

Woodlawn's Water Features



Tuesday 22nd August 2017

An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council



Waters & communities
Healthy Waters supporting Vibrant Communities



WOODLAWN HERITAGE GROUP

~ ESTABLISHED 1993 ~

Welcome to Heritage Week Walk & Talk 2017. This year we concentrate on water features, incorporating St. Killaan's Holy Well, ice house, fish pond, lake wood, rivers, weirs and bridges with our guest speakers Dr. Christy Cunniffe, Galway Community Archaeologist, Catherine Seale, Galway & Roscommon Water Officer, Tom Seale, Woodlawn Heritage Group & Bernie Doherty, Archaeologist. We acknowledge and thank The Heritage Council, Galway County Council, Coillte, CE Scheme & Tus participants and volunteers whose funding, time and support is much appreciated. Recent and on-going projects by Woodlawn Heritage Group include

- Killaan Holy Well Project
- Woodlawn Diaspora Project – encourage family/friends from abroad to contribute
- Woodlawn Woods Nature Trail – family friendly walk with signage
- Galway's Gastronomic Heritage – food related stories from the area

We encourage YOUR participation in contributing to our on-line archive

Log on to www.woodlawn.galwaycommunityheritage.org

www.facebook.com/woodlawnheritage/

Contact Us

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Rock Bridge River



Bur- reed, C. Seale

The Dunkellin/Raford River has stocks of Salmon and Sea Trout. This area is perfect for spawning due to the good gravel located here. The river bank also has a variety of plants including Flaggers, Bur-reed, Greater Willowherb, Ivy and Bindweed. Insects and snails live in the riverbank vegetation and their larvae provide food for the fish. This area was known to have otters and eels in the past and it would be nice to think that they are still around.

Wash Pond - located along the back road was used to dip and clean the sheep prior to shearing.

Cess Pool - located to the west of the ice house

Weirs – A number of weirs were located throughout the estate along the rivers and on the lake.

Reservoir – (site of) located to the north of Trench's Mausoleum.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION. PLEASE CONTRIBUTE PHOTOGRAPHS & INFORMATION REGARDING NATURAL & BUILT HERITAGE TO www.woodlawn.galwaycommunityheritage.org

Woodlawn Mill



The Mill at Woodlawn was run by steam which required a constant supply of water. This was supplied via the ram pump under the grand bridge.

Four arches at Mill, Frank Nevin

Rivers in Woodlawn



Greater Willowherb, C. Seale

The river that flows under the Rock Bridge in Ballintemple is the product of three streams; Mill River, Cloonymorris River and White Bridge River. This continues to flow on through Beechhill before becoming a much larger river known as the Raford River. Once it joins with smaller streams and rivers from the Loughrea area it becomes known as the Dunkellin River. Before it reaches Galway Bay, it is more often called the Kilcolgan River. The river enters the sea at Morans of the Weir, Kilcolgan.

Killaan Holy Well Project

This project is funded by the Heritage Council. Recorded Monument GA086:15003 (Well) is a natural spring. It is possibly pre-Christian in date. It is one of two wells in the area. The well is incorporated into a drystone structure, the outline of which is D shaped and measures c 10m in length. There appears to be an entrance to the south. Flagstones are visible just inside the entrance. Garland Sunday (last Sunday in July) was traditionally a day of veneration at the well.



Killaan Well, B. Doherty

St. Laan, is mentioned in the Annals of the Four Masters under AD448 as a smith to St. Patrick. Wells were often meeting points for trading and located close to townland boundaries. Work is on-going with further details on our website where your contribution is welcome.

Killaan Mill & Mill Race



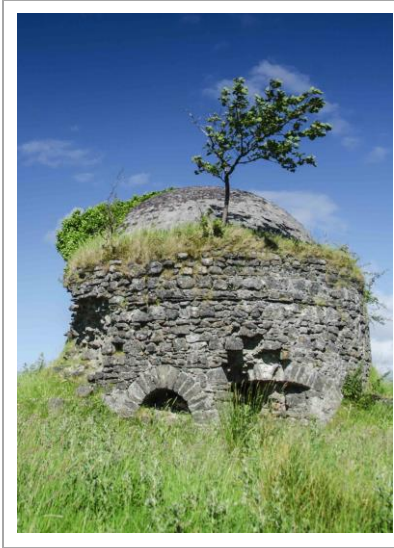
To the north of Killaan Graveyard is the site of a corn mill and kiln. A mill stream to the south would have powered the mill wheel.

1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map (Sheet 86) www.archaeology.ie

Ice House

Recorded Monument GA086: 243

Co-Ordinates 568393 730429



Located to the south of Woodlawn House, the Ice House was the original fridge. It was built of limestone blocks and red brick. The interior has a diameter 4.25m. A plinth of red brick runs around the base and 1.7m above this a line of corbels are present. Ice from the lake in winter was stored here with fish, game and other foods in storage. The structure may also have been used as a 'tea house' for the ladies.

Ice House. Frank Nevin 2014

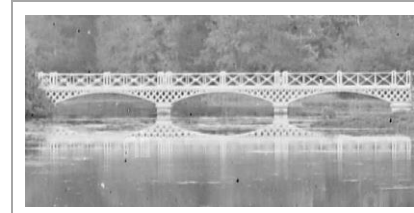
Fish Pond and Lake



The 1st Edition 6 Inch Map of Galway (Sheet 86) clearly shows the fish pond and lake at Woodlawn as it was 1840 - 1842. 'We loved with milk fed worms to go and fish by lakes ...thrilled when our corks bobbed.... As shoals of perch swam by' Bob Ashtown, Happy Childhood Days 1902 - 1912

Map from www.archaeology.ie

The Bridges of Woodlawn



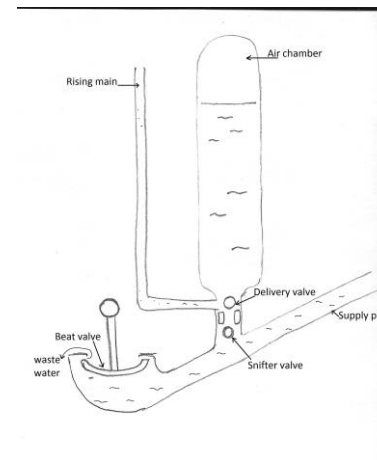
The White Bridge, Dillon Family, Courtesy of NMI, 1865



Single arched stone bridge along Rabbit Burrow Road, Woodlawn, B. Doherty 2015

The White Bridge dates from c.1860s. It is constructed of cast iron and would have been assembled on site. The bridge has three spans of 26' and spandrels are infilled with latticing.

Two single arched stone bridges were part of a thoroughfare known as **Rabbit Burrow Road**. These linked Woodlawn House to the ice house and fish pond. There is no parapet wall and protruding stones on the underside give a simple, rusticated appearance.



A Ram pump was located under the western most arch of the grand bridge at Woodlawn. This replaced a water wheel. Ducts made from stone flags located in the front lawn of Woodlawn House supplied water to the kitchen, laundry room, gardens and mill.

Sketch by B. Doherty 2015