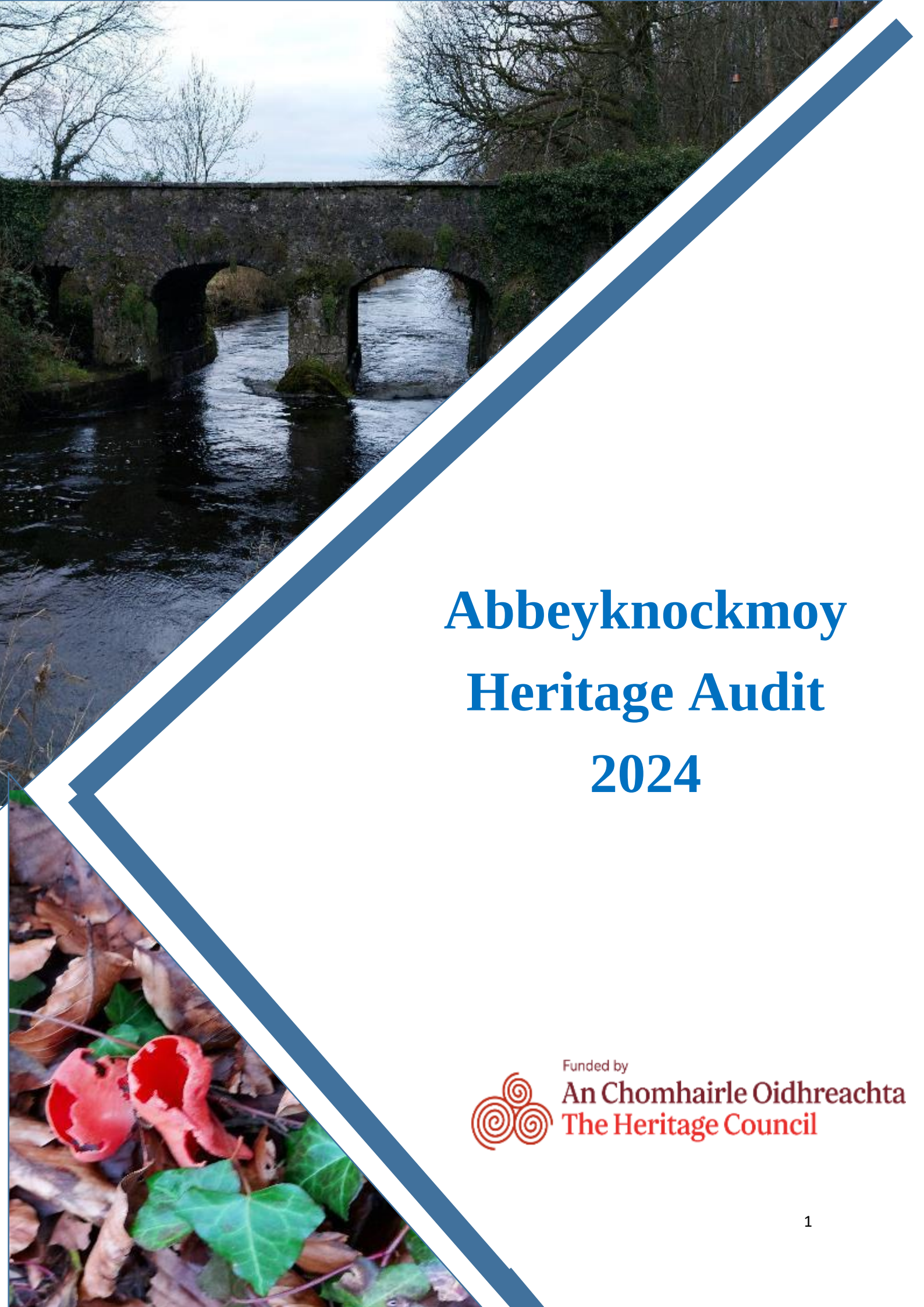


The cover image is a composite of two photographs. The top photograph shows a stone bridge with multiple arches spanning a river, with trees in the background. The bottom photograph shows a close-up of autumn foliage, including brown leaves and bright red hawthorn berries. A large, stylized blue arrow graphic points from the top right towards the bottom left, bisecting the cover.

Abbeyknockmoy Heritage Audit 2024

Funded by
 An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council

Abbeyknockmoy Heritage Audit 2024

Prepared by Zena Hctor Heritage Services

For Abbeyknockmoy Cultural Heritage Group



This Project was funded by the Heritage Council under the Community Grants Scheme 2024 Ref: CH1334

Funded by
 **An Chomhairle Oidhreachta**
The Heritage Council

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We would especially like to thank the Heritage Council who funded this project and to Marie Mannion, Galway County Council Heritage Officer who provided her support and invaluable advice.

Míle Buíochas

Marian Williams

Marian Williams



Zena Hctor

Disclaimer: This report is an information guide and does not act in any way as an invitation to any person to enter onto any of the properties listed. While every care has been taken to ensure accuracy in the compilation of this report, neither the author, Abbeyknockmoy Cultural Heritage Group or owners of the properties listed can accept responsibility for errors, omissions or inaccuracies. All information is received and published in good faith. All liabilities for loss, disappointment, negligence or any other damage caused by the reliance on information contained in this booklet, or in the event of bankruptcy or liquidation of any organisation, company, individual or firm mentioned, or in the event of any organisation, company, individual or firm ceasing to trade, is hereby excluded

Placenames: All place names in this report are as per Ordnance Survey spelling.

Table of Contents

1. Project Background and Methodology	1
1.1. Project Background	1
1.2. Abbeyknockmoy Cultural Heritage Group	1
1.3. Audit Project Brief	2
1.4. Methodology	2
 2. Natural Heritage	 6
2.1. Geology and Geomorphology.....	6
2.1.1. Bedrock	6
2.1.2. Karst	6
2.1.3. Glacial Deposition	7
2.2. Ecosystems and Habitats	10
2.2.1. Freshwater System.....	10
2.2.2. Peatlands.....	11
2.2.3. Woodlands	12
2.2.4. Village Garden and Picnic Area	12
 3. Built and Cultural Heritage.....	 14
3.1. Prehistoric Sites.....	14
3.1.1. Wedge tomb	14
3.1.2. Ring Barrow.....	15
3.2. Early Medieval Period (500-AD 1170)	16
3.2.1. Ringforts.....	16
3.2.2. Ecclesiastical Sites	18
3.3. Late Medieval	20
3.3.1. Cistercian Abbey	20
3.3.2. Medieval Parish Churches.....	29
3.4. Penal Era Chapels.....	31
3.4.1. Abbeyknockmoy.....	31
3.4.2. Carrowmanagh.....	31
3.5. Church Of Ireland Church.....	32

3.6.	Estate Churches	33
3.6.1.	Abbert Demesne	33
3.6.2.	Brooklodge Demesne	33
3.7.	Present Day Churches	35
3.7.1.	Brooklodge Church	35
3.7.2.	St Bernard's Church, Abbeyknockmoy	36
3.7.3.	St Mary's Church, Killrerin	39
3.8.	Burial Grounds	43
3.8.1.	Abbeyknockmoy	43
3.8.2.	Carrowmanagh (Killrerin Old Graveyard)	43
3.8.3.	Kilmoylan	44
3.8.4.	Abbert Demesne (Moor Cemetery)	45
3.8.5.	Corrafaheen (Tobar Padraic)	45
3.9.	Children's Burial Grounds	47
3.10	Holy Wells	50
3.10.1.	St Bernard's Holy Well	50
3.10.2.	Tobar Padraic	52
3.10.3.	St Kevin's Holy Well	53
3.11.	Medieval Settlements	54
3.11.1.	Moated Sites	54
3.11.2.	Castles	54
3.11.3.	17th century house	59
3.12.	Landed Estates of the 18 th and 19 th Centuries	60
3.12.1	Abbert	60
3.12.2.	Barbersfort	61
3.12.3.	Ballyglunin Park House	62
3.12.4.	Crumlin Park	64
3.12.5.	Moyne	65
3.12.6.	Newtown	67
3.12.7.	Brooklodge	69
3.12.8.	Ryehill	71
3.13.	18 th -19 th Century Villages	72
3.13.1.	Village Locations	72
3.13.2.	Vernacular Houses	73
3.13.3.	Trades and Crafts	74
3.13.4.	Lime Kilns	75

3.13.5. Mills.....	77
3.14.6. The Fair Green	84
3.14.7. The Village Pump	86
3.14.8. Schools	87
3.14.9. Sports	91
3.15. Travel and Communications	94
3.15.1. Roads.....	94
3.15.2. Bianconi Coach Route	95
3.15.3. The Railway	96
3.15.4. The Postal Service	100
3.16. Monuments	101
4. Conclusions and Recommendations	102
4.1. Introduction.....	102
4.2. Recommendation One: Creating a public profile.....	102
4.3. Recommendation Two: Promote and Interpret Knockmoy Abbey.....	103
4.4. Recommendation Three: Research the Villages of the 18 th and 19 th century	104
4.5. Recommendation Four: Collect Local Field and Place Names	105
4.6. Recommendation Five: Develop a Digital StoryMap.....	105
4.7. Recommendation Six: Mentoring and Facilitation for Project Development	106
BIBLIOGRAPHY	107
Appendix I	109
Appendix II	124

1. Project Background and Methodology

1.1. Project Background

Following a successful application to the Heritage Council under the Community Grants Scheme 2024 by Abbeyknockmoy Cultural Heritage, the Heritage Audit of Abbeyknockmoy commenced in June 2024.

The aim was to audit all built, natural and cultural heritage monuments and sites within a 6km radius of Abbeyknockmoy village in order to provide a framework for the future development of the local heritage resources by Abbeyknockmoy Cultural Heritage and their interpretation for both residents and visitors.

Zena Hctor Heritage Services were appointed in May 2024 by Abbeyknockmoy Cultural Heritage to complete the tasks outlined in the project brief.

1.2. Abbeyknockmoy Cultural Heritage Group

In 2023, members of Abbeyknockmoy Parish Society became interested in carrying out some heritage related projects and they set up a sub-group and named it Abbeyknockmoy Cultural Heritage. They hosted two Heritage week events that year. The first was a talk by Bernie Doherty, Galway Community Archaeologist on the archaeological sites in the area and the setting up of the new heritage group. In the second event, local resident Martin Curley gave a professional presentation on genealogical resources for people of the Parish.

They contacted Marie Mannion, Galway County Council Heritage Officer, for advice on the best way to proceed with the development of their new group. She suggested that compiling a heritage audit was the best starting point to provide the group with the necessary knowledge and guidance to plan future strategy and raise awareness of the heritage of their local area.

In early 2024, the new heritage group put together the application to the Heritage Council under the Community Grants Scheme seeking funding to carry out a Heritage Audit of their area. After a successful application the Audit commenced in May 2024 and has culminated in the production of this report.

Also in 2024, the group carried out a project recording the shops that existed in their area in the past and their role in cultural heritage. An exhibition was mounted and a talk delivered during Heritage Week 2024 and a report was produced for circulation within the local community to stimulate further information-sharing (Appendix I).

As a relatively new group, the profile of Abbeyknockmoy Cultural Heritage is currently low in comparison to other more established heritage groups within County Galway. The group currently has six core members and operates as a sub-group of Abbeyknockmoy Parish Society.

It is the aim of the group to now act on the recommendations of this baseline report, expanding their activities, strengthening their profile and increasing the awareness of the rich local heritage of the Abbeyknockmoy area among residents and visitors.

1.3. Audit Project Brief

The brief included the following tasks:

- (i) To undertake a desktop inventory of the built, natural and cultural heritage resources within a 6km radius of Abbeyknockmoy Village.
- (ii) Present information gathered to the local community and seek input and suggestions with regards to lesser known aspects of the heritage of the area, which may not previously be recorded.
- (iii) Carry out a field survey of the selected sites to determine access, intrinsic interest and condition for the purpose of potential inclusion in the development of future heritage promotional projects and development by the Abbeyknockmoy Cultural Heritage.
- (iv) Produce a final written report to include:
 - a. A comprehensive account of the heritage sites within a 6km radius of Abbeyknockmoy Village
 - b. Detail of access to and condition of the sites identified
 - c. Recommendations for future use and interpretation of the information collected and the heritage sites identified
- (v) Deliver a presentation on the findings and progress of the Audit to the local community during Heritage Week 2024

1.4. Methodology



Figure 1: Map of the Audit area. 6km radius around Abbeyknockmoy Village indicated in purple.

'Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [4-6-2024]'.

Desktop Inventory

A desktop inventory of the potential heritage sites for field survey, located within the agreed study area commenced in early June 2024. Several online sources were consulted as listed in the bibliography.

A list of sites was compiled and analysed in terms of location and condition and a prioritised list for field survey was developed.

Prioritised list of potential sites for Field Survey

The prioritised list of sites was presented to Abbeyknockmoy Cultural Heritage at a meeting in Abbeyknockmoy Community Centre on June 26, 2024. The group members were invited to consider the list of sites and provide information on any additional sites that they would like to see included in the Audit.

Field Survey

Field survey began in July and continued until mid-October. Sites were assessed in terms of access, intrinsic interest and condition for the purposes of potential inclusion in development of future interpretive products.

Reporting and Consultation

Progress updates were provided to Abbeyknockmoy Cultural Heritage by email, phone and face to face meetings throughout the project.

As the field survey progressed several landowners and local residents were met and consulted, with regard to access to sites and information on sites in the locality.

During Heritage Week 2024, the findings to date of the Audit were presented to the public through an illustrated talk followed by a Q&A session delivered by Zena Hctor.

A meeting was held with the Heritage Groups representation, Marian Williams on October 30th to discuss the proposed recommendations of the Audit.

A draft copy of the report was delivered for comment on November 6th.

The completed report was uploaded to Galway Community Heritage website and to the Heritage Council grant returns system on 11-11-2024.



A

Figure 2: Screenshot from Facebook page of Heritage Week 2024 event.



Abbeyknockmoy's Cultural Heritage
 2 August · 🌐

National Heritage Week takes place nationwide from Saturday, 17th to Sunday 25th August 2024. This year's theme, Connections, Routes, and Networks will explore the many ways we are linked through our heritage – from physical pathways like roads, canals, and trails to cultural ties through family, pastimes, history and traditions.

For our second year, we have scheduled two very interesting free events for you to enjoy. Both exploring themes of place and cultural ties through the history of our country shops in Abbeyknockmoy.

Both events will introduce you to the works researched so far and hopefully invite further information and discussion around the rich heritage and cultural ties to Abbeyknockmoy.

1) Tues 20th August at Abbeyknockmoy Community Centre
 Connecting with our place - Recording Abbeyknockmoy's Heritage.
 This talk will reveal the variety of heritage sites that exist in our local area...natural, built and cultural. It will provide an insight into the lives of the people who lived here in the past and the marks they left on the landscape. This exploration is part of the Audit of our local heritage currently being undertaken by Zena Hocht Heritage Services in conjunction with Abbeyknockmoy Cultural Heritage Group.
 Funded under the Heritage Council's Community Heritage Grants Scheme 2024.

2) Thurs 22nd August at Sean O'Donohoe's Bar (Meeting Room)
 Connecting with our people - Recording of Abbeyknockmoy's Cultural Shops and their role in our Cultural Heritage. Funded under Galway County Council's Community Support Scheme - Cultural Development 2024

*Connecting with our place -
Recording
Abbeyknockmoy's Heritage*

Tues 20th August, 7pm - 830pm

Funded under the Heritage Council's
Community Grants Scheme 2024.



Funded by

*Connecting with our Culture -
Recording Abbeyknockmoy's Country
Shops & their role in Cultural Heritage*

THURS 22nd August, 8pm - 930pm

Sean O'Donohoes Bar - Meeting Room



Figure 3: Advertisement sent out on social media for Heritage Week event 2024.

2. Natural Heritage

2.1. Geology and Geomorphology

2.1.1. Bedrock

The audit area is underlain by Carboniferous limestone. These rocks were formed, at a time, when



the part of the Earth's surface that would eventually form Ireland, was located on the bed of a shallow tropical sea. That was between 360 and 320 million years ago. When the plants and animals living in that sea completed their life cycle, their remains settled on the sea bed. As thick layers of these remains built up, calcium carbonate precipitated into the spaces between the remains and formed a 'cement'. Eventually through pressure and chemical change over a long time, the 'cement' and the pieces of shell and skeletons formed limestone rock, which is very rich in calcium and full of fossils. These fossils are the remains of the plants and animals and can be seen in many of the exposed rocks of the audit area.

Photograph 1: The fossils of Crinoid corals visible in the wall on the approach path to the Cistercian Abbey.

Variations in sea conditions and the depth of water over the millions of years in which the limestone was formed, resulted in variations in the colour and density of the rocks formed. Less dense or softer limestone (light grey) weathers quicker than a hard form (dark grey). This is very obvious in the audit area, where the hard bedrock around Knockroe stands above the softer limestone areas which has been eroded away. This shaping of the landscape is particularly evident in the contrast between the uplands of Knockroe and the softer, eroded limestones in the centre valley carved out by the Abbert River.

2.1.2. Karst

The bedrock of the study area has been exposed to weathering since its formation. Limestone is particularly susceptible to weathering as the slightly acidic properties of rainwater dissolve the alkaline calcium carbonate in the limestone. Water in the form of rain, ice and frost and wind have eroded the rocks.

When limestone is weathered, it can exhibit certain features which are referred to as Karst. There are a number of 'karst landscape' features in the audit area.

Enclosed depressions were created where water gathered in small hollows in the past and dissolved the underlying limestone. Today these appear as large hollows on the landscape which may become waterlogged in times of heavy rain. The most obvious are located in the north-west around the Ballyglunin area and in the south-west around Shantallow and Carrowreagh.

Swallow holes and springs are also features of a karst landscape. Cracks are often formed in bedrock as a result of earth movements. When these cracks are exposed to weathering, they become larger and widen over time, eventually forming large holes. Rainwater falls on the land and through these holes, travelling down until it meets a more resistant layer of rock. It has then reached what is known as groundwater level. When there is heavy rainfall, the groundwater level can rise and the water reappears through the swallow holes or springs. Swallow holes are found in Culliagh North and Garraun More. Springs occur in Pollawarla, Farmhill, Newtown, Abbert Demesne and Lough Beg Abbert Demesne, Dangan Beg and Coolorta.

Turloughs appear when the groundwater level is so high that the water rises above ground to such an extent that it spreads over the surface land forming a small lake. The Irish word 'tuar-loch' translates as a disappearing lake because in times of dry weather, the water disappears back underground through the swallow hole. An area of turlough occurs around Barnaderg Castle.

Caves are formed when the water flowing through the swallow holes meets a resistant layer of rock and as a result flows horizontally underground. As it flows, it dissolves the rock more and more, widening out the cracks into caverns through which the water can flow as an underground river. At Ballyglunin, a cave consisting of a complex network of passages is found. The passages are different heights and widths, some dry and some carrying water. The cave is located at a very shallow depth under the bed of the Abbert River and is considered an unusual example of a cave directly under a river bed with limited connection to the river. The cave was designated a County Geological Heritage Site by the Audit of the Geological Heritage of the County of Galway. The full report can be accessed at https://gsi.geodata.gov.ie/downloads/Geoheritage/Reports/GY013_Ballyglunin_Cave.pdf

There was a reported sinking of the river into the cave system in 1955. During blasting of the Abbert river channel as part of the arterial drainage scheme, it was reported that the river suddenly disappeared down a hole in its bed – resulting in several kilometres of the river drying out. Flow was only restored when the newly opened swallow holes were blocked.

2.1.3. Glacial Deposition

The last Ice Age in Ireland began to recede c.15,000 years ago. As the glaciers melted and retreated, the boulders, stones and gravel that had been scraped up from the bedrock and carried along in the solid mass of ice, were dropped and left strewn across the landscape. How and where they were deposited depended on the direction of the ice flow and the rate of the melting process.

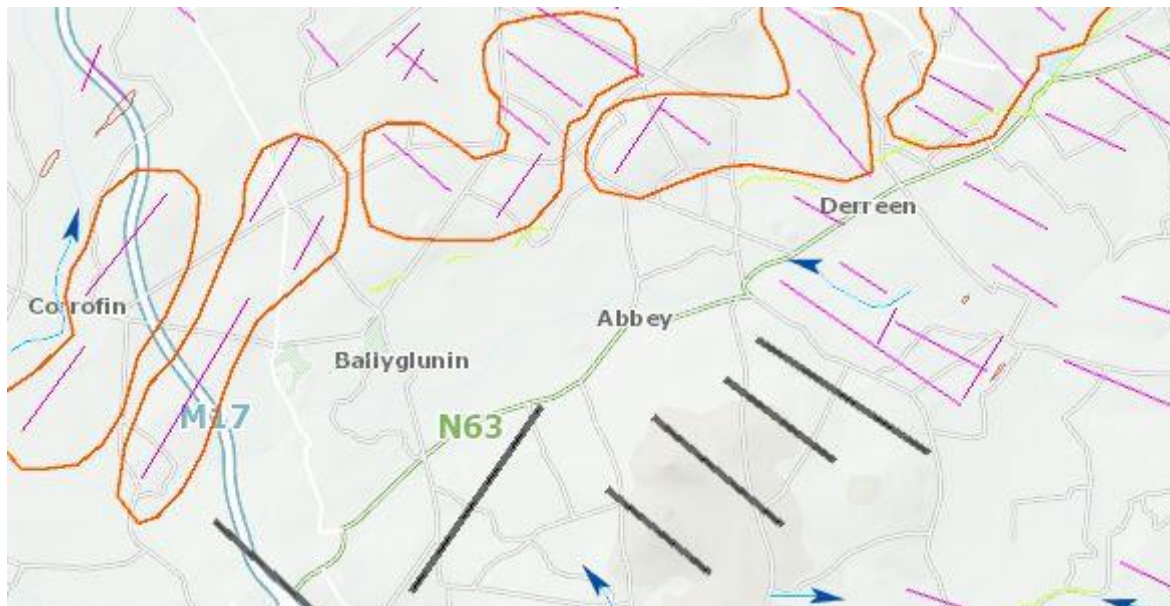


Figure 4: Quaternary geomorphology of the Audit Area. Source: <https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=a30af518e87a4c0ab2fbde2aaac3c228> "Contains Irish Public Sector Data (Geological Survey Ireland) licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0) licence

The diagrammatic representation in Figure 4 shows the landscape features which are a result of glacial deposition in the audit area. The pink lines are drumlins, the brown shapes are ribbed moraines and the black lines are streamlined bedrock. The blue arrows show meltwater channels that formed as the ice receded.

Drumlins from the Irish word droimnín (little ridge), is an elongated hill. It was formed by the action of the melting ice shaping the underlying gravels as it moves over it. Several drumlins can be seen in the north and south-east of the audit area.

Ribbed Moraines are larger ridges formed beneath the glacier as it melted creating 'ripple' like mounds of deposited stones and gravels. Some of these moraines can include reformed drumlins. A line of these moraines extends across the audit area from east to west. They are particularly visible in the Ballyglunin area and along the Derreen road into Brierfield. All have been quarried out in sections for sand and gravel extraction.

ACCESS - GEOLOGY AND GEOMORPHOLOGY

Karstic features on the landscape include enclosed depressions, swallow holes, springs, a turlough and a cave system. All of these features, with the exception of the cave system can be viewed at several points from public roads.

Ballyglunin Cave is on private land and there is no access without landowner permission. It is not a site that is suitable for any general promotion. In addition, caves are potentially dangerous and fragile environments, and no visit should be considered except in the company of experienced cavers, even if allowed by the owners.

Glacial Deposition features include drumlins and ribbed moraines. These can be viewed from the public road, especially on the road to Brierfield near Coolorta and Parklaur.

2.2. Ecosystems and Habitats

2.2.1. Freshwater System

The Abbert River flows through the audit area from east to west. It rises near Killaclogher Bog which is a designated Natural Heritage Area and partially located in the townland of Abbert Demesne, hence the name of the river. The placename Abbert derives from the Irish 'Aidhbeirt' which signifies an offering (Joyce, 1827-1814). On William Larkin's map for the Report of the Bog Commissioners 1815, the river is labelled 'River Moyne' (Figure 6). A number of small streams drain into the main river at different stages in the east of the area.

The Clare River flows, for a short distance, through a section of the north-west of the audit area between the townlands of Coolrevagh and Barbersfort and then beneath Cahergal bridge into Ballynakilla and Clooninagh.

The Abbert meets the Clare River outside the audit area at Anbally and it flows onward into Lough Corrib. All of the Abbert and Clare River system are designated as part of the Lough Corrib Special Area of Conservation (Site Code: 000297) under the EU Habitats Directive and are important spawning grounds for trout and salmon.

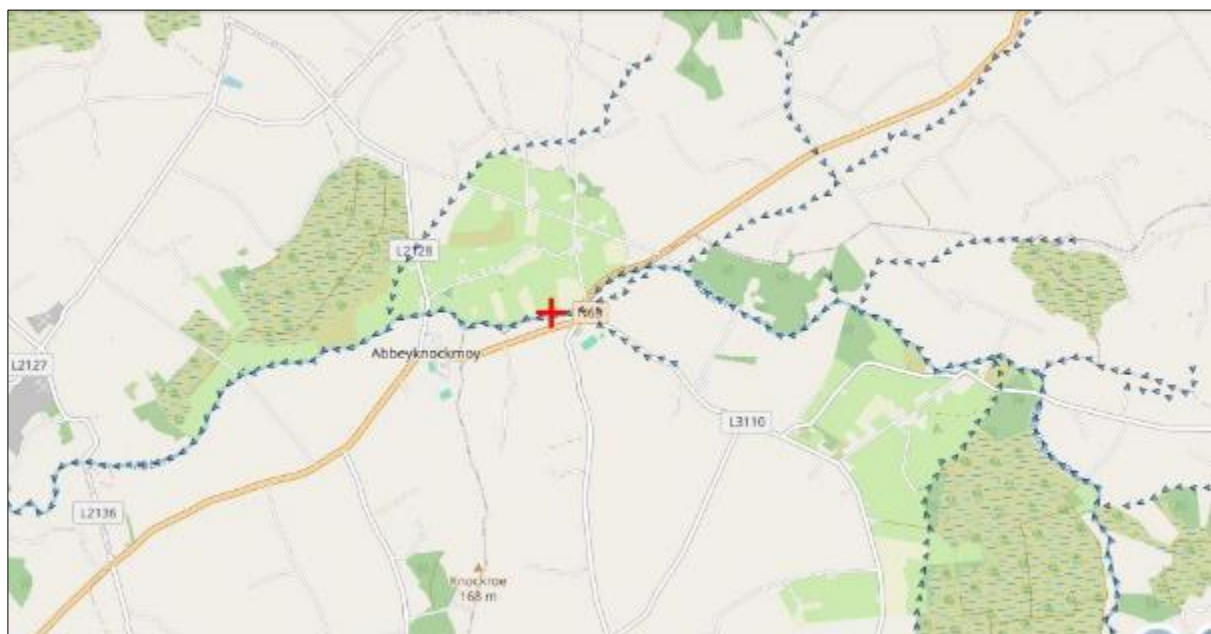


Figure 5: Flow pattern of the Abbert River and its tributaries in the audit area

(Source: <https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/>)

Water quality monitoring is carried out by Galway County Council on the Abbert River at Liss bridge near Newtown School and the current status is ranked 'Good'.

The river as it appears today has been greatly changed due to arterial drainage works in the 1950s carried out by the Office of Public Works. Before this major deepening of the channel of the river, the river bed spread out over a much wider area and there were a number of small islands below and beyond Pallas Bridge. In 1840 during the first Ordnance Survey of Ireland John O'Donovan noted the name as 'Palace Bridge' in his Field Name Books and wrote: *'It is a considerable long stone bridge crossing over a large island and river which is here divided into two branches by the island.'*

2.2.2. Peatlands

There are a number of areas of peatland within the audit area. Over the centuries these have been exploited for fuel and today what remains is largely cutover bogland.

Larkin's Map of 1815 which was compiled for the Bog Commissioners when they were surveying the bogs for the purposes of land improvement, shows the extent of peatland in the audit area at that time. Since that time, much of the peatland has been drained and pastureland has been developed.

Figure 6 shows an area of bog to the north of Abbeyknockmoy in 1815. This was a section of raised bog which stretched from Moyne west to Ballynapark on the north side of the Abbert River. The eastern section has been drained, cut and reseeded over the last 200 years. The present day road from Abbey north to Feagh West, now forms the eastern boundary of the remaining peatlands which have been cut for fuel over the years. A mosaic of habitats has resulted including cutover bog, wet grassland, fen, bog woodland, scrub and some raised bog areas.



Figure 6: Extract from Larkins' Bog Map 1815

In Derreen and Tawanaghbaun townlands, a cutover area of bog comprises of a mosaic of river, marsh, raised bog, cutover bog, fen, bog woodland and scrub. Parts of this have been afforested with commercial trees.

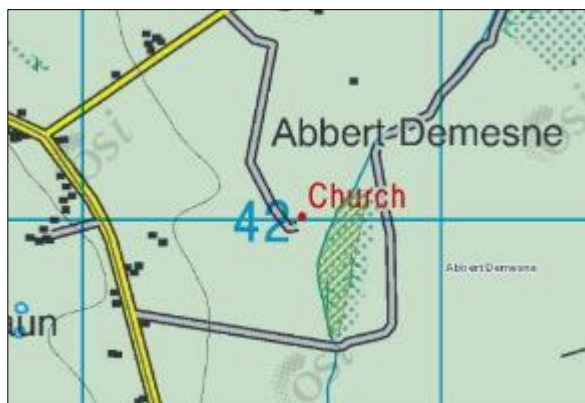
In the north-west of the audit area, in Cahergal and Cloonlusk townlands, there are areas of wet grassland, raised bog, cutover bog, fen and scrub.

The best example of raised bog in the audit area is located in the townlands of Abbert Demesne, Abbert, Carrowmore and Parkacurry. It is known as Killaclogher Bog and it is a designated Natural Heritage Area under the Irish Wildlife Act. This raised bog includes both areas of high bog and cutover bog, and an in-filled lake. It is bordered along its eastern side by the Killaclogher River, and on the western side by a small stream. The variety of habitats to be found here include raised bog, cutover bog, lake, river, poor fen, wet grassland, wet woodland (oak, ash and willow alder), bog

woodland and scrub. The site supports an important colony of the Marsh Fritillary butterfly, a species listed on Annex II of the E.U. Habitats Directive (<https://www.wetlandsurveys.ie/>)

2.2.3. Woodlands

A small area of woodland to the east of Moor Church and Graveyard, in Abbert Demesne, is designated an 'Area of Long and Established woodland (1)'. This type of woodland has been



continuously wooded since 1830, but there is no evidence of its antiquity in older documentation.

