**Annotated Bio-Bibliography of Mineralogy and Crystallography 1469-1919  
  
by Curtis P. Schuh (1959-2007)**

****

**BOYLE, Robert.** (Born: Lismore, Ireland, 25 January

1627; Died: London, England, 30 December 1691) *Irish*

*chemist, physician & naturalist.*

Born the son of Richard Boyle, first earl of

Cork, Robert entered into a comfortable life with many

advantages and much affluence. He was educated by

private tutors before entereing Eaton at the age of eight.

In 1639, he was sent with his next oldest brother to

the Continent where he continued his education in the

polite arts, language, mathematics and science. The

outbreak of the English civil war caused his return to

England. His support of the Parlimentarians brought him

into contact with many of the leading English scientists,

and through them Boyle developed an interest in chemistry.

He entered Oxford in 1656 to advance his studies. After

the Restoration, Boyle frequently visited London, finally

moving there in 1668. He was one of the founders of the

Royal Society of London, and throughout the rest of his

life he was one of its most influencial and notable Fellows.

His home was open to all those interested in science, and

in a laboratory he had built onto the house, he performed

all his experiments.

References: Barr, *Index to Biographical Fragments*,

1973: 31. **•** BBA: I 135, 143-443; 136, 1-22; 1219,

188-193; II 1328, 228-235. **•** *Catalogue of Portraits of*

*Naturalists*: 211-2 [3 portraits listed]. **•** *Dictionary of Irish*

*Biography*: 34, portrait. **•** DNB. **•** Drugulin, *Sechstausend*

*Portraits*, 1863: nos. 605-11. **•** DSB: **2**, 377-82 [by M.B.

Hall]. **•** *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, 11th edition. **•** *Great*

*Chemists*: 135-148, portrait. **•** Hunter, M., ed. *Robert Boyle*

*Reconsidered*. Cambridge, 1994. **•** *ISIS, 1913-65*: **1**, 182-5. **•**

Maddison, R.E.W., *The Life of the Honourable Robert Boyle,*

*F.R.S*. London, 1969. **•** More, L.T., *The Life and Works of*

*the Honorable Robert Boyle*. New York, 1944. **•** Oster, M.,

“Biography, Culture, and Science: The Formative Years

of Robert Boyle,” *History of Science*, **31** (1993), 177-226. **•**

Poggendorff: **1**, cols. 267-9. **•** Sarjeant, *Geologists*, 1980: **2**,

600-2, Suppl. 1 (1986), **1**, 306-7 & Suppl. 2 (1995), **1**, 458-

9. **•** Schaedler, *Biographisch Handw¨orterbuch*, 1891: 16-7. **•**

WBI. **•** *World Who’s Who in Science*: 226.