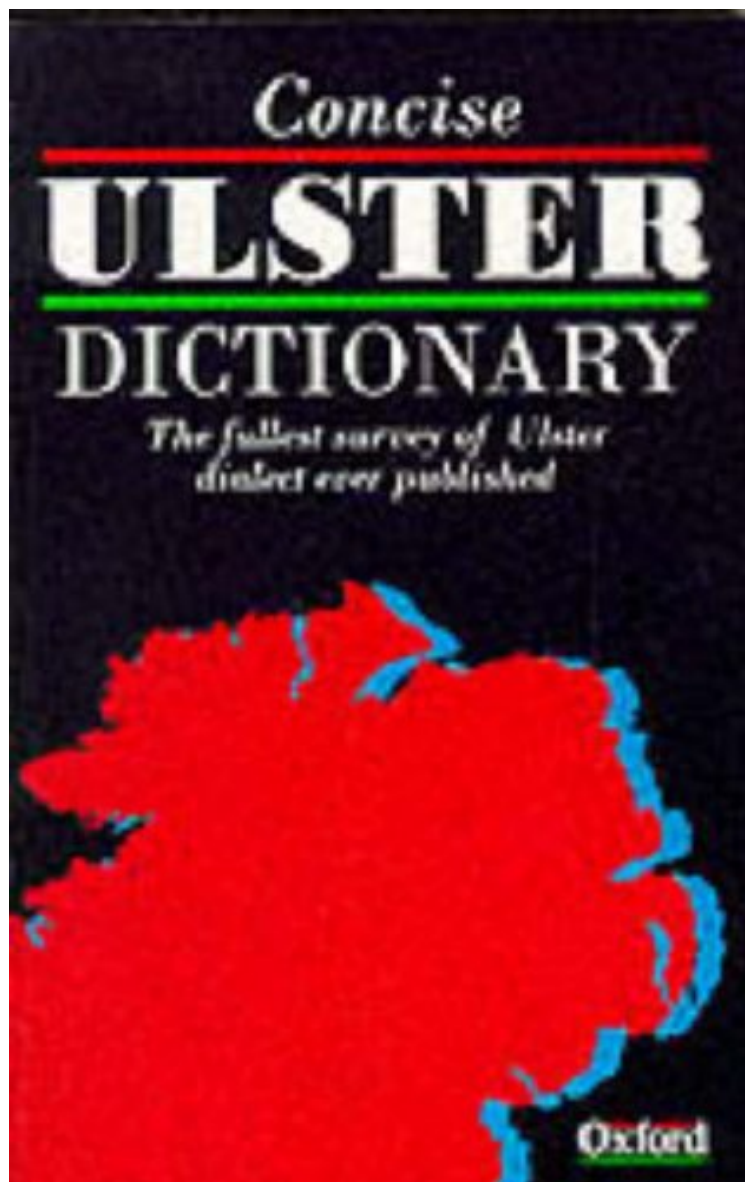


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1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A valuable collection of Ulster language and Folklore By M. G. SFAELLOU Anyone who is interested in Irish culture will invariably be interested in the rich language of the Irish people. The beautiful Irish language is still alive in the 'Gaeltachtaí' (Irish-speaking areas) on the West coast. There is

also the unusual phenomenon of an urban 'Gaeltacht' in Belfast. In fact the North of Ireland has such a wealth of language that this dictionary was greatly needed. The North (or Ulster) has a remarkable amalgamation of various sub-dialects of Irish English (as well as the actual Irish language itself) and also traces of the dialect of Ulster Scots (spoken by those descended from the Protestant planters who came to Ireland from Scotland). This dictionary is a marvellous record of the speech of all people of Northern Ireland and will be enjoyed by Catholics and Protestants alike. Here there is a wealth of folklore and history since so many of the entries refer to untranslatable concepts pertaining to folk customs, farming tools, folk crafts and so many other interesting topics. The Irish etymologies as well as other cognates are always provided. This is a necessary addition to any serious library of Irish books together with any work by O'Muirthe (all available through) and also Bernard Share's 'Slanguage' (which is not a collection of 'slang' in the dubious sense of the word but a remarkable compilation of Irish English terms with their etymologies and judicious quotes to cite the sources of each entry).

A Concise Ulster Dictionary presents the fullest ever guide to the diverse and colourful language of the province of Ulster. Taking in colloquialisms as well as rare and specialist terms, the dictionary covers a wide range of topics, with examples such as coggly-curry (a seesaw), barnbrack (a fruit bun), flahool (generous) and the Sheugh (the Irish Sea, or a drainage ditch). Information on word derivations and the geographical origin of entries, along with over 200 illustrations, mainly based on the collection at the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum, take the reader on an enlightening journey through the province's language and culture. A comprehensive introduction to the background of the Ulster dialect and helpful guidance on how to use the dictionary are also included. This book is intended for students in Northern Ireland (dialect is on the National Curriculum syllabus for English in Northern Ireland). General readers and academics.