

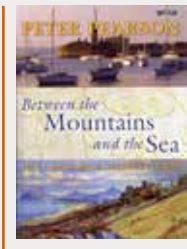
STARTER FOR TEN

Top ten local history books

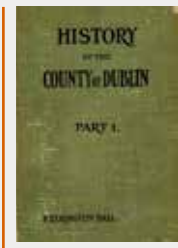
This leaflet provides suggestions for a general introduction to the history of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown. All books are available in the Local Studies Collection at dlr Lexicon. The majority of these titles are studies of the older districts of the barony of Rathdown and south county Dublin prior to 1994 when Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown emerged with a distinct identity. In 1994 Dublin was divided into Dublin City, Fingal, South Dublin and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown.

on Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown

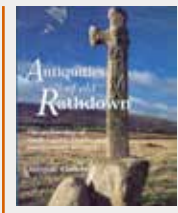
View of Dublin Bay, showing the old castles of Dalkey. An engraving by R. Phillips, dated 14 June 1806, for John Carr's *The Stranger in Ireland* (1806).



Between the Mountains and the Sea: Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County by Peter Pearson. (Two editions; 1998-2007). Artist and author Peter Pearson has provided a great deal of visual and historic detail to create an essential source of information on Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown. He has a particular interest in architectural heritage from a lifetime commitment to protecting the destruction of our built heritage. His earlier book *Dún Laoghaire-Kingstown* (Two editions; 1981-1992) offers a wealth of detail on the nineteenth and early twentieth century town.



A History of the County of Dublin: the people, parishes and antiquities from the earliest times to the close of the eighteenth century by Francis Elrington Ball. Having started with a stand-alone history of the parish of Taney, Ball published, from 1902-1920, six volumes of local history based on the civil parishes of the county. He goes into impressive detail concerning the powerful landed families and their great houses with added comments on the antiquarian features in the area.

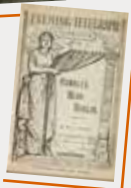


Antiquities of old Rathdown by Christiaan Corlett (1999). This is a wide-ranging introduction to the antiquities in the Wicklow and Dublin area of Rathdown. Corlett, an archaeologist with the National Monuments Service is an authority on specific local features such as the Rathdown Slabs Viking burial markers that are strongly represented in the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown county.



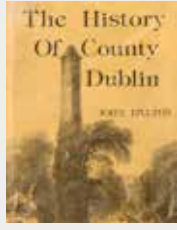
The Neighbourhood of Dublin: its topography, antiquities and historical associations by Weston St. John Joyce (Two editions; 1912-1921). Originally published in a series of newspaper articles in the 1880s, this title serves as a unique guide to the history and antiquities of the Dublin area in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Following a series of roads radiating out from Dublin, Joyce explored much topographical and popular local associations such as 'The Kilruddery Hunt' and 'The king of Dalkey' - all related in a pleasing conversational tone.

<https://bit.ly/2LkkVPD>

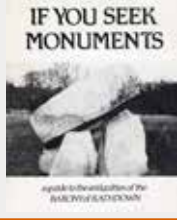


View of the old pier at Dunleary, engraving by T. Higham from a drawing by George Petrie, for Thomas Cromwell's Excursions through Ireland (1820).





***The History of County Dublin* by John D'Alton (1838).** This is an important standard work on the history of Dublin. In addition to a general history, it includes sections on localities now included within the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown county boundary. D'Alton is wholly conversant with the medieval sources.
<https://bit.ly/2LnLkFA>



***If You Seek Monuments: a guide to the antiquities of the Barony of Rathdown* by Kathleen Turner (1983).** This is an illustrated guide to the historic monuments of a large area of south county Dublin published by the Rathmichael History Society. All monuments, megaliths, churches and castles, standing stones and high crosses, as well as Martello Towers are grid marked with useful directions on locating them.



***Varieties of Irish History: from ancient and modern sources and original documents* by James J. Gaskin (1869).** This is a fascinating Victorian account, referring to the historical associations of the coastal areas south from Dublin to Bray. It was written at a time when this rocky granite terrain, south of Dublin city was transformed with new harbours and the country's first railway; local townships were established, and the area rapidly expanded to become a desirable residential location. The publication is packed with a wealth of anecdotes, extracts from old newspapers and reports of intriguing chance encounters. Later editions were published as *Irish varieties, or, Sketches of history and character, from ancient and modern sources and original documents, containing anecdotes of Irish and English celebrities, with songs and poems, humorous, satirical and descriptive. To which is added an account of the revels of the past merry monarchs of the kingdom of Dalkey*, which shows his interest in the high-jinks of the mock 'Kingdom of Dalkey'. The book was dedicated to James Milo Burke, Chairman of the Dalkey Town Commissioners.

Tully, or Tullagh Church, from Francis Grose's *Antiquities of Ireland* (1791). Engraver S. Hooper.





Hidden Streams: a new History of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown by **Brian Mac Aongusa (2007)**. The author takes geography as the starting point for a refreshingly new perspective showcasing how the physical environment has impacted on the history of south county Dublin and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown. This is a wide-ranging approach examining the underlying features of the area.



The Stones of Bray and the stories they can tell of ancient times in the Barony of Rathdown by **Canon George Digby Scott (1913)**. Rector at Bray in County Wicklow between 1912-1950, Canon Digby Scott provides valuable information on the district in south Dublin and north Wicklow with his notes about the principal families and what was known about the antiquities in the landscape. <https://bit.ly/3aaYebh>



A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland by **Samuel Lewis (1837)**. This well-esteemed work contains every fact of importance to illustrate the local history of Ireland including in the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown area. It is a gazetteer, arranged alphabetically by place (village, parish, town, etc.) and it provides a faithful description of all Irish localities as they existed at the time of publication. <https://bit.ly/33ZtjL8>

Some of the older, rarer titles are for library use only and are available to view by appointment. Please note the links provided for those that are available online.

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This leaflet is prepared by Nigel Curtin, Local Studies Librarian at dIrl LexIcon.

The Town of Bray by John Laporte 1 Mar 1795. From The Stones of Bray (1913)

