

# GROUP FOR THE STUDY OF IRISH HISTORIC SETTLEMENT NEWSLETTER

IRELAND

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**Cavan**

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## Editorial

Welcome to the 2010-11 edition of our Newsletter.

My thanks again to Bernadette Cunningham for her sterling work on the notices of books and research guides which are the backbone of our publication. This year she has also provided a report on our very successful outing to Dingle / Daingean Uí Chúis.

Thanks to our article contributors, Tomás Ó Carragáin, Paul MacCotter, John Sheehan and Geraldine Stout for excellent papers. Thanks to Marie Boran and Brigid Clesham for giving us an insight into the Landed Estates Project based at the Moore Institute NUI Galway. With 8000 hits per month this has proven itself to be a goldmine for researchers. My thanks to our reviewers, Benjamin Hazard (*Plantation Ireland*) and Miriam Clyne (*The Dublin Region in the Middle Ages*). Thanks also to Brendan Scott for notes in advance of our visit to the sites in County Cavan this May.

This year our outing is to County Cavan. We will be based in the Farnham Estate Hotel. The list of speakers and lectures, and information concerning registration and fees may be found on page 25 of this Newsletter.

I wish to welcome Geraldine Stout on to our committee. She has made a great start by publishing a detailed article on her Bective Abbey Project. We hope to learn more as this work progresses.

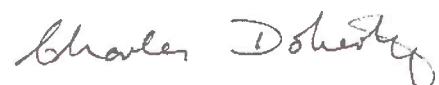
Our new president is Dr Bernadette Cunningham. Her work for the Group over the years has been outstanding and I would like to acknowledge her contribution. During her presidency we can look forward to the continued development of our Group and its publications. I wish Bernadette well in her new role.

As outgoing president I wish to express my thanks to the committee and all members who made the last few years so enjoyable. When we meet each year it is as a family and our scholarly discussions are always undertaken in a spirit of friendship. I hope to continue to enjoy this atmosphere for many years to come.

I hope you will find this issue of the Newsletter of interest. I would make a special appeal to our conference speakers to contribute articles for the next issue. The articles in this issue are a guide to the length required. Our web site is:

<http://www.irishsettlement.ie/>

After you first log on make a bookmark of the site. Give it a name (why not **GSIHs**). Place it in your menu-bar for easy reference and then all future visits will require just one click.



