AccessionIndex: TCD-SCSS-V.20210428.001
Accession Date: 28-Apr-2021
Accession By: The National Museum of Computing
Object name: Percy Ludgate (1883 -1922) - Charles Babbage's First Successor
Vintage: 2021
Synopsis: Brian Randell, video of and slides for Zoom presentation about Percy
Ludgate to The National Museum of Computing (TNMOC), Bletchley Park, U.K.

**Description:**
This presentation[1], the recent IEEE technical[2] [1] and RIA historical[3] [2] papers, and
the detailed background document [3], report on the first substantive investigation and
discoveries in fifty years about the work and life of Percy Ludgate. This ongoing pro
bono investigation was begun in 2016 by Brian Coghlan under the aegis of the John
Gabriel Byrne Computer Science Collection, and then Brian Randell, Paul Hockie,
Trish Gonzalez, David McQuillan and Reddy O'Regan agreed to join with their
specialist knowledge and skills. It has been further aided by joint outreach activities
with the Ludgate Hub (an e-commerce hub opened in 2016 in Ludgate's birthplace,
Skibbereen).

The presentation by Prof.Brian Randell was made via Zoom due to the Covid19
pandemic restrictions pertaining in 2020 and 2021. The presentation outlined the new
details and understandings of Ludgate's life and work that had been discovered by the
investigation.

Many thanks to the TNMOC for permission to preserve and publish this presentation.

---

[1] The MP4 video of this presentation is available at:
https://www.scss.tcd.ie/SCSSTreasuresCatalog/literature/TCD-SCSS-V.20210428.001/TNMOC-PercyLudgate-CharlesBabbagesFirstSuccessor-byBrianRandell-20210428.mp4
The slides for this presentation are available at:
https://www.scss.tcd.ie/SCSSTreasuresCatalog/literature/TCD-SCSS-V.20210428.001/TNMOC-PercyLudgate-CharlesBabbagesFirstSuccessor-slide12Corrected-byBrianRandell-20210428.ppt

[2] An electronic copy of the technical paper from the *IEEE Annals of the History of Computing*
is available at:
https://www.scss.tcd.ie/SCSSTreasuresCatalog/literature/TCD-SCSS-V.20210507.001/IEEE-Annals-FINAL-asPublished-Ludgate-20210307-0849.pdf

[3] An electronic copy of the historical paper from the *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy:
Archaeology, Culture, History, Literature* is available at:
https://www.scss.tcd.ie/SCSSTreasuresCatalog/literature/TCD-SCSS-V.20210921.001/BrianCoghlanEtAl-PercyLudgate-PRIAC-2021-121-09.pdf

The homepage for this catalog is at: https://www.scss.tcd.ie/SCSSTreasuresCatalog/
Click *'Accession Index'* (1st column listed) for related folder, or *'About'* for further guidance. Some of the items below may be more properly part of other categories of this catalog, but are listed here for convenience.

| Accession Index | Object with Identification |
|---|---|
| TCD-SCSS-V.20210428.001 | Brian Randell, 'Percy Ludgate (1883 -1922) - Charles Babbage's First Successor', video of and slides for Zoom presentation about Percy Ludgate to The National Museum of Computing (TNMOC), Bletchley Park, U.K., 2021. |
| TCD-SCSS-V.20210428.001.01 | Brian Randell, 'Percy Ludgate (1883 -1922) - Charles Babbage's First Successor', video of Zoom presentation about Percy Ludgate to The National Museum of Computing (TNMOC), Bletchley Park, U.K., 2021., preserved as electronic file: https://www.scss.tcd.ie/SCSSTreasuresCatalog/literature/TCD-SCSS-V.20210428.001/TNMOC-PercyLudgate-CharlesBabbagesFirstSuccessor-byBrianRandell-20210428.mp4, courtesy of TNMOC. |
| TCD-SCSS-V.20210428.001.02 | Brian Randell, 'Percy Ludgate (1883 -1922) - Charles Babbage's First Successor', slides for Zoom presentation about Percy Ludgate to The National Museum of Computing (TNMOC), Bletchley Park, U.K., 2021., preserved as electronic file: https://www.scss.tcd.ie/SCSSTreasuresCatalog/literature/TCD-SCSS-V.20210428.001/TNMOC-PercyLudgate-CharlesBabbagesFirstSuccessor-slide12Corrected-byBrianRandell-20210428.ppt, courtesy of TNMOC. |
| TCD-SCSS-V.20210507.001 | Technical paper by Coghlan, Randell, Hockie, Gonzalez, McQuillan, O'Regan, 'Investigating the Work and Life of Percy Ludgate', in the *IEEE Annals of the History of Computing*, plus a printed copy of the issue that contains the paper, both courtesy of IEEE, 2021. |
| TCD-SCSS-V.20210921.001 | Historical paper by Coghlan, Randell, Hockie, Gonzalez, McQuillan, O'Regan, 'Percy Ludgate (1883-1922), Ireland's first computer designer', in the *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy: Archaeology, Culture, History, Literature*, plus a printed copy of the issue that contains the paper, both courtesy of RIA, 2021. |
| TCD-SCSS-X.20121208.002 | Percy E. Ludgate Prize in Computer Science. Prize in memory of Percy Ludgate's novel 1909 design for an Analytical Engine, the next after Babbage's, c.1909. |

**References:**
1. Coghlan, Randell, Hockie, Gonzalez, McQuillan, O'Regan, 'Percy Ludgate (1883-1922), Ireland's First Computer Designer', *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy: Archaeology, Culture, History, Literature,* Vol. 121C, pp. 1-30, DOI: 10.3318/PRIAC.2021.121.09, 2021.

2. Coghlan, Randell, Hockie, Gonzalez, McQuillan, O'Regan, 'Investigating the Work and Life of Percy Ludgate', *IEEE Annals of the History of Computing,* Vol. 43, No.1, pp. 19-37, DOI: 10.1109/MAHC.2020.3038431, January-March, 2021.

3. Trinity College Dublin, *Percy E. Ludgate folder*, see: https://www.scss.tcd.ie/SCSSTreasuresCatalog/miscellany/TCD-SCSS-X.20121208.002/
For a more mobile-friendly interface to selected Ludgate folder contents, see: https://www.scss.tcd.ie/SCSSTreasuresCatalog/ludgate/
Also *Percy E. Ludgate Prize in Computer Science*. Available at: https://www.scss.tcd.ie/SCSSTreasuresCatalog/miscellany/TCD-SCSS-X.20121208.002/TCD-SCSS-X.20121208.002.pdf
Last viewed 21-Sep-2021.