<https://data.gov.ie/dataset/ancient-and-long-established-woodland-inventory-2010>

The majority of the woodland in the audit area is commercial forestry, with the main concentrations on the western slopes of Knockroe and in the townlands of Newtown, Abbert demesne, Derreen, Moyne and Sunhill.

Figure 7: Map showing Area of Long Established Woodland shaded green. 'Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [7-8-2024]'.

2.2.4. Village Garden and Picnic Area

A Village Garden and Picnic Area was created by the Abbeyknockmoy Parish Society along the south bank of the Abbert River, in Liss townland in 2013. This was an action by the community to counteract fly-tipping which was occurring in this area at the time. The action was very successful and a biodiversity-rich community amenity has resulted. The developed area is to the rear of the Community Centre, Handball Alley, Newtown National School and a large car park, forming a unified complex of community facilities.

The Village Garden includes a polytunnel, raised beds and a fruit orchard located between the river and Newtown National School. Funding was received in 2023 from Galway County Council Community Support Scheme under the Inclusive Community Spaces measure. Wheelchair accessible, picnic furniture and chalk and mirror boards with identification images of local wildlife were installed along the river bank. Most recently a directional sign to the garden has been installed at the roadside entrance to the car park. Also in 2023, DCs for Bees (an industry initiative led by Host in Ireland to help save Ireland's declining bee population) donated 1000 spring bulbs which have been planted around the picnic area. The local Active Retirement Group, who are hosted every two weeks by the parish society/heritage group, are regularly brought on walks through the Village Garden and Picnic Area. In 2023, an intergenerational project for biodiversity was organised in the Village Garden when the Active Retirement Group along with the Junior Infants classes of the local school, planted a 'Pollen Patch'. It is aimed to continue this project over the coming years. A report has been commissioned in 2024 by the Cultural Heritage group/Parish Society which details future biodiversity development plans for the Garden and Picnic area. The aim is to implement the recommendations of this plan as soon as funding becomes available.

ACCESS– ECOSYSTEMS AND HABITATS

The Abbert River is accessible at the Village Garden and Picnic Area beside Liss Bridge, developed by the Abbeyknockmoy Parish Society. However access to the site from the N63 road can be dangerous due to the volume of traffic. An access route has been developed from the Community Centre car park and to the rear of Newtown School. This access route has recently been marked with one directional signpost in the car park. This route needs to be further highlighted with clear directional signage and a social media campaign.

The peatlands of the area are readily accessible from the access tracks used for fuel cutting in the past.

Most of the woodlands are privately owned commercial forestry and cannot be accessed without the owner's permission.

3. Built and Cultural Heritage

3.1. Prehistoric Sites

3.1.1. Wedge tomb

A megalithic wedge tomb was located in Cahernaglass townland 1.6km south of Knockroe Hill. It was recorded by de Valera and O Nualláin in 1972 (Survey of the Megalithic Tombs of Ireland) but no visible surface trace of the monument survives today. They described a long narrow gallery 1.82m long and aligned roughly east-west. Five large upright stones formed the north side and seven were present on the south side. A backstone closed off the east end. There were also two outer wall-stones on the north side and two on the south side. The tomb was incorporated in a sub rectangular mound 13m long and c.8m wide. Five displaced slabs lay beside it which may have been fragments of the roof.

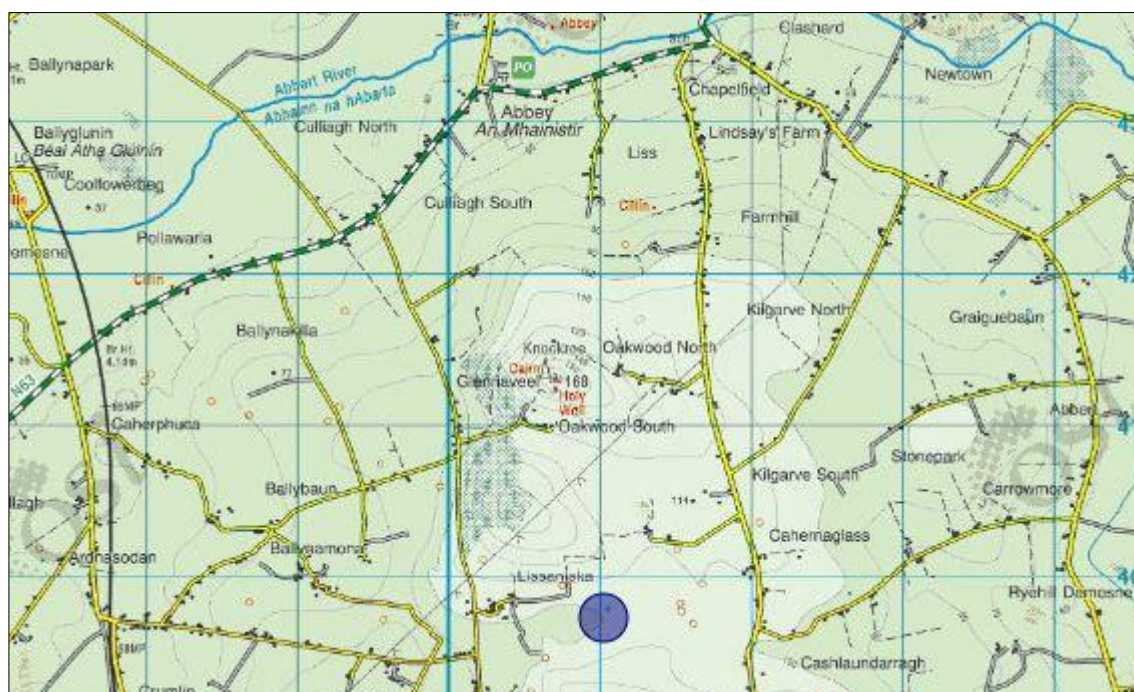
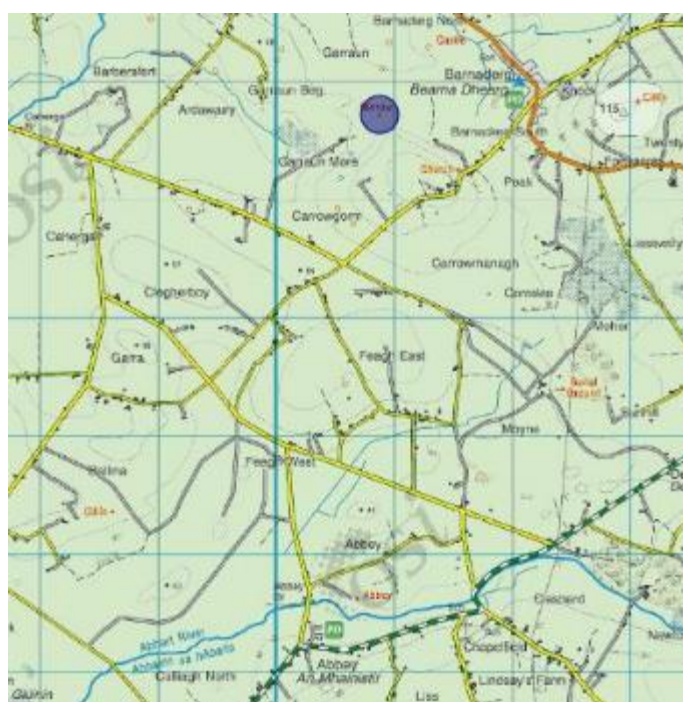


Figure 8: Site of wedge tomb in Cahernaglass townland denoted with purple circle.

'Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [11-9-2024]'.

The term barrow is used by archaeologists to denote a mound of earth or stones erected over human remains, which were typically cremated. Barrows have been classified into seven different types. The most common in Ireland are ring barrows of which there are an estimated 1,843 in Ireland (Source: <https://www.archaeology.ie/archaeological-survey-ireland/>). The prevalence of burial barrows increased from about 40% of burial sites in the second half of the Bronze Age (1300-400BC) to 60% during the Iron Age (440BC- AD400).

<https://www.archaeology.ie/archaeological-survey-ireland/>



The ring barrow is on private farmland and the owner's permission must be sought before access.

Figure 8: Location of Ring Barrow in Garraun
More townland denoted by purple circle
 'Data from the basemap gallery accessed through
 the Heritage Maps Viewer at
www.heritagemaps.ie, [11-9-2024]'.
 10



15

3.2. Early Medieval Period (500-AD 1170)

3.2.1. Ringforts

Ringforts are the most numerous archaeological monument found in Ireland and are commonly referred to as 'fairy forts'. Dating from between 2,500 and 1000 years ago, they functioned as the home of the local farming population. They consist of a usually circular (but can be oval or D-shaped) area surrounded by earthen or stone banks. The banks were a protective feature and the houses were built within the central area. The ringforts that survive today can range in diameter from 20 -60 metres. One (univallate), two (bivallate) and sometime more (multivallate) protective banks of earth and/or stone enclosed the buildings in the interior. It has been suggested that the sites of greater size and with two or more enclosing banks show a hierarchical social system, where the more powerful residents of an area lived in the larger ringforts. Small, single banked enclosures may have been used to house cattle and other livestock.

When stone is used as the dominant enclosing element they are often referred to as 'cashels' or 'cahers'. When earth is the main component of the surrounding banks they are often referred to as 'raths'. Cashels, raths and smaller enclosures all occur within the Audit area.

The surviving condition of these sites in the audit area, as recorded by the National Monuments Service (NMS), shows that approximately 64% no longer exist or are in a poor state of preservation. Only 8% (a total number of 4) are classified as well preserved. Appendix II contains the NMS records.

Cashels

Twenty-eight cashel sites have been recorded by the NMS within the Audit Area. Two of these, which were located in Ballynakilla and Ballybaun townlands, have been removed in the past and there is no surface trace.

The NMS classifies twenty of the cashels as poorly preserved. Two cashels are classified as being in fair condition (Ballybaun and Barnaderg North), while the only cashel classified as being well preserved is located in Cahergal.

The state of preservation of the remaining three cashels is not described by the NMS.



Photograph 3: Bank of Cahergal cashel overlain by modern field wall

Raths

Twenty raths are recorded within the Audit area (NMS). There is no visible trace of one as a modern house has been built on the site in Culliagh North. Eight are classified as poorly preserved; another eight as in fair condition and three are well preserved.



Photograph 4: Trivallate rath at Barnaderg North

'Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [11-9-2024]'.

The three well preserved examples are found in Barnaderg North, Liss and Lissaniska.

The Barnaderg North example is the only trivallate rath in the Audit area. It is located 450m north-west from the Castle, on the south side of the R332 road way. It has traces of an interior house and an entrance causeway.

Four of the raths in the Audit area were later re-used as Children's burial grounds. These are located in Brooklodge Demesne, Liss x2 and Knock (See Section 3.9)

Enclosures

There are thirteen sites recorded as enclosures in the Audit area but only three have any visible surface remains. These small univallate enclosures were likely used as animal enclosures in the past. The only well preserved example is located in Caherpuca townland, but due to its rectangular shape the NMS have recorded that it may be post medieval in date. Without excavation its exact date cannot be determined.

Souterrains

Souterrains are underground tunnels which are frequently associated with ringforts and cashels. They were likely built as refuges in times of danger. Without positive identification through excavation, they are often identified today as hollows in the ground, which have resulted from the collapse of part of the tunnel. Traces of a possible souterrain are visible in a poorly preserved cashel in Garraun Beg townland where there is a hollow running east-west. In a ringfort in Barnaderg North, an L-Shaped hollow up to 1.25m deep has the traces of a stone wall protruding. There is a legend of a tunnel from this ringfort to the castle. This may be a souterrain. (Source: <https://www.archaeology.ie/archaeological-survey-ireland/>).

ACCESS – RINGFORTS

All raths, cashels and enclosures are on private land and the owner's permission should be sought before entry. The only triple banked rath in the area is located close to the R332 road in Barnaderg and can be viewed from the public road.

3.2.2. Ecclesiastical Sites

From the 5th century, Christianity became established in Ireland. Religious settlements were often founded under the patronage of local kings and sub-kings. They typically consisted of enclosures resembling the existing ringforts or cashels that dotted the countryside but larger in diameter, within which a small church was built, usually of wood known as a *dairteach* (wooded house). Also within the enclosure was the hut where the holy man lived. These ecclesiastical enclosures typically date from the 7th century. By the 9th century many of the original wooden buildings in the enclosure had been replaced with stone-built structures.

There are two early ecclesiastical enclosures and a possible third, in the Audit area which may date back to the Early Medieval Period (400AD-AD1100). One of these is located in Cloonlusk townland, in farmland close to the edge of the bog. It consists of a large circular enclosure with a diameter of 76.5m defined by an earth and stone bank and an external fosse from the east-south-east through the west to the north-north-east. Elsewhere there is only a sight trace of the bank. The interior was re-used in later centuries as a Children's Burial Ground (Section 3.9).



Photograph 5: Remains of bank of early ecclesiastical enclosure at Cloonlusk



Photograph 6: Remains of stone and earthen bank of early ecclesiastical enclosure at Cloonlusk

The second ecclesiastical enclosure is located in Abbert townland, on a slight rise in the landscape. Moor (Abbert) Church and graveyard, which were built at a much later date, are located in the interior and may possibly occupy the site of the original early medieval church. The poorly

preserved original enclosing bank is visible in the aerial Photograph 7 but is difficult to see at ground level. The enclosure measures 162 metres in diameter.



Photograph 7: Abbert Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Enclosure with the later Moor church and graveyard in the interior.
'Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [11-9-2024]'.

Kilmoylan

In Annagh townland, in the present day Kilmoylan graveyard are the ruins of a medieval church (Section 3.3.2.). According to the Ordnance Survey Letters (O'Flanagan 1927, Vol. 1, 285-6), this church 'was probably erected by the Burkes in the 14th or 15th centuries, on the site of a primitive Irish one ... dedicated to St. Meldan of Loch Oirb'. This reference indicates that there may have been an early medieval ecclesiastical settlement at this site and this is likely the origin of the placename 'Kil Moylan' – or the Church of Moylan (Meldan). The curving sector of the graveyard wall, to the east of the church, could mark the line of a possible early ecclesiastical enclosure.

ACCESS – EARLY MEDIEVAL ECCLESIASTICAL SITES

The site at Cloonlusk is on private farmland and permission to access must be sought from the landowner. The site at Abbert Demesne can be viewed from Abbert (Moor) Graveyard but the banks are not clearly visible. Kilmoylan Graveyard is fully accessible to the public.

3.3. Late Medieval

3.3.1. Cistercian Abbey

The early medieval monastic communities in Ireland built settlements similar to ringforts, but at a slightly larger scale. These type of settlements were dispersed throughout the rural landscape and the 'holy men' lived individually in separate ringfort enclosures. Also within the enclosure was a small church and some communal structures. This was the type of establishment found at Cloonlusk and Abbert as described in Section 3.2.2.

In contrast, on the mainland of Europe at a similar time, a shared monastic life under one roof ruled by an Abbot was common under the Benedictine rule. It was an austere life dedicated to God. St Malachy, Bishop of Armagh, on his way to Rome about 1140, stayed at Clairvaux monastery where the rule of St Benedict was practised under its Abbot St Bernard. Malachy was so impressed by this way of life, he left some of his group in Clairvaux to be trained and professed in the Order by St Bernard. Around 1142 these Irish monks along with some French counterparts arrived in Ireland and set up the first Irish Cistercian Abbey at Mellifont, Co. Louth. As Mellifont grew in strength, daughter houses were established in various parts of Ireland including Boyle Abbey in 1161. Kings and sub-kings acted as patrons providing grants of land.

The Cistercians arrive in Abbeyknockmoy

Knockmoy Abbey (Mainistir Chnoc Muaidhe in Irish), is also known as The Monastery of the Hill of Victory (Monasterium Collis Victoriae in Latin). Tradition maintains that Cathal Crovderg O'Connor offered the Cistercians of Boyle Abbey, land at Abbeyknockmoy to set up a monastery in fulfilment of a vow made by him previously at a battle with the English forces under Almeric de St. Lawrence, in which he obtained the victory (Lewis, 1837).

When the monks first arrived at Abbeyknockmoy the land would have been largely uncultivated and wooded. The local population were resident in ringforts and cashels dotted across the landscape (Section 3.2.1.). The limestone bedrock with its cover of glacial till provided easily worked soil. Isolation from society, land which could be cultivated, a good water supply, level ground for building and the availability of timber and stone were some of the factors that influenced the selection of sites for the Cistercians. Abbeyknockmoy offered all of this.

However there were also large tracts of bogland. The Cistercian Order preferred to settle on rich, fertile lands and Abbeyknockmoy, along with Corcomroe Abbey in Co. Clare is among one of the few to be found on the poorer soils of the west of Ireland.

The Abbert River provided a source of water for drinking, flushing drains and driving a mill wheel as well as fish as a food source. Its floodplain would have been more widespread at that time and not channelized as it is today. The avoidance of potential flooding is likely the reason that the site chosen for the Abbey buildings was the raised ground on the north side of the river.

It was often the case that an advance group of laybrothers were sent to the assigned site to clear it and erect the necessary temporary buildings before the Abbot and his choir monks arrived. The monks first built timber and wattle buildings using the ready available timber that grew locally to house their community.

Over the next twenty years the community settled in, working the land and slowly building their Abbey. The Church was considered the most important part of the monastic complex and would have been the first stone building to be built. Between 1210 and 1230, the Church and the east range at Abbeyknockmoy were constructed. A source of stone was required. It is likely that the monks opened a local quarry. Timber was needed for scaffolding and huge amounts were needed for all the roofs of the various buildings. Tiles or slates and lead were also needed for the roofs. The slow pace of construction was common to all the Cistercian Abbeys as resources and funds were often in short supply. Famine and local wars also affected the building work. As it took shape, the stone building would have appeared huge on the landscape in comparison to the scale of the existing ringforts and cashels, with their small timber houses. Nothing like this would have been seen before in this area.

Roger Stalley, a renowned scholar of Cistercian architecture, described Knockmoy Abbey as one of the most impressive Cistercian monuments in Ireland with a substantial portion of the Church and claustral buildings remaining (Stalley, 1987).

History of Abbeyknockmoy

Cathal Croiderg O'Connor provided land in 1190 for the Cistercian Order to establish a monastery at Abbeyknockmoy. By 1230 the large stone church and the east range of buildings had been constructed. In 1217 Cathal's wife Moy (Mór) was buried in the monastery. Seven years later, in 1224, Cathal was also buried here in the habit of a Cistercian monk, as he had joined the Abbey several years earlier. Several other O'Connor family burials followed and in 1254, Brian, son of Turlough (Toirdhealbhaich) O'Connor (d.1234) and grandson of the High King Rory, was the last O'Connor whose burial is recorded here.

By the later Middle Ages, the abbey had come under the control of the O'Kelly family, Kings of Uí Maine. They were powerful in both the religious and political life of this area at the time. In 1290, Donal (Domhnall) O'Kelly, lord of Uí Mhaine, retired to Abbeyknockmoy and was buried here in 1295. In the late 14th century, Maurice (Muircheartach) O'Kelly, archbishop of Tuam, was a generous patron of Abbeyknockmoy. He granted it several valuable endowments.

The early years of the 15th century brought wealth and structural additions to the Abbey, but by the middle of that century a decline had set in. In 1402, Malachy (Maolsheachlainn) O'Kelly, lord of Uí Mhaine erected a family tomb in the north wall of the presbytery, the space traditionally reserved for the founder's tomb. He and his wife, Fionnuala O'Connor, were subsequently buried here following their deaths in 1402 and 1403. In 1440, Conchobhar O'Kelly, abbot of Abbeyknockmoy and brother of Maurice, archbishop of Tuam, died. The fortunes of the Abbey had begun to decline by the mid-15th century and in 1452 and 1456 Abbot Malachy O'Kelly was accused of allowing the monastery to fall into disrepair. In 1483 the then Abbot, John Burke (de Burgo) was accused of setting fire to the abbey (Stalley, 1987).

In 1542 the abbey was surrendered to the crown as part of Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries. Hugh O'Kelly was the commendatory abbot at the time, in that he drew the revenues but did not have any authority over monastic discipline. He renounced the supremacy of Rome and recognised Henry VIII as Head of the Church. In turn, he was granted the Abbey and its lands for life. It appears that the abbey church continued in use as a parish church after the Reformation and was referred to as 'Porta Magna' or 'Teampollandorusmoir'.

In 1566, Andrew Brereton obtained a lease on the abbey, followed by Nicholas FitzSymons in 1568. In 1620, Abbeyknockmoy was granted by King James I to Valentine Blake. The Abbey remained in the ownership of the Blake Family for the next 200 years and in 1837, Francis Blake Forster of Ashfield owned the property. Today, Abbeyknockmoy Cistercian Abbey is a designated National Monument (No. 166), in the ownership of the Office of Public Works. The earthworks and buildings associated with the Abbey are subject to a Preservation Order. PO No. 4/1989

A Walk through the Abbey today



Photograph 8: The west gable and doorway



Photograph 9: Looking east through the nave towards the chancel

Built, c.1210-30 the Church at the Abbey is more Romanesque than Gothic in style and has a strong regional identity, with many architectural features belonging to the style known as 'the School of the West' which was prominent in Connacht and North Thomond between c.1200 and 1240 (Leask, 1960). It is expressed at Abbeyknockmoy through fine ashlar dressings, distinctive sculptural details and mouldings carried continuously around the windows.



Photograph 10: Possible Masons' mark at base of pillar.

There is evidence from the masons' marks found at the base of some of the arcade pillars that a professional team of masons would have been employed for the construction (Stalley, 1987). Masons' marks are thought to have functioned to identify the work of an individual mason, but whether this was for the purpose of payment or for some form of quality control is unknown.

The eastern section of the Church would have been given priority, as the most important in terms of worship, and so they were the first part of the Abbey constructed, followed by the eastern range of conventual buildings containing the chapter house and the dormitory. This explains why there are often stylistic breaks between the transepts and the nave of the Church.

The Church was built to a standard cruciform plan, typical of Cistercian buildings. The round arch, Romanesque style, main entrance doorway in the west gable wall opens into the nave. This was where those members of the community charged with manual work, the lay brothers, attended Mass and an abbreviated form of the Divine Office at the beginning and the end of their day's work. The nave has very little embellishment in comparison to the finer details of the east end of the church, where the choir monks worshipped. There is a marked contrast in architectural quality between the two ends.



Photograph 11: Arcade of arches and piers separating the nave from the aisle with clerestory window openings above.

On each side of the nave is an aisle, separated from the nave by a row of arches and columns (arcade). Above the arcade are the remains of clerestory windows set above the piers, not the arches, in keeping with Irish Cistercian architectural tradition. The aisles often housed side altars and were used for liturgical processions

The carved stone head of a king, possibly Cathal Crovderg O'Connor, King of Connacht, brother of the last High King of Ireland, Ruaidhrí O'Connor and founder of this Abbey is visible on the third pier of the southern arcade of arches.



Photograph 12: Carving of Kings Head

The area at the east end of the church is known as the chancel. It would have originally been separated from the nave by a wooden or stone screen. This construction divided the choir of the monks on the east side from that of the lay brothers on the west. Wooden stalls (seats) arranged in ranks, faced each other across the choir.

The High Altar and seating (sedilia) for the clergy celebrating Mass were located at the eastern end of the Chancel. The roof is rib vaulted with a chamber above. A large triple east window has a later window added above. Externally the lower windows have a continuous moulding running across the wall and over the tops of the windows. This is a stylistic feature typical of 'the school of the west' as is the ribbed vaulted roof.

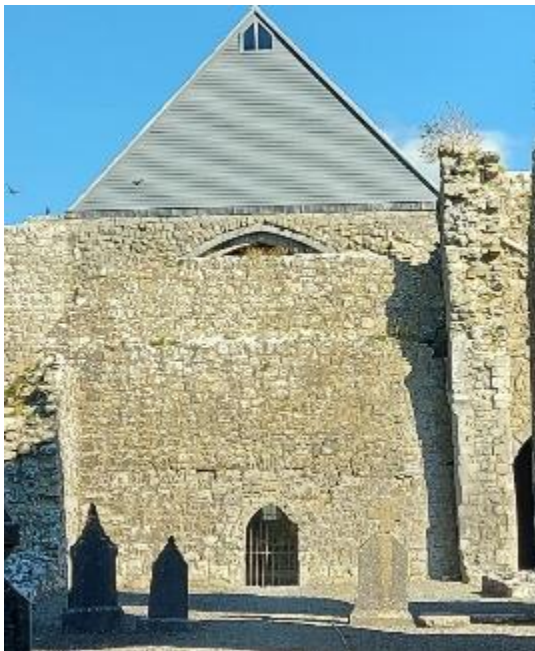


Photograph 13: The Chancel with ribbed vaulted roof and east window



Photograph 14: The O'Kelly Tomb

The O'Kelly tomb inserted into the north wall of the chancel is a combination of Gothic and Romanesque styles, with Romanesque zig-zags in the recess of the main arch and Gothic pinnacles either side of the arch. The head of John the Baptist sits on top of the arch. An inscribed stone lay at the base of the tomb but it was removed in 1853. The tomb was made by Matthew O'Anly and is the burial place of Malachy and Finnuola O'Kelly 1402/3. (Stalley 1987)



Photograph 15: 15th century wall separating the nave and chancel

On the north wall are the remnants of a late Gothic fresco, consisting of the three living and three dead kings on the top and beneath Christ with his hand raised and the martyrdom of St Sebastian. An inscription under the Dead Kings reads: *'We have been as you are, you will be as we are'*.

The survival of this type of painting in Ireland is extremely rare and it is a very special feature of Abbeyknockmoy. The wall was exposed to the elements until the late 1980s, when the Office of Public Works carried out work to weather-proof the space, to prevent further water damage. The chancel today not open to the public to protect the fresco and O'Kelly burial vault.

On each side of the chancel are the transepts. There was originally a regular crossing. But by the late 15th century, the original 13th century church was too

large for the needs of the post- Reformation congregation and the chancel and transepts were remodelled to create a smaller church. Three arches between the chancel and transepts were blocked up and smaller doorways inserted. A wall was built between the nave and chancel and the now largely ruined central tower was inserted.

The transepts provided space for additional altars dedicated to various saints and these served as mortuary, burial or chantry chapels for the community's benefactors. Two barrel vaulted chapels open off each arm of the transept. The French family chapel contains the funeral plaque of Evelin French, who died in 1684, on the north wall. Evelin French (néé Browne) was the daughter of Sir Dominick Browne, MP of Anthony (1634) and Mayor of Galway (1634-35). Evelin first married Robert Ffrench, secondly marrying Sir Oliver Ffrench.

PRAY FOR
THE LADY
EVELIN FRE
NCH HER
SOULE WHO
ORDAINED HER
SELFE TO BE INTERED
IN THS ABBY FOR HER
THIS MONUMENT WAS
ERECTED BY HER CHILD
REN PATRICK FRENCH
AND VALENTIN FRENCH
AND FOR A BURIAL PLACE
FOR THEM SELVES AUG
ST THE 8TH 1684



Photograph 16: Funeral plaque of Evelin Ffrench



Photograph 17: Interior of Chapter House

The first room in the east range adjacent to the transept is the sacristy (or vestry) where vestments, church furnishings and altar plate were stored and where the clergy dressed for church services. Adjacent to the sacristy is the chapter house, lit by five decorated lancets. The community gathered in the chapter house each morning after Prime (first hour of prayer at the first hour of



Photograph 18: Exterior of Chapter House windows

daylight – usually 6am) to listen to a reading of a chapter of their rule, to pray for their benefactors and to receive instructions for their daily tasks. Elections, the reception of new members into the community, disciplinary matter and the admission of benefactors to confraternity with the community all took place in the Chapter House.

Additional piers, walls and vaults were added in the 15th century. Today the area houses several architectural fragments gathered from around the Abbey.



The night stairs linked the monks' dormitory with the transept and church. It was used by the monks to come and go from the dormitory to the choir stalls in the chancel for night offices.

The dormitory extended over the full length of the upper floor of the eastern range. The monks slept here in a communal space.

The garderobe (toilet) was located at the northern end of the dormitory. It consisted of a room with a long bench and a pit below into which the waste fell. It can be seen on the exterior of the east wall and the opening where the waste exited is visible.

Photograph 19: The night stairs



Photograph 20: The building that housed the garderobe



Photograph 21: Garderobe waste exit point

Adjoining the east range was the warming house or calefactory. This was the only place, with the exception of the kitchen, in which a fire was provided. At certain times, the monks would meet here and converse. It was entered from the cloister walk and had a small external courtyard where there was a fuel store.

The adjoining building in the south range, parallel with the Church, was the refectory or main dining room of the community. The thickened south wall accommodated the raised pulpitum, or reader's



desk from which a member of the community read devotional material during the silent communal meals (Sweetman, 1987). Food was served from the adjoining kitchen at the west end.

The refectory was still intact in 1620 when it was described as a '*hall of stone, covered with shingles*' with '*a cellar under the hall*'. The kitchen and any buildings that may have existed along the west range, no longer survive at Abbeyknockmoy.

Photograph 22: The Refectory looking to the west wall

The open central space, between the lines of the buildings is known as the cloister garth. In Cistercian Abbeys it is usually surrounded by a walkway covered by a stone arcade connecting the domestic buildings and the church. The open area today at Abbeyknockmoy is marked by a low, recent stone wall.

This area was excavated in 1987 as part of a programme of conservation (Sweetman, 1987) and the base of the 15th century cloister wall was uncovered beneath the existing modern wall. However, very few fragments of arcading or pillars were located which may indicate that it was never completed or was robbed out later. In the early 1900s, loose stone was collected from various parts of the Abbey and stored in the chapter house. These were examined during the 1987 excavation work and a number of cloistral fragments were identified.



Since the 15th century there have been a number of burials in the cloister garth and this has probably led to further destruction of original features.

Photograph 23: Cloister garth with enclosing modern stone wall and gravestones.



