

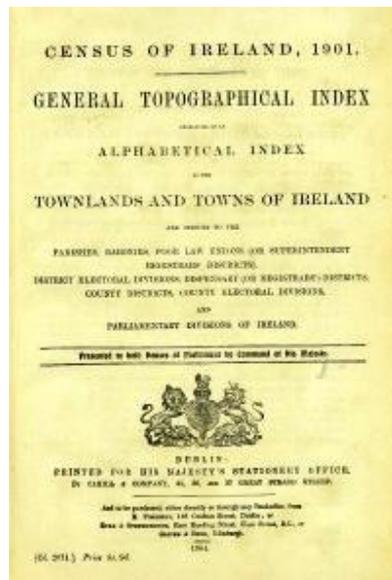
Resources for Local Studies Research

LOCAL STUDIES RESOURCES

This guide provides an introduction to resources, both print and electronic, which will assist in research on local areas in Ireland.

Townlands Index - printed and online

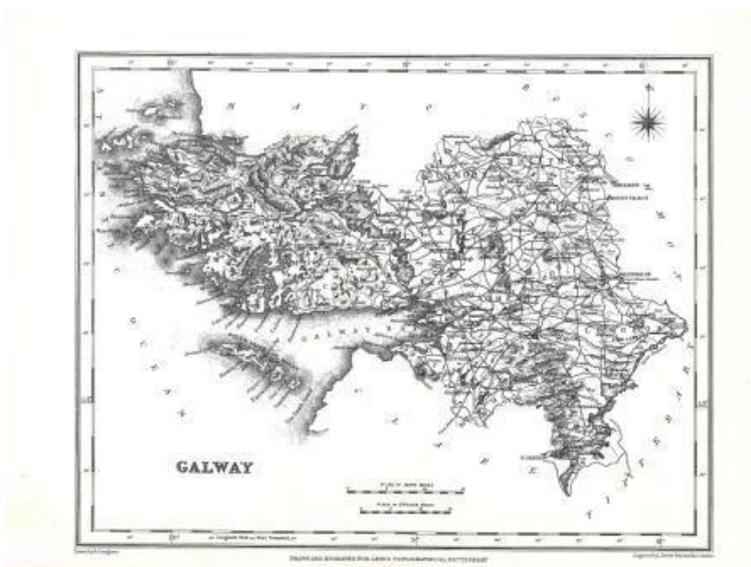
The townland is the smallest administrative area in Ireland. Indexes are available which show the names of townlands and the Counties, Baronies, Civil Parishes and Poor Law Unions in which they are situated as well as the number of the relevant six-inch Ordnance Survey Map. These indexes are available in various parts of the library including General Reference and the Special Collections & Archives Reading Room at **914.15(083)** The 1904 edition of the *Townlands Index* is available in hardcopy and microfiche in the Special Collections Microfilm Room in the Hardiman Building. It also shows the District Electoral Divisions within which townlands were situated. The Census statistics and returns are arranged using these units. A Searchable version of this edition of the *Townlands Index* is made available by the Irish Genealogical Research Society at <http://www.irishancestors.ie/search/townlands/index.php>



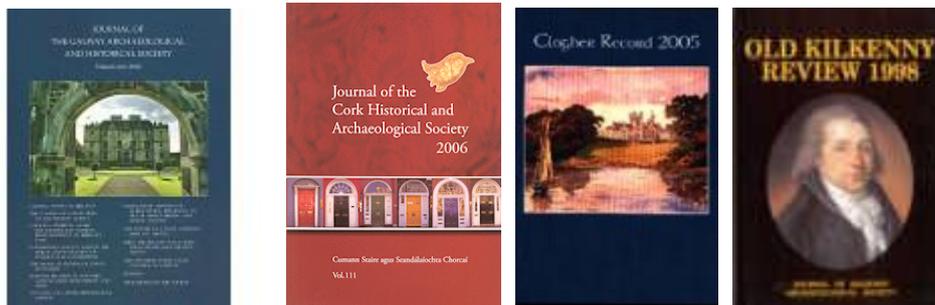
Directories and Gazetteers

Many directories and gazetteers were published about Ireland especially in the 19th century with the expansion in tourist travel. Some are still only available in their original printed form although increasingly, extracts, especially in relation to particular counties, have been reprinted. In addition, some of the complete works have been digitised and are available electronically. Probably the most famous of these publications is Samuel Lewis' *Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (London. 1837). As it contains a description of each Civil parish as well as most towns it is a very useful depiction of Ireland before the Famine. The Library holds several sets of Lewis' both in the original and in reprinted formats, at **914.15 LEW**. Copies are available in the Reference area and the Special Collections & Archives Reading Room.

