



Trinity College Dublin

Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath

The University of Dublin

THE *BEYOND 2022* RESEARCH PROJECT
Medieval Irish Exchequer Gold Seam
based at The National Archives (UK)

Post title: Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Medieval History (1200–1500)

Job Posted: 1 May 2020

Closing Date for Applications: Monday, 25 May 2020, 5pm local time.

Contract Type: Specific Purpose Research Contract (Fixed Term, Whole-Time)

Post Duration: 24 months from 1 August 2020

Academic Unit: The Department of History, School of Histories and Humanities, Trinity College Dublin.

Salary: €37,223 p.a. (IUA Salary Scale: Level 2, Point 1)¹

Position Summary

The *Beyond 2022: Ireland's Virtual Record Treasury* Research Project is an all-island and international collaboration funded by the Government of Ireland, through the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, under the Project Ireland 2040 framework.

¹ The successful applicant will be employed by Trinity College Dublin and remuneration will be made in Euro. The project will provide expenses by reimbursement for agreed project-related travel including research, collaboration and dissemination activities.

Beyond 2022, which is based in Trinity College Dublin, seeks to re-imagine and re-create through virtual reality the Public Record Office of Ireland building, and its archival collections, destroyed in the opening engagement of the Irish Civil War. The resource created by the Project will be an open-access virtual archive.

The National Archives (UK) [hereafter TNA] is a core partner in the *Beyond 2022* project, along with the other core partners (National Archives of Ireland, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, Irish Manuscripts Commission and Trinity College Dublin Library) and a range of participating institutions. Through this collaboration, the project seeks to locate and identify archival materials relevant to the project's ambition to reconstruct, to the greatest extent possible, the collections destroyed in 1922.

Beyond 2022 is seeking an exceptional archival and historical researcher to be based in London at TNA. S/he will work within the project's **Medieval Irish Exchequer 'Gold Seam' work package**.

The successful candidate will work under the direction of **Dr Peter Crooks** (Programme Director/Principal Investigator) and **Dr Paul Dryburgh** (TNA Co-Investigator), working in parallel with another Postdoctoral Research Fellow based at Trinity College Dublin.

Within TNA, the successful candidate will be attached to the Collections Expertise and Engagement Department. It is expected that the successful will be active in presenting their research in internal TNA fora and to public audiences at TNA. S/he will also contribute to developing engagement opportunities related to *Beyond 2022*.

Overview of the role

The **Medieval Irish Exchequer 'Gold Seam'** work package within *Beyond 2022* aims to reconstruct entire series of medieval Irish financial and administrative records at TNA to the level of individual items and, where possible, entries. The research fellow will edit, in digital format to the highest editorial standards, the receipt and issue rolls of the

medieval Irish Exchequer, subsidiary files of writs and memoranda and the enrolled accounts of the Treasurer of Ireland, which cover the period c.1270-1450. Working as part of an interdisciplinary and international team, s/he will principally use TEI methodologies to edit the large corpus of over 400 rolls and subsidiary files for presentation in the online scholarly edition.

Now stored at TNA in series E 101 (Exchequer Accounts, various), the receipt and issue rolls are direct copies of accounts compiled for audit in the Dublin Exchequer but ultimately sent for audit at Westminster with the original subsidiary documentation. The enrolled accounts, in series E 364 (Exchequer, Foreign Accounts), E 372 (Exchequer, Pipe Rolls) and E 352 (Exchequer, Chancellor's Rolls), though not part of the archive of the Dublin Exchequer, provide fair copies of these particulars as part of the overall process of audit in the Westminster Exchequer, and occasionally fill gaps left by missing particulars of account.

By creating a definitive digital edition, this work package will take important steps towards a full reconstruction of the business of the medieval Irish Exchequer. The edition, which will be freely accessible in English translation with associated digital images and searchable metadata, will therefore be a key resource for all researchers interested in medieval Irish politics, warfare, finance and the economy, wider society, cultural interactions, geography and genealogy.

As a member of the project team, the post-holder will work closely with the computer scientists on the project to experiment with entity extraction and data linking on the semantic web in order to create metadata and populate the Beyond 2022's **Knowledge Base for Irish History**, thereby contributing to the development of its standards and protocols. The post-holder will also undertake dissemination and public engagement activities to assist the project in its mission to communicate the importance of its discoveries to the widest possible audience.