Photograph 24: Post-17th century building to north of Abbey

In the field to the north of the Abbey is the ruin of a rectangular building and several earthen field banks. The building was investigated during the course of excavations at the abbey in 1982 and 1983 in order to determine its age and relationship with the abbey complex. The surviving stonework suggested that it was of post-17th century date. One sherd of medieval pottery was found outside the east wall of the main building, suggesting that there were medieval domestic buildings in this area. (Sweetman 1987).

The Cistercian Order were renowned for their agricultural prowess and their use of hydro power to run their many activities such as milling, wool manufacture and metal working. It is very likely that the Cistercians at Abbeyknockmoy harnessed the power of the Abbert River for various functions including milling. The 19th/20th century mill known as 'Abbey Mill' (Section 3.14.5.) which lies 325 metres west of the Abbey possibly occupies the site of the original mill of the Abbey (Cochrane 1904).

ACCESS – LATE MEDIEVAL ECCLESIASTICAL SITE

The Cistercian Abbey at Abbeyknockmoy is a designated National Monument (No. 166), in the ownership of the Office of Public Works and is open to the public. Access is along a trackway from the main road. There are a number of field gates across the trackway which are generally locked and access is over stepped stone stiles, making access for the less abled bodied difficult.

3.3.2. Medieval Parish Churches

A network of parishes was developed across Ireland in the 13th century, based on the Anglo-Norman system of ecclesiastical administrative structure. Each parish had its own church. These were later referred to as Civil Parishes as they became units of administration during the land surveys of the 15th and 16th centuries.

The Audit area includes sections of the medieval parishes of Abbeyknockmoy, Killrerin, Moylough, Kilmoylan and Monivea. The ruins of three medieval parish churches are located within the Audit area.

Carrowmanagh

In the adjoining graveyard of St Mary's Catholic Church in Carrowmanagh townland, are the ruins of the medieval parish church of Killrerin. All that survived, prior to conservation work by a FÁS scheme in the early 1990s, was a section of the south wall and the partially grassed over foundations of the west gable and north wall. The location of the east gable was not clear due to the presence of a stone built clearance cairn. (<https://archaeology.ie>) Following the FÁS scheme, the north and east walls stand to a height of approx. 1.5m and the south wall to 3m.

A doorway has been inserted in the south wall. Burials in the church interior include a box tomb located in the south-east corner and two recumbent slabs. A 9th - 12th century sandstone cross was found by archaeologists in the graveyard in 1991. It is housed in the adjacent St Marys' Church.



Photograph 25: Remaining south wall of Killrerin Medieval Parish Church



Photograph 26: 9th-12th c. sandstone cross

Annagh



Photograph 27: Remains of Kilmoylan Medieval Parish Church

The remains of the medieval parish church of Kilmoylan are located in the graveyard of that name, in the townland of Annagh. According to the Ordnance Survey Letters (O'Flanagan 1927, Vol. 1, 285-6), this church 'was probably erected by the Burkes in the 14th or 15th centuries, on the site of a primitive Irish one ... dedicated to St. Meldan of Loch Oirb'.

The church was recorded as part of the 'Archaeological Survey of County Galway 1982-1985' when it was covered by a dense growth of ivy. At that time the west gable and sections of the north and south walls stood to full height. Around 1990, the ivy was removed from the church walls: this revealed a robbed window towards the east end of the south wall. Early in 1991, the west gable collapsed. A pointed arch doorway is located in the south wall and there are a large number of graves in the church.

Abbeyknockmoy

The Cistercian Abbey functioned as the parish church of the civil parish of Abbeyknockmoy from its construction in the 13th century. The remodelled east end continued in use as a smaller parish church into the 15th century and was referred to as 'Porta Magna' or 'Teampollandorusmoir' – the Church of the big door. (Section 3.3.1.).

ACCESS – MEDIEVAL CHURCHES

All the medieval parish churches are fully accessible to the public as they are located in public graveyards. The 9th-12th century sandstone cross, found near Killrerin Medieval Church, can be viewed in St Marys RC Church, Carrowmanagh.

3.4. Penal Era Chapels

3.4.1. Abbeyknockmoy

The site of an RC Chapel, labelled in ruins, is marked on the first edition OS map c.1838 in Abbey townland at the Y-junction to the north of Abbey Bridge and Corn Mill. This is likely to have been a thatched building. A small section of wall visible at the site, is locally believed to be part of the early church. Lewis writing in 1837, does not mention this chapel, but instead refers to '*a neat edifice with steeple, recently erected on an eminence*'. This is obviously a reference to the newly built St Bernard's Church (Section 3.7.2.) which probably replaced the earlier chapel.



Figure 9: Site of R.C. Chapel near Abbey Bridge 'Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [8-10-2024]'.

3.4.2. Carrowmanagh



Figure 10: Site of R.C. Chapel, Carrowmanagh c.1838 'Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [8-10-2024]'.

The first edition OS 6-inch map shows a R.C. Chapel on the opposite side of the road to the present day Killereerin graveyard, before the modern St Mary's Church was constructed. There is no surface trace of this building today.

ACCESS – PENAL ERA CHAPELS

There is no visible surface trace of the penal era chapels that were found in the Audit area. Their sites are visible from the public road.

3.5. Church Of Ireland Church



Figure 11: Location of former Church in Lissavally 'Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [8-10-2024]'.

ACCESS – CHURCH OF IRELAND CHURCH SITE

This site is on private farmland. Permission must be sought from the landowner before entering.

In Lissavally townland the former site of a Church is marked by a curve in the roadside wall, the grassed over foundations of a building and a single, broken gravestone dedicated to 'Donaldson of Springvale' and dated 1872. The Church is marked and labelled on the first edition OS map with a Glebe House on the opposite side of the road in Lissavally Glebe townland. This was a Church of Ireland church.



Photograph 28: Broken headstone at site of former Church in Lissavally

3.6. Estate Churches

3.6.1. Abbert Demesne



Photograph 29: Abbert Church

Almost centrally placed in an early ecclesiastical enclosure in Abbert townland, is the well-preserved ruin of a church which appears to be of 18-19th century date. It is set within a walled graveyard, known locally as Moor Cemetery. There is a possibility that this church was originally a medieval parish church and it was later refurbished as a mortuary or private chapel for the Abbert Demesne.

The church is approached along a trackway, which branches off a minor road to the north. A metal pedestrian gate provides access into the graveyard, with the south-west gable of the church opposite. A pointed arch doorway in this gable provides entry to the interior of the church. The walls survive to almost full height and remains of rendering material is still visible on the internal faces. Two single-light windows are located in the north-west wall. There are no windows in the opposing wall, but a blocked up arch is visible. A circular arch in the north-east gable leads into a small rectangular apse, within which is a table tomb. A twin-light pointed arch window with glazing bars is located in the rear wall of the apse.

Abbert Church is a designated National Monument (No. 278) in the ownership of the OPW.

3.6.2. Brooklodge Demesne



There are the remains of two churches in Brooklodge Demesne. One is located to the rear of the ruin of the former Brooklodge House. It is a two storey, almost square in plan, roofless building. An external string course divides the two floors. On the ground floor are a pair of Gothic style arch windows with stone sills. This design is repeated on the top floor with a blind, short arch niche flanked by a pair of Latin crosses with fleur-de-lis terminals. The interior vaulted roof over the ground floor is decorated with intricate plasterwork of floral devices set into square frames. This was a private chapel used by the family.

Photograph 30: Private chapel at Brooklodge



Photograph 31: Workers chapel Brooklodge

The second chapel, which would have been used by the workers on the demesne, is located in the north-east corner of the former farmyard buildings range (which today are part of the 'Galway Glamping' complex). The former chapel was also used as a schoolhouse. The pointed arch windows of the building have been restored in recent years. The restoration retains much of the original architecture of this building.

ACCESS – ESTATE CHURCHES

The church in Abbert Demesne is publically accessible. Both churches in Brooklodge are privately owned and permission must be sought from the landowner before entering.

3.7. Present Day Churches

3.7.1. Brooklodge Church



Photograph 32: Brooklodge Church

The church at Brooklodge is located in Annagh Hill townland. It was a former Franciscan monastery chapel built in 1949. The four bay, two storey lower block to the south was built c.1850 and is the remaining part of the monastery. The buildings are set back from the road with a long approach drive. A small graveyard for Franciscan Brothers is located to the south-east of the Church and there are outbuildings to the south-west.

The exterior walls of the church are rendered. Pilasters are located between each of the windows along the nave elevation. Each corner of the front elevation has a projecting antae-like detail with pyramidal caps and cross finials. The nave is eight bay. Round headed windows set into square-headed raised render surrounds are found in both the nave and in the gable-front. The west gable (altar end of the church) has a triple-light window.

The church has a pitched slate roof with closely set moulded corbels to the eave. The monastery building has a hipped slate roof with a rendered chimneystack, and rendered walls with rendered pilasters to the corners.

The entrance to the church is, unusually, in the east gable. It is normally in the west end of a Roman Catholic Church with the sanctuary and altar in the east. A projecting gabled entrance porch surrounds the main doorway. A stone cross finial tops the gable. The double-leaf timber panelled door is set in a Romanesque-style Order doorway which has simple plinths and a stained-glass fanlight. The stained glass consists of plain rectangular quarries in yellow, purple and green with a shield shaped central motif depicting the punctured hands of Christ and St Francis with a red cross in a sunburst behind, which is the symbol of the Franciscan Order. A banner beneath is inscribed: *In Sacritate et Doctrina* which translates – ‘In holiness and learning’.

Two free standing, marble stoups flank the doorway. They consist of a round bowl supported by a round column set on a square plinth. The entrance porch is tiled with terrazzo tiles decorated with a circular motif and IM monogram (Mary Immaculate). The floor tiling continues up the main aisle with an IHS monogram in front of the altar rails.

Inside the church is a single chamber with the sanctuary demarcated by marble altar rails. Above the entrance, is a timber fronted choir balcony lit by five windows arranged in a stepped pattern with iconography representing the Passions of Christ. The roof consists of slim roof trusses on concrete brackets and a timber-sheeted ceiling laid in a herring bone pattern. The plaster finish walls have mouldings around the windows and at dado level. The round headed windows of the nave are single light, filled with hammered glass quarries, surrounded by a yellow and purple border. A central vertical triple transom cross, in greens and yellows, fills each window and above is a glory framing various religious motifs. The window in the west gable behind the altar is triple light. The taller centre image depicts the Virgin Mary, standing on the crescent moon. Above her head is a dove. Three small cherubs fill the lower section of the frame. Both side lights depict two angels. The upper angel in the left panel holds a banner inscribed 'Thou are all fair' corresponding to that in the right inscribed 'O Mary'. The banner held by the lower left angel is inscribed 'There is not' and that in the lower right reads 'A spot in thee'. The window resembles the style of Earley Studios, Dublin but is unsigned.

The reredos has three red panels on each side set into a white marble background. In the upper pediment, an elaborate IHS monogram, carved in relief, adorns the back panel. The white marble tabernacle is executed in a classical style, with a pair of fluted columns flanking the door. The door is decorated with a monstrance carved in relief with a dove above the door. The altar is decorated with an elaborate, white marble central garland of vine leaf and grapes framing a plain white marble Calvary Cross set into a red marble panel. Flanking the central panel are two red marble side panels. The panels are separated and ended by onyx coloured pilasters. The altar sits on a grey, pink flecked marble plinth.

The altar rails consist of various coloured marbles carved into round headed arcades separated into a series of triple, double and single groups by salmon coloured marble columns with square acanthus topped pilasters. Brass gates are centrally placed. On each side wall of the Sanctuary are pine choir stall seats (similar to the Presiders chair in St Bernard's Church, Abbeyknockmoy). The ambo is the same as that found in Abbeyknockmoy.

3.7.2. St Bernard's Church, Abbeyknockmoy

St Bernard's Roman Catholic Church is located in Chapelfield townland. Built c.1820 to a freestanding cruciform-plan in a simple Gothic Revival style, it is typical of churches built before Catholic Emancipation (1829). It replaced the previous R.C. Chapel which stood to the north of Abbey Bridge (Section 3.4.1.).

Set on an elevated site and orientated on a south-west to north-east line, the decorative gable wall to the south-west, faces the village emphasising the importance of the church within the locality. Topped with a stone cross finial, this gable has square-plan piers to each end. The piers have conical caps topped with a fleur-de-lys and a patera motif in a decorative band below. A decorative corbel table is located below the roof copings.



Photograph 33: Front gable of St Bernard's Church

The triple-light window in the upper stage of the gable reflects the shape of the gable, with the longest light in the centre. A moulded string sill course runs below. On the lower part of the gable two pointed-arch niches with moulded surrounds contain statues. The niches are separated by three small arch windows,

The exterior walls are rendered and painted. All of the window openings are pointed arches with stone sills. The transept gables have stone Y-tracery windows, and the apse contains an oculus window.

The church is entered through timber doors in pointed-arch doorways in the north-west and north-east. The north-west doorway is the main entrance.

Inside the church is a two bay nave with a choir balcony with glazed screens below. The roof consists of exposed king-post timber trusses supported on stone corbels, and a sheeted timber ceiling. A cross-groin vault is located above the altar crossing. Transepts open to the north and south and a short apse is located to the rear of the altar.

All the windows are filled with abstract irregularly shaped leaded panels of coloured glass in blues, greens, pink and yellow pastels. One of the windows in the north nave has been shortened due to the insertion of a porch. A window in the south transept depicts the Lourdes scene with St Bernadette kneeling in front of the Virgin Mary and a stream flowing from Our Lady's Feet. The panel on the left depicts Our Lady with Rosary beads in hands and roses at her feet. On the right St Bernadette is kneeling with hands raised. The inscription at the base of the left panel reads: *'Presented by the O'Donohue Family'*. The oculus in the east gable depicts St Bernard in the centre with a circular medallion of blue.



Photograph 34: South transept window



Photograph 35: Altar, reredos and Crucifix

The altar reredos consists of floor to ceiling pine wood panelling. A large wooden crucifix has a plaster figure of Christ. The tabernacle is inserted into the panelling in a rectangular housing. The modern brass double doors are decorated with plain crosses. The frontal of the grey white marble altar is decorated with three green marble panels. The centre panel has a darker green cross motif and the IHS monogram in a paler colour. A brass plaque attached to the right hand side base of the altar reads *'A donation of 600 pounds towards sanctuary carpet in memory of Finn family, Coolourty was donated by John O'Connor USA.'* On the left hand side is a marble plaque inscribed: *'Presented by Patrick Seahill in memory of his sister Kate.'*

The Presiders Chair is a heavy pitch pine chair similar to the choir stalls in nearby Brooklodge Church. The ambo is a simple wooden with cross, similar to that in Ryehill Church.

The limestone baptismal font located in the south transept consists of a double ope octagonal bowl supported by a pedestal set on a flat square base.

The Stations of the Cross are plaster panels in relief, picked out in rich colours and framed in Gothic Revival style pine frames.

A pair of opposing confessional boxes are located in the nave. They consist of simple, Gothic Revival style boxes with an open work IHS monogram in the upper pediment.

Within the church grounds in the car park is a Marian grotto.

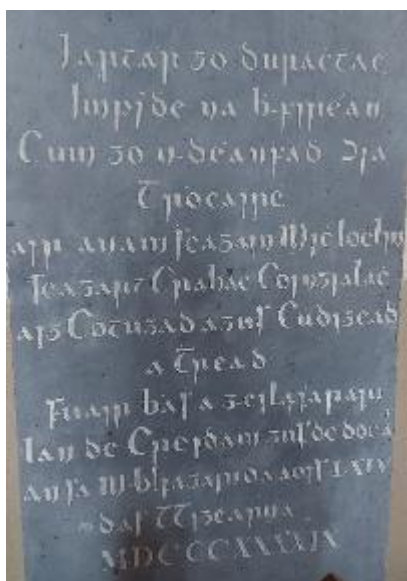
A bellstand stands to the south-east of the Church. This cast-iron structure supports a bell with raised lettering 'PRESENTED BY MICHAEL DONOHOE TO THE PARISH OF ABBEY KNOCKMOY REV. JOHN GREALLY, P.P. 1820'. The bell was manufactured by O'Byrne Bell Founders, Dublin.

The church was extended in the twentieth century when the four bay extension to the altar end and a glazed entrance porch to the north-west transept were added.



Photograph 36: Bell and bellstand St Bernard's Church

3.7.3. St Mary's Church, Killrerin



Photograph 37: Mural plaque commemorating Rev^d Sean McLaughlin on north wall of nave

St Mary's Church Killrerin is located in Carrowmanagh townland. The construction of the church began under the direction of Revd. Sean McLaughlin, who died in 1846 and is buried in the church nave. It was completed sometime after his death. In 1960, the church was extensively renovated under the direction of Fr. Michael Burke P.P. (1957 – 1963) and the architect was Vincent B. Gallagher of Dublin.

This cruciform plan church stands on an elevated site overlooking the former RC Chapel site on the opposite side of the road to the north-east and the remains of Killrerin medieval parish church and graveyard to the north.



Photograph 38: St Mary's Church, Killrerin

The main entrance door is located in the west gable and there is a small entrance porch in the gable wall of each of the transepts. On the right hand side to the main entrance doorway is a limestone holy water stoup set into the wall. It has a circular bowl and a head carving (which appears to be male wearing some type of head dress) below. A second similar stoup is located on the interior of the south transept porch. This is decorated with possibly a woman's face in profile.



Photographs 39 and 40: Holy Water Stoups St Marys Church, Killrerin

Internally the roof is supported on metal trusses and has a pine panel ceiling in herring bone pattern. A gallery is located over the main entrance porch. The nave has three narrow pointed windows which all contain plain opaque glass in rectangular quarries with three small inserts of coloured glass. In each of the gable walls, there is a three light window consisting of narrow pointed arches with sloping base to a centre apex with stained glass.

The side lights of the transept windows are filled with plain glass with small colour insets in the corners. The central light in the north transept depicts St Joseph and Child in a painted Gloria on a background of blue glass. Joseph is dressed in a green robe and red cloak. In the south transept the central light depicts the Madonna and Child in the same design. The Madonna is dressed in a red robe and green cloak. Donation plaques are transcribed beneath each of the transept windows. North transept: *'Donated by Mr and Mrs William Lynskey'*. South transept: *'Pray for Donor'*. A brass plaque beneath the south window is inscribed: *'In memory of Luke Fahy 1887-1975 Julia Flynn 1895-1986 Barbersfort'*.



Photographs 41 & 42: Central lights in transept windows



Photograph 43: East Window

The East window behind the altar depicts the Crucified Christ on a red cross with a blue background in the central light. At the base of the cross is inscribed: *'Donated by the Children of Mary and the Sacred Heart Sodality'*. The right light depicts Mary and St John, while in the left are the two Marys – Mary the sister of the Mother of Jesus and Mary Magdalene.



The west gable window depicts the Ascension of Christ into Heaven. The figure of Christ is in the central panel. At the apex is the Hand of God emanating light onto Christ. At the base is a host, chalice and lighted candle. Beneath Christ's feet is a boat with the date 2000 inscribed on the sail.

The left light contains a circular disc with five intertwined doves as a centrepiece with the inscription: Christ Yesterday Today Forever. The corresponding motif in the right light is a ringed cross within circle.

The signature of George Walsh, a renowned Irish stain glass artist, is found on the left panel.

Photograph 44: George Walsh Stained Glass Window.

The altar suite is of white marble with various coloured decorative pieces. Four grey columns with acanthus capitals and moulded bases, divide the frontal of the altar into three panels. The central panel has a circular marble medallion bearing the image of the Agnus Dei in relief carrying the angled cross and pennant. The side panels contain four floral devices in a Gothic arch arcade. The rear of the altar is decorated with a large quatrefoil framing a Greek cross in gold on a green marble background. The cross has a central red rosette at the intersection of the arms. The base of the altar is inscribed:

'Pray for the donors John & Pat^k Lynskey'.



Photograph 45: Agnus Dei carving on altar frontal

Attached to the front of the large rectangular white marble reredos, is a small bracket credence table below which is a circular medallion with passion flower motif. The tabernacle housing of white marble has engaged salmon coloured columns. The domed roof is topped with a brass cross. The double brass door is decorated with an Agnus Dei on the left and a Pelican in Piety on the right. Both are set within mandorla and surrounded by floral devices.

The white marble ambo has engaged columns in grey marble with floral capitals and mounded bases. The frontal is ornamented with a plain circular medallion. A brass plaque on the side is inscribed: *'In memory of William Donnellan, Hillsbrook'*. The Presiders chair is decorated with a plain circular medallion.

The baptismal font is an oval polished black limestone bowl supported on an octagonal, grey limestone pedestal with four spurs, which stands on a black limestone, polished square base.

There are three limestone mural plaques set into the nave walls; two on north and one on the south wall. The one on the north nearest the sanctuary is in the Irish language and commemorates Rev^d Sean McLaughlin. It is dated 1846. The second plaque on the north wall is dedicated to the memory of Rev^d Gulielmi Scully and is in Latin. The south wall plaque is dedicated to the memory of Rev^d John Cavanagh and dated 1872. He was a brother of Archdeacon Cavanagh, who was the parish priest of Knock, Co. Mayo at the time of the apparition of Our Lady.

In the south transept gable wall is the Early Christian sandstone headed cross which was located during excavation work near the medieval parish church in the adjoining graveyard. It is set into a glass fronted brass box.



A freestanding cast iron bellstand and bell are located in the Church grounds. They were manufactured by M. O'Byrne of James's Street, Dublin c.1920. The stand has round columns standing on flat plates which are bolted into a concrete plinth. The lower section of the columns is fluted with moulded bands above and to the top of the columns. The bell has a dedicatory inscription in Latin to Joseph Walsh. The bell was brought from the old Church in Williamstown during the 1960s renovation of this church.

In the church grounds opposite the main door is a stone commemorating the unmarked children's burial grounds in the parish. The stone was blessed by Fr. Tod Nolan P.P. on 3rd June, 2012.

<https://killrerin.galwaycommunityheritage.org/content/places/our-golden-mile>

ACCESS – PRESENT DAY CHURCHES

All present day churches are fully accessible to the public.

Photograph 46: Bell and stand

3.8. Burial Grounds

3.8.1. Abbeyknockmoy

Abbeyknockmoy Cemetery is located to the north-west of the Cistercian Abbey on an elevated site overlooking the Abbert River.

Access is from a set back off the Sean Bóthar which functions as a small parking area and through a double ornate wrought iron gate or adjacent concrete block 'kissing gate' onto a gravel central drive extending from the gate to the rear of the cemetery. There are intersecting gravel paths between the plot sections.

Close to the entrance to this rectangular graveyard, is a large painted concrete crucifix set on a plinth inscribed '1929'. The gravemarkers include Celtic Crosses, low rectangular limestone and modern marble types. The most recent burials are on top of the rise in the north-east section.

3.8.2. Carrowmanagh (Killererin Old Graveyard)

'Killererin Old Graveyard' in Carrowmanagh townland is located to the north of the present St Mary's RC Church. It is a large rectangular graveyard with the remains of Killererin medieval parish church in the north-east section.

Directly located off a third class road, this graveyard has two access points - a vehicular double gate and a single pedestrian gate from the road way and via a single metal pedestrian gate from the adjacent St Mary's RC Church grounds where a car park is located. There are no designated pathways within the graveyard.

A large number of box tombs and recumbent slabs are located to the south of the ruined medieval church along with uninscribed set stones, limestone Celtic Cross and modern marble gravemarkers. There is an unusual sandstone recumbent slab with no inscription apparent in this section.

There are two headstones with vocational symbols in this graveyard. Close to the east boundary an upright limestone headstone is set in a kerbed plot. The first inscription is to Bridget Higgins 1873 (N's written backwards) and later below there is a dedication to Catherine Higgins 1934 - with a different style of lettering. A Shepherd's crook and shears are carved into the stone indicating a connection with sheep farming. A recumbent slab to the south of the church has a carving of a possible plough.

The grave of Thomas Higgins, Justice of the Peace, Member of Westminster Parliament and President of the United Irish Land League is located close to the centre of the graveyard. On Jan 25, 1906 he was elected MP for the North Division of Co. Galway but died suddenly on the night of the count.

There are fewer burials to the north of the church. Burials in this area are marked by upright Celtic Crosses and rectangular headstones.

To the west of the church on rising ground are the most recent burials - the majority are marked by Celtic Crosses with modern marble headstones scattered throughout.

The plot locations, names and addresses on the grave markers have been recorded through a Galway County Council Heritage Office and Galway Rural Development Ltd. programme and two information boards erected at the road entrance to the graveyard. The memorial inscriptions and

locations are also digitally mapped and photographed and are available to view on the Galway County Council Graveyard Search App <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/>

3.8.3. Kilmoylan

Kilmoylan graveyard is located on a bend on the R347 road. Parking is available on a set back from the road in front of the entrance gate. Entry to the graveyard is via a double iron gate onto a tar and chip drive which extends to the rear (west end) of graveyard. This is a large rectangular graveyard with the ruins of Kilmoylan medieval parish church in the south-west section. (Section 3.3.2.)

According to the Ordnance Survey Letters (O'Flanagan 1927, Vol. 1, 285-6), this church 'was probably erected by the Burkes in the 14th or 15th centuries, on the site of a primitive Irish one ... dedicated to St. Meldan of Loch Oirb'. The interior of the church is full of burials. Gravemarkers include recumbent slabs and more recent marble markers.



The graveyard is notable for its collection of vocational stones which are located on the south side of the church. A rectangular sandstone recumbent slab is inscribed with a very simple carving of a tongs, hammer and horseshoe - it is dedicated to the memory of James Baen who died in 1783 aged 82 years.

Another recumbent slab is inscribed with a reaping hook and step spade (lai) in a circle at the base of the stone and is dedicated to a person named Curley.



A slab outside the south door of the church is inscribed with a scissoring, spool of thread and an iron in the top right hand corner and has a large cross beneath the inscription. Another carries a carving of a plough which is worn and difficult to see.

Photographs 47-49: Vocational stones in Kilmoylan Graveyard

To the south of the church are several 18th and 19th century slabs, uninscribed set stones, Celtic Crosses and modern marble headstones.

More recent burials in the graveyard are located to the west and along the north and east boundaries. They are marked by Celtic Crosses and modern marble headstones.

3.8.4. Abbert Demesne (Moor Cemetery)

The graveyard in Abbert Demesne townland is locally known as 'Moor Cemetery'. It is approached from the road along a narrow trackway. Access into the graveyard is via a single pedestrian gate or the adjacent 6-step wall stile. There are no designated pathways in the grass covered graveyard. The rectangular graveyard surrounds the ruin of an 18th-19th century church (Section 3.6.1.)

A mixture of recumbent slabs, Celtic Crosses, rectangular limestone and modern marble headstones are found here. Uninscribed stones arranged in north-south rows are located to the south-west of the church. There are no apparent burials on the north side of the church.



Photograph 50: Vocational Stone in Moor Cemetery

There is a vocational stone near the south-east corner of the church with an anvil, hammer, tongs and horseshoe illustrating the vocation of a blacksmith. The inscription reads: 'Pray for the soul of James Hore (?) who dep (?) the (?) 1774 Also his wife and children this Monument was Erected by Thady Dolly (?) and his wife Mary Hore 1779'. There are other Dolly and Hore slabs located to the east of this stone.

An upright stone close to the entrance to the graveyard (west side of church) has a carved angel above a IHS monogram which is encircled and flanked by two large urns - there is a hand holding a key on the right hand side and a winged figure blowing trumpet on the left hand side.

3.8.5. Corrafaireen (Tobar Padraic)

Tobar Padraic graveyard is located on a south-facing slope in Corrafaireen townland. It is accessed along a trackway, from the Abbey-Monivea road, to a large car park. Pedestrian access into the graveyard is via a gate in its south-east corner. A turn stile for pedestrian access is located in the south boundary wall.

The graveyard is a sub rectangular site enclosed by an earthen bank overlain with a FÁS built stone wall. The holy well 'Tobar Padraic', after which the graveyard derives its name, is located in the west sector of the graveyard. A small grove of mature beech trees fill the centre of site. Some of these are growing on the top of the earthen bank that encloses the St Patrick's Well.

The earliest marked graves date to the mid-19th century, but it is very likely that burials occurred here before this date, especially in the area to the south of the holy well where there are several

unmarked, set, low stones and earthen banks. According to local folklore there was a faction fight on one of the pattern days at the holy well and some people were killed and buried here. More recent burials are marked by marble while the earlier graves have limestone memorials.

ACCESS – BURIAL GROUNDS

All burial grounds listed here are fully accessible to the public.

3.9. Children's Burial Grounds

There are nine children's burial grounds recorded by the National Monuments Service within the Audit area. Traditionally in 19th century and early 20th century Ireland, these burial areas, known as cillíní, were where unbaptised children, suicide victims and strangers were laid to rest as their burial was prohibited on consecrated ground by the Roman Catholic Church.

At **Cloonlusk**, the site is located within an early medieval ecclesiastical enclosure (Section 3.2.2.). Overgrown with blackthorn, nettles and briars, access is difficult and very few features can be seen. The description given by the National Monuments Service from 1999, is 'a roughly rectangular area, defined by a low scarp with a stone revetment marking the south west side. Several rows of small undressed headstones mark graves orientated east to west. Also evident are four rectangular areas marked out with set stones which are probably individual graves'.

Uneven ground with several set stones and one rectangular area marked by set stones are visible through the scrub but due to the current condition of the site very little less could be discerned for the purposes of this Audit.



Photograph 51: Cloonlusk Children's burial ground



Ballina children's burial ground consists of an unenclosed oval area on each side of a field boundary, in pastureland. There is a dense concentration of small moss covered flat and upright grave markers aligned east to west. Hawthorn trees grow along the top of the boundary.

Photograph 52: Ballina Children's Burial Ground

In **Pollawarla** the site has decreased in size since the 1840s, when it was marked as a large circular area of c.90 metres on the first edition OS 6-inch map and labelled 'Burial Ground'. At that time, it straddled the townland boundary, along which the Galway-Roscommon road now runs. Today the remains of the site are confined to the north side of the road. It consists of a roughly rectangular area enclosed by the remains of a grassed over wall with orderly rows of small undressed stones indicating burials orientated ENE-WSW. A number of mature beech trees grow within the enclosure.



Photograph 53: Pollawarla Children's Burial Ground

There were two children's burial grounds in **Liss** townland. One, recorded by the National Monuments Service, was located within a ringfort. The ringfort is still evident, but the children's burial ground is not visible and the landowners had no knowledge of the site's existence.

