

Register of the
DENNIS CLARK PAPERS

Mss. Group 37

by Amy McKune

April 1983

The Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies
18 South Seventh Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

INTRODUCTION

Dennis Clark (b. 1927), historian, author and administrator, has devoted much of his life to studying the Irish and Irish-Americans. Dr. Clark received the B.A. from St. Joseph's University and the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Temple University. He has published eight books, the more recent of which deal with immigrant life, and especially the mobility of Irish immigrants in urban society, including three studies of the Irish in Philadelphia. Dr. Clark is executive director of the Samuel S. Fels Fund, Philadelphia.

The Dennis Clark Papers (7 boxes, 1 scrapbook, 1 oversize folder) consist of research materials which he has collected in his work on the Irish and Irish-Americans. They are made-up primarily of newspaper clippings and other printed materials, although they include a small amount of correspondence, drafts of his publications, and eight cassette tapes entitled "Irish Voices," used in the writing of The Irish Relations. Of special interest are photocopies of the letter book of Thomas Beach (alias Henri Le Caron, a British spy who worked against the Irish revolutionary organizations in the U.S. from 1866 to 1889), research materials on Luke Dillon, articles by Owen B. Hunt, and newsclippings and articles on the problems in Northern Ireland.

The Dennis Clark Papers have been donated to the Balch Institute by Dr. Clark. The collection is open and has been added to regularly since the first donation in 1972. New accessions have averaged approximately 2 linear feet per year.

FOLDER LIST

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Folder No.</u>		
✓ 1	1	American Committee for Irish Studies: newsletters	1981-1982
		American Committee for Ulster Justice	
	2	1971-1972	
	Oversize	Advertisement in <u>NY Times</u>	Sep 23, 1972
	3	Association for the Rights of Catholics in the Church	1980
		Biographical files	
	4	"The Image of Themselves"	
	5	Philadelphia Irish leaders	1950s
	6	Obituaries	1960-(1980- 1982)
	7	Canadian Friends of Ireland Society: press releases	n.d.
	8	Celtic News Service	1974-1980
		<u>Clan na Gael + Irish American Club</u>	
—	9	Minute book (photocopy)	1888- 1889 1923
		<u>Oversize</u> Newspaper (photocopy), p. 1, 2, 4	Feb 25, 1888
		Clark, Dennis	
	10, 11	Articles and speeches	
	12	"Letter Book of an English Spy: Major Le Caron and the Clan na Gael, 1888" and photocopy of letter book	
✓ 2	1-3	Correspondence	
	4	<u>Irish Blood</u> (draft)	
	5	Irish diary	1966-1979
	6	"Irish Newspapers in Philadelphia, 1820- 1970"	1971, 1976

FOLDER LIST

Box Folder
No. No.

Clark, Dennis (cont'd.)

2	7	Students' book reports	
	7	Cassette tapes (8 cassettes, "Irish Vocies in Philadelphia" interviews for <u>The Irish Relations</u>)	
2	8	Dillon, Luke: research materials	1902, 1930, 1946, 1982
	9	Donegal Society: newsletters, membership questionnaires	1963-1969
	10	Embassy of Ireland: press releases and related material	1982
3	1-4	Ephemera	
		Friendly Sons of St. Patrick	
	5	General	1970-1971, 1979-1980, n.d.
	6	Programs	1941, 1954, 1981-1982
	7	Irish teachers visit	1979-1980
	8	St. Patrick's observance and parade	1968
	9	St. Patrick's Day Observance Committee: newsclippings, correspondence	1953, 1962, 1979-1981
	10	Friends of Irish Freedom: form letters	1919-1920
		Hunt, Owen B.	
	11	Biographical material	
	12	Miscellaneous Irish material	
	13	<u>The Irish and the American Revolution: Three Essays</u>	
	14	Part I (1976 draft)	

FOLDER LIST

Box Folder
No. No.

Hunt, Owen B. (cont'd.)

The Irish and the American Revolution:
Three Essays (cont'd.)

3	15	Part II	
	16	Part III	
	17	Writings	1932, 1934, 1964, 1975, n.d.

