

Captain William Doran Photograph Album, Ca 1911 – 1930

Repository Code: IE LHA

Collection Reference Code: PP00135/

Title: Captain William Doran Photograph Album

Dates: Ca 1911 – 1930

Level of Description: Fonds

Extent: 1 album and 12 loose items

Name of Creator(s): Captain William Doran

Admin/Biographical History: William A Doran was Chairman of Louth County Council from 1913 – 1918. He was a Protestant of Huguenot descent and a Redmonite Nationalist. When the Great War broke out in 1914, Doran was loyal to the British Empire now that it had granted Home Rule to Ireland and he enlisted in the army. He attempted to resign from the council as he was leaving for France in November 1915, but his resignation was refused and so he withdrew it. Doran had enlisted in the 9th Royal Dublin Fusiliers where he attained the rank of captain. In December 1915, he wrote an account of life on the front line to Charles McAlester, the county secretary and it is transcribed in Harold O'Sullivan's 'A History of Local Government in the County of Louth from earliest times to the present' (pp110-111). Doran once again put forward his resignation from the council in November 1918 due to medical advice (he had been badly gassed during the war) and while asked by the council to reconsider his position, he followed through this time. Doran took part in the Irish Convention of 1917-1918 as an Irish Nationalist and was granted special leave to attend.

Doran married a Margaret Harbinson of Drogheda in 1909 and had three children: Eithne, Archibald and David Moore. The family lived at Harristown near Ardee. Doran moved his family to Winchester in England before emigrating in 1921 to Tasmania, Australia. He moved back to England in 1928/1929 settling in the Weston / Winscombe area of Somerset. He died in 1941 and was buried in Winscombe, England. His son Archibald Lester Doran, also known as "Archie", enlisted in

“Los Internacionales” in the Spanish Civil War as “Arthur L.Doran” and died fighting at Jarama with Harry Fry’s Machine-Gun Company.

Archival History: The collection was received from a book seller in 2005.

Scope and Content: Small family photograph album of Captain William A Doran, of Harristown, Ardee. Photographs numbered 22 – 29 and 32 are loose in the album, as are items numbered 30 and 31; others are stuck down. Subjects include portraits of family members. Most of the photographs date to the 1920s. All photographs are black and white or sepia toned.

1. Harristown House, Co Louth, WA Doran’s birthplace, presumably taken in 1915 as similar to third photograph that is dated 1915.
2. Studio portrait of Eithne Margaret Doran, aged 2 years and 4 months, ca 1911.
3. Two group portraits of William Doran, his wife Margaret and two children, Eithne and [David] sitting outside on a windowsill at Harristown House. The caption states ‘At Harristown House, 1915, on furlough’.
4. Studio portrait of Eithne Doran, aged 2 years and 4 months, taken around the same time as photograph 2, ca 1911.
5. Studio portrait of the three Doran children, 1920.
6. Photograph of a residential house. The caption states ‘Correa – Giblin St, Hobart. 1st house Doran’s bought’ (Tasmania, Australia).
7. Archie and David sitting on steps outside what seems to be the Doran’s house in Hobart, 1921.
8. Postcard showing Bellerive beach near Hobart (photo 844) with an arrow drawn on it. Caption states ‘arrow marks Chalgrove, the Doran’s Home, 1922, 1923’.
9. Caption states ‘The Doran family up a tree, Chalgrove, Hobart, Jan 1923’. Photograph shows three children up a tree and their mother standing beside them.
10. Photograph of David, Eithne and Archie Doran, taken outside, Jan 1923.
11. Photograph of David, Eithne and Archie Doran, taken outside at a swing, Jan 1923.
12. Photograph of ‘Eithne in the tree’, Jan 1923.
13. Photograph of ‘Willie’s first flock at Chalgrove’, Jan 1923.
14. Caption reads ‘Chalgrove – Bellerive, Archie and David (Eithne’s first attempt at photography)’. Part of the house is visible. Dec 1923.
15. Caption reads ‘Margaret and Archie on the beach after bathing (Eithne’s photo)’, Dec 1923.
16. Photograph of Margaret Doran and her three children with a beach or lake in background. Caption reads ‘Margaret and the three’, Jan 1923.
17. Photograph of Margaret Doran and her three children sitting outside. Caption reads ‘the family and their pets’, Dec 1922.
18. Photograph of the Doran family taken outside. Caption reads ‘The Doran family complete and Eithne’s chum Leslie Payne’, Dec 1922.
19. Photograph of a toddler girl, probably Eithne Doran, taken outside, ca 1911.

20. Photograph of [David and Archie Doran] with their pet dog, taken outside a house, ca 1922.
21. Photograph of the Doran family standing outside on the steps of their house at Chalgrove, with nine other children and two other women, ca 1922.
22. Postcard photograph taken at same time as photograph number 17 above; very slight difference in movement. Dec 1922
23. Photograph of what looks to be William and Margaret Doran with their two sons, Archie and David, taken outside their house in Chalgrove, walking amongst their flock. The photograph was probably taken by Eithne, ca 1923
24. Photograph of Margaret Doran, her three children and one other boy, taken outside near trees or bushes. One of the Doran boys holds a hockey stick; other children hold towels. Ca 1924.
25. Photograph of Eithne Doran and one other, possibly her brother, with their pets, taken outside a house. Ca 1926
26. Photograph of Eithne Doran standing outside in country area, ca 1930
27. Studio portrait of Eithne Doran, ca 1928
28. Photograph of a large group of people at an outdoor event in front of a two-storey building, possibly a ceremonial type of event such as a high-school graduation, ca 1928
29. Photograph of a small plane in the sky, ca 1915 – 1930
30. Loose note, prayer or poem in quotation marks that reads: "God calls over loved ones / but we lose not wholly / What He hath given / They live on earth, in [...] and died as truly / As in His Heaven".
31. Handwritten letter from Eithne Doran, Friends High School to her Aunt E relating news of her boarding school. She writes 'we are all boarding at school now, as Mum and Da are going to America, I hardly ever see the boys' (p1). She writes about a ping-pong tournament, a picnic party that she had with the boys a week ago, her father advertising for a caretaker, playing hockey, and photographs she has enclosed (not available) of presumably pets. 26 Apr 1925, 3pp
32. Photograph of Eithne Doran standing outside in area near what looks to be a warehouse, probably taken on the same day as photograph number 26 as she is wearing the same clothes and looks very similar, ca 1930. (Inside back cover of album)
33. Photograph very similar to number 31. Ca 1930.

Subject index: Personal and Family Papers; Photographs; 20th Century

Appraisal and Destruction: Retain permanently.

Accruals: Accruals may be expected.

System of Arrangement: There is no arrangement.

Conditions of Access: Open Access, by appointment

Conditions Governing

Reproduction: Contact Louth County Archives staff regarding copying; copying fees apply.

Language/Script of Material: English

Physical Characteristics: Photographs; paper. Fair – good condition.

Technical Requirements: Careful handling required

Finding Aids: Descriptive list can be found on on-line catalogue available at <http://www.louthcoco.ie>

Existence & Location of Originals: Louth County Archives Service

Existence & Location of Copies: Some digitised documents may occasionally be found on <http://www.louthcoco.ie>

Repository Home Page: <http://www.louthcoco.ie>

Source Material: <http://www.louthcoco.ie>

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