The text is available online at www.libraryireland.com and on the Ordnance Survey of Ireland's Historic Map Viewer at www.osi.ie. The library holds other directories of Ireland notably those by Leet, Pigot and Slater as well as the Thom's Directory series. These are listed in the *Special Collections Local Studies bibliography* at the end of this guide. The **Historic Directories of Ireland** database containing details of historical directories of Ireland, many of which are available online, can be accessed at <http://www.swilson.info/dirdb.php>.



Map of county Galway from Lewis' *Topographical Dictionary* (1837)



A selection of local studies journals from around Ireland is available in the Special Collections & Archives Reading Room in the Hardiman Building

Local History Books and Periodicals

The Library holds an extensive but by no means exhaustive collection of books and periodicals relating to Irish places. The majority of the current periodical collection is held in the Special Collections & Archives Reading Room with issues prior to 2008 shelved in the library's offsite Periodical Store. A select list of local studies periodical titles for each Irish County is available in both John Grenham. *Tracing your Irish Ancestors* (Dublin, 2012) **929.10720415 Floor 1 & SCRR** and James G. Ryan. *Irish Records: Sources for Family and Local History* (Dublin, 1997) **929.309415 RYA** in the Reference area. **Note:** if you wish to consult pre-2008 periodical titles please request in advance by emailing specialcollections@nuigalway.ie or submitting a request in the Special Collections & Archives Reading Room or at the Main Library Desk.

Many local and parish histories are published in Ireland each year. It is difficult to keep a complete list of these updated. The Grenham volume mentioned above contains lists by county and another useful source of such titles is on the IrelandGenWeb page at <http://www.connorsgenealogy.com/books/IrelandBooks.htm> This page is regularly updated with new additions.

Finding references to local studies monographs and journal articles

Maintained by the Royal Irish Academy Library, the Irish History Online database is an authoritative listing (in progress) of what has been written about Irish history from earliest times to the present. It lists writings on Irish history published since the 1930s, with selected material published in earlier decades. It currently contains over 86,000 bibliographic records (June 2014). It is the only database which systematically indexes most Irish local studies periodicals. <http://www.irishhistoryonline.ie/>



The Irish Collection on JSTOR provides full text access to the back runs of several notable Irish local studies journals including *The Clogher Record*, the *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland* and the *Journal of the Galway Archaeological & Historical Society*.

It is always worth consulting the web site of the local library in the relevant county as many have digitised all or part of significant local periodical collections. See the Askaboutireland (www.askaboutireland) website for more details.



Bartlett's map of the coast of Tyrconnell (Donegal), 1602-3

One of several excellent resources available for viewing on the [Toponymy Resources](#) section of the Place Names website, www.logainm.ie

Documenting Ireland, which includes the Enhanced Parliamentary papers collection, available at www.dippam.ac.uk

Place Name Research

Many researchers working on local studies wish to research place names. There is a substantial body of literature on this topic. Browse the library catalogue using “names geographical Ireland” as subject. Other useful resources include:

Aim: journal of the Ulster Place Name Society located at **914.16** on Floor 1.

Irish Placename Database www.logainm.ie LOCUS project <http://www.ucc.ie/locus/>

RASCAL <http://www.rascal.ac.uk/> Ulster Place Names www.ulsterplacenames.org

Pre-1922 Official & Statistical Information

Preparing a study of a local area often requires use of statistics on topics such as population, land use and house size. From the mid-19th century on, this information is readily available for towns and townlands. Much of it is contained in the publications of the British House of Commons. The Library holds a printed index to the 19th century House of Commons papers

Peter Cockton. *Subject Catalogue of the House of Commons Parliamentary papers 1801-1900.* **941.081016 COC**

This book acts as a signpost to the microfiche collection in the Special Collections Microfilm Room. Full text of House of Commons publications 1715-2004 is available through the House of Commons database, accessible to NUI Galway users only, via [the Library Catalogue](#). Selected House of Commons publications relating to Ireland can be accessed on the freely available Enhanced Parliamentary Papers Ireland website at www.eppi.dippam.ac.uk

Statistical information can also be accessed through the Histpop resource, freely available online at www.histpop.org.