Key Duties and Responsibilities

<p>To edit to agreed standards the receipt and issue rolls of the medieval Irish Exchequer, subsidiary files and audited enrolled accounts. This will involve (but may not be limited to) the creation of English summaries of Latin originals using TEI methodologies, encoding of required entities (e.g. personal names, place names, subjects etc.), the identification of place names and the disambiguation of personal names</p>
<p>To conduct excellent research and assist the Investigators in the planning, organizing, conducting, and communicating of research within the overall scope of the Beyond 2022 project</p>
<p>To contribute, as required by the Principal Investigator, to the description and analysis of medieval records relating to Beyond 2022's research objectives more generally</p>
<p>To participate in training and other periodic meetings in Dublin, London and other international venues</p>
<p>To develop collaborations with relevant stakeholders within the United Kingdom.</p>
<p>To present information on research progress and outcomes to others responsible for the research project</p>
<p>To act as a source of information and guidance as required to any support staff and/or research students assisting with the research project, as agreed with the Principal Investigator</p>
<p>Publish research outputs in peer-reviewed journals, relevant to the wider project, in their areas of specialist expertise, and to contribute to co-authored publications</p>
<p>To contribute to the public engagement components of the project through talks, podcasts, blogs / vlogs, archive workshops</p>

To confer with the Principal Investigator in developing plans for research projects and to discuss the interpretation of results and the preparation of manuscripts for publication

To perform other related duties incidental to the work described herein

Selection Criteria

Research	
Essential	A completed PhD, or evidence that a PhD is close to completion, in the history of late medieval Europe
Essential	Demonstrable competence in Late Medieval palaeography
Essential	Demonstrable knowledge of medieval Latin to a high standard
Essential	Research experience with medieval record-keeping practice and manuscript sources
Essential	A publication record commensurate with career stage and personal circumstances
Essential	A demonstrable working knowledge of the application of digital technologies to historical projects
Desirable	Demonstrable understanding of English royal government in medieval Ireland and/or the dominions of the medieval English crown, and of the records generated by administrative and legal processes
Desirable	Experience of publishing editions of medieval archival records, in print or online

Personal Effectiveness	
Essential	Ability to manage own research and associated activities to meet multiple, competing deadlines
Essential	Experience of working constructively within a team to achieve a common goal
Essential	Evidence of excellent organisational and communication skills
Essential	Demonstrable ability to communicate complex ideas to a range of academic and public audiences
Essential	Ability to work in highly interdisciplinary and international research environments
Essential	Flexibility and the ability to adapt to an evolving programme
Desirable	Evidence of excellent stakeholder management skills and a willingness to represent the project at meetings, conferences and other relevant events
Technical Skills	
Essential	High level of IT literacy including the use of word-processor and spreadsheet applications
Essential	Excellent report writing and presentation skills
Desirable	Experience of TEI/XML text editing

Background to *Beyond 2022*

June 30th, 2022, marks the centenary of the terrible explosion and fire at the Four Courts, Dublin, which destroyed the Public Record Office of Ireland (PROI) and, with it, seven centuries of Ireland's collective memories. While incomparable with the loss of human life, the destruction of the Record Treasury at the PROI was one of the great tragedies of the Civil War.

Beyond 2022: Ireland's Virtual Record Treasury is an all-island and international research programme to recreate digitally this lost national treasure. Combining historical research, archival discovery and technical innovation, *Beyond 2022* offers a lasting and meaningful legacy from the Decade of Centenaries, democratising access to invaluable records and illuminating seven centuries of Irish history.

The aim of *Beyond 2022* is to create and launch on 30 June 2022 a Virtual Record Treasury for Irish history—an open-access, virtual reconstruction of the Record Treasury destroyed at the PROI in 1922. The Virtual Record Treasury will provide an enabling framework for connecting archival collections worldwide and rediscovering our collective national memories.

www.beyond2022.ie

For informal enquiries on the post, candidates should contact:

Name: Dr Peter Crooks

Title: *Beyond 2022* Programme Director

Email Address: pcrooks@tcd.ie

To Apply:

To apply for this post, please send the following materials to Dr Ciarán Wallace, Deputy Director, *Beyond 2022* Project (cwallace@tcd.ie) before the deadline:

- Cover letter (1 page)
- Research statement describing your specialist knowledge of medieval record-keeping practice and outlining how your research interests would enhance the project's interpretation of the medieval Irish exchequer series (3 pp)
- Full CV (3 pp) including the names of three referees who may be contacted if you are shortlisted.

Deadline: Monday, 25 May 2020, 5pm local time.

Further Particulars:

- Shortlisted candidates will be invited to present for interview to be facilitated via Zoom. It is envisaged that interviews will take place in week commencing **8 June 2020**.
- The successful candidate must be eligible to work in the UK and will be required to obtain basic level security clearance in order to work at TNA.