

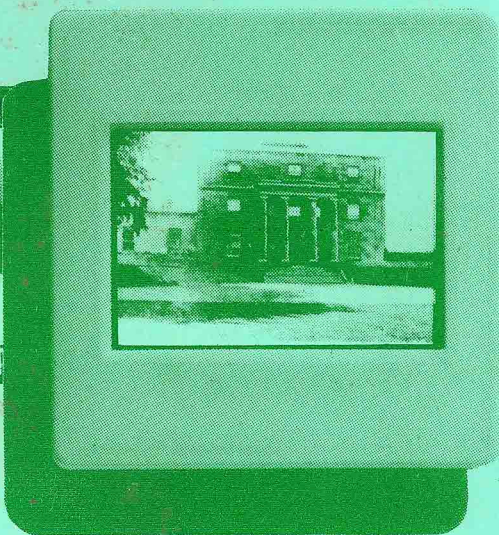
Department of Education  
An Roinn Oideachais



# PÁDRAIC MAC PIARAIS

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# PATRICK PEARSE



Abbey Theatre

ENTRANCE

FRIDAY & SATURDAY

7. & 8. APRIL 1911

10.00

A PASSION PLAY

10.00

ST. ENDA'S COLLEGE,

DUBLIN

ST. ITA'S COLLEGE,

DUBLIN



Slides by:  
Alto Production Studios Ltd,  
Robert Emmet House,  
Dundrum Road,  
Milltown,  
Dublin 14

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## **PATRICK PEARSE**

This text is intended merely as an aid to the effective use of the film-strip.

It provides a quota of factual information which the teacher may draw on for composing a personal commentary. However, ideally the teacher will not read off a formal commentary to the class but rather become familiar with each frame of the filmstrip, its context and significance, and then join with the pupils in a lively exploration and review of Pearse's career as the filmstrip unfolds. A chronology sufficiently detailed for school purposes is included in this text but it is assumed that teachers are already well familiar with Pearse and his period.

## **PÁDRAIC MAC PIARAIS**

Níl sé i gceist leis an téacs seo ach go gcabhródh sé le húsáid éifeachtach an stiallscannáin. Tá méid áirthe eolais fhórasaigh ann a dtig leis an oide dul ina mhuinín agus tráchtairacht phearsanta á leagan amach aige. Níl sé i gceist ar chor ar bith, áfach, go léifeadh an múinteoir amach cuntas foirmiúil don rang ach go gcuirfeadh sé eolas ar gach fráma den stiallscannán — ó thaobh comhthéacs agus tábhachta de — agus ansin go ndéanfadh sé féin, i dteannta a chuid daltaí, taiscealadh agus athbhreithniú anamúil ar shaol an Phiarsaigh faoi mar atá sé ag dul tríd an stiallscannán. Tá croineolaíocht sách cuimsitheach do scoileanna ag dul leis an téacs seo ach glactar leis go bhfuil eolas go leor cheana féin ag oidí ar an bPiarsach agus ar stair na linne sin.

Frame 1

JAMES AND MARGARET PEARSE, 1886

In the eighteen sixties James Pearse came to Dublin from Birmingham where he had been employed as a sculptor's apprentice. In Dublin he worked at the same trade and eventually established a stone carving business at 27 Great Brunswick Street (now Pearse Street) where he also resided. He practised no religion but he was an intelligent, self-educated man and became curious about the Catholic religion; eventually after careful study he became a Catholic. He married Emily Susanna Fox and they had two children who survived infancy. However, Emily died young and he then married Margaret Brady, a young Dublin shop-assistant whose family had come from Co. Meath. They had four children, Margaret (born 1878), Patrick (10 November 1879), Willie (1881) and Mary Brigid (1883).

James' business mainly involved supplying altars to Catholic churches, and it prospered to the extent that the family was able to move to a house in Newbridge Avenue, Sandymount, a select residential area. There, this photograph of James and Margaret was taken in the garden about 1886.

