

# Saint Mary's University Archives

## Finding Aid - Cyril Byrne fonds : [first accrual] (2009.001.1)

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## Cyril Byrne fonds : [first accrual]

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## Summary information

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**Repository:** Saint Mary's University Archives

**Title:** Cyril Byrne fonds : [first accrual]

**ID:** 2009.001.1

**Date:** 1976-2005 (date of creation)

**Physical description:** 53 cm of textual records  
11 photographs : b&w and col. ; 12.5 x 18 cm or smaller

**Dates of creation,  
revision and deletion:**

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## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

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### Note

Cyril Byrne was born in Corner Brook, Newfoundland in 1940, the son of George and Bridget Byrne. He held several degrees, including a BA from St. Dunstan's University in Charlottetown (received in 1960), a MA from University College in Dublin (received in 1962). He obtained his PhD from the University of Toronto in 1975 (with a thesis entitled "The Green Crow: Ireland in the Work of Sean O'Casey").

He began his academic career as an Assistant Professor of English at Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax, Nova Scotia between 1963 and 1964, and at St. Dunstan's the following year. He joined the English Faculty at Saint Mary's University in 1970, where he remained for the rest of his career. His academic interests included research regarding Atlantic Canadian life (and especially Irish immigration/genealogy in the area), and Anglo-Irish literature. He is the author of "Gentlemen-Bishops and Faction Fighters" (1984), and co-editor of "Religion and Identity" (with Dr. Terrence Murphy, 1987), "Talamh an Eisc" (with Dr. Margaret Harry, 1986), and "Celtic Languages and Celtic Peoples" (with Dr. Margaret Harry and Pádraig Ó Siadhail, 1992), among many other scholarly publications. He was active with many organizations and boards including the Canadian Association of Irish Studies, he also served as regional representative on the Social Studies and Humanities Research Council.

At Saint Mary's as co-ordinator of the Irish Studies Program, he undertook a successful campaign to fund the D'Arcy McGee Chair of Irish Studies, and a fundraising campaign to purchase a facsimile of "The Book of Kells" (which is currently located on the main floor of SMU's Patrick Power Library).

In recognition of his efforts to preserve and promote Irish heritage in Canada, Dr. Byrne received the Order of Canada in 1993. He also was presented with a Queen's Golden Jubilee medal in 2002.

Dr. Byrne was appointed Professor Emeritus upon his retirement in 2005, he died of cancer the following year on August 16, 2006.

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## Scope and content

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Fonds consists of material relating to Dr. Byrne's professional activities. Many of the records depict fundraising activities (for the Chair of Irish Studies, conferences, and the Book of Kells facsimile). The fonds also contains publications of interest/by Dr. Byrne, material collected in his genealogical research (on Irish immigrants to Atlantic Canada), and other miscellaneous content.

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## Notes

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### Title notes

### Immediate source of acquisition

The material was transferred to the Archives by the Dean of Arts in September 2008.

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
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## Access points

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- Textual record (documentary form)
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## Series descriptions

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### Series 2009.001.1, Series 1: Chair of Irish Studies records

Date: 1976-2005 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of administrative materials concerning the Irish Studies Program at Saint Mary's University. Includes correspondence, memoranda, meeting minutes and agendas, articles, reports, invoices/receipts, and other documents. Major topics of discussion include the funding of the D'Arcy McGee Chair of Irish Studies, purchasing materials for the program, and bursaries/scholarships.

Physical description: 13 cm of textual records

File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 1	File - P.E.I./Owen Connolly : [correspondence]	1980-1987		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 2	File - Constitution of the Saint Mary's Irish Studies Society/An Cumann Gaelach	[198-?]		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 3	File - Chair of Irish Studies : [pamphlet]	[ca. 1985]		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 4	File - Memorandum of agreement	1985-1986		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 5	File - Trust fund : [correspondence with Cyril Byrne]	1985-1987		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 6	File - Background paper and various correspondence	1976-1989		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 7	File - BMO Proposal : [correspondence with Cyril Byrne]	1995-1996		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 8	File - Charitable Irish Society donation : [correspondence]	July 1997		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 9	File - Correspondence regarding the Irish Government book grant	1985		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 10	File - Irish Studies Committees : [meeting minutes and other documents]	1985-1989		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 11	File - Letters and receipts	1990-1992		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 12	File - Chair of Irish Studies : fundraising material	1987-2002		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 13	File - Correspondence with David Kilgour regarding fundraising	1987-1988		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 14	File - Received donations	1983-1988		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 15	File - The Ireland Fund of Canada : [donation for the D'Arcy McGee Chair of Irish Studies]	2002		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 16	File - Lottery receipt	1994		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 17	File - Fundraising dinner, 1990	1990		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 18	File - Fundraising dinner, 1991	1991		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 19	File - Mulroney's visit to Ireland	1990-1991		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 20	File - Fundraising dinner, 1992	1992		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 21	File - Fundraising campaign--Ottawa	1985-1989		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 22	File - Grant request and approval	1977-1989		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 23	File - Migration to Atlantic Canada : symposium grant	1987		
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 24	File - Saint Mary's 200th Anniversary : [correspondence with the Office of the Irish President]	2001		