The second, located in an undefined earthwork, consists of a slightly raised unenclosed subrectangular area (NE-SW 18m, NW-SE 7.8m) within which at least eight rows of small set stones, aligned NE-SW, indicate graves.



Photograph 54; Parklaur Children's' burial ground

The children's burial ground in **Parklaur** is located at the end of a field track c. 150m north-east of the townland boundary and c. 600m north of a river. It is marked on the third edition of the OS 6-inch map (1932) as an unenclosed rectangular area 40m long by 10m wide with rounded corners. The site appears much the same size today. It consists of a rectangular piece of rough ground at a slightly lower level than the rest of the pasture field, with several hawthorn trees growing along its edges. Within the area are numerous unmarked stones, some of which are arranged to mark rectangular burial plots.

Parklaur townland borders Coolorta townland and the following extract from the Schools Manuscripts Collection recorded in 1938 at Brierfield School, very likely refers to the children's burial ground in Parklaur. It was recorded by Margaret Mulry from Derreen and she got the information from Thomas Devany who was 60 years old at that time.

Colourty Lios

There is a children's burial ground in Colourty in John Dooly's land. A row of white thorn bushes about twenty yards in length makes the division between the other land. Some old people were buried there also in olden times. Similar places are scattered in various parts of the country similar to this originally intended to be the burial ground of unbaptized children. They are sometimes call "Cilleachain", and the village of "Coilleach", between Abbey and Ballyglunin got it's name from one of these.

<https://duchas.ie/en/cbes/4602711/4597680/4631722>

An area labelled 'Children's Burial Ground' on the first edition OS 6-inch map for **Farmhill** townland, does not appear on the later maps.



To the north of Pallas Bridge in the townland of **Brooklodge Demesne**, is a ringfort which has been re-used as a children's burial ground in more recent times. Some low standing, upright stones visible within the ringfort are very likely grave markers.

Photograph 55: Ringfort in Brooklodge Demesne re-used as a Children's Burial Ground

The site in **Knock** townland near Barnaderg, known locally as 'the lisheen' is in the north section of a ringfort. It consists of a number of set stones including head and foot stones. The burials are orientated east to west.

ACCESS – CHILDREN'S BURIAL GROUNDS

All children's' burial grounds are located on private farmland and permission should be sought from the owner before entering.

3.10 Holy Wells

3.10.1. St Bernard's Holy Well



Photograph 56: St Bernard's Holy Well enclosing wall

The holy wells in Glennaveel townland near the summit of Knockroe are the most visited in the study area. They are accessed from the minor road to the radio mast on Knockroe Hill, through a field gate and along a gravelled laneway before entering across dry calcareous meadowland which surrounds the wells.

There are two wells at this site. The smaller well, known as 'Tobar an Cós' is believed to have been the original well. After the Battle of Knockroe it is said that this well ran red with blood and a second larger well sprung up further up the slope. This second well is now considered the main well and the focus of pilgrimage. It is known as St Bernard's Holy Well.

Local belief is that this well was originally dedicated to St Patrick but when the Cistercians built their Abbey nearby, the veneration was changed to St Bernard. According to the Ordnance Survey Letters (O'Flanagan 1927, Vol. 1, 139), this well was known locally by some people as 'Toberpatrick', and others as 'St. Bernard's well'; while others again asserted that there was both a 'Toberpatrick' and a 'Tober Bernard' in the area. Other stories relate that St Bernard struck his rod into the earth here and the water sprang up. Another story claims that this well and two others (Cloonoran in Castlebellew townland and St Cuan's, Ahascragh) are sister wells and that the pilgrims visit Cloonoran first, then St Cuan's and then St Bernard's. As the pilgrims leave each well, the water leaves too and springs up at the next well.

<https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4622989/4621394/4629178>



Photograph 57: St Bernard's Holy Well

The surround of St Bernard's well is enclosed by a mortared circular limestone wall with an opening to the south. Two steps up, followed by two steps down provide access. Inside the enclosed area, the well is located in the northern section. It is surrounded by a mortared D-shaped stone wall with two steps leading down to the water. The base of the well consists of a slab of bedrock limestone. Water seeps in from the upslope and drains under the wall on the downslope keeping an even level.

The interior wall of the enclosure has an alcove to the west of the well, where votive offerings are left.

A story from the Schools Manuscripts collection records that a blind girl was drawing water from the well when she hit her foot on a stick. Thinking it was a rock she bent to pick it up and throw it off the path. Her sight returned and she could see St Bernard's name grooved into the stick. She ran home rejoicing. <https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4602674/4594363/4615674?ChapterID=4602674>



Photograph 58: Tobar an Cós

The second, smaller well known as *Tobar an Cos* is located downslope from St Bernard's well. Prior to the late 1990s, the water from the well spread across a hollow in the ground. The owner enclosed it with a drystone oval shaped wall to prevent cattle access (personal comment from landowner, Michael Finn). The source of the water is seepage from the surrounding land onto the bedrock base of the well.

In the year 2000, an area between the two wells was walled off to create a grotto and memorial area. A statue of St Bernard and memorial inscribed plaques were installed. A large metal cross was erected on the hillside above the main well.

The annual pattern Day is August 20th. Traditionally the pilgrim made fifteen rounds of St Bernard's well reciting the Rosary on his or her knees. The pilgrim would then walk to 'Tobar an Cós', where more prayers were recited and the pilgrim would then wash his/her feet in this well. In recent years an annual Mass has been celebrated at the well on the pattern day.

The Archaeological Survey of County Galway recorded in 1993 that there were three small circular cairns visible on the summit of Knockroe, all of which were denuded and/or partly damaged by the relay stations on the hill summit. The largest cairn on the highest point has a diameter of 12 metres. It was previously used as a trigonometrical point. The second was located 12 metres to the south of the first. It had a smaller diameter of 9 metres. A modern concrete trigonometrical station had been inserted into this cairn. 14m to the north-east of the first cairn was the smallest of the three circular cairns which measured 5m in diameter. In 1999, only one of the cairns was visible and

archaeological testing was carried out for the purpose of locating the other two monuments. Four trenches were manually excavated revealing no trace of any archaeological monuments or artefacts of archaeological significance. The two cairns no longer survived. It was recorded likely that they had been levelled during work on the summit that resulted in the installation of telecommunication aerials, associated structures and a roadway leading to the hilltop.

<https://excavations.ie/report/1999/Galway/0004191/>

The original function of these cairns is unknown. They may have been burial mounds and/or they may have been penitential stations in the past, connected to the holy well pattern (turas) on this hill.

3.10.2. Tobar Padraic



Photograph 59: Tobar Padraic within circular embankment

Located in Tobar Padraic graveyard in the townland of Corrafaireen, this spring well is in the northeast corner of a square walled enclosure which is set within an earthen (with some stone) circular embankment. Two steps lead through a gap in the embankment in the south. A protruding stone from the well enclosure provides a step down to the water. This stone is said to bear the imprint of St Patrick's knees as he knelt there resting on his journey to Kilbennan near Tuam and onward to Croagh Patrick. Local folklore records that someone stole the saints' goat while he was here, and accordingly he placed a curse on the people of the area.

A small rock ledge on the west side of the well is used for votive offerings. An examination and recording of the well was undertaken by Dr Christy Cunniffe in 2016, when a gentle clean-up of the area revealed fragments of clay pipes, quartz pebbles, pieces of broken quartz, small prayer stones, a slightly larger prayer stone and a collection of modern coins.

On the east interior wall of the well chamber is a rectangular slab carved with an effigy of St Patrick dressed as a bishop with a two pointed mitre and long robes. He holds a staff in his left hand and his right is raised in blessing. He stands on a serpent with his staff stabbing its tail. The plaque is dated 1688 and bears the inscription:

PRAY * FOR * FA. THOM / AS * KIEGH / RY * WH / O * MADE / THIS * IMA / GE * IN * RE / MRNANC
/ E * OF * ST / PATRICK -1688.



Photograph 60: Carved effigy of St Patrick

The pattern day is March 17th when rounds were made at the well. Local tradition is that pilgrims ‘round’ the well on the pathway inside the earthen embankment. The number of rounds and the prayers recited are no longer remembered. The pilgrim then knelt on St Patrick’s stone and took water from the well. The water is believed to hold a cure for eye ailments.

The pattern was stopped in the early 19th century by the parish priest following a murder during a faction fight at the pattern day celebrations. A butcher from Tuam was killed. A cairn of stones is said to mark the location of his death on the townland boundary about two hundred metres south of the holy well.

Stories from the Schools Manuscript Collection of 1938, record that the Bean Sí cries at the well when an old person is buried in the graveyard and a black hare, is sometimes seen lying at the gate of the graveyard, guarding the entrance and it cannot be caught. It is said to be a fairy hare, or to be someone who died. <https://duchas.ie/en/cbes/4602710/4597567/4631350>

3.10.3. St Kevin’s Holy Well



Photograph 70: Site of St Kevin’s Well, Coolorta

The site of this well is in a pasture field adjacent to a minor road to the north-west corner of a modern house in Coolorta townland. All that remains is a shallow hollow with scattered rocks probably defining the edges of the well. The area is now dry with grasses, thistles, nettles and docks growing. A lone hawthorn stands at what was probably the edge of the well.

ACCESS – Holy Wells

The Holy wells, with the exception of Tobar Padraic, are on private farmland and permission should be sought from the owner before entering. Tobar Padraic is publically accessible.

3.11. Medieval Settlements

3.11.1. Moated Sites

The basic plan of a moated site is a rectangular area enclosed by a bank and external fosse. Some examples can have two banks with an intervening fosse. Irish examples are generally considered to be the defended farmsteads of the Anglo-Norman settlers in the 13th and 14th centuries. The farmer's house and outbuildings occupied the interior of the enclosure, while the fosse was often water filled hence the term 'moated'. They usually occur as isolated rural settlements.

The only moated site found in the study area is located in Doonbeg townland. It consists of an almost square area enclosed by a poorly preserved inner bank with a well preserved flat-bottomed fosse and an outer bank which is overlain from the south-west to the north by a later field wall. The remains of a causeway are visible in the east section.

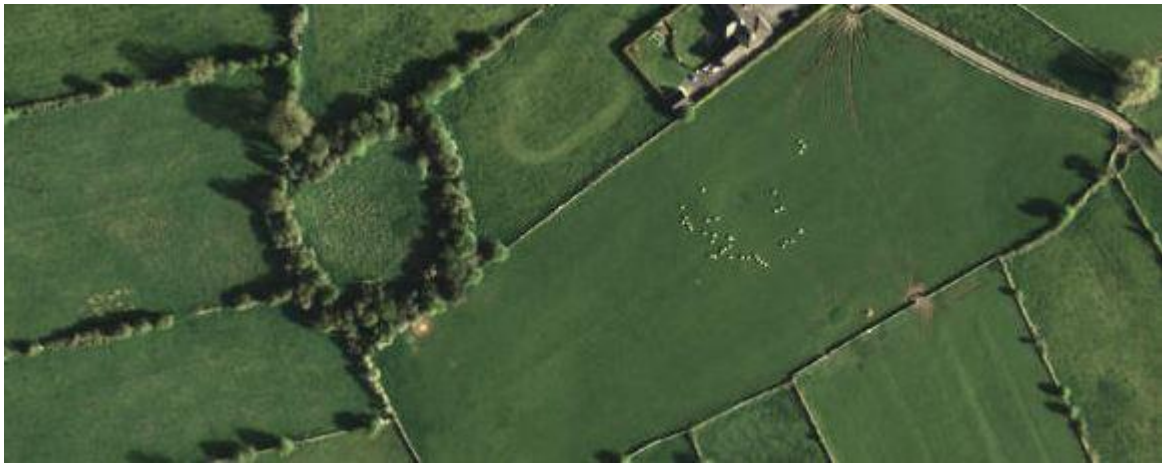


Figure 12: Aerial View of Doonbeg Moated Site 'Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [22-10-2024]'.

3.11.2. Castles

There are four castles recorded within the Study area.

Ballina

On a low hill, in pastureland in Ballina townland, is a spread of large boulders which are thought to be the remains of a medieval castle. This castle is recorded as being in existence in 1574 when it was in the possession of 'Richard Burke fitz Tho.' (Nolan, 1901). According to the same source 'It was blown up to furnish stones for Moyne'.

A rectangular bawn is located on the north side of the monument and a field system lies to the north-west and north. The field system consists of a series of low grassed-over earthen banks, which cover an area c. 180m NE-SW by c. 60m NW-SE. They are likely the remains of a medieval settlement which surrounded the castle.



Figure 13: Aerial view of Ballina Castle and medieval settlement 'Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [22-10-2024]'.

Carrowreagh East

The site of 'Castle French' is marked in Carrowreagh East townland on the OS historic 6-inch maps. There is no visible surface trace surviving of this castle. A series of mounds, hollows and banks of earth and stone in the field, adjacent to a farm yard, may mark the site.

Cahirnefieke Castle

The remains of a rectangular castle are now part of a range of farm buildings at Brooklodge. Cahirnefieke Castle was in existence in 1574 and was owned at that time by Tirlagh Carragh McSwyne. In the early 1800s, when the Blake family bought the land at Brooklodge and built a large house, they incorporated the ruin of the castle into the building of the associated farmyard complex. This range of buildings are now the property of the 'Galway Glamping' enterprise.

The castle, as it survives today, was originally higher. The upper section was removed in the 1800s. In recent years it has been renovated. Three storeys high it has a pitched slate roof and a chimney stack on its south gable. The doorway is in the east wall. One round-headed window is visible at 1st-floor level in the east wall, while the others are square headed.

Cashlaundarragh



Photograph 71: View of south wall of Cashlaundarragh

Built by the O'Kellys sometime in the 15th century, by 1574 'Garrandaragh' castle was in the possession of 'Vllig Lynch' (Nolan, 1901). According to the OS Letters (O'Flanagan 1927, Vol. 1, 257), this castle is also known as 'the castle of Rye hill'.

Located on a low hill it consists of the ruin of a rectangular tower, which was at least four storeys in height. In the south end of the east wall is a robbed-out doorway which leads into a small lobby with a murder-hole above. This lobby gives access to the ground-floor chamber and to the spiral stairs (broken above the first floor) in the north-east corner. There is a stone vault between the first and second floors. A fireplace survives in the south wall on the first floor and a garderobe (toilet) exit chute is visible near the west end of the north wall. The third floor is inaccessible. The surviving windows comprise narrow rectangular slits and single lights, the latter having flat and ogee-shaped heads.

Traces of a roughly square bawn, consisting of a low bank of earth and stone, is visible on the east, south and south-west of the castle. The foundations of two small circular turrets at the south-east and south-west corners are visible in the aerial photograph 14.

Surrounding the castle and especially to the south and south-west are low banks of earth and stone which cover an area 300m E-W by 200m N-S (www.archaeology.ie). The Record of Monuments and Places compiled by the National Monuments Service records that these include the foundations of at least eleven drystone-built rectangular houses (c. 11m long x c. 4.5m wide) and associated field walls which form no obvious pattern. A possible roadway (Length 50m, Width 10m), defined by two parallel drystone walls, is also visible.



Figure 14: Aerial view of Cashlaundarragh with surrounding bawn, field system and associated house foundations.
 'Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [22-10-2024]'.

The Schools Manuscripts Collection contains the following information about Cashlaundarragh, collected in Ryehill School in 1938:

Caisleán an Darraigh is a castle situated in Ryehill, Monivea. It is built on rising ground and is square in shape. It appears to be a Norman castle but some say it was used by the Danes. At the entrance to it there is a money hole, where if a stick is inserted, the rattle of money is heard. One boundary wall surrounded it long ago. Near it there is a well in which the water remains at the same level always. On the north side of the castle there is a big hole and locally it is believed that when the castle falls it will fall into this hole.

Michael Fox of Ryehill years ago had cattle grazing round the castle. One night the neighbours saw a terrible fire on top of the castle and on going to investigate it, they could find no reason for the fire. They believe it was a fairy fire. They heard meat frying. Next morning one of the cattle was found dead.

The story was collected by Dick Molloy, aged 12 from Bartley Cooke who was aged 53 at the time.
[Druim an t-Seagail · The Schools' Collection | dúchas.ie](http://Druim an t-Seagail - The Schools' Collection | dúchas.ie)

Barnaderg North



Photograph 72: Barnaderg Castle

Barnaderg Castle was built by Melughlin (Malachy) O'Kelly' in the 16th century. It survives today as a ruined five-storey tower house, located on a raised rectangular platform, surrounded by low-lying land which seasonally floods, forming a turlough.

The north, east and west walls survive to their original height but only some foundation stones of the south wall survive. A robbed-out doorway flanked by two gun loops is visible in the north wall. In the east wall a single-light ogee-headed window survives on the first floor and a two-light transom and mullioned window on the third floor. A string course is located below the parapet. Corbels which supported machicolations can be seen below the string course at the top of each surviving wall. The gable on the north wall rises inside the parapet as does the chimney stack on the west wall. However, that on east wall rises directly from the parapet wall.

Internally corbels and beam slots indicate the position of the floors. Traces of the spiral stairs survive at the broken end of the west wall. There is an intramural passage in the west wall on the second floor. Fireplaces occur in the east wall of each of the first, second, third and fourth floors; those on first and third floors are blocking the windows.

Grace O'Malley, the famous pirate queen is believed to have visited Barnaderg Castle in 1598 to meet with Red Hugh O'Donnell, the leader of the Irish rebels against Queen Elizabeth I. Another legend is that of Donal O'Kelly, who was hanged from the castle window by Cromwellian soldiers in 1652 for refusing to surrender.

3.11.3. 17th century house

Some 90m north-north-east of the remains of Ballina castle, in a field at the end of a track from the roadway, is a very poorly preserved two-storey rectangular house. It measures 21 metres long and 9 metres wide. The National Monuments Service estimated its date of construction to the late 1600s to early 1700s. The upper storey is contained within the pitch of the roof. All that survives is the north-east gable crowned by a rectangular chimney and short returns of the south-east and the north-west side-walls. There are two robbed-out fireplaces and two wall recesses on the ground floor, and a third fireplace on the first floor, flanked by four rectangular windows.



Photograph 73: late 17th/early 18th century house Ballina

ACCESS – MEDIEVAL SETTLEMENTS

All the medieval settlements (moated site, castles and 17th c. house) are located on private farmland and permission should be sought from the owner before entering.

3.12. Landed Estates of the 18th and 19th Centuries

3.12.1 Abbert

When Castle Blakeney was burnt in the 1720s, the Blakeney family moved to Abbert, which they bought from the Frenches. They are recorded as being in residence here in 1786 (Wilson) but by 1855 (Griffith's Valuation) the house was occupied by David Watson Ruttledge. However Slater refers to Abbert as the seat of John Blakeney in 1894. <https://landedestates.ie>



The original house no longer exists but the ruins of the outbuildings, lodges, field walls and some parkland trees survive.

Photograph 72: Former outbuilding of Abbert Demesne House



Abbert House had two gate lodges. The East Lodge survives today as a ruined rubble-built structure, single storey, once hip roofed with a simple window to the road and a two –bay avenue front.

Photograph 75: Ruins of East Gate Lodge Abbert Demesne

The West Lodge was built by John Henry Blakeney sometime in the 1850s to replace an earlier lodge which was probably built at the same time as the East Lodge. (Burke, 1904) (Dean, 2019). Today it is in use as a farm out building. It is a two-storey building, gabled with exposed rafter toes, in coursed rubble stone with brick dressings to small windows.

3.12.2. Barbersfort

Barbersfort was the residence of the Bermingham family, before it was sold to Robert Rutledge in July 1816 for £14,500. Robert married Elizabeth Knox in 1787. Elizabeth died without issue and Robert married again in 1828 to Elizabeth Watson, a widow. Elizabeth had a son, David, by her first marriage.

In 1833 following the death of Robert, the house became the property of his stepson David Walsh Rutledge at the age of 22. However there was a condition attached to his inheritance. It stated that David's children could only retain the lands at Barbersfort if David, married a woman who was a child of his stepfather Robert, but one born out of wedlock. David however chose to marry Eleanor Knox of Moyne Abbey, Killala, Co. Mayo in 1836. Their son David was born in 1838.

David Watson Rutledge died in 1890 and because he had not satisfied the conditions of his step fathers will, his descendants were forced to forfeit their lands upon his death. Barbersfort appears to have become the property of Roberts's blood relatives – the Rutledges of Bloomfield, Co. Mayo.

The 1901 census lists Sarah Knox Rutledge, aged 64, as head of the household at Barbersfort. She was living there with her daughter Eleanor aged 30. Barbersfort House was burnt down in the 1920s apparently by accident. The Barbersfort and Cahergal lands were vested in the Land Commission, and were divided among the tenants. A new house was built on part of the site which adjoins the old farmyard in 1927. It is a three-bay two-storey house, with a later gabled porch to the front.

<https://landedestates.ie/family/402>

All that remains of the original 19th century buildings at Barbersfort are the outbuildings and the entrance gateway.

The two-storey outbuildings were built c.1830 and consist of one six-bay block with a slate roof pitched at one end and hipped at the other (which has a single storey outbuilding attached to it at a right angle) and a second two-storey, five bay block with a ruined single storey outbuilding attached at one end. A round limestone archway with a double-leaf wrought-iron gate leads into a walled garden.

The entrance gateway to the original Barbersfort House was erected c.1860 and is located opposite Cahergal School. It is manufactured from cast iron. In the centre is a double-leaf vehicular gate supported on square-plan reeded piers topped with decorative balls with spike finials. The vehicular gate is flanked by pedestrian gates with similar supporting piers. Outside of these, S-profile carved limestone plinth walls support S-plan railings and piers. These in turn are flanked by S-plan



rusticated limestone walls with plinths and copings, terminating in rectangular-profile piers which are the same height as the walls. In front of the piers of the vehicular gate are carved limestone spherical wheel guards.

Photograph 76: Barbersfort House Entrance Gateway

3.12.3. Ballyglunin Park House

Martin Blake fitz Andrew of Cummer purchased the lands of Ballyglooneen from the Cromwellian planter Charles Holcraft in 1671. His son, Martin moved to Ballyglooneen in the earlier 18th century where he built Ballyglunin Park house c.1770. Various additions and refurbishments were made to the house in the 18th and 19th centuries by members of the family. In the 1870s the Blakes owned over 10,000 acres in the locality. By March 1916 the family had accepted a final offer of over £60,000 from the Congested Districts' Board for almost 9,800 acres of their estate. In 1964 the house was purchased by the Catholic institution, Opus Dei, and used as a conference centre. It was sold in 2014 and is now in private possession. <http://landedestates.nuigalway.ie/LandedEstates/jsp/estate-show.jsp?id=947>

The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage, record no. 30405821, <https://.buildingsofireland.ie> accessed 15 October, 2024, provides a description of the house from which the following is adapted:

Ballyglunin Park House is a detached, two-storey house with a three bay front elevation built c. 1770. It is L-plan with a short link to a later built block to the rear, which gives an overall U-plan appearance. The slate roof is hipped on the earlier section and pitched on the later addition. It has



large rendered chimneystacks. The front façade has a pedimented breakfront with a Diocletian window on the first floor and a Venetian doorway on the ground floor. The side windows and fanlight of this doorway have been blocked up and it currently functions as a window. The present day entrance is in the west gable. The window openings are all square-headed with one-over-one sash windows. There is a round, two-stage tower on the north-east corner of the rear block, with pointed windows.

Photograph 77: Ballyglunin Park House (Source of image: <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie> Under licence <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>)

To the east of the house is a courtyard of farm buildings. They have pitched slate roofs and rubble limestone walls. There is a lean-to addition to the east range with a segmental-arched vehicular entrance. The yard is approached through a double-leaf cast-iron vehicular gate set between offset dressed limestone piers. A walled garden to the east is bounded by rubble limestone walls.



Photograph 78: Entrance gates Ballyglunin Park House

The cast iron entrance gateway can be seen from the Annagh Hill to Tuam road. The decorative, double-leaf gates are set between a pair of square-plan decorative open piers, flanked by a pair of pedestrian gates. At the outer end of the gateway are a pair of square-plan ashlar limestone piers with string course and pyramidal caps with curvilinear coursed random rubble limestone walls with flat rubble copings to road.

Opposite the entrance gates is the ruin of the gate lodge which was built c.1850. It is a detached, L-plan, three-bay single-storey which had a dormer attic before the roof collapsed. A slate-roofed lean-to projecting window bay is located on both the north and east gables. The walls of both these gables, which face the road are built with squared and snecked limestone blocks, while the west and south walls are of coursed random rubble. The remaining window openings are square-headed with tooled limestone lintels and sills. The remains of diamond-shaped glazing bars can still be seen in the windows <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/30405704/ballyglunin-park-ballyglooneen-galway>



Photographs 79 & 80: Ballyglunin Park Gate Lodges

A second lodge is located on the Roscommon road N63 at the Ballyglunin crossroads. The two lodges are almost identical except for the condition. The second lodge is occupied and some of the original architectural features have been retained. The windows have been changed and a door porch and rear flat roof extension added. J.A.K. Dean (2019) suggests that the architect was J.F. Kempster.

3.12.4. Crumlin Park

Crumlin Park House was built by the Blake family in 1844. By the early 1880s they were bankrupt and Crumlin was sold in the Land Court to Cecil Robert Henry of the Toghermore family, near Tuam in the early 1890s. Henry altered and extended the house in the style of a French chateau. The house was sold to the Land Commission in 1913 and to John Costello in 1917, whose grandson renovated it and the courtyard in the early 1990s. <https://landedestates.ie/property/814>

A decorative gateway and lodge mark the entrance to Crumlin Park House. The gateway consists of a



central pair of open cast-iron piers with palmette decoration, bow tops and cast-iron double gates. The east pier is missing the lower portion of decoration. There are a pair of cast-iron flanking pedestrian gates with quatrefoil panels and spike finials. The outer piers are openwork cast-iron with a solid panel to east.

Photograph 81: Entrance gates to Crumlin Park House

The derelict gate lodge is located on the north side of the gate. It is a detached two-bay, one and a half-storey cruciform-plan building. Its steeply pitched slate roof had trefoil earthenware cresting. The roof slates have alternate sawtooth and scalloped bands supported on square-ended stone corbels. The overhanging eaves have a timber soffit, decorative exposed rafter ends and decorative



timber bargeboards which have fallen. The walls are built of ashlar limestone with dressed quarry-faced quoins, plinths and eaves blocks. The window openings are square-headed openings with limestone lintels and tooled limestone sills. An entrance porch is located in the east elevation. The lodge is set behind a low rendered boundary wall with the remains of the garden to the rear. J.A.K. Dean (2019) suggests that the architect was possibly J.F. Kempster with a building date of c.1870 (see also Ballyglunin Park Lodge).

Photograph 82: Crumlin Park Gate Lodge

Crumlin Park House is a detached irregular-plan house. At each end of the front elevation is a two storey gable-fronted bay. These are linked by a three bay, two-storey section with a projecting three-stage entrance tower to the north end. The sprocketed roof of the tower has fish-scale and toothed slates (similar to those on the gate lodge) and is topped with a leaded cap and finial. Beneath the roof are a trio of round-headed narrow windows with stone sills and brackets beneath. The second level of the tower has a square headed window. On the ground floor is a round-headed window with a hood-moulding linking to a moulded string course. On the west side of the tower is a round-headed entrance with label-moulding.

The pitched roofs of the house are slated with yellow brick chimneystacks. The eaves of the gables have timber rafters and decorative dentils. The walls are ruled and lined rendered with a painted



projecting plinth course. There is rusticated walling to ground floor of tower. The window openings are square-headed with stone sills. The south west gable has a full height canted bay with a tripartite window on the ground-floor.

A single-storey twentieth-century extension to the north has a pitched roof, and there is a single-storey twentieth-century flat roof extension to the south.

The courtyard of former farm building to the rear of the house have been renovated and are used as holiday accommodation.

Photograph 83: Crumlin Park House (Source of image: <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie> Under licence <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>)

3.12.5. Moyne

Nicholas Browne was granted over 3,000 acres in 1677 under the Acts of Settlement in Counties Galway, Roscommon and Sligo. Most of the land was in County Galway and included Moyne, Newtown and Crumlin. In 1830 Michael J. Browne built Moyne House. By the mid-1850s he was forced to sell his estate and 9,167 acres in addition to Moyne house, were offered for sale in the Encumbered Estates' Court in 1855. Moyne was bought by Edward Browne but he sold the house and over 1,000 acres two years later to John Stratford Kirwan. By 1865, the house was again for sale and it was bought by the Waithmans. From 1912, the house became a hospice for infirm priests. In 1932 the Sacred Heart Missionaries took up residence and the house operated as a seminary until 1975. It was then purchased by the folk singer Donovan who after six months sold it on to Dominic and Veronica Mulhern. The Mulherns operated a Nursing Home on the premises until 1985. It then became the home of the Scottish broadcaster and poet, George MacBeth, until his death in 1992 when it was sold to Liam and Anne Moran from Galway. The Ganley family purchased the house in 1995 and are the current residents.

<https://killererin.galwaycommunityheritage.org/content/places/our-golden-mile>



The decorative entrance gateway to Moyne House is located in Sunhill townland on the Derreen Road from Abbeyknockmoy. It is set back from the road with curvilinear rendered walls to the east and west. It was erected c.1890. The central gate is no longer present. Curvilinear cast iron railings, on each side of the gate space are set into a limestone plinth and are flanked by an inner and outer ashlar limestone pillar. The inner pillars are octagonal plan with a moulded plinth and cap and acanthus leaves decorating the frieze. The outer pillars are square-plan ashlar also have a moulded base and cap, but have a tooled shaft with draughted margins and carved lattice panels to the neck.



Photographs 84- 86: Moyne House Gateway

Moyne House consists of a detached U-plan, two-storey over basement, Georgian mansion. On the approach to the house from the avenue, the ashlar limestone front wall and the east side wall are in view. The hipped slated roof is largely hidden by a high blocking course. The chimneystacks of also built of ashlar limestone. A moulded cornice lines the top of the walls with a plat band to the eaves below. The front façade of the house consists of seven bays with a three bay shallow breakfront in the centre. Four Giant Order Doric pilasters divide the breakfront into three sections. The fanlight entrance doorway is located in the centre section flanked by a square headed window on each side. Between the ground and first floor, a series of three panels with moulded surrounds occur. On the first floor a series a square headed window occupies each section. Above is an entablature with a frieze of triglyphs and metopes with floral paterae, heavy cornice with mutules and blocking course.

