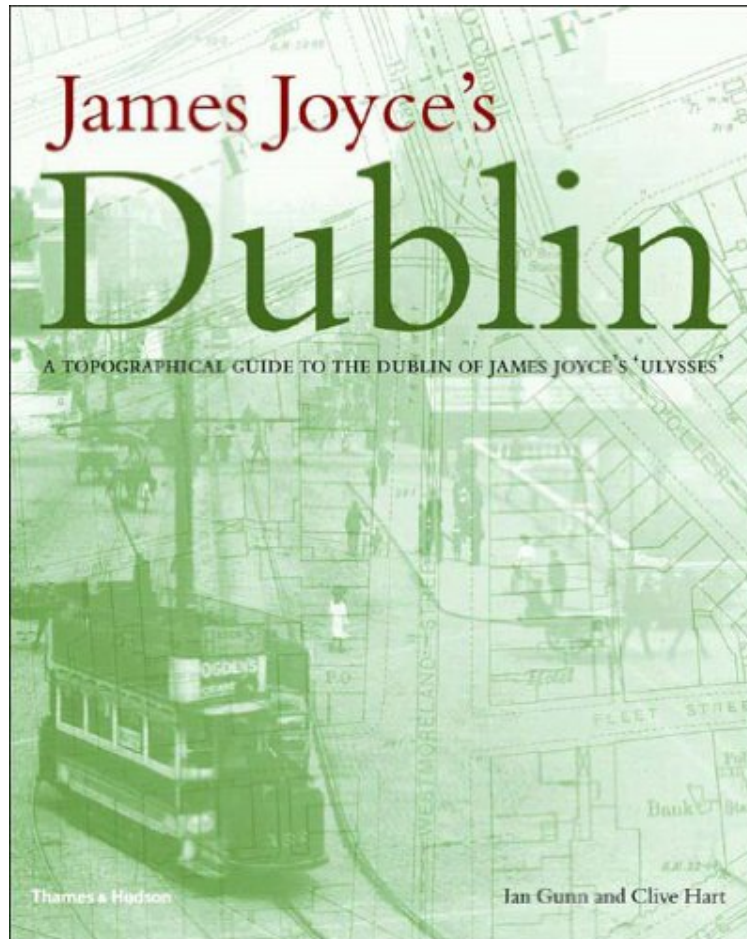


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James Joyce's Dublin: A Topographical Guide to the Dublin of Ulysses

Ian Gunn, Clive Hart

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Ian Gunn, Clive Hart : James Joyce's Dublin: A Topographical Guide to the Dublin of Ulysses before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised James Joyce's Dublin: A Topographical Guide to the Dublin of Ulysses:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A somewhat nebulous atlas in ways, though better than none at all. By Curious While multiple maps are detailed and present, the text is not as clear as I would want it to be and the maps do, at times have some confusion to them that might have been lessened by small refinements. Ulysses is undoubtedly a very complex work on many levels. The work has rich symbolic allusions and the geography is frequently to be seen in a similar context, as most anything in the work has been assiduously addressed from names to addresses. Distances traveled are portrayed realistically. With regard to complexities, Wandering Rocks would seem a nightmare to portray well here. There is some credible job executed, but the long table of 2 pages and the diagram made still calls for much

darting back and forth from the text. A similar problem is where the text compares the contemporary movements of Leopold Bloom with those of Stephen Dedalus as accidentally coordinated in direction, a small map for each comparison through these periods being of a good deal of benefit. Some pictures are included, though not enough for my satisfaction. Comparison pictures then and now might also be useful. The work could have taken the initiative to add these. Even with appendices, the tome is rather small and not at all incapable of being enlarged. The main reason for the 4 stars is that the work has limited competition. In a more crowded field, I would have given only 3 stars to the work.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Know Your Precise Location In Joyce's City of Dublin By Jon Linden

This book is the best topographical companion guide to James Joyce's "Ulysses" that I have ever seen and perhaps the best one ever published. While most of the time, a reader of "Ulysses" can find his location on a modern day high quality map of the City of Dublin, that is not always the case. Like most active, highly populated and evolving cities in the world, Dublin changes from year to year. This Topographical Guide allows the reader to know precisely where he is in the City as Joyce is describing it. Additionally, the highly illustrative and clear maps of portions of Dublin are presented in the order of the 'Episodes' in "Ulysses." Thus, the book starts with maps for the first 3 episode, i.e. Telemachus, Nestor and Proteus. So, there are detailed maps and sketches relating to the Martello Tower area and the Tower itself. The verbiage in the book explains, often in significant and minute detail, how the topography has changed since Joyce set down his vision of Dublin in Ulysses. The book often cross references information from other sources, especially "Thom's Official Directory" which is probably the richest source of information and data about Dublin that ever existed. As the "Topographical Guide" moves through the episodes of Joyce's masterpiece, it includes not only high quality maps of Dublin, but also photographs from the period and the maps include numbers reference points. Thus for example, when the "Guide" discussed episode # 4, 'Calypso' the "Guide" has a highly detailed map of Eccles Street with numbered dots that refer to such locations as 1) Bloom's House - 7 Eccles Street, 2) "Larry O'Rourke 72-73 Upper Dorset Street, 3) St. Joseph's National School, 81-84 Upper Dorset Street, 4) "Dlugacz, Upper Dorset Street", 5) "Cassidy's, 71 Upper Dorset Street" and 6) "St. George's Church, Hardwicke Place." Thus, between the map, the photographs and the text, the book allows the reader to know precisely where Joyce is topographically in "Ulysses" and pictorially (E.g. several photos of Upper Dorset Street, one of which looks down the street and ends with St. George's Church. Thus, the reader of "Ulysses" and this "Guide" can see in every manner the environment and read the descriptions in the guide; giving the reader an incredibly lush understanding of the topography. I highly recommend the acquisition of this book in order to more fully see and feel the actual environment Joyce is describing, episode by episode as Stephen and Bloom make their way through the City of Dublin on their 'Odyssey.' The book is truly the best guide to the Dublin of Joyce's "Ulysses" that I have ever seen. Do not miss the opportunity to acquire this reference book. It is perhaps the finest companion for the journey I have ever seen. The authors Ian Gunn and Clive Hart have done a marvelous job of representing Dublin, thus assisting the reader in an extremely detailed and interesting manner. All Joyce enthusiasts should own this book!

0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Mixed Bag, Mostly Good By Paul Myers

Very interesting and serious book.+: lots of maps; very comprehensive text.-: not as many pictures as I was expecting.

One of the most important literary works of the 20th century, Ulysses is also one of the most realistic novels ever written. The characters visit shops and pubs that can be located precisely in the streets of the city in which Joyce grew up.

"The maps and analyses complement a text that is already inexhaustibly rich and will lead to new insights." About the Author Ian Gunn is a co-founder of the Split Pea Press, which has published a number of Joyce-related titles. Clive Hart was editor-in-chief of A Wake Newslitter, a journal devoted to the explication of Finnegans Wake. David Hayman is Professor Emeritus of Comparative Literature at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.