Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement

NEWSLETTER

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contents

Annual Outing 2019

Santiago de Compostela

See page 37 for details

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Group
for the Study
of
Irish Historic Settlement

President's Welcome

The Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement (GSIHS) annual conference was held in May 2018 in Dungarvan, County Waterford. Our thanks to Waterford City and County Council and to the Heritage Council for their support.

The papers delivered were largely on the settlement history of Dungarvan and John Martin of IHTA Dungarvan got the proceedings moving with his presentation on the development of the urban centre at Dungarvan. On Saturday morning we had papers from Nora White on the ogham stones of West Waterford and Dave Pollock on the archaeology of medieval Dungarvan. Later in the morning our committee member, Dr Paul MacCotter, spoke of the round hill of Lismore while Eamon Cotter offered a new interpretation of the 'monastic castle' of Rincrew.

Saturday afternoon was given over to the field trip to Molana, Lismore and Dromana/Villierstown. The annual dinner was held on Saturday evening in Lawlor's Hotel with about forty in attendance. Following the AGM on Sunday morning our committee members Dr James Lyttleton and Dr David Fleming presented their respective papers on Richard Boyle's patronage of architecture and building in early seventeenth-century Lismore and West Waterford and the Dungarvan Potwallopers. We had an opportunity in the course of the field trip to see Lismore Castle and Lismore cathedral.

Sunday was closed off with a talk in the late morning by William Fraher on public housing in Dungarvan and from Christina O'Connor on the Dungarvan Community Archaeology Project. Willie Fraher and Dave Pollock led a tour of old Dungarvan in the afternoon that allowed us to see how Dungarvan has coped with its town enhancement programme and also to visit the Waterford County Museum. This was opened in the year 2000 and provides in the objects collected and displayed a rich understanding of the history of the county.

The student bursary in 2018 was made available to Antón Pais Rodríguez of near Santiago de Compostela to facilitate his attendance and getting to know everybody in advance of the 2019 conference in Galicia.

The visit to Dungarvan was a successful one for GSIHS thanks to the local support and participation. The visit achieved all the objects that the Group has set itself in terms of the inter-disciplinary approach and the warm welcome for professionals and lay people coming together to discuss Irish historic settlement. Our thanks to all our speakers and all who attended.

As president of GSIHS (May 2016–May 2019) I wish to extend my warm thanks to our committee members and in particular Margaret Murphy our secretary and David Fleming our treasurer. Thanks also to Charles Doherty for his work as editor of our newsletter.

Michael Byrne (President) May 2019
info@offalyhistory.com

An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council

Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge
Waterford City & County Council

The Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement wishes to acknowledge the generous assistance provided by Waterford City and County Council and the Heritage Council towards the running costs of the conference in Dungarvan.

To his Excellency Henry Boyle Esq.^{r} one of the Lords Justices of IRELAND and Speaker of the Hon.^{ble} House of Commons
This N.E. Prospect of the Town of DUNGARVAN is Inscribed by his most Obed.^{t} humble serv.^{t} Ch. Smith

A panormaic view of Dungarvan from Smith's *History of Waterford* (1746, second edition of 1774)

The Square, Dungarvan, Waterford 1897
Courtesty of Waterford City and County Council and NLI

At Lismore Cathedral

Matthew Stout setting out for Tour de France

2018 Conference, Dungarvan: Photographs courtesy of Michael Byrne (President GSIHS)

Una and Con Manning, Jean Farrelly

Castle Gatehouse

Anne-Julie Lafaye, Rachel Tracey, Linda Shine

At Indian Gate with David Kelly

Dungarvan Harbour

At Ice house Lismore

2018 Conference, Dungarvan: Photographs courtesy of Michael Byrne (President GSIHS)

Early 20th century photo of church and castle in Abbeyside, Dungarvan
(Courtesy of Waterford County Museum, Dungarvan)

Articles

John Martin
(Author, Dungarvan IHTA
(forthcoming, 2020))

The development of an urban settlement at Dungarvan

Introduction

Dungarvan is located within the south-east of Ireland, a convenient arrival place for settlers from abroad. Rich fishing beds off the coast provided a major source of both food and employment for centuries, and there is still a small fishing community at nearby Helvick. Secondly, although Dungarvan has a sheltered bay facing the Atlantic, that bay is relatively shallow, and the river Colligan does not enjoy a deep-water estuary. On the contrary, the river Blackwater makes a sharp right-angle turn southwards at Cappoquin, and so it was the neighbouring port town of Youghal which benefitted from access to a rich hinterland. Thirdly, although there is thus a 'dry' valley between Cappoquin and Dungarvan, the fertile limestone soils, coupled with a mild climate, have always favoured agriculture, including the growing of potatoes for the Dublin market.

Prehistoric and Early Medieval

Archaeologists have found evidence of human settlement in caves in the wider Dungarvan area dating from the Neolithic and Bronze ages. The area also contains numerous ringforts from the early medieval period. The dominant Gaelic family in the Decies area of west Waterford was the Ó Faoláins, whose lands formed the basis of the Norman cantreds around Dungarvan. Munster was an early convert to Christianity, with important monastic settlements at nearby Ardmore and Lismore, founded by Saints Declan and Carthage respectively. Many early topographical writers asserted that Dungarvan was founded by a St. Garvan, but there is no documentary evidence to support that theory. On the contrary, *Dún Garbháin*, or the fort of Garvan, is likely to have belonged to a Gaelic chieftain, and was possibly located in the townland of Shandon, or *Sean Dún*, just over a kilometre north of the town. There is a small stone church at Kilrush, to the north-west of the town, which may be of early Christian origin.

It is likely that there was a small Viking settlement on elevated ground at Shandon, close to the Colligan river. Various finds excavated by archaeologists, including a Scandinavian trial piece, coupled with the presence of major Viking settlements along the south coast at Waterford and Cork, point to a small trading post. The name of Helvick, a prominent headland, is almost certainly of Scandinavian origin. [https://www.logainm.ie/49599.aspx], and the same may apply to Killongford, in the inner part of Dungarvan bay. What is certain from sheriffs' accounts in the thirteenth century is that some of the Ostmen expelled from Waterford settled in and around Dungarvan; the MacGillemaires, former rulers of Viking Waterford, were allowed to hold land near the town.

Foundation of town

One of the first recorded instances where Dungarvan is mentioned is in the Treaty of Windsor in 1175, between Henry II of England and Rory O'Connor, high king of Ireland. The treaty was intended to define the limits of Norman-controlled lands after the invasion; thus Co. Waterford as far west as Dungarvan belonged to them. However, within a few years the Normans had reached Cork. Both Waterford and Cork were established as counties by the early thirteenth century. The Anglo-Norman settlers focussed on arable farming, which required immigration of labourers from England and Wales. During the conquest, fortified manors were based on motte and bailey settlement, such as the motte at Gallowshill, about a mile west of the town centre, where there were ample supplies of fresh water from springs. This is likely to have predated construction of Dungarvan Castle.

The foundation of Dungarvan as a town can be dated from documentary sources to the beginning of the thirteenth century. In 1203, Meyler FitzHenry, one of the great Anglo-Norman barons, nominated one of his clerks, David Walsh, to the parish of Dungarvan. The right of advowson took on particular significance when King John established the royal manor of Dungarvan in 1204 following the surrender of one cantred by Donal Ó Faoláin, because the church in Dungarvan was at the head of a network of twelve smaller churches in the manor. The parish network in Ireland began to take shape in the late twelfth century, but the process accelerated under the Anglo-Normans. Both their manors and their parishes often adopted Gaelic territorial divisions; the Gaelic *trícha cét* was the basis of the post-conquest cantred. St. Mary's parish church in Dungarvan enjoyed a significant income from tithes, valued at £26 in the early fourteenth century. Many of the occupants in Anglo-Norman times were non-resident, but they benefitted from the parish income. The right of advowson to Dungarvan and its churches was held by the crown for the next four centuries, before passing to Richard Boyle, first earl of Cork and subsequently to the dukes of Devonshire, who not only nominated their candidates as rectors but also claimed their share of church tithes right down to the 1860s. The site of the medieval St. Mary's church has remained in religious use for over eight hundred years.

The abbey of Connall, Co. Kildare, also founded by Meyler FitzHenry, was granted five burgages in Dungarvan in 1205. Work on construction of the shell keep of Dungarvan Castle, overlooking the narrowest part of the Colligan estuary, is likely to have begun around this time, and further defences were added as the century progressed. Castles were the focal point of Anglo-Norman administration; the fact that they were built in stone would have reinforced their status as symbols of dominion. A small quay beside the castle, known in later times as Roderick's quay, would have been used

to unload building materials.

The manor of Dungarvan

Adrian Empey has estimated that the royal manor or honour of Dungarvan extended to about 200,000 acres, corresponding to the modern baronies of Decies. The new borough, granted charter status in 1215, was the administrative centre of the manor; the court and prison were probably accommodated within the stone castle. A large part of the manor around Dungarvan was acquired by Richard Boyle, first earl of Cork, in the early seventeenth century and subsequently by the dukes of Devonshire; their estate papers, now in the National Library, contain various surveys of the manor from 1566 onwards. The Municipal Corporation Boundaries Commission tried to establish those boundaries and a map showing their best estimate was published in 1837. The right to hold an annual fair was granted in 1242; this was held on the western outskirts of the town, as reflected in the townland name of Fair Lane, an accessible site for the fertile farmlands in the limestone valley to the west. The fair continued to be held there for centuries, before migrating to Grattan Square in the early nineteenth century, and finally to the mart at Shandon in the 1960s. According to the sheriffs' accounts for 1261–3, the mills in Dungarvan yielded £18 for the royal demesne, and by 1282 there were four mills yielding £28.

Shape of the new settlement

Apart from the parish church and the castle, we know little about the structure of the new settlement. A pontage grant was given in 1308; if it was used to fund the building of a bridge, that bridge must have been upstream of the nineteenth-century Devonshire bridge. However, it was possible to ford the river at low tide, which may explain why some of the common lands held by the burgesses were located on the eastern side of the estuary, later known as Abbeyside. St. Mary's church was certainly outside the town walls as they existed in later centuries; again, while there is a record of a murage grant in the mid fourteenth century, it is not known if it was used. Timber buildings are likely to have clustered around the junction of what are now Parnell Street and Church Street, where the medieval marketplace was sited. The triangular market space is similar to that in Fethard, Co. Tipperary, which was founded almost contemporaneously with Dungarvan. Archaeological excavations carried out by Dave Pollock have shown that some of the early timber buildings adjoining the market space were set back behind the modern building line, thus making the space even wider.

Augustinian friars

Augustinian friars from Suffolk established their first house in Dublin in 1282, and their friary in Dungarvan was founded on the eastern side of the estuary around 1290, close to where the road from Waterford would have terminated at the ferry crossing. The mendicant orders often located their houses on the edges of towns, rather than within the walled area. While the Abbeyside friary was initially endowed by the Anglo-Normans, over time local families such as the McGraths and the O'Briens became patrons; the tomb of Donal McGrath, dating from 1400, is still to be seen in the ruined chancel, and a Thomas McGrath was prior in 1488. It was a relatively small foundation as shown by the list of its properties at the time of its closure in 1541. The lands were leased by the crown for the remainder of the century, before being acquired by Richard Boyle in the early seventeenth century. Some local traditions believe that the friars maintained a shadowy presence in the area during the following centuries, until the Catholic parish of Abbeyside was instituted in the late eighteenth century; the present church, built in 1828, incorporates the tower of the abbey, with the ruined chancel attached.

Medieval town economy

Fishing was a mainstay of the town's economy; in 1300, Dungarvan contributed £15 worth of fish towards the cost of Edward I's Scottish campaign. The Black Death of 1348 must have resulted in significant mortality in this port town which traded with the south-west of England and with France. In 1377–80 Archbishop Philip Torrington petitioned Richard II concerning the advowson of the church of Dungarvan and its ancillary chapels. This advowson had been granted to the See of Cashel by the king in 1334 but had lately been the subject of much dispute. Since then, Torrington explained 'as much due to pestilence all the chapels of the said cathedral church, except three or four, were destroyed in the time of my predecessor Ralph [Kelly]'.

The crown effectively sub-let the manor of Dungarvan to the earls of Desmond for most of the period from 1259 to 1527, when Sir William Skeffington reclaimed the castle by force. An Act of the Irish parliament in 1463 required the earl to use market tolls to maintain the town's defences, and references to town walls and gates become more numerous during the sixteenth century. A garrison was maintained in the castle during the Munster rebellion. Excavations by Pollock and others have confirmed the line of the walls as shown on a 1760 survey map of the Hore estate, although none of the walls (other than the castle walls) survive above ground.

Henry VIII, apart from closing the Augustinian abbey, re-asserted his right to nominate the rector of Dungarvan, and later monarchs appointed rectors who supported the Protestant faith. Protestants always remained a small minority within the town, and the church witnessed bitter sectarian conflict following the 1641 rebellion. Cromwell captured the town in 1649 and, while he spared the lives of the inhabitants, he destroyed the parish church, described by the Co. Waterford-born writer Charles Smith in 1744 as 'a large building with a high steeple'. Cromwellian troops probably also attacked the former Augustinian friary, as a few years later the Civil Survey recorded that 'at the Abbey-side of Dungarvan we find on the premises the walls of an old abbey, ruined and destroyed.' The so-called 'Census' of 1659 showed that of the total number of 257 households within the built-up area, 85 per cent were classified as 'Irish'.

Seventeenth century

Two developments in the early seventeenth century were to have longer term consequences for Dungarvan.

In 1609, James I established Dungarvan Corporation, but it went into abeyance by the end of the century. Its absence impeded progress in the town; Youghal Corporation, founded at the same time, took a pro-active role in developing the quays and promoting trade in that rival port town, whereas Dungarvan suffered from inadequate quay space and lack of a public water supply. Secondly, Richard Boyle, first earl of Cork, bought Dungarvan Castle and land within and around the town in the 1620s; while he did not develop his urban property as he did in Bandon and Youghal, his Dungarvan estate passed by inheritance to the dukes of Devonshire in the mid-eighteenth century.

Figure 1 1760 survey of Dungarvan walled town
(Courtesy of Waterford County Museum, Dungarvan)

Eighteenth century

Much of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries in Ireland were dominated by armed conflict, but more settled political conditions facilitated urban development in Dungarvan from 1700 onwards. A British Army barracks was built within the grounds of the Castle, and continued in military use until the 1880s, when it was handed over to the RIC; it became a Garda barracks in the 1920s. When a new Garda station was provided on the Youghal Road in the 1980s, the OPW renovated the Castle and former barracks, and opened a visitor centre. There was a good deal of building within or near the walled town during the eighteenth century, but as suburban growth expanded to meet the needs of a growing population, gradually the medieval walls and towers were dismantled, with little remaining by the early nineteenth century.

The well-known cartographer Bernard Scalé was commissioned to survey the Devonshire estate in Dungarvan in 1775, but because the map was limited to property owned by the duke, it needs to be read in conjunction with the 1760 survey map by the Frizells (father and son). Scalé's map is of particular interest in terms of urban morphology because it captured the street pattern before the post-1800 redevelopment programme, although unlike the 1760 map it does not show the surviving town walls. Scalé added a description of the duke's property; 190 of the total of 230 dwellings were classified as cabins, with only 10 per cent being slated. The town was in poor shape at the close of the eighteenth century; it had no manufacturing industry apart from a handful of tiny breweries and distilleries, it had

no effective local government, and the bulk of the population were poor fishermen. It had limited quays, and road connections with Waterford and nearby towns were bad, the only bridge across the Colligan being several miles upstream. For much of the eighteenth century, the property and political rights of the majority Catholic population were limited under the Penal Laws. However, these began to be relaxed from the 1780s, and Catholic mass houses were built – the parish mass house near the Youghal Road and one operated by the Augustinians west of the town. There were no Catholic schools, other than hedge schools.

From Act of Union to the Famine

The period from the Act of Union to the Famine witnessed the coming together of a series of different forces which cumulatively made a significant impact on the morphology and economy of Dungarvan. Firstly, the fact that, under the Act of Union, the borough was entitled to send one MP to the Westminster parliament motivated the Devonshire estate to sway the allegiance of voters by a radical programme of urban improvements. This included enlarging the number of forty-shilling freeholders by building cheap housing for the fishermen and labourers in the town, primarily in Boreenatra and in the western suburbs. In the centre of the town, a new square was laid out from 1806, designed by English architects. As thatched cabins had to be cleared on the site, priority was given to building replacement houses, but during the 1820s building leases were granted to wealthier shopkeepers and merchants to erect three-storey buildings, usually comprising a shop at ground level with two storeys of residential accommodation over. A new bridge and causeway, connecting the town to Abbeyside, was completed in 1816 at a reputed cost of £50,000, under the supervision of an English engineer, Jesse Hartley, who went on to make his name in the construction of Liverpool docks. Other new streets off the square followed, including Bridge Street and William Street; new market buildings for the sale of fish, meat and vegetables were built just behind the quays, which were greatly extended. These market buildings or 'shambles' involved moving the street market from its historic location at the bottom of Church Street, causing local protests, and in later decades the monthly cattle, sheep and pig fairs were also transferred from their traditional site on the western approaches to the town to the new square.

The aftermath of Catholic Emancipation

The second major force for change in the early nineteenth century was Catholic emancipation and Catholic nationalism. A request from the Catholic parish priest to the duke for a site for a new church was initially turned down, partly on the grounds that it might be needed for the duke's building programme. However, the duke eventually donated a prominent site at the top of the hill overlooking the square, and donated £600 towards the cost of construction. The church was completed in 1829, about the same time as the Augustinian friary in St. Augustine Street was opened and a Catholic church built attached to the remnants of the former abbey at Abbeyside.