The Parliamentary papers contain a wealth of information on many different topics including education, poverty, trade and economic activity. Notable reports which include local information are those on the *Condition of the Poor in Ireland* and on *Landholding*.

Census of Population

A census was conducted in Ireland at 10-yearly intervals from 1821. Statistics relating to these are available in the House of Commons resources described above. Fragments of actual census returns for a small number of locations survive in the National Archives of Ireland and can be searched at www.census.nationalarchives.ie. Complete returns survive from both the 1901 and 1911 Census and these can be searched on the same site where there is also useful background information.

Note: Official & Statistical Information from the Irish Free State (1922-1949) and the Republic of Ireland is held in the library's Law & Official Publications area on the ground floor of the Main Library. For details see <http://www.library.nuigalway.ie/aboutourcollections/officialpublications/>



Property Records

Griffith's Valuation

This was a property valuation carried out in all parts of Ireland between 1848-1864. It provides the names of occupiers of holdings, as well as their size and valuation and details of the person from whom the occupier was leasing. The library holds printed copies of the Valuation for the counties of Connacht. All of the Valuation is accessible online at the Askaboutireland site, www.askaboutireland.ie

Tithe Applotment Books

In the early 19th century occupiers of property which exceeded a certain valuation were obliged to pay tithes [tax] to the local Church of Ireland clergy, regardless of the religion of the occupier. During the 1820s many clergy made lists of those in their parishes who should have been paying this tithe. The original lists, known as the Tithe Applotment Books, are held in the National Archives and have been made available in digital format at <http://titheapplotmentbooks.nationalarchives.ie/search/tab/home.jsp>

Books of Survey and Distribution

These are the records of the grantees and acreage of estates involved in the Restoration land settlement, and they also have information on the adjacent un-forfeited land. They give the name of the proprietor in 1640/41 number of acres granted under the Act of Settlement and Explanation; names of grantees and particulars of their titles. Those for Clare, Galway, Mayo and Roscommon have been published by the Irish Manuscripts Commission and copies of these are available in the Special Collections Room. In addition the Manuscripts Commission has made them available on its website at http://www.irishmanuscripts.ie/servlet/Controller?action=digitisation_backlist

Microfilm copies of the material relating to all or parts of the counties Antrim, Armagh, Carlow, Cavan, Cork, Derry, Donegal, Down, Dublin, Fermanagh, Kerry, Kildare, Kilkenny, King's County (Offaly), Leitrim, Limerick, Meath, Monaghan, Queen's County (Laois), Sligo, Tipperary, Tyrone, Waterford, Westmeath, Wexford and Wicklow are held at 941.74 in the Special Collections Microfilm area.

Civil Survey

The Civil Survey was conducted between 1654 and 1656. It was not carried out in Connacht due to the existence of the Strafford Survey. It listed the owners of land in 1640, and the new owners. The parts which survive have been published by the Irish Manuscripts Commission, covering the counties or parts of the counties of Cork, Derry, Donegal, Dublin, Kildare, Kilkenny, Limerick, Meath, Tipperary, Tyrone, Waterford and Wexford. These volumes are in the Special Collections Room. In addition the Manuscripts Commission has made them available on its website at http://www.irishmanuscripts.ie/servlet/Controller?action=digitisation_backlist

Stafford Survey of Connacht

This is the earliest survey that can be identified, carried out in Clare, Galway, Mayo, Roscommon and Sligo. However, all that now survives is a fragmentary map of Roscommon, several maps from Clare and all the text but not the maps for Sligo. The Strafford Inquisition of Co Mayo, listing the landowners recorded at the time. edited by William O'Sullivan, was published by the Irish Manuscripts Commission and is available in the Special Collections Room. The Roscommon maps were published with the Book of Survey and Distribution for that county (edited by R C Simington, Dublin, Irish Manuscripts Commission, 1949). See http://www.irishmanuscripts.ie/servlet/Controller?action=digitisation_backlist

Family History Resources

Many of the resources useful for Local Studies Research are also relevant to Family History Research. The Library does not have access to specific family history-focussed material such as parish records. For advice on this wide range of materials see John Grenham. *Tracing your Irish Ancestors* (Dublin, 2012) **929.10720415 Floor 1 & SCRR**. Guidance is also available from the National Library of Ireland's Family History page at <http://www.nli.ie/en/family-history-introduction.aspx>. A comprehensive listing of resources is available at the Irish Genealogy Toolkit <http://www.irish-genealogy-toolkit.com/> To keep abreast of developments and release of new resources see <http://irish-genealogy-news.blogspot.ie/>

Maps

See our *Guide to Maps* for more information on the maps available for local research. The Guide is available online at <http://www.library.nuigalway.ie/aboutourcollections/maps/> and print copies are also available in the Special Collections & Archives Reading Room.

