

Dear Readers,

Below are email communications between NYU, myself, and other members of the exhibit team. I include them so you can draw your own conclusions about NYU's motives.

The individuals emailed were the main representatives of the exhibit and had the opportunity to chime in if they wished.

While I include the link to the exhibit (within the email string below), I'm not happy about having to do this as it now refers you to the NYU website.

I feel it's a furtive way to divert people to the NYU website.

The exhibit was meant to be a standalone website belonging to the United Irish Counties Association and the individual county associations,

with due credit given to NYU and others who made contributions. Even if NYU had used its own web hosting company of choice - which it seems

to have done with the original standalone site - that would have been fine. Never was the exhibit designed to be a direct referral source to the NYU website.

But it was migrated over the NYU's website unbeknown to at least the vast majority of members of these associations, when I assume they thought nobody was looking.

And all exhibit items were copyrighted by NYU also unbeknown to at least the vast majority of members.

None of the above was disclosed to members nor was there any agreement between NYU and members in this regard,

and this type of practice is in my opinion inappropriate particularly for an institution like NYU.

Kind regards,
Maurice D. Landers

Read from bottom up

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: maurice landers <mauricelanders@yahoo.com>

To: Marion Casey <marion.casey@nyu.edu>; maeodriscoll@aol.com <maeodriscoll@aol.com>

Cc: Mary Elizabeth Lennon <mel573@nyu.edu>; Niall Burgess <niall.burgess@dfa.ie>; william cobert <wdcobert@gmail.com>; johnrid@aol.com <johnrid@aol.com>; UICANY <unitedirishcounties@gmail.com>; jgarvey386@aol.com <jgarvey386@aol.com>; Joe McManus <greaghfarna@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, March 15, 2025 at 02:05:38 PM EDT

Subject: Re: Question re. exhibit

Dear all,

I did a bit of research on this and got the following:

Q. "So, the original owners could set up another exhibit with the same docs and items and not infringe on the exhibit organization that had subsequently copyrighted these same docs and items? In other words, the exhibit organization can't front run the original owner of the items and docs by copyrighting these docs and items and then prevent the original owner from exhibiting them again elsewhere unless the original owner asks permission from the exhibit organization?"

A. "Exactly! The exhibit organization cannot "front run" the original owner in this way. If the exhibit organization copyrighted something new—like their own photographs, digital scans, or display designs—that copyright would only apply to those newly created works. It would not give them the right to prevent the original owner from exhibiting the original documents and items elsewhere, as the original owner still retains full control over the physical items they own.

For example:

- The original owner could set up another exhibit using the same documents and items without infringing on the copyrights of the exhibit organization, as long as they do not use any of the exhibit organization's new copyrighted works (such as their specific photos or designs).
- The exhibit organization cannot claim copyright over the original documents and items themselves if they were not already copyrighted, since copyright law protects creative, original works—not mere physical ownership of items.

Ownership of the items stays with the original organization, and copyright applies only to new creative works. This is why it's important for all parties to have clear agreements to avoid potential conflicts."

So folks, do not let Glucksman Ireland House et al fool you into signing anything subsequent to this email string. That is, the "clear agreements" in the last line of the answer/quote immediately above.

We have no agreement with anyone regarding this exhibit, so I suggest the UICA re-set up the original exhibit without any other parties involved. It's just a matter of photographing all the great treasures each county already has and telling our history ourselves.

Who better than the counties to tell their own story and there are plenty of historical docs on this history in the possession of the county

Societies.

I'm sorry now to have had that meeting with Niall Burgess/Irish government which resulted in the idea being farmed out to NYU.

But we can take it back...but don't sign anything with anyone in the meantime or ever!

Lesson learned, never trust the Irish government, I should have listened to most of you in the past when I was trying

to bring closer engagement between the Irish government and the county societies to help develop them. You warned me back then and I never heard you...my sincere apologies!