The arrival of Catholic teaching orders in Dungarvan was equally important in reflecting the growing status of the majority religion within the town. The Christian Brothers set up a temporary school in the main street in 1807, before moving to Shandon Lodge in 1811, where they offered free education to poor boys. Dungarvan was their third location, after Waterford and Carrick-on-Suir. The parish priest and Ignatius Rice collaborated to buy a new site for a larger school, accommodating hundreds of boys, off the Youghal Road in 1835, and the CBS remains there to this day. A wealthy Catholic landowner, Pierce Barron, donated £1000 to the Presentation Sisters who had set up a small convent in Quay Street in 1809; the donation enabled them to build a new convent and girls school in Church Street in 1822. When the Sisters moved again to new premises in Mitchell Street in 1858, their former convent and school was taken over by the Mercy nuns, who added further school buildings on Church Street as the century progressed.

Nineteenth-century developments

Various economic developments in the early decades of the nineteenth century proved beneficial for the town. The Waterford Grand Jury improved the roads to Cappoquin and Youghal, and Bianconi coach services began operating to Waterford and other towns in the 1820s. The first hotel – the Devonshire Arms – also opened around that time, and shortly afterwards the major banks opened branch offices, Bridge Street and the square being the favoured locations. John Dower developed a brewery at Fair Lane which distributed its products throughout Munster, and shipping merchants built large corn stores along the new quay. However, the vast bulk of the town's population – perhaps up to 5,000 by some estimates – was dependent on the sea fishery, and the withdrawal of a government subsidy in 1830 caused widespread distress.

The final factor which helped shape Dungarvan in the early nineteenth century was the growing role of state agencies. A fever hospital was built in Abbeyside in 1819, followed by a new courthouse and bridewell in the mid-1820s. The following decades saw the formation of an Irish constabulary, with barracks being provided in both the town and Abbeyside, before being centralised in Dungarvan Castle in the 1880s. The largest of these public buildings was the Union workhouse, built well to the west of the town. When it opened in 1841, it was designed to house six hundred inmates, but following the onset of the Great Famine, it was swamped by over two thousand inmates. Additional auxiliary workhouses, based mainly in storehouses, had to be provided; there were food riots in the town, and a Famine graveyard (*reilg na sléibhe*) had to be opened on the Youghal Road, a few miles outside the town.

The Famine had profound and long-lasting adverse effects on Dungarvan. By 1851, the population had decreased by 20 per cent from its peak in 1841, and the population in 1901 was just over half of what it had been prior to the Famine. This meant that little new housing was provided during the period. Moreover, Ireland experienced difficult economic conditions, especially in the 1870s, as a result of bad weather and poor harvests, together with the inability of many small industries to compete with large-scale producers. The two breweries

in Dungarvan – Dower's and Benjamin Purser's – were in trouble by the 1880s, and neither survived.

Effects of the Famine

The rental income deriving from the Devonshire's Dungarvan estate came nowhere near matching the enormous capital outlay in the first two decades of the century, and by the 1840s the English estate managers were keen to dispose of it. The Lismore resident agent argued that, in the wake of the Famine, this would be tantamount to a fire-sale, but in 1858 a decision was made to sell both the Youghal and Dungarvan urban estates. The former was sold as one lot, whereas in Dungarvan sitting tenants were offered the right to buy out the duke's interest; the remainder was sold through the Encumbered Estates Court in 1861, with the total revenue amounting to £68,000. This ended a connection with the Boyle and Devonshire estates dating back to *c*.1620.

The duke invested £20,000 in developing a railway line from Waterford through Dungarvan to his Irish estate headquarters at Lismore; he had previously sponsored a line from Lismore to Fermoy, on the Dublin-Cork route. However, the terrain from Waterford was difficult and costly, so it was 1878 before the first train arrived at Dungarvan. While undoubtedly the line was of some benefit to the town – in transporting cattle, or in bringing day-trippers to the beach in summer – arguably it came too late to have any significant economic impact, and indeed the absence of major towns along the route was always likely to render it only marginally profitable. It survived until 1969.

Town Commissioners were elected in 1855, the first form of representative local government experienced in Dungarvan since the seventeenth century. While the Commissioners quickly introduced gas street lighting, they were much less effective in providing either a reliable public water supply – water was still being brought in barrels to the square as late as the 1880s – or in dealing with unsanitary housing conditions; it was not until the end of the nineteenth century before the first artisans' dwellings were provided. The Town Commissioners were replaced by an Urban District Council following the 1898 Local Government Act, and the new Waterford County Council based its headquarters in Dungarvan, where it remained until the City and County Councils were merged in 2014.

Twentieth century

For much of the twentieth century, the dairy industry was the mainstay of the town's economy. From small beginnings on the Shandon Road at the beginning of the century, co-op dairies were formed and merged, culminating in the establishment of Waterford Foods in 1964, a multi-national company with its headquarters in Dungarvan. However, when Waterford Foods merged with Avonmore to form Glanbia in 1997, the headquarters were transferred to Kilkenny, and milk processing in Dungarvan ceased. Other manufacturing industries experienced similar vicissitudes: Irish Leathers operated a tannery at Quay Street between 1937 and 1996, and a Waterford Crystal branch factory opened in 1971 but closed in 2009. The combined population of Dungarvan and Abbeyside reached a post-Famine low point of 4,850 in 1901, and it remained fairly static for the first half of the century, adding just over 700 people by 1971. Most of the new housing during that period was provided by the local authority, replacing sub-standard nineteenth-century dwellings, including Boreenatra.

The urban form of Dungarvan has undergone major change since the 1970s. The population has increased steadily, reaching 9,227 in 2016, thus surpassing the 1841 total of 8,625. Private sector house building began in Abbeyside in the 1970s, and has continued to expand the town's footprint on the eastern side of the Colligan. To the west, suburban development was greatly facilitated by the construction of a by-pass road in the 1980s. New pharmaceutical factories on the Youghal side are major employers. Perhaps one unfortunate effect of the by-pass is that many travellers heading west have no sense of the historic character of the town and harbour.

Perhaps the most significant development during the Celtic Tiger era was the sale of the large 4.3 hectare Glanbia site close to Grattan Square, and the construction of a shopping centre and leisure complex. Other urban renewal projects included redeveloping some of the old corn stores along the quays as apartments, and the construction of new apartments near Dungarvan Castle. The Castle itself was renovated, and the former police barracks adapted as a visitor centre. A major benefit from all of these projects was the archaeological evidence that came from pre-construction excavations, especially the confirmation of the alignment of the medieval town walls. There were some losses too, including the demolition of both the Mercy and Presentation convents.

Conclusion

Despite all these changes, Dungarvan has retained significant evidence of its history. Gallowshill, the gable wall of St. Mary's church, the Castle, and the chancel and tower of the former Augustinian abbey, all testify to its Anglo-Norman origins. So too does the medieval street pattern – Church Street and Parnell (formerly Market) Street intersecting at the former market, the upper and lower roads leading westwards to the rural hinterland, and Sarsfield Street in Abbeyside reflecting the old main road from Waterford to the ferry across the Colligan. The Devonshire estate has left its distinctive imprint – the square and the new streets leading off it, the bridge and quays, together with the terraced houses built for the fishermen and working class two hundred years ago.

Dr Paul MacCotter
(UCC)

Report on the historical background to the Round Hill monument in Ballyea West townland, Lismore civil parish, Co. Waterford, sites and monuments reference WA021–022, October 2016

Abstract

This paper surveys the principal historical, hagiographical and onomastic sources for the Lismore area with special reference to the Round Hill (see figure 4 on page 10) located in the townland of Ballyea West and civil parish of Lismore. These range in date from the twelfth-century(?) hagiography surrounding Saint Cartach or Mochuda of Lismore to the early nineteenth-century Ordnance Survey material (the relationship between the town of Lismore and the Round Hill is indicated on the Google Earth Map in figure 2 on page 7). Other significant sources are the annals and related material for the period of the Anglo-Norman conquest of east Munster, temporal records of the lands of the church of Lismore down to the seventeenth century, records of the Boyle New English plantation of the Lismore area, and several other sources. The target of this research is to find surviving references to SMR monument number WA021–022 and thus elucidate its history.[1]

Figure 1 Civil Survey map of 1656, Lismore and its hinterland: http://www.downsurvey.tcd.ie/down-survey-maps.php#bm=Coshmore+and+Coshma&c=Waterford

Ballyea West

The Townland of Ballyea is first recorded as Ballegheyeigh in 1600, when one Teig O Haherne (modern Ahearn) dwelt there.[2] *Logainm*, the Place Names Database of Ireland, derives the name from Baile Uí Aodha, presumably from a family who had farmed this townland at some stage in the late medieval to early modern period when such townland names come into existence. Around the same time the corrupt form 'Ballyrea' occurs among the lands of Sir Walter Raleigh.[3] The episcopal estate of Lismore had fallen into the hands of Raleigh following the suppression of the Desmond rebellion during the 1580s, and he subsequently sold the estate to Richard Boyle, earl of Cork, in 1603 when he was imprisoned for treason. In the royal confirmation of these lands to Boyle we find Ballyea listed as one of the members of the manor of Lismore.[4] Our next set of references to Ballyea derive from the Boyle Papers.

In June of 1603 Boyle leased the ¾ ploughland of Ballyea to Michael Hughes for twenty one years. The rent was ten 'conyes' or rabbits per week every week from mid-summer until Candlemas (2nd February), delivered to Lismore Castle. If Hughes is unable to provide the conyes 'owing to war or rebellion' then he is to pay £7 ster. perannum in lieu thereof. This reference indicates that Ballyea was a managed rabbit warren.[5] The next definite date we have is during November of 1636, when Boyle leased for thirty one years to Hugh Croker his 'connywarrens' on the ½ ploughland of Ballyea and the ½ ploughland of Ballynitie and Fflemings Land (apparently the modern townland of Deerpark East to south

[1] A significant number of additional sources to those listed in this paper were examined in the course of my research, but are omitted from this report as they contained no relevant information.
[2] Fiant of Elizabeth no. 6475 from *The Irish fiants of the Tudor sovereigns* (Dublin, 1994).
[3] *Calendar of the patent and close rolls of chancery in Ireland, of the reigns of Henry III, Edward VI, Mary, and Elizabeth; Charles I*, ed. James Morrin (3 vols, Dublin, 1861–3), ii, p. 325.
[4] *Calendar of the Irish patent rolls of James I* (Dublin, 1966), p. 42.
[5] NLI, Ms 6140, p. 23.

of Ballyea). Croker was to pay an annual rent of £33 10*s.* and provide a stated number of rabbits 'in serviceable manner three or four days every week' during the season, to Lismore Castle. Croker was also subject to the feudal incidents of heriot and muster and suit of court to the court and mill of Lismore.[6] He was not to alien (sell) without licence and agreed to 'keep the warren in like strength as he received it and to build a stone house within 3 years'.[7] Shortly before this one Barnaby Goss had been a resident of Ballyea.[8]

Google Earth image with annotations

Figure 2 Google Earth map showing the spatial relationship between Lismore town and the Round Hill.

The entire parish of Lismore had originally been church land, and indeed an episcopal seat until united with Waterford, in 1363. While the Tudor conquistadors, and especially Sir Walter Raleigh, had initially fought the Church over title to the manor of Lismore, Boyle eventually reached a settlement regarding the lands of Lismore with Bishop Atherton. Such was Boyle's influence that he managed to get a relative, Michael Boyle, consecrated as bishop of Waterford and Lismore, in 1619, and this delayed the settlement until John Atherton became bishop, in 1636. Atherton had been a champion of the Protestant Church in its efforts to regain usurped episcopal temporalities, but won many enemies among the landlord class for this and was executed in Dublin in 1640 on trumped up charges of buggery and bestiality.[9] Before this he had, however, reached a settlement with Richard Boyle, Earl of Cork, regarding the manor of Lismore. In July of 1637 Atherton succeeded in obtaining an order, confirmed by an act of state of the Irish Council, granting him the manor of Lismore.[10] This was followed by a release back to Boyle of these lands in March of 1638, for sixty years, made by Bishop Atherton with the permission of the dean and chapter of the church of St Carthage of Lismore, and subject to a chief rent to the see.[11] This consisted of £20 per annum for Killbree and New Affane and 20*s.* for Killcloher. The lands and rights in question consisted of the town and lands of Ardmore, Kilbree and New Affane, a quarter of the fish of the weir of the river of Lismore, the manor, castle, town and lands of Lismore, Ballyea, Ballyinn (Ballyin Lower and Upper in Lismore parish), Ballynaspick (Ballinaspick North and South), Bewley (in Kilmolash parish) and Killmolashe and the ½ ploughland of Killclogher (Kilcloher in Whitechurch parish). This episcopal rent was still being collected in 1664 but subsequently the Boyle family appear to have extinguished this, perhaps when the lease expired, or perhaps in exchange for allowing the Church to retain some fragments of these lands.[12]

The *Civil Survey* of 1656 (see figure 1 on page 6) indicates that the then townland of Ballyea corresponds to the modern townlands of Ballyea East and Ballyea West, and the division is likely to have been made in the early eighteenth century, as we shall see.[13] It is interesting to note that of the estimated one hundred plantation acres in the townland forty is described as 'arable' and the remainder as 'furzy', indicating that the greater share of the townland was covered in low scrubwood, an ideal habitat for rabbits. Surely the Round Hill was also covered with scrubwood at this time. A detailed history of the possession of the townlands of Ballyea is beyond the scope of the present paper, but we do possess some information.[14] In 1700 the earl of Cork leased

[6] Heriot was the giving of the 'best beast' to the overlord upon the death of the tenant, while muster involved the tenant coming with arms to support the lord upon summons.
[7] NLI, Ms 6140, p. 23; NLI, Ms 6142, p. 18; NLI, Ms 6248, p. 21.
[8] NLI, Ms 6142.
[9] Rictor Norton (ed.), 'The life and death of John Atherton, 1641', *Homosexuality in eighteenth-century England: a sourcebook. 16 February 2004*, updated 15 June 2008 <http://www.rictornorton.co.uk/eighteen/atherton.htm>.
[10] NLI 6142, p. 153.
[11] NLI 6142, pp 152–3; NLI, Ms 42018, Lismore Deeds, Bundle 6.
[12] William Henry Rennison (ed), 'Joshua Boyle's accompt of the temporalities of the bishoprick of Waterford', *Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society*, 32 (1927), 42–9; 35 (1930), 26–33; 36 (1931), 20–4. See vol. 32, pp 47–9.
[13] Robert C. Simington (ed), *The Civil Survey (A.D. 1654–56)* (10 vols, Dublin, 1931–61), vii (1945), p. 7.
[14] For the following information see Registry of Deeds, Dublin, 52/415/35096, 64/499/44897, 93/132/65132, 150/629/101717, 187/550/128247, 261/333/170150.

for a term of three lives 'Ballynelligan and that part of Ballyea which is bounded by the high road leading from Lismore to Cappoquin to Balygallane ford', 170 statute acres in all, to Richard Baggs of Lismore. This clearly relates to the present Ballynelligan Glebe and Ballyea West. Ballygalane ford is that ford on the Blackwater at Round Hill, once comprising of several islands in the river, but which were absorbed in the north bank in the early twentieth century. In 1723 Richard earl of Cork leased to Baggs 'the 128 statute acres of Ballyea then and lately in the possession of John Clasie'. This appears to relate to Ballyea East. In 1724 Baggs sold the remainder of the lease of 1700 to Sion Hill of Lismore. In 1751 Charles Baggs of Lismore sub-let 'Ballynelligan and the quarter ploughland of Ballyea' to Christopher Musgrave, and in 1758 sold his interest in the 128 acres of Ballyea (East) to Richard Kiley. In 1767 Kiley in turn released his interest to Denis Callaghan of the City of Cork. By 1851 most of Ballyea West was held immediately by Henry Wigmore while the Duke of Devonshire (heir to the Boyle family here), held Ballyea East directly.[15] By this time Ballynelligan Glebe had reverted to the Church. The Round Hill itself, however, consisting of 4.147 acres, was also held directly by the Duke of Devonshire, and was heavily planted with deciduous trees.

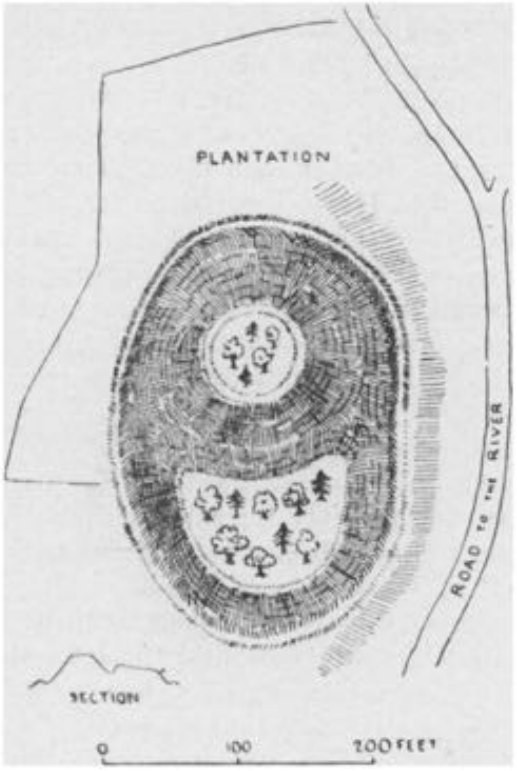
The Round Hill: monastery or castle?

An interesting indirect reference to the Round Hill occurs in 1652 when Irish troops, under the direction of Major Thomas Downing, marched 'from Ballyanker to the warren of Lismore and after to Affane'.[16] As we have seen, the Round Hill itself appears to have been part of a farmed rabbit warren in the seventeenth century. The first direct mention of the Round Hill that I can uncover was that by Charles Smith in his history of Waterford, published in 1746:[17]

> (There is) "one rath at Lismore, from whence the name of that place, i. e. the large fort. It is erected on the top of an hill called the Round Hill, of a pretty steep ascent, and is situated near the Black Water river, about half a mile to the west of Lismore [sic]. It was surrounded by a double fosse which is now almost filled up."

