

Chapter 1 : Chinese Seals in Ireland

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The Tipperary Antiquarian My blog looks at the archaeology and heritage of sites in Tipperary and surrounding areas. As many of these sites are on private property, it is important to request permission from the landowner before entering private lands so that access does not become a problem across all sites. For a better idea of what one of these seals look like click here. They are completely made from porcelain. Taken from "The story of the Chinese seals found in Ireland" by Imre Galambos I only recently came across this historical mystery while reading skeptical blogger Jason Colavito here. The first Chinese seal is thought to have been found in Mountrath in Co. Other were found all over the country, many in what were out of the way places even in those days. Conversely Irish nationalists used the seals to argue that the Irish were distinct from the British. This presentation was later made into a book and helped popularise the mystery of the Chinese seals in Ireland. It even looked at translation of the individual seals. Getty even wondered whether medieval Irish pilgrims to the Holy Island and Egypt might have brought them back with them. He said "They have never yet, in a single instance, been discovered associated with other objects of antiquarian interest, in burrows or mounds, with bronze or stone weapons, celtic remains, or works of art" never with Danish or Anglo-Norman coins, nor even with modern articles of manufacture. He told it to Edward Chittam of the Royal Irish Society about a woman from whom Lockhard had bought some similar seals. The woman said that what she had been paid for were the remains of the large quantities formerly brought by her ancestor. Clittarn [sic] said that this was the true account of the diffusion of the seals through many parts of Ireland. Such I believe to be the story of the seals" Even with this "solution" speculation continued about their origin. It had began to die away until when Charles Fort wrote about them in his book as mentioned above the mystery began anew. Researcher Imre Galambos writes about the seals here in much closer detail. He concludes "Looking at the seals today, based on their design we can fairly accurately identify them as Dehua ware from Fujian province, also known in the West as "blanc de chine". The inscriptions on the seals are consistent with those on late Ming and early Qing leisure seals, in contrast with other seals from earlier times. First, all of the seals undeniably came from a single collection: Otherwise a few seals would have certainly been found earlier. In addition, the fact that no more seals were found after implies that the discoveries of the seals were not completely accidental or mutually unrelated, as claimed at the time. Needless to say, there is no way that we can ascertain that none of the seals were found under the conditions reported. In addition, many of the seals lacked information about their origin, beside the general claim that they came from Ireland. In other words, it was enough merely to misrepresent the source of a few seals in order to make the narrative develop in a certain direction. The misrepresentation, however, was not necessarily intended as a farce or forgery, at least not by the collectors and scholars involved. It is equally possible, that when a collector, such as the Duke of Northumberland, offered to pay for each new seal brought to him, people tried to meet the demand by supplying both the object and the story necessary to sell it. The three seals from Tipperary from Getty, Seal No. Translation "A man amidst blue clouds" With the Seal were found some human bones, which mouldered into dust on exposure.

Chapter 2 : The Tipperary Antiquarian: Tipperary & Chinese Seals

NOTICES CHINESE SEALS FOUND IN IRELAND. IN giving the following notices to the Public, I must be considered as a collector of the fruits of the labour of others rather than as an original enquirer.