The window opening on the end bays of the front façade are all square headed with those on the ground floor set within round-headed niches with dressed stone voussoirs above. On the first floor, round-headed niches occur between the window openings. All the window openings have limestone sills and panelled architraves. The four-bay east elevation has canted end bays. The three bay west elevation, the rear wall of the main block and the walls of west block are rendered.



Photograph 87: Approach Avenue to Moyne House with small lake to front

The farmyard complex to the rear of Moyne House has a nine-bay three-storey range to the west side. It has a half-hipped slated roof and gables over the top floor windows. This very large stable block may have been enlarged at the time when the property was a seminary. The coursed rubble limestone walls show evidence of straight joints and some blocked window openings.

3.12.6. Newtown

Under the Acts of Settlement in the 1600s, Nicholas Browne was granted lands in County Galway. His estates included Crumlin, Moyne and Newtown. In 1802 John Kelly bought the Newtown estate from the Brownes of Moyne. He had extensive property and business interests in Jamaica, where he had a large number of slaves working his plantations.

The construction of Newtown House is dated to c.1810 by the NIAH. Three generations of the Kelly family lived at Newtown. Charles Kelly held the property in the mid-1850s along with his wife, Bertha de Buisserat. Their daughter Matilda (1865-1956) married Henri, Comte Turquet de la Boisserie in 1888. Her memoirs, including an account of her childhood at Newtown, were translated from French by her grandson and are available in the James Hardiman Library archives at NUI, Galway. (Boran, 2019)



Photograph 88: Newtown House <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie> Under licence <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

In the early 1930s the house was bought by Major Frederick Carr. It was sold by Barbara Carr in the late 1960s. The house has had a number of owners in the intervening years including the Honourable Richard Rochesley, a German film maker named Cruickshank, a Dutch couple - Berno

Wiseman and his wife Ada and a Welsh gentleman - Wyn Reese. It is currently the property of Casey O'Neill, a businessman.

Newtown House is set within extensive landscaped gardens which include the River Abbert, woodlands and a walled garden. A courtyard of outbuildings and stables are located to the rear of the house. The house is undergoing extensive renovations at present.



Photograph 89: Front Doorcase, Newtown House

The house has a symmetrical facade, with attached wings. The main central block is a five bay, two storey structure built c.1810 but it may incorporate an earlier house c.1730

<https://buildingsofireland.ie>

The front porch and doorcase are dated c.1835. The square-headed, eight panel, timber entrance door has a moulded timber surround and is set within a tooled limestone surround flanked by a pair of stone pilasters with plinths and moulded capitals which support a tooled stone parapet with a moulded entablature. Limestone steps lead up to the door.

Two slightly recessed, single-storey, two-bay L-plan double-pile wings flank the front central block. The slated roofs are hipped with large chimneystacks. The walls are lime rendered and painted. The widow openings to the front are square-headed with six over six pane timber sliding sash windows and limestone sills. There are rounded headed window to the end walls of the wings and to the rear of the house. There is a bowed central bay to the rear of the house. It has a round-headed fixed twelve-pane stairs window with a spoked fanlight.

The courtyard of outbuildings to the rear of the house is accessed through a limestone arched throughway. There are both one-storey and two-storey, multiple bay buildings, in a rectangular range enclosing the courtyard, which is surfaced with cobblestone in places.

On the approach avenue to Newtown House a four-arch limestone bridge spans the Abbert River. It is given a construction date of c.1800 by the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH). It is



Photograph 90: Bridge at Newtown House.

built of rubble limestone and has triangular cutwaters on the north-west face which have pyramidal copings. The parapets have hammer-finished flat limestone copings. There are decorative cast-iron lampstands to the north of the bridge.

3.12.7. Brooklodge

In 1641, the land that is today known as Brooklodge (then known as Castlemoyle) was owned by Patrick Darcy. By 1671 it had been transferred to Thomas Deane. Brooklodge House was built c.1770 by the Deanes.

On June 16, 1775, Ambrose Deane leased this house and accompanying estate lands to Christopher French for one life and 99 years. Christopher developed and improved the estate over the next thirty years. However the family became heavily indebted to Thomas Hynes, a merchant formerly of Jamaica and the lease was sold to him in 1808.

In 1803, Olivia French of Brooklodge married John Blake, a younger son of Martin Blake and his wife Bridget Joyce, from nearby Ballyglunin House. Martin J. Blake later bought the lease of Brooklodge for £10,000 from Thomas Hynes in 1813. However, the ownership of the property had passed to the Skerrett family through marriage with the Deane family and the Blakes lease was with the Skerretts.

Although a ruin today, significant architectural features of the original house are still visible. The plan



was in three sections. The main central section was two storey high with five bays over a half basement. The central bay formed a bow fronted entrance with a moulded eaves cornice. The main entrance doorway set within the bow, was square headed with a tooled stone block-and-start surround, a moulded transom and cornice and a rectangular overlight flanked by panelled pilasters. Above the door a red brick relieving arch is visible which may indicate an earlier entrance door.

Photograph 91: Ruin of Brooklodge House

The ground floor walls were built of rendered rubble limestone while the upper floor was of brick. The windows were square headed with tooled stone sills. A side section to the northwest was single storey with four bays with a half basement. The side section to the southwest was a two storey projecting bay over a semi basement.

To the side of the house are extensive outbuildings, boundary walls and a Gothic-style chapel (Section 3.6.2.). They are part of the complex of connected farm buildings which extends down to what is now a separate privately owned property which operates as 'Galway Glamping'. The connected farm yard was built c.1770 around an existing 16th century castle (Section 3.11.2.)

A two storey block of buildings form a range on both sides of the castle. They have been extensively renovated since the present owners took possession in 2006. In the north-east corner of the farmyard is a former chapel, which was also used as a schoolhouse (Section 3.6.3). An arched gateway in the two storey range of buildings leads into a rear walled yard. From this yard a gateway with angled inner terminals created from square piers opens to a single arch bridge over the Abbert River. The bridge is accessed through a stone built gateway set within rounded piers.

The bridge originally carried the demesne road across the Abbert River. The piers and walls of the bridge are built from rough-faced limestone, with hammer-dressed wedge-shaped stones forming the elegant low arch of the bridge. Wrought-iron railings line the parapet above.



Photograph 92: Bridge at Brooklodge

On the downriver side of the bridge, two cross shaped holes in the river wall may indicate the site of a former sawmilling operation. The holes were possibly used for the insertion of the iron shafts of a mill wheel which was turned by the flowing water. The present owner filled in a large depression in this area which may have been the original site of the mill wheel.

On the opposite side of the road to Brooklodge House are the ruins of an icehouse. This was originally part of the Brooklodge estate domestic buildings, built around 1770 to store ice and act as a refrigerator keeping the family's food fresh. Placed in the icehouse, the brick walls, domed shape of the structure and straw packing provided adequate insulation to retain the ice in a solid state.

The building has a circular plan with the entrance to the north-west. A pointed arch entrance with brick voussoirs leads into a short corridor at the end of which is the ice chamber. The entrance and corridor would originally have had stout doorways to maintain the low temperature. The whole structure is lined with brick, favoured for its insulation properties. The ice chamber has a corbelled ceiling and a rounded bottom where melt water gathered and was drained away through a hole.



Photograph 93: View of rear of Ice House

3.12.8. Ryehill

In the late 18th century the Ryehill Demesne belonged to a branch of the Redington family of Kilcornan, Clarinbridge. The house was built by Thomas Redington in 1802. He died in 1828 without a male heir and his estate passed to his daughter Eleanor, who was married to Stephen Roche. Their eldest son, Thomas Redington Roche, inherited on his father's death in 1864.

The demesne originally had both a north and south gate lodge, as is recorded on the first edition OS 6-inch map. The north lodge has been demolished, but the south lodge survives opposite the former entrance gateway to the house. Ryehill House was still occupied in 1906 by a member of the Roche family. The land was divided by the Land Commission in 1911 and the house, unroofed by the mid-1950s, is no longer extant. Only some of the yard buildings still remain.

The south gate lodge has a striking Venetian style with a cut limestone portico entrance. Doric columns are flanked by pilasters, which are flanked in turn by ashlar quoins. Stone steps lead to the doorway. The square-headed doorway has a moulded limestone surround flanked by round-headed niches. The square-headed window openings have shouldered stone architraves. The pitched slate roof has wide overhanging eaves which are supported on carved stone brackets. Originally a one-



storey, T-plan building, a two-storey extension has been built to the rear. J.A.K. Dean (2019) identifies S.U. Roberts as the probable architect and states that it is the finest lodge of its type in Ireland.

Photograph 94: Ryehill South Lodge

The building is framed by a convex approach with decorative cast iron railings with ornate brackets on limestone plinth walls. The entrance gateway to the former Ryehill House is located on the opposite side of the road from the lodge. It is set in a convex approach with ashlar limestone walls with plinths and flat copings, mirroring the design of the south lodge railings opposite.

The gateway has two pairs of carved limestone square-plan piers with moulded tapered recessed panels, moulded plinths, string courses and moulded caps with squat pyramidal tops. These support a decorative cast-iron vehicular gate flanked by two pedestrian gates. The pedestrian gates are supported to the rear by ornate cast-iron brackets. They have flanking plinth walls and cast-iron railings.



Photograph 95: Entrance gateway to the former Ryehill House.

ACCESS – LANDED ESTATES OF THE 18TH AND 19TH CENTURIES

The houses of the former landed estates are all privately owned and permission should be sought from the owner before entering. In the case of Crumlin Park, the house is open to paying guests. The entrance gates and gate lodges described in this report can be viewed from the public road.

3.13. 18th-19th Century Villages

In the late 1700s the families of the local small farmer generally lived in one-storey, one room deep thatched cottages. These were often built close to each other in clusters and very often the same extended family occupied the houses within the cluster. The houses along with a strip of land were usually leased from a larger landowner or a middle man – such as the landlords herd.

3.13.1. Village Locations

The sites of many of these ‘villages’ which were still occupied in the early 19th century are marked on the first edition OS 6-inch map c.1838. These include clusters in Garraun Beg, Peak, Cloonlusk, Gortbeg, Ballynastuckaun, Ballynapark, Feagh West, Cloonkeen, Culliagh South, Ballynamona and Pollsillagh. The majority of these sites were close to the bogs or marginal land which was badly drained and of little use to the landlord for agriculture. The majority of these clusters do not survive today but there are remnants of the former layout visible in the house locations in Garraun Beg and Ballystuckaun and the field patterns in Ballystuckaun and Feagh West.

The site of Ballynapark ‘village’ is located approximately 2.5km west north-west of Abbeyknockmoy village. It is marked on the first edition OS 6-inch map (c.1838) and some of the foundations of the houses and field walls are still visible today.

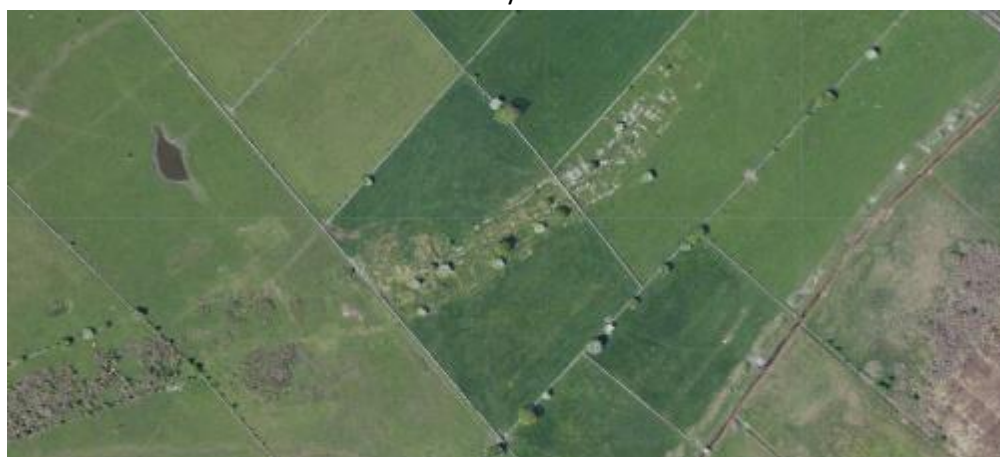


Figure 15: Aerial view of the remains of Ballynapark ‘village’ ‘Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [24-10-2024]’.

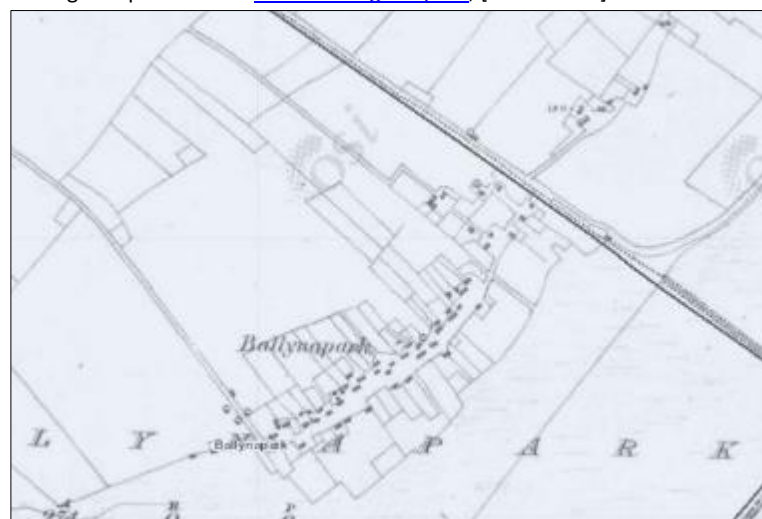


Figure 16: Ballynapark Village on the OS historic 6-inch map c.1838

‘Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [24-10-2024]’.

ACCESS – 18TH-19TH CENTURY VILLAGES

The sites of the villages described here are located on private farmland and permission should be sought from the owner before entering.



The traces of one 'village' in the study area, which is not marked on the historic maps, are still visible on the landscape today. This village must have been in existence pre-1800 and had largely disappeared by the mid-1800s when the maps were made. It is in Corrafaireen townland. The remains of at least eighteen drystone-built houses, a series of collapsed field walls and three roadways covering an area of c. 440m east-west by c. 250m north-south have been recorded by the NMS. The houses have one to two rooms and measure c.9m by 4m. A number of the external corners are rounded. The surrounding land is low-lying with rock outcrop and scrub. (<https://archaeology.ie>).

Figure 17: Aerial view of remains of field system, roads and houses in Corrafaireen 'Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [24-10-2024]'.

3.13.2. Vernacular Houses



Photograph 96: Vernacular thatched house Doonbeg townland

A surviving vernacular house, which is very well maintained is located in Doonbeg townland and easily viewed from the road. It is a detached three-bay single-storey house built sometime in the late 1700s/early 1800s. It has opposite doorways and the rear of the house has four bays. The pitched reed thatched roof is enclosed by rendered copings on the gables. A low rendered chimneystack shows the position of the hearth internally. The rubble limestone walls are whitewashed and the square-headed window openings with replacement timber windows have red painted surrounds. The square-headed narrow doorway to front has a glazed timber door. A small garden to the front is bounded by a low stone wall painted white. The single-storey outbuildings in the yard at the rear of house, have pitched roofs and lean-to structures with rendered walls.

3.13.3. Trades and Crafts

The 'villages' of the 18th and 19th century were largely self-sufficient in their outlook. Resources were scarce and often had to be sourced locally. Commodities had to be hand crafted.

The Schools Manuscripts Collection from 1938, for which the school children collected information from older people in the local community, records many of the trades and crafts of the area.

Thatching

The following is an entry recorded by James Noone, from Clogherboy who attended Garra School:

John Murrough Ballinastack, used to thatch all the houses around. His wages were 5/. a day. The man for whom he used to thatch used to draw the straw and ready it for thatching. He used also buy hazel switches in the market and cut them for the thatch. John Murrough used to make "bobs" for the top of the house or as they used to call it the "comb." He used to start at 9 o'clock in the morning in winter and finish at 9 o'clock in the evening. He used to be about (fo) six days thatching a house. He used to put on four "straikes" in the day each "straik" about 1 1/2 feet wide He is about 75 years of age now and has given up thatching about eight years.

<https://duchas.ie/en/cbes/4566062/4563666>

Forges and Blacksmithing

An entry from Laurence Mullins who attended Brierfield School was told to him by William Walsh who was aged 50 at the time:

There are about four black-smiths in the parish of Abbey and each of them have their own forge. William Dolan is the local smith. He is situated on the side of the public road between Horse-leap crossroads and Moylough. He is a very good smith and he gets a lot of work to do. If you pass by William Dolan's forge you will see ploughs, scuffers, harrows and all such things left outside the forge. His son works with him in the forge every day. The walls of the forge are made of boards, and the roof is made of boards also covered with canvas. The tools the black-smiths use are a vice, a bellows, an anvil, a sledge, a hammer, a pincers, a tongs, a rasp and a fire shovel. The work the black smith does is, puts shoes in horses and asses, he also fixed ploughs, harrows and scuffers, everything connected with the farmer. He also makes iron gates. A smith is a very useful man, and the people could not do without him. If you take anything out of a forge without the smith knowing it the people say that if the smith curses you something is sure to happen you sometime. William Dolan is the best black-smith in the district and a lot more people come to him than to any other of the smiths.

<https://duchas.ie/en/cbes/4602711/4597681/4631723>

Tailors

Laurence Mullins also tells us about the tailors of the area, an account he got from his mother who was aged 40 at the time.

There are four or five tailors living around my district and the names of them are, Kavanagh, Cosgrave, Fahy, Dempsey and Joe Nolan.

Kavanagh has his house in Abbert. He is a very good tailor and he gets a lot of work to do. His father was a tailor also and he was a very good tailor.

Kavanagh has only one foot because it got cut off when he was a young man. He sells clothes in his own house. He makes a lot of suits also for all the boys and men around his district. Kavanagh comes

to Abbey Mass every Sunday in a donkey and trap. He is a very big strong man and he always wears a hat.

Cosgrave lives in Brierfield in his own house. There is no other person living with him in the house. Cosgrave is a very good tailor, a lot better than any other of the tailors. He makes a lot of suits at his own house and then he brings them into Tuam and sells them. Cosgrave gets a lot of suits to make from all the people living in his district. When you wish to get a new suit to make for yourself you can either buy the stuff yourself and then bring it to Cosgrave and he will make it, or if you wish he will get the stuff himself, and then make the suit. Joe Nolan is not a good tailor at all. He has no house of his own but he stays in a house in Menlough. He comes round to the houses to see if they have anything to make and if you have he will stay there for the day and when evening will come he will go home again. He does not get much clothes to make because he is not a good tailor. Joe Nolan is about seventy three years of age. He is a very big man. The people always call him for a "nick name", "Joe the tailor".

Dempsey has his house in Menlough. He is a good tailor but he is not as good as Cosgrave. Dempsey used to get a lot of suits to make a few years ago but he does not get much clothes to make now. Dempsey is a middle size man and he nearly always wears a hat.

<https://duchas.ie/en/cbes/4602711/4597684/4631724>

3.13.4. Lime Kilns

Just a short distance uphill from St Marys' RC Church in Carrownamanagh townland, there is a very good example of a lime kiln. A common feature of the rural landscape throughout Ireland in the 18th and 19th centuries, most were located close to 'villages' but are now removed or in poor condition.

They were used for the production of quicklime. Limestone was quarried locally and broken down into small pieces. It was then transported by cart to the lime kiln. The kilns were usually built into a low hill, allowing easy access to the top of the kiln where the limestone was loaded into the chamber of the kiln, interlayering it with turf, scraw and wood. A fire was lit in the 'draw hole' at the bottom of the structure and the heat was drawn up through the layers. When the temperature in the chamber reached over 900°C, a chemical reaction occurred where the calcium carbonate in the limestone was broken down into calcium oxide (lime) and carbon dioxide gas was released. The kiln was left to burn for 3-4 days. The material that came out of the kiln after burning still consisted of some stone pieces and powder. Water was then poured over the burnt stone i.e. slaking. This often caused small explosions resulting in bad burns or eye injuries for nearby workers.

The lime powder had various uses, including fertiliser, lime mortar, "white wash" for the inside and outside walls of the farm house and outbuildings, prevention of foot rot in farm animals, slug repellent and a chicken feed to strengthen the egg shells.

The following extract from the Schools Manuscripts Collection from Garra School records the process <https://duchas.ie/en/cbes/4566062/4563667>

Martin Corcoran Corofin, an old man had a huge lime kiln in a small distance in a field near Martin Dolan's forge beside a river about the size of the "Abbert River" known as the "Canal."
This lime kiln used to hold about two hundred barrels of lime and the owner used to stay up for a full week attending the lime kiln while it used to be burning. He used to sell it at two shillings per barrel and he used to often sell the full of the kiln in a week before Christmas. He used to sell it in half barrels also at one shilling. This man is about eighteen years dead. There is no lime burned there now

but the land where it is is owned by a man named Nolan. About ten years ago Pat Rourke Abbey used to burn lime. He used to gather stones and break them into small bits and burn them with turf. He used to have to stay up at night to attend to it and keep turf down. Then he would sell it at about 5/- per barrel.

Some of the people around here used to buy it and put it on the land to kill the herbs.

ACCESS – LIME KILN

The lime kiln at Carrowmanagh is located on private farmland and permission should be sought from the owner before entering.

An sign installed by Killarnerin Heritage Group as part of their 'Golden Mile' competition entry is located on the roadside boundary wall providing visual interpreted access.



Photograph 97: Lime Kiln Interpretive Sign Carrowmanagh

3.13.5. Mills



Photograph 98: Carrowreagh East Windmill

3.13.5.1. Carrowreagh East Windmill

In Carrowreagh East townland to the rear of a modern farmyard is the ruin of a two-stage circular-plan windmill, dating to c.1750. It is built of coursed limestone rubble walls, with square-headed door openings with rubble arch stones to south-east and north-west. No internal fittings survive. It was most likely used to grind corn for the local farmers and was sited here on an elevated site to take advantage of the stronger wind currents. It is labelled 'Old Windmill' on the first edition OS map and so was likely out of commission by this time (c.1840) when the many water powered corn mills in this region would have taken over its function.

3.13.5.2. Moyne Mill

The ruin of a former water mill is located in Moyne townland. It consists of a six-bay four-storey building dated to 1832 on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (<https://.buildingsofireland.ie>). This four storey building is rectangular in plan but from the exterior view of the west wall appears to have two distinct sections, a shorter section to the rear northern end with a longer section to the south, front end. There is an obvious join in the exterior wall between both sections. The walls of the rear section are exposed rubble limestone and appear to be older than those of the front section, which are plastered. All windows are all square headed, plain openings in various sizes, but those in the top storey of the front section are set into Gothic-style arch niches with limestone sills. The building may have been extended to the south at some stage prior to 1840 as the first edition Ordnance Survey map shows the outline of the complete building as exists today.

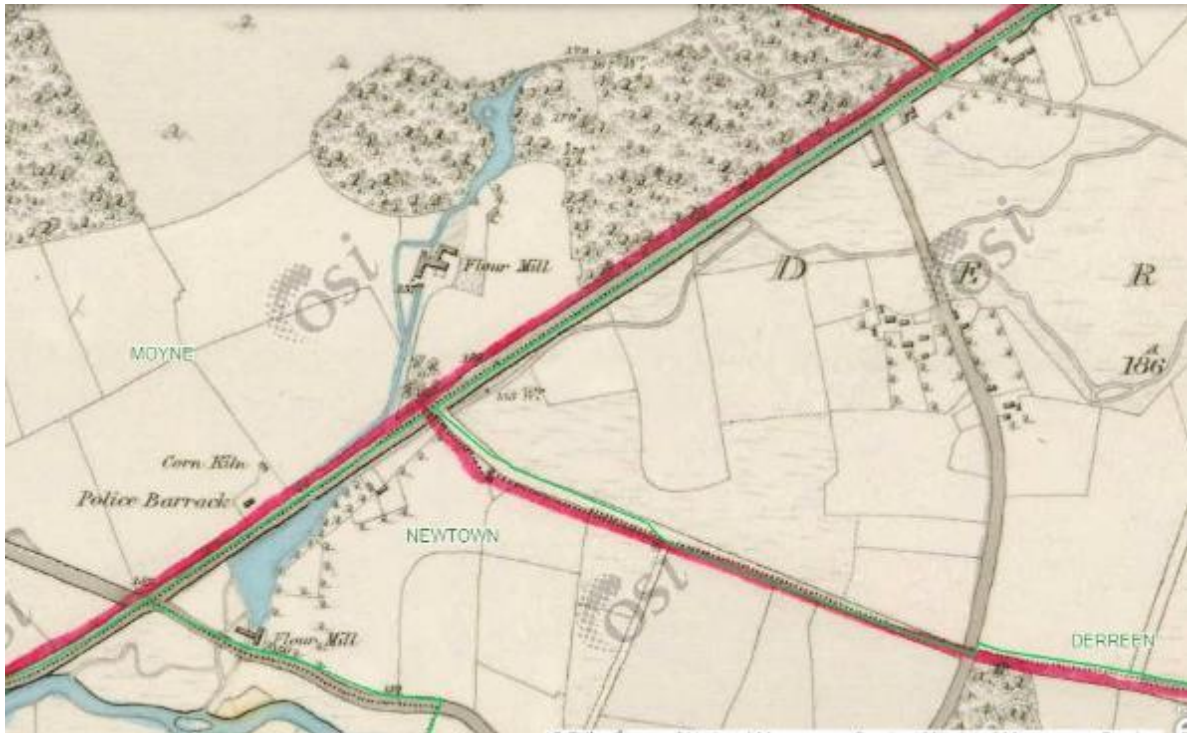


Figure 18: First edition OS map c.1840 showing Moyne and Newtown Flour Mills and their shared water system. 'Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [26-10-2024]'.



Photograph 98: Moyne Mill today viewed from the south.

To the rear at the north end of the building a segmental arch with cut limestone arch stones is located near the current base of the wall. The ground level is higher here today than it would have been when the mill was in operation and this is where the water of the mill race entered the mill. A short section of the mill race wall is visible close to the arch.



Photograph 99: arch where water entered the wheel pit Photograph 100: Section of former mill race wall

The water for the mill race was diverted from the Springfield River. A mill pond formed in a field to the north of the mill and from there the water flowed down to the north end of the mill along the mill race, passing under the arch and into the mill wheel pit. The wheel was located at the south end of the mill and it was an overshot wheel, where the water hit the top of the wheel and turned the paddles. The turning of the wheel worked a series of shafts which turned the millstones (one on top of the other). Corn was placed between the stones and grinded down by their turning action. Unfortunately all of the inner workings of Moyne Mill have been removed and were given to a museum in Co. Offaly (pers.comm Paddy Geraghty). A single mill stone however, still survives as a garden ornament in the adjoining garden.



Photograph 101: View into the wheel pit from the mill race arch



Photograph 102: Incised mark of former mill wheel on wheel pit wall



Photograph 103: The remaining millstone at Moyne Mill

A two-storey ruined building is attached to the mill to the north-east. It has lime rendered random rubble walls with square-headed openings with tooled limestone sills. Two archways open in the south wall. One of the arches retains its cut stone quoins while the others have been removed. This building may have been a wool store when Dan Farrell was operating his wool business here in the early 1900s. The large archways would have provided access for carts loaded with materials.

Attached to the former store to the north-east is a two storey with dormer dwelling house, which was the home of the miller.

In 1855 Francis Wade was leasing a house, offices, corn-mill, flour mill and land in Moyne from Michael J. Browne (Griffiths Valuation). The Valuation Mill Books which were compiled in 1850 for the purposes of taxation on mills recorded the following information for Moyne Mill: the water

wheel was 12 feet in diameter, the breadth of the bucket was 4 feet and the fall of the water was 12 feet. It had one pair of stones, 2 pairs of elevators, 3 fans, 2 barrel screens and 1 separator. The valuation placed on the mill was £15 9s which was very high in comparison to most other mills in County Galway at that time.

Dan Farrell was born in 1875, the son of Paddy Farrell who owned Coolrevagh (Coolrea) corn mill and tuck mill 3.5 miles to the south-east of Tuam in the parish of Killrerin on the Grange River (just to the north-west of this audit area). By the late 1800s, Dan was operating the mills at Coolrevagh. His brother Martin had immigrated to America but on his return in 1901, he took charge of the homestead. Dan went on to buy Moyne Mill. Local tradition is that he acquired it from Cloran's of Tuam (Claffey 1980)

An advertisement published in the Mountbellew Show Programme in 1904 shows that Dan Farrell of Moyne was engaged not only in the production of oatmeal, but also in the buying of wool and the manufacture of tweed and homespun (báinín). So he was applying both trades he had learnt in Coolrevagh.

Dan's grand-nephew Paddy Farrell owned Abbey Mills in Abbeyknockmoy. He said of this grand-uncle

'Dan Farrell was a genius – a great miller and millwright. He regularly attended the markets at Glenamaddy, Kilkerrin and Mountbellew leaving Moyne at 4am with his horse and springcart-load of cloth'.

Moyne Mill ceased production in 1931 and was labelled as a 'Woollen Mill (Disused)' on the c.1930 OS map. The property was bought by the Forde family and the Geraghtys, who are the current occupiers, took up residence in 1973.

3.13.5.3. Newtown Mill

A flour mill operated in Newtown townland in the early to mid-1800s. It is shown on the first edition Ordnance Survey map c.1840. It was powered by the water which came from the millrace at Moyne



Mill. A pool of water was formed in front of Newtown mill which fed the wheel and the end race fed into the nearby Abbert River. James Kelly operated this mill in 1855 as a corn mill. The wheel was 15 feet in diameter, the breadth of the bucket was 4 feet and the fall of the water was 4 feet. There were one pair of mill stones, 1 fan and 1 winnowing machine. The Valuation books record that the mill was formerly a flour mill but turned to a corn mill some years previously. The mill operated for 3 months of the year and was valued at £2 5s (Hogg, 1998). There is no trace of the mill today but its site is in the woodland to the left of the turn off into Newtown House from Derreen.

Figure 19: Location of Newtown Flour Mill c.1838 with Moyne Mill to the north 'Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [26-10-2024]'.