2009.001.1, Series 1, File 25	File - Irish Embassy dinner, 1993 : [correspondence and guest list]	1993	
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 26	File - Cooperation Ireland : [background material]	1989-1991	
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 27	File - Emerald Isle Books : [correspondence and invoice]	1986-1988	
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 28	File - Correspondence regarding books orders and manuscripts	1982-1990	
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 29	File - Willeen Keough's "John Moxley's Lecture" : [planning documents]	2005	
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 30	File - Appointment of extension centre instructors : [memoranda and correspondence]	1992	
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 31	File - Course proposals and related documents	1995-1997	
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 32	File - Proposed course and course release : [memoranda]	1988-1989	
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 33	File - Charitable Irish Society bursaries : [correspondence]	1995-1996	
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 34	File - Margaret M. Fallona Fellowship : [correspondence]	29 June 1988	
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 35	File - Internal research grants : budget codes	4 April 2002	
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 36	File - Irish Studies library material	1987-1994	
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 37	File - Irish Studies committee meeting documents	25 January 1988	
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 38	File - Patrick Gavin : [bibliography and correspondence concerning his visit]	1992	
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 39	File - Matthew Barrett : [correspondence and article]	1992	
2009.001.1, Series 1, File 40	File - Correspondence with Cyril Byrne	1986-1996	Some reference letters may be restricted. Contact the Archivist for details about accessing this file.

### Series 2009.001.1, Series 2: Publications by Cyril Byrne and others

Date: 1980-2004 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of material relating to publications by Dr. Byrne, or of interest to Dr. Byrne. Includes manuscripts, published articles, correspondence regarding publications, and contracts.

Physical description: 8 cm of textual records

#### File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
2009.001.1, Series 2, File 1	File - Jespersen Press : [correspondence with Dr. Byrne]	1984		

2009.001.1, Series 2, File 2	File - Gill & Macmillan : [contract concerning publication]	24 November 2000
2009.001.1, Series 2, File 3	File - "Gentlemen-Bishops and Faction Fighters" : [correspondence]	1980-1984
2009.001.1, Series 2, File 4	File - "Donnchadh Ruadh Mac Conmara" : [a paper by Cyril Byrne]	2 April 2004
2009.001.1, Series 2, File 5	File - "The Irish in Canada" : [a paper by Cyril Byrne]	1988
2009.001.1, Series 2, File 6	File - "Reception of the Irish in New Brunswick" : [a paper by Joseph A. King]	1986-1987
2009.001.1, Series 2, File 7	File - Dorris Heffron : [correspondence]	1996
2009.001.1, Series 2, File 7	File - "Talamh an Eisc" : [Part I, edited by Cyril Byrne and Margaret Harry]	ca. 1986
2009.001.1, Series 2, File 8	File - "Talamh an Eisc" : [Part II, edited by Cyril Byrne and Margaret Harry]	ca. 1986
2009.001.1, Series 2, File 9	File - "Talamh an Eisc" : [Part III, edited by Cyril Byrne and Margaret Harry]	ca. 1986
2009.001.1, Series 2, File 10	File - "Talamh an Eisc" : [Part IV, edited by Cyril Byrne and Margaret Harry]	ca. 1986

### Series 2009.001.1, Series 3: Genealogical documents

Date: ca. 1982-2002 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Dr. Byrne undertook a project to document Irish immigration to Canada up until 1900. This series consists of genealogical research materials (copies of archival documents, published biographies, newspaper clippings, etc), correspondence, and handwritten notes.

Physical description: 21 cm of textual records

#### File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 1	File - Heritage Survey : Nova Scotia : [correspondence]	1981		
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 2	File - F.E. McConvey genealogical columns : [correspondence]	1987-1988		
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 3	File - Andrews family : [correspondence]	10 September 1993		
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 4	File - David Bennett biography : [by Cyril Byrne]	1992		
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 5	File - Benoit Family : [handwritten notes]	[198-?]		
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 6	File - Bradley family : [genealogical tree]	16 May 1994		
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 7	File - Brennan family : [research documents]	[19--?]		
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 8	File - Thomas Brown, S.J. : [brief biography]	[199-?]		

