The National Archives

Royal Irish Constabulary

This paid search guide will help you to decide whether to use The National Archives' paid search service.

What information can you find out?

We will always carry out a search of our records to a high standard based on our expertise and professionalism. With any search, there is never a guarantee that you will find the information you are looking for. There are often a number of possible reasons for an unsuccessful search, including the possibility that records were destroyed or lost, or that there are multiple records for individuals with identical names and we have insufficient information to distinguish between them.

Search 1: records of service 1816-1922

This is a search in the register of officers' service and the general register in record series HO 184. A successful search will reveal all, or some, of the following:

- age
- religious affiliation
- height
- native county
- trade or calling
- date of appointment and county to which appointed
- marital status (indicated by wife's native county) and date of marriage
- dates of any promotions demotions or transfers
- date and reason of discharge (for example, dismissed, pensioned or died in service)

Search 2: pension records 1873-1925

This is a search in the Royal Ulster Constabulary pension ledgers, in record series PMG 48. Each volume covers payments made over approximately three years and some men may appear in several volumes. A successful search will reveal all, or some, of the following:

- pension number
- place of residence
- date of entering into pension
- payments made, with date
- county in which last served
- date of death
- name of widow and names and ages of dependent children (if the man has died and payment made to them)

What are the charges?

Search 1
Standard charge: £84.06. If the surname is a common one, particularly one of the more common Irish names, and no date, or approximate date, of appointment is supplied the fee may be considerably higher.

Search 2
Standard charge: £84.06 for three volumes; £28.02 for each subsequent volume. Our standard charge excludes searches within PMG 48/62-67 (non-alphabetical registers).

What information do we need for a search?

Please send as much information as you can. The following details are either essential or desirable for a search at our standard charge:

Essential	Desirable
full name of the man	whether entered the Royal Irish Constabulary as an officer or cadet
	date of birth or approximate year of birth
	date of entry into the Royal Irish Constabulary
	native county
	whether married or not and, if so, native county of wife
	date of leaving the Royal Irish Constabulary
	dates of promotion or transfer
	details of rank at any time in career, with date (for example, as found on a child's birth certificate)

The following essential information is additionally required for Search 2:

- date of leaving the Royal Irish Constabulary
- an approximate date of entering into a pension

If you would like to request any of the paid searches listed in this guide, please contact us either by completing our online enquiries form or by completing one of our paper response forms.

You may decide, instead, to do the research yourself. For advice on conducting your own research you should consult the relevant research guides, accessible through our online guidance index.

Research guidance

Royal Irish Constabulary
Police