3.13.5.4. Abbert Demesne

In the mid-1800s Thomas Cavanagh was recorded as operating both a corn and tuck mill in Abbert Demesne. The Corn mill had a 12 feet diameter wheel, a bucket breadth of 2 feet and a 4 foot fall of



water. It had 1 pair of mill stones and operated for three months of the year. The tuck mill had 10 foot diameter wheel, a 2 foot bucket breadth, a 4 foot fall of water and one pair of mill stones. The Valuation records c.1850, that both had been destroyed by fire (Hogg, 1998). The buildings are marked on the first edition OS map c.1840 beside Abbert Bridge, but are not labelled as mills, so were likely not operating by this time. The site today is part of a forestry plantation.

Figure 20: Mill buildings beside Abbert Bridge c.1838 'Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [26-10-2024]'.

The Schools Manuscripts Collection of 1938 contains the following account which was collected in Ryehill School <https://duchas.ie/en/cbes/4602710/4597584>

Beside the Killaclogher river near Abbert, Ballyglunin there are remains of an old mill where long ago people used to make flannel and oatmeal.

In summertime they used to thicken the flannel and in wintertime they made the meal. The flannel

was sold to purchase the oats for the meal. The mill was owned by a man named Kavanagh. It is said to have been in use over 50 years ago.

3.13.5.5. Abbey Mill

In the townland of Abbeyknockmoy, the remains of a 19th century corn mill are located on the banks of the Abbert River. This mill is said to occupy the site of the original mill of the nearby Cistercian Abbey (Cochrane 1904) and has subsequently become known locally as ‘Abbey Mill’.

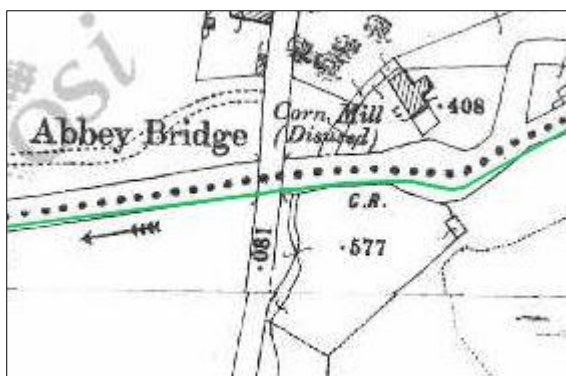


Figure 21: c.1890 OS map showing Abbey Mill

'Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [26-10-2024]'.

In 1855 Martin J Blake of Ballyglunin was leasing this corn mill along with a house, office, kiln and land to William Bell (Griffiths Valuation). The mill, however, is not included in the Valuation of Mills as it was not operating at that time (c.1850). The first edition OS map c.1840 labels the mill as ‘in ruins’. The 1890 25-inch revision map labels it ‘disused’.

In 1910 John Farrell, a nephew of Dan Farrell of Moyne Mill, acquired Abbey mill from Robert Blake of Ballyglunin for a rent of one shilling per year.



Figure 22: c.1930 OS map showing Abbey Mill. 'Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [26-10-2024]'.

The mill was in ruin at that time, but with the help of a millwright and kinsman, Larry Farrell from Roscommon, a water-powered sawmill was installed and the re-roofing and re-fitting of the premises began. The c.1930 OS map labels a mill race and sluice at the mill, indicating the redevelopment that had taken place.

In 1931, John was succeeded by his son Paddy at the mill. Business increased during the war years and during the late 1930s and 40s cáiscín (wholemeal flour) was ground, oats were rolled and crushed and barley was dried and crushed for the local farmers at the mill. In addition six ton of oatmeal were provided every six to eight weeks to the hospital in Ballinasloe. The mill was so busy that some of the work was contracted out to a mill in Castlebar. In 1939, Paddy built an extension and a new water wheel was added on the northern side of the building. Paddy stated:

‘The time came when they started sowing wheat and we went down to a place called Dromore West in the County Sligo, and bought the whole inside works of a mill there, dismantled it all, brought it up in lorries as we were dismantling it, and put it into that extension. We built the water-wheel and all.’

In 1946 Paddy installed a water turbine at Abbey Mill. He bought it from Hunters of Galway for £350. It was manufactured by Robert Craig of Belfast. It was capable of developing 75 horsepower, working under a six to seven foot head of water. A cement floor could not withstand the turbine’s vibration, so a floor of oak planks, 9ins x 3ins was installed. The planks came from Castlegrove, near Tuam but the heavier beams for damming the water above the turbine came from Wexford by rail to the now disused Ballyglunin station. The beams were larch, which preserves well when submerged in water.

Paddy set the turbine in the millrace in seven to eight feet of water. He described the working as follows:

‘The more water you had over head the more power you had, the more pressure was on the water hitting the rotor inside. The water went in through the veins horizontally, round about everywhere. That’s why there’s such great power in a turbine. The old water-wheel only took the water at one spot. The turbine takes it at every point.’

The mill closed in 1967. (Claffey, 1980)



Photograph 104: View of Abbey Mill today

ACCESS – MILLS

All of the mills and mill sites described above are privately owned and permission should be sought from the owner before entering.

3.14.6. The Fair Green

The first editions OS 6-inch map shows the location of the Fair Green where the playground is now located. It was on both sides of the current road which was just a track at that time. Samuel Lewis in his 'Topographical Dictionary of Ireland' wrote in 1838 that fairs took place here on June 24th, August 21st and November 1st. The August fair coincided with St Bernard's Day and the pattern at the holy well.



A freestanding limestone monument is located in the present day playground in the village of Abbeyknockmoy. It was built c.1720. It consists of a square pillar with a pyramidal cap. A projecting flat stone slab cuts off the apex of the cap and a vertical stone protrudes from the slab. There is a square-headed recess on the north side which was probably for the insertion of a plaque.

The Schools Manuscripts Collection contains an account, written in Irish, recording that the area where the pillar stands was once the site for the Fair

<https://duchas.ie/en/cbes/4602706/4597207/4630824>

Roughly translated, this account tells us that 'the fair was held in a small field and in the middle of that field there is a stone pillar with a cross on top. Nobody knows the history of the pillar. Some people say that there was a murder during a fight at the fair and the body was buried under the pillar. Other

Photograph 105: Monument in Abbey Village people say a hound is buried there'.

It goes on to tell about the great day of sport that happened on fair days. It also says that the fair was moved to a different field at a later date. From the OS 6-inch map c.1838, we know this location was in the field near the former Dispensary.

The mobile shop and family run shops in rural houses were a very important part of the rural economy in times past. In 2024 the Abbeyknockmoy Cultural Heritage Group completed a project about the shops that existed in the area. This work is contained in Appendix I.

ACCESS – MONUMENT

The monument in Abbeyknockmoy playground is accessible to the public.

3.14.7. The Village Pump

Before the mains water supply was developed, people went to the river or local spring well for their daily water needs. In the late 1800s, mass manufactured cast-iron pumps were installed close to the local villages where a source of underground water was available. The water was pumped into buckets and carried back to the house. The pump often became a social gathering place where stories and news were exchanged. Some of these pumps still survive in the Audit area, but their original function has ended and they are now the focus of amenity enhancement by the local community.

Examples of these pumps can be seen in Barnaderg Village, Doonbeg and Caherpuca townlands. the pump is a central decorative feature. All are free standing cast iron pumps with a fluted or banded cylindrical shaft with a moulded base and neck. The fluted top has a fluted domed cap with a pointed finial. The fluted spout has a bucket grip and the pumping arm is referred to as a 'cow's tail' arm. In Barnaderg, the pump stands on circular plinth surrounded by later low rubble limestone wall, and approached by three rubble limestone steps. At Doonbeg the shaft is set into a metal plate and in turn into a concrete platform. At Caherpuca, the pump is surrounded on three sides by a painted, stone wall and a stone trough is placed below the pump spout.



Photograph 106: Barnaderg Village Pump



Photograph 107: Caherpuca townland

ACCESS – Village Pumps

All village pumps in the Audit area are located by the roadside and are publically accessible.

3.14.8. Schools

Before the early 19th century, formal education in Ireland was reserved for the non-Catholic classes. Catholics were forbidden education under the Penal Laws (1695 to 1782) but there were secret schools referred to as 'hedge schools'. An educated local person or a travelling teacher usually provided the tuition. The schools were generally located in fields, barns or any empty building. The teacher received payment from the children's family.

The Schools Manuscripts collection provides some information about a hedge school which existed in Barbersfort townland.

Thomas Mullin recalled in 1938:

There was an old school down in Barbersfort, on the right hand side of the bog road 'between Jennings's and Reilly's...my father's grandfather went to school there

And Mrs. Taylor from Clogherboy told the following:

There was an old school in Barbersfort about a hundred years ago. My grandfather and grandmother went there. They used to get the books free. The attendance was very bad, sometimes they might only go once or twice in the month. They were only taught how to read and write and this was done in English.

In the early 1800s, Government inquiries into spending of public money on education were set up. A list of pay/hedge schools was recorded in the '*The Second Report of the Commissioners of Irish Education Inquiry 1826*'. Of the four schools listed in the audit area all were free schools and the Masters were Roman Catholic.

Thomas Sullivan was the Master of the school in Barbersfort and it was held in his house. Twenty Protestant and forty Roman Catholics attended. No income was recorded for the master but he had a promise of payment from the RC clergyman.

In Killrerin, the school was held in the RC Chapel (Section 3.4.2.) and the master was Thomas Cassidy. He had no income but was teaching on the speculation of being paid at a future point. There were fifty Protestants and sixty-one Roman Catholics in attendance. The school was in connection with the London Hibernian Society from 1816 to 1820 when it ceased to be so. Martin Joseph Burke Esq. and the Parish Priest promised to contribute to the support of the school.

In Abbeyknockmoy, the school was also held in the RC Chapel (Section 3.4.1.) and Hugh Monaghan, the master, had an annual income of £12. His salary was paid out of a fund raised by subscription and collected by the RC clergyman. Forty-five Protestants and thirty-four Roman Catholics were attending the school.

In Dangan, the premises was a thatched house and the master was James Joiner. 50 Roman Catholics attended the school. The Master was not paid, but the report noted that he was expecting something from the Kildare Place Society to which the school was connected.

Hedge schools became legal with Catholic Emancipation in 1829. In 1831 a national system of education was introduced which gave financial assistance to local communities to build school houses. This brought to an end the 'hedge school' system.

At Annagh Hill, separate male and female National Schools were built in 1877 adjacent to each other. The schoolhouses are private dwellings today but they retain their original form and many of their original features, such as decorative timber bargeboards, a brick chimneystack and unusual

triangular-headed windows. They both have a T-shape plan with a gable-fronted central entrance to the front. The walls are of coursed random rubble limestone with a projecting limestone plinth. The square-headed entrance door has a relieving triangular arch and inscribed stone plaques above.



Photograph 108: Annagh Hill Male National School

In 1884, John Nolan donated a plot of land at **Garra** to the Rev. John McEvilly, Rev. Patrick Waldron and William Lynskey, Trustees of the National Education Board in Ireland, for the purpose of building a national school. The school continued in use until 1952 when **Cahergal School** was built. The former Garra NS is now in use as a private residence.



Photograph 109: Garra National School 1946 (Source: Lost Schools of Galway by BEO – A window into the past.
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/irishbeo/albums/72157718884363931/>

A National School at Brierfield is labelled on the 1838 OS 6-inch map. This building has since been demolished and replaced by the present day school, constructed in ??? on a site slightly to the east of the earlier school.



Photograph 110: The 19th century Newtown National School

The first Newtown National School was built c.1850 on a site diagonally across the road from the present day Abbeyknockmoy Community Centre. The ruins are still evident although overgrown with trees.

In 1930, the Girls School was opened on the opposite side of the road and the old National School became a Technical School. In 1963 the Boys national school on the Monivea Road was opened and the Technical School closed.



Photograph 111 and 112: Datestones of Newtown Girls National School and Boys National School

Crumlin Boys National School opened on July 1, 1885 followed by the opening of the Girls National School on November 1, 1902. In 1970, these two schools amalgamated and moved to the present site.

Barnaderg National School opened in 1895 and today the building is in use as a Community Centre.

Teachers Residences

Sometime around 1920 three School teachers' residences were built in the Audit area to the same basic plan and in close proximity to their relevant school. All are detached, single storey with dormer attic and a gable over the middle bay. The gardens to the front are bounded by a rubble limestone walls. Although over the years, these houses have become private residences, they have retained many of their original features and materials.

Photograph 113: Rose Villa Liss townland. Teachers residence for Newtown School.



Photograph 114: Garra School Teachers Residence



Photograph 115: Barnaderg School Teachers Residence

ACCESS – Schools

The former schools at Annagh Hill, Garra and Crumlin are now all private residences. The original Newtown School is private property. All former Teachers are privately owned. Permission must be sought to enter any of these properties, but all can be viewed from the public road.

The present day community centre occupies the former school building in Barnaderg which is publically accessible.

3.14.9. Sports

Handball

Handball alleys played a large role in the cultural and political life of local Irish communities in the early twentieth century. Playing handball was associated with large, often day-long, gatherings with people waiting for a game, spectating and engaged in betting and sometimes match-making activities. The introduction of high enclosing walls in the 1950s resulted in such gatherings becoming more formalised.

The handball alley beside the Community Centre in Abbeyknockmoy was built in the 1940s and Thomas Fahy of Dangan Beg was involved in its construction. It has the typical plan of such alleys that were common in rural towns and villages at the time and built from concrete. These are now quite rare as many have been removed in recent times. This alley is an important aspect of the social heritage of Abbeyknockmoy. Rectangular in plan, the two-storey playing wall is to the rear with sloping side walls. Four concrete buttresses support the walls. The alley is entered through a square-headed opening in the west wall facing the roadway. Remains of iron posts are located to the top of the rear and side walls. New handball courts have been developed in recent years in the local GAA club house.



Photograph 116: Handball Alley and Community Centre, Abbeyknockmoy

Hurling

By the early 1950's hurling was a popular sport in the Abbeyknockmoy area among local families, such as the Dolly's, McWalter's, Burke's, Mannion's, Tony Rushe and others.

In 1953 Ted Dolly founded Abbeyknockmoy Hurling Club. Success soon followed when in 1954 the Junior Team defeated Tuam in the North Board Final. Over the following years many matches were played including local games against the clerical students of The Sacred Heart Order from Moyne Park. Victories at County level included the 1960 County Junior Championship, 1968 County Junior final, 1971 County Intermediate final, 1977 County Junior Final, 1985 Intermediate Final, 1988 County Senior Final and 2015 Intermediate County final.

Several Abbeyknockmoy players have played at Galway County Level. These include Tom Joyce, Mal Dolly, Ted Dolly, Mick King, Oliver Cooke, Brendan Geraghty, Jimmy Connelly, Tom Lane, Mattie and Michael Coleman, Johnny and Pat Blade, Tomás Mannion, Peter Maher, John Culkin and P.J. Burke. In

2017 Brian and Paul Flaherty were on the Galway County panel when they defeated Waterford in the All Ireland Final.

Throughout the successes of the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s, the club had no permanent playing pitch.



Teams played wherever there was an available field. In the late 1970s, part of the 'priest's field', adjacent to St Bernard's RC Church, was purchased from the Archbishop. It was levelled, reseeded and converted into a playing pitch. In 1984, as part of the centenary year of the GAA, the dressing rooms, meeting room and showering facilities were constructed.

In June 1991 the playing pitches, dressing rooms and gymnasium were blessed and officially opened. The gymnasium was dedicated to Johnny Blade, a club

player who passed away during a hurling match in 1989.

Due to the increasing use of the club facilities by young players and the success of the Camogie Club, extra land was purchased from the Church and in 2024 an astro turf pitch and lighting system were developed.

Information source: <https://www.clubinfo.ie/club/abbeyknockmoy-hc/> and Brenda Geraghty, Club member.

Football

The first recorded football team in the parish of Abbeyknockmoy dates to 1919, when Pat Tully from Cooloo, Moylough captained a team consisting of Willie King (Feagh), Tom Rabbitte (Abbey Road), Thomas Mulry (Feagh), Johnny Burke (Feagh), Peter Forde (Old Road), James Daly (Derreen), Stephen Moran (Feagh), Paddy Fahy (Derreen), Peter Warren (Chapel Road), 'Power' Warren (Chapel Road), Patrick McWalter (Liss), Bernie Potter (Abbey Road), Patrick Potter (Abbey Road) and Patrick Nolan (The Mill).

Following the Civil War the club was reorganised by Bartley Synnott, Patrick Nolan, Paddy O'Donohoe and John O'Donohoe. Eddie Ryder (Clogherboy); Frank Collins (Feagh), Bartley Synnott (Abbey Road), Michael Flaherty (Ballina), John Flaherty (Abbert), Patrick Moran (Abbey Road), Darby Coady (Cloonavadogue), Josie Curran (Garragh), Tommy Mullin (Feagh), Denis Farragher (Abbey Road), Bernie Fahy (Abbey Road), Michael O'Donnell (Feagh), Tommy Moran (Abbey Road), Tom Sullivan (Barna), Peter Quinn (Brierfield), Patrick Williams (Feagh) formed the team.

Defeated in the 1927 junior championship by Cortoon, in 1932 the Abbeyknockmoy team beat Kilconnell and Ahascragh and went on to play against Corofin in the final in Lally's field on the Abbey Road. Leading by two points in the closing minutes, they were defeated by a final goal.

When the team played 'away' the mode of transport was one of Paddy Farrell's mill lorries (Section 3.13.5.5.)

With nearby clubs in Brierfield, Monivea and Crumlin during the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s, the number of available players was limited. Monivea-Abbeyknockmoy Football Club made their first breakthrough in 1975 when they won the Junior County title beating Clonbur. In 1976 they played and won their first ever Senior match in 'The Wood' Monivea against Cortoon. In 1985, the club reached the County Senior Final playing Annaghdown.

Information source: <https://moniveaabbeygaa.club/pages/club-history-through-the-years>

Soccer

St Bernard's United Football Club was founded in 1972. The founding members were Val Dolan (Treasurer), Michael Mullins (Chairman), Frank Boyle (Secretary), Gerry Flaherty and the Keane Brothers John, Mike and Tom.

Wooden goal posts, a sagging cross bar, plastic nets and 'al fresco' were the starting points of the club. Finances were almost non-existent. However, over the past fifty years, with Sean O'Donohoe as the club's anchor sponsor, contributors including the Dunne Family, Cloonkeen, Johnny Skehill (RIP) Newtown and Johnny Potter, Newtown, the club has grown in strength and facilities have been greatly approved.

Teams have been fielded with players from Abbeyknockmoy and the neighbouring parishes of Killererin, Tuam, Turloughmore, Monivea and Athenry. There have been successes at junior and underage levels, most notably the winning of the Galway & District Junior Premier league in 2016-17.

The underage academy has gone from strength to strength since its inception in 2015, with 150 members at present.

Off the field the club won the Michael O Flaherty "Galway & District League Club of the Year" on two occasions in 2008 and 2016.

St Bernard's FC United club grounds are located in Abbeyknockmoy Village to the rear of O'Donohoes Public House.

Information Source: <https://www.stbernardsfc.ie/pages/history> and Frank Boyle, Founding Member

3.15. Travel and Communications

3.15.1. Roads

Prior to the mid-18th century, the roads of the area would have been little more than dirt tracks connecting the small villages in the area. The 19th century saw vast improvements with the financial aid of the local landlords. These improvements brought the building of bridges to cross the Abbert and Clare Rivers and other smaller watercourses.

Road bridges

In **Cahergal** townland NIAH 30404,404 (ITM: 547,673 747,646) the seven arch limestone bridge over the Clare River was built c.1740 to connect the townlands of Cahergal, Ballynakilla and Coolrevagh. Although many of its original features are evident, it has undergone changes with sections being replaced by concrete. The original round arches have roughly squared arch stones. The parapet walls are of coursed rubble limestone with large stones laid flat for copings. The narrow V-plan cutwaters on the north side are concrete but are likely to have replaced earlier versions. Around 1940 the bridge was widened to the north by c.1.2 metres and two central arches were replaced with flat-headed concrete spans.

Liss bridge links Clashard, Liss and Abbey townlands. (ITM: 551,637 743,660 NIAH: 30,405,811) Built c. 1800, this seven-arch, limestone road bridge on the N63 road spans the Abbert River near the Community Park and Newtown National School. Single triangular and semi-circular cutwaters on the north-east face have cement copings with pipe inlaid. The parapet is topped with flat coping stones. There is evidence of early repairs and extensions to north-west face as the road network throughout the county was improved and traffic increased. This bridge is an important crossing point on the N63 roadway and carries a very heavy traffic load over the river today.

The seven-arch **Pallas Bridge** spans the Abbert River between the townlands of Ballyglooneen and Brooklodge Demesne (ITM: 547,188 742,333 NIAH: 30,405,830). Built of local limestone it was very likely constructed in the late 1700s when the great houses of Brooklodge and Ballyglunin Park were built. The segmental arches have tooled arch stones. The walls are of squared rubble limestone blocks and the parapet is topped with flat copings. The design resembles that of the railway bridges in the area. In 1838 during the first Ordnance Survey of Ireland John O'Donovan noted the name as 'Palace Bridge' in his Field Name Books. The name Pallas, from the Irish 'Pailís' translates as a 'fairy place'. It most likely derives this name from the adjacent ring fort. O'Donovan described the bridge as follows: *'It is a considerable long stone bridge crossing over a large island and river which is here divided into two branches by the island.'* He recorded 13 arches, but there are only seven evident today and only one functioning, due to deepening and narrowing of the river channel in 1955. The central section of the bridge was strengthened at this time and concrete sections were added to the inner section of the functioning arch.



Photograph 117: Pallas bridge with blocked arches and one functioning arch.

In **Ballyglooneen** townland on the Annagh Hill to Tuam road (ITM: 545,738 741,897 NIAH: 30,405,705) a single-arched, limestone bridge spans the River Abbert close to the entrance to Ballyglunin Park House. It was built c.1860. The segmental arch has cut stone arch stones and string course runs above the arch. The walls of the spandrels are rubble limestone, while those of the parapet are squared and topped with roughly hewn coping stones. This bridge is similar in design and materials to the railway bridges which were built in the area at the same time.

There are two other road bridges over the Abbert River on the former Newtown and Ballyglunin estates respectively. These bridges have been detailed on the relevant landed estates pages (Section 3.13.) in this report.

3.15.2. Bianconi Coach Route

In 1815 Charles Bianconi set up his famous coach post and passenger service offering 'Cheap and Expeditious Travelling'. His service soon spread throughout the country. He initiated the placement of mile stones along his carriage routes to display the distances between destinations.



Photograph 118: Milestone at Annagh Hill

Such a milepost still survives in Annagh Hill townland (ITM: 546,017 740,429 NIAH: 30,405,832). Set into the boundary wall of a farmhouse adjacent to the road, it consists of a square block of limestone inscribed: 'To Galway [...] Miles Tuam 7, Dunmore 15, Castlereagh [...], Moylough 9, Athenry 7, Erected by John Bodkin'. There is a fan scroll carving at the top corners and a diamond relief band frame. Carved hand details and initials 'C.B.'

The Bodkin family, one of the 'Tribes of Galway' were granted lands in Annagh in the late seventeenth century and they lived in nearby Annagh House.

A further connection with this coach route is the identification of a former Bianconi coach stop built in 1842 in Dangan townland by Padraig Mullins.

<https://killrerin.galwaycommunityheritage.org/content/people/charles-bianconi-italian-coached-irish>



Photograph 119: Former Bianconi Coach stop Dangan

3.15.3. The Railway

In 1858, Martin J. Blake of Ballyglunin Park along with seven other local gentlemen landowners promoted a bill in the English Parliament to construct the 'Athenry and Tuam Railway'. The Bill was passed and the rail line was built with a station on the Ballyglunin Estate.

On September 27th 1860 the first passenger train left Athenry for Tuam under the operation of the Midland Great Western Railway Company with a stop at Ballyglunin serving the Blake estate. In 1903 the railway line became part of the Great Southern and Western Railway Company's portfolio. Between 1937 and 1975 it played a vital role in the local agricultural economy, as beet was transported by rail to the Tuam Sugar Factory for processing. In July 1967, the station was closed to goods traffic reopening for short periods each winter for the beet delivery until it finally closed in June 1980. Over time the station buildings fell into disrepair.

Since 2004 the local community have strived to preserve the station at Ballyglunin, restoring the buildings to best conservation standard using original materials as far as possible and creating a unique, vibrant community hub. In June 1951 the station was renamed "Castletown" and scenes for 'The Quiet Man' film were shot here and this has been the 'unique selling point' in the community's marketing of this heritage resource.

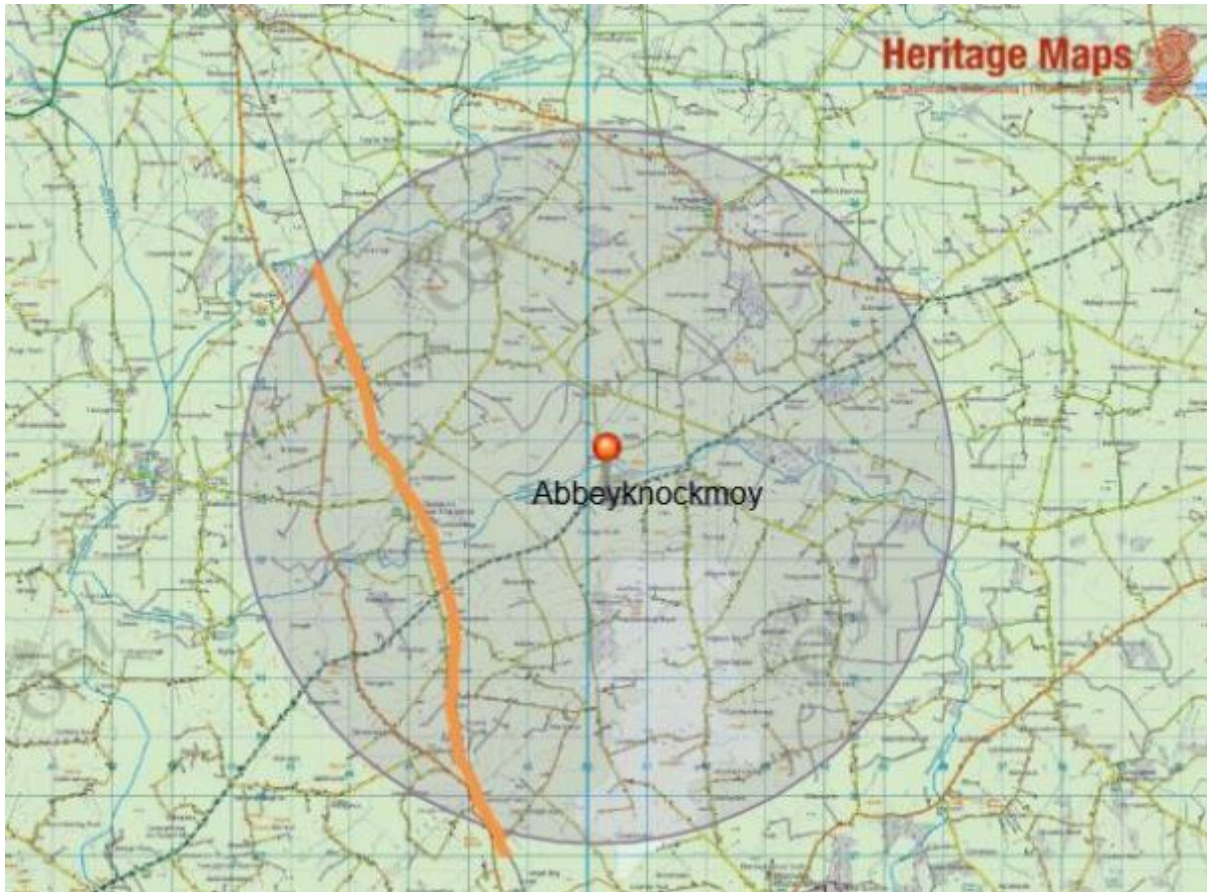


Figure 23: Line of former railway indicated in orange within Audit area indicated by purple circle. 'Data from the basemap gallery accessed through the Heritage Maps Viewer at www.heritagemaps.ie, [30-10-2024]'.

The legacy of this railway line is still very evident in the western part of the Audit area in the station but also in the form of stone bridges and the embankments of the railway tracks. It passes, north to south, through the townlands of Ballinderry, Doonbeg, Ballystuckaun, Brackloon, Ballynapark, Brooklodge Demesne, Coolfowerbeg, Pollawarla, Caherpuca, Ardnasodan, Crumlin and Carrowreagh East.

Railway Bridges

There are eight bridges along the former railway route within the Audit area. Five of these carried the railway line over a road while another two carry the road over the railway line. The remaining bridge spans the Abbert River. They are all single span and built of local limestone.

Those which carried the railway line over the road are located in the townlands of Doonbeg, Ballynapark, and two in Crumlin townland. They consist of two different architectural styles

In Doonbeg and Ballynapark both bridges, carrying the railway line above the road, consist of an iron girder deck supported on capped abutments of rusticated limestone blocks. At Doonbeg sloping walls with rounded copings flank each abutment.



Photograph 120: Doonbeg Railway Bridge



Photograph 121: Ballynapark Bridge

The two bridges that carry the railway over the road in Crumlin and the three that carry the road over the railway line in Ballystuckaun, Brackloon and Caherpuca townlands are all of the same basic design. They consist of a segmental headed arch with cut stone voussoirs set between two square piers or sloping, flanking walls. They are built of coursed squared limestone blocks with rounded copings to the parapets.

One of the bridges in Crumlin has a particularly impressive visual approach as it is located above a sharp turn in the road set between the entrance to Crumlin Park House and the former Crumlin National School.



Photograph 122: View through Crumlin Bridge to former Crumlin National School

The bridge in **Coolfowerbeg** townland (ITM: 547,412 742,298 NIAH: 30,405,831) took the railway line over the Abbert River. Unlike the other bridges, it is located away from the road, in fields upstream of Pallas Bridge. It has tooled ashlar limestone piers with flat copings. Eight cast-iron metal beams on the bridge surface are supported by riveted cast-iron panels and a cast-iron balustrade on the west side. The bolts of the timber sleepers carry the inscription 'RW & S'.

Ballyglunin Railway Station



Photograph 123: Front elevation Ballyglunin Station.

The platform and corrugated-iron roof canopy were added to the rear trackside elevation in 1900, along with a single-storey residence to the south-east, waiting room, office, toilets and lamp room. The canopy is supported on six round-plan cast-iron columns and has timber rafters with scrolled ends. There is a flagstone floor to the canopy, with stone edging to the platform



Photograph 124: Ballyglunin Station rear elevation.