Elsewhere in this volume Smith correctly locates 'The Round Hill' to the east of the town, and gives it the ancient name of Dún Sginne, associating it with the seventh-century flight of Mochuda or Cartach from Rahan to Lismore, all of this despite asserting that the Round Hill was built by the Danes!

The early American travel writer, Jonathan Carver, in a book published in 1779, plagiarises part of Smith's account.[18] The essence of Smith's account can also be found in the account of the Round Hill by Holmes, writing in 1801, and by the anonymous engravor who published a book of prints of notable castles in Britain and Ireland in 1831, as well as by Lewis in 1837, who adds the detail that Cartach first settled in the Round Hill fortress, Dún Sginne, upon his first arrival at Lismore.[19]



THE MOTE OF DUNSGINNE, LISMORE.

(See footnote 22 for source of image.)

Figure 3 Westropp's sketch drawing of the Round Hill, 1904

Such was the opinion of the Round Hill among early antiquaries and travel writers. By the early twentieth century, however, a more rigorous approach was adopted. Well-known historian Patrick Power, writing in 1907, derives the place-name Ballyea from Baile Uí Aodha and mentions the Round Hill which he says is composed largely of alluvial gravel deposits and surrounded by two ancient roadways. He also records the Irish names *Lios Mór* and *An Dún* for the Round Hill, which he claims to have gotten from Irish speakers, and identifies the hill as a motte and bailey, a type of early Anglo-Norman fortification featuring a small timber or stone castle upon a hill, often manmade, with accompanying fortifications at its base.[20] The same year the noted Irish historian Goddard Orpen, in a paper on the motte and bailey, wrote of the Round Hill as follows:

> There is a mote near Lismore, upwards of a mile from the cathedral and the present castle. It stands near the river, guarding what seems to have been an ancient ford. It is a typical Norman mote, with small wedge-shaped bailey, forty paces long by twenty-four at the wider end, and is, I think, the site of

15 Griffith's Primary Valuation, townland of Ballyea West.
16 Cromwellian depositions, Co. Waterford (TCD Ms 820, ff. 320–2).
17 *The Antient and present state of the county and city of Waterford* (Dublin, 1746), pp 351–2.
18 *The New Universal Traveller* (London, 1779), p. 561.
19 G. Holmes, *Sketches of some of the southern counties of Ireland* (London, 1801), p. 186; *The Delineator, a series of splendid engravings of remarkable edifices, places of antiquity, and views of celebrity* (London, 1831), pp 59–60; Samuel Lewis, *A topographical dictionary of Ireland*, 2 vols (London, 1837; repr. Port Washington NY & London, 1970), entry for 'Lismore'.
20 P. Power, *The place-names of Decies* (London, 1907), pp 18–19. A motte and bailey is a fortification with a wooden or stone tower situated on a raised earthwork called a motte, to which is joined an enclosed courtyard or bailey, the whole surrounded by a protective palisade and ditch.

> the castle commenced by Henry and finished by John. Mr. Westropp, indeed, asserts that this mote is the prehistoric fortress called Dunsginne, or Mag Sgiath, and afterwards Lismor, mentioned in the 'Life of St. Carthach', who formed a religious establishment at Lismore about the year 633. But the Great Liss, Lis Mor Mochuta, as it was called after the saint, in all probability surrounded the church and monastic buildings, as in similar cases elsewhere, and certainly the monastery was not on the mote. The present castle is said to be on the site of the monastery.[21]

Orpen's reference to Westropp relates to his (Westropp's) paper on the same subject as published in 1904, when he opined that the original monastery of Lismore was on the Round Hill (see his sketch in figure 3 on page 8) and that the castle built by Prince John in 1185–6 lay on the site of the present Lismore Castle.[22] Modern archaeology agrees with Orpen rather than Westropp in relation to the Round Hill. The Archaeological Survey of Ireland tells us that the Round Hill is:

> Situated on a natural hill overlooking the floodplain of the W-E Blackwater River with the stream c. 150m to the N. The motte is a flat-topped mound (diam. of top 13m; diam. of base 40m; H 7.5m at S to 10m at SW) with a subrectangular bailey (dims. 34m N–S; 19.5m E–W at N to 10m E–W at S) attached to the S. The bailey is raised 5m over a flat-bottomed fosse (Wth of base c. 3m; ext. D 1.7m). Both are surrounded by an earthen bank (Wth c. 7m; max. ext. H 5m) except at E where there is a natural cliff-edge (Anon. [*Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland*, 7:3] 1897, 271–2). It is planted with deciduous trees.[23]

The Round Hill: Origins

We must relocate to the twelfth century in order to address this question. Lismore was a famous early church establishment dating to at least the seventh century, essentially a large village or small town centred on its main and ancillary churches, inner settlements of clerics, and outer settlements of lay people. The term 'monastery' is not sufficient to describe such an establishment, which would have had schools, hospitals, markets, and industrial areas, inhabited by both laymen and clerics, many of whom would not have been celibates. Modern historians prefer terms like 'major church establishment' or 'monastic town' rather than the inadequate 'monastery' to describe such sites. The physical geography of major early Irish church settlements is well understood. Suffice it to note that Lismore was such an establishment, with literally dozens of churches in its core surrounded by what must have been a small town on the banks of the Blackwater. At its centre lay its sacred precinct at the heart of which must have been its great church. That the present cathedral sites on or very near the site of this ancient great church of Lismore is certain, for churches are one of the few man-made structures that tend to endure on the same site regardless of the vagaries of time. Lismore was a major church with many subsidiary churches and chapels within its sacred precincts, outside of which lay the urban surrounds and lay population. We may take the location of the original main church at Lismore as agreeing with that of the present cathedral, even if most of the evidence for the layout of the early ecclesiastical establishments here is now destroyed due to centuries of warfare.[24]

This is not the place to give a detailed history of the church of Lismore, but certain developments are relevant to the present study. Munster had been divided between two competing kingdoms since 1118, that of Thomond or Limerick, ruled by the O'Briens, and that of Desmond or Cork, ruled by the McCarthys.[25] The border of these ebbed and flowed between both halves. Clare, North Tipperary and much of Limerick always lay in Thomond, while Waterford, Cork and South Kerry always lay in Desmond. All of South Tipperary, parts of Limerick and all of North Kerry lay in the zone of a moving border between both, moving from one to the other at different times. The McCarthys held on doggedly to their ancient centre, Cashel, but were eventually expelled around 1140. The evidence indicates that they moved their headquarters to Lismore, where king Domnall McCarthy had a house, in 1165, and from the hinterland of which (the petty-kingdom of Déisi Mumhan) various McCarthy offensives were launched during the 1140s and 1150s against the O'Briens. There is evidence to suggest that pre-Norman fortifications at Molana on the Blackwater below Cappoquin, built by the McCarthys, were a defence against riverine attacks on Lismore.[26]

Further confirmation of much of this is found in the pattern of Anglo-Norman occupation here from 1185 onwards. We know that in general the Normans adopted pre-existing native Irish borders and boundaries when dividing up their conquests.[27] When parcelling out Munster between his knights Prince John retained in his own hands various territories, including the territory of what had been the native kingdom of Déisi Mumhan. While scholars have traditionally equated this territory with modern Co. Waterford, in fact it also included a significant part of southern Tipperary, running several miles north of the present border. The sources tell us that John built three castles in 1185 in south east Munster, at Lismore, Ardfinnan Co. Tipperary and Tibberaghny, Co. Kilkenny. These three castles protected respectively the western, northern and eastern borders of John's demesne, all lying on or near the borders of what had been Déisi Mumhan.

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21 G.H. Orpen, 'Motes and Norman Castles in Ireland', *The English Historical Review*, 22:87 (1907), 228–54, 440–67, 456–7.

22 T.J. Westropp, 'On Irish motes and early Norman castles', *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland*, Fifth Series, 34:4 (1904), 313–45 at 324.

23 Historic Environment Viewer, monument WA0-022.

24 For a discussion of the nature of early Irish 'monastic' towns see my *Colmán of Cloyne: a study* (Dublin, 2004), pp 76–8, and the references listed therein.

25 For what follows see Paul MacCotter, 'The rise of Meic Carthaig and the political geography of Des Mumu', *Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society*, 111 (2006), 59–76.

26 Ibid., 70.

27 Paul MacCotter, *Medieval Ireland: territorial, political and economic divisions* (Dublin, 2008, rep. 2014), passim.

28 G.H. Orpen (ed. & tr.), *The song of Dermot and the earl* (Oxford, 1892), p. 195.

The evidence for this encastellation process comes from a number of sources. An early and near contemporary poetic account of the Norman conquest of Ireland relates that when King Henry II of England visited Lismore, in 1171, he wished to build a castle there, but the project was postponed.[28] Later, with the publication of his account of the conquest of Ireland, *Expugnatio Hibernica*, Gerald de Barry ('Gerald of Wales'), a Cambro-Norman noble, who had accompanied Prince John to Ireland in 1185, states that John built three castles (*castorum*), at Tibberaghny, Ardfinnan and Lismore.[29] The native annals also speak of John's visit and castle building, but mention only Ardfinnan and Tibberaghny.[30]

It is certain therefore that John built a castle of some kind at Lismore in 1185. It is also probable that the McCarthy kings of Desmond had some kind of castle or fortification at Lismore before John's arrival. We can then add to the picture the existence of an episcopal residence at Lismore in a castle first recorded in 1218. This does not mean that the episcopal castle was built in 1218, and it is certain that this Anglo-Norman bishop's residence succeeded a native Irish bishop's residence at Lismore.[31] Little is known of such bishops' residences at this period but they are usually erected close to the cathedral, and there can be no doubt but that the later episcopal castle here, given its proximity to the cathedral, was built on the site of the present Lismore Castle. It may be that this was built on the site of the earlier McCarthy fortification. When the Normans arrived in Ireland they were not backward in seizing church property for strategic reasons, but in such cases, once the conquest had been completed, the lands were either returned to the Church or the Church was compensated for their loss. Lismore is not found among the many such examples we know of. There is no evidence that John later retained any property or royal demesne in or around Lismore or its hinterland, all of which formed part of the landed possessions of the see of Lismore. It should be noted that these lands must have been inherited from the pre-Norman church of Lismore, and the entire cantred containing these lands, Tarmun, takes its name from the Irish term *tearmann:* church property.[32] Note also that John's chief or demesne castle of his lordship in Co. Waterford was located at Dungarvan, a distance to the south east.

Paul MacCotter

Figure 4 The Round Hill in 2016

Lismore had been plundered by Strongbow as early as 1173 (when he levied one thousand marks from the 'great church' there), and the castle which had a few years earlier been built by John at Lismore was destroyed in 1189, along with the castle of Tibberaghny, also of motte and bailey construction, in a major Irish revolt involving the Uí Fhaeláin kings of Déisi and others.[33] Given its association with Tibberaghny and

[29] A.B. Scott & F.X. Martin (ed. & tr.), *Expugnatio Hibernica: the conquest of Ireland by Giraldus Cambrensis* (Dublin, 1978), pp 232–4.
[30] *Annals of the Four Masters*, *Annals of Loch Cé*, both 1185.6. (I have used the Celt editions, for which visit http://www.ucc.ie/celt/publishd.html).
[31] H.S. Sweetman & G.F. Handcock (ed), *Calendar of documents relating to Ireland* (5 vols, London, 1875–86), i, no. 851.
[32] MacCotter, *Medieval Ireland*, pp 247–8.
[33] *Annals of Inisfallen*, 1173.4, 1189.1, 1189.2, *Miscellaneous Irish Annals (McCarthy's Book)*, 1174.2. For Tibberaghny see Orpen, 'Motes and Norman castles', 252 and Archaeological Survey of Ireland KK038-011.

Ardfinnan, probably also originally a motte and bailey, this castle built by Prince John can only have been the motte and bailey on the Round Hill.

What of the identification of the Round Hill with various early names for Lismore as we have noted above? There is, of course, no evidence whatsoever for this, despite such an assertion being made by various past antiquarians. Once mistakes get into the historical 'system' it is notoriously difficult to remove them. Two places are mentioned as being the original name of Lismore. The first is Mag Sciath, said in one version of the 'life' of Cartach and another of Declan to be the old name of Lismore, while Keating in his seventeenth-century *History of Ireland* names 'Dunsginne' as its old name.[34] Regarding Mag Sciath, such hagiography is likely to have been composed several centuries after the *floruit* or period of the saint in question, and the element 'Mag' of course indicates the name of a territory or plain, a super-denomination, and not a single place. It may well have been the name of the great plain around Lismore as known during the twelfth or thirteenth centuries, when such hagiography was composed. As to 'Dunsginne', Keating was writing a thousand years after the events he was describing, and the name does not appear to be known from any other source. We may also note that the reference in Cartach's life to Mag Sciath goes on to describe Cartach's church of Lismore as a great lios in circular form, a description more fitting to the current cathedral than to Round Hill. It is, of course, perfectly possible that the Anglo-Norman motte and bailey built upon Round Hill replaced an earlier native fortification or dún, for such a practice was common,[35] but this was certainly not the site of the early church and monastery of Lismore. Important early Irish church sites do not move over a mile down river for no apparent reason.

Conclusion

It is certain that the cathedral of Lismore lies on or near the site of the chief church of the monastic town of Lismore. It is also certain that the present Lismore Castle lies on the site of an earlier episcopal castle which is at least as old as 1218. That both sites must have lain within the monastic town is certain. The monastic town of Lios Mór Mochuda lay where the present town of Lismore stands, and did not at any stage contain the Round Hill. The Round Hill is a motte and bailey castle construction built under the orders of Prince John of England in 1185 and which was slighted four years later, permanently losing all strategic importance. The historical record contains no accurate evidence of what may have lain on this site before 1185, if anything, and archaeological investigation is required to answer this question. There is no reliable evidence to connect the Round Hill with any ecclesiastical settlement at any period.

[34] P. Power (ed. & tr.), *Life of St Declan of Ardmore and Life of St Mochuda of Lismore*, ITS 16 (London, 1914), pp 13, 15, 23, 143, 162; Charles Plummer (ed), *Vitae sanctorum Hiberniae* (2 vols, Oxford, 1910, repr. 1968), i, p. 197; ii, pp 37, 39; D. Comyn & P.S. Dineen (ed. & tr.), *The history of Ireland by Geoffrey Keating*, ITS 4, 8–9, 15 (4 vols, London, 1902–14; repr. Dublin, 1987), iii, p. 122.

[35] C. Ó Drisceoil, 'Recycled ringforts and motte castles', *Journal of the County Louth Archaeological and Historical Society*, 25:2 (2002), 189–201.

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'Breaching disciplinary boundaries': Reflections on a half-century of the GSIHS

Introduction

In this era of commemorations, the GSIHS can also celebrate its achievements on the golden jubilee of its foundation in 1969. For a small group with modest resources at a time when access to research sources were limited this is no mean feat. In December 1970 the founder of the Group, Robin Glasscock earnestly hoped that members who joined in 1969 would not be put off by the increase in membership fee to 10s / 50p – hope rewarded by the large attendance at the 50th anniversary conference in the City Assembly House in Dublin on 29th March 2019.

The Group's regional and special thematic conferences over the years have always been rewarding because of their interdisciplinarity – bringing to bear different perspectives and ways of seeing problems, different methodologies, together with the social bonus of meeting members from different backgrounds but with common interests in Irish settlement history. The society's modest title from the outset was sufficiently elastic to accommodate all members' interests though when editor Charlie Doherty was searching for an appropriate Irish version of the Group's name in 2004 he thought the title a bit clunky. *Áitreabh* was eventually agreed as the newsletter's title.

The Ordnance Survey of Ireland: http://geohive.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9de8987708b47f19a8d8b7088a100c4

Figure 1 Rural housing in Gaoth Dobhair

Aims of the Group

The first *Bulletin* (which became the *Newsletter* in 1980s) outlined its mission – to act as a focus for everyone with interests in this field – economic and social historians, archaeologists, geographers, architects, surveyors, planners, schoolteachers, students, and all active members of local historical and archaeological societies. Robin Glasscock, the originator of the Group, was a historical geographer based in QUB: Estyn Evans's base was a congenial location for such an initiative. It was not insignificant that historical geographers (Anngret Simms, Brian Graham among others) were involved in the initial gestation of the Group given that discipline's interests in landscape, environment, and field-based studies, and its porous shifting boundaries reaching into other disciplinary bailiwicks. One could say that the Group's main approach to settlement and landscape has generally adhered to a popular understanding of landscape as the material and visual legacy of the built environment together with its cultural imprint in the landscape.

Landscape change

Significantly, the GSIHS was established at a time when Ireland's settlement landscape was embarking on a period of dynamic change. Up to the mid-60s rural Ireland had been in the doldrums – many Irish villages in the 1950s were despairingly characterised by Robert Lloyd Praeger as 'a dozen inhabited houses, a dozen ruined houses, and half a dozen public houses' – often grey, run-down and dreary. Many countrysides had great swathes of deserted houses, abandoned schoolhouses, churches. My parish in Monaghan contained ruins of houses and outbuildings, deserted flax and corn mills, derelict lanes and rush-infested fields. In the 1980s the Director of the Ordnance Survey's excuse for not updating their maps was that 'not much had changed in the landscape in half a century.'

The later 1960s, however, saw the beginnings of change – epitomised in a spreading rash of new bungalows in Connemara and Gaoth Dobhair (See Figure 1 above),

for example, often cheek-by-jowl with older thatched houses in distinctive farm clusters. The 1963 Local Government (Planning and Development) Act, and the establishment of UCD's School of Planning in 1966 both represented the beginnings of a modicum of regulation of changes in settlement landscapes.