On Saturday, March 15, 2025, 11:20:56 AM EDT, maurice landers <mauricelanders@yahoo.com> wrote:

Lol the rebel in you xxxx must have been diluted down through the years.

Did the Irish government give you this PR piece to send out to us all lol

"Blessed"! Such pandering. Lord above give me strenght! A double agent if I ever heard one lol

No, the government, Glucksman et al, should be honored to have been a member of the Fifth Province project!

No, these documents would not have been lost forever, please don't underestimate the capabilities of

members of the county societies. They had held on to these documents for decades hence the ability

to be able to exhibit them later.

Glucksman Ireland House and the Archives of Irish America owe the UICA and county societies a deep debt of gratitude for

providing a home for all that history that they could then exhibit and leverage for themselves for the most part (Hence the migration).

To summarize, you got it all backwards xxxxx.

I'm surprised by your response...or maybe not.

On Friday, March 14, 2025, 10:40:19 PM EDT, xxxxx@xxxx.com <xxxxx@xxxx.com> wrote:

I was honored to have been a member of the committee who organized the Fifth Province project

.Dr. Marion Casey and Dr. Miriam Nyhan did an extraordinary job. We were blessed to have the financial support and guidance of the Irish Government thanks to our wonderful Consul General, Niall Burgess. The exhibit created such great joy, good will and unity in the Irish American Community. It gave the County Associations the opportunity to display their great history to the larger Irish American Community and also in Ireland. The Archives of Irish America gave a safe storage place for all that history. Those documents would have been lost forever. We owe Glucksman Ireland House and the Archives of Irish America a deep debt of gratitude for providing a home for all that history. It is now available to future generations for research..

xxxxxx xxxxx

Signature x'd out

From: maurice landers <mauricelanders@yahoo.com>

To: maeodriscoll@aol.com <maeodriscoll@aol.com>; Marion Casey <marion.casey@nyu.edu>

Cc: Mary Elizabeth Lennon <mel573@nyu.edu>; Niall Burgess <niall.burgess@dfa.ie>; william cobert <wdcobert@gmail.com>; johnrid@aol.com <johnrid@aol.com>; UICANY <unitedirishcounties@gmail.com>; jgarvey386@aol.com <jgarvey386@aol.com>; Joe McManus <greaghfarna@gmail.com>; Miriam Nyhan <miriam.nyhan@mic.ul.ie>; Madeleine Conlon <mconlon2014@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, March 14, 2025 at 08:06:32 AM EDT

Subject: Re: Question re. exhibit

Not in agreement Marion. This is about something being taken away and owned by NYU. There was no disclosure that NYU was going to take down a perfectly good website

and migrate it over to NYU years later, and copyright documents owned by the individual county societies. That is not right no matter what words you put on it.

There was no good reason for this except that certain people want to own things belonging to others.

Yes, it was all positive up to when the original site was taken down unbeknown to anyone except NYU and because we didn't know we were going to be sideswiped, the old reliable bait and switch years later when nobody is looking.

I wouldn't be saying this if I hadn't experienced it myself firsthand in relation to another Irish community related matter. I'm not affronted, I'm just pissed off about it. But this is not my battle so I guess if the UICA accepts this, then the heart of the county societies is no longer beating, and they will just continue their decline into history and the NYU archives.

Perhaps this is the RIP moment of the American counties?

Happy St. Patrick's Day to all...

On Friday, March 14, 2025 at 12:09:46 AM EDT, Marion Casey <marion.casey@nyu.edu> wrote:

As I am sure so many of us on this email chain recall, *The Fifth Province* was nothing but a very positive experience. It pains me to think that Limerick feels affronted after all these years. Click [here](#) to see what has been archived and preserved, as a result of the efforts of the Irish government and NYU's Archives of Irish America, so that the future will know what the UICA and New York's Irish county societies achieved. Be sure to note Limerick's contributions.