Molly Maguires

	18	General	1960-1970s, n.d.
	19	Newsclippings	1947, 1949, 1965, 1968, 1972

4	1	Irish American Cultural Institute (Philadelphia): programs	1981-1983
	2	Irish Arts Center (NYC): programs	1977, 1982
	3	<u>Irish Echo</u>	1981
	4	Irish groups: miscellaneous	1977-1980
	5	Irish groups (national): newsletters, programs, promotional material	1981-1982
	6	Irish groups (Philadelphia): programs	1981-1982
	7	Irish Historical Society: bulletin	1946, 1974, 1952
	8	Irish material: miscellaneous	1973, n.d.
		Irish National Caucas, Inc.	
	9	National	1974-1980
	10	Philadelphia	1974-1980
	11	Philadelphia	1981-1982

FOLDER LIST

<u>Box</u> <u>No.</u>	<u>Folder</u> <u>No.</u>		
✓ 4	12	Kings College Irish Teachers' Project: grant proposal	1979
	13	Molly Maguires: centennial of hanging	1978
	14	National Council of Churches of Christ Newslippings	1976-1979
	15	General	1969, 1972, 1978, 1980
	16	General	1951, 1960, 1968, 1970- 1983
✓ 5	1	British atrocities	1976, 1980, n.d.
	2	Friendly Sons of St. Patrick	1971, 1972, 1974-1976, n.d.
	3	Ireland	1972, 1973, 1975-1980, n.d.
	4	Irish Americans	1949, 1963, 1971, 1972 1976-1980, n.d.
	5	<u>Irish Blood</u>	1972, 1975- 1977, n.d.
	6	I.R.A.	1974-1979
	7	I.R.A. support in U.S.	1973-1976, 1979, n.d.
		Northern Ireland	
	8-13	Newscippings	
	Oversize	Scrapbook	1969-1974, n.d.
6	1	1971-1977	

FOLDER LIST

Box Folder
No. No.

<u>Box</u> <u>No.</u>	<u>Folder</u> <u>No.</u>		
		Northern Ireland (cont'd.)	
6	2	1978-1980	
	3	n.d.	
	4	Arms shipping, court hearings	1976, 1977
	5	Organizations supporting with promotional materials	1981-1982
Oversize		Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association: broadside, "STOP INTERNMENT"	
	6	O'Callaghan, Patrick J.: memoirs of an Irish immigrant (photocopy)	1935
	7	O'Rourke, Michael (a.k.a. Patrick Mannion): legal material	
	8	Pacem in Terris: Ulster project	1976-1977
		Philadelphia Ceili Group	
	9	1974-1975, 1979-1980	
	10	1981-1983	
	11	Symposium on Human Rights in Northern Ireland	1978
	12	Ulster Heritage Society	1975, 1979, n.d.
	13	Ulster's newspaper: <u>News Letter</u>	Aug 4, 1981
	14	<u>Win</u> : special Ireland edition	
		Writings	
	15	"American Revolution," Richard Buel, Jr.	
	16	"Ed Reavy"	
	17	"The Fenian Tradition," Sean Cronin	1969
	18	"Sad the Tunes," Wm. Honhoeffer	1973
	19	"Toward a New Concordat?" Nathan Glazer	

FOLDER LIST

Box Folder
No. No.

Writings (cont'd.)

6	20	"Wooing a Local Audience," Mari K. Fields 1981
	21	"The Writer and Northern Ireland," Joseph Brown
	22	Scotch-Irish, 3 articles
	23	" 'Accept these offerings...' Irish Catholics in New Haven and New Britain, 1832-1878," Antonia S. Booth

7 - For Box 7 - see page 3.

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THE BALCH INSTITUTE
 Interpreting the American Ethnic Experience

SEPARATION RECORD

The following materials have been separated from the Dennis Clark Papers.

Museum: 1 button, Up the IRA

Library:

SC81 (M74-23): Galley sheets of The Irish in Philadelphia.

SC146 (M79-23): Teangadoir (Toronto), 1955-1960 (lacks six issues; photocopy).

M79-19: Three Irish immigrant letters, 1945-1946 (photocopy).

M80-01 (partial): "The Irish in America and the Struggle for Irish Independence, 1917-1922," by Sally E. Fawcus, M.A. Thesis, Bryn Mawr, 1971 (photocopy).

~~M80-32: Minute books of The Clan na Gael and The Irish American Club, ca. 1888-1923. (Four folders; photocopy)~~

William Bradley Papers.

In addition, a large quantity of Irish-American periodicals have been separated from Dennis Clark donations for filing in the library's periodical holdings.

still in
 collection
 9/16/04 - ml

transferred
 to book
 collection
 10/23/07 SW

to be
 collected

DENNIS CLARK PAPERS
MSS 37

Additional Information

This collection as of December 1988 included five and one half cubic feet of materials dealing with the Irish community in Philadelphia. The materials largely deal with the Irish community in the mid-twentieth century. They include about two hundred biographical notes, profiles and obituaries of Irish Americans in the Philadelphia area whose lives and very diverse careers reflect the pursuits and lifestyles of the Irish in local life. These provide an excellent source for the composition of a social portrait of this subcultural community.

