



AN ARCHIVE FOR EVERYONE

Protecting and Providing
Archives for All

PRONI
Public Record Office
of Northern Ireland



What is PRONI?

The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) identifies and preserves records of historical value which the public can access free of charge. Some of our records and sources of information are also available as digital resources through our online eCatalogue.

What records does PRONI hold?

PRONI holds over three million historical records most of which relate to the north of Ireland and date from the 17th century. These records come in a variety of formats: paper, parchment, photographs, film reels, tapes and digital material including audio and moving image files. The records themselves are wide ranging. Government files, court records and school registers sit alongside emigrant letters, family photographs and personal diaries. This range of records is important as it helps to provide multiple perspectives on the past. These records form part of our wider community memory.

The value of an inclusive archive

The story of Northern Ireland is not the story of any one community: it is a shared story made up of the experiences of every individual and the communities that call this place home.

We realise that records relating to the lives and experiences of individuals from minority ethnic backgrounds are under-represented in our archive. Therefore, we are calling on individuals from differing ethnic backgrounds, countries of origin, cultures and religions to consider depositing their records in PRONI. Individuals might consider depositing family records, such as letters, diaries and photographs that capture how it is to live and work here and the experience of making a home in NI. We are also asking representative organisations to consider depositing records such as minutes, policy papers, reports and publications with us.



By depositing records with PRONI, you will be helping to make our archive more representative of the diverse nature of our society. You will also be helping to ensure that the experiences and contributions of minority ethnic communities are acknowledged as part of the shared story of Northern Ireland.

Depositing records at PRONI

There are three ways you can deposit your personal or organisational records with PRONI.

1. **Gifted** – where you pass ownership and responsibility of the records to PRONI.
2. **Depositing on loan** – where you remain the owner of the records but transfer them to PRONI's care.

3. **Temporary loan** – where you lend documents to PRONI for a short period of time and allow us to copy them (although our preference is always to preserve original documents where possible.)

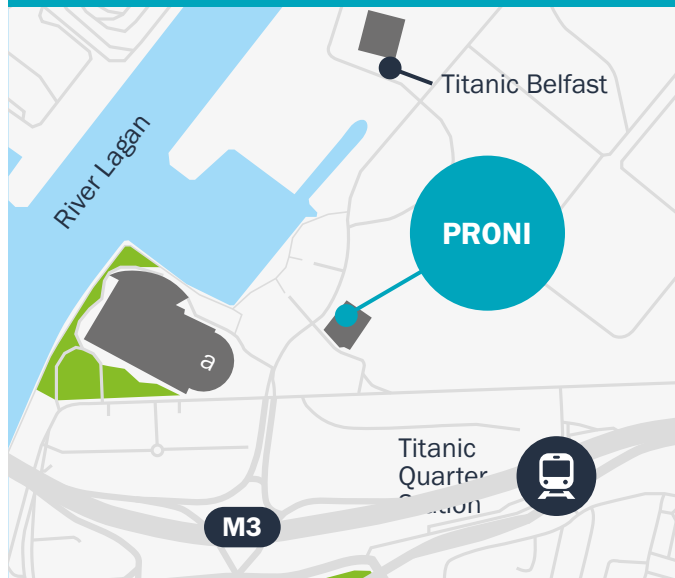
Whatever option you choose, we will make sure that you are content with how PRONI will use your records and with how we allow the public to access and make use of them. We will also comply with data protection law and only make your records publicly accessible where this is appropriate.

If you wish to enquire about depositing records in PRONI, please email access@communities-ni.gov.uk and a member of our team will be happy to talk to you.

WHAT YOU CAN DO AT PRONI

- Explore family and local history
- Enjoy talks, events and exhibitions
- Engage in historical research

Please check the **PRONI** website for details of upcoming events and to explore the full range of online resources



OPENING TIMES

Monday–Wednesday and Friday: 9am–4.45pm

Thursday: 10am–8.45pm

Please check the PRONI website for any Covid related temporary changes to service.

Public Record Office of Northern Ireland

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/publicrecordofficeni

/PRONIonline

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ARCHIVE SERVICE



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www.communities-ni.gov.uk

If you want to be added to our mailing list and kept informed about PRONI news and events, please email proni@communities-ni.gov.uk