Be well my friends, and Happy St. Patrick's Day,
Marion

Marion R. Casey

Clinical Professor & Director of Undergraduate Studies

Glucksman Ireland House NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

From: maeodriscoll@aol.com <maeodriscoll@aol.com>
To: "marion.casey@nyu.edu" <marion.casey@nyu.edu>; maurice landers <mauricelanders@yahoo.com>
Cc: Mary Elizabeth Lennon <mel573@nyu.edu>; Niall Burgess <niall.burgess@dfa.ie>; william cobert <wdcobert@gmail.com>; johnrid@aol.com <johnrid@aol.com>; UICANY <unitedirishcounties@gmail.com>; jgarvey386@aol.com <jgarvey386@aol.com>; Joe McManus <greaghfarna@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 07:25:26 PM EDT
Subject: Re: Question re. exhibit

Thanks Marion for the update and clarification.
Mae.

On Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 09:55:18 AM EDT, maurice landers <mauricelanders@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hi all,

You can fight amongst yourselves over this, I've enough battles to fight myself.

If the UICA agreed to this at the beginning, then that's on the UICA. I respect their decision.

That said, I wish Limerick had been informed that NYU would own the rights. Beware people, it happened to me and my

trademark 'The Shamrock Fund'. It was taken from me right under my nose. I brought a case to the TTAB but lost. I don't have an army

of lawyers to protect me and possibly at the expense of charitable contributions.

But nobody is going to tell the Limerick Society that anything displayed in the exhibit is now owned by NYU, that much I will guarantee you.

Kind regards,
Maurice

On Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 09:28:48 AM EDT, Marion Casey <marion.casey@nyu.edu> wrote:

Hello everyone,

I am afraid that Maurice is mistaken about copyright in *The Fifth Province* exhibit. Please see attached. The Archives of Irish America at NYU -- which is the permanent repository for the vast majority of items in the exhibit -- is the copyright holder.

The Limerick chain of office was only ever exhibited in the Consulate offices. It was never part of the travelling or virtual exhibition.

As one of the curators, I can answer any other questions you may have.

Best wishes,
Marion

Marion R. Casey

Clinical Professor & Director of Undergraduate Studies

Glucksman Ireland House

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

1 Washington Mews

New York, NY 10003-6691

Author, [*The Green Space: The Transformation of the Irish Image*](#)

On Thu, Mar 13, 2025 at 7:06 AM maurice landers <mauricelanders@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hi Mary Elizabeth,

Thank you for this option. Bill Cobert is responsible for the chain of office and so he can decide what he wants to do.

As regards the text, could you please add to the last paragraph of homepage of exhibit just before the heading Exhibition Team the following sentence (in bold below):

The generosity of the Irish Government's Emigrant Support Programme and the United Irish Counties Association of New York, Inc. is gratefully acknowledged, as is the support of Glucksman Ireland House and the Archives of Irish America at New York University. **The United Irish Counties Association of New York, Inc. and all thirty-two county associations retain all rights to the exhibit.**

Thank you for all your kind assistance.
Maurice

On Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 02:40:38 PM EDT, Mary Elizabeth Lennon <mel573@nyu.edu> wrote:

Hi Maurice,

All images that were on the original exhibit site were migrated to this page. If you would like an image added, I would be happy to update - feel free to send any material.

Additionally, if you would like text added about the original exhibit, just let me know.

Best,
Mary Elizabeth

On Wed, Mar 12, 2025 at 12:21 PM maurice landers <mauricelanders@yahoo.com> wrote:

Thanks Mary Elizabeth!

From what I can see, it looks good. I'll defer to the other experts cc'd on content.

Only thing I was wondering is, I remember we physically displayed our chain of office (Limerick) at the Consulate.

Was this then put up on the original virtual exhibit?

I don't see it on the current one.

Personally, I preferred the original standalone site. It looked better and was seen as a UICA endeavor, and rightly so.

I wish it was more clearly stated that this is a UICA/County Society owned exhibit. Can this be added?