A two-bay, two-storey signal box with a slate roof and red brick walls is located on the opposite side of the former rail tracks to the south-east.

The freestanding, three-bay, double-height single-storey good shed to the north of the station house was also built c. 1900, when the Great Southern and Western Railway Company took over operation of this rail line.

Goods were delivered by road on carts in the early years and later by truck and loaded into the shed through the segmental-arch opening in the roadside elevation. It was a very important transport



Photograph 125: Ballyglunin railway station goods store

The original station building has a five bay front elevation with a rusticated ashlar stone plinth with hammered finish and draughted and hammered stone quoins. The square-headed window openings have two-over-two pane timber sliding sash windows with stone sills. The timber sheeted entrance door has a battened overdoor.

depot for the local beet production which was transported by rail to Tuam Sugar Factory. Half the internal floor was raised to road level at the arch to facilitate loading and unloading. The goods were then transferred on and off the train from the track to the rear of the building.

Today the store has been renovated and restored by the local community as a theatre and events centre.

3.15.4. The Postal Service

In the 1700s an organised postal system emerged in Ireland, with regular posts from Dublin to a few major towns. Mail coaches began to operate in 1789 speeding up mail delivery. But the mail was still operated under a letter-carrier system. To deliver a letter the letter-carrier had to knock at the door, wait until it was answered and then wait until the money was found for the postage.



In 1840 Penny Postage was introduced and the world's first adhesive postage stamp The Penny Black was produced. This resulted in a huge increase in the number of letters being posted, increasing the work of the letter-carriers who had to deliver and collect all the letters.

The development of railways throughout the country in the early to mid-1800s made the delivery system more efficient. The first road-side posting boxes were installed in Dublin in 1855. By early 1857 the Post Office started installing wall boxes all over rural Ireland.

One of these post wall boxes can still be seen in Sunhill townland (ITM: 553,295 744,761 NIAH: 30,405,805). It is a cast-iron box. C.1890 set into the wall close to the entrance gates to Moyne House. At the top is the royal insignia of Queen Victoria with letters 'V.R.' which stand for Victoria Regina. Queen Victoria's reign was from 1837 to 1901. Between the initials is the crown in relief. The box has a moulded frame and a canopy over the posting slot with the words 'Post Office' in raised lettering. Beneath the posting slot is a hinged door with key lock and frame for collection times. Originally the box would have been painted red as with all English post boxes, but following Irish Independence the colour was changed to green.

Photograph 126: 'V.R.' post box Sunhill townland

In Derreen townland approximately 200 m to the south-west of the entrance gates to Moyne House and on the opposite side of the road, is a two storey building which was the Courthouse in the late 1800s and housed both the Post Office and the Courthouse by the 1930s. In more recent times, it was Daly's Public House.

3.16. Monuments



Photograph 127: Moyne Monument

On a mound in a pasture field in Moyne townland, a freestanding, rubble stone monument is located. It consists of a square pillar with recesses on the east, west and south sides. A plaque is fixed to the north face. The remains of a corbelled, pyramidal roof are evident. It is believed to be associated with Moyne House and was probably erected c.1800 as a memorial stone



Photograph 128: Barnaderg Monument

A prominent feature in Barnaderg village is the freestanding square-plan ashlar limestone arched canopy in the grassed area, in the centre of the village. This structure was built c.1830 at another unknown location. It was re-erected here possibly in the Marian Year of 1954 to house a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It has round arches to three sides with dressed voussoirs and impost and with a coping course. The roof is flat roof to canopy. The statue stands on an octagonal limestone plinth.

4. Conclusions and Recommendations

4.1. Introduction

The aim of this community-led project was to audit the potentially accessible built, cultural and natural heritage within a 6km radius of Abbeyknockmoy with a view to informing the newly developed Abbeyknockmoy Cultural Heritage Group about the heritage resources of their area and providing guidelines and a focus for their future projects.

The audit process has successfully identified a wide scope of heritage resources, which in terms of accessibility and intrinsic interest, have the potential for interpretation.

This section of the report provides a series of practical recommendations by which the identified heritage resources can be interpreted through community-led heritage projects.

The focus of these recommendations is

- to raise awareness among the local community of the richness of the heritage within the study area
- to provoke an interest in exploring that heritage further
- through that interest, strengthened the membership of the existing Heritage Group to pursue the development of heritage related projects.

4.2. Recommendation One: Creating a public profile

The first recommendation of this report is that a recognisable public image/brand should be developed which promotes the newly formed Abbeyknockmoy Cultural Heritage Group. The purpose of this action will be to create awareness of the Group and their work. It will provide the group with a presence which will be recognisable on a local, regional and national level. It is important that the group create this presence in order to grow the membership base and seek guidance, facilitation and funding for future activities and research.

Aim: For the purposes of this Audit report a logo was developed for the Abbeyknockmoy Cultural Heritage Group. It is recommended that this logo becomes the basis for developing a recognisable brand.

Recommended Actions:

- Develop this logo for the Heritage Group and create a strong brand using it for all promotion
- In addition to the Logo and group name - Use a tagline for all future projects undertaken e.g. 'Bringing the past to the present'. This will give a brand image and a unifying theme for projects undertaken.



- To raise awareness of the wealth of local heritage among the Abbeyknockmoy Community and the wider Galway County Community
 - Print copies of this report. Organise a public launch and publicise the projects you are going to undertake. Promote through the local newspapers, parish newsletters and social media.
 - Develop web pages on specific items of heritage interest from information contained in this report and post regularly to the Galway Community Heritage website. **As a result of the completion of the Abbeyknockmoy Heritage Audit and the content of this report, a page has been reserved on the Galway Community Heritage website for the Abbeyknockmoy Heritage Group, courtesy of Marie Mannion, Galway County Heritage Officer.**
 - Promote all of these actions and the Group's page on the Galway Community Heritage website and through social media – e.g. the Abbeyknockmoy Heritage Facebook page.

4.3. Recommendation Two: Promote and Interpret Knockmoy Abbey

The Audit area has a huge array of built and cultural heritage dating from prehistory up to the 20th century which has been detailed in this report.

The Cistercian Abbey is an extremely important asset of that local heritage and has being described as 'one of the most impressive Cistercian monuments in Ireland' (Stalley 1987). It contains a rare medieval fresco, one of only four of its type in Ireland. The Abbey is a designated National Monument (No. 166), in the ownership of the Office of Public Works. Abbert Church and Graveyard is also a National Monument.

However, interpretation for the general public for the Abbey, Abbert Church and for the other features of the area built heritage is mainly limited to local publications, journals and academic papers.

Within the Abbey a faded and broken interpretive floor plan of the Abbey is located on a stone plinth. It is no longer legible. A lectern style steel interpretive panel is located at the door of the Abbey Church. The text and illustrations are faded making it difficult to read.

Aim: Develop a working relationship with the OPW with the aim of developing interpretation for the Abbey

Recommended Actions:

- Develop an interpretive board at the parking space at the entrance to the trackway to the Abbey. Work in partnership with the OPW, National Monuments Services and Galway County Council Community Archaeologist and Heritage Officer in the planning, design and location of this panel.
- Produce a short animated video illustrating the Abbey and associated buildings as they would have appeared in the 12th/13th century and the lives of the people who lived and worked here. Share this video through social media and with schools throughout the

country. This project could be carried out in association with the local Secondary Schools Transition Year students.

- Develop a simple self-guided audio trail explaining the buildings and their architectural features. This could take the form of a podcast which can be downloaded to a smart phone or other suitable device allowing the user to listen as they explore the Abbey. Good examples have been produced by Abarta Heritage Group <https://www.abartaheritage.ie/self-guided-tours-audio-guides/>

4.4. Recommendation Three: Research the Villages of the 18th and 19th century

The layout of the 18th-19th century villages, the people who lived there and their lifestyles are an interesting aspect of the social and cultural heritage of the Audit area. Traces remain in the field patterns, house layouts and local memories of life styles and traditions.

Aim: To research a particular village and create a template which will be transferrable to the study of other similar villages.

Recommended Actions:

- Select a village e.g. Feagh West
- Produce a map of Feagh West village as it was in the 1800s and how it is today, using the OS Historic maps, showing the layout and field patterns
- Identify the names of the families who lived in the village in the mid-1800s using Griffiths Valuation records and maps
- Identify the names of the people who lived there in 1901 and 1911 using the National Census records.
- Identify the people who live in Feagh West today and mark on the map the houses they live in.
- Record stories and memories from local people.
 - Run a number of open, social sessions in the Community Centre in partnership with the Active Retirement Group
 - Set up a small photographic exhibition to spark memories.
 - Use best practice oral heritage interview techniques to record the memories of the participants. Those who may be reluctant to be recorded can be encouraged to write their thoughts/memories on supplied notepaper and stick them onto a board or directly onto a photograph in the exhibition that may relate to the memory.
 - Examine the Schools Manuscripts Collection for further stories and information
 - Examine historic newspapers for information relating to the area
- Compile all the information collected and create a booklet and banner exhibition to be installed in Abbeyknockmoy Community Centre and which could travel around the County at Galway County Council Heritage Office events/local community days.

4.5. Recommendation Four: Collect Local Field and Place Names

Some of the field names used in the past still exist in local memory but have never been recorded. With continuous change in agricultural practices and less people working the land, these names are in danger of being lost to future generations. Past place names are also being lost as communities become less connected to the rural landscape. These place names very often have their origins in landscape features. It is recommended that a project is initiated to record these names.

Aim: Develop a community-led approach to collect the field and place names of the area on a townland by townland basis.

Recommended Actions:

- Identify a project co-coordinator for the process and enlist volunteers to the project.
- Match the volunteers to specific townlands.
 - Supply the relevant Ordnance Survey 6-inch townland maps (1930 edition) to the volunteers and recent aerial photographs.
 - Number the field left to right and north to south on the maps, so that each field is readily identifiable.
 - The volunteers then start the collection process, writing the names of the field where known on to a Record Sheet where the field numbering system is displayed.
 - The project co-ordinator will be responsible for
 - developing the record sheets,
 - distributing maps and record sheets
 - demonstrating the process to be undertaken to the volunteers,
 - meeting them at intervals during the collection process should problems arise
 - collecting the record sheets
 - On completion of the collection process, field names can be uploaded to the website 'Meitheal Logainm.ie' developed in UCD. This website provides an open-access online repository for place names and has a searchable Geographical Information System (GIS) mapping tool.

4.6. Recommendation Five: Develop a Digital StoryMap

This Heritage Audit has brought together a wide range of information on the natural, built and cultural heritage of the Abbeyknockmoy area. In order to spread this information and provide interpretation of the heritage assets of the area to a global audience it is recommended that a GIS based Digital StoryMap be developed using the information in this report.

Aim: to develop a digital StoryMap which interpret the heritage of Abbeyknockmoy virtually to a global audience.

Recommended Actions:

The StoryMap should incorporate text, photographs, and local people telling stories, music and film, highlighting the following themes:

- Knockmoy Cistercian Abbey and Abbert Church – history, remains and the lives of the people who lived there.
- 'Villages' of the 18th and 19th century - locations, remains of houses, local memories of life in the village.
- Past local trades and crafts: Shops, milling, lime making, thatching, tailoring, blacksmithing

- Old Field and place names – connections to the land type and agriculture

The completed StoryMap could be hosted on Galway County Council Heritage Office Geographical Information System which currently hosts a number of community created StoryMaps

<https://heritage.galwaycommunityheritage.org/content/topics/digital-story-telling-with-maps>

4.7. Recommendation Six: Mentoring and Facilitation for Project Development

As Abbeyknockmoy Cultural Heritage Group is a newly organised group, the skills and confidence required to formulate and carry out projects is still developing. It is recommended that a training and mentoring programme is put in place to facilitate and support the group.

Aim: To facilitate the transfer of knowledge of local heritage, create a better awareness of the unique resources of the area and to develop local heritage projects.

Recommended Actions: Since 2004 Galway County Council has worked with local communities in various parts of the county of Galway in the development and delivery of the 'Reading Your Local Landscape' training course. This course provides the participants with the skills to recognise, manage, protect and promote their local heritage resources. The aim of the training is to create a greater awareness, knowledge, understanding and pride in the rich heritage assets that are all around us and how they contribute to the character, culture and economy of a locality. The training course consists of a series of modules delivered through lectures, case studies, group research, discussion and field trips to sites of interest within the local area in which the course is delivered. The modules cover geology, geomorphology, map reading, biodiversity, archaeology, architecture, industrial archaeology, settlement, communication, heritage conservation and interpretation. Each participant is then mentored in a compilation of a short project on their own chosen aspect of local heritage.

Consider delivering this training in the Abbeyknockmoy area, to facilitate the implementation of a number of the recommendations of this report, through mentoring of the Abbeyknockmoy Cultural Heritage Group member's practical project work.

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Appendix I

ABBEYKNOCKMOYS CULTURAL HERITAGE GROUP

Connecting with Our Heritage Recording Abbeyknockmoy's Country Shops

22 August 2024

Recording Abbeyknockmoy's Country Shops and their role in our Cultural Heritage. This project was funded under Galway County Councils Community Support Scheme – Cultural Development 2024

Contents

Acknowledgements	111
Introduction	112
A Cultural Legacy.....	113
Abbeyknockmoy.....	114
O'Donohoes	114
Nally's	115
Nicholsons.....	115
Frank Mannions.....	115
Synnotts / Abbey Inn.....	116
Treacy's	116
Warrens	116
Potters/ Joe Keanes.....	117
Katie Ruanes.....	118
Curleys	118
Dolly's Kitty taylor.....	118
Brierfield	119
Sally O Dea Brierfield	119
Mrs Roarke, Ryans Brierfield	119
Concannons, Brierfield:.....	119
Cokes; Crowes, Brierfield	119
Sweeneys Brierfield	119
Ballyglunin	120
Jimmy Finn Ballyglunin Crossroads Finns Cross.....	120
Dolans opp Brooklodge Church.....	120
Julia Mannion.....	120
Coolourty	121
Casey's Shop.....	121
Crumlin	121
Farraghers Pollsillagh	121
Ryans Laraghmor.....	121
Sonny Fordes	121
Costellos	121
Dereen/ Dangan	122

Currans/ Mulrys Dangan.....	122
Nicholas Daly Derreen;.....	122
The Daly Public House; Courthouse;	122
Lynch’s Shop.....	122
Mannions Dangan.....	122
Mulry’s Shop Danganbeg;	123

Acknowledgements

Researched and compiled by the Abbeyknockmoy’s Cultural Heritage Group. Funded under the Community Support Scheme 2024 by Galway County Council. We would like to thank the Abbeyknockmoy Parish Society for its support on this project.

This is dedicated to the memories of all the Abbeyknockmoy Shop owners who provided an essential service in our rural area. We are hugely indebted to the individuals who gave of their time in contributing their memories and stories so that we could create this booklet.

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Introduction

This publication is intended to share the story of the many rural country shops that served our communities. For several decades the parish had over twenty country shops dotted throughout the village. Take a trip around the village today and you will recognise the remnants of shop buildings from an almost forgotten era when our local shopkeeper played an integral role in our rural heritage, providing our elders with everything from penny sweets, piped tobacco and farming utensils.

It is hoped that this publication will help preserve the memories, and present how the country shop was more than a place of commerce. Through the memories and stories collected we have learned that these family-ran retail outlets were the centres where we met our neighbours, spoke about the weather, shared their grief, solved their troubles, good news and bad news

Abbeyknockmoy has always been a strong farming community and unlike today many families in the early 20th century were almost self-sufficient in putting food on the table. Most people relied on home-grown potatoes, seasonal vegetables such as potatoes, cabbage, carrots, turnips, onions, peas, scallions, lettuce and rhubarb. Fruits grown locally included Apples plums, gooseberries, red/black currants and strawberries. Most households baked their own brown bread, scones, cake, tarts. Long before the big supermarkets arrived, locals would purchase tea, sugar, flour, candles, paraffin oil, bread soda. Usually these items would be bought in bulk and weighed in smaller quantities in brown paper bags. There was a limited range of products in comparison to today's multinational supermarkets and online shopping outlets. However, from an environmental aspect, the shops of yesteryear involved less plastic, less wastage and less of a carbon footprint.

Our ambition is to fill in as many gaps in our research as possible. We acknowledge that we have further research to complete as this project was much more than what we had originally anticipated. We welcome further details and information. Please email us at abbeyknockmoysculturalheritage@gmail.com

Or follow us on Instagram or Facebook: Abbeyknockmoy's Cultural Heritage Group

A Cultural Legacy

In collecting the historical account of the many country shops in Abbeyknockmoy, we have been provided with a highly valuable window into the way our families lived their lives into the 1990's and 2000's. The limited available products on sale in each shop would be a major challenge for any household in today's world. We hope that this booklet will allow us to remember the people who ran these country shops, and how important these small local businesses were in the daily lives of people who lived in the Abbeyknockmoy community. By comparison to today's approach to shopping, these country shops faced economic limitations, limited variety of products and were dependent on the local families that lived in close proximity to the shop itself. This historical account provides us with a valuable window in the way we lived our lives and the particular items we purchased documented the lifestyles we had to adapt within the limitations of that time.

However, several shops were very much part of the social scene of their neighbourhood. It wasn't unusual for some shops to have an open fireplace surrounded by a couple of chairs. Cardgames featured as a popular social activity. Weekly card games would take place - with shopkeepers happy to facilitate as anyone who took part would spend their money on cans of corned beef, Spam, oranges, etc. No alcohol would have been consumed and often the shopkeeper would make a pot of tea for anyone who called. Often live music and story telling would feature at the weekend bringing the locals together to enjoy the craic.

Large supermarkets wiped out the smaller country shops and an increase in cars allowed people to do their shopping in towns on a weekly basis at a more competitive price than what the local country shop could afford to offer. As times change, consumer habits evolve and requests for fills of paraffin oil, hen rings or pig rings, single slices of ice cream served in wafers or freshly cut salted bacon or loose tobacco no longer featured on the weekly shopping list.

Today's retail culture is a far cry from what our grandparents/ parents knew. With the convenience of shopping online and groceries delivered to the door the way we shopped in the 1900's has disappeared forever.

Abbeyknockmoy

O'Donohoes

Owner: Sean O'Donohoe

Opened: 1902 **Closed:**

Items Sold: Grocery stocked with loaf bread, black pudding, hardware

Grass seed such as timothy, cox foot, rye grass, italian, Claremorris Bacon company would supply bacon & ham. Up to 10 to 15 sides of bacon were delivered each week on a Wednesday. Flour was bought in large 10 stone bags from Odlums in Co Laois. Bluestone 8lbs and washing soda 10lbs.

Bought wool from local sheep farmers.

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories:

Sean's Grandad, Michael O'Donohoe, bought the premises from Mr. Pasterson in 1902. Then it was a thatched building, one and half storey - a bar and grocery. Michael originally came from Cooloo, a cattle & horse dealer. One day when he was passing he saw the for sale sign and he bought it & 40 acres of land for £1700 in 1902. In 1928 he built a new premises shop, hardware grocery & pub opposite the pub today. This building would later serve as the Post Office from the 1960's until the 1990s. However, it only opened for one day as the licence was assigned to the original premises located in Cuillagh south. It wasn't allowed to transfer a publican's licence from one townland to the other. Unfortunately, the new building was in a different townland - Cuillagh North and the following day, the Revenue Dept arrived and advised that it must cease trading as a pub. It was never used as a pub after that. During this time, part of the pub and the thatched house was knocked down and they built a galvanise roofed shop. The family continued to trade in this until the new building was built in 1939. A Tuam company Farraghers built it along with some local lads. The family lived in the new building across the road. One local man that worked on the building was Darby Daly. Eventually, Michael O'Donohoe, would purchase the land across the road from Mrs Blakeney. In 1980, a self service style shop was introduced with Centra. This was the first time when the family moved away from the traditional counter style of service. As a young boy Sean, remembers his father calling up the stairs to check on the different prices of items until he eventually would exclaim it was high time Sean was up out of bed so he could serve in the shop and not have him doing all the calling up the stairs for help.

Sean can recall preparing the bags of grass seed for local farmers. He shared with us that one customer, Jim Burke in Gara, ordered grass seed for 2 acres. As Jim was a strong Fine Gael Supporter, Sean thought it would be great fun to hide a photo of Eamon De Valera inside in the bag of seed. Several months later, when Jim revisited the shop, Sean would enquire as to how the grass seed was growing and of course Jim would exclaim how could it grow with that "so and so" fella with in in the seed!!

In 1951, sheep wool was very expensive, 7 & 6 a pound. At this time people raised their family on the sale of the wool and paid their bills with this income.

Sean's mother, originally from Balla, Menlough served her time working for Anthony Ryans in Galway City. Her years served here would stand great to her when she was stocking her own shop with clothes. Sean remembers her often getting aloft with suppliers in Tuam to purchase clothes wholesale in Arnotts in Dublin.

During the economic war Sean's father, PJ, was a very good business man as he always had a supply of tea, bicycle tyres, shoes when it was difficult to source elsewhere due to the war. Tea was delivered in 100lb tea chests. Customers were always keen to get their hands on the empty tea chest as they made an ideal cot/ playpen for a small child. Paper Bags with PJ O'Donohoe, Grocer, Hardware were used to package the tea-leaves, flour, sugar etc.

23 years ago the new Spar shop and petrol station was built

Nally's

Ryders, Feagh which passed to Mary Nallys

Owner: Sonny & Mick Nally. Sonny's son lives in Claregalway -Martin

Opened: Unknown **Closed:** Unknown

Items Sold: Hardware and grocery. Site of Martin Mulry snr Burned down. Two 2-storey houses located together. L Shape building with living quarter as you looked straight in the driveway.

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories

Nicholsons

Owner: Bessie & Martin Nicholson

Opened: Unknown **Closed:** Unknown

Items Sold: General groceries

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories: Opened library in Abbeyknockmoy.

Bessie Fingleton had been working in Cahill's shop in Tuam. When Mrs Treacy was struggling to get staff her brother sent her out to Abbeyknockmoy to work in Treacy's shop. Michael Cahill instructed her to walk along the railway track from Tuam and then follow the river until she came as far as the old Mill. Martin Nicholson started going out with Bessie and together they ran a shop called Nicholson's which would later serve as a library. Her son Aidan served as the local school Master at Newtown Boys National School.

Frank Mannion's

Owners: Fallons; M Forde, F Mannion; G Delaney & P Mannion

Opened: Unknown **Closed:** Unknown

Items Sold:

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories:

Originally owned by Fallons. In 1950 Miko Forde bought the premises. Forde originally came from Clare in 1951. Local lads approached Miko Forde to buy some sliotars but his preference was Gaelic football. Miko would only buy footballs and later became involved in setting up Gaelic football club. In 1954, Frank Mannion bought the premises. Frank previously ran the garage which was built in the 1950s. Built by local men, Con Connelly and Danny O'Neil. Mechanical repair and maintenance of cars, farm vehicles & machinery

Synnotts /Abbey Inn

Owner: Synnotts now the Abbey Inn

Opened: Unknown **Closed:** Unknown

Items Sold:

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories Pub only. Sold by auction. The Synnot Family moved away. Singing lounge opened by Frank Mannion in 1987.

Treacy's

Owner: John & Treacy

Opened: Unknown **Closed:** 1956

Items Sold: Grocery , Hardware, Undertaker Business.

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories Shop & pub. Their daughter married Michael Donoghue. Mrs Treacy originally came from Tuam. Her brother, Michael, ran a large business Cahills in Tuam. They had a grocery and hardware store. When she married John Treacy, who was a very quiet man. She quickly became the boss and ran a great business. Several local people were employed there including Mary Mannion, Mary Warren, Bridie Greany (Con Connolly's wife) In the late 40's Treacys was a very busy shop.

Mrs Treacy also ran an undertaking business. She owned a hearse without an engine. It would be attached to a car by the toe bar and it was a hinman husky.

1956 Treacys was up for sale and 45 acres of land. Andrew Jennings from Ballinasloe- a nephew of Mrs Treacy, was preparing the sale for the upcoming auction. On his way home he ran out of petrol when he got as far as Dereen. He walked back to the village and knocked on the door of Paddy O'Donoghues to buy some petrol so he could get on his way. Paddy o'donohoe gave him a lift back to his car and mentioned the upcoming auction and sale. He advised that it was going for a great price! The following day Paddy O'Donohoe had placed his offer; the quick sale can be credited to Mr Jennings's running out of petrol.

Warrens

Warrens (Kings)

Owner: Mary Warren King

Opened: 1940's **Closed:** 2005

Items Sold: Grocery ie sugar, tea, flour, bread,minerals, bacon, toys, clothes, shovels spade wire cattle feed paraffin oil, biscuits, cigarettes

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories

One of nine in family, Mary originally worked in Treacy's. Grandfather built shop in Abbey in the 1940's. Small room in house served as the original shop She moved in on her own to run shop. Nora Boyle would often keep her company. Joe Conroy built on the extension as she was keen to expand the business to keep up with the supermarket around the 1975. Drapery, hardware, groceries, toys. Toys would be stored in the sitting room for local families. Children never decked what was going on.

They were told Santa needed help to store these for the other children in the village and he would collect them on Xmas eve. Pauline and Dolores. Messages were delivered via the breadman Sean for Pat the Baker. Open 7 days a week. Shop would close on Good Friday and Christmas Day. If weather was lovely during the summer family would be brought into Lydon's in Galway city for dinner or a picnic in Connemara. But only after the Sunday papers were sold. Garvey's would deliver on a Monday "wheeta" breadvan would come twice a week. Customer Mickie Hughes would request a loaf without windows. Reilly's bakery would come from Tuam, and later delivery from Pat The Baker. Clover meats would come once a week – a side of bacon, nitro bacon. She bought eggs from locals. Egg inspector would come to check quality/ freshness of eggs. Divillys from Glenamaddy would collect eggs once every two weeks. Big hundred weight of sugar to sell to customers in paper bags. Biscuits also sold loose. Biscuits came from Gearys in Limerick . Came in a green box known as penny biscuits. They were a favourite. Customers would buy in lbs. Not great choice – Kimberly Mikado & Kerry cream. Sweets & Flour also sold by weight. 2lb tin of treacle, large tin of fruit bought at Christmas, 6 btls of orange or lemonade or maybe cidona – sold in glass bottles from Egans in Tuam. Btls always retuned to shop and then returned to wholesaler. Everything was calculated by pen & paper. Many customers would have an account and settle their account when money became available from the fairs. Mary passed away in 1985 and Mr Waren died in 1995. Corned beef would be sold in tin cans. Refrigeration came later years. Martin Costello would supply tomatoes, fruit. Molloy's in Galway would supply Drapery – sales rep would arrive would samples of dresses, tops, bedclothes, pyjamas, long johns, underskirts, children's clothes in suitcase. When the carnivals are on in Abbeyknockmoy very busy time for shop. Carnivals took place during the summer. Customers would come for hair oil brilliantine – young lads would come in to buy the hair oil before they went to the dance. D & P would be fixing their hair with the oil. Fair Day in Abbey was another big day in Abbeyknockmoy in October. Fr Morley would always hover and watching the carry on. John Kinch Hardware item included shovels spade wire cattle feed parrafin oil and later years barrels of kerosene gas etc.

Cigarettes sold singly – woodbines would be the cheapest. No alcohol sold as they had no licence. People would go to Abbey to fill a btl of porter & a btl of baby Power (whiskey)

Customers would come down across the fields from Chapel Rd (Warrens, Gannon's, Woods, Keane's, Geraghty's) They would have a path worn across the fields. Lots of customers would come from Feigh Dereen Rd, Newtown. Customers would come by bicycle especially after Mass on Sundays.

Potters/ Joe Keanes

Owner: Patrick & Lizzie Potter; Hardimans; Joe Keanes Liss (Keanes)

Opened: Unknown **Closed:** 2005. Joe Keane sold to Conneallys

Items Sold: News papers after mass on Sundays

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories

Liz Potter from England. Married to Potter. They lived in Mick Goonans house. They built shop over at the corner. Fostered Michael Goonan and Mattie Hardiman. Joe Keane bought shop from Hardimans. Conneelys ran the shop for a while. It was mainly like a sweet shop and icecream with a few grocery items and newspapers.

Katie Ruanes

Owner: Katie Ruane (nee Williams)

Opened: 1954 **Closed:** 1997

Items Sold: Fresh bacon, sliced ice-cream. Loose tobacco, cigarettes, bacon, tea sugar sweets, fresh fruit, bread, Sweeping brushes , yard brushes, buckets, wellingtons

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories Extension built in 1966. She started out in small room . Danny O'Neil and Tommy Keane built shelving and counter but had to take it down again when ice cream fridge arrived. Choc ices ice lollies, Penny 2p 3p ice cream 6p icecream. And a wafer. Cut with bacon knife. Tea, sugar, sweets sold by weight. Tobacco came in block of 4 ounces qtr pound cut in two halves. This was for pipes. Clarkes was the biggest seller. Cigarettes sold loose. Tipped cigarettes came along then John Player , Sweet afton, goldflake . Craving A -first tipped cigarette that Katie sold. Bananas tomatoes oranges and apples pears . Fresh fruit supplied by Martin Costello Langans, Bacon supplied by Claremorris Bacon Company. NCF supplied butter. Bread supplied by ONeils Kilkerrin then to Glenamaddy. Brogans bought out O'Neils. Western Pride from Balinrobe. Icecream supplied by Pavillion and then HB. Coca cola. Sonny Melody sweets. Cigarettes supplied direct from the individual company such as Carrols, No 1 , Sweet Afton./ Silkcut, John Playor junior and John Playor Special, Goldflake. Matches were from Pattersons and Cara. First red heads. All other items supplied through wholesaler Nilands which later became Musgraves. Minerals delivered from Egans in Tuam which later became Coca Cola.

Sweeping brushes , yard brushes, buckets, wellingtons from Raftery in Glenamaddy. Families would buy a gallon of paraffin oil at a time from a 45 gallon barrell from Texaco.

Card games played for Xmas Hampers, ring board for throwing rings. Draughts also played. FCA stored their guns in it. They would sometimes practice shooting at the door linking the shop to Katies house. She never objected as the longer the practice the more they would purchase. Often a pile of orange skin peelings would build up during their target practice. ESB connecting power in Newtown when she opened the shop. 1965 she got TV

The green Shield stamps .Katie would often sell toys for Christmas and store them for local families in the shop until they were ready to take them home on Christmas eve.