Frame 2

PATRICK, WILLIE AND SISTERS, 1886

This photograph was taken at the house in Sandymount about 1886 when Patrick (at the back with Margaret) was aged seven. James's two children by his first marriage were grown up by this time and did not have much contact with the second family. Margaret appears to have been a rather bossy elder sister but Patrick was generally the accepted leader in games and the little plays which the four children were fond of making up and acting. The younger two were content to be led by the older pair and Willie was always the faithful follower of his more enterprising and more intelligent brother.

Frame 3

C.B.S. WESTLAND ROW

Patrick went to a private school run by a Mrs. Murphy until he was eleven but then he and Willie were sent to the Christian Brothers' School at Westland Row. Though not a brilliant pupil Patrick won a number of prizes in the public examinations. When he was fourteen he began to study Irish, an optional subject, and three years later he won second place in Ireland in the senior examinations.

A teacher who greatly influenced him was Brother Maunsell, a native speaker from Kerry, and when the Brother was transferred to another school Patrick was one of four pupils delegated to present him with an illuminated address. The other three boys were William Dwyer, George Quigley and Patrick Cooper. The address began: 'Dear Sir, We the pupils of Sixth School, Westland Row, beg most respectfully to express to you our sincere regret at your departure from amongst us'.

Frame 4            PATRICK AGED FIFTEEN, 1895

These four boys presented the address to Brother Maunsell. Here Patrick appears with spectacles. In later life he generally wore a pince-nez. He had a slight eye disfigurement which can be noticed in some of his photographs.

Frame 5            NEW IRELAND LITERARY SOCIETY, 1896

In 1896 at the age of sixteen Patrick completed his senior examinations and secured a post as pupil-teacher at Westland Row. In December of that year he and a few of his contemporaries at the school, including Eamonn (Edward) O'Neill, established the New Ireland Literary Society of which Patrick was elected president. The Society met weekly at the Star and Garter Hotel and held discussions and lectures on subjects relating to Irish literature. Among the occasional guest lecturers were Eoin Mac Neill, Dr. George Sigerson and An tAthair Peadar Ó Laoghaire.

Frame 6            THREE LECTURES ON GAELIC TOPICS, 1896

Pearse himself gave a number of lectures to the Society, three of which he published under the title *Three Lectures on Gaelic Topics*. These lectures, one of which is entitled 'The Intellectual Future of the Gael', are without literary merit. However, they were impressive compositions for a teenager and they indicate Pearse's growing interest in Irish literature.

In the autumn of 1898 Pearse and Eamonn O'Neill decided to let the New Ireland Literary Society lapse as they were now involved in the activities of the Gaelic League.

Frame 7            GAELIC LEAGUE OFFICES

The Gaelic League was founded in 1893 by a group which included Douglas Hyde, Eoin Mac Neill and Fr. Eugene O'Growney. Its purpose was 'keeping the Irish language spoken in Ireland'. Pearse joined in 1896 and at the turn of the century when he was very actively involved the headquarters of the League were at 24 Sackville Street (now Upper O'Connell Street) near the Gresham Hotel.

## POPULARISING THE LEAGUE, 1897

Pearse attended meetings of the Central Branch of the Gaelic League and quickly attained prominence. In 1897 at the annual general meeting of the Branch he proposed a scheme for making the League better known and more attractive to a greater number of people. His motion was adopted and the growth of the League in the following years can be attributed in no small part to the fact that under his influence it was becoming a more convivial organisation and its social functions were attracting large numbers of young people.

## Frame 9 EXECUTIVE OF THE GAELIC LEAGUE, 1898-99

Pearse was co-opted onto the Executive Committee of the League in 1898. Douglas Hyde was President but most of the work of administration was done by Eoin Mac Neill and the Rev. Dr. O'Hickey, a professor at Maynooth. Over the next two years Pearse took on a great share of this work and was one of the most industrious members of the Executive. The list of members reproduced here is from a minute-book of the Executive Committee.

## Frame 10 PARIS, 1900

The Gaelic League held a congress in Paris in 1900 and Pearse is in the second row from the back, on the extreme left as you face the screen.