Kind regards,
Maurice

On Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 10:48:32 AM EDT, Mary Elizabeth Lennon <mel573@nyu.edu> wrote:

Hi Maurice,

The link is here: <https://as.nyu.edu/research-centers/irelandhouse/academic-initiatives/exhibits-and-conferences/FifthProvince.html>

Thanks!

On Tue, Mar 11, 2025 at 5:51 PM maurice landers <mauricelanders@yahoo.com> wrote:

Thanks Mary Elizabeth. This is great news.

However, I'm unable to access the link. Have you a general link you could send me?

I will then be glad to check it out.

Many thanks,
Maurice

On Tuesday, March 11, 2025, 03:02:27 PM EDT, Mary Elizabeth Lennon <mel573@nyu.edu> wrote:

Hi Maurice,

Just writing to share this [updated link](#) for The Fifth Province. We are still smoothing out any errors in formatting, so please let me know if you spot anything that needs fixing.

Best wishes,
Mary Elizabeth

On Wed, Oct 16, 2024 at 11:10 AM maurice landers <mauricelanders@yahoo.com> wrote:

Okay, you sound like someone I can trust Mary Elizabeth.

I look forward to seeing the new website.

Kind regards,
Maurice

On Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 11:35:46 AM CDT, maeodriscoll@aol.com
<maeodriscoll@aol.com> wrote:

Thank you Maurice for following up on theis. The Fifth Province was a wonderful exhibit and I certainly want being apart of the project. I have confidence that Marion will see that the exhibit will be put back up. Marion and Miriam put a great deal of work into putting it together. It was a labor of love.
Mae O'Driscoll

On Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 11:01:02 AM EDT, Mary Elizabeth Lennon <mel573@nyu.edu> wrote:

Hi Maurice,

I think there is a misunderstanding about the process here. The exhibits were not fully removed from the website - the pages still exist and are all safely housed on the platform's backend. They need to be reformatted and updated, and any broken links need to be redirected. Nothing was taken down; these are structural fixes to reflect the updates in NYU's content management system. The exhibits are not visible on the website as we do this work, but they have not been deleted or removed. Please trust that we do have an understanding of what steps need to be taken to relaunch these pages.

NYU is a massive organization with thousands of pages, and each department is responsible for maintaining them. As such, I can assure you that my colleagues and I are personally updating each page on our site. We are not a business, but an academic department, and we are working within the parameters of the NYU platform. This is not a matter of trying to confuse or manipulate anyone, but of the time and labor involved in a project that our small staff is undertaking among our many other responsibilities.

We very much appreciate the importance of maintaining the academic and creative contributions to our programming. We are bolstering these pages so that material is not lost and links are no longer misdirected. I know the process is long, but the result will be a much stronger and more accessible website. The exhibits will be made available as soon as we can, and we will be sure to share the link with you.

Thanks,
Mary Elizabeth

On Wed, Oct 16, 2024 at 9:26 AM maurice landers <mauricelanders@yahoo.com> wrote:

Thanks, Mary Elizabeth, for the update.

My only concern about all this is why the original exhibit was taken down before the migration process was complete.

I've been involved in platform migrations in business and the most basic rule is that you leave (you have to in business!) the existing platform up and running

until the migration is complete and the new platform is ready to go live. None of this makes sense to me where an exhibit is taken down for possibly going on two years now.

NYU has vast knowledge and I'm sure is very familiar with project management. Why was little of this knowledge applied here? I don't think many businesses could continue

as going concerns operating this way.

The Irish American community put a lot of work into this and put their trust in NYU that their history would be exhibited. The importance of exhibits and other types of show casing

is that it keeps Ireland visible which is important in light of the many other national identities/histories showcased in NY and the US. We have to keep our representation here in the US strong

and part of this is showcasing our history and organizations.

I won't bother you further on this as I'm not confident this exhibit will ever be put back up, and that is no reflection on your good self and the curators.

I can just hope it wasn't some sort of bait and switch tactic by the powers that be in NYU or an underhanded way of gathering data NYU otherwise would not have access to.

