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A BIBLIOGRAPHY BY COUNTY OF WRITINGS ON IRISH MINES

by Des Cowman

Abstract: Issue 3 (December 1996) of the Mining Heritage Society of Ireland (MHSI) Newsletter had an alphabetical listing by authors of published works on Irish mining 1955-1995. This has now been up-dated and rearranged by county, alphabetically with 19th and earlier 20th century sources added. Since the Newsletter itself carried a number of research articles, these too are included as are Journals 1-8, 2001-2008. *Journal of the Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland*, 9, 2009, 3-12.

Issue 3 (December 1996) of the MHSI Newsletter had an alphabetical listing by authors of published works on Irish mining 1955-1995. This has now been up-dated and rearranged by county, alphabetically with 19th and earlier 20th sources added. Since the Newsletter itself carried a number of research articles, these too are included as are Journals 1-8, 2001-2008. With the publication of this Journal, the list is already outdated and the more rapidly it does so, the healthier research is into Irish mining history. An earlier version of this was distributed to various members of MHTI who pointed out some infelicities while Alastair Lings listed omission which have now been rectified.

Sometimes an arbitrary line separates articles largely based on mining history/heritage from those based on geology/mineralogy. The latter are well represented in Hayes' *Sources for the History of Irish Civilisation; Articles in Irish Periodicals*, Vol. 7 (Boston 1970), pp 649-651 which is where references for most of the items pre-1965 came from (these have been digitised). Other references to individual mines appear in many general works not listed here. Most of these were published in the 19th century and are listed in Grenville A.J. Cole, *Memoir of Localities of Economic Importance and Metalliferous Mines in Ireland* (1922; reissued by MHSI 1998) pp 3-13. The web provides word-search access to an increasing range of sources although this must be worked at. Paul Rendevez gives guidance in this journal.

Access to the major primary sources may be had through two GSI publications (Report Series) - *An Index to Mineral and Mining Public Records and Manuscripts in Ireland* (1988) and *An Index to References to Irish Mineral Resources and Mining Activities in the Mining Journal, 1825-1920* (1989). In the GSI itself are extensive digitised mining reports, records and plans available by county. Also as many of the articles/books listed below are fully referenced, they may be used to guide the researcher to other sources not as easily catalogued.

There is a further listing of mainly geological and mineralogical publications in *Bibliography of Publications and Selected Reports Concerning Irish Mineral Resources 1750-2007* by P.R.R. Gardiner, C. Geraghty, E. Garvey, W.R. Cox and B. Loughlin-Lunt (Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, Exploration and Mining Division Minerals Publication MP 08/07 ©Exploration and Mining Division 2007). *MHSI Newsletter 2* (Autumn 1996) pp 7-10 has a "Checklist of Irish Mines by County". From this the biblio-

graphical gaps are obvious, particularly in relation to the northern part of Ireland, Louth to Galway.

There are other mining listings also that do not fit onto the county-based format below - e.g. Morris, J.H. "An 1854 catalogue of mines and mineral occurrences in Ireland" *Journal of the Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland*, No. 1 (December 2001) p.35-47. Perhaps a compilation of such country-wide items might be considered into a future.

The normal referencing conditions have been followed as far as possible although there are places where the information available has been incomplete, page numbers being a particular problem. Anybody who can add further detail is invited to do so on the MHTI web-site. Square brackets are used when the title does not indicate the content of the article.

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