In much of the country Jack Fitzsimon's *Bungalow Bliss* published in 1971 was one driver of change making house designs accessible and affordable to all. 'Bungalisation' of the countryside was what Alan Gailey, director of the Ulster Folk Museum, called it in 1972. In the 1980s Irish Times journalist Frank McDonald in a series entitled 'Bungalow blitz' reported on extreme examples of landscape despoliation throughout rural Ireland (See Figure 2 below).

Figure 2 Ribbon development in Murrisk, Co. Mayo

Early *Bulletins* were marked by concern for conservation, preservation, protection, as well as more accurate and systematic recording and interpretation of sites and landscapes. From the start the Group reached out to the important constituency of local historical societies. Local studies, local history, and local landscapes were and continue to be intellectually at the heart of the Group's philosophy – we understand the world from our local place to a great extent.

Landscape and memory

Ultimately 'Irish historic settlement', however, is not just about bricks and mortar or the material expression of landscape but also more invisible elements like territorial boundaries, territorial allegiances, and placenames, incorporating the stories, and happenings as part of the historical process in the 'making of the landscape' – in the words of Simon Schama, 'the sum of our pasts, generation laid over generation, like the slow mould of the seasons, forms the compost of our future' (*Landscape and Memory*, 574) and well-articulated in the work of Henry Glassie and Estyn Evans. The landscape is the stage on which the story of settlement, belonging, building, claiming / reclaiming, managing and modifying has taken place – all the aspects in settling into the landscape over the centuries. We have inherited the latest rendition of this process (See Figure 3 on page 14).

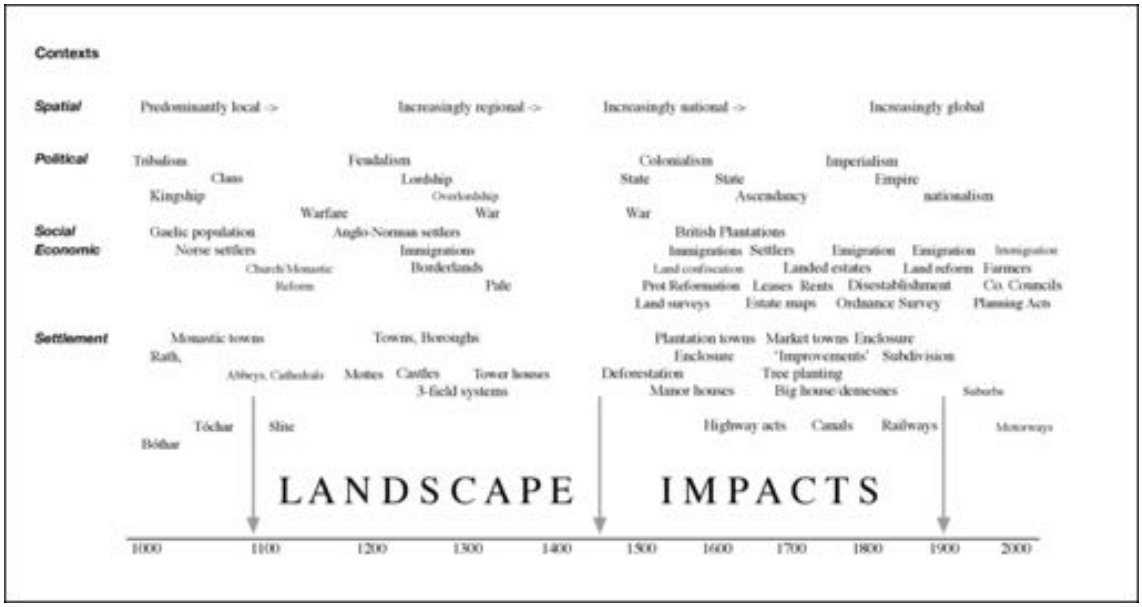
Much of the Group's history and achievements is to be found not only in its range of Special Publications but also in various reflective reports and articles in the *Bulletin*s / *Newsletter*s. Most emphasis from early days was on early historic settlement – as Estyn Evans pointed out in 1977 while Ireland's buildings' heritage cannot be compared in numbers or quality with most European countries (and our experience in Santiago de Compostela in May this year was a reminder of the rich medieval built environment on the European mainland), 'our pre-historic monuments are outstanding by any standards.'

Raising awareness

Issues in the 1970s were preoccupied with concern for recording the protection and conservation of landscape elements, including Gillian Barrett's list of excavated ring forts; Robin Glasscock and T.E. McNeill's draft list of mottes in Ireland; Brian Graham's list of medieval boroughs; Ann Hamlin's details on the preservation and protection of field antiquities in Northern Ireland; C.J. Lynn's invitation to local groups and communities to keep an eye on monuments and sites to accompany a comprehensive list of local societies in 1971. Also included in early issues were short reports on archaeological excavations given the state's slow and ponderous progress in this area: this energetic new group was anxious to get things done more promptly which was a

considerable challenge in those pre-digital days.

Many of our sites and monuments had been rather arbitrarily protected up to the middle of the last century by the stories and traditions circling around them. The power of the priest had an important role frequently, as Liam Price noted in Wicklow in 1929 where a prehistoric mound was removed by a farmer on being told by the priest that 'he might take it down as it was only a pagan who was buried in it'! But with the escalation in development pressures through the 80s and 90s (not to mention the diminishing influence of the priest) much of the Irish *historic* landscape including prehistoric monuments faced unprecedented assaults from Hymacs and Jcbs spawned during the tiger economy years. In 2000 Michael Byrne highlighted the destruction of local monuments and the disjuncture between local communities and national agencies like OPW and National Museum.



Patrick J Duffy, Exploring the history and heritage of Irish landscapes (Dublin, 2007)

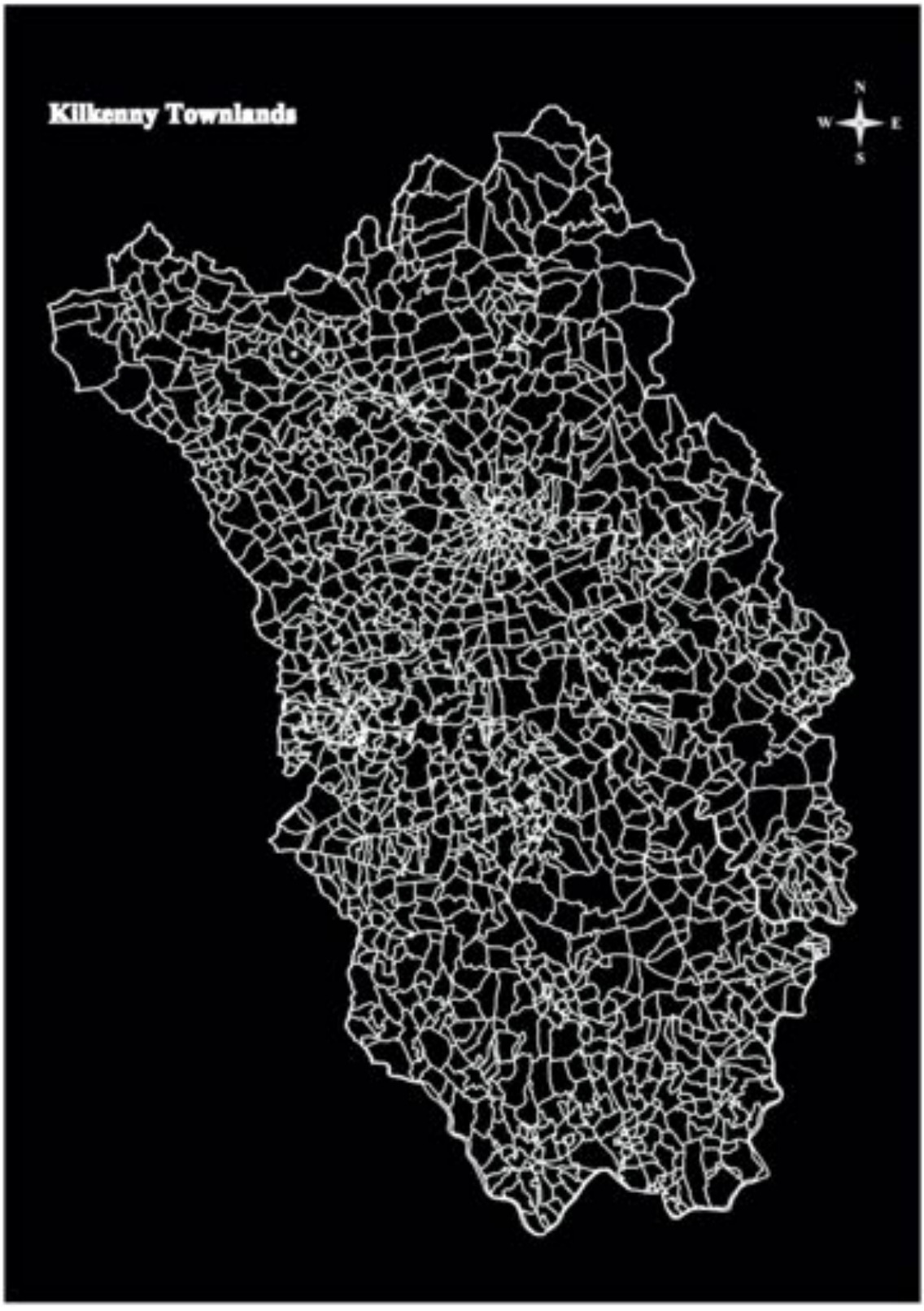
Figure 3

The huge march to save Wood Quay in September 1978 reflected a growing consciousness about Dublin's archaeological and architectural heritage: a few years earlier saw the Hume street sit-in protest to protect its Georgian heritage. Frank McDonald's *Destruction of Dublin* (published in 1985) catalogued the planning and rezoning scandals which underlay much of this destruction. Many of the early founders of the Group took leading roles in the resistance at Wood Quay. These protests eventually led to legislation designed to protect the archaeology and built heritage of the city, and to heritage appointments in Dublin City Council, and research and publication projects by the National Museum of Ireland on Wood Quay.

In many ways this marked the beginnings of a rise in popular interest and support for legislative protection of our heritage in Ireland. Around the same time, for instance, the Carton Committee was conducting a campaign to save Carton House and demesne from a flood of housing estates. Twenty years ago Michael Byrne highlighted an explosion of interest in heritage and history taking place in local communities. In the early 1970s, he said, there was only one booklet for sale on the history of his local town, Tullamore. Now in most of our towns a huge amount of material has been generated for public consumption, a trend that is reflected more generally in the best-selling *Atlas of the Irish rural landscape* and many other publications by Cork University Press, Four Courts Press, Wordwell etc.

From the outset the Group was committed to disseminating information on research publications of interest and relevance to members – initially by Ann Hamlin, Brian Graham and Terry Barry. And for the past twenty years Bernadette Cunningham has been publishing bibliographies and reviews of interest to the Group. She is facing an increasingly challenging task keeping up with the output, which now includes a plethora of websites and other information platforms.

Much has changed in academic disciplines during the past 50 years. Disciplinary boundaries have melded and perhaps geographers, who were pioneers in the formation of GSIHS and its original mission, have lost their focus on what Arnold Horner in 1994 referred to as 'the physical structures, the landscape and the 'feel' of the country' – and now move to more discursive approaches to Ireland's past. One of the criticisms of the Group and settlement studies generally may be their 'insularity' – a consequence of focussing on local place-based studies. That there is a tendency to overemphasise the local and the unique to the exclusion of comparative contexts is a moot point. Perhaps there should be more comparative approaches and analysis – maybe within the British Isles, for example (ironic at a time when Britain is attempting to leave Europe – an ultimate exercise in insularity). There were collaborative attempts at networking during past decades – with Phythian Adams's English Local History in Leicester and Robin Glasscock's Medieval Settlement Research Group. The Group's Special Publications, of course, offer the opportunity for broader comparative studies – and the Irish Historic Towns Atlas project which has been running parallel to the Group over the past decades has been striving to provide contextual and comparative studies of settlements in Ireland, Britain and Europe.



KK townlands based on digital data under license from OSI – MU NCG

Figure 4

What does the future hold for settlement studies?

Historical geographers (as well as local historians) were from an early stage in the 1960s interested in exploiting the rich, mainly nineteenth-century data archive assembled by the United Kingdom as part of its imperial strategy to 'civilise' and 'order' its territories and landscapes – data assembled in comprehensive lists, columns and tables, gazetteers, registries, in valuation books and censuses, and government commissions – a great deal published in blue books and other public records. Many of us have memories of solitary hours poring over dusty tomes in NLI, PRO/NA, Registry of deeds, Valuation Office – totting up, and mapping data. Suddenly (it seems to me now) in the past couple of decades a whole world of knowledge / information / data has come on stream through the internet and the world wide web which was unimaginable in the 1970s. We are in the middle of a significant surge in historical studies

and research based on these newly accessible primary sources – not only in the accessibility of data but new means to analyse and process them. Of interest to settlement historians, much of this data is stored within the territorial parameters of townlands (See Figure 4 on page 15) copiously recorded and mapped from the seventeenth to the nineteenth centuries and now also available in digital searchable formats.

The geometry and geography of the townland network inherited from the Gaelic and Anglo-Norman medieval world of chiefdoms and lordships is more legible now with the ease of access to digital maps. Estyn Evans, T.W. Freeman, Tom Jones Hughes, Desmond McCourt, Ronnie Buchanan and others a lifetime ago worked at unlocking the mysteries of pre-famine rural settlement in Ireland in townland and parish. Their efforts were based on the physical challenge of coping with hundreds of Ordnance Survey map sheets or microfiche / film. Now all these maps are available online and one can browse through the maze of farm clusters and townlands spread across the western counties before the sweeping changes of the famine decade. These maps provide a context for the explosion of tours to the west of Ireland from the 1820s, many of which included artists (and later photographers) who have provided images and insights on the landscapes and settlements recorded in the six-inch maps. The watercolours of William Evans of Eton in the National Gallery of Ireland, for example, provide dramatic documentary evidence on the reality of housing and settlement in the impoverished west of Ireland in the 1830s. Naming the landscape is one of the most enduring features of human settlement in Ireland lasting longer than the more physical elements of the settlement fabric. Tim Robinson, Eamonn Lankford, Nollaig Ó Muraíle, Fiachra Mac Gabhann and others have laboured to recover many of the minor names which pepper the Irish countryside and which were unrecorded by the Ordnance Survey. *Logainm.ie* is a new digital tool which facilitates the assembly and interpretation of field names and other minor names across the country.

We live and move around in a mainly eighteenth-century landscape with elements (such as placenames) from much earlier eras. It reflects the marks of modifications and management by generations manifested in borders and boundaries, fields, drains, hedges and farmsteads, street morphologies, even rooflines and streetscapes. In scale and morphology it might be characterised as a 'slow landscape' inherited from a pedestrian world, where the details of townlands, field boundaries, boreen and road networks are increasingly out of kilter with the faster pace and speed of life. The result is that the intimate texture of settlement landscapes is in grave danger of being lost, edited out and forgotten by the modern custodians of the landscape.

Dr James Lyttleton
(AECOM UK and Ireland)

Richard Boyle's patronage of architecture and building in seventeenth-century Lismore and west Waterford

Introduction

Richard Boyle was one of the foremost landowners in early seventeenth-century Ireland. From the time that he first arrived in Ireland in 1588 as a relatively minor government official till his death in 1643, this planter managed to accumulate one of the largest estates in Ireland. Boyle's lands totalled in excess of 80,000 acres across Munster, Connaught and Leinster, the bulk of which was located in Cos. Cork and Waterford. While much scholarly attention has focused on the rise of the man's political and economic fortunes, there has been no concerted attempt to understand the material environment in which Boyle's myriad ambitions were played out. This was a time when political and social structures were being radically reshaped in the country, which consequently impacted upon the material and cultural behaviour of people – traces of which can be seen in today's landscape.

(James Lyttleton)

Figure 1 The north range of Lismore Castle contains one of the best preserved portions of Boyle's residence.

Given Richard Boyle's myriad activities as a landlord, an archaeological study of his colonial landscape includes a variety of sites and monuments still visible today. This short article will specifically look at the various residences patronised by Boyle in west Waterford, tracing the evidence where available for the layout, form and chronology of these elite buildings. Such information is necessary in understanding architectural development, but it is equally important to follow through with the creation of a narrative that seeks to place these buildings in their cultural and social context.

Coming from a minor gentry family with roots in Kent and Herefordshire, Boyle was keen to establish himself and his family as pre-eminent among the New English community in Ireland. His patronage of buildings bespeaks of a major effort to project power and social standing. The Earl of Cork invested considerable amounts of money, not only in his residences at the College in Youghal and Lismore Castle, but also developed or planned to develop residences for his sons in Broghill (just north of Charleville), Carrigaline, Askeaton, Gill Abbey, Fermoy and Baltinglass. In developing his patrimony, he also helped to fund or directly participate in the rebuilding of properties belonging to sons-in-law – the Earl of Kildare's Maynooth Castle and Viscount Barrymore's Castlelyons in Co. Cork. Boyle also never forgot to maintain links with his native homeland either, buying a number of estates in the English West Country – Stalbridge, Annory, Saltcombe and Temple Combe, all in Dorset, and Marston Bigod in Somerset.

Boyle's main residence in West Waterford – Lismore Castle

While Boyle maintained a significant presence in Youghal, Co. Cork, developing his town residence and gardens, along with other public works expected of a local grandee, such as an almshouse and school, the Earl established his chief residence 30km upriver at Lismore Castle (see figure 1 above). This castle was originally built in 1185, and while destroyed shortly afterwards, was rebuilt and maintained by the bishops of Lismore

throughout the Middle Ages.[1] The castle suffered damage in the Desmond rebellion in 1579, and was granted a number of years later to Sir Walter Raleigh in 1590. Lismore Castle passed into the hands of Boyle in 1603, and underwent refurbishment in the early decades of the seventeenth century. During the troubles of the 1640s, the castle was subject to raids, but was not taken by Confederate forces until 1645, a couple of years after Boyle's death. It was described as being in ruins by the mid 1650s, but was restored by the second Earl of Cork by the end of the seventeenth century. It was neglected throughout the eighteenth century, but saw a new lease of life in 1814 when a descendant of the Boyle family, the 6th Duke of Devonshire rebuilt the castle in a neo-Gothic style with crenellations, machicolations and turrets decorating the roofline.[2]

(James Lyttleton)

Figure 2 The gatehouse in the south wing of Lismore Castle, with a Romanesque door surround. Above the entrance is an armorial plaque carrying the Boyle coat-of-arms and the year 1615.