Kind regards,
Maurice

On Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 11:38:19 PM EDT, Mary Elizabeth Lennon <mel573@nyu.edu> wrote:

Hi Maurice,

Thanks for reaching out, I hope you are well! While many of our website updates were completed over the summer, some of the more intensive updates are still in progress. The website is a long-term project that is unfortunately not as simple as putting pages up and down. We are working to update, reformat, and republish many pages that have been migrated from NYU's older web platform. Please understand that nearly every page has needed structural updates that require careful development. As Ireland House staff have many roles, and we do not have a dedicated webmaster, the timeline for this project is subject to change as we work.

Making these necessary fixes will prevent future issues with hosting the exhibits, but it is an involved process. Marion and I met this afternoon to continue making progress on these pages. I can assure you that we have not forgotten about them, but at this point I cannot make a promise as to when they will be live. I can also assure you that they will be properly credited, linked, and promoted on our website. We will send you the link as soon as we are able.

If you have concerns about the content of the exhibit, please feel free to connect with Marion. I understand the delay is disappointing, as it is for us, and I appreciate your continued patience as we work on these updates.

Best,
Mary Elizabeth

On Tue, Oct 15, 2024 at 10:48 AM maurice landers <mauricelanders@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hi Mary Elizabeth,

As per my email to you last week, has the Fifth Province exhibit been put back online? It is possibly two years since it was taken down.

I will be sending out a notification to the community and further afield to update them on this issue as in your last email you had indicated that all Fifth Province materials would be reposted once the Summer was over,

and in an earlier email had told me it was going to put back online by Fall of 2023.

Kind regards,
Maurice

On Wednesday, October 9, 2024 at 11:17:10 AM EDT, maurice landers <mauricelanders@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hi Mary Elizabeth,

I'm following up on my email of April 16 earlier this year.

I assume the exhibit is now back up after almost two years being down?

Kind regards,
Maurice

From: UICANY <unitedirishcounties@gmail.com>
To: Maurice Landers <MauriceLanders@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 11:28:10 AM EDT
Subject: Re: Question re. exhibit

[Thanks for the update.](#)

Catherine T. Hogan
Corresponding Secretary
United Irish Counties Association of New York
Mobile (646) 489-5258

From: maurice landers <mauricelanders@yahoo.com>
To: unitedirishcounties@gmail.com <unitedirishcounties@gmail.com>; Miriam Nyhan <miriam.nyhan@nyu.edu>
Cc: maeodriscoll@aol.com <maeodriscoll@aol.com>; william cobert <wdcobert@gmail.com>; Joe McManus <greaghfarna@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 11:24:41 AM EDT
Subject: Re: Question re. exhibit

Hi all exhibit members,

Mary Elizabeth from NYU sent me a reply which stated in part that, "I anticipate that the timeline for having all pages updated and posted will stretch into this summer."

I therefore in the meantime have put a piece about the Fifth Province up on my Failte 32 website/blog, homepage.

Miriam sadly is no longer with NYU...bummer!

Best,
Maurice

From: maurice landers <mauricelanders@yahoo.com>
To: Mary Elizabeth Lennon <mel573@nyu.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 08:54:11 AM EDT
Subject: Re: Question re. exhibit

Just one last question Mary Elizabeth, why didn't you just leave the exhibit up on your website until all the changes were made?

I have a website and update it frequently enough, but can leave all page live until my updates are complete, and then just seamlessly change them out on my website whenever I like.

Many thanks,
Maurice

On Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 10:21:58 AM EDT, Mary Elizabeth Lennon <mel573@nyu.edu> wrote:

Hi Maurice,

Thanks for checking in. Please note that Miriam no longer works for NYU, so any questions you may have can be directed to myself, Marion, or the GIH admin staff at ireland.house@nyu.edu.

Updating the website is an ongoing project - I anticipate that the timeline for having all pages updated and posted will stretch into this summer. Rest assured that all material is safe and will be posted with proper credit as soon as we are able. I do understand that the delay is disappointing, but we are working as diligently and quickly as we can to get the website up to speed.