## Frame 11 'PEARSE AND SONS, SCULPTORS'.

James Pearse died in 1900 and Patrick and Willie took over the running of the stone-carving business which was still located at Great Brunswick Street. Willie had studied art at the Dublin Metropolitan School of Art and in London and Paris and was an accomplished sculptor. However, neither brother was a good businessman and they both pursued their other interests to the detriment of the family business which eventually closed down in 1910. This frame shows an altar which they displayed at the Cork Exhibition in 1902.

## Frame 12 PEARSE AS TEACHER

In 1901 Pearse graduated a B.A. from the Royal University. He already had considerable experience in teaching as he had been involved in that work since 1896 when he secured a post as pupil-teacher of Irish at Westland Row. In the years following he taught Irish, mainly in a part-time capacity, at institutions including Alexandra College, University College and Coláiste Laighean, which was founded by the Gaelic League in 1906 for training teachers of Irish.

Frame 13

PEARSE AS BARRISTER

While studying for his B.A. degree Pearse studied law at Trinity College and the King's Inns and in 1901 he qualified as a barrister (B.L.). However while he was proud of his qualifications he had little respect for the legal profession and apart from a couple of cases he did not practise.

Frame 14

INTO CONGRESS, SLIGO, 1902

Pearse was one of the most energetic members of the Executive Committee of the League and more and more he was called on to speak at League functions around the country. This card indicates that by 1902 he was considered sufficiently important to be invited to the INTO Congress but that his name was not yet well enough known to be spelled correctly.

Frame 15

A TESTIMONIAL, FEBRUARY, 1903

As well as being a member of the Executive of the Gaelic League Pearse was also Secretary of the Publications Committee which organised the writing and publication of Irish texts. In February 1903 the editorship of the League newspaper, *An Claidheamh Soluis*, became vacant at a salary of £240 a year and Pearse and two other people applied for the position.

The Treasurer of the Gaelic League, Stephen Barret, wrote to Eoin MacNeill asking him to support Pearse's candidature. His letter began: 'You are no doubt aware that the question of the editorship of *An Claidheamh* is likely to be settled at the meeting of the *Coisde Gnotha* on Monday next . . . Now I think you agree with me that taking everything into consideration the one who would best serve the interests of the League and the one best entitled to the post is Pearse. His talents and abilities are of a very high order. He has done enormous work for the League during the past five or six years, for all of which he has received not a penny . . .'

A majority of the Executive Committee favoured Pearse and he was elected editor of *An Claidheamh Soluis* in March 1903. He sent out a broadsheet with his first issue outlining editorial policy: 'Our ideal is to place in the hands of the Irish speaker in Glenties or Aran a newspaper giving him, in vivid idiomatic Irish, a consecutive and adequate record of the home and foreign history of the week. The best writers of Irish Ireland will continue to contribute stories and sketches to our literary columns ...' Within weeks he had enlarged the format, increased space by one-third and introduced illustrations, but the paper lost money and he was forced to revert to less elaborate production. However, he succeeded in increasing circulation and eventually the paper paid its way.

The issue reproduced here reported on 'Irish Week' which was aimed at promoting the teaching of Irish in schools and during which the President of the Gaelic League, Douglas Hyde, addressed a great rally in Dublin.

As well as editing *An Claidheamh Soluis* Pearse contributed hundreds of articles, poems and stories to the paper, many of them anonymously. In 1905 it serialised an adventure story for boys entitled *Poll an Phiobaire* (The Piper's Cave). It appeared under the name of Colm Ó Conaire, a pseudonym of Pearse. Later that year it was published in book form.

In 1905-1906 Pearse published four short stories for children which the Publications Committee of the Gaelic League later reprinted in book form. Both this book, *Íosagán agus Scéalta Eile*, and *Poll an Phiobaire* were generally well received and they were put on the curriculum for the Intermediate Examination. Later Pearse dramatised *Íosagán* for the pupils at St. Enda's and they first produced it in 1910.

