

The Annals of Ulster

The Annals of Ulster (Irish: Annála Uladh) are annals of medieval Ireland. The entries span the years from AD 431 to AD 1540. The entries up to AD 1489 were compiled in the late 15th century by the scribe Ruaidhrí Ó Luinín, under his patron Cathal Óg Mac Maghnusa on the island of Belle Isle on Lough Erne in the province of Ulster. Later entries (up to AD 1540) were added by others.

Previous annals dating as far back as the 6th century were used as a source for the earlier entries, and later entries were based on recollection and oral history. T.M. Charles-Edwards has claimed that the main source for its records of the first millennium AD is a now lost Armagh continuation of the Chronicle of Ireland. The Annals used the Irish language, with some entries in Latin. Because the Annals copied its sources verbatim, the annals are useful not just for historians, but also for linguists studying the evolution of the Irish language.

A century later, the Annals of Ulster became an important source for the authors of the Annals of the Four Masters. It also informs the Irish text Cogad Gáedel re Gallaib.

The Library of Trinity College Dublin possesses the original manuscript; the Bodleian Library in Oxford has a contemporary copy that fills some of the gaps in the original. There are two main modern English translations of the annals – Mac Airt and Mac Niocaill (1983) and MacCarthy (1893).



- U1379.1 - The Dalton 2 (namely, Philip) died.
- U1386.3 - Niall Mac Eochagain, namely, one who was to be chief of Cenel-Fiachaigh, was killed by the son of William Dalton.
- U1386.4 - Eirimon Ua Mail-Shechlainn was slain by the Daltons and by Mag Amhalgadh.
- U1386.9 - The castle of Miles Dalton was taken by the sons of Concobur, son of Cathal Ua Ferghail and given to Thomas, son of Cathal Ua Ferghail.
- U1386.10 - The Clan of John Ua Ferghail and Dalton made a joint war against the sons of Murchadh ua Ferghail. The stronghold of Ua Ferghail was attacked by the clan of John and the daughter of Mac William de Burgh, namely, the wife of Ua Ferghail, was taken prisoner therein.
- U1452.5 - Fergal the Red, son of Fergal Mag Eochagain, namely, an excellent leader, spirited, firm, truly hospitable, was slain by the baron of Delvin and by his son, namely, by James and by some of the Daltons, that is, on the 13th of the Kalends of January (Dec. 20), towards the end of a year of the Lord of which 9 was the Golden Number.
- U1482.12 - Maileachlainn, son of Brian, son of Edmund, son of Thomas Ua Ferghail, was slain by William the Rough, son of Maurice, grandson of Piers Dalton, and by Laisech, son of John Ua Ferghail, a month before Christmas, on Thursday, A.D. 1482.)
- U1486.48 - The Dalton, namely, Edmund, son of Piers Dalton, resigned his lord-ship to his own son, that is, to Thomas Dalton, this year.
- U1487.45 - The Dalton, namely, Edmund, son of Piers Dalton, died this year.
- U1488.17 - Margaret Dalton, daughter of Andrew Dalton, namely, wife of Ua Ferghail, that is, wife of Domnall the Tawny, son of Domnall, son of John, son of Domnall Ua Ferghail, died this year.
- U1491.14 -The wife of Dalton, namely, wife of Thomas, son of Edmund, grandson of Piers Dalton, went off with the son of Ua Mechair this year.

- U1495.16 - Nicholas Dalton, namely, son of Edmond, son of Piers Dalton, was slain by Fergus, son of Edmond, son of Laisech, son of Ros Ua Ferghail and by the descendants of Henry Dalton.
- U1495.40 - The Dalton, namely, Thomas, son of Edmond, son of Piers, son of another Piers Dalton, was taken and Henry, son of John, grandson of Piers Dalton, was slain about November Day by Conn, son of Art, son of Conn Ua Mael-Sheclainn and by Maelruanaigh, son of Ua Cerbaill.
- U1496.14 - The Dalton, namely, Thomas, son of Edmond, son of Piers Dalton, was liberated for 300 marks and for 14 score cows in pledge for the district of Baile na ngédh, by Conn, son of Art, son of Conn Ua Mail-Sheclainn and by the grandson of Ua Cerbaill.