

HIU34587 Constructing the Past: History and Heritage in Ireland, 1830s-2016

This module traces the construction of the past in Ireland from the 1830s to the 21st century. It explores the emergence of archaeological and antiquarian work as part of the Ordnance Survey of Ireland in the 1830s, exhibiting 'Irishness' abroad, the establishment of the National Museum, the rise of cultural nationalism, the creation and development of the Irish Folklore Commission, and the commemoration of conflict in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. In contrast to the emergence of professional historical work, this module explores how the past was constructed outside the academy, bearing in mind the role played by professional historians in how the past was constructed for a wider public. Engaging with scholarship that covers public history, authorised heritage discourse, memory studies and museology, this module will help students understand how ideas of Ireland, and Irish identity, were constructed both at home and abroad during this period.