

*Searching for that Elusive Irish Ancestor?*

# *Belfast: Past, Present and Future*

Ulster Historical Foundation  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference



25<sup>th</sup> — 30<sup>th</sup> September 2006

## General Information

Occupying the northeast quadrant of Ireland, Ulster is the most industrialised and urban of the four provinces. The Great Famine of the 1840s resulted in unprecedented levels of population dislocation, that saw many thousands of people flee the spectres of starvation, disease and death in search of a new life in the emerging towns of Ireland as well as overseas.

The City of Belfast has gone through many incarnations: Linenopolis, Titanic Town and the Athens of the North, to name but a few. Belfast has a proud history and heritage. As Belfast now stands poised to take its rightful place as one of the major European Capital cities, join Ulster Historical Foundation in this our 50th anniversary conference as we investigate the history of the northern capital in depth and visit the cities of Lisburn and Derry in what promises to be a memorable exploration of *Belfast: past, present and future*.

Through a variety of talks, tours, presentations and events, *Belfast: past, present and future* will uncover the hidden history of Ulster and showcase the very best that it has to offer residents and visitors.

The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, Linen Hall Library and other major repositories are all close to hand and delegates will have ample opportunity to conduct their own historical and genealogical research under the close supervision of our expert team of researchers.

Ulster Historical Foundation has been serving the local and family historian for 50 years. We remain committed to providing the products and services that you want and representing your interests as members of the research community.

As we embrace the years ahead and move into a new phase in the history of Northern Ireland, we ask you to join us for what will be a truly memorable event — *Belfast: Past, present and future*.

## Additional Information


Although broadly themed 'Belfast' this conference will cater for all your genealogical needs and is open to delegates of all levels of experience.

No previous knowledge of research techniques or sources is necessary, our researchers will be on-hand to offer assistance and guidance as required.

The optional tours are offered for spouses/companions with no particular interest in local & family history or for those delegates wishing to take a break from research.



The Lanyon Building,  
Queen's University,  
Belfast



Delegates with special dietary requirements or mobility problems should advise the Foundation on registration so that adequate provision can be made for their needs.

Delegates should ensure they make proper provision for any extra accommodation needed outside the dates of the conference. It is advisable to arrive at least one day before the conference begins, as a full programme of events has been organised.

## *Conference Accommodation*

The accommodation chosen for this year's event is the 4-star Ramada Hotel (Mon—Thur), located in the picturesque Lagan Valley Regional Park and the luxurious 4-star Radisson Roe Park Hotel & Golf resort (Fri) on the outskirts of Limavady town, Co. Londonderry. All accommodation is en-suite.

## *Group Rates*

If you are travelling as part of a group of 4 or more, discounted rates are available.

## *Conference Costs*

This conference is a 6 day programme and there are no hidden costs. The fee includes 5 nights half-board (bed, breakfast, evening meal and the 'famine picnic' lunch). All transport between venues, conference materials, lectures, entrance fees to visitor attractions and all the optional tours are covered in the price.

## *Cancellations and Refunds*

A non-refundable registration fee of £25.00 (\$45†) is charged in addition to the conference-booking fee. Any delegate who wishes to cancel their booking before 30 June 2006 may do so without further penalty. For cancellations after 30 June 2006, there will be an additional charge of 20% of the conference fee. Any cancellations received within the two-week period prior to the conference will be liable to a charge of 40% of the conference fee. Any cancellations received from individuals due to medical conditions, will be treated as sympathetically as possible. Where written documentary evidence is provided by a medical practitioner, Ulster Historical Foundation will undertake to refund the fee in full excluding any costs already incurred.