In total there were about sixty seals which it was claimed had been discovered in various places throughout Ireland, ranging from Belfast all the way to Cork. In addition to their wide dispersion pattern, the seals were found in the strangest places – in an orchard, a cave, bogs, and so on. According to these explanations, the seals were either brought over by the Phoenicians, or by ancient Irish tribes after their wanderings in China, or by mediaeval Irish monks travelling from the Middle East. Both sides, albeit from a different standpoint and driven by different motives, saw the Irish as a distinctly non-European culture, whose ancestors must have originated from distant lands far beyond the perimeters of western civilisation. Doubts raised by reputable scholars, whose qualified opinion should have mattered most in this discussion, were ignored and the Chinese seals of Ireland gradually came to be known as one of the great unexplained mysteries of the world. Some of the seals in question are still extant and can be seen at the National Museum of Ireland. For a modern researcher the seals can be identified as early Qing porcelain seals from the Dehua kilns in Fujian Province. Accordingly, even though nowadays they would be considered antique, they are much newer than purported by those in the nineteenth century who wished to see in them a proof of an ancient link with China. The supposedly ancient writing on them is in the Chinese seal script which, although at the time identified correctly as having been in use at the time of Confucius, was still used on seals in the eighteenth century, as it continues to be used today. In this article, rather than analysing the seals themselves, I would like to document how and why they were misinterpreted in Ireland. The first publication of a seal found in Ireland from an edition of *Anthologia Hibernica*. In the following decades, more seals were recovered in different parts of the country by various means: By 1790, over fifty had been collected from different parts of Ireland. All were made of white porcelain in the shape of a small cube, with a seated animal on top. The similarity of their physical appearance implied that they belonged together, even though they were found hundreds of miles apart. Beside the mystery of why these objects were scattered throughout the island, another interesting phenomenon was that they were exclusive to Ireland, without a single one reported in England or any other place in Europe. This circumstance was part of the reason why these seals came to signify a long-lost link with China, a connection particular to Ireland. The first written reference to a Chinese seal in Ireland comes from the edition of *Anthologia Hibernica* Fig. At a first glance, the seal impression does not even seem to be in Chinese, and identification of the inscription is only possible from later reproductions. It is rather surprising that the person supplying the image identified it correctly as Chinese. In the following decades, more seals were discovered and in the 1790s two enthusiasts of antiquities, Joseph Huband Smith and Joseph William Murphy, became involved in the research, gathering impressions and casts. These two gentlemen originally worked separately in *Anthologia Hibernica* April 1790, p. The story of the Chinese seals found in Ireland but later met to compare their findings. By the end of the decade, the two of them had acquired over a dozen seal impressions. In December 1790, Smith gave a talk at a meeting of the Royal Irish Academy, exhibiting one seal and impressions of several others in seal-wax, stating that all the objects were in the form of an exact cube with a handle which was modelled after some animal probably an ape. Based on this information, he concluded that the seals were very old, disregarding the fact that although the seal script had indeed been in use since the time of Confucius, it continued to be used on seals up to modern times. Obviously, the appearance of Chinese artefacts of such, albeit supposed, antiquity in Ireland called for an explanation. He also connected the mystery of the seals with a recent discovery of Chinese inscribed vases allegedly found in Egyptian tombs at Coptos and Thebes. A couple of such small vases or flasks had been found by Professor Rosellini around during his research in Egypt in a tomb dating to 600 BC. Later on, other travellers, including John Gardner Wilkinson, discovered or acquired similar items. A few years later, Samuel W. Williams asserted similar doubts: Those Chinese who saw them asserted that they could not be as old as Europeans were claiming. Still, these doubts and revelations regarding the Chinese porcelain flasks came to light in 2 Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy, Vol. Porcelain