The poem *Brón ar an mbás* was first published in 1907 in *An Claidheamh Soluis*, where it appears in the story *Brighid na Gaoithe* which was ascribed to Colm Ó Conaire — a pseudonym of Pearse. In the story *Brighid* had composed the lament for her son who died while serving life imprisonment for a murder of which he was innocent.

This manuscript copy in Pearse's hand was probably written in 1909 or 1910, after the poem was published.

Frame 20

#### AN SGOIL, 1907-1908

As a practising teacher Pearse felt that there was a serious lack of suitable text books and instruction manuals in Irish. He advocated a direct method approach for the teaching of languages and in 1907-1908 he serialised an Irish course entitled *An Sgoil* in *An Claidheamh Soluis*. This course was afterwards published in book form by the Gaelic League.

Frame 21

#### ON TOUR, 1907

In summer 1907 Pearse and a number of friends made a tour of Donegal and Sligo visiting League branches and meeting and talking to Irish speakers. Included in this group are Pearse who is standing in a car, F. J. Biggar who owned the car, and Tomás Bán Ó Concheanainn.

Frame 22

#### PROSPECTUS FOR ST. ENDA'S, 1908

Pearse had considerable experience as a teacher and was greatly interested in all aspects of education, frequently putting his views forward in *An Claidheamh Soluis*. In 1908 he opened what he termed 'an Irish high school for boys', which catered for boarders and day boys. Irish was the official language and so many of Pearse's associates in the Gaelic League sympathised with his objectives that by the end of the first year there were over ninety pupils.

Willie Pearse was the art teacher and helped with administration. Their sister Margaret taught a small number of junior girls and she and Mrs. Pearse helped with the general running of the school and had particular responsibility for the boarders.

Thomas MacDonagh taught English and was a great asset in that both he and Pearse had the knack of creating a happy environment in which the pupils worked well with a minimum of supervision. A feature of the school was a programme of half-holiday lectures which were given by friends of Pearse, among them Douglas Hyde, W. B. Yeats and Padraic Colum.



Frame 23

### CULLENSWOOD HOUSE

The school was a rented Georgian mansion, Cullenswood House, Oakley Road, Ranelagh. Pearse tended to be reckless with money and he borrowed heavily to ensure that his school did not lack facilities. The result was that St. Enda's was better equipped than most schools of the period. Also he managed to procure a number of original paintings from some of his associates including Jack B. Yeats and George Russell, and sculptures by his brother Willie and others.

Frame 24

### THE GYMNASIUM

Pearse believed in promoting the physical, moral and intellectual development of his pupils. Games were an important feature of curriculum at St. Enda's and one of the first amenities he provided in the school was a gymnasium. This photograph shows Con Colbert, who joined the staff in 1909, conducting a class in physical culture.

Frame 25

### GARDENING

Cullenswood House was set in mature gardens and Pearse encouraged his pupils to take an interest in gardening. The gardener, Michael Mac Ruadhri, was a native speaker and he was a good influence on the boys.

Frame 26

### AN MACAOMH

Four issues of the school magazine *An Macaomh* (The Youth) were published between 1909 and 1913. It had contributions by Pearse, members of the staff, pupils and people associated with the school. It also had a number of drawings and photographs of pupils engaged in their day-to-day activities, and the photographs of the gymnasium and the garden shown in the preceding frames are reproduced from it.

Frame 27

ROSMUC, 1909

Pearse's love for Connemara is well known and many of his poems and stories are set there, including *Brón ar an mbás* and *Íosagán*. On several occasions he spent holidays in the Rosmuc area and in 1909 he built a cottage overlooking Loch Eileabhrach which he used mainly as a holiday house for the pupils at St. Enda's.

Frame 28

THE HERMITAGE, RATHFARNHAM, 1910

In 1909-10 the number of boys at St. Enda's had grown to 130 and Pearse felt that Cullenswood House was not large enough; he afterwards recalled 'the grounds gave no scope for that spacious outdoor life and we were, so to speak, too much in the Suburban Groove'. Since St. Enda's had the finest educational objectives of any school in the country he believed it was proper that it should have first-class premises, facilities and surroundings.