[1] Michael Moore, *Archaeological inventory of County Waterford* (Dublin, 1999), p. 214.
[2] Moore, *Archaeological inventory of Waterford*, p. 214.

Despite this substantial rebuilding, the plan of Boyle's residence was preserved, consisting of a large courtyard flanked on all sides by accommodation ranges. A plan of the castle drawn *c.*1640, as well as a number of antiquarian drawings made before the rebuilding of 1814, illustrate the ranges with their gabled rooflines, as well as the square towers, defining each corner of this courtyard castle.[3] Judging from the form and mass of these towers in the antiquarian drawings, it appears that they were tower houses, presumably constructed earlier in the fifteenth or sixteenth centuries by the bishops of Lismore. Further architectural details support such a finding: the southeast and northeast towers are each depicted with at least one bartizan projecting from their upper floors, while the battlements over the northeast tower are of late medieval vintage. This would suggest that when Boyle bought the Inchiquin seignory from Raleigh in 1602, he came into the ownership of a large castle complex, with four tower houses defining the corners of a walled ward. Despite substantial remodelling, the present-day towers at the southeast, northeast and northwest corners still appear to contain substantial traces of original wall fabric at various floor levels. This use of a number of tower houses in the one castle complex can be paralleled in Ormond Castle in Carrick-on-Suir in neighbouring Co. Tipperary where two late medieval tower houses share a courtyard with an Elizabethan 'show house'. A useful religious exemplar may also be found at the Augustinian priory in Kells, Co. Kilkenny which possesses an outer ward defended by a number of tower houses. The ample provision of accommodation in such towers at Lismore, surrounded by a walled ward, perched on a defensible height overlooking a fording point across the River Blackwater, was an opportunity not to be wasted by the Earl of Cork. For a new arrival without ties to the land, the appropriation of an older medieval castle dominating the local landscape, resonant with lineage and power, also would have been part of a strategy to develop social standing and pre-eminence among the surrounding population.

One of the best preserved portions of the seventeenth-century house at Lismore is a four storey, two-bay block projecting out from the north range (see figure 1 on page 17). While the crenellated parapet is early nineteenth century in date, the multi-light mullion-and-transomed windows, along with the stringcourses demarcating each of the floor levels, are features typical of elite architecture in the early seventeenth century. The walls still preserve their render, and characteristic of the period, particular attention was paid to the render around the windows and corners, where surrounds in the form of block-and-start as well as quoin stones were made out using finer render.

While much has changed at Lismore Castle, antiquarian drawings again provide information on the castle's external appearance before its neo-Gothic rebuilding in 1814. Projecting out from the exterior west wall of the west range was another block containing a large oriel window on its uppermost floor. The window's mullions and transoms divided it into over twenty separate lights, making this one of the largest windows known in a secular building of this period in Ireland.[4] Given the presence of this window, it is reasonable to suggest that this was where the most prominent room in the Boyle household, the great chamber, was located. The chief function of the great chamber was to provide a more formal dining room for the family and their guests, as well as to cater for other occasions such as the playing of music, dancing, or the displays of drama and masques.[5] The oriel window, with its seating, would have provided extensive views of the Blackwater valley, as well as the landscaped gardens laid out in close vicinity of the residence, including the D-shaped bowling alley, and the enclosed garden feature termed 'the newe wilderness' that were depicted in the plan of Lismore Castle *c.*1640.[6] Given where the great chamber was located, it is likely that the other chief rooms and apartments of the castle were also to be found in the west range. One of these rooms was the hall, and despite being increasingly marginalised since the mid sixteenth century, with the decline of the medieval lordship and its displays of grandiose hospitality, this was the room in which tenants and leaseholders could gather to pay outstanding rents – in April 1638, for example they gathered there to meet agents of Boyle.[7] Boyle also held court in his study – on 23 March 1622 he adjudicated in a case involving the brothers William and Teage McMorris Oge O Hagheren who confessed to attempting to steal hay from one of Boyle's employees, Thomas Rud, a huntsman.[8]

The approach to Lismore Castle

A gatehouse is located off-centre in the south wing of Lismore Castle, close to the southeast corner. It consists of a five storey tower; its exterior appearance largely unaltered. The second, third and fourth floors are each lit by a square-hooded three-light window in the external façade, while the ground floor entrance possesses an early medieval round-arched Romanesque door surround that was reputedly sourced from the churchyard of *Reilig Mhuire*, located just to the south of the castle grounds (though St. Carthage's Cathedral to the east has also been suggested as a place of origin).[9] Characteristic of Romanesque art, the jambs and keystones of this door surround are decorated with roll moulding and chevrons. Remarkably, a wooden door of early seventeenth-century date appears to be in place, a two-

[3] Michael Hunter, *Boyle: between God and science* (New Haven, CT, 2009), p. 16, fig. 5; Engraving after William Pars, 1786, from Milton's *Views of Seats*, Irish Architectural Archive, Co. Waterford, No. 3/22 P 1; Anon., etching entitled 'Salmon fishing. Lismore', Irish Architectural Archive, Co. Waterford, No. 3/22 P 2; Anon., watercolour view of Lismore, late eighteenth century, Irish Architectural Archive, Co. Waterford, No. 3/22, P 3.

[4] Pars, Irish Architectural Archive, Co. Waterford, No. 3/22 P 1; Anon., Irish Architectural Archive, Co. Waterford, No. 3/22, P 2.

[5] Mark Girouard, *Life in the English country house, a social and architectural history* (New Haven & London, 1978), p. 88.

[6] Hunter, *Boyle*, p. 16, fig. 5.

[7] M.W. Thompson, *The medieval hall, the basis of secular domestic life, 600-1600 AD* (Aldershot, 1995), pp 181–2; A.B. Grosart (ed.), *Lismore Papers, 1st series: diaries* (5 vols, privately published, 1886), v, p. 47.

[8] Grosart, *Lismore Papers, 1st series*, ii, p. 39.

[9] Tadhg O'Keeffe, 'Lismore and Cashel: reflections on the beginnings of Romanesque architecture in Munster', *JRSAI*, 124 (1994), 118–52 at 127; Rachel Moss, 'Appropriating the past: Romanesque spolia in seventeenth-century Ireland', *Architectural History*, 51 (2008), 63–86 at 65–6.

panelled door, with the upper and lower metal hinges on both sides extending across the exterior of the door in a manner reminiscent of Jacobean strapwork. A doorknob and latch also survive. Above the doorway is an armorial plaque within a moulded frame, bearing the Boyle coat-of-arms impaled with those of the Fenton family. Underneath the shield is the following inscription: 'God's providence is our inheritance 1615' (see figure 2 on page 18).

The prominent display of the family's lineage over the main entrance into the household, highlights the importance that was placed on contriving approaches to the house that would do most credit to the standing of the Boyle family. A grand avenue, *c.*15m in width, was laid out on a terrace running southwards from this gateway towards an outer gatehouse or barbican 100m to the south. This barbican, known locally as the 'Riding House', was provided with a round arched gateway, flanked by a pair of towers (see figure 3 below). Directly above this gateway is an empty recess that may have held another armorial plaque displaying the family coat-of-arms or alternatively the royal coat-of-arms, displaying to all and sundry the Earl's allegiance to the English crown. The gabled roofs of these towers, with each facade crowned with a gable, is quite similar to the rooflines of the corner towers of the castle before its rebuilding in 1814 judging by antiquarian drawings of the castle.[10] By the standards of the time this was a substantial fore-building, providing quite a number of rooms within. The chambers on the upper floors appear to have been lit by two-light mullioned windows, judging by their modern wooden replacements, though no fireplaces were provided for. There were no windows on the ground floors of the two towers, except for a pair of rectilinear gun loops in each tower covering the avenue towards the town of Lismore. Indeed, below each of the upper windows in the same facade, a small gun loop was provided too.

(James Lyttleton)

Figure 3 The barbican at Lismore Castle, known locally as the 'Riding House'.

The bawn and gardens at Lismore Castle

According to the norms expected of elite housing at the time, the house, gardens and estate were integrated into a larger design that sought to advertise the social, political and economic achievements of the occupant. At Lismore Castle, this was achieved by the laying out of symmetrically designed gardens and terraces, all protected by extensive bawn walls and crenellated turrets. In 1626 this garden was laid out to the immediate south of the castle on an east facing slope. Halfway across the garden on a north-south axis, the slope was scarped to create a terrace. This terrace was revetted with a stone wall and provided with a flight of steps which allowed access between the two halves of the garden. The garden was protected within the confines of a bawn, measuring 150m E-W & 100m N-S in extent. The walls of the bawn (measuring *c.*3.5m in height and 0.75m in thickness) are crenellated with a gun loop placed centrally inside each merlon (see figure 4 on page 21). Access to these gun loops was facilitated by a narrow allure or walkway that ran along the top of the wall. Three circular gun flankers still survive along the perimeter of this bawn – these are to be found at the southwest and northwest corners, as well as midway along the south wall. The *c.*1640 map of Lismore Castle does not give

[10] Pars, Irish Architectural Archive, Co. Waterford, No. 3/22 P 1; Anon., Irish Architectural Archive, Co. Waterford, No. 3/22, P 2.

any detail on this enclosed garden, but some idea of how it would have appeared can be seen in the first edition Ordnance Survey map.[11] This cartographic source, dating to *c.*1840, depicts an arrangement of paths and flowerbeds in the two halves of this garden in a manner very much reminiscent of garden layouts in Jacobean Ireland. The two areas of this walled garden were each traversed by a path down the centre, a cross path and perimeter paths, the latter running close to the bawn walls. The resulting square or rectangular areas created by the layout of these paths were occupied by parterres where a mixture of flowers, shrubs, and topiary were laid out in symmetrical designs that could be best appreciated from the upper rooms of the house or on the walkway of the bawn.

In Ireland, parks and gardens, as much as housing, furnishing, dress and diet, were interpreted as evidence of confessional, ethnic and social loyalties.[12] The gardens in Lismore provided a suitable backdrop to the castle – a physical demonstration of how the Boyle family's status, informed by concepts of civility, gentility and polite behaviour were very much entwined with the agenda of civil and religious reform. The juxtaposition of castle, garden and bawn underpinned in a very real way the success of such an agenda. Here in this constructed environment, social discourses of religious and civil reform, and class identity could be played out. On one occasion in May 1627, the Earl of Cork and his wife held private discussions in their garden at Lismore with Sir Thomas Brown and his wife on the proposed marriage of the latter's son to Barbary Boyle, a niece and god-daughter of Boyle's.[13] The physical surroundings of the garden here provided an appropriate arena for the Earl in which to discuss the personal and financial implications in forging new familial alliances.

(James Lyttleton)

Figure 4 The walls of the bawn built in 1626 at Lismore Castle which surrounded Boyle's designed gardens.

Deerparks at Lismore Castle and Castle Dollard

Besides Lismore Castle, Boyle developed other parts of his country demesne, including the establishment of an extensive deerpark to the southeast of the town. This involved the single enclosure of three townlands – Deerpark East, Deerpark North and Deerparkhill by a roughly coursed stone wall with an average height of 2.4m, amounting to 1177 acres.[14] In March 1624 Boyle contracted with Thomas Allen, Thomas Westcomb and Robert Soden to build a lodge in this deerpark, according to 'a moddule or plott signed between us' for the amount of £150.[15] Besides the timber and stone that he supplied them from his estate, there were 100 barrels of 'colme', half a ton of iron, and 'a fair windoe of hewed free stone that I have at Lismoor', as well as draught animals to allow the carriage of materials like sand.[16] The lodge was duly completed by May in the following year, with the contractors moving on to build

[11] Hunter, *Boyle*, p. 16, fig. 5.
[12] Toby Barnard, *Making the grand figure: lives and possessions in Ireland, 1641–1770* (New Haven, CT, 2004), p. 189.
[13] Grosart, *Lismore Papers, 1st series*, ii, p. 216.
[14] Moore, *Archaeological inventory of County Waterford*, p. 249; Mr Joseph Nunan, pers. comm., 11 Feb. 2014.
[15] Grosart, *Lismore Papers, 1st series*, ii, p. 123.
[16] Grosart, *Lismore Papers, 1st series*, ii, p. 123.

'such another castle' in the townland of Ballyknock, similar in all respects, except that every storey was be one foot higher.[17] There is no surviving trace of this lodge in the deerpark, but another example built by Boyle still stands – a mountain hunting lodge known as Castle Dollard a short distance away in the Comeragh Mountains. It is of triangular plan – an unusual choice for Boyle given that it was also a plan favoured by a prominent recusant in England to represent the Holy Trinity, namely Sir Thomas Tresham's lodge at Rushton in Northamptonshire.[18] An architectural plan from this period (which is a rare find in an Irish context), illustrates a single elevation of Boyle's triangular lodge – a two bay, two storey block, flanked on either side by a circular two storey corner flanker. The windows on each floor were high and narrow, and the corner flankers were further provided with cruciform arrow loops. The roofline of the main block possessed a crenellated parapet, while the flankers were roofed with conical turrets, giving a castellated appearance to the lodge.[19] Castle Dollard has undergone significant restoration in recent years, but a photograph taken of the building in 1968 when it was in a state of dereliction, illustrates a building that had remained unchanged since it was first built (see figure 5 below). The corner flanker at each apex of the triangle still retained a conical roof, while the facades were decorated with external string-coursing, articulating to the outside observer each floor level within as well as the roofline. Such lodges were used to host hunts, as well as to provide more secluded, private space for their owners when the need arose to escape the comings and goings of a large extended household as at Lismore or Youghal. Such settings were not only conducive for leisurely pursuits such as hunts, but also for more pragmatic work: in April 1626 the Earl held a meeting at the Lismore deerpark lodge with the Lord President of Munster, Sir Edward Villiers, where a double match of their children was discussed.[20]

Figure 5 Castle Dollard hunting lodge in 1968 (Courtesy of Joseph Nunan).

17 Grosart, *Lismore Papers, 1st series*, ii, pp 156, 159–60.

18 Mark Girouard, *Elizabethan architecture, its rise and fall, 1540–1640* (New Haven, CT, 2009), pp 233–7.

19 Rolf Loeber, 'The early seventeenth-century Ulster and Midland plantations, Part II: the new architecture' in Olivia Horsfall Turner (ed.), *'The mirror of Great Britain': national identity in seventeenth-century British architecture*, Proceedings of the 2010 Symposium of the Society of Architectural Historians of Great Britain (Reading, 2012), pp 101–38 at p. 113, fig. 4.7. The elevation drawing is housed in the National Library of Ireland, AD3594/12.

20 Girouard, *Life in the English Country House*, pp 106–8; Grosart, *Lismore Papers, 1st series*, ii, p. 182.

Other residences on the Boyle estate in West Waterford

In line with his position as an improving landlord, it appears that Boyle both directly financed and subsidised the construction of a new residence to house his chief leaseholders. In June 1619 he gave Peers Power one ton of iron towards the building of a new residence, Ballygarran Castle, in the townland of Glencairn, Co. Waterford.[21] The Earl also gave one Lieutenant Downying ten bars of cast iron for the windows of his new stone house at Ballysaggart More, Co. Waterford.[22] In May 1627 Andrew Tucker was directed to build another new castle on the south bank of the Blackwater at Ballyduff, Co. Waterford for £152 10s, with all the materials supplied, as well as half a ton of bar iron. According to a 'plott' or plan, it was to be 43 feet in length internally, 25 feet in width and 35 feet in height.[23] Tucker could also have the use of six draught oxen, which were to be returned when the building was finished by the following Christmas Day.[24] Tucker abided by the instructions, given the dimensions of the fortified house that stands at Ballyduff today (see figure 6 below). It is a three storey, double-piled building with a projecting block to the front and rear creating a cruciform plan, a plan shared with a number of other buildings in the region.[25] The use of square hooded windows, external decorative plasterwork in the form of window surrounds and lozenges, external string-coursing demarcating floor levels, and the use of timber partitions, all agree firmly with the documented construction date of 1627 for the house at Ballyduff.

Boyle, like other landlords who carried out improvements, patronised the construction of almshouses and schoolhouses, building such institutions at Youghal in 1615, Bandon in 1621 and Lismore in 1636.[26] The almshouses were to house 'owlde decaied Soldiers & Tradesmen', while the schools were to be provided with lodgings for a schoolmaster and usher. The Bandon almshouse was specified to be provided with six tenements, similar to the earlier almshouse in Youghal.[27] The almshouse in Lismore was probably similar in scale and plan, described by Boyle at its dedication in September 1636 as 'my six Almeshowses'.[28] These buildings in Lismore and Bandon have disappeared, though the almshouse in Youghal with its six tenements still stands today, at the intersection of Church Lane and North Main Street.

Conclusion

Richard Boyle, 1st Earl of Cork, invested considerably in acquiring, building and refurbishing numerous residences. This is not surprising given the vast wealth derived from his extensive estate, making him one of the pre-eminent landowners among the New English community in early seventeenth-century Ireland. All of these buildings in West Waterford, whether standing today or not, were an integral part of a wider estate that spanned numerous counties including neighbouring Co. Cork. This was a colonised landscape – a landscape moulded by peoples with evolving and at times conflicting social and cultural identities. While this paper is largely derived from a reading of the Lismore Papers published and unpublished, further archaeological investigation in the form of building surveys, aerial surveys, geophysical prospection and indeed excavation on the sites mentioned, could help to elucidate further the material 'life-ways', not just of Boyle and his immediate family, but also of the numerous leaseholders, agents, artisans, and farmers who inhabited the same landscape.