flasks which it is claimed were found in Egyptian tombs. In May, Edmund Getty, a well-known Irish antiquary and linguist, reported on the state of research in a paper read before the Belfast Literary Society, which also came out as a book the following year under the title of *Notices of Chinese Seals Found in Ireland*. Getty, who helped Getty in finding translators in China, including Rev. Karl Gutzlaff, the renowned Protestant missionary who was at the time working as the Chinese secretary for the British government. He referred to a book entitled *Liber de mensura orbis terrae* by the Irish monk Dicuil, in which the author had written about a party of such pilgrims who sailed up the Nile, described and measured the pyramids, crossed to the Red Sea through a canal, and so on. As a reference, Getty also appended to his book an extract from the work of Dicuil, since the original was a rare work. The story of the Chinese seals found in Ireland. Using his friend Getty as a liaison, Getty succeeded in obtaining translations for the seal impressions and a small group of other inscriptions found on art objects from four different sources in China. Later on, Gutzlaff sent him another set of translations. He noted that while Chinese seals made of steatite were often seen in antique shops in Britain, he had not seen any made of porcelain. He dismissed another possibility, namely, that the seals might have come to Ireland in connection with the embassy of Lord Macartney, on the grounds that the Macartney collection had no specimens of such seals. The story appeared not only in Irish and English magazines but also across the Atlantic. A number 12 For an updated translation of the seal inscriptions, see the Appendix to this paper. According to the catalogue, this oval seal was found at Rathkeale, County Limerick, and was presented to the Museum by its president, the Rev. Accordingly, perhaps as a result of the increased antiquarian interest, quite a few seals not listed by Getty were recovered from the possession of individuals throughout Ireland, who claimed to have found them years before. Despite the fact that they came from different sources and were found at different times, they were all made of porcelain and were clearly of the same origin. Wilde, *A Descriptive catalogue of the antiquities of stone, earthen, and vegetable materials in the Museum of the Royal Irish Academy Dublin*, pp. Shirley, Lough-Fea Carrickmacross, county of Monaghan. In this record, the claim that the soap-stone seals were also found in Ireland was obviously a mistake. Seals from the catalogue of the Museum of the Royal Irish Academy. Frazer presented a well-informed argument in favour of a more recent date. The history of these seals, if investigated, presents one common point of agreement that seems of much importance. They have never yet, in a single instance, been discovered associated with other objects of antiquarian interest, in burrows or mounds, with bronze or stone weapons, celtic remains, or works of art – never with Danish or Anglo-Norman coins, nor even with modern articles of manufacture. The invariable story of their find is what we might expect if they had been accidentally dropped, at no very distant period, in or near the localities whence they were afterwards unearthed. Thus they have been picked up by labourers, as the plough-share passed over an old untilled field: There also seems to be satisfactory evidence that similar seals have never yet been found in England or on the Continent. The peculiar characters on these seals are admittedly of great antiquity; but this signifies little. It is the common seal-writing employed by the Chinese for centuries, and still seen on their ordinary seals made and used in the present day: James Legge, who is primarily known today on the account of his translations of the Chinese classics. Legge claimed that these seals could be obtained in China but they were not in use anymore. He also offered his own judgment of the mystery: X, p. The above detail throws a little light on it. Some of the earliest visitors from England and Ireland must have taken the seals back with them from China. Thus he effectively provided a solution to the origin of these objects. Her reply was that an ancestor of hers, an Irishman, was in the China trade about a century ago, and he was in the habit of bringing home a quantity of China-ware for friends, to whom he said that the shopkeepers from whom he had made his purchases gave him many of the seals, to which he had taken a fancy, and that he used constantly to give them away to friends in Ireland, and that they were carried about in all directions, being curious and interesting little things. The woman said that what she had been paid for were the remains of the large quantities formerly brought by her ancestor. Clittarn [sic] said that this was the true account of the diffusion of the seals through many parts of Ireland. I also was told that the accounts given of the finding of the seals in many places of undisturbed sepulture of great antiquity are simply untrue, and will not bear investigation. Such I believe to be the story of the seals. Lamprey, the Librarian of the Royal Geographical Society, essentially retold the same story, which

he had received from the Secretary of the Royal Irish Academy. Thus these two replies posted in *The Phoenix* provided an important clue as to the mystery of how the seals were scattered throughout Ireland. It is also worth noting that, by this time, a number of Chinese seals identical to those found earlier were being brought into the country. Lockhart had a small collection, while Legge and travellers visiting the celestial kingdom also sent some back to Ireland. Similarly, many publications still referred to these seals as an unsolved puzzle. For example, in his archaeological dictionary of , J. By the end of the nineteenth century, references to the subject had grown fewer and fewer. This book, with nearly twenty editions following its publication in , had a larger circulation than all of the other material together, reaching millions of readers. Although Fort only described the circumstances of the discovery without providing a solution or supplying new information, due to the large readership of his book the subject stayed in the focus of public interest. It seems that this information was not available for Getty when he was compiling his report. Chapman believed that the seals dated from the early eighteenth century when the factory exported this type of porcelain to Europe. As to the strange diffusion of the seals throughout Ireland, Clarke could only speculate that they might have entered the country at Cork, since all of them were found east of a line drawn from Lough Foyle to Cape Clear. Very little discussion addressed the context of such seals in their native environment, their manufacture, or Chinese cultural and artistic trends. They were treated in the light of what they signified for Ireland, being a proof of its link with the Orient. George Smith and William Makepeace Thackeray, the celebrated English writer, began their interpretation of the story of the seals in the *Cornhill Magazine* with the following thought: Ireland is a country of many problems; a land of beauty and sorrow, of political strife, or religious and racial hatreds. But apart from these things the island is the home of a number of unsolved archaeological puzzles, and not the least of these is the mystery of the Chino-Irish seals – a minor antiquarian enigma of such a curious and unusual type as to make the whole question and details worthy of recapitulation for the benefit of the present year of grace. They signified a connection between Ireland and the East before the Christian era, a connection that had been suspected to have existed, but had never been conclusively proven. Consequently, the problem shifted from the age of the objects, which was accepted as being very old, to explaining how these could have arrived in Ireland at such a remote time. With their distinctly non-Irish brand of cultural imperialism, Smith and Thackeray were part of the English intellectual trend that exoticised the Irish, often through disconnecting their history with European civilisation and highlighting their alleged Scythian origin. This narrative portrayed Ireland, in spite of its physical proximity to England, in a way that was closely reminiscent of contemporary visions of Oriental cultures. As a result, while the finding of the seals so far from China was, on the one hand, an astonishing archaeological discovery, on the other hand it came as no surprise to many leading intellectuals, who could conveniently fit it within their own interpretation of Irish history. To be sure, this was not a one-sided English view of their colonised neighbour, as there were just as many Irish citizens interested in the subject. *I* January to June , p. Perhaps this was the reason why there was relatively little interest in dating the porcelain seals more precisely, or at least listening to the advice of experts whose knowledge with respect to China and the Chinese language was otherwise acknowledged and respected.