2009.001.1, Series 3, File 9	File - "The Buckles of Labrador, 1785-1900" by Cyril Byrne	[199-?], original dated 20 December 1978
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 10	File - Col. John Burke : [correspondence and research material]	2002
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 11	File - Burke family : [notes and research material]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 12	File - Byrne family : [1921 census information]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 13	File - Carter family : [handwritten notes]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 14	File - Casey, John : [memorandum from Terry Punch to Cyril Byrne]	24 November 1985
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 15	File - Cashin family : [research materials]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 16	File - Cluett family : [handwritten notes]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 17	File - Connors/O'Connors family : [pedigree chart]	[199-]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 18	File - The Croucher's of Newfoundland : [report]	17 March 1994
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 19	File - Curran/Cureen family : [handwritten note]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 20	File - Delanty, Richard : [genealogical information]	8 December 1984
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 21	File - Dobbin family	1979-2001
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 22	File - Lawrence O'Connor Doyle	2001-2002
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 23	File - Ebsery family : [family group record]	25 July 1995
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 24	File - Ezekiel family : [correspondence and genealogical material]	1979-2002
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 25	File - Fisher family : [handwritten note]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 26	File - Fitzgerald family : [correspondence and handwritten note]	17 October 1992
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 27	File - Foley material	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 28	File - Forrestall material	[198-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 29	File - Forristall/Forsey material : [photocopied material and handwritten notes]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 30	File - Furey family : [copy of biographical information]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 31	File - Furlong family : [newspaper clipping]	10 February 1996
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 32	File - Gallant/Haché : [handwritten notes]	[198-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 33	File - Gallavin family : [copies of articles and handwritten notes]	ca. 1992
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 34	File - Geeham family : [correspondence]	October 1990



2009.001.1, Series 3, File 35	File - Grosse, Dr. Clarence : [handwritten notes and biography]	[198-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 36	File - Gushue family : [research materials]	1999
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 37	File - Harnett family : [correspondence]	1995-1996
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 38	File - Hennessey family : ["A Red Island Family Tree"]	1990
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 39	File - Huelen/Hulan family : [handwritten notes]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 40	File - Kane/Cain family : [handwritten notes and copies of biographies]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 41	File - Kelleher family : [obituaries]	[198-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 42	File - Kelly family : [copies of biographies]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 43	File - Kerfont family : [handwritten notes]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 44	File - Leahey family tree	November 1987
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 45	File - Meade family : [family tree]	[198-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 46	File - Mitchell, Pamela : [family tree (Irish)]	1990
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 47	File - Mitchell family (Mi'kmaq)	1996
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 48	File - Mockler family : [genealogical report]	[198-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 49	File - Moore(s) family : [notes and copies of biographies]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 50	File - Pike family : [handwritten notes]	[198-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 51	File - Phelan to Troy : [correspondence and notes]	[198-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 52	File - Pittman family : [handwritten notes and copies of biographical entries]	[198-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 53	File - Pumphrey family : [handwritten notes]	[198-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 54	File - Rendell, Randall, Reynolds : [copies of biographical entries]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 55	File - Stuart monarchs : [copy of family tree]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 56	File - Sweetman family : [list of names]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 57	File - Thornhill family : [notes and copies of published material]	ca. 1996
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 58	File - Tobin family : [copies of biographical entries]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 59	File - Wade family : [information from the 1921 Census]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 60	File - Wall family : [list of names from Census data]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 61	File - Waterford Parish : [material regarding parish registers]	1985-1989

2009.001.1, Series 3, File 62	File - Mary McDaniel Blake's will	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 63	File - Mi'kmaq names : [papers and correspondence]	1996-1997
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 64	File - Newfoundland first families : [handwritten notes]	[198-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 65	File - Newfoundland deceased priests : [list]	1999
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 66	File - Passenger list : Ross County to Newfoundland in 1825	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 67	File - Conception Bay in the "Plantation Book, 1806" : [transcript of names]	[198-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 68	File - South Kilkenney 1821 Census : [transcription]	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 69	File - John Doyle Ryan's will	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 70	File - Irish genealogical workshop materials	1990
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 71	File - History of Bay Roberts	[199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 72	File - "The Channel Islands Family History Journal"	1982
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 73	File - Corner Brook census data	2002
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 74	File - Irish immigration data	[ca. 199-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 75	File - St. Mary's burials	[197-?]-1986
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 76	File - Wills	[198-?]
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 77	File - Genealogical requests : [correspondence]	1989-1998
2009.001.1, Series 3, File 78	File - Miscellaneous genealogical notes	[ca. 199-?]

### Series 2009.001.1, Series 4: Conferences attended/organized by Cyril Byrne

Date: 1982-2004 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of material relating to conferences organized/attended by Dr. Byrne (especially concerning the planning of the conference). Includes correspondence, programmes, news clippings, and other documents.