Frame 29

St. ITA'S SCHOOL, CULLENSWOOD HOUSE, 1910

On moving St. Enda's to Rathfarnham Pearse developed Cullenswood House as a girls' school. He named it St. Ita's and while he formulated policy and was responsible for the finances he employed Mrs. Gertrude Bloomer as headmistress. In the prospectus from which this frame is taken Pearse wrote: 'St. Ita's School has been founded with the object of attempting for Irish girls what has been so successfully attempted by St. Enda's for Irish boys'.

Drama was an important part of school life at St. Enda's both in the Cullenswood House and Hermitage periods and the school had a great reputation with lovers of theatre in Dublin. Pearse wrote a number of plays and he, Willie, Thomas MacDonagh and other members of the staff helped to produce them. One of their most successful productions was a Passion Play in Irish written by Pearse which the pupils and teachers of St. Enda's and St. Ita's presented at the Abbey Theatre in Holy Week 1911. It represented the Passion in an Irish setting and Padraic Colum afterwards wrote: 'It was made convincing by the simple sincerity of the composition and the reverence of the performance'. Willie acted the part of Pontius Pilate and at least one reviewer considered him excellent in the role.

This photograph which was probably taken in the grounds of The Hermitage includes, from left, Miss Byrne (a cousin), Patrick, Margaret, Mrs. Pearse, Willie and Mary Brigid. Around this time Willie and Mary Brigid and a few of their friends formed a small theatrical company known as the Leinster Stage Society. Mary Brigid wrote a number of plays and Willie acted in them. In May 1912 they took a play to the Cork Opera House but it made a poor impression and their small audiences went nowhere near paying for their heavy expenses. Mrs. Pearse who had accompanied them was forced to write home to Patrick for money. St. Enda's was in financial difficulties at the time but he managed to raise enough money to get them out of their difficulty.

In 1912 Pearse's political views were inclining towards extreme nationalism; he regarded Home Rule as a possible step towards independence but believed also that the use of force was justified in securing freedom. To make his views known to Irish speakers he established an Irish language newspaper, *An Barr Buadh* (The Trumpet of Victory), eleven weekly issues of which appeared from 16 March of that year. At the same time he organised a political society, *Cumann na Saoirse* (The Society for Freedom), which numbered among its members The O'Rahilly, Cathal Brugha and Con Colbert.

Among the regular contributors to *An Barr Buadh* were Eamonn Ceannt and Cathal O'Shannon. Pearse included a number of letters to personalities such as Redmond, Griffith and Douglas Hyde, under the pseudonym of Laegh Mac Rinngabhra (Cuchulainn's charioteer who goaded the warrior to greater efforts).

During the period of *An Barr Buadh* the financial difficulties of St. Enda's became extremely serious and Pearse was forced to discontinue the paper in order to devote all his energies to saving the school.

On 25 November 1913 a meeting was held at the Rotunda Rink in Dublin to establish a force of volunteers to help in promoting the Home Rule movement. Pearse was now sufficiently important as a political theorist to be one of those invited to speak at the meeting. From the foundation of the Irish Volunteers he was one of the most prominent members and he held a number of offices including that of Director of Organisation.

The move from Cullenswood House to The Hermitage proved financially disastrous for St. Enda's. Rathfarnham was too far from Dublin for day boys and there were not enough boarders to cover the heavy expenses of the school. Following a number of crises Pearse decided to go on a fund-raising tour of the United States to save the school.

The IRB regarded him as an important potential recruit and Bulmer Hobson put him in contact with Joseph McGarrity, one of the leaders of Clan-na-Gael, and with John Devoy, editor of the *Gaelic American*. These promoted his tour and organised lectures, concerts, dances and other fund raising functions. Hobson swore him in as a member of the IRB before he sailed and joined him in America some weeks later. The circular is from the Joseph McGarrity Papers in the National Library.

## LETTER TO ST. ENDA'S, MARCH 1914

The American tour was successful from the start but was slow to realise substantial sums of money. Pearse was reluctant to remain away from St. Enda's for very long but his mother and Willie assured him that work at the school was progressing satisfactorily and recommended that he stay on and collect as much money as possible. His letters home included various instructions on the running of the school and exhortations to the pupils. The original letter from which a section is here reproduced is now at St. Enda's. By the time he embarked for home in May he had collected almost £1,000 and the school was safe for the moment.