Chapter 3 : World Seals and Coats of Arms | ClipArt ETC

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Cylinder seal Seals were used in the earliest civilizations and are of considerable importance in archaeology and art history. In ancient Mesopotamia carved or engraved cylinder seals in stone or other materials were used. These could be rolled along to create an impression on clay which could be repeated indefinitely , and used as labels on consignments of trade goods, or for other purposes. They are normally hollow and it is presumed that they were worn on a string or chain round the neck. Many have only images, often very finely carved, with no writing, while others have both. From ancient Egypt seals in the form of signet-rings see below , including some with the names of kings, have been found; these tend to show only names in hieroglyphics. Recently, seals have come to light in South Arabia datable to the Himyarite age. Ancient Greece and Rome[edit] From the beginning of the 3rd millennium BC until the Middle Ages, seals of various kinds were in production in the Aegean islands and mainland Greece. In the Early Minoan age these were formed of soft stone and ivory and show particular characteristic forms. By the Middle Minoan age a new set for seal forms, motifs and materials appear. Hard stone requires new rotary carving techniques. The Late Bronze Age is the time par excellence of the lens-shaped seal and the seal ring, which continued into the Archaic , Classical and Hellenistic periods, in the form of pictorial engraved gems. These were a major luxury art form and became keenly collected, with King Mithridates VI of Pontus the first major collector according to Pliny the Elder. His collection fell as booty to Pompey the Great , who deposited it in a temple in Rome. Engraved gems continued to be produced and collected until the 19th century. Pliny also explained the significance of the signet ring, and how over time this ring was worn on the little finger. Seal East Asia A Baiwen name seal, read up-down-right-left: Ye Hao Min Yin lit. The seals of the Han dynasty were impressed in a soft clay, but from the Tang dynasty a red ink made from cinnabar was normally used. Both individuals and organizations have official seals, and they often have multiple seals in different sizes and styles for different situations. East Asian seals usually bear the names of the people or organizations represented, but they can also bear poems or personal mottoes. Sometimes both types of seals, or large seals that bear both names and mottoes, are used to authenticate official documents. Seals are so important in East Asia that foreigners who frequently conduct business there also commission the engraving of personal seals. East Asian seals are carved from a variety of hard materials, including wood, soapstone, sea glass and jade. East Asian seals are traditionally used with a red oil-based paste consisting of finely ground cinnabar, which contrasts with the black ink traditionally used for the ink brush. Red chemical inks are more commonly used in modern times for sealing documents. Seal engraving is considered a form of calligraphy in East Asia. Like ink-brush calligraphy, there are several styles of engraving. Some engraving styles emulate calligraphy styles, but many styles are so highly stylized that the characters represented on the seal are difficult for untrained readers to identify. Seal engravers are considered artists, and, in the past, several famous calligraphers also became famous as engravers. Some seals, carved by famous engravers, or owned by famous artists or political leaders, have become valuable as historical works of art. Because seals are commissioned by individuals and carved by artists, every seal is unique, and engravers often personalize the seals that they create. The materials of seals and the styles of the engraving are typically matched to the personalities of the owners. Seals can be traditional or modern, or conservative or expressive. Seals are also sometimes carved with images or calligraphy on the sides. Although it is a utilitarian instrument of daily business in East Asia, westerners and other non-Asians seldom see Asian seals except on Asian paintings and calligraphic art. All traditional paintings in Taiwan , China , Japan , Korea , and the rest of East Asia are watercolor paintings on silk, paper, or some other surface to which the red ink from seals can adhere. East Asian paintings often bear multiple seals, including one or two seals from the artist, and the seals from the owners of the paintings. East Asian seals are the predecessors to block printing. Seals were historically most often impressed in sealing wax often simply described as