Physical description: 3 cm of textual records

2 photographs : b&w : 12.5 x 18 cm

#### File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
2009.001.1, Series 4, File	File - Confluence 1984 : [correspondence]	1984-1985		
2009.001.1, Series 4, File 2	File - Confluence 1985 : [correspondence and planning documents]	1985		

2009.001.1, Series 4, File 3	File - Roman Catholic conference	1984	
2009.001.1, Series 4, File 4	File - Genealogical dimension grant	1987	
2009.001.1, Series 4, File 5	File - Atlantic Irish Genealogical Conference, 1994	1993-1994	
2009.001.1, Series 4, File 6	File - CAIS, 2004 conference materials	2004	
2009.001.1, Series 4, File 7	File - CAIS conference 1983	1982-1983	
2009.001.1, Series 4, File 8	File - CAIS conference 1983 : [letters of appreciation]	1983-1984	
2009.001.1, Series 4, File 9	File - Celtic conference proceedings : [correspondence concerning publication]	17 September 1991	Some material may be restricted. Contact the Archivist for details.

### Series 2009.001.1, Series 5: Congress materials

Date: 1985-1992 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File consists of material relating to the First and Second North American Celtic Congress. The Second North American Celtic Congress was organized by Dr. Byrne, and took place in Halifax (in August 1989). The series includes correspondence concerning funding, presentations, the publication of the proceedings, as well as meeting minutes from the Organizing Committee, abstracts, and other material.

Physical description: 4 cm of textual records

#### File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
2009.001.1, Series 5, File 1	File - Letters of praise and review regarding "Celtic Languages and Celtic Peoples"	1989-1992		
2009.001.1, Series 5, File 2	File - North American Congress of Celtic Studies : [meeting minutes]	1985-1989		
2009.001.1, Series 5, File 3	File - Anglo-Irish literature : call for papers	1987-1990		
2009.001.1, Series 5, File 4	File - Celtic congress 1989 : [correspondence]	1989		
2009.001.1, Series 5, File 5	File - Celtic congress 1989 : [proposals and abstracts]	1988-1989		
2009.001.1, Series 5, File 6	File - Celtic congress 1989 : [correspondence, general]	1987-1992		
2009.001.1, Series 5, File 7	File - Celtic congress 1989 : [1989 meeting minutes]	1988-1989		

### Series 2009.001.1, Series 6: "The Book of Kells" : [fundraising and purchase]

Date: 1985-1998 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File consists of material relating to the fundraising and purchase of a facsimile copy of "The Book of Kells". File includes mainly correspondence with donors, Saint Mary's University administration, the book's publishers, the Charitable Irish Society (who formed a Book of Kells Committee to fundraise), and others.

Physical description: 3 cm of textual records  
9 photographs : b&w and col. ; 12.5 x 18 cm or smaller

#### File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
2009.001.1, Series 6, File 1	File - CIS fundraising : [correspondence and cheques]	1988-1991		
2009.001.1, Series 6, File 2	File - Letter to the CIS : [draft]	ca. 1985		
2009.001.1, Series 6, File 3	File - Donations : [correspondence and copies of cheques]	1988		
2009.001.1, Series 6, File 4	File - Background material regarding "The Book of Kells"	1989-1990		
2009.001.1, Series 6, File 5	File - Copy of speech by Cyril Byrne : [speech and correspondence]	ca. 1985- [1997?]		
2009.001.1, Series 6, File 6	File - Purchase agreement for "The Book of Kells"	1988		
2009.001.1, Series 6, File 7	File - Yvette Muise tapestry : [correspondence]	1990-1998		
2009.001.1, Series 6, File 8	File - Monastery of Iona : [correspondence regarding fundraising]	1992-1994		
2009.001.1, Series 6, File 9	File - "Book of Kells" : [SMU faculty]	1988		
2009.001.1, Series 6, File 10	File - SMU donors : [correspondence and lists]	1987-1991		

#### Series 2009.001.1, Series 7: Miscellaneous materials

Date: 1983-2002 (date of creation)

#### Scope and content:

File consists of miscellaneous material relating to Dr. Byrne's professional career. Includes mainly correspondence. Some topics represented in the files include Garret FitzGerald's trip to Canada (and his honorary degree from SMU), Margaret Fallona's Order of Ontario nomination, the Dr. Helen Creighton Foundation, the Craig Dobbin Chair in Canadian Studies, and a Fact Sheet produced with the Government of the Republic of Ireland.

Physical description: 1 cm of textual records

#### File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
2009.001.1, Series 7, File 1	File - Dr. Helen Creighton Foundation : [correspondence]	1992-1995		

2009.001.1, Series 7, File 2	File - Craig Dobbin Chair of Canadian Studies : [correspondence]	1994
2009.001.1, Series 7, File 3	File - Margaret Fallona : Order of Ontario nomination material	2002
2009.001.1, Series 7, File 4	File - Fact sheet proposal : [correspondence]	5 January 1988
2009.001.1, Series 7, File 5	File - Garret FitzGerald : [honourary Saint Mary's degree material]	1983-1985