Sims-Williams (Patrick)

3562. Sims-Williams (Patrick): Riddling treatment of the 'watchman device' in Brânwen and Togail bruidne Da Derga.

707. Sims-Williams (Patrick): Thought, word and deed: an Irish triad.
    In Ériu 29 (1978), pp. 78–111.
    In memory of Kathleen Hughes.
    [1.] Explicit statements; [2.] Liturgical allusions; [3.] Allusions in private prayers; [4.] Conclusion. Though not Irish in origin, argues that the use of the formulation thought, word, deed in exegetical, liturgical, devotional and penitential literature from the second half of the seventh century onwards was due to Irish inspiration.
    Hughes (Kathleen) (hon.)

3259. Sims-Williams (Patrick): 'Is it fog or smoke or warriors fighting?': Irish and Welsh parallels to the Finnsburgh fragment.

    Corrigenda in BBCS 29/4, p. 690.

13266. Sims-Williams (Patrick): The evidence for vernacular Irish literary influence on early mediaeval Welsh literature.
    In Ireland in early mediaeval Europe [Hughes studies] (1982), pp. 235–257.

3280. Sims-Williams (Patrick): The significance of the Irish personal names in Culhwch ac Owen.

1615. Sims-Williams (Patrick): Gildas and the Anglo-Saxons.
    Includes mention of Irish influences upon and references to De excidio Britanniae.

4659. Sims-Williams (Patrick): The double system of inflexion in Old Irish.
    In TPhS 82/1 (Nov., 1984), pp. 138–201.

1649. Sims-Williams (Patrick): The visionary Celt: the construction of an ethnic preconception.

Traces the development in historical and literary scholarship of opposing racial characterizations of Celts and Anglo-Saxons.

1879. Sims-Williams (Patrick): Fionn and Deirdre in late medieval Wales.

2180. Sims-Williams (Patrick): The Irish geography of Cúluwech and Obwen.

Argues that the Uarbél (‘Cold Gap’) contained in Esgrir Oeruel may be identified with Windgates in Co. Wicklow, and that Tir Gharman is a reference to Loch Garman.


Discusses the concept of Otherworld in Irish and Welsh tradition, and examines certain terms used to denote the idea of otherworld (in particular Ir. sóid, and its learned borrowing into Medieval Welsh as (hæ)r síd).

15184. Sims-Williams (Patrick): Irish elements in late medieval Welsh literature: the problem of Cuhelyn and *Nyf.


2411. Sims-Williams (Patrick): The submission of Irish kings in fact and fiction: Henry II, Bendigeidfran, and the dating of The four branches of the Mabinogi.

Examines the historical background to the house-entering ceremony (represented in the Ir. annals by the formula tánic ina thech vel úl.), and its possible use as literary motif in Ireland and Wales.

2414. Sims-Williams (Patrick): The additional letters of the Ogam alphabet.
In CMCS 23 (Summer, 1992), pp. 29–75.

Argues that the forfeda were devised to represent phonemes of Primitive and Old Irish and not those of their Latin or Greek models.

In Érin 44 (1993), pp. 95–98.


Sims-Williams (P.) (ref.)
4672. Sims-Williams (Patrick): Some problems in deciphering the early Irish Ogam alphabet.  
Discusses in particular the transliteration of the letter Fern, and the Primitive Irish phonemic value represented by the letters Gétal, S(t)raf and (h)Úath.

16487. Sims-Williams (Patrick): Byrhtferth’s Ogam signature.  
In Oxford, St. John’s College, MS 17.

13497. Sims-Williams (Patrick): The invention of Celtic nature poetry.  

2475. Sims-Williams (Patrick): Celtomania and Celtoscepticism.  
In CMCS 36 (Winter, 1998), pp. 1–36.  
Reflects on the modern-day usage of the terms ‘Celtic’, ‘Celts’ and ‘Celticity’.

2106. Sims-Williams (Patrick): The Celtic Languages.  

9590. Sims-Williams (Patrick): Old Irish ēda (gen. ēdot): a ‘puzzling’ form in the Cambrai Homily and its implications for the apocope of /i/.  
Argues that ēda (rather than ēdo) is the historically earlier form (vs. K. McCone, Towards a relative chronology of ancient and medieval Celtic sound change, 1996, p. 106).

2506. Parsons (David N.), Sims-Williams (Patrick): Ptolemy: towards a linguistic atlas of the earliest Celtic place-names of Europe. Papers from a workshop, sponsored by the British Academy, in the Department of Welsh, University of Wales, Aberystwyth, 11–22 April 1999 / edited by David N. Parsons and Patrick Sims-Williams.  
Rev. by  

2495. Sims-Williams (Patrick): The five languages of Wales in the pre-Norman inscriptions.  
In CMCS 44 (Winter, 2002), pp. 1–36.
Discusses Irish names in both Ogam and Roman script: 
- macC Deichet (cf. OIr. Mac Deichet);
- camvloris;
- fannci
- nefroh (cf. OIr. Nad-Froich);
- filius carofinn (cf. OIr. Mac Caerthainn).

2101. Sims-Williams (Patrick): The Celtic inscriptions of Britain: phonology and chronology, c. 400–1200.

Rev. by

9512. Sims-Williams (Patrick): The importance of being Patrick.


11513. Poppe (Erich), Sims-Williams (Patrick): Medieval Irish literary theory and criticism.

1. Poetic theory; 2. The evidence of narrative prose.

8834. Sims-Williams (Patrick): Person-switching in Celtic panegyric: figure or fault?

In Heroic poets and poetic heroes in Celtic tradition (2005), pp. 315–326.


5467. Sims-Williams (Patrick): The iron house in Ireland.


Sims-Williams (Patrick) (ed.), Williams (Gruffydd Aled) (ed.)

CMCS Publications
11502. Sims-Williams (Patrick): *Tochmarc Befhola*: a ‘peculiar confused tale’?

11269. Sims-Williams (Patrick): Celto-Etruscan speculations.

Rev. by

11866. Sims-Williams (Patrick): Celtic civilization: continuity or coincidence?
In CMCS 64 (Winter, 2012), pp. 1–45.
Discusses eleven possible examples of the continuity of ancient Celtic customs
(as described by Classical authors) in medieval Ireland and Wales.


14469. Sims-Williams (Patrick): The four types of Welsh *yn*.
In TPhS 113/3 (Nov., 2015), pp. 286–304.
§5.2: *yn* and Old Irish *œh*;
§5.3: *yn* + verbal noun compared with Old Irish
*i*<sup>+</sup>, etc. + verbal noun.

Adds to the discussion by J. Busagni (in CMCS 64.47ff) and cites a further
passage from Augustine’s *De civitate Dei* (xviii.10) that provides evidence for
the misunderstanding of the Luperci by Irish scholars.

15943. Sims-Williams (Patrick): The location of the Celts according to
Hecataeus, Herodotus, and other Greek writers.
In Ét.C 42 (2016), pp. 7–32.

15358. Sims-Williams (Patrick): Dating the poems of Aneirin and Taliesin.
In ZCP 63 (2016), pp. 163–234.
Also on similar problems of dating affecting the earliest Irish poetry.

16628. Sims-Williams (Patrick): The earliest Celtic ethnography.
In ZCP 64 (2017), pp. 421–442.
   In TPhS 116/1 (Mar., 2018), pp. 117-130.

   In CMCS 77 (Summer, 2019), pp. 47-64.

19268. Sims-Williams (Patrick): The quotatives Old Irish ol/obsé and Middle Welsh heb/hebyr.
   In Celtica 31 (2019), pp. 90-123.
   Investigates the etymologies of these quotative markers.