# Provisional Timetable

Day	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Monday	Registration followed by series of lectures on local and family history		Opening banquet
Tuesday	Presentations by the major archives, libraries, museums and heritage centres	Public Record Office of Northern Ireland <i>or</i> illustrated talk on the buildings of Belfast and Derry at Belfast Castle by Ulster Architectural Heritage Society	
Wednesday	Public Record Office of Northern Ireland/Linen Hall Library <i>or</i> 'Industries that made a City' tour. Linen and shipbuilding in Belfast and Lisburn. Ulster may have made ships and linen, but it is equally true to say that ships and linen made Ulster. Revisit Ulster's industrial past		A night of entertainment, showcasing the very best of Ulster talent, traditional and modern
Thursday	Public Record Office of Northern Ireland <i>or</i> Tour to Mellifont Abbey – extensive and remarkably complete ruins of a Cistercian monastery – and Bru na Boinne (Newgrange), Ireland's internationally renowned stone-age passage-tomb in the beautiful and historic Boyne Valley, one of Ireland's two World Heritage Sites		Public Record Office of Northern Ireland /Belfast Central Library
Friday	Tour of County Tyrone, including Broughderg, an isolated rural community in the picturesque Sperrin mountains with a significant concentration of antiquities stretching back over an unbroken period of 5,000 years; the award winning Ulster American Folk Park; and Baronscourt – seat of the Duke of Abercorn. Tour includes 'the famine picnic experience', a unique opportunity to experience a traditional Irish meal of the 1840s in the Folk Park's authentic open-air museum		
Saturday	Tour of Derry 'The Maiden City' – Ireland's best-preserved walled town, immortalised in song and verse. Includes a visit to St Columb's – the first Protestant Cathedral built in post-reformation Europe	Closing address and Civic Reception	Return to Belfast – Conference ends

- This programme may be subject to alteration as it is finalised
- Assisted research sessions provided at Public Record Office of Northern Ireland – Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
- Assisted research available at Linen Hall Library on Wednesday morning
- Assisted research available at Belfast Central/Newspaper Library on Thursday evening
- Check our website for conference programme updates and full information on archives, repositories and heritage attractions to be visited — [www.ancestryireland.com](http://www.ancestryireland.com)

## *List of Speakers* (to be confirmed)

- Dr Jonathan Bardon      Writer, broadcaster, historian, author of *History of Ulster* and *Belfast – the definitive history of the city*
- Dr Allan Blackstock      Senior lecturer with the Academy for Irish Cultural Heritages, author of *Double Traitors: The Belfast Volunteers and Yeomen, 1778–1828*
- Ruairi O Baoill      Archaeologist with a special interest in the early history of Belfast
- Dr Bill Crawford      Vice-Chairman of Ulster Historical Foundation who has played a key role in local history for over forty years
- Angélique Day      Co-editor of the *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* and trustee of the Belfast Natural History and Philosophical Society
- Siobhan Deane      Professional genealogist with particular expertise on Belfast from 1800 onwards
- Terry Eakin      Australian genealogist and compiler of digital source material for Ireland
- Dr Paddy Fitzgerald      Lecturer & Development Officer, Centre for Migration Studies, Ulster American Folk Park, Omagh, Co. Tyrone
- Roddy Hegarty      Local historian and Director of the Federation for Ulster Local Studies
- Brian Hutton      Former Secretary of Ulster Historical Foundation and latterly with the National Library of Scotland
- Dr Joseph Kitchens      Director of Funk Heritage Centre, Reinhardt College, Waleska, Georgia
- Gareth McGrath      Business Development Manager with the Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland
- Dr Perry McIntyre      Australian genealogist with specialist knowledge on Irish-Australian links.
- Dr Ian Maxwell      Leading authority in Ulster genealogy and author of *Researching Armagh Ancestors*, *Researching Down Ancestors* and *Tracing your Ancestors in Northern Ireland*
- Ian Montgomery      Archivist with Public Record Office of Northern Ireland
- Dr Kay Muhr      Senior Research Fellow, Northern Ireland Place Names Project
- Trevor Parkhill      Keeper of History at the Ulster Museum, Belfast; co-editor of *Industry, Trade and People in Ireland, 1650–1950: essays in honour of Bill Crawford*
- Dr Brad Patterson      Director Irish-Scottish Studies Programme, Stout Research Centre for New Zealand Studies, Victoria University of Wellington
- Dr Eamon Phoenix      Author, broadcaster and senior lecturer in History at Stranmillis College
- Dr William Roulston      Research Officer with Ulster Historical Foundation and professional genealogist; author of the best-selling *Researching Scots-Irish Ancestors*
- Dr Brian Trainor      Research Director with Ulster Historical Foundation and past Chief Executive of the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland



St. George's  
Market, Belfast

# Booking Details

I would like to reserve  places at Ulster Historical Foundation's 50th anniversary conference:  
*Searching for that Elusive Irish Ancestor: Belfast – Past, Present and Future.*

Name

Address

Zip/Postcode

Telephone  Email

Spouse/Travelling Partner's Name

Conference Fee: this is a 6 day programme and includes 5 nights en-suite accommodation (half-board), lectures, tours, entrance fees, evening functions, transport (luxury full-sized air-conditioned coaches) between venues, and conference materials.

\*Non-refundable Registration Fee: £25.00 (\$45†)



Anyone interested in attending as a non-residential delegate, please contact us for further details.

## Conference fee

Guild Members' (before 31 May 2006): £630.00 (\$1100†)  (after 1 June 2006): £670.00 (\$1170†)

Standard fee (before 31 May 2006): £670.00 (\$1170†)  (after 1 June 2006): £720.00 (\$1255†)

I require a single room: £155.00 (\$270†) (single room supplement)

I'm happy to room-share with a same-sex companion. I understand that this facility is subject to availability and that I accept full responsibility for entering into any room-share arrangement.

Please find enclosed cheque/Postal Order payable to 'Ulster Historical Foundation' in the amount of  as detailed on my booking form (above), or please debit my Access/American Express/MasterCard/Visa

Credit card number

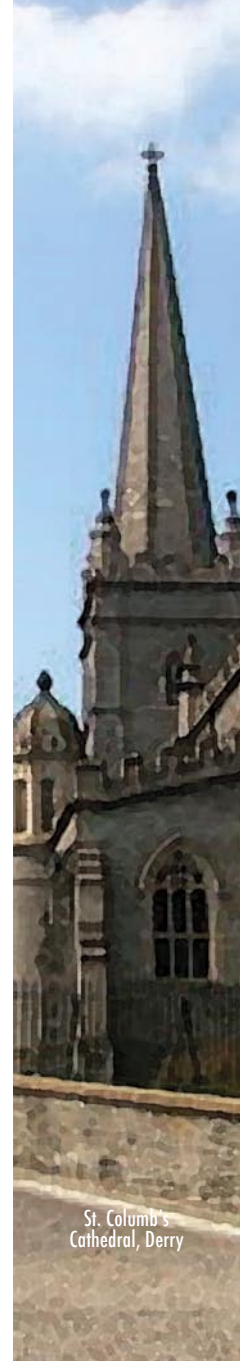
Expiry Date  Security digits

\* I understand that the registration fee is non-refundable. † Prices in US dollars and are for comparative purposes only, all prices charged in Pounds Sterling.

Signed  Date

Please note that all prices are inclusive of VAT @ 17.5%

Please detach and return to: Kathryn McKelvey, Ulster Historical Foundation, Balmoral Buildings, 12 College Square East, Belfast, BT1 6DD, Northern Ireland or complete online at: [www.ancestryireland.com](http://www.ancestryireland.com)



St. Columba's  
Cathedral, Derry



# *Searching for that Elusive Irish Ancestor*

Pre-Conference Research Assessment: As part of the conference fee Ulster Historical Foundation will prepare an initial research assessment for all delegates. Please complete this form.

Full name of Ancestor

Birth/baptismal date

County

Townland/Parish

Religion

Church

Occupation

Married at

Married to

Ancestor's father

Ancestor's mother

Spouse's father

Spouse's mother

Date & place of emigration

Sources

Please give as much information as possible. This information may be used to inform other conference delegates of your research interests. If you do not wish your research interests published in this way, please tick

Assessments will be prepared by Dr Brian Trainor and will be issued before the Conference.

Please let us know where you learned about the conference:

Interpreting 5000 years of Irish history

Celebrating  
50 years

of

Ulster Historical Foundation

Please return to: Kathryn McKelvey, Office Manager,  
Ulster Historical Foundation  
Balmoral Buildings, 12 College Square East,  
Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT1 6DD

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