March 11, 2011

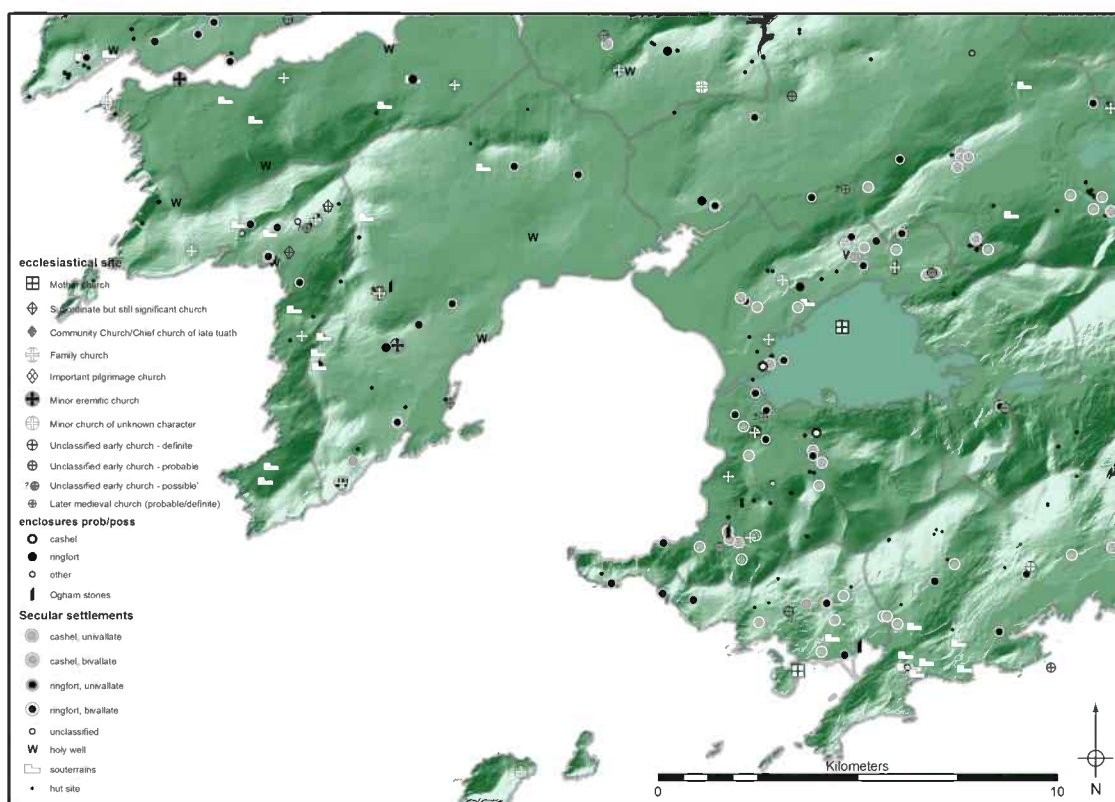


# Articles

**Tomás Ó Carragáin, Paul MacCotter  
and John Sheehan**  
*(University College Cork)*

The *Making Christian Landscapes Project*, which is based in the Archaeology Department, UCC, was established in June 2008 and was funded through the Heritage Council's INSTAR programme from 2008 to 2010. Its purpose is to investigate the physical and conceptual transformation of the Irish landscape during the early medieval period, a process which was intimately bound up with the arrival of and development of a new religion – Christianity – and its attendant

power structures. The project comprises regional studies of Leinster, Southwest Munster and Galway. Within each of these regions a number of case studies are studied in detail with a GIS incorporating documentary evidence and (in some cases) Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) as well as excavation evidence and other archaeological data. A synthesis comparing the Irish case studies to other areas of northwest Europe is also being prepared. This paper summarises some of the results of one of the project case studies: the regional kingdom of Corcu Duibne.



**Figure 1** Early medieval sites in southwest Iveragh

The whole of this kingdom of Corcu Duibne, encompassing the Iveragh and much of the Corkaguiney peninsulas, is being studied by the *Making Christian Landscapes* team. This preliminary summary, however, focuses primarily on Uíbh Ráthach, the western part of the Iveragh peninsula (see figure 1), which was the western of two parts of the local kingdom of Áes Irruis Deiscert ('the people of the southern peninsula'), one of the three principal sub-divisions of Corcu Duibne (MacCotter 2009, 51). This is an economically marginal, mountainous landscape with extensive bog cover in the lowlands. Viking Age and later documents suggest that the local kings were based around Valentia Harbour, and it is possible that the large (and partially excavated) cashel of Cahergal was one of their residences (MacCotter

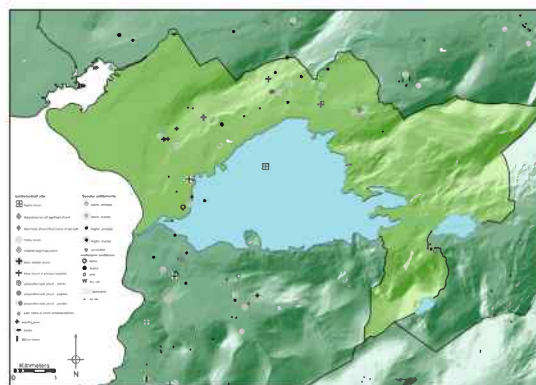
and Sheehan 2009, 150).

In many of Ireland's landscapes, the very earliest stratum of Christianity is elusive, but here it is represented by ogham stones, as well as by the minor ecclesiastical site of Caherlehillan, located in a remote mountain valley in the north-east of Uíbh Ráthach. This site was established on virgin ground in the later fifth or early sixth century, making it the earliest church site excavated in Ireland to date (Sheehan 2009). It consisted of a curvilinear enclosure about 30m in diameter within which was a domestic zone in the western half (represented by curvilinear wattle houses, evidence for craft activity and food storage and a collection of sherds of B-ware from the east Mediterranean), and a post-and-wattle

church, cemetery, outdoor shrine and cross-slabs in the eastern half. This arrangement is typical of the vast majority of early ecclesiastical sites in Uíbh Ráthach, and Caherlehillan and shows that the template was already clear in the minds of the first or second generation of Christians there. The earliest ogham stones found at some sites possibly indicate that they originated as ‘undeveloped’ burial grounds. We can be confident, however, that other closely-dateable monuments such as cross-slabs and stone shrines were erected in fully-developed ecclesiastical settlements, and can therefore conclude that the vast majority of such sites were established between c.500 and 800 A.D. (Ó Carragáin 2009, 330–31). Especially from the eighth century onwards, their sod or wattle churches and domestic buildings were replaced by buildings of drystone construction that often survive. Doubtless some sites were short-lived, but all of the examples excavated to date were operating during the eighth century, which may represent a high point in the density of churches in the landscape.

