

Brian Donovan, Director, CEO, Eneclann

Brian studied History at Trinity College, graduating in 1989. He subsequently lectured and tutored in the university and since then has also lectured throughout Ireland and the US on history, genealogy and electronic publishing. Brian's experience in digital technology, as well as his background in history, helped motivate the founding of Eneclann, with Fiona Fitzsimons, in 1998. Brian specialises in Eneclann's digitisation work, both for commercial clients and for Eneclann's own publications. He has overseen the development of Eneclann's CD catalogue, as well as the Archive CD Books Ireland project. Brian is also closely involved in developing Eneclann's online publications, playing a key role in establishing both www.irishorigins.com and www.findmypast.ie. Both of these websites are major online resources for Irish genealogical records. As CEO for Eneclann, Brian also focuses on project management and business development, including being project manager on large state sector contracts. Brian was also the technical advisor for the landmark Trinity College project to digitise the 1641 Depositions, as well as many other cultural and educational initiatives. Similarly, Brian was responsible for the mass digitisation project of church records for the Irish government website www.irishgenealogy.ie.

Brian's paternal side of the family were Gaelic-Irish gentry. He has reached a bit of a conundrum tracing this side of his family in the seventeenth century where there is a Gaelic genealogy recording the family, but Brian likes concrete links! His family is diverse on his mother's side, including German Catholics, Scots and Ulster Presbyterians. Currently Brian is tracing this side of his family in Canada and the United States in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Brian is particularly interested in sixteenth century Irish history and prehistory. He is also fascinated by the genetic origins of the Irish people.

Publications

Brian Donovan and David Edwards, *British Sources for Irish History 1485-1641* (Dublin, 1997).

Brian Donovan and David Edwards, 'British Sources for Irish History before 1485' in *Analecta Hibernica*, 37 (1998).

Brian Donovan, 'Tudor rule in Gaelic Leinster and the Rise of Feagh McHugh O'Byrne' in *Feagh McHugh O'Byrne: The Wicklow Firebrand*, 1 (1998).

Brian Donovan, 'The Clan O'Donovan 1534-1700: An Introduction' in *The O'Donovans* (2000)

Brian Donovan, 'John Donovan, United Irishman and the Wexford Donovans in 1798' in *The O'Donovans* (2000)