The letter begins: 'To Sgoil Éanna: Greeting. You are all, I have no doubt reassembled after the Easter vacation and working hard. So many invitations poured in upon me to lecture and to tell the Americans what fine fellows you are that I was unable to get home, as I had hoped, in time to be in my place to welcome you back from your holidays . . .'

## THE O'DONOVAN ROSSA FUNERAL, 1 AUGUST 1915

Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa died in New York in June 1915 and a committee including representatives of the Irish Volunteers, the IRB, the Irish Citizen Army and Sinn Féin arranged to have him buried at Glasnevin. Pearse was chosen to deliver the oration and he retired to Rosmuc to compose it.

At the funeral Pearse was dressed in the uniform of a Commandant of the Irish Volunteers; in this photograph he is standing on the right with his hand on the text of his speech in his pocket.

Frame 37

SPEECH AT ROSSA FUNERAL

Pearse's speech was in English with a prologue in Irish — the language Rossa spoke as a child. The speech drew prolonged applause from the crowd and it was generally regarded as the best ever delivered by Pearse. A manuscript copy of the speech in Pearse's handwriting is now in St. Enda's and this frame is reproduced from it. This manuscript copy lacks the Irish prologue and it begins:

'O'Donovan Rossa Funeral/Address at Graveside/P. H. Pearse.

It has been thought right, before we turn away from this place in which we have laid the mortal remains of O'Donovan Rossa, that one among us should, in the name of all, speak the praise of that valiant man, and endeavour to formulate the thought and the hope that are in us as we stand around his grave . . .'

Frame 38

PROCLAMATION OF THE REPUBLIC, MONDAY, 24 APRIL 1916

Pearse read the Proclamation to a small crowd outside the GPO on the afternoon of Monday the first day of the Rising: It was mainly composed by himself but had been amended by the other members of the Provisional Government. To some extent it followed the model of Emmet's proclamation of 1803 but it also embodied some of Connolly's socialist principles and it had a certain religious flavour.

Frame 39

THE IRISH TIMES, TUESDAY, 25 APRIL

On Tuesday morning the men in the GPO anxiously awaited the newspapers for news of the progress of the Rising around the country. However the censor had been at work and only the *Irish Times* appeared; moreover it ignored the Rising apart from a short paragraph announcing that an insurrection had taken place. In actual fact the *Irish Times* had printed an earlier edition that day which covered the Rising in detail but it was suppressed and was never published. This frame reproduces part of the suppressed edition.

Frame 40

#### THE GPO, FRIDAY, 28 APRIL

This drawing by W. Paget is rather idealised but it probably presents a fair picture of how the GPO must have appeared on the Friday evening shortly before evacuation. Connolly who was wounded the previous day appears lying on a stretcher, Pearse, revolver in hand, is standing beside him, shoulder to shoulder with his brother Willie, and Tom Clarke is standing beside them, Joseph Mary Plunkett dressed in a flowing overcoat is approaching from the rear and The O'Rahilly is on a table by the window directing fire.

Frame 41

#### PEARSE SURRENDERS, SATURDAY, 29 APRIL

The GPO was evacuated late on Friday and on the following morning Pearse, Connolly, Clarke, MacDermott and Plunkett held a conference at 16 Moore Street, a fish shop. The majority decided to negotiate terms but the British commander, Brigadier-General Lowe, insisted on unconditional surrender. There was little alternative and it was decided that Pearse should surrender first and arrange a general surrender.

At the junction of Moore Street and Parnell Street Pearse surrendered to General Lowe who was accompanied by his staff officer, Major de Courcy Wheeler (near camera). The figure partly obscured by Pearse is probably Elizabeth O'Farrell, a Cumann na mBan nurse who acted as intermediary between Pearse and Lowe before the surrender. The photograph is from the *Daily Sketch*, 10 May 1916.

