Latin). ff. 98-99 (f. 100 is blank)
33. Constat out of Lord Donegal's defective patent about the fishings (in Latin). 22 September [year burned away]. f. 101
34. Constat out of Lord Donegal's patent about the courts (in Latin). [date burned away] f. 102
35. Constat out of the Lord Massareen's lease of Lough Neagh and the fishings. 15 November f. 103
36. The City of London's agreement with the Crown for £20,000 on the Londonderry plantation. 22 December 1609. ff. 104-105
37. Acts of the Common Council. Report of the committee to consider the plantation in Ulster. 16 December 1609. ff. 106-112
38. Payments and lands drawn by lot listed by company, amount, barony and townland. ff. 113-130
39. Report of Alderman Smith and Mathias Springham to the Court of Common Council on abuses of the city's agents in Ireland (references the cutting of timber, digging of lime and gravel, the disrepair of Culmore Castle, and problems with John Rowley among other things). 8 November 1613. ff. 131-156.

40. Letter from Sir Arthur Chichester noting concerns about the failure of the London Companies to uphold the terms of the plantation agreement. 25 March 1615. ff 157-159
41. Extract of the London Companies' conveyances from the Irish Society appointing the manor of Goldsmith's Hall. 8 September 1617. ff. 159-163 (f. 164 is blank)
42. Acts of Common Council for the Irish Society (referencing the levying of additional funds and the replacement of Alderman Geoffrey Elcers, deceased, with William Gore. 10 October 1629. f. 165 (f. 166 is blank)
43. Act of Common Council for the Irish Society. Notes propositions from the Privy Council concerning defects in the plantations (ordnance for Culmore Castle, the building of 300 additional houses among other things). 2 June 1624. ff. 167-175
44. Irish Society response to the above complaints. f. 176
45. Josias Bodley's report on his recent survey. ff. 177-180
46. Conveyances from the Governor and Assistants of the Irish Society to the Company of Goldsmiths. 10 September 1618. ff. 181-187
47. Lord Deputy Chichester's order to the Irish Society's agents for possessing the County of Londonderry. April 1610. ff. 188-189
48. Leases granted to persons by letters patents. Abstracts, some in Latin, listing names, baronies and townlands. 1627. ff. 190-199
49. Various tracts and copies of records relating to the governor and assistants of London and of the twelve prime companies (copies made in 1695). Includes, among other items, 1) chancery appeals from Ireland to House of Lords in England since 1660; 2) note of the Drapers' receipt of £800 for four years rent; 3) 1658 order on customs of Londonderry and Coleraine from the Lord Deputy and Council; 4) names of towns set down for freehold out of the Goldsmiths' proportion. ff. 200-211
50. Inquisition taken at Derry (in Latin). 2 November 1610. f. 211
51. Inquisition taken at Coleraine (in Latin). [date burned away] ff. 212-213
52. Inquisition taken at Strabane (in Latin). 4 November 1610. ff. 213-14
53. Inquisition taken at Lifford (in Latin). 4 November 1610. ff. 214-215
54. Inquisition taken at Derry (in London). 13 November 1610. ff. 215-216
55. Sir Henry Docwra's lease of the Island of Derry. ff. 216-217
56. Constat out of Robert Leicester's letters patent about Clonleigh (in Latin). 10 September 1604. f. 218
57. Inquisition taken at Londonderry about the Bann fishings. 20 March 1610/11. ff. 219-220.