"wax": Byzantine Emperors sometimes issued documents with gold seals, known as Golden Bulls. During the early Byzantine period these rings were used for sealing personal documents and validating wills and testaments. Wax seals were being used on a fairly regular basis by most western royal chanceries by about the end of the 10th century. In England, few wax seals have survived of earlier date than the Norman Conquest, although some earlier matrices are known, recovered from archaeological contexts: Traditional wax seals continue to be used on certain high-status and ceremonial documents, but in the 20th century they were gradually superseded in many other contexts by inked or dry embossed seals and by rubber stamps. While many instruments formerly required seals for validity e. In Central and Eastern Europe, however, as in East Asia, a signature alone is considered insufficient to authenticate a document of any kind in business, and all managers, as well as many book-keepers and other employees, have personal seals[citation needed], normally just containing text, with their name and their position. These are applied to all letters, invoices issued, and similar documents. In Europe these are today plastic self-inking stamps. An embossed notary seal, formerly valid in the State of New York. Notaries also still use seals on a daily basis. At least in Britain, each registered notary has an individual personal seal, registered with the authorities, which includes his or her name and a pictorial emblem, often an animalâ€”the same combination found in many seals from ancient Greece. Sealing practices[edit] An applied wax seal on an envelope Seals are used primarily to authenticate documents, specifically those which carry some legal import. There are two main ways in which a seal may be attached to a document. It may be applied directly to the face of the paper or parchment an applied seal ; or it may hang loose from it a pendent seal. Alternatively, the seal may be attached to a narrow strip of the material of the document again, in this case, usually parchment , sliced and folded down, as a tail or tongue, but not detached. If a forger tries to remove an applied seal from its document, it will almost certainly break. A pendent seal is easily detached by cutting the cords or strips of parchment, but the forger would then have great difficulty in attaching it to another document not least because the cords or parchment are normally knotted inside the seal , and would again almost certainly break it. A pendent pine resin seal on a parchment tag attached to an English deed dated In the Middle Ages, the majority of seals were pendent. They were attached both to legal instruments and to letters patent i. In the case of important transactions or agreements, the seals of all parties to the arrangement as well as of witnesses might be attached to the document, and so once executed it would carry several seals. Most governments still attach pendent seals to letters patent. Hand-folded letter sealed with wax and stamped with capital letter "A". If a letter is folded and sealed correctly, a wax seal can eliminate the need for an envelope as demonstrated in the above picture. An applied seal on a letter from Loudoun Castle, Galston, Scotland. Applied seals, by contrast, were originally used to seal a document closed: In the post-medieval period, seals came to be commonly used in this way for private letters. A letter writer would fold the completed letter, pour wax over the joint formed by the top of the page, and then impress a ring or other seal matrix. Governments sometimes sent letters to citizens under the governmental seal for their eyes only, known as letters secret. In general, seals are no longer used in these ways except for ceremonial purposes. However, applied seals also came to be used on legal instruments applied directly to the face of the document, so that there was no need to break them, and this use continues. Seal design[edit] Two-sided pendent seals from Inchaffray Abbey in Scotland, late 13th century, now in the British Museum. In this case, the design includes a marine seal pinniped as a visual pun. Historically, the majority of seals were circular in design, although ovals, triangles, shield-shapes and other patterns are also known. The design generally comprised a graphic emblem sometimes, but not always, incorporating heraldic devices , surrounded by a text the legend running around the perimeter. The legend most often consisted merely of the words "The seal of [the name of the owner]", either in Latin or in the local vernacular language: Occasionally, the legend took the form of a motto. In the Middle Ages it became customary for the seals of women and of ecclesiastics to be given a vesica pointed oval shape. The central emblem was often a standing figure of the owner, or in the case of ecclesiastical seals of a saint. Medieval townspeople used a wide variety of different emblems but some had seals that included an image relating to their work. In some medieval royal chanceries, different colours of wax were customarily used for different functions or departments of state, or to distinguish grants and decrees made in perpetuity from more ephemeral documents. In some cases the seal