Archival Collections

Many of the James Hardiman Library's archival collections contain material relevant to local studies research, in particular the Landed Estate Collections. To see a listing of the archival collections visit the Archives Service website at <http://www.library.nuigalway.ie/archives/> and click on Deposited Collections. To view a selection of our Archival Collections which have been digitised, choose Digitised Archives.

Useful Links

A comprehensive list of Web links is available from the Federation of Local History Societies at <http://homepage.eircom.net/~localhist/index-page6.html> The Irish Genealogy Toolkit site also has links to many relevant organisations <http://www.irish-genealogy-toolkit.com/Irish-family-tree-research.html>

Local Studies Bibliography

Local History Publications

Two especially useful series on Local History are published by Irish Academic Press. These include publications relating to many parts of Ireland as well as a series of *Guides to Sources*. Further details can be found on the Library Catalogue by searching under "Maynooth Research Guides"

Other General Series

Royal Irish Academy. *Historic Towns Atlas Series*: copies are available in the Special Collections & Archives Reading Room. Towns published: Kildare (1986), Carrickfergus (1986), Bandon (1988), Kells (1990), Mullingar (1992), Athlone (1994), Maynooth (1995), Downpatrick (1997), Bray (1998), Kilkenny (2000), Dublin, Part I, to 1610 (2002), Belfast, Part I, to 1840 (2003), Fethard (2003), Trim (2004), Derry-Londonderry (2005), Dundalk (2006), Belfast, part II, 1840 to 1900 (2007), Armagh (2007), Dublin, Part II, 1610 to 1756 (2008), Tuam, (2009), Limerick (2010), Longford (2010), Carlingford (2011), Sligo (2012), Ennis (2012)

County History and Society Series. (Dublin: Geography Publications, in progress.) A copy of each of these titles is shelved in the Special Collections & Archives Reading Room.

Counties published: Armagh, Carlow, Clare, Cork, Derry/Londonderry, Donegal, Down, Dublin City & County, Fermanagh, Galway, Kildare, Kilkenny, Laois, Limerick, Longford, Offaly, Tipperary, Tyrone, Waterford, Wexford, Wicklow



Galway Local Studies

Mary Kavanagh (ed). *Galway –Gaillimh: a bibliography*. (Galway, 2000)

Sean Spellissy. *A History of Galway* (Limerick, 1999)

Helen Maher. *Galway authors: biographical and bibliographical index* (Galway, 1976)

James Hardiman. *History of Galway* (originally published 1820).

Mary Donovan O’Sullivan. *Old Galway*

Diarmuid Ó Cearbhaill (ed). *Galway: Town and Gown* (Galway, 1984)

Peadar O’Dowd. *Tracing your Galway Ancestors* (Dublin, 2010)

Maurice Semple. *Some Galway Memories*

- *By the Corribside*

Where the river Corrib flows

○ *Around and about Galway*

○ *Reflections on Lough Corrib*

John Cunningham. *A town tormented by the sea: Galway 1790-1914*. (Dublin, 2004)

DIRECTORIES AND TOPOGRAPHICAL SOURCES – IRELAND

Note: Copies of these titles are available through the Special Collections & Archives Reading Room. Details of titles also available as e-resources are noted.

Wilson, William. **The Post Chaise companion or a traveller's directory through Ireland.** Dublin. 1786.
www.books.google.com

Leet, Ambrose. **A Directory to the market towns, gentlemen's seats.. in Ireland.** Dublin: Brett Smith, 1814.

