

# CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	<i>page</i> ix
CHAPTER I Ogham	I
II Cryptology	37
III Hisperic	62
IV Bog-Latin	89
V The Vagrants of Ireland	123
VI Shelta	130
VII Bēarlagair na Sāer	225
VIII Summary	255
APPENDIX: An English-Jargon Vocabulary	258
INDEX	283

# THE SECRET LANGUAGES OF IRELAND

WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE  
TO THE ORIGIN AND NATURE OF  
THE SHELTA LANGUAGE

partly based upon Collections and Manuscripts of  
the late

JOHN SAMPSON, LITT.D.

*Sometime Librarian of the University  
of Liverpool*

by

R. A. STEWART MACALISTER  
LITT.D., LL.D.

*Professor of Celtic Archaeology, University College  
Dublin*

## Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Macalister, Robert Alexander Stewart, 1870-1950.  
The secret languages of Ireland.

Reprint of the 1937 ed. published by the University  
Press, Cambridge.

1. Shelta. 2. Irish language--Writing. 3. Cant.  
4. Irish language--History. 5. Druids and druidism.

II. Sampson, John, 1862-1931. II. Title.

PM9001.M2 1974 491'.6 74-1322

ISBN 0-8414-6115-5 (lib.bdg.)

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

PHOTODUPLICATION SERVICE

UNIVERSITY MICROFILMS INTERNATIONAL

Limited 100 Copies

Manufactured in the United States of America.



CAMBRIDGE  
AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS

1937

*Folcroft Library Editions  
Box 182  
Folcroft, Pa. 19032*