Curleys

Curleys Liss, Abbey Rd, (old Sean T Kelly)

Owner: Willie Curley

Opened: Unknown **Closed:** Unknown

Items Sold:

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories

Dolly's Kitty taylor

Owner: Mae Lynch married Dolly

Opened: Unknown **Closed:**Unknown

Items Sold:

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories:

Brierfield

Sally O Dea Brierfield

Owner:

Opened: Unknown **Closed:** Unknown

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories

Mrs Roarke, Ryans Brierfield

Owner: Ryans Brierfield next to Crowes on the main road

Opened: Unknown **Closed:** Unknown

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories: V.Ryan living in it today

Concannons, Brierfield:

Owner: Peter Concannon

Opened: 1900 circa 1905 **Closed:** 1970s

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories This shop was located in Brierfield South. It was opened by Peter Concannon in the early 1900's about 1905. The shop continued to trade until the 1970s.

Cookes; Crowes, Brierfield

Owner: Crowes

Opened: 1920s **Closed:** 1990s

Shop Bio/ Interesting

Located on the main N63 road in Brierfield. The shop opened around the 1920s and continued to trade until the 1990s' It also operated the An Post office for the area.

Sweeneys Brierfield

Owner:

Opened: Unknown **Closed:** Unknown

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories

Located next door to Crowes shop on the N63.

Ballyglunin

Jimmy Finn Ballyglunin Crossroads Finns Cross

Owner: Jimmy Finn

Opened: 1930's **Closed:** 1990s

Items Sold: Parrafin oil, salted bacon, tomatoes, bread

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories

Started off as very small shop but not long after opening, business was very good so Jimmy decided to make it bigger. To avoid closing during the building works, a foundation was poured around the existing building and built up around it. A neighbour Annie Duggan returned from England to take care of her mother. She asked Jimmy could she do some hairdressing to earn a little money at the time. Jimmy lived alone and was happy to lease out some space and so a hairdressers also started in the kitchen of the house. Annie later married Jimmy's nephew. Jimmy's was very popular for cardgames and they would regularly host 9's . In addition to the cardgames Jimmys shop was a popular spot for music sessions. Also Ballyglunin Players were the first drama group in the area.

Dolans opp Brooklodge Church

Owner:

Opened: Unknown **Closed:** Unknown

Items Sold:

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories

Julia Mannion

Owner:

Opened: Unknown **Closed:**Unknown

Items Sold:

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories; Julia Mannion came from Labane to work in Ballyglunin Post Office.

Coolourty

Casey's Shop

Owner: Casey and Michael Byrne

Opened:1800s **Closed:** unknown

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories

There was a shop called Casey's dating back to the mid 1800's. According to a marriage certificate in 1880, Michael Byrne, a great grandfather of the present Michael Byrne, was running the shop at the time. It isn't known when the shop closed.

Crumlin

Text/ names of shops taken from Abbeyknockmoy A Time to Remember pg 172

Farraghers Pollsillagh

Owner:

Opened: **Closed:**

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories

Ryans Laraghmor

Owner:

Opened: 1980s **Closed:**

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories: Mattie Ryan

Sonny Fordes

Owner:

Opened: **Closed:**

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories: Finnerty's uncle had a pub close to Crumlin Bridge.

Costellos

Owner:

Opened: **Closed:**

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories: Costellos in Crumlin opposite John Dooleys house.

Dereen/ Dangan

Currans/ Mulrys Dangan

Owner: Originally owned by Mary-Ann Mulry. Later became Currans

Opened: 1930s **Closed:** 1976

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories:

Mulrys shop was started by Mary-Ann Mulry and her daughters in the 1930's. For a number of years, about 1940- 1947, Nora Moran (marriage name Boyle) began to work for Mary-Ann. Nora was a niece of Mary-Ann and she lived in and ran the shop. Around 1947, a daughter of Mary-Ann Mulry , Margaret, changed the name to Curran's shop. Margaret had married Tom Curran. The business was moved down the road a short distance at this time to a purpose built state of the art premises. The shop continued trading until 1976, when the last shopkeeper, Cora Curran, got married and moved away to Co Mayo.

Nicholas Daly Derreen;

Owner: Nicholas Daly

Opened: 1900s **Closed:** 2000

Items Sold:

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories:

Nicholas Daly had a public house and shop from about 1900. His son Dermot would later take it over. Dermot continued trading until he sold it to Katty Kelly in 1980. Katty was only there for a short time, maybe 6 to 12 months.

Michael and Annette Masterson bought the business in the early 1980s. A new shop was built and they continued to trade until 2000.

The Daly Public House; Courthouse;

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories:

The Daly public house was originally where the Courthouse is today. From the early 1900's there was a post office and shop there as well as the Courthouse.

Lynch's Shop

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories:

There was Lynchs shop also in Dereen in the early 1900's. This shop was taken over about 1915 by Peter Treacy who came from Treacy's Public House and Shop in Abbeyknockmoy. It was there until about the 1950's.

Mannions Dangan

Owner: Nano Mannions

Opened: 1900s Closed: 1971

Items Sold: Tin of penny top tits (liquorice covered candy) bullseyes, cloves sweets – peggy's legs, biscuits sold in loose in 12/ 14inch tins. Marietaa, Fig rolls Kimberly Mikado, everything in bulk. In a glass display case she would have anadins aspro, TCP, snuff. Tobacco Goldflake, John players, Woodbines sold in ones and twos. Stored these over the fire. Balls in blue, Perso, Vim, Carbolic soap for after working in fields, Palmolive was the luxury soap at the time, Brill Cream, Delp, Pots, pans, Currants, sultanas, sugar Flour in bulk. Wash boards , big metal baths for washing clothes. Ceramic coated enamel chamber pots, enamel basins hay forks, rakes, buckets, Side of bacon covered in salt and covered with a gauze. Cheevers, Gilmores, supply bread.

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories

Mrs Roche , Dolly Delia Shaughnessy Catti Mulry on the bike, Annie Dolly, Murphys Healys, Boyles Dooleys, Bessie Treacy Courtneys, Mullins

Neighbours would deliver their fresh hen eggs to the shop and Gilmores from Glenamaddy would collect all on a Thursday and pay Nano who would then in turn pay the neighbours or credit their account in the shop. Everything was recorded in the shop ledger.

Kids would love to treat themselves to a tomato when nobody was looking! At Christmas time customers would buy in bulk in preparation for the holidays. Tea would arrive on the train in Ballyglunin. Breege would cycle from Dangan to the railway station to check if the tea chest arrived. Her father would then collect tea for nano and also deliver it to Daly's in Dereen on his way home.

Mulry's Shop Danganbeg;

Owner: Mulrys

Opened: 1870 - 1880 Closed: 1960s

Items Sold: A handful of old weights have survived and for some reason stories of bringing seaweed from Galway to sell as fertiliser to the local farmers.

Shop Bio/ Interesting Stories:

This shop was located at Danganbed Crossroads, a natural community meeting area. The nearest eircode serves the Mulry family home which is located across the road. This family is directly descended. The shop operated from circa 1870 to 1880 (evidenced officially) and closed sometime around the revolutionary years anecdotally due to bad customer debts. At least three generations of Mulrys operated the business, the last was Michael Mulry who died in 1968 aged 85. He was known as 'Michael Shop' and also worked as a farmer most of his life. The shop was located in the Old Mulry Residence which still stands - roughly one metre below the current N63. This residence was not built at the time of Griffith's valuation.

Appendix II

The following tables provide information extracted from the National Monuments Service, Archaeological Survey of Ireland, Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) on the Ringforts located within the Audit Area. They are divided into the categories - cashels, raths, unclassified ringforts, enclosures and souterrains.

CASHELS

Townland	SMR No.	ITM (eastings)	ITM (northings)	Site Description
Barbersfort	GA01964	548,820	748,658	Enclosing a low hillock in undulating farmland. Marked on 3rd ed. of OS 6-inch map (1927) as subcircular enclosure (E-W c. 40m). The monument has since been cut in half by a field wall running E-W, and no visible surface trace survives to N of it. To S, all that survives is a poorly preserved scarp from E to SE, and a bank of earth and stone from SE to SSW. An old field bank abuts the monument at E. A subrectangular depression (E-W; L 12m, Wth 6m) defined by a low bank of earth and stone may be the remains of a house site (GA044-008001-). A ringfort (GA044-013----) lies 100m to SE.
Garraun (Coyle)	GA01997			At W limits of a field system (GA044-058----). Poorly preserved subcircular cashel (NE-SW 42m, N-S 36m) defined by a low drystone wall best preserved at S. Field-clearance rubble obscures the enclosing element from N through E to SE. Within the interior are two possible house sites (GA044-054001- and GA044-054002-). There are two ringforts (GA044-058001-, GA044-053----) 300m to ESE and 100m to S respectively
Garraun (Coyle)	GA13624	550,329	748,208	Towards ESE end of a field system (GA044-058----); it sits on a rise. Poorly preserved subcircular cashel (E-W 38m, N-S 35m) defined by a drystone wall overlain at S by a field wall. Within W sector of interior are traces of a wall (L c. 12m), running NE-SW, possibly the last vestiges of an internal division. Another ringfort (GA044-054----) S 300m to WNW. Repositioned since compilation of SMR. (CUCAP BDT 84)
Barnaderg North	GA01969	551,379	748,629	In rolling grassland, 250m NW of Barnaderg Castle (GA044-018--). Marked on 3rd ed. of OS 6-inch map (1932) as a circular enclosure (D c. 40m). Aerial reconnaissance in July 1970 (CUCAP K17 W 57-9) revealed a low bank in the interior, probably an internal division. Only a low platform now survives as a modern house occupies the monument. A field system (GA044-015----) lies to SW and W. (Norman and St Joseph 1969, 4-5)
Barnaderg North	GA01971	551,249	748,310	Some 300m SW of Barnaderg Castle (GA044-018----). Marked on 3rd ed. of OS 6-inch map (1932) as a circular enclosure (D c. 50m). All that survives is an arc of a collapsed drystone wall (Wth 3.5m) from SSW to NW; no visible surface trace survives elsewhere. A field boundary radiates from the monument at NW, and a field wall cuts it at SSW.
Barnaderg North	GA01972	550,907	748,349	On a knoll in rolling grassland. Oval cashel (E-W c. 35m, N-S c. 20m), in fair condition, defined by two degraded walls and an intervening fosse. No visible surface trace of the fosse or outer wall survive at S. A field wall overlies the outer wall from NW to NNE. A gap (Wth 2.75m) at S may be original. Within the interior are a souterrain (GA044-020001-) and five houses (see GA044-020002- to GA044-020006-).
Barnaderg North	GA01974	550,852	748,132	On a S-facing slope in undulating grassland. Very poorly preserved subcircular cashel (E-W 45.3m, N-S 41.2m) defined by a grassed-over drystone wall, overlain by a field wall at S. A grassed-over stone wall, possibly associated, radiates from the monument at NE. Within the interior and abutting the enclosing

				element are a number of stone structures: (a) to N, oval in plan (E-W 16.2m, N-S 14m), and (b) to S, triangular in plan (L 10m, Wth 8.8m), are probably internal divisions; while (c) to W, D-shaped (L 7.2m, Wth 5.7m) is probably a house (see GA044-021001-).
Cahergal	GA01978	548,304	747,018	On a gentle SE-facing slope overlooking bogland to S and SW. Well-preserved subcircular cashel(E-W 81m, N-S 74m) defined by a stone wall that is overlain by a field wall from W through N to NE. Traces of internal wall-facing are visible at NE, E and SE. Within NE quadrant of the interior is a rectangular raised platform (see GA044-025001-). Immediately to W of it is a second lower platform (E-W 5 m, N-S 4m) of similar character but poorly defined.
Caherphuca	GA02679	547,976	741,365	In undulating grassland. Marked on OS 6-inch maps as two conjoined circles defined by a line of open dots and labelled 'Stone Circles'. The remains are those of a very poorly preserved conjoined cashel. The NE cashel (NW-SE 55m, NE-SW 34m), oval in plan, is defined by a grassed-over collapsed drystone wall. A number of gaps are present but none appear original. The SW example (D 69m), originally circular in plan, is also defined by a drystone wall but now survives only from SE through W to N. Traces of inner and outer wall-facing are visible intermittently. There is a possible sheep pen in the interior.
Caherphuca	GA12373	547,951	741,321	No info
Ballynakilla	GA058-022----	548,518	741,569	On a small hillock in scrubland. Marked on 1st ed. of OS 6-inch map as a circular enclosure (D c. 30m). No visible surface trace survives
Ballybaun	GA058-011----	548,592	740,756	On a hillock in recently cleared grassland. Marked on 1st ed. of OS 6-inch map as a roughly circular enclosure (D c. 30m). No visible surface trace survives.
Ballynamona	GA058-029----	549,539	739,732	In undulating grassland. Poorly preserved circular cashel (D c. 50m) defined by a grassed-over drystone wall, no visible surface trace of which survives from N to ENE. The enclosing element is overlain throughout by a field wall. There is an entrance gap at E.
Stonepark	GA058-099003-	553,030	740,838	In rough pasture sloping towards the SW, within the W half of a relict field system (GA058-099002-). This possible cashel (27.8m E-W), subcircular in plan, is defined by a grassed-over and completely collapsed stone wall (Wth 2.2-2.8m; int. H 0.3-4m; ext. H 0.2-0.3m). It is heavily overgrown with furze, bramble and briars at SW and its outline is irregular in the N sector, where outcropping limestone is also visible. The interior slopes to the SW and more limestone outcrop is visible intermittently. Some thorn bushes are also growing in the interior. Aerial imagery (OSi MapGenie imagery (1995)) shows a smaller subcircular enclosure or annexe (c. 12m E-W; c. 10m N-S) immediately to the W of the cashel. An enclosure (GA058-099001-) lies c. 125m to the NE.
Cahernaglass	GA058-090001-	551,321	739,816	No info
Cahernaglass	GA058-040----	551,495	739,832	In level grassland. Poorly preserved oval cashel (E-W 36.5m, N-S 33.9m) defined by a collapsed drystone wall, no visible surface trace of which survives from SW to WNW. The enclosing element is overlain by a field wall from E through S to SSW. A ringfort (GA058-041----) lies immediately S.
Cahernaglass	GA058-041----			Immediately S of a ringfort (GA058-040----). Very poorly preserved subcircular cashel (E-W 32.2m, N-S 30m) defined by a collapsed drystone wall overlain by a field wall. A ringfort (GA058-042----) lies c. 100m to SE
Cahernaglass	GA058-037----	552,018	740,381	No info

Corrafaireen	GA058-089----	550,921	739,425	Within a settlement cluster (GA058-088----). Poorly preserved subcircular enclosure (E-W 48m, N-S 44m) defined by a drystone wall. A number of modern gaps occur, but that at S (Wth 3m) appears to be original. Several houses, associated with the settlement cluster, lie within the monument, some abutting the inner face of the enclosing wall, and one at NE actually straddling it. (ASGAP 385:32)
Ballynakilla	GA058-023----	549,266	741,780	In level grassland. A poorly preserved circular cashel (D 48.5m) defined by a drystone wall which is overlain by a field wall except from W to N.
Ballynakilla	GA058-026----	549,245	741,138	In grassland. Poorly preserved roughly circular cashel (D 30.7m) defined by a collapsed grassed-over drystone wall. Inner and outer wall-facing is visible intermittently. A ringfort (GA058-012---) lies c. 130m to SW.
Ballybaun	GA058-012----	549,165	741,058	Some 130m SW of a ringfort (GA058-026----) Poorly preserved circular cashel (D 37.7m) defined by a drystone wall which is overlain by the td. boundary from NNW to NNE.
Ballybaun	GA058-013----	549,515	740,778	On a rise in grassland. Circular cashel (D 33m), in fair condition, defined by a drystone wall. A field wall cuts the monument at SSE and SSW and no visible surface trace survives to S of it. A gap (Wth 1.5m) at SE may be original. In N sector of interior is a grassed-over stone structure (E-W; L 6m, Wth 2m), possibly a house.
Cahernaglass	GA058-039----	551,641	739,976	Some 270m SE of a ringfort (GA058-038----). Poorly preserved circular cashel (D 41.5m) defined by a much-collapsed drystone wall, overlain by field walls from N to E and from SE through W to N. The NE quadrant of the interior is wooded.
Cahernaglass	GA058-038----	551,479	740,204	Townland boundary with Lissaniska In grassland. Poorly preserved roughly circular cashel (D c. 35m) defined by a collapsed drystone wall from NE through E to SW. The td. boundary cuts the monument at NE and SW and no visible surface trace survives to NW of it. A ringfort (GA058-039----) lies c. 270m to SE.
Corrafaireen	GA058-048----	550,601	739,493	On a SW-facing slope in grassland. Poorly preserved circular cashel (D 52.2m) defined by a collapsed drystone wall. A field wall cuts the monument at N and S. (ASGAP 385:34, 36, 41)
Corrafaireen	GA058-049----	550,501	739,246	On W-facing slope of a rise in grassland. Poorly preserved circular cashel (D 41m) defined by a drystone wall. A field wall cuts the monument at NNW and SSE and no visible surface trace of the enclosing element survives to SW of it.
Corrafaireen	GA058-051----	551,408	738,873	On SE-facing slope of a low hill. Poorly preserved circular cashel (D 30.8m) defined by a grassed-over drystone wall.

Raths

Townland	SMR No.	ITM (eastings)	ITM (northings)	Site Description
Ardawarry	GA01963	549,442	748,104	In the base of a valley in rolling grassland, a stream flows to S. Subcircular ringfort (E-W c. 45m, N-S c. 25m), in fair condition, defined by an earthen stone-faced bank best preserved at NW and NNE; no visible surface trace survives at SW. A field wall cuts the monument at NE and NW.
Barnaderg North	GA01968	551,193	748,768	On the summit of a knoll, some 450m NW of Barnaderg Castle (GA044-018----). Well-preserved circular rath (D 43.8m) defined by three banks and two intervening fosses. A field wall cuts the monument at SSW. Entrance causeway (Wth 4m) at E. Within the interior is a raised rectangular platform (N-S; L 17m, Wth 14m), within which is an oval hollow (L 9m, Wth 5m), probably an associated house (GA044-016001-).
Barnaderg South	GA01975	551,820	747,876	In undulating grassland. Circular rath (D c. 45m), in fair condition, defined by two banks and an intervening fosse. A field wall overlies the outer bank from E through S to N. A ringfort (GA044-023----) lies c. 15m to S.
Barnaderg South	GA01976	551,806	747,813	Some 15m S of ringfort (GA044-022----). Subcircular rath (E-W 37.5m, N-S 34.8m), in fair condition, defined by two banks and an intervening fosse. The inner bank is best preserved at W, and the outer bank at ENE. No visible surface trace of the monument survives at NNW and E due to quarrying. A gap at SE may be original.
Knock	GA02008			On E-facing slope of Knock Hill. Circular rath (D 32m), in fair condition, defined by a low bank and external fosse, no visible surface trace of which survives from N to E. The fosse is present from SW through W to N. The td. boundary cuts the monument at ESE and SW. There is a CBG (GA044-071001-) within the interior. (Neary 1914, 123, no. 148)
Carrowgorm	GA01980	550,481	746,930	Some 180m NW of a ringfort (GA044-028----). Marked on 1st ed. of OS 6-inch map as an oval enclosure (N-S c. 40m, E-W c. 30m). What survives is a bank and external fosse from N through E to SSE. A field wall cuts the monument at N and SSE, and no visible surface trace survives to W of it. Poor
Carrowgorm	GA01981	550,620	746,802	On a rise in level grassland. Poorly preserved circular rath (D 44.5m) defined by a low bank and external fosse. Several breaches in the bank appear modern. The fosse is best preserved at W. A ringfort (GA044-027----) lies c. 180m to NW.
	GA01984	549,222	746,924	On a W-facing slope in grassland. Very poorly preserved oval rath (E-W 58m, N-S c. 45m) defined by a degraded inner scarp, with traces of an intervening fosse and outer bank from NE through E to SE. No visible surface trace survives elsewhere.
Cloonlusk	GA01986	547,528	746,397	On a ridge in otherwise level grassland. Poorly preserved circular rath (D 42.3m) defined by two banks and an intervening fosse, best preserved from SW through W to N. The monument has been quarried out at NE, SE and SW.
Dangan Oughter	GA01993	554,553	746,569	On a N-facing slope in grassland. Subcircular rath (N-S 44m, E-W 42m), in fair condition, defined by a bank and intervening fosse. Traces of an outer bank are visible at N and SW. A gap at E could be original.

Culliagh North	GA09277	549,759	742,817	On W-facing slope in grassland. Marked on 1st ed. of OS 6-inch map as a circular enclosure (D c. 30m). A house and garden now occupy the site and no visible surface trace survives.
Brooklodge Demesne	GA02668			On a hillock some 25m N of the Abbert River. Poorly preserved circular rath (D c. 40m) defined by a bank and external fosse. A road cuts the enclosing elements at S. A CBG (GA058-034001-) lay within the interior.
Crumlin	GA071-029----	548,137	738,571	On W-facing slope of a rise in undulating grassland. Poorly preserved oval rath (N-S 60.5m, E-W 52.6m) defined by a bank. A field wall cuts the monument at NNE and W and no visible surface trace of the enclosing element survives to NW of it.
Liss	GA058-068001-			On a N-facing slope in grassland. Marked on 1st ed. of OS 6-inch map as a circular enclosure (D c. 65m), the W sector of which appears to have been partially damaged. Apart from a dense area of nettle growth, and faint traces of a bank at W end of the associated CBG (GA058-068002-), no visible surface trace survives.
Liss	GA058-069----	551,109	742,222	grassland. Well-preserved subcircular rath (E-W 67m, N-S 63m) defined by a bank and external fosse which are best preserved at E and S. Several breaches in the bank appear modern. A CBG (GA058-069001-) is associated.
Lissaniska	GA058-071----	550,712	739,960	In undulating grassland. Circular rath (ext. D c. 70m), in fair condition, defined by two banks and an intervening fosse. There is an entrance causeway at S. The interior is densely overgrown. Two spring wells are present in the fosse at N
Feagh West	GA01994	550,562	745,445	On a rise in grassland. Oval rath (N-S 37m, E-W 30.5m), in fair condition, defined by a degraded bank and external fosse best preserved from S through W to N. A field bank cuts the monument at E and S.
Culliagh North	GA02688	549,954	743,313	On N-facing slope of a rise in grassland. Poorly preserved roughly circular rath (D c. 45m) defined by a bank and external fosse. The bank is present from SE through S to W, and a scarp forms the enclosing element from N through E to SE. The fosse survives at S. Quarrying has disturbed the monument at NW.
Ballybaun	GA058-014----	549,916	740,622	On W-facing slope of a hill. Oval rath (E-W 29m, N-S 24.7m), in fair condition, defined by a bank and external fosse. The bank is breached by numerous modern gaps.
Lissaniska	GA058-070----	550,177	740,141	On SW-facing slope of a hill. Well-preserved oval rath (E-W 47.5m, N-S 37m) defined by a bank and external fosse. There is an entrance causeway (Wth 8m) at SSE.

Unclassified Ringfort

Townland	SMR No.	ITM (eastings)	ITM (northings)	Site Description
Moyne	GA02704	552,601	745,025	On W slope of a low hill. Marked on 1st ed. of OS 6-inch map as a roughly circular enclosure (D c. 40m). The hill has been extensively quarried and no visible surface trace survives.
Crumlin	GA058-052----	548,738	739,208	On W-facing slope of a low hill. Marked on 1st ed. of OS 6-inch map as a circular enclosure (D c. 40m) but on 3rd ed. (1932) only NW sector appears. According to local information, the monument was levelled in the mid-1960s during land reclamation, along with an enclosure (GA058-053----
Crumlin	GA058-053----	548,679	739,079	Some 100m SSW of an earthwork (GA058-052----). Marked on 3rd ed. of OS 6-inch map (1932) as a circular enclosure (D c. 40m). The site was levelled in the mid-1960s during land reclamation and no visible surface trace survives.
Culliagh South	GA058-097----	549,778	742,270	In pastureland. Shown on the 1938 edition of the OS 6-inch map as a subcircular hachured enclosure (c. 25m NW-SE; c. 23m NE-SW). Current aerial imagery (Google Earth 15 April 2020) indicates that it has been levelled. It may have been a ringfort. The monument was brought to our attention by Mr D. Kilner. Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 22 October 2020
Corrafaireen	GA071-024----	550,942	738,625	On a low ridge in grassland. Marked on 1st ed. of OS 6-inch map as a roughly circular enclosure (D c. 60m) within a large area of rock outcrop. No visible surface trace survives. The area has since been reclaimed and all that is now visible are two probable field-clearance cairns.
SOUTERRAIN				

Enclosures

Townland	SMR No.	ITM (eastings)	ITM (northings)	Site Description
Barnaderg North	GA13938	551,464	748,514	No info
Lissavally	GA02013	553,455	747,157	On a rise in level grassland, c. 140m W of Lissavally House. Marked on OS 6-inch maps as a circular enclosure (D c. 35m). No visible surface trace survives. According to local information, there was a limekiln within the interior.
Culliagh North	GA02687	549,685	743,009	In pastureland overlooking bogland and the Abbert River to N. Marked on 3rd ed. of OS 6-inch map (1932) as a circular enclosure (D c. 30m). No visible surface trace survives and a local person recalled that the site was used as a source of gravel.
Pollawarla	GA02662	548,138	741,929	On townland boundary with Ballynakilla
Annagh	GA02501	545,228	741,016	On a N-facing slope in grassland. Poorly preserved circular enclosure (D c. 30m) defined by a bank of earth and stone and an external fosse. Traces of external stone revetment to the bank are visible intermittently. The fosse is best preserved from N to E; elsewhere it is partially filled with clearance rubble.
Caherphuca	GA058-087----	548,461	740,756	On a SW-facing slope in gently undulating grassland. Large well-preserved rectangular enclosure (N-S 110m, E-W 55m) defined by a massive drystone wall (Wth 2m, H 2m max.) along S, W and N sides. The td. boundary wall (Wth 1.5m) forms the enclosing element along E side and there is no trace of the enclosure to E of it. There is a definite entrance (Wth c. 4m) at W and a possible one at SW. A number of houses (GA058-087001-, GA058-087002-, GA058-087003-) and several large piles of field- clearance rubble lie within the interior. An internal drystone wall subdivides NE quadrant. Possibly post-medieval in date.
Ballynakilla	GA058-024----	548,387	741,179	On S-facing slope of a low ridge. Marked on 3rd ed. of OS 6-inch map (1932) as an oval enclosure (40m by c. 30m). The monument is now impenetrable due to dense blackthorn and briar growth, but a short length of cashel-like walling can be seen in S sector.
Ballynakilla	GA058-025----	548,649	741,082	On low-lying level land. A roughly circular area (D 50m) defined by a very low grassed-over bank or wall.
Farmhill	GA058-094001-			No info
Abbert	GA058-001----	554,071	740,956	On a slight rise in low-lying pastureland. Marked on 1st ed. of OS 6-inch map as a bivallate circular enclosure with a circle of trees around the outer enclosing element. All that survives is a faint circular platform (D 37m) defined by a slight scarp.
Stonepark	GA058-099001-	553,136	740,953	In rough pastureland sloping to the S. Noted on current OSi aerial imagery (Digitalglobe 2011-2013), this subrectangular enclosure (c. 40m NE-SW; c. 29m ENE-WSE) is visible within a relict field system (GA058-099002-). It is defined by a collapsed and grassed-over stone spread (Wth c. 2.5m; H c. 0.5m). Field walls extending off it at NE, SE, SW and NW appear to be associated with the field system. A post and wire runs N-S immediately outside its W side. A possible cashel (GA058-099003-) lies c. 125m to the SW.
Corrafaireen	GA058-086----	550,591	739,306	On a N-facing slope in limestone outcrop and scrubland. Poorly preserved overgrown almost circular enclosure (N-S 19m, E-W 18m) defined by a narrow low stone wall

				(Wth 1m max., H 0.75m). A small circular enclosure (D c. 8m), also defined by a stone wall (Wth 1.5m, H 1.2m), lies 35m to N; possibly a house. (ASGAP 385: 36, 41)
Corrafaireen	GA058-096----	550,712	739,276	In rough pastureland. This roughly sub-trapezoidal enclosure (c. 21.8m NNW-SSE; c. 21.2m ENE-WSW) is visible on current aerial imagery (OSi MapGenie Imagery 2013-2018). A number of walls and smaller plots extending off it to the N and S may be associated. Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 6 January 2023
Garraun Beg	GA01998	549,852	748,314	Immediately W of a field system (GA044-058----). Several curving banks are visible on the aerial photograph (CUCAP BDT 84), covering an area c. 220m NW-SE by c. 150m NE-SW. These possibly indicate an enclosure or simply a separate section of the adjacent field system: the latter includes a number of small irregular fields. The area has subsequently been cleared and no visible surface trace survives.

Souterrains

Townland	SMR No.	ITM (eastings)	ITM (northings)	Site Description
Garraun Beg	GA01996	549,970	748,199	Within the interior of a cashel (GA044-053----). Traces of a possible souterrain are visible in W sector where a spoon-shaped hollow (L 11m), running E-W, is visible.
Barnaderg North	GA01973			In the centre of a ringfort (GA044-020----) on the level summit of the hillock on which it sits. It consists of an L-shaped hollow (L c. 12m), up to 1.25m in depth, with traces of the upper courses of drystone walls protruding from the sod along its sides. The longer arm (L c. 7.5m, Wth 4.75), running NW-SE, possibly represents a robbed chamber. Extending off it at a right angle from its NW end is the shorter arm (L 4.5m, Wth 1.2m) which follows a SW-NE course before ceasing abruptly; possibly a passage. Its continuation may, however, be visible 7.4m downslope to NE where a slight stone-lined hollow (L 6.1m, Wth 1.5m) is visible, running E-W. There is a local tradition of a 'tunnel' running from this ringfort to Barnaderg Castle (GA044-018----), 625m to E.
Caherphuca	GA12372			No info
Cahergal	GA13883	548,315	747,035	Within the NE quadrant of a cashel (GA044-025001-). This raised rectangular structure or platform (E-W 24.6m, N-S 17.3m, H 1m) is defined by a grass-covered stone wall. Immediately to W of it is a second lower platform (E-W 5 m, N-S 4m) of similar character but poorly defined.