and counter-seal would be kept by two different individuals, in order to provide an element of double-checking to the process of authentication. Sometimes, a large official seal, which might be in the custody of chancery officials, would need to be counter-sealed by the individual in whose name it had been applied the monarch, or the mayor of a town: Other pendent seals were double-sided, with elaborate and equally-sized obverses and reverses. The impression would be formed by pressing a "sandwich" of matrices and wax firmly together by means of rollers or, later, a lever-press or a screw press. It is likely that this practice was a factor in the emergence of hereditary heraldry in western Europe in the 12th century. An incidental allusion in one of St. Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury â€” Architects, surveyors and professional engineers[edit] Seals are also affixed on architectural or engineering construction documents , or land survey drawings, to certify the identity of the licensed professional who supervised the development. Professional engineers may also be legally entitled to seal any document they prepare. When the pope dies it is the first duty of the Cardinal Camerlengo to obtain possession of the Ring of the Fisherman , the papal signet, and to see that it is broken up. A similar practice prevailed in the Middle Ages and it is often alluded to by historians, as it seems to have been a matter of some ceremony. The practice is less widely attested in the case of medieval laypeople , but certainly occurred on occasion. These were probably deliberately buried as a means of cancelling them. It is unclear how much truth there is to this story, but certainly the seal was recovered: Signet rings[edit] Armigerous signet ring bearing the arms of the Baronnet family; goldsmith: Wikimedia Commons has media related to Signet rings. Signet rings have a flat bezel , usually wider than the rest of the hoop, which is decorated, normally in intaglio , so that it will leave a raised relief impression of the design when the ring is pressed onto soft sealing wax or a similar material.

Chapter 4 : Edmund Getty (Author of Notices of the Round Towers of Ulster)

The story of the Chinese seals found in Ireland IMRE GALAMBOS In , a paper was read before the Royal Historical Society of Ireland regarding a group of Chinese porcelain seals that had come to light during the previous eighty years in Ireland.

The seals were found only in Ireland, southeast of a line from Lough Foyle to Cape Clear see map [3c]. One seal, however, was found in a curiosity shop in London. But when questioned, the shopkeeper said that it had come from Ireland [4]. There have been finds in every county of Ireland, at least one or two each. Especially many were found in Cork 6 seals , Waterford 4 seals , Down and Tipperary 3 seals each [1b]. The distribution of the seals is peculiar; they "appear to have been sown broadcast over the country in some strange way that I cannot offer solution of" [6]. Discovery of a second seal stamp in a cave near the port of Cork [3c]. The third stamp was unearthed by some men in county Down in an orchard while digging out the roots of an old pear tree [3c]. The sixth stamp came to light in county Tipperary while ploughing a field [3c]. Another one in the river bed of the river Boyne near Clonard, county Meath, when workmen were raising gravel [1b]. And another one in Killead, county Down [3c]. The found Chinese seals sum up to a dozen [5]. In the s, a total of 26 seals was known [7]. Charles Fort reports for that "about 60 had been found" [1b]. Frazer causes four similar seals to be bought in Canton, China. Joseph Huband Smith from Dublin was the first to direct attention to the Chinese seals in [5]. He believed them to be very ancient. In the s Edmund Getty [5] made casts of the 26 seals known and sent them to China to verify if the Chinese script on the seals was authentic. Getty had to wait two years for the affirmative answer because it was the Victorian age and the intercontinental transfer of messages was slow. Frazer [6] put forth the opinion that the seals were not as ancient as the script seemed to indicate. The Chinese seals of Ireland were popularized by Charles Fort in [1a]. She traced back the porcelain to a manufacture in China. Her research also supported the hypothesis that the seals are comparatively modern. New findings by B. McElney in [11].