As well as some sites of probably local importance (below), there were two regionally important establishments: Inis Úasal and Skellig Michael. Inis Úasal (‘noble island’) is an island on Lough Currane at the south of Uíbh Ráthach. This was the principal foundation of St Fínán Cam, whose floruit was probably in the approximate period 560–640 A.D.. According to his genealogy, he was related to the local Áes Irruis Deiscirt kings, and by c.800 A.D. he had been recognised as the chief saint of the whole of Corcu Duibne (MacCotter 2009, 75–76). The core estate of Inis Úasal (see figure 2), encompassing most of the land around the lake, can be reconstructed, at least approximately, through a combination of documentary, toponymic and archaeological evidence (Ó Carragáin 2003, 134–41; now revised in MacCotter 2009, 151–57). In places the boundary of the estate, and / or of zones within it, is delimited by boundary cross-slabs that may well be eighth century (see figure 3 on page 3). There are hints that it was originally a royal estate, the rump of which survived at the southwest of the lake at Ightercua. To the northwest, the estate of Glanhurkin also seems to have belonged to Inis Úasal, though it may not have been acquired until the Viking Age. Between the two was the estate of Skellig Michael, preserved as the parish of the Augustinian house of Ballinskelligs, which was probably built on the site of Skellig Michael’s mainland base (Ó Carragáin 2003, 141–42; MacCotter 2009, 85–89, 157–58).

Thus, by 800 A.D. a significant portion of the land in Uíbh Ráthach was owned by its mother churches. Some of the minor churches on these estates may pre-date their formation, but the majority may have been founded as out-farms. There



**Figure 2** The suggested extent of the Inis Úasal estate.

are four or five examples quite evenly distributed within the core Inis Úasal estate (Ó Carragáin 2008, 259–264, 272–76). Perhaps some were run by ecclesiastical families headed by married priests while others were run directly by members of the Inis Úasal monastic community. They all seem to incorporate burial grounds, suggesting that, even within ecclesiastical estates, a significant proportion of the population was buried away from important churches in the pre-Viking period. The even distribution of these sites suggests that the agricultural economy of the estate was carefully managed, and the surviving elements of the medieval field system have been identified through survey and Historic Landscape Characterisation. There is a particular concentration of possible medieval fields around Dromkeare, which may have been the most important of the four out-farms. Certainly it seems to have had a special role within the estate. It is located on the banks of the Cumeragh, the main river flowing into Lough Currane, and just outside its enclosure are the remains of a probable early medieval mill-race and horizontal mill. Probably this was where the crops produced on the estate of Inis Úasal were processed. The many ringforts and other ‘secular’ settlements on the estate must represent the dwellings of the more affluent lay-tenants of Inis Úasal, the individuals referred to in the early sources as *manaig*. The law tracts make clear that the status of these individuals could vary considerably (Etchingham 1999, Chapter 9), so it is not surprising to find evidence that some of them lived in ringforts.

The density of minor church sites is almost as great in the non-ecclesiastical estates of Uíbh Ráthach, demonstrating the crucial role of minor secular landowners in the Christianisation of the landscape. In a few cases, the name of the family is possibly preserved in the townland name (Cill Ó Luaigh, Cill Ó an Chathaigh, Cill Ó gCnámhín and Cill Ó gCróin) (Ó Cíobháin 2009, 93); if so, it is telling that these are very obscure kin-groups that seem to have sunk into obscurity at an early period. At Caherlehillan the church



site is just next to an impressive cashel, which may be the residence, or the Viking Age successor of the residence, of the family that founded the site. This proximity, coupled with the fact that children were buried at the church site (no bones survived), hint that the church may have been run by an ecclesiastical branch of this family (Sheehan 2009). By contrast, only males were buried in the early medieval cemetery on Illaunloughan, suggesting that this was a minor island monastery (White Marshall and Walsh 2005, 84). Another island establishment, Church Island, with its tiny sod-built church and single round house, may also have begun as an eremitical establishment. It must have had close links to the local kings from the outset, however, since it was at the heart of the Ballycarbery royal estate. In contrast to Illaunloughan, women were buried there as well as men. In the eighth and ninth centuries, perhaps in part as an expression of their relative independence, several of these minor sites outside the Inis Úasal estate invested in stone reliquary shrines for the bones of their founders. Tellingly, no such shrines are to be found at minor church sites on ecclesiastical land (Ó Carragáin 2003).

