

TEACHING AND LEARNING CASE STUDY	
Name of Institution/ Organisation	Institute of Art, Design + Technology
Who led the initiative?	The Library
Date and timeframe of the initiative	Academic Year 2023-24
What was the reach of the initiative?	The project has international reach to historians interested in this period of Irish history. The Reverend Thomas Goff Diaries are of historical interest and significance as valuable primary source material.
Initiative Title	Digitisation of the Reverend Thomas Goff Diaries
Aims/ Objectives	Our aim was to digitise the Reverend Thomas Goff Diaries which had been bequeathed to IADT. Reverend Goff was a Church of Ireland Minister, landowner and army chaplain who resided on what is now the IADT campus. Goff was a prolific diarist, writing nine volumes covering the years 1796 to 1844, and extending to more than 185,000 words. The digitised diaries, along with a transcript, are stored and permanently preserved within the IADT institutional repository, <i>Illustro</i> . The diaries are fully discoverable and are held under a Creative Commons licence (CC BY-NC 4.0) allowing re-use by interested parties.
Rationale and Identified Needs	The Reverend Goff Diaries are a significant primary historical resource. The diaries are in a fragile condition. Digitisation ensures that this valuable collection is permanently fully accessible and discoverable to the public. The diaries are an important research, teaching and learning asset.
Frameworks, Policies, or Strategies Aligned (internal, local or national)	This project aligns with many local, institutional, national and international policies and strategic plans around Open Access and digitisation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Principles on Open Access (2012) • European Commission Recommendation on access to and preservation of scientific information (2018) • National Framework on the Transition to an Open Research Environment 2019 • UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science (2021) • HEA National Forum Digital Transformation Pillar • National Action Plan for Open Research 2022 – 2030 (2022) • Impact 2030 (2023) • IADT Strategic Plan 2024-2028

Summary	<p>Reverend Goff was a Church of Ireland Minister, landowner and army chaplain who resided on what is now the IADT campus. The diaries were bequeathed to IADT by a small museum in Wiltshire, to which they had been gifted by one of Reverend Goff’s descendants. Goff was a prolific diarist, writing nine volumes covering the years 1796 to 1844, and extending to more than 185,000 words. These diaries cover a particularly tumultuous period of history, including the rise of Napoleon and Robert Emmett’s uprising. They are highly valuable in terms of Irish cultural history.</p> <p>This project involved digitising the diaries and making them available on the IADT institutional repository, <i>Illustro</i>, along with a full transcript. The diaries are fully discoverable and permanently preserved. They are held under a Creative Commons licence (CC BY-NC 4.0) enabling re-use by interested parties.</p>
Did you collaborate with internal and/or external stakeholders to deliver?	<p>This project received support from the HEA National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning through its SATLE Programme as a Local Enhancement Project. The Library employed a Research Assistant, IADT BA(Hons) Creative Computing Graduate, Cian Gilmore, to complete the digitisation project. Heather Chawke, Systems Librarian, ingested the digitised diaries into the IADT Institutional Repository, <i>Illustro</i>, as a distinct collection within the Historical Papers collection.</p>
Organisation and Planning	<p>Cian Gilmore was employed as Research Assistant in November 2023. The project work plan was as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 2023 – review existing content and commence comparison of the files with the diary hardcopies to ensure completeness • January 2024 – take images of missing/ compromised pages • February 2024 – merge all content into the nine individual diaries and optimise the files • March 2024 – ingest the high-quality diary files into the <i>Illustro</i> institutional repository, ensuring that the metadata is sufficient for discovery, apply CC licence, etc. • June 2024 – presentation at Teaching, Learning and Research Day and soft launch of the digital collection.
What resources did you need?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Assistant (90 hours @ €17.50 = €1,575) • Use of studio and photographic equipment • Creation of the collection on <i>Illustro</i>, the IADT Institutional Repository (on Digital Science’s Figshare)

Has it been evaluated? How successful has it been?	We have received some queries from local historians in Sligo to view the diaries while the digitization project was ongoing. They were very happy to have access to the digital collection. Thus far, before hard launch, the collection has received 89 visits. We expect this number to rise after the hard launch and related publicity campaign.
Any future plans, including the sustainability of the initiative?	We plan to hold an in-person launch of the Reverend Thomas Goff Diaries digital collection in early 2025. The event will feature talks from a researcher of the diaries and a local historian. We hope to engage Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Co. Co. in this event. We will also launch a permanent display case containing one of the diaries open on a page of particular historical interest.
Key Learning Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The digitisation process was complex as we were essentially trying to match the lighting and placement of images that had previously been taken. The pictures taken needed to be seamlessly placed and joined to the other images of the diaries that had previously been digitised. We benefitted greatly and learned a considerable amount during this process. • We created a new collection within Illustro (Figshare) which had not previously been done so this involved a learning curve to ensure that it was set up optimally. • Subsequent enquiries from Local and Academic Historians have underlined the importance of this digital archive and its permanent preservation for researchers as well as the vital national and international importance of the conservation of our cultural heritage.

Teaching and Learning Focus Areas (please tick all that apply)

Categories	Elements	Topics	Target Groups
Commit <input type="checkbox"/>	Leadership, Strategy & Governance <input type="checkbox"/>	Digital Transformation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Students <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Coordinate <input type="checkbox"/>	Curriculum and Assessment <input type="checkbox"/>	Education for Sustainable Development <input type="checkbox"/>	Staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Consult <input type="checkbox"/>	Innovation in Teaching <input type="checkbox"/>	Academic Integrity <input type="checkbox"/>	Wider community <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Create <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Professional Development <input type="checkbox"/>	Inclusive and Equitable Teaching Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Celebrate & Continue <input type="checkbox"/>	Research and Evaluation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Innovations in Assessment and Feedback <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Student Engagement and Partnership <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Collaborative and Interdisciplinary Approaches <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
		Artificial Intelligence <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Other <input type="checkbox"/>	

Contact Details

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