



The British in Ireland, Part 7: Sinn Fein and Republican Suspects, 1899-1921

Research Irish nationalism and the role of terrorism in the Northern Ireland conflict

The *British in Ireland* collection from Primary Source Microfilm, an imprint of the Gale Group, provides original materials documenting British presence and control in Ireland from the late-19th to early 20th centuries drawn from the surviving records of the British Administration in Dublin Castle. The collection covers the Northern Ireland conflict from the rise of Parnell and the “Land War” of the early 1880s to the establishment of the Irish Free State in 1921.

Part 7, *Sinn Fein and Republican Suspects, 1899-1921*, documents the movements and actions of many significant nationalists active in the period prior to 1921 enabling scholars to trace the chain of events during the final stages of the Home Rule negotiations.

An essential resource for the study of Irish history

More than 440 Sinn Fein and Republican suspects are covered in 24 reels. Included in the collection are police reports and surveillance information compiled by the British government on notorious suspects such as:

- Eamon de Valera — Irish Republican leader, first Prime Minister of the Republic of Ireland and its president; de Valera led a group of Sinn Fein rebels during the Easter Rebellion in 1916 but was spared from execution by virtue of his American citizenship
- Michael Collins — Irish patriot and soldier; Collins also participated in the Easter Rebellion in Dublin which led to his capture; after his release, he became a leader in the Sinn Fein movement and from 1919-1921 he organized the guerrilla warfare that succeeded in forcing Britain to sue for peace
- Sir Roger Casement — Irish nationalist who arranged an arms shipment for the 1916 Uprising but the shipment was intercepted; Casement was separately arrested and hanged after being convicted of high treason

- James Connolly — radical labour leader and controller of the Citizen's Army drawn into the Irish Republican Brotherhood to support the nationalist cause during the 1916 Uprising; Connolly was executed with 13 other Sinn Fein members at Kilmainharn Jail between the 3rd and 12th of May, 1916
- And many others

Parts already published from *The British in Ireland* collection contain lengthy memoranda on the various nationalist movements, including Ribbonism, United Irish League, Sinn Fein, and, at the other end of the spectrum, the Ulster Unionists. Also included are accounts of Judicial Proceedings, censorship and seizure of seditious literature, reports by both the police and the military, papers relating to the establishment of the Lord Lieutenant's Household, Dublin Metropolitan Police, Public Trustee Office and more.

The British in Ireland

Series One: *Colonial Office Class CO 904* (Dublin Castle Records)

Part 1: *Anti-Government Organisations, 1882-1921*; (CO 904/7-23, 27-29 and 157) 14 reels

Part 2: *Police Reports, 1892-1897*; (CO 904/48-67) 16 reels

Part 3: *Police Reports, 1898-1913*; (CO 904/68-91) 23 reels

Part 4: *Police Reports, 1914-1921*; (CO 904/92-122 and 148-156A) 27 reels

Part 5: *Public Control and Administration, 1884-1921*; (CO 904/159-178) 16 reels

Part 6: *Judicial Proceedings, Enquires and Miscellaneous Records, 1872-1926*; (CO 904/30-35, 37-39, 45-47B and 180-189) 16 reels

Part 7: *Sinn Fein and Republican Suspects, 1899-1921*; (CO 904/193-216) 24 reels

The complete collection will be comprised of 136 reels and will be accompanied by a cumulative printed guide covering all seven parts. Published by Primary Source Microfilm, an imprint of the Gale Group, in cooperation with the Public Record Office.

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▲ Original materials from the 19th and 20th centuries documenting British presence and control in Ireland support the study of Irish history



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