Pigot's Directories for Ireland, Scotland and the northern counties of England, 1820-1 and 1822. (microfiche)
<http://www.failteromhat.com/pigot.htm>

Lewis, Samuel. **Topographical Dictionary of Ireland.** London: S. Lewis. 1837. www.libraryireland.com

Parliamentary Gazetteer of Ireland. Dublin: A. Fullerton, 1846. www.libraryireland.com

Slater's National Commercial Directory of Ireland. Manchester: Slater, 1856. 1846 edition available online at www.failteromhat.com

Goulding, John. **Laois around the famine times; descriptions from Lewis' and Slater's directories.** Wexford: [the author], 2000

Lewis' Cork: a topographical dictionary of towns, villages and parishes in Cork city and County originally published in 1837. Cork: Collins Press, 1999_Cork entries also available online at <http://www.failteromhat.com/lewis.htm>

Lewis, Samuel. **County Clare: history and topography from Lewis Topographical Dictionary.** Ennis: CLASP Press, 1995 and 2nd edition 2002.

Thom's Commercial Directory for Ireland, 1849 - (incomplete run).

The Library also holds a large collection of **travel accounts** of Ireland and elsewhere, many dating from the 19th century. Type "Ireland Description Travel" into the Catalogue. It is possible to limit your results by date of publication.

Surveys

Mason, William Shaw. *Statistical account or Parochial Survey of Ireland.* Dublin: Graisberry & Campbell, 1814-19. The Library holds volume I only in hardcopy but the entire work is also available online at www.books.google.com

Statistical Surveys published by the Royal Dublin Society

These publications were motivated by a desire to effect improvements in the economy and in agriculture in particular. They often contain descriptions of agricultural and economic practices in specific localities.

(All held in hardcopy in Library Special Collections store and must be requested. Note that some are also available online to NUIG readers, from the *Making of the Modern World* series via the Library Catalogue. Some titles are also on Google Books)

Weld, Isaac, *Statistical survey of the county of Roscommon.* Dublin: Royal Dublin Society, 1832 & online access at www.books.google.com

Dutton, Hely: *A statistical and agricultural survey of the county of Galway.* Dublin: Printed at the University Press by R. Graisberry, 1824. www.books.google.com

Dubourdieu, John. *Statistical survey of the county of Antrim* Dublin: Printed by Graisberry and Campbell, 1812
www.books.google.com

- Townsend, Horatio. *Statistical survey of the county of Cork*. Dublin: Graisberry and Campbell, 1810.
- Dutton, Hely. *Statistical survey of the county of Clare*. Dublin: Printed by Graisberry and Campbell, 1808
- Fraser, Robert. *Statistical survey of the county of Wexford*. Dublin: printed by Graisberry and Campbell, 1807 www.books.google.com
- Rawson, Thomas James. *Statistical survey of the county of Kildare*, Dublin: Printed by Graisberry and Campbell, 1807. www.books.google.com
- Coote, Charles, Sir. *Statistical survey of the county of Armagh*, Dublin: Printed by Graisberry and Campbell, 1804 www.books.google.com
- Coote, Charles, Sir, 1765-1857: *Statistical survey of the county of Cavan*, Dublin: Printed by Graisberry and Campbell, 1802
- Dubourdieu, John. *Statistical survey of the county of Down*. Dublin: Printed by Graisberry and Campbell, 1802.
- McEvoy, John. *Statistical survey of the county of Tyrone*. Dublin : Graisberry and Campbell, 1802 www.books.google.com
- McParlan, James. *Statistical survey of the county of Donegal*. Dublin: Printed by Graisberry and Campbell, 1802
- McParlan, James. *Statistical survey of the county Leitrim*. Dublin: Printed by Graisberry & Campbell, 1802.
- McParlan, James. *Statistical survey of the county of Sligo*. Dublin: Printed by Graisberry and Campbell, 1802. www.books.google.com
- McParlan, James. *Statistical survey of the county of Mayo*. Dublin: Printed by Graisberry and Campbell, 1802.
- Sampson, George Vaughan. *Statistical survey of the county of Londonderry*. Dublin: Printed by Graisberry and Campbell, 1802. & *A memoir explanatory of the chart and survey of the county of London-Derry*. London: G. and W. Nicol, 1814.
- Thompson, Robert. *Statistical survey of the county of Meath*. Dublin: Printed by Graisberry and Campbell, 1802..
- Archer, Joseph. *Statistical survey of the county Dublin*. Dublin: Printed by Graisberry & Campbell, 1801. www.books.google.com
- Coote, Charles, Sir. *Statistical survey of the county of Monaghan*. Dublin: Printed by Graisberry & Campbell, 1801.

