The Fitzpatrick Multimedia Archive[©] Introduction

The Fitzpatrick Multimedia Archive (FMA) is an electronic resource of content relating to the Manuscript, Family, and Published Sources for the Fitzpatrick Nation. It has evolved from the work of Steve Zalewski and Ronan Fitzpatrick as part of their collaborative research for their publication, *The Descendants of Bryan Fitzpatrick, Lord and First Baron of Upper Ossory* (2013). This work referred to extensive research sources, acquired copies of multimedia artifacts and recorded Fitzpatrick genealogical details with information of where these sources, artifacts and details can be accessed. The Archive merges these sources, multimedia acquisitions and Fitzpatrick genealogy records, as charted using Ancestral Quest, a genealogical program, for easy access and viewing by researchers.

The FMA consists of two parts – the descriptions and the sources. The descriptions of each entry in the FMA refer to many different electronic formats including electronic scans, photographs, documents, portraits, engravings, presentations, and similar multimedia. Each description is supported by its source which typically includes the author, year, title, publisher, repository, call number and a link to where it can be accessed online if appropriate.

The descriptions and sources are the principal components of the Archive and complement each other to describe each Archive entry more fully. The Archive may be scrolled in its entirety if desired. However, it is often more productive to limit the search to certain multimedia types, or specific family lines. In addition, individual items in the FMA may be accessed using a keyword search of the descriptions and may also be combined with family line and/or multimedia filters. To honour copyright requirements, the FMA displays copyright protected items through access to internet websites that contain the copyrighted content. This is achieved through a seamless link to the appropriate website followed by returning to the FMA. A complete catalog of the Archive will be available at the Research tab of the Fitzpatrick – Mac Giolla Phádraig Clan Society website (https://fitzpatricksociety.com).

The FMA requires the availability of three programs: Microsoft 365, Irfanview (a free graphics viewer), and Foxit PDF Reader (a free PDF reader). These programs function together to search and display the content of interest. These files may be installed on either a separate PC or a networked PC. The current size of the FMA including the multimedia files and application is 750MB so sufficient hard disk space should be allotted.

The Fitzpatrick Multimedia Archive currently consists of 350 entries and will grow as new content is discovered and added. Additional documentation for the FMA includes an Installation Manual and User Manual. Both manuals are available on the Research tab of The Fitzpatrick - Mac Giolla Phádraig Clan Society website (https://fitzpatricksociety.com/). The website also contains a complete catalogue of The Archive.

Referencing this work

Zalewski, Steve & Fitzpatrick, Ronan (2021) Fitzpatrick Multimedia Archive: an electronic resource of the Manuscript, Family, and Published Sources for the Fitzpatrick Nation, Bend, Oregon : Upper Ossory Press, instructions for free download available at https://fitzpatricksociety.com/research-2/.