(James Lyttleton)

Figure 6 Ballyduff Castle, a fortified house built by Andrew Tucker on behalf of Boyle in 1627.

21 Grosart, *Lismore Papers, 1st series*, ii, p. 101.
22 Grosart, *Lismore Papers, 1st series*, ii, p. 224.
23 Grosart, *Lismore Papers, 1st series*, ii, pp 214–15.
24 Grosart, *Lismore Papers, 1st series*, ii, pp 214–15.
25 Tadhg O'Keeffe, 'A house at the birth of modernity: Ightermurragh Castle, Co. Cork' in James Lyttleton and Colin Rynne (eds), *Plantation Ireland, settlement and material culture, c.1550–c.1700* (Dublin, 2009), pp 86–112 at pp 101–2.
26 Grosart, *Lismore Papers, 1st series*, i, pp 23, 50, 67; iv, pp 7, 207, 216, 224.
27 Grosart, *Lismore Papers, 1st series*, iv, p. 7.
28 Grosart, *Lismore Papers, 1st series*, iv, p. 207.

Notices of recently published books

Bernadette Cunningham

This is a selection of recently published books thought likely to be of interest to readers of *Áitreabh*. Some notices are partly derived from information supplied by the publishers.

The Burren
David Cabot & Roger Goodwillie
(Collins New Naturalist Library, 138)
(London: William Collins, 2018. xiv, 464p. Illus. Pbk. ISBN 9780008183790. £35. Also available in hardback.)

This is an authoritative, scientifically-based natural history of one of Ireland's most distinctive landscapes. In discussing the changing natural environment, the authors trace the varied occupation and land use of the region over thousands of years, down to the modern tourism interest in this ecologically fragile area.

The archaeology of Lough Gur
Rose M. Cleary
(Dublin: Wordwell, 2018. xx, 398p. Illus. Pbk. ISBN 9781999790974. €30)

Lough Gur has one of the richest landscapes of field monuments in Ireland. The area has attracted intensive archaeological research since the late nineteenth century, and many portable antiquities have been recovered from the lake and surrounding countryside. Sean P. Ó Riordáin conducted extensive archaeological excavations in the area between 1936 and 1954. Rose M. Cleary draws together the results of excavations, surveys, aerial photography, geophysical survey, and documentary research. This accessible volume offers a coherent chronology within which to interpret the sites examined, in so far as the evidence permits.

Ballingarry ringfort: a medieval settlement in Co. Limerick: excavations by John Hunt, 1949–51
Gillian McCormack
(Cork: Department of Archaeology, University College Cork, 2018. xvi, 211p. Pbk. ISBN 9781906642969. €30)

Excavations were conducted by John Hunt between 1949 and 1951 on a platform ringfort in Ballingarry townland, Co. Limerick, a site with a long settlement history. This book is derived from the original excavation archive, now in University College Cork. There are traces of circular and rectangular wooden houses, and of farming and craft activities dated between the fifth and eighth centuries. A later phase of Anglo-Norman settlement is also indicated, providing evidence of the continued use of the site well into medieval times when it may have become a manorial residence within Griffin de Rupe's feudal barony. Additional research by the author and other archaeologists helps interpret the wider context of the archaeological evidence.

Lost and found, III: rediscovering more of Ireland's past
Joe Fenwick
(Dublin: Wordwell, 2018. xiii, 413p. Illus. Pbk. ISBN 9781999790936. €30)

Wordwell Press describe this as 'a wonderfully unruly anthology of essays, a wildly exhilarating theme-park of novelty and wonder ... a roller-coaster ride through the fairgrounds of archaeology, Celtic studies, Classical studies, geology, geophysics, history, Irish studies, musicology, and more.' It's a very substantial volume, and since it's the last in the series this one will complete your set.

Four Offaly saints: the lives of Ciarán of Clonmacnoise, Ciarán of Seir, Colmán of Lynally and Fíonán of Kinnitty
Pádraig Ó Riain
(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2018. xvi, 142p. 4 plates. Pbk. ISBN 9781846827044. €14.95)

Clonard, Clonmacnoise, Kinnitty and Seirkieran are ecclesiastical sites of major importance all in the midland county of Offaly. Stories of the saints associated with these sites are preserved in Latin Lives here translated into English. Each Life is accompanied by an introductory essay on the saint, the documentary history of the church with which he was associated, and a discussion of earlier published scholarship on each of the Lives.

Tiarnach of Clones
Seosamh Ó Dufaigh
(Cumann Seanchais Chlochair / Clogher Historical Society, 2018. iii, 241p. Hbk. ISBN (978)0949012750. €25)

This comprehensive study of the patron saint of Clones and his cult is a major contribution to the ecclesiastical history of Clones and the diocese of Clogher. The credibility of the Latin Life of Tiarnach, dated to the twelfth century, is assessed, and the nuances and problems of the sources, both documentary and topographical, are highlighted. The opening chapter on 'The Clones estate' is a townland-by-townland discussion of the significance of local place-names. There is a particularly strong topographical dimension to this study, exploring the saint's associations with various parts of Ireland, particularly Monaghan and Fermanagh, but also Tyrone, Mayo, Laois, Tipperary and Wexford.

Colonising a royal landscape: the history and archaeology of a medieval village at Mullamast, County Kildare
Teresa Bolger
(TII Heritage, 6)
(Dublin: Transport Infrastructure Ireland, 2017. x, 163p. with 1 CD-ROM. Pbk. ISBN 9780993231568. €25)

The excavation of a lost medieval village on the M9 motorway scheme in County Kildare uncovered

evidence for many aspects of medieval Irish life. Cattle, sheep and pigs were reared while arable farming was also important. The distinguishing feature of this settlement is the unusually high proportion of horse remains in the animal bone assemblage recovered by the archaeological excavation. The medieval village of Mullamast was a place where villagers specialised in horses bred for war. It may be the first attested stud farm in the long history of horse breeding in County Kildare.

The Cambridge history of Ireland, volume I. 600–1500
Edited by Brendan Smith
(Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018. xxxv, 648p. Hbk. ISBN 978107110670. £100)

The opening essay by Edel Bhreathnach on 'Communities and their landscapes', Alex Woolf on 'The Scandinavian intervention', Colin Veach on 'Conquest and conquerors', Colmán Ó Clabaigh on 'The Church, 1050–1460', Margaret Murphy on 'The economy', and Rachel Moss on 'Material culture' are among the chapters of particular interest to settlement historians.

Discovery Programme reports, 9: a research miscellany
Edited by Michael Ann Bevivino, Edel Bhreathnach and Linda Shine
(Dublin: Discovery Programme, 2018. xi, 182p. Illus. Pbk. 9781953697335. €30)

This miscellany combines research papers on topics ranging from Iron Age Tara through to the vassal peoples of early Ireland, urban life in medieval Ireland, aspects of nineteenth-century antiquarianism, and modern archaeological research methodologies and policies. This latest volume in the series is also available as a free download from www.discoveryprogramme.ie.

Cultural exchange and identity in late medieval Ireland: the English and Irish of the four obedient shires
Sparky Booker
(Cambridge Studies in Medieval Life and Thought, 4th series)
(Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018. xvi, 298p. Hbk. ISBN 9781107128088. £75)

Cultural interactions between Irish and English neighbours in Dublin, Kildare, Louth and Meath were a two-way process. This study explores the tensions between assimilation and the preservation of distinct ethnic identities, reassessing what it meant to be 'English' or 'Irish' in late medieval Leinster and distinguishing between the pre-Norman Irish in Dublin's hinterland and those Irish who had migrated to the region from other parts of the country.

Tristernagh Priory, County Westmeath: colonial monasticism in medieval Ireland
Tadhg O'Keeffe
(Maynooth Studies in Local History, 137)
(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2018. 70p. Illus. Pbk. ISBN 9781846827281. €9.95)

Drawing on a fourteenth-century register to document the extent of the lands of the priory of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Tristernagh (founded *c.*1200), Tadhg O'Keeffe highlights its role in the Anglo-Norman colonization of Meath. He takes the story through to the eighteenth century when the demolition of the medieval church caused scandal.

Life and death in medieval Gaelic Ireland: the skeletons from Ballyhanna, Co. Donegal
Catriona J. McKenzie & Eileen M. Murphy
(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2018. xxiii, 448p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781846823305. €50)

Radiocarbon dating indicates that the cemetery at Ballyhanna, near Ballyshannon, was in use from the ninth to the seventeenth century. The skeletal remains of 1,300 individuals were analysed and the results reveal a wealth of information concerning their health, diet and lifestyle. The authors explain how the data can provide insights concerning an otherwise largely invisible lower class of medieval Gaelic society.

Medieval Irish pilgrims to Santiago de Compostela
Bernadette Cunningham
(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2018. 207p. Pbk. Illus. ISBN 9781846827297. €19.95)

Stories of men and women who went from Ireland to Santiago de Compostela in the Middle Ages tell of Irish involvement in one of the major pilgrimages of the Christian world. This book examines the influences on and motivations of the pilgrims, as well as the nature of medieval travel, to understand when, why and how pilgrims went to Santiago from Ireland, particularly in the heyday of the pilgrimage from the twelfth to the fifteenth century.

Roscommon history and society: interdisciplinary essays on the history of an Irish county
Edited by Richie Farrell, Kieran O'Conor and Matthew Potter
(Dublin: Geography Publications, 2018. xxxvii, 883p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9780906602881. €60)

Among the 35 essays in this collection those of particular interest to early settlement studies include Noel McCarthy on 'Monuments and mobility in early prehistoric Roscommon', Carleton Jones on the early Bronze age, Niall Brady on early medieval Roscommon, and Kieran O'Conor and Thomas Finan's joint essay on 'Medieval settlement in north Roscommon, *c.*1200AD–*c.*1350AD'. For more modern times, the essays by Patrick Melvin on 'Roscommon estates and landowners: diversity and durability', Ciarán Reilly on the Pakenham Mahon estate, and P.J. Carty on landownership, land occupation and settlement in the nineteenth century will be of particular interest. Finally, Arnold Horner's richly illustrated chapter on mapping Roscommon provides a reliable guide to the county's cartographic history down to the early nineteenth century. Other chapters range across medieval and modern culture, literature, place-names, folklore, famine, warfare, local government, politics, and sport.

Church and settlement in Ireland
Edited by James Lyttleton and Matthew Stout
(Dublin: Four Courts Press in association with the Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement and the American Society of Irish Medieval Studies, 2018.

xxiv, 272p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781846827280. €50)

These essays on aspects of medieval and early modern church and settlement in Ireland combine to present a multi-disciplinary perspective on the evolution of the Irish landscape. Saints' Lives, literary texts, the archaeological and architectural history of monastic and church buildings, oral sources for popular religious practices that impacted on the landscape, documentary and cartographic sources for landholding and place-names are all used. The book has been developed from the papers presented at a joint conference of the Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement and the American Society of Irish Medieval Studies held in Dublin in 2015. Contributors are Gill Boazman, Tracy Collins, David Fleming, Anne-Julie Lafaye, Finbar McCormick, Paul MacCotter, Brian Ó Broin, Tomás Ó Carragáin, Lahney Preston-Matto, James G. Schryver and Geraldine Stout, and there is an introductory essay by the editors James Lyttleton and Matthew Stout.

Religion, landscape and settlement in Ireland, 432–2017
Kevin Whelan
(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2018. xviii, 284p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781846827563. €45)

Surveying the lived experiences of people in their local environments rather than discussing ideas of nationality, identity and belief, this book makes the case for the decisive role played by religion in Irish life. Drawing on a wide range of sources, and making good use of maps and other images, it is likely to appeal to a wide readership.

Becoming and belonging in Ireland, AD c.1200–1600: essays in identity and cultural practice
Edited by Eve Campbell, Elizabeth FitzPatrick and Audrey Horning
(Cork: Cork University Press, 2018. xx, 492p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781782052609. €39)

Material culture, buildings, settlement forms, landscapes, language and politics are all analysed in these essays on the changing identities of the peoples on the island of Ireland in late medieval times. The book evolved from a conference held at the Clinton Centre in Enniskillen in 2013, where contested boundaries and changing group identities were among the topics discussed. Contributors to the book are Audrey Horning, Thomas Finan, Colin Rynne, Tracy Collins, Paul Naessens, Colm J. Donnelly and Eileen M. Murphy, Colin Breen, Kieran O'Conor, Elizabeth FitzPatrick, Mark Gardiner, Susan Flavin, Eve Campbell, Paul Logue, James O'Neill, Patricia Palmer and Brendan Kane. The volume is presented as a development of the ideas in – and as a companion volume to – *Gaelic Ireland, c.1250–1650: land, lordship and settlement*, a highly influential book that was edited by Elizabeth FitzPatrick, P.J. Duffy and David Edwards for the Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement in 2001.

The River Liffey: history and heritage
Christopher Moriarty
(Cork: Collins Press, 2018. 280p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781848893542. €25)

Beginning at the river's source, this scholarly book explains the geology that shapes the river and influences the agriculture and industry of its area. The upland section from Kippure to Ballyward is described, as are the lakelands. Descriptions of the farmlands, parks and gardens in the lowland region of the Liffey are followed by an architectural history of the urban area through which the river flows. Dublin's docklands ancient and modern, with its combination of heavy industry and sand flats, shape the final part of this journey along one of Ireland's major rivers.

The Cambridge history of Ireland, volume II. 1550–1730
Edited by Jane Ohlmeyer
(Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018. xix, 787p. Hbk. ISBN 978107117631. £100)

Jane Fenlon on 'Irish art and architecture, 1550–1730', William O'Reilly on 'Ireland in the Atlantic world: migration and cultural transfer', Annaleigh Margey on 'Plantations, 1550–1641', Micheál Ó Siochrú and David Brown on 'The Down Survey and the Cromwellian land settlement', and Francis Ludlow and Arlene Crampsie on 'Environmental history of Ireland, 1550–1730', will have special relevance for historians of Irish historic settlement.

The chief Butlers of Ireland and the House of Ormond: an illustrated genealogical guide
Edited by John Kirwan [with an essay by Ben Murtagh]
(Newbridge: Irish Academic Press, 2018. xxxviii, 381p. Hbk. ISBN 9781911024040. €50)

Ben Murtagh's essay on 'Kilkenny castle: an outline of its history, architecture and archaeology' includes a summary analysis of the findings of archaeological research at Kilkenny castle. The earlier part of the book had a predominantly genealogical focus.

Walter Devereux, first earl of Essex, and the colonization of north-east Ulster, c.1573–6
David Heffernan
(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2018. 192p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781846827341. €60)

Essex's Ulster 'enterprise' in the 1570s is a useful case study of the nature and limitations of Tudor government in Ireland. This ambitious earl from Carmarthen in south-west Wales failed miserably in his attempt to introduce settlers loyal to the crown to replace the local elite in an area of about 3,000 square kilometres in north-east Ulster. Neither Devereux nor his superiors in the royal administration had much idea of the resources in men and money that would be required to achieve the objective and the enterprise was abandoned within three years. The book is based primarily on documentary evidence preserved in the State Papers Ireland series at Kew.

The 'Mere Irish' and the colonisation of Ulster, 1570–1641
Gerard Farrell
(Cambridge Imperial and Post-Colonial Studies)
(Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017. xx, 331p. Hbk. ISBN 9783319593623. €93 approx.)

Pitched as a contribution to Atlantic history and colonial studies, this book explores the native Irish experience of colonisation in early seventeenth-century Ulster. Farrell's Marxist-inspired work argues that plantation Ulster did not see any significant attempt to transform the Irish culturally or economically in these years, notwithstanding the rhetoric of a 'civilising mission'.

The colonial world of Richard Boyle, first earl of Cork
Edited by David Edwards & Colin Rynne
(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2018. 270p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781846826894. €50)

Richard Boyle, first earl of Cork's extensive Munster estates and wider interests are examined in the 13 essays in this collection. David Heffernan studies the plantation model applied by Richard Boyle on his Munster estates from 1602 to his death in 1643. Colin Rynne analyses the economic and industrial infrastructure of Boyle's estates; James Lyttleton looks at Boyle's patronage of elite architecture; Kenneth Nicholls examines the technicalities of Boyle's land acquisitions in Carbery, west Cork. Other essays range across diverse topics including metallurgical enterprises, military endeavours and the material world of luxury goods.

Mapping Laois from the 16th to the 21st century
Arnold Horner
(Dublin: Wordwell, with Laois County Council, 2018. xi, 376p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781999790967. €30)

With a map record that stretches back more than 450 years, County Laois has a distinguished place in the history of cartography in Ireland. This book surveys the local cartographic evidence, from the first map of *c.*1560 covering the eastern part of the county, through to the present century. The author draws attention to the extent, variety and interest of the maps made through centuries of transformation, as far-reaching changes in landownership and settlement were accompanied by significant environmental modifications.

Making majesty: the throne room at Dublin Castle: a cultural history
Edited by Myles Campbell & William Derham
(Newbridge: Irish Academic Press, 2018. xxix, 343p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781911024736, €55; Pbk. 9781911024729, €29.99)

These essays by Irish art and architectural historians cover a broad range of perspectives to enhance our understanding of this lavish and highly significant historical space. The contributors examine the material evidence for how Dublin Castle's authorities wished to be perceived and how that changed according to the whims of imperious viceroys, renowned craftsmen, and an Irish state wishing to enshrine its sense of self-determination within this complex public building.

Exiles in a global city: the Irish and early modern Rome, 1609–1783
Clare Lois Carroll
(Leiden: Brill, 2018. x, 342p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9789004335165. €149)

Clare Carroll explores Irish migrant experiences in early modern Rome (1609–1783) and interprets representations of their cultural identities in relation to their interaction with world-wide Spanish and Roman institutions. The book draws on sources such as Tadhg Ó Cianáin's account of O'Neill's progress from Ireland to Rome, Luke Wadding's history of the Franciscan order, the portraits in the refectory at the Franciscan college of St Isidore, the first printed Irish grammar, the letters of Oliver Plunkett, the records of a hospice for converts, Charles Wogan's memoir, and reports on the national college, to help elucidate emerging senses of an Irish nation.