There are several folders of organizational materials from the Saint Patrick's Day Observa^{ANCE}tion Association, the American Conference for Irish Studies, the Irish American Cultural Institute, the Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick, the Center for Irish Studies, and other groups such as the Donegal Society which was the subject of a history for its centenary in 1988; this was written by Dennis Clark and entitled The Heart's Own People. There are several hundred items that include notices of Irish community events, flyers, posters, reports, newspaper notices and a wide range of ephemera that reflect the activities of Irish groups in the city over a period of thirty years. Newspaper articles about the Irish are included.

One and a half feet of materials deal with the reactions of the Philadelphia Irish to the crisis in Northern Ireland beginning in 1969. These include flyers, meeting notices, press releases, court transcripts, Irish American newspaper coverage, letters to Philadelphia newspapers, editorials, articles, and material from diverse sources describing opinions and activities of the Philadelphia Irish in response to British and Irish government actions, IRA activity and proposed solutions to the area's problems.

The collection also includes biographical material about prominent Philadelphia figures such as Michael J. Ryan, Luke Dillon, William Bradley and Owen B. Hunt. There are some family letters and geneological material, poems of Padraic Lagan and a memoir by Patrick O'Callaghan.

The personal papers of Dennis Clark include correspondence, manuscripts, research notes, numerous reviews of books and his articles that appeared in Irish Edition, a monthly Irish American newspaper which is also received by the Library of the Balch Institute. Also present are a travel diary, and photocopies of research articles and of primary materials.

These additions have not been processed but are available for examination by researchers.

Separation Record

The following materials have been separated from the Dennis Clark Papers:

Museum:

2 buttons "Up the IRA" (M89-18)

Library:

1 book "The Call and the Response: A 125th Anniversary Tribute to Mother Mary Francis Bachman, OSF, Foundress of the Sisters Saint Francis of Philadelphia" by Adele Francis Gorman, OSF and Jeannette Clare McDonnell, OSF. Aston, PA, 1980.

9/27/2004 RPA.

MSS177 Dennis Clark Collection. These reels were found in the collection and were transferred to HSP microfilm holdings. They are now stored with other microfilm collections from the Balch Institute. A master and a public use copy exists for each of these reels.

Roll #1-Diary, 1966-1989.

In addition to the diary, this roll contains various other writings of Clark, correspondence, typed reflections on a variety of topics (i.e., Philadelphia race relations, city planning, etc.), newspaper and magazine clippings, photographs, academic conference programs, and poems. These other items are interspersed between the diary entries. (2 copies).

Roll #2-Diary, 6/1990-3/1991.

In addition to the diary, this roll contains a partial transcript of a taped interview from 8/25/1988 with Dr. Clark.

Roll #3-Diary, 4/1991-2/1993

In addition to the diary, this roll contains an index to Dr. Clark's Diary (1948-1993), and other various items interspersed between diary entries.

Roll #4—Diary, Travels to Ireland, 1966 to 1989.

This 16 mm roll contains Clark's reflections on Ireland during his various travels there during the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s. This diary also exists in hard copy in Box 2, Folder 5 of MSS37.

Please see MSS177 Collection Folder for Index to Dennis Clark's Microfilm Diary.

Rob Armstrong
9/27/2004.

DENNIS CLARK, DIARIES
6 VOLUMES, 1963 - 1989

DENNIS CLARK (B. 1927), RETIRED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE SAMUEL S. FELS FUND, IS A HISTORIAN AND AUTHOR WHO HAS WRITTEN EXTENSIVELY ON THE IRISH IN AMERICA. THESE DIARIES ARE PART OF THE DENNIS CLARK PAPERS (MSS. GROUP 37) WHICH ARE HOUSED AT THE BALCH INSITUTE LIBRARY, AND THEY EXTEND FROM AUGUST 4, 1963 THROUGH JUNE 22, 1989.

IN ADDITION TO THE ENTRIES, THE DIARIES ALSO CONTAIN ARTICLES, TYPE-SCRIPTS, OCCASIONAL LETTERS, AND OTHER INSERTED MATERIAL. THESE ITEMS HAVE BEEN MICROFILMED AS THEY WERE FOUND IN THE DIARIES, ALTHOUGH THEY OFTEN DO NOT CORRESPOND IN DATE WITH JUXTAPOSED DIARY ENTRIES. THE DATES LISTED BELOW REPRESENT THE DIARY ENTRIES AND NOT THE INSERTED MATERIAL.

VOLUME 1	1963 - 1970
VOLUME 2	1970 - 1979
VOLUME 3	1980 - 1983
VOLUME 4	1983 - 1985, 1989
VOLUME 5	1985 - 1987
VOLUME 6	1988 - 1989

April 1991 - February 1993.

In addition - there is a microfilm diary of 6/90 - 3/91.

RPA 9-27-2004.