



Special Collections

Meteorological Observations

Identity Statement

Reference Code: MÉ/MO

Title: Registers of Meteorological Observations in Ireland

Dates: 1855 - 1968

Extent: 224 bound volumes, 128 folders, c. 353 folios

Context

Creator: Observers working for the Royal Engineers, Meteorological Office London, Irish Meteorological Service (later Met Éireann).

History: With the exception of the early Phoenix Park records (which were maintained by the Royal Engineers), these registers represent the early efforts of the Meteorological Office (UK) to establish a network of meteorological stations across the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. The registers from 1855 - 1936 should be viewed as part of a wider network of stations that covered England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Templates of the observations forms were issued by the Meteorological Office, which coordinated the meteorological network by supplying instruments and instructions for observations. Many of the stations were operated by volunteers. For this reason, many locations do not have registers that cover the entire period of 1855-1968. The Irish Meteorological Service took responsibility for the network of Irish stations when it was established in 1936.

Scope and Content

The registers are a daily record of weather parameter at various locations throughout Ireland. Observers recorded readings from a selection of instruments that measured temperature, pressure, rainfall, sunshine, and other fields. Readings were taken at least once a day (usually twice) and were recorded on a Met Office-issued form or template that was designed to contain a month's data. At the end of the month, the forms were posted back to the Met Office for centralised calculations and corrections.

Access and Use

Access: The materials in this collection are available by appointment only to research students and scholars.

Reproduction: Photocopying of this material is not permitted. No reproduction of the registers is allowed without consent.

Language: English

Finding Aid: A complete Finding Aid is available, compiled by an Archivist, Aisling Keane, in 2011 as part of a FÁS Job Bridge Placement.