Waterford merchants and their families on distant shores: trading in Spain and France from 1600 to 1800
Liam Murphy
(Dublin: Kingdom Books, 2018. 288p. 2 plates. Hbk. ISBN 9781916476400. €25)

Waterford merchants who made their homes in Atlantic Europe in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries were particularly successful in Cadiz, Tenerife, St Malo and Nantes. This book examines the careers of Irish merchants in these places in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and also looks at the lives of their descendants.

Catholic survival in Protestant Ireland, 1660–1711: Colonel John Browne, landownership and the Articles of Limerick
Eoin Kinsella
(Irish Historical Monographs)
(Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2018. xvi, 324p. Hbk. ISBN 9781783273164. £75)

Westport's Colonel John Browne provides a useful example of a Catholic landowner who fared reasonably well in the later seventeenth century, as evidenced by the impressive house he built in the town. His skills as a lawyer, his successes and failures in estate management, and his unwise entrepreneurial ventures are all considered here. The enormous estates he amassed in the west of Ireland – more than 155,000 acres – in the years after 1660 were difficult to manage and largely unprofitable, and rental income was insufficient to fund his enterprises. Despite his indebtedness he opted to remain in Ireland rather than follow many of his Catholic contemporaries into exile.

Popular protest and policing in Ascendancy Ireland, 1691–1761
Timothy D. Watt
(Irish Historical Monographs)
(Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2018. xiv, 260p. Hbk. ISBN 9781783273126. £65

The causes and social consequences of large-scale disorder, arising from popular protest, are the central themes of this book. The social impact of law enforcement agencies – the standing army, the local militia and other less formal local entities – is examined. It emerges that, in a catch-22 situation, the taxes collected to pay for the army were a major catalyst for popular protest. Changes in the way land was being utilised, threatening local livelihoods and customary practices, further

nurtured a sense of injustice, and contributed to widespread social unrest in the eighteenth century. Watt concludes that 'popular protest against taxation was a permanent feature of social relations in city and country from the 1720s onwards'. (p. 208)

The Cambridge history of Ireland, volume III. 1730–1880
Edited by James Kelly
(Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018. xxiv, 851p. Hbk. ISBN 978107115200. £100)

Chapters by David Dickson on 'Society and economy in the long eighteenth century', Andy Bielenberg on 'The Irish economy, 1815–1880: agricultural transition, the communications revolution and the limits of industrialisation', Brian Gurrin on 'Population and emigration, 1730–1845', and Christine Casey on 'Art and architecture in the long eighteenth century', will be of particular interest to readers of *Áitreabh*, while the various forms of migration discussed in essays in part 4 of this volume – on the Irish abroad – and part 5 – on the Famine and its aftermath – also influenced Irish settlement patterns into the modern era.

Exhibiting art in Georgian Ireland: the Society of Artists' exhibitions recreated
Edited by David Fleming, Ruth Kenny, William Laffan
(Dublin: Irish Georgian Society, 2018. 248p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9780954569174. €25)

Designed to accompany an exhibition of some 90 paintings, this beautifully illustrated book explores the art of the master artists of Georgian Ireland, including Thomas Roberts, William Ashford, Hugh Douglas Hamilton and Robert Healy. The exhibition venue was the headquarters of the Irish Georgian Society in Dublin's South William Street, long known as the City Assembly House, and recently restored by the Irish Georgian Society, preserving a valuable public building from the Georgian era for future generations.

Vain transitory splendours: the Irish country house and the art of John Nankivell
Kevin V. Mulligan
(Dublin: Irish Georgian Society, 2018. 179p. Illus. Pbk. ISBN 9780954569181. €25)

John Nankivell explored Ireland's Georgian houses in the 1970s and 1980s, and his accomplished drawings preserve architectural details of buildings that have since been destroyed. The drawings reproduced in this volume are accompanied by commentary by Kevin V. Mulligan, discussing the mindset that led to the disappearance of so many significant structures from the Irish landscape.

Gate lodges of Munster: a gazetteer
J.A.K. Dean
(Dublin: Wordwell 2018. x, 279p. Illus. ISBN 9780993351853. €30)

Gatekeeper's lodges often displayed a level of architectural sophistication to rival the 'big houses' with which they were associated. Based on thorough field surveys and research, the author has previously published his study of Leinster lodges, and this volume on Munster follows the same format. The illustrated gazetteer contains descriptions of 2,775 gate lodges in Munster, with information about the architect, the date of construction, and current condition of each building. The book opens with an extended essay on the history of gate lodges in Munster.

Women and the country house in Ireland and Britain
Edited by Terence Dooley, Maeve O'Riordan & Christopher Ridgway
(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2018. 296p. Illus. Pbk. ISBN 9781846826474. €29.95)

Architectural endeavours, political activism, literature, and personal and familial relationships are among the topics explored in this collection of essays drawing on a range of little-known family archives as well as more conventional archival collections.

Irish reading societies and circulating libraries founded before 1825: useful knowledge and agreeable entertainment
K.A. Manley
(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2018. 248p. Hbk. ISBN 9781846827174. €65)

Rural workers' reading societies in Ulster and urban middle-class private subscription libraries in cities and towns existed in eighteenth-century Ireland to facilitate a sharing of knowledge. Much of the reading material familiar in the eighteenth century was ephemeral and no longer survives but this thorough study of reading societies and circulating libraries provides fascinating glimpses of the reading materials to which people had access. The gazetteer of pre-1825 reading societies and circulating libraries offers a new way of understanding how settlement patterns intersect with the mechanisms for the dissemination of knowledge.

Ballintober old graveyard and the grave memorials of Co. Roscommon
Mary B. Timoney
(Roscommon: Roscommon County Council, 2018. 528p. Illus. maps. Hbk. ISBN 9780857580060. €40)

This large-format illustrated catalogue is an important research resource in many contexts. For example, it traces the pattern of distribution of different monument designs, and thus tracks the movement of stone workers. Mary Timoney suggests this may help identify the builders of many of Roscommon's large and medium-sized houses and other structures. The richness of the memorials in this cemetery, from the seventeenth to the nineteenth century, are an indication of the importance of the O'Conor family while they also provide visual evidence of the public assertion of Catholicism in the eighteenth century.

Thomas Bermingham: nineteenth-century land agent and 'improver'
Cathal Smith
(Maynooth Studies in Local History, 138)
(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2018. 63p. Pbk. ISBN 9781846827294. €9.95)

Estate management on the extensive Clonbrock estates in east Galway and Roscommon between 1827

and 1843 is examined through the fascinating and varied career of Thomas Bermingham, a professional land agent. The book describes and evaluates his efforts to modernise the estates and to promote Irish agricultural and infrastructural improvement.

The Great Famine in Kinsale
Catherine Flanagan
(Maynooth Studies in Local History, 134)
(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2018. 75p. Pbk. ISBN 9781846827235. €9.95)

Poverty as a catalyst for the worst effects of the Famine on a local community in County Cork is the theme of this study of Kinsale and its workhouse in the late 1840s.

Urban spaces in nineteenth-century Ireland
Edited by Georgina Laragy, Olwen Purdue & Jonathan Jeffrey Wright
(Society for the Study of Nineteenth-Century Ireland)
(Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 2018. ix, 212p. Hbk. ISBN 9781786941527. £75)

Adopting a spatial approach, these essays move beyond the study of events and people's lives to explore the ways in which particular urban spaces were constructed and experienced. Case studies examine a range of urban spaces, from individual streets and districts, to schools, asylums and entire cities. The book highlights both the potential of spatial analysis for the study of the urban past and the multifaceted nature of the Irish urban experience.

Fleeing from Famine in Connemara: James Hack Tuke and his assisted emigration scheme in the 1880s
Gerard Moran
(Maynooth Studies in Local History, 135)
(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2018. 63 p. Pbk. ISBN 9781846827211. €9.95)

Between 1882 and 1884, James Hack Tuke (1819–1896), a Quaker, assisted nearly 5,000 destitute people from Connemara to migrate to North America. He envisaged that migration to the United States and Canada would save people from extreme poverty and starvation, and believed that the circumstances of those who stayed at home would also improve since a smaller population would lead to the formation of more viable farms.

The Cambridge history of Ireland, volume IV. 1880 to the present
Edited by Thomas Bartlett
(Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018. xxxvii, 967p. Hbk. ISBN 978107113541. £100)

Terence Dooley on 'Irish land questions, 1879–1923', Caitriona Clear on 'Social conditions in Ireland, 1880–1914', Mary E. Daly on 'Migration since 1914', and Paula Murphy on 'Art and architecture in Ireland, 1880–2016', are among the essays in this volume that address topics relevant to Irish settlement history.

The Irish garden: a cultural history
By Peter Dale, with illustrations by Brian Lalor
(Dublin: History Press Ireland, 2018. 384p. illus. Hbk. ISBN 9780750988094. €25)

Climate, clay and culture all combine to determine the nature of formal gardens in Ireland. These case studies of some of Ireland's best-known gardens range from the eighteenth century to the present. The author considers how Irish gardens can reflect historical and cultural, political and social events and values.

The quest for the Irish Celt: the Harvard archaeological mission to Ireland, 1932–1936
Mairéad Carew
(Newbridge: Irish Academic Press, 2018. ix, 316p. Hbk. 9781788550093. €24.95)

A five-year archaeological research programme in the 1930s sought to determine the racial and cultural heritage of the Irish people. It involved the excavation and study of prehistoric skulls, to facilitate comparison with the physical characteristics of living people. The project was managed by Harvard anthropologist Earnest Hooton, and advised by Adolf Mahr then director of the National Museum of Ireland. The theoretical basis of the 1930s research project would now be readily condemned as racist.

White elephants: the country house and the state
Emer Crooke
(Dublin: University College Dublin Press, 2018. xxii, 263p. 8 plates. Hbk. ISBN 9781910820285 €40)

The fledging government of the Irish Free State was unwilling to accept the burdensome gifts of some large country houses at a time in the 1920s when much of the population lived in poverty. Analysing previously unused official records from the Department of the Taoiseach and Department of Finance, this book illustrates the complex attitudes of politicians and the crucial role of senior civil servants in determining the fates of some of Ireland's 'white elephants'. The actions of the Office of Public Works and the Land Commission are analysed, and the effects of land division and the alienation of the Anglo-Irish class are also considered. Case studies of significant Irish houses including Bishopscourt, Derrynane, Dunsandle, Hazelwood, Killarney, Muckross and Russborough are used to track the development of the Irish country house from liability to heritage site in the course of the twentieth century.

Salthill: a history (part 1)
Paul Mc Ginley
(Dublin: Carrowmore Publishing, 2018. 384p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781999991524. €30)

This is a comprehensive local study of Salthill, a suburb of Galway which evolved from a small village into a major seaside holiday resort during the nineteenth century. The story of the fishing village, the development of tourist attractions and accommodation, the clearance and redevelopment of many properties, and the influence of the largest property owners, are among the many topics analysed in this well-researched urban history.

Cork in 50 buildings
Kieran McCarthy
(Stroud: Amberley, 2018. 96p. Illus. Pbk. ISBN 9781445683850. £14.99)

Photographs and archival maps depicting the most significant architectural structures in Cork city are drawn together in this nicely-illustrated volume, with accompanying text. The aim of the book is to promote awareness of the city's built heritage and to encourage new ways of celebrating and managing it.

Dublin then and now
Lisa Marie Griffith
(London: Pavilion, 2018. 144p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781910904848. £14.99)

Part of an international series on major cities, this well-planned and informative book contains old and new photographs of well-known places in Dublin city. The historic photographs are from the collections of the National Library of Ireland and Dublin City Library and Archives. New photographs of the same places from the same standpoint are published alongside those from about a century ago. The book depicts a changing city showing developments in transport, industrialisation and commercial modernisation. It also reveals a remarkable level of continuity within the urban streetscape.

Stacking the coffins: influenza, war and revolution in Ireland, 1918–19
Ida Milne
(Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2018. xi, 263p. Hbk. ISBN 9781526122698. £25)

One fifth of the population of Ireland became infected with influenza in the winter of 1918–19, and the death-toll of about 20,000 exceeded that of the 1832 cholera outbreak. This book examines the social, medical, and political contexts of the 'Spanish flu' epidemic and its disastrous impact in Ireland. Interviews with survivors highlight individual experiences and are a reminder of how long the story has lived on in local memory. Ida Milne compares her findings with official and personal responses to other epidemics worldwide, showing that the social, political and medical responses to the Irish epidemic of 1918 have interesting parallels elsewhere.

On the edge: Ireland's off-shore islands: a modern history
Diarmaid Ferriter
(London: Profile Books, 2018. x, 372p. Hbk. ISBN 9781781256435. £25)

In 1841 there were 211 inhabited islands in Ireland with a total population of 38,000. By 2011 only 64 of those islands were still inhabited and their combined population had dropped to just 8,500. This study of the realities of life on off-shore islands explores the reasons for the continuing movement of people away from the islands around the Irish coast. A story of hardship, poverty and political hostility is juxtaposed with the reputation of island communities as rich repositories of cultural heritage.

Deserted schoolhouses of Ireland
Enda O'Flaherty
(Cork: Collins Press, 2018. x, 206p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781848893511. €24.95)

Rural schoolhouses that were once pivotal to their local communities but now lie in ruins are a common feature of the Irish landscape, especially in areas of rural population decline. This book uses photographs and oral histories to recover something of the impact those schools once had in their communities, reflecting on what they tell us of changing patterns of living.

Ambition and achievement: the civic visions of Frank Gibney
Fergal MacCabe
(Sandycove: Castles in the Air, 2018. 175p. Illus. maps. ISBN 9781527218765. €40)

Reflecting on the contribution of Frank Gibney (1905–1978) to city planning and civic improvement in twentieth-century Ireland, this book offers a fresh perspective on the evolution of Ireland's urban landscapes in the mid-twentieth century.

More than concrete blocks, Volume 2, 1940–72: Dublin city's twentieth-century buildings and their stories
Edited by Ellen Rowley
(Dublin: Dublin City Council, 2018. 477p. Illus. Pbk. ISBN 9781902703459. €24.95)

This book links Dublin's buildings with the city's social, economic, political and cultural histories. Through a series of 32 case studies it describes the growth of the city and the architectural framing of its social infrastructure during the middle decades of the twentieth century. This is the second in a series of three books commissioned by Dublin City Council's heritage officer on the history of Dublin's twentieth-century architecture.

Notices of sources and guides to sources
Bernadette Cunningham

Calendar of Papal Letters relating to Great Britain and Ireland. Volume XXIII, part 1, 1523–1534: Clement VII
Edited for publication by Alan Macquarrie
(Dublin: Irish Manuscripts Commission, 2018. xxviii, 658p. Hbk. ISBN 9781906865689. €65)

This volume of papal letters covers the early Lateran Registers for the pontificate of Clement VII, and contains much topographical, political and biographical information about the churches in Great Britain and Ireland on the eve of the Reformation.

Researching Scots-Irish ancestors: the essential genealogical guide to early modern Ulster, 1600–1800
William J. Roulston
(Belfast: Ulster Historical Foundation, 2018. 2nd edition. xxxiii, 606p. Pbk. ISBN 9781909556669. £19.99)

This greatly expanded guide (original edition 2005) begins with a brief history of urban and rural settlement in early modern Ulster. Subsequent chapters deal systematically with church records; gravestone inscriptions; seventeenth-century records relating to settlement; eighteenth-century records relating to settlement; landed estate records; the Registry of Deeds; wills and testamentary papers; records relating to government and the legal system; parliamentary election records; military records; newspapers and books as genealogical sources; education, charity and hospital records. Among the new categories of sources discussed in this second edition are those relating to emigration from Ulster; businesses and occupations; organisations, clubs and societies; and finally, diaries and memoirs.

Plantations in Ulster, 1600–41: a collection of documents
Edited by R.J. Hunter. New edition prepared by Ian Montgomery and William Roulston
(Belfast: Public Record Office of Northern Ireland and Ulster Historical Foundation, 2018. 96p. illus. Pbk. ISBN 9781909556614. No price given. But may be had for one penny plus post and packaging – see http://www.booksireland.org.uk/store/all-departments/plantations-in-ulster-documents)

This selection of documents, drawn from a range of different archives, reveals the perspective of the Dublin and London governments directly involved with devising the plantation of Ulster. Each document is preceded by a short contextual essay. Additional documents selected by the editors for this new edition broaden the scope of the collection. The colour illustrations allow the reader direct access to many of the documents, making it a very attractive volume and a useful teaching resource.

The letters of Katherine Conolly, 1707–1747
Edited by Marie-Louise Jennings & Gabrielle M. Ashford
(Dublin: Irish Manuscripts Commission, 2018. xxx, 324p. Hbk. ISBN 9781906865641. €35)

Katherine Conolly (née Conyngham) (1662–1752), lived at Castletown house as the wife of William Conolly, a leading and wealthy Irish politician. She maintained a wide and lively correspondence and her surviving letters reveal much detail on family and daily life on the Castletown estate, and among the wider Conolly circle in the first half of the eighteenth century.

More maps & texts: sources and the Irish Historic Towns Atlas
Edited by Howard B. Clarke & Sarah Gearty
(Dublin: Royal Irish Academy, 2018. xxi, 348p. Illus. Pbk. ISBN 9781908997739. €30)

This volume provides source-based comparisons of selected towns in the IHTA series to explore what is unique about urban places and what is generic, how various elements interacted and changed over time and why that might be so. It tries to broaden the ways in which the published fascicles of the Irish Historic Towns Atlas might be used, to consider morphology as a social process in the making of urban Ireland. A wide variety of case-studies is included, with five essays on monastic proto-towns and Viking towns; seven essays on Anglo-Norman, Gaelicised and plantation towns; and six essays on Georgian and Victorian towns. The opening essay by Howard B. Clarke and Sarah Gearty reviews the range of primary sources that can be utilised by researchers exploring the local geography and history of Irish towns.