Questions about the content of the exhibit, if any, can be directed to Marion. I will touch base with her this week to chat about any needs for the exhibit.

Best,
Mary Elizabeth

On Tue, Apr 16, 2024 at 7:16 AM maurice landers <mauricelanders@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hi Miriam and Mary (and anyone else who wants to chime in),

I thought I'd send you an early email as I might catch you in the office early,,,an old salesman technique...the early bird catches the worm! :)

Just following up on my last email. Any news when the exhibit will be up?

Many thanks,
Maurice

On Monday, April 8, 2024 at 10:40:03 AM EDT, maurice landers <mauricelanders@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hi Miriam and Mary,

I'm just following up on the Fifth Province virtual exhibition.

You had mentioned it would be relaunched in the Fall of 2023.

Have you got the link so I can access it.

Many thanks,
Maurice

On Monday, June 26, 2023 at 09:10:39 AM EDT, maurice landers <mauricelanders@yahoo.com> wrote:

p.s. Mary Elizabeth, I'm assuming the updated version will still have all our names listed on the home page like the original version...wouldn't like to think anyone is trying to remove us :)

On Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 04:01:53 PM EDT, Miriam Nyhan <miriam.nyhan@nyu.edu> wrote:

You too Cathy. Nice to hear from you.

On Wednesday, June 14, 2023, UICANY <unitedirishcounties@gmail.com> wrote:

Thanks Miriam and Mary for the update.

Wishing all a safe and happy summer!

Cathy

Catherine T. Hogan
Corresponding Secretary
United Irish Counties Association of New York
Mobile (646) 489-5258

On Wed, Jun 14, 2023 at 2:15 PM Miriam Nyhan <miriam.nyhan@nyu.edu> wrote:

Hello Maurice,

It's so very nice to hear from you. It's been a long time since we ran into you at anything.

As my NYU colleague mentioned, the website is being worked on.
This is an issue Marion and I have been aware of for the past few months. And Marion has a download of all the web material so there isn't an issue in terms of the content— it's all safe.

I'm looping Marion in here but she's in Maine right now and may not be able to respond over the summer.

Regards to you and Mae and Bill and Joe and Cathy (if that's who is still on the UICA email still).

We will send you the link when it's all set.
Marion and I have such fond memories of this exhibition work— it was such a great collaboration with NYU/DFA/UICA. Getting the online version back up is a priority.

Best to all,
Miriam

On Wednesday, June 14, 2023, Mary Elizabeth Lennon <mel573@nyu.edu> wrote:

Hi Maurice,

Many thanks for reaching out. This section of our website is currently under construction, and we are planning to relaunch updated pages in the fall. In the meantime, please let us know if there is any help we can provide.

Best,
Mary Elizabeth

On Wed, Jun 14, 2023 at 9:39 AM 'maurice landers' via ireland.house <ireland.house@nyu.edu> wrote:

Dear Glucksman Ireland House,

I tried to access the Irish American exhibit titled:

- The Fifth Province: County Societies in Irish America

However, it redirects me to the NYU Arts and Science homepage i.e., [Arts & Science \(nyu.edu\)](https://www.nyu.edu/arts-science)

Has the exhibit been given a new address?

If so, could you forward it to me.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Kind regards,
Maurice D. Landers
p.s. see screen shot of NYU link to exhibit below.

--

Mary Elizabeth Lennon
Community Engagement and Events Administrator
Glucksman Ireland House
New York University
mel573@nyu.edu | 212-998-3955

My office is a **SAFE ZONE** for individuals of all ethnicities, abilities, religions, sexual orientations, and gender identities. I pledge to stand against racism in all its forms. I will be brave enough to have uncomfortable conversations and take action against racism at NYU. NYU is on the homelands of the Lenape peoples, a place with a deep indigenous past that remains vital to Native peoples in the present.