

# Early Clàrsach - Further reading

## Books

Keith Sanger & Alison Kinnaird  
Tree of Strings (Crann nan Teud)  
Kinmor Music, Scotland, 1992

*A comprehensive history of the harp in Scotland concentrating on the early clàrsach, with much historical detail on harpers and their patrons, repertory and instruments.*

Ann Heymann  
A Gaelic Harper's First Tunes  
Clairseach Publications, Minneapolis, 1998

*Updated version of the original and most authoritative tutor book; explains the instrument's repertory and technique using the methods of the old Irish harpers.*

Gráinne Yeats  
The Harp of Ireland  
Belfast Harpers' Bicentenary Ltd, 1992

*A slim book which explains how the old Gaelic harp tradition was preserved through the work of Edward Bunting in the late 18th and early 19th century.*

## Recordings

Ann Heymann  
Queen of Harps  
Temple Records COMD2057, 1994  
*Solo, Scottish and Irish material. The definitive recording*

Ann Heymann  
Cruit go nOr  
Clairseach Records, 2006 (forthcoming)  
*Due out imminently, the latest recording from the master of the instrument.*

Siobhán Armstrong  
Cláirseach na hÉireann - The Harp of Ireland  
Maya MCD0401, 2004  
*Solo, mostly Irish material, some Scottish, includes some songs.*

Alison Kinnaird  
The Silver String  
Temple COMD2096, 2004  
*Mostly Scottish material, historical and contemporary music played on both early- and neo- clàrsach.*

## Websites

[www.earlygaelicharp.info](http://www.earlygaelicharp.info)

*Historical information and essays by Simon Chadwick, info on old instruments & sources, as well as lists of books, articles & CDs. Also sales of books and CDs including all those listed above.*

[www.clarsach.net](http://www.clarsach.net)

*The Wire Branch of the Clarsach Society, based in Scotland*

[www.irishharp.org](http://www.irishharp.org)

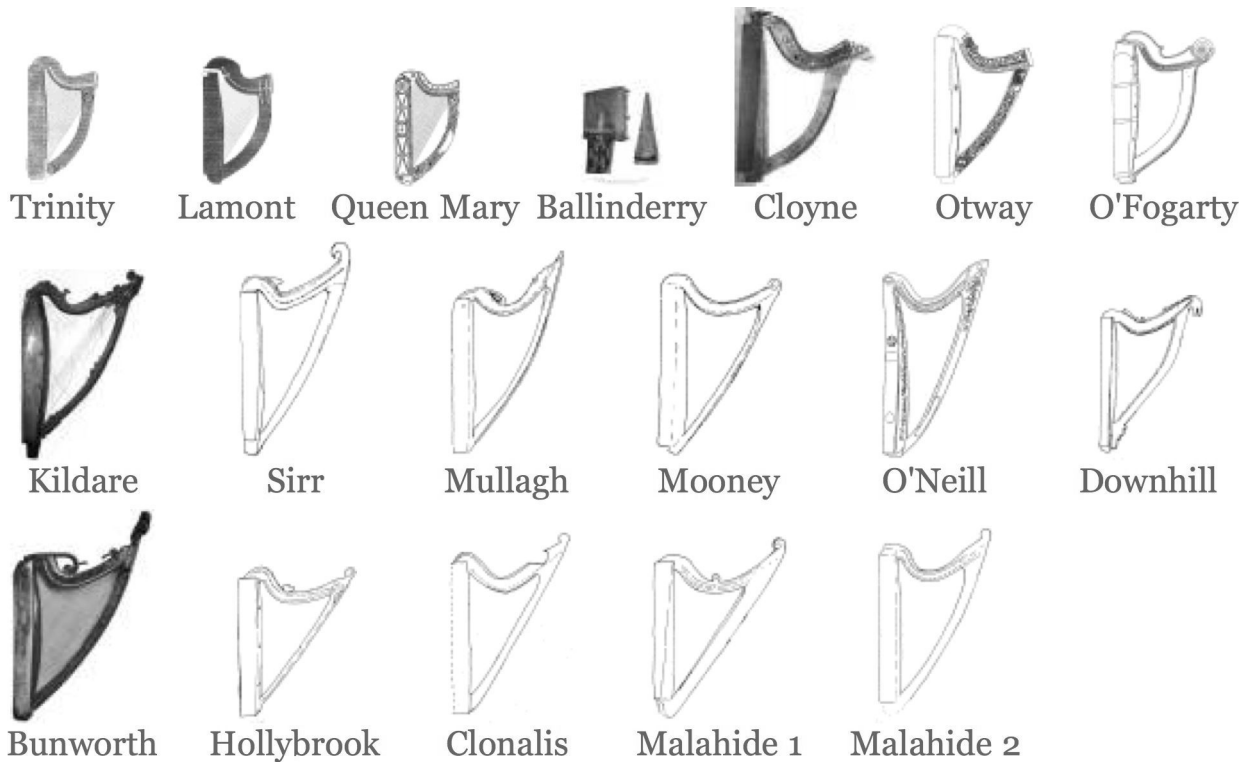
*The Historical Harp Society of Ireland: Summer school, instrument sales and rental.*

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## Surviving historic Gaelic harps

These are all the harps we know of, that survive from Ireland and Scotland before 1800. These drawings are approximately to scale except Ballinderry and Clonalis.



c.1400-1500  
Trinity College, Lamont, Queen Mary

c.1500-1600  
Ballinderry fragments, Otway

c.1600-1650  
Cloyne fragments, O'Fogarty

c.1650-1700  
Kildare, SIRR, Mullagh Mast, Rose Mooney

c. 1700-1800  
O'Neill, Downhill, Bunworth, Hollybrook, Malahide, Clonalis