Frame 42

#### THE FREEMAN'S JOURNAL, 5 MAY

On Tuesday 2 May Pearse was sentenced to death at his court-martial at Richmond Barracks. He was then lodged in the death-cell in Kilmainham and early on Wednesday morning he was executed in the stone breakers' yard.

Frame 43

#### COMMEMORATIVE POSTER

This poster published in New York in 1916 has portraits of sixteen of the personalities of the Rising and drawings of the GPO and Liberty Hall.

The portraits read as follows:

Top: Patrick Pearse, Roger David Casement, James Connolly.

Left: Thomas Mac Donagh, Joseph Mary Plunkett, Michael O'Hanrahan, J. J. Heuston, F. Sheehy-Skeffington, The O'Rahilly.

Bottom: Countess de Markievicz.

Right: Seán McDermott, Thomas J. Clarke, John MacBride, Edmond Kent, Cornelius Colbert, Edward Daly.

Frame 44

#### THE DRAWING ROOM AT ST. ENDA'S

After the Rising the British Army temporarily took possession of The Hermitage. However Sgoil Éanna continued, first at Cullenswood House and afterwards back at The Hermitage until it finally closed in 1935. In 1968 Margaret Pearse arranged for The Hermitage to be entrusted to the State and it is now a Pearse Museum and open to the public. School groups are of course welcome but it is necessary to make an appointment with the Curator in advance.

Frame 45

#### THE READING ROOM AT THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

The documents reproduced in this film-strip are held either in St. Enda's or the National Library. Pearse was a frequent reader at the National Library, particularly when he was studying for his arts and law degrees and this photograph was taken around that time. The National Library now has an important collection of Pearse manuscripts which includes papers of Patrick, Willie and Mrs. Pearse. There are diaries, correspondence and drafts of many of Patrick's literary works.

Teachers are eligible to do research in the National Library and school groups are welcome to visit the occasional exhibitions held there, or the travelling exhibitions which it displays in country towns from time to time. It has published a number of packets of facsimile documents for use in school including one on Pearse, entitled *Pádraic Mac Piarais: Pearse From Documents*, which is available from the National Library, Kildare Street, Dublin 2 (price £1.00 in 1980, post free).



## CHRONOLOGY

- 1879 Born in Dublin at 27 Great Brunswick Street — now Pearse Street (10 November).
- 1891—1896 Education at Christian Brothers' School, Westland Row.
- 1896 Co-founder of New Ireland Literary Society.
- 1898 Published *Three Lectures on Gaelic Topics*.  
Member of Executive Committee of the Gaelic League.
- 1898—1901 Studied at University College, Trinity College and King's Inns. B.A. (The Royal University); B.L. (The King's Inns).  
Teaching Irish for the Gaelic League.
- 1899 Teaching Irish for the Gaelic League.
- 1900 Secretary of Publications Committee of the Gaelic League.
- 1902 Member of Education Committee of the League.
- 1903—1909 Editor of *An Claidheamh Soluis*.  
Teaching at Westland Row, Alexandra College and University College.
- 1905 Visited Belgium and observed educational system.
- 1908 Established St. Enda's at Cullenswood House, Ranelagh (8 September).
- 1910 Transferred the school to The Hermitage, Rathfarnham.  
Developed Cullenswood House as a girls' school, St. Ita's.
- 1911 St. Enda's and St. Ita's presented a Passion Play at Abbey Theatre.
- 1912 Published political newspaper *An Barr Buadh* (March-May).
- 1913 Founder member of the Irish Volunteers (November).  
Joined the IRB (December).
- 1914 Toured United States collecting funds for St. Enda's (February-May).
- 1915 Delivered oration at O'Donovan Rossa's funeral (1 August).  
Member of Supreme Council of IRB (September).  
Published political pamphlets, *Ghosts*, *The Separatist Idea* and *The Sovereign People*.
- 1916 Commandant-General of the Army of the Irish Republic, and President of the Provisional Government (Monday, 24 April). Executed Kilmainham (3 May) and buried at Arbour Hill.