Chapter 5 : Chinese seals in Ireland | Chinese manuscripts

Edmund Getty is the author of Notices of Chinese Seals Found in Ireland (avg rating, 0 ratings, 0 reviews, published), Notices of the Round Towe.

The lack of either will result in a fine and immediate deportation. Apply for a ten-year multiple entry visa, useful for repeated travel or trips to Hong Kong or Macau with returns to China. You must have a valid visa to exit China and you must leave China before the expiration of the listed duration of stay. Do not expect your request to be expedited, so apply ahead of time. The TAR requires special permits for tourist travel, most often obtained through a Chinese travel agent. If you do enter a restricted area without the requisite permit, you could be fined, taken into custody, and deported for illegal entry. When transiting certain international airports, you may stay in mainland China without a Chinese visa. The duration of allowed stay and how broadly you may travel varies by region. Transiting without a visa requires a valid passport, a visa for your onward destination if necessary , and an onward ticket from the same location. You must inform your airline upon check-in, and get an endorsement stamp at the immigration desk before leaving the airport. Failure to register with the police within 24 hours of arrival in the country could result in fines and deportation. You can register with hotel staff or the local police station. Local regulations require foreigners to carry valid passports and Chinese visas or residence permits at all times. Entry and exit requirements are strictly enforced, as are restrictions on activities allowed by any particular visa class. Police, school administrators, transportation officials, and hotel staff may check your visa to make sure you have not overstayed. If you encounter problems in Tibet, the U. China does not recognize dual nationality. If you are a dual national of the United States and China, the Chinese government will usually not permit the U. Embassy to provide consular assistance to you unless you entered China on a U. Regardless of your travel documents, if you are a dual national, or otherwise have ethnic or historical ties to China, it is possible that Chinese authorities will assert that you are a Chinese citizen and deny your access to U. If you are a naturalized U. Chinese authorities generally consider a child born in China to at least one Chinese parent to be a Chinese citizen, even if the child was issued a U. Safety and Security For most visitors, China remains a very safe country. Petty street crime is the most common safety concern for U. Training, capability, and responsiveness of Chinese authorities varies by region and even city. Embassy and Consulates General have no law enforcement authority and may not represent U. To ensure your safety and security in China, you should: Take routine safety precautions. Report any concerns to the local police. Violent crime is not common in China, however: Demonstrations may quickly turn violent. Domestic unrest and terrorism can occur. Business disputes between U. Go straight to the police if you feel threatened or relocate to a public place. Young Chinese invite visitors out to tea and leave them with an exorbitant bill. We have received reports that some individuals within China have received telephone calls where the callers pose as police officers and request a funds transfer to resolve an identity theft or money laundering investigation. Be cautious when using taxi services, especially at airports. Have the name of your destination written in Chinese characters and ask the driver to remove the bags from the trunk before you get out of the taxi and before you pay. Counterfeit currency is a significant concern in China. Carrying small bills or using exact change, particularly in taxis, can help protect you. Use only ATMs at trusted financial institutions. If you already have been victim of a scam, catalogue as many details as possible, including names, telephone and bank numbers, and email and IP addresses; file a police report, and inform the U. Embassy or a U. Report crimes to the local police and contact the U. Embassy or nearest consulate. Remember that local authorities are responsible for investigating and prosecuting the crime.

Chapter 6 : Letters found at scene of Cavan murder-suicide - The Irish News

From Notices of Chinese Seals Found in Ireland by Edmund Getty () Just how did this 17th / 18th century Chinese seal end up being ploughed up in a field in Borrisokane in /33? It is not just a single stray find as over 60 stamps inscribed with Chinese characters have been found in Ireland (between &) with 3 reported to have.

Chapter 7 : The story of the Chinese seals found in Ireland | Imre Galambos - blog.quintoapp.com

Notices of Chinese seals found in Ireland. By Edmund Getty, M.R.I.A. Read before the Belfast Literary Society on the 6th May,

Chapter 8 : Seal (emblem) - Wikipedia

In , a paper was read before the Royal Historical Society of Ireland regarding a group of Chinese porcelain seals that had come to light during the previous eighty years in Ireland.

Chapter 9 : Gallery of coats of arms of sovereign states - Wikipedia

Putting online some of my older publications: The story of the Chinese seals found in Ireland (Imre Galambos) Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, Series 3, 18, 4 (), pp.