

The Big Houses and Landed Estates of Ireland

A research guide

Terence Dooley

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This book is designed to provide historians and all those interested in local history, specifically the history of landed estates and Irish big houses, with practical advice regarding the availability of primary sources, their locations, their strengths and their limitations. It significantly expands on the Sources for the history of landed estates in Ireland published by the same author in 2000 by also taking into account the vast array of sources that are available for the study of big houses, other than estate papers, such as auction catalogues, photographs, oral archives and architectural drawings. This book also provides a very broad outline of the history of landed estates and big houses in Ireland from the sixteenth to the end of the twentieth century.

Terence Dooley is coordinator of the Centre for the Study of Historic Irish Houses and Estates at the History Department, NUI Maynooth. His major works include *The decline of the big house in Ireland* (2001); *A future for Irish historic houses?* (2003); *'The land for the people': the land question in independent Ireland* (2004).

Reviews

'Everyone who is interested in local history will be interested in The Big Houses and Landed Estates of Ireland (Four Courts Press, February), Terence Dooley's research guide, which is packed with practical advice regarding the availability of primary sources, their locations, their strengths and their weaknesses.' Arminta Wallace, Irish Times Weekend Review.

'This Maynooth research guide sets out clearly where to find out about any particular big house, who has the records and archives, and which libraries and institutions to consult.' Books Ireland.

'[Dooley's] latest book successfully expands his previous research guide to include material relating to the social, economic and art historical background to the big house itself Written in a matter-of-fact style, the book explains the background to the available historical records, outlining the purpose of the records that were kept, their state of preservation and their present whereabouts.' Dr Andrew Tierney, Irish Arts Review.

'Valuable not only to researchers, but to all who are interested in the history of rural Ireland', DLC, Dublin Historical Record.

<http://www.historicirishhouses.ie/archive.php>

http://www.askaboutireland.ie/show_topic.do?id=3