



Research Papers

- Wax and wafer seals in the CSO/RP 1821
- Irish watermarks identified in 1818-21
- Sewn documents in the CSO/RP series
- The inks found on the CSO/RP documents
- A study of alkali treatments of handbills
- Identification of 19th-century postmarks



Conservation

Damage to the letters and papers in the series happened because of a combination of the aging process, poor historic storage and handling by researchers over the years.

The letters were originally folded, which weakened the paper fibres along the folds and caused the paper to split or tear.

Conservation treatment began with cleaning of each document with different types of conservation erasers. This removed the dust and surface dirt, which makes it easier to see the written text.

If the letters were badly creased or folded they were flattened. Tears and areas of damage were repaired with wheat starch paste and a very thin Japanese tissue.

Additional treatments were needed for the large maps and architectural plans, as well as for mouldy damaged papers or documents with wax or wafer seals.

Conservation interns

Funding from the Francis J. Crowley Bequest provided support for graduates in paper conservation to have the opportunity to work on this collection from 2008-2016.

These internships helped the conservators to develop their skills, whilst working in a national cultural institution.

Over eight years 54,438 individual documents were conserved.

Each conservation intern developed a research project to assist in creating a greater knowledge and understanding of this collection.