For comprehensive

SOURCES FOR THE HISTORY OF LANDED ESTATES

Please check the Library catalogue for shelf details for these titles. Items available as e-resources are noted.

NOTE: For comprehensive information relating to the landed estates which existed in the counties of Connacht and Munster, c.1700-c.1914 check the Irish Landed Estates database at www.landedestates.ie

Modern Printed Sources

Bary, Valerie. *Historical, genealogical & architectural notes of some houses of Kerry*. (Whitegate: Ballinkella Press, 1994)

Bence-Jones, Mark. *A guide to Irish Country Houses*. 2nd ed. (London: Constable, 1990)

- *Life in an Irish country house*. (London: Constable, 1996).
- *Twilight of the Ascendancy*. (London: Constable, 1987)

Dooley, Terence. *The decline of the "Big House" in Ireland*. Dublin: Wolfhound Press, 2001.

- *The Big Houses and Landed Estates of Ireland: a research guide*. (Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2007).

Eiriksson, Andres & Ó Grada, Cormac. *Estates Records of the Irish Famine: Guide to Famine archives 1840-1855*. (Dublin: 1995)

Grenham, John. *Tracing your Irish Ancestors*. (Dublin: Gill & Macmillan, 2012)

Griffin, David, Robinson, Nicholas. *Vanishing country houses of Ireland*. (Dublin: Irish Architectural Archive, 1989)

Hajba, Anna-Maria. *Historical, genealogical & architectural notes of some houses of Cork: Volume I: North Cork*. (Whitegate: Ballinakella Press, 2002)

Marsden, Simon. *In ruins: the once great houses of Ireland*. (London: Collins, 1980).

Montgomery Massingberd, Hugh. *Burke's Irish Family Records*. (London. 1976, Reprinted 2007)

Rowe, David & Scallan, Eithne. *Historical, genealogical & architectural notes of some houses of Wexford*. (Whitegate: Ballinakella Press, 2004)

Weir, Hugh W.L. *Historical, genealogical & architectural notes of some houses of Clare*. (Whitegate: Ballinakella Press, 1999)

Burke's Landed Gentry of Ireland. [Various editions, 1912 usually regarded as the most comprehensive, available online at www.archive.org]

Contemporary Printed Sources

Simington, R.C. *Books of Survey & Distribution*. (Dublin: Irish Manuscripts Commission, 1949-67). [Counties Clare, Galway, Mayo & Roscommon]

Pender, Seamus (ed). *Census of Ireland, c. 1659*. (Dublin: Irish Manuscripts Commission, 1939).

Goblet, Y.M. *Topographical Index to townlands mentioned in Sir William Petty's Maps 1655-59*. (Dublin: Irish Manuscripts Commission, 1939)

Taylor, George & Andrew Skinner. *Taylor and Skinner's Maps of the Roads of Ireland surveyed 1777*. (London. 1778) [reprinted by the Irish University Press, Shannon, 1969] [Available at www.askaboutireland.ie Digital Book Collection]

Griffith, Richard. *Primary Valuation of tenements in Ireland (Griffith's Valuation)*. Dublin: A. Thom, 1848-1864. [Available at www.askaboutireland.ie]

Charles Charlesworth. *Index to Rentals of Properties sold in the Encumbered and Landed Estates Court, 1849-1864*. (Dublin; *National Library of Ireland*. [Microfilm copy available in SCRR]

House of Commons. *Return of Owners of Land of One Acre and Upwards*. (Dublin. 1876) www.dippam.ac.uk

Hussey de Burgh, U. *The Landowners of Ireland* (Dublin. 1878). [Available at www.askaboutireland.ie]

J. Bateman. *The Great Landowners of Great Britain and Ireland*. (London. 1879) [Available at www.books.google.com]

Walford, Edward. *The County Families of the United Kingdom*. (London. 1860) www.archive.org

Census of Ireland. 1901 & 1911 available at www.census.nationalarchives.ie

Ordnance Survey of Ireland. *Name Books series*. Dublin:1927. (based on MSS sources from 1st OS survey) [county Galway data available at www.galwaylibrary.ie, data for other counties being made available on the askaboutireland site in the Griffith's Valuation resource, www.askaboutireland.ie]

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Visit the Special Collections web pages at <http://www.library.nuigalway.ie/specialcollections/>