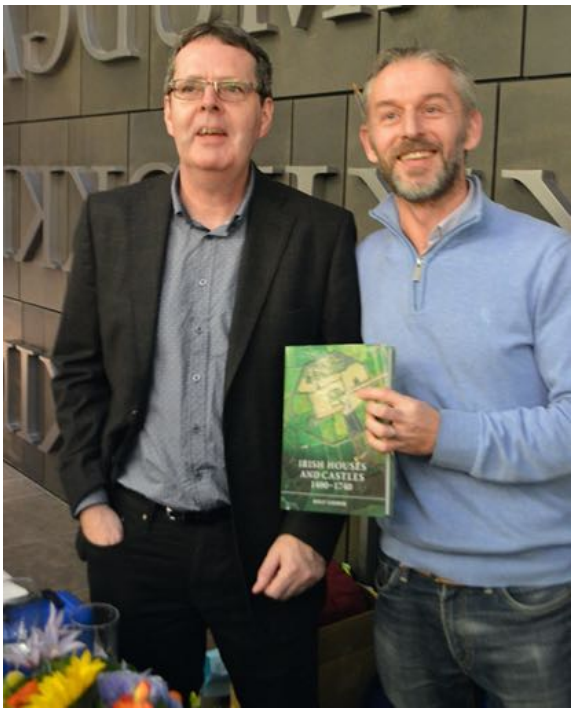
The archives of the valuation of Ireland, 1830–1865
Frances McGee
(Maynooth Research Guides for Irish Local History)
(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2018. 233p. Pbk. ISBN 9781846821363. €19.95)

Between 1830 and 1864 every piece of property in Ireland was valued, from the smallest houses and plots of land to the great landed estates. The project created a large volume of documentation recording the occupiers of land and houses as well as details of the location, extent and quality of their property. The valuation archives date from a period when few sources cover the whole country at all social and economic levels. This is an invaluable guide for researchers interested in using these complex but highly informative documents in either socio-economic studies, landscape and settlement studies, or family history.

Magda Loeber, Geraldine Stout, Patty Barnett

Michael Byrne and Harman Murtagh

Magda Stouthammer Loeber, Anngret Simms



Martin Healy and Anthony Tierney of Four Courts Press

Kevin Wheelan

Matthew Stout

2019 Launch of Rolf Loeber, *Irish houses and castles 1400–1740*: Photographs courtesy of Eimear Clowry and Michael Byrne

This book notice should really belong to next year's Newsletter. The 2019 Newsletter could not be distributed in May since the Group Conference was held in Santiago de Compostela. It was decided to distribute it in the autumn and this allowed for the inclusion of Rolf's book launch before going to print.

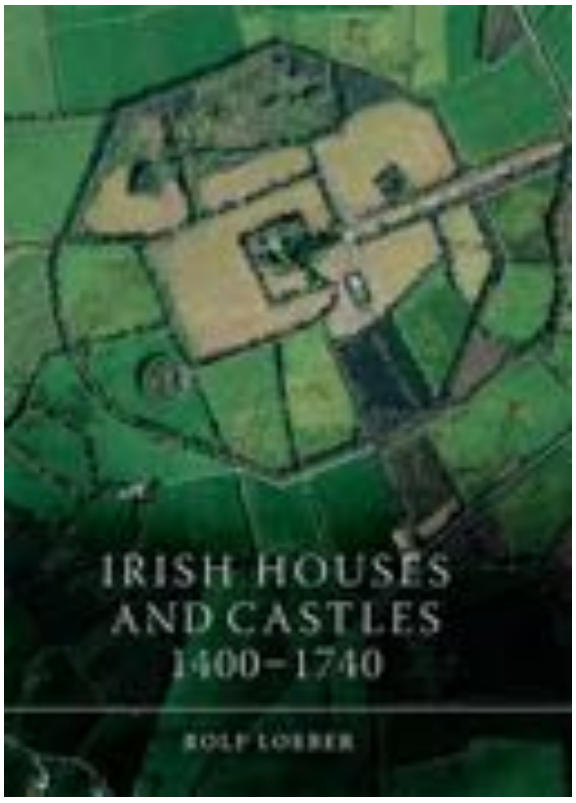
Book Notice

Irish houses and castles 1400–1740

Rolf Loeber [Edited by Kevin Whelan and Matthew Stout]

(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2019. 331pp, ills. large format. Hbk. ISBN 978-1-84682-820-1)

When Rolf Loeber passed away in the autumn of 2017, the Group for the Study of Irish Historic settlement lost a loyal friend and one of the Group's key contributors. Rolf participated in many of our meetings. As far back as 1993, at the annual conference in Birr, he spoke and led the Saturday afternoon field trip. In 2017, almost a quarter of a century later, Rolf and Magda Stouthamer-Loeber spoke about Mary Leadbeater to the conference on southern Kildare and they both led the group around the historic Quaker village of Ballitore. This was, sadly, one of Rolf's final public lectures on Irish settlement. Professor Loeber was also the author of the Group's third monograph, *The geography and practice of English colonisation in Ireland from 1534 to 1609* (Belfast, 1991). My brief summary of his engagement with Irish settlement only scratches the surface and it says nothing of the sheer joy it was to be in his company at our many conferences.



Four Courts Press

As a small token of our great friendship with Rolf Loeber, Kevin Whelan and I have edited a volume of his most substantial publications on Irish settlement and architecture. Included in this work is a new edition of the monograph he wrote for the GSIHS in 1993. Read together, the six chapters in *Irish houses and castles 1400–1740* become a coherent and fresh survey of the theme and the period, marked by Rolf 's trademark archival depth and ability to bring together architectural and cultural history in a rewarding way. In the words of one of this volume's early readers: 'it leaves one gasping at how such detail was so comprehensively contextualised'.

The book reveals Loeber's grand research design for understanding settlement and its consequent landscape and architectural legacy. The book begins with a ground-breaking survey of Gaelic towerhouses, a neglected subject prior to the publication of this study. The geography and practice of the early Plantations becomes the basis for the second chapter and brings the study of landscape and architecture into the seventeenth century. The architecture of Plantation-era Ireland is the focus of chapter three, followed by two chapters on the architectural heritage from the Restoration up to the Battle of the Boyne. The book concludes with a study of Irish country houses in the early Georgian period. Overall, the book presents a coherent and comprehensive study of landscape and architecture from 1400 to 1740.

This publication features one hundred maps, plans, illustrations and tables. Re-compiling these presented one of the challenges in the preparation of this new book, as did the scanning, correcting and re-editing of the text, some of which was published before the advent of computer word processing. For example, the cartographic challenge included the translation of the large format fold-out maps included as an insert at the end of *Geography and practice*. To capture all the information contained on those large-scale maps, a series of seven new maps were drawn and a lengthy table was compiled. The textual challenge included the reformatting of over one thousand footnotes to conform to the Four Courts Press house style and the reuniting of those footnotes with its automatic footnote marker. All this was done in advance of a forensic re-editing by the staff of Four Courts Press. The end result is a uniformity of presentation and high production standards typical of FCP. This brings new life to articles written as far back as 1973, often out of print or difficult to access. The content of the chapters remain inviolate, and this was the chief goal of the editors and publishers; to bring Rolf's work to the attention a new generation of scholars. The 317 page hardback book, which sells for €55, can be purchased directly from the publishers (https://www.fourcourtspress.ie) at the discounted price of €49.50.

Matthew Stout
DCU

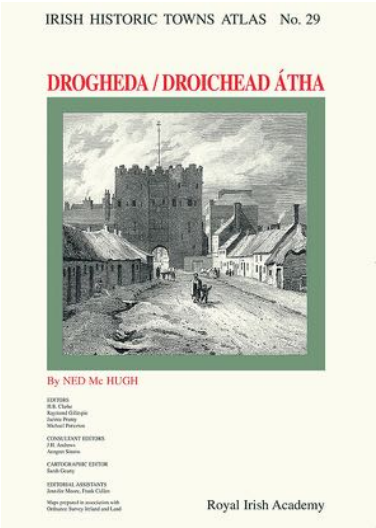
Extract from Robert Newcomen's map of the 'Town and county of the town of Drogheda', 1657 (reproduced courtesy of Louth County Council).

News from the Irish Historic Towns Atlas (IHTA), Royal Irish Academy

Sarah Gearty, Cartographic editor

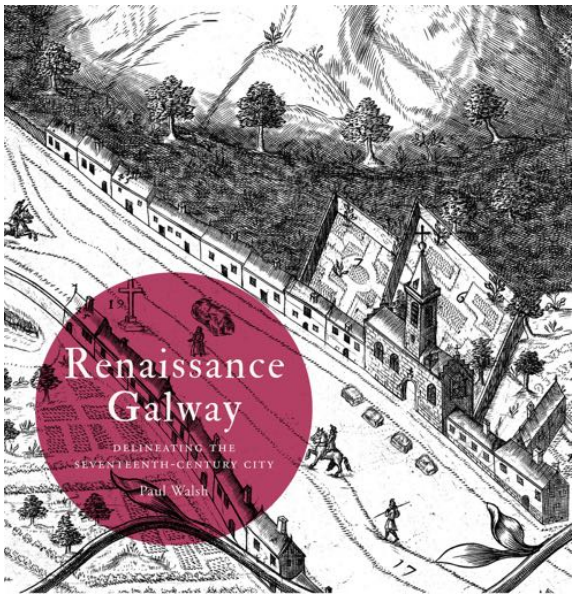
Figure 1 Marking the publication of IHTA, no. 29, *Drogheda/Droichead Átha* with President Michael D. Higgins in Áras an Uachtaráin, 15 April 2019. Sarah Gearty (Cartographic and Managing Editor, IHTA), Jennifer Moore (Editorial Assistant, IHTA), Mary and Ned Mc Hugh (author), Michael D. Higgins, Aoife Ruane (Curator, Highlanes Gallery), Raymond Gillespie, MRIA (editor, IHTA), Angela Dullaghan (Conservation Officer, Louth County Council), Dr Michael Potterton (editor, IHTA), Joan Martin (CEO, Louth County Council).

This year welcomed the publication of *Drogheda/Droichead Átha* as no. 29 in the IHTA series. Author Ned Mc Hugh is a retired secondary school teacher with a long association with the town. The 'topographical information' section contains historical details and references for over 4,000 sites. Highlights from the thirty loose pages are reproductions of maps by Robert Newcomen (1657) and Taylor and Skinner (1778) each 1 x 1.5 metre in size; and Willem Van der Hagen's painting of the town from *c.*1720, which survives directly on the plasterwork high above the fireplace in the entrance hall to Beaulieu House. The publication was supported by Louth County Council and was launched on 14 May 2019 in the Highlanes Gallery, Drogheda. An advance copy was presented to President Michael D. Higgins in Áras an Uachtaráin — a fine occasion for all concerned.



From Drogheda, there was a return to Galway. *Renaissance Galway: delineating the seventeenth-century city* was released in September 2019 and builds on research initiated for IHTA, no. 28, *Galway/Gaillimh* by Jacinta Prunty and Paul Walsh (2016). The subject of this book is the remarkable and vast 'pictorial map' of Galway from the mid-seventeenth century. Only two copies of the original printed map have survived and it is the well-preserved version from Trinity College, Dublin manuscripts department that is reproduced in thirty-eight extracts in *Renaissance Galway* with commentaries by author Paul Walsh. Specialist photography by colleagues in Trinity College involved capturing 190 carefully selected digital images of the map, which were then processed and prepared for layout in the Royal Irish Academy. *Renaissance Galway* was produced by the IHTA team and supported locally by Galway City Council in advance of Galway 2020 (European Capital of Culture). It was launched in the US at the Galway-focused 2019 Milwaukee Irish Fest (15–18 August 2019) with a lecture and exhibition available to the 120,000 visitors. Meanwhile the book prompted further interrogation into aspects of language, architecture and cartography at a seminar on the pictorial map hosted by the Moore Institute, NUI Galway (speakers included Nicholas Canny, Pádraig Lenihan, Annaleigh Margey, Bríd Mc-

Grath, Nollaig Ó Muraíle/Maire Boran and Paul Walsh) in advance of the official launch in the Galway City Museum, all on 10 October 2019.



Ports — with their unique topography and identity as gateways — were the subject of the annual IHTA seminar (16–17 May 2019) with case studies presented from Glasgow, Hull, Drogheda, Belfast and Dublin. The event was supported by Dublin Port Company and featured a fascinating trip to the present-day port complex for a public lecture (by Colm Lennon) and bus tour (with Lar Joye).

Meanwhile, behind the scenes authors were busy researching their chosen towns for future atlas publications on Arklow, Ballyshannon, Carlow, Cavan, Cork, New Ross, Tralee, Tullamore, Waterford and Westport. Dungarvan, Co. Waterford (by John Martin) is up next for publication; with Rathmines by Séamas Ó Maitiú also reaching 'final draft' stage in the ancillary series on Dublin suburbs, which also includes Drumcondra, Kilmainham/Inchicore and Ringsend/Irishtown (no. 1 Clontarf having been published in 2018).

Internationally, the annual conference of the International Commission for the History of Towns was held in Budapest in September 2019. This year the conference celebrated fifty years of publishing as the first Historic Towns Atlas appeared in 1969 (from the British series). Angret Simms delivered a special lecture on 'Fifty years of progress – the formative years of the HTAs'; Sarah Gearty and Jennifer Moore presented on the digital aspect of the Irish project and Michael Potterton brought Ireland and archaeology to the forefront of discussion with his contribution 'Some archaeological evidence for international trade in Irish towns in the middle ages' as part of the main conference.

Author Paul Walsh at the launch of *Renaissance Galway* in Galway City Museum on 10 October 2019. A reproduction of the pictorial map, to original size, is hung in the background. Photo credit: Aengus McMahon.

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

Santiago de Compostela

9–11 MAY 2019

Ireland / Galicia

In association with
Galician Cultural Council

5:00 pm (Thursday) Registration in Consello da Cultura Galega, Obradoiro Square
6:00 pm Reception
7:00 pm Welcome from Michael Byrne, President GSIHS
Welcome from Presidenta Rosario Áalvarez, Galician Cultural Council
Friday 10:00 am Welcome from Manuel Gago Mariño (Director Consello da Cultara Galega)
Saturday 10:00 am Address by Her Excellency Síle Maguire
Ambassador of Ireland to the Kingdom of Spain

Speakers:
Keynote lecture: Patrick O'Flanagan (Professor Emeritus, University College Cork)
Galician settlement and landscape change: comparisons and contrasts with Ireland c.1700 to present
César Parcero-Oubiña (Institute of Heritage Sciences – Incipit, Spanish National Research Council – CSIC)
An archaeological walk through prehistoric landscapes in Galicia
Clíodhna Ní Líonain (Archaeologist, Devenish Nutrition)
Somos irmáns: the use of an imagined prehistoric past in articulating modern Irish/Galician connections
Geraldine Stout (Archaeologist, National Monuments Service)
Exploring the Boyne and Iberian tomb building tradition
José Carlos Sanchez-Pardo (University of Santiago de Compostela)
Atlantic contacts among Galicia and other European Lands Ends during the Early Middle Ages
Elías Cueto Álvarez (Architect, Universidade Da Coruña)
The O'Sullivan family settlement in Santiago de Compostela: foreign friends and enemy compatriots
Bernadette Cunningham (Royal Irish Academy)
Pilgrimage from medieval Ireland to Santiago de Compostela
Ciaran O'Scea (John Hume Institute for Global Irish Studies, University College Dublin)
Geographical residence, patronage networks and inheritance practices among the O'Driscolls in Galicia and Madrid in the seventeenth century
Carmona Badía (Economic History, University of Santiago de Compostela)
Ireland and Galicia: economic links
Manuel Gago Mariño (Consello da Cultura Galega)
Getting closer to the past: interactive technologies and digital narratives for the communication of historical projects

Friday 5:00 – 6:30 pm: Guided tour, 'Santiago de Compostela: the universal venue' led by Suso Martinez
Friday 7:30 pm: Book launch in Facultade de Historia, University of Compostela.
Bernadette Cunningham, *Medieval Irish pilgrims to Santiago de Compostela*
Saturday 5:00 – 6:30 pm: Guided tour of **Catedral**
Sunday: Bus tour in vicinity of Santiago led by Patrick O'Flanagan
Conference Dinner: Friday 9:00 pm. **AMOA**, Rua de San Pedro.
Dinners: Thursday and Saturday 8:30 **Dezaseis**, Rua de San Pedro
Conference Fee: €60 (Irish residents), €30 (Galician residents), Students €25.
Annual membership fee: €20/£17
Annual student membership fee: €10/£8
Saturday 9:30 am Annual General Meeting of Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement

SUBSCRIPTION NOTICE

The annual subscription for 2019–2020 (€20 / £17, students €10 / £8) is due on 1st. May 2019. A subscription renewal form may be downloaded from http://www.irishsettlement.ie/

Members in Great Britain and Northern Ireland may now pay their annual subscription in sterling, by cheque or standing order.

The easiest way to pay is online via paypal. Details may be entered on the Membership page of the Group's internet site:

http://irishsettlement.ie/membership/

Application for membership of the Group can be made via the form in the webpage:

http://irishsettlement.ie/membership/

Contributions are invited on topics related to historic settlement in Ireland and the Irish-sea region, the history, conservation and interpretation of the cultural landscape and on local and regional studies. These should be sent to the Editor, Mr Charles Doherty, 13 Bancroft Road, Tallaght, Dublin 24; or e-mail: charles.doherty@upcmail.ie
Contributors are requested, where possible, to send materials, text and graphics by e-mail.
For further information visit our web-site.

http://www.irishsettlement.ie/