Non-ecclesiastical burial must also have been common, for most ecclesiastical cemeteries seem to have been for a single family or small group of religious. While no cemetery settlements have been identified in the area, some of the burial grounds in ringforts may have originated as family cemeteries in the early medieval period (though most probably originated later on as burial grounds for unbaptised children). There are also a modest number of cairns, mounds and barrows, some of which might be early medieval, but none has been excavated. Only a minority are on estate or townland boundaries. The best example of this is the large cairn with cross-inscribed ogham stone on the summit of Drung Hill, which marks the northeastern border of Uíbh Ráthach. This was the *óenach* or assembly site of the local kingdom, and probably for the whole of Corcu Duibne; Drung derives from the same root that gives us ‘throng’ in English (MacCotter 2009, 62). Uíbh Ráthach is an area rich in ogham stones, but an unusually high proportion of them occur at ecclesiastical sites (62% versus 37% of those in Ireland as a whole). Those in non-ecclesiastical contexts were probably boundary or burial markers or both. The western boundary of the Ballycarbery royal estate is marked by a number of monuments, including prehistoric standing stones, a church site and an isolated ogham stone with an incomplete inscription that reads ANM CALUMANN MAQ[. . .] (The Soul of Columann Son of . . .). The formula used indicates that it is a relatively late example, probably seventh century, commemorating a Christian. Calumann is a variant of Colmán, a name which occurs only once in the Corcu Duibne ge-

nealogies in a late seventh-century context. We do not know if he was a king of Corcu Duibne, but this is made less likely by the fact that, if he had any descendants, they are not recorded. Nevertheless, it is not beyond the bounds of possibility that the Canburrin stone was erected to commemorate this figure, on the boundary of the royal estate. In nearby Cloghanecarhan is an ecclesiastical site with a late sixth- / early seventh-century ogham stone commemorating the descendant of Carthan (MAQI MAQI CARAT-TINN). Carthan may have been the founder of the ecclesiastical site, but in the absence of a cross on the ogham stone and an ecclesiastical toponym in the townland name we cannot rule out the possibility that he was someone commemorated in a non-ecclesiastical cemetery which later became an ecclesiastical site.



**Figure 3** One of three cross-inscribed stones on the Coomduff ridge that possibly delimit an area of holier ground within the Inis Úasal estate.

The most striking pattern evident in Viking Age Uíbh Ráthach is the abandonment of a significant number of minor ecclesiastical sites. Carherlehillan seems to have been abandoned in the eighth century while on Illaunloughan permanent occupation ceased in the ninth century (Sheehan 2009; White Marshall and Walsh 2005, 37). The absence of Viking Age features – such as cross-slabs and rectilinear domestic buildings – at many of the unexcavated minor sites is also suggestive, considering the unusually conspicuous archaeology of the area. By analogy with other areas, it seems likely that many non-ecclesiastical cemeteries also ceased to function at this time. In contrast, the regionally important establishments of Skellig Michael and especially Inis Úasal consolidated their positions during this time. Inis Úasal, for example, features a number of monumental tenth- to eleventh-century cross-slabs and in the twelfth century it acquired one of only two Romanesque churches in the area. Both sites retained a monastic component; for example one of the slabs on Inis Úasal commemorates an anchorite whose death is mentioned *sub anno* 1058 in the Annals of Inisfallen (Sheehan 1990, 172–73). We do not know the fate of the minor church

sites within its estate at this time; perhaps some of them continued as settlements but lost their ecclesiastical / burial functions.

Elsewhere in Uíbh Ráthach a number of locally important church sites continued in use and must have benefitted from the additional patronage and burial revenues that accrued as a result of the decline of nearby sites. Interestingly, a number of these sites, such as Killinane and Killemlagh, are alluded to in the twelfth-century *Life* of Finán, even though they are outside the core Inis Úasal estate (Mac Cotter 2009, 76). Either their continued success was facilitated by long-standing associations with Inis Úasal, or else such associations were fabricated *ex post facto*. During the Viking Age, such locally important sites may have acquired relatively large drystone churches or even larger churches of wood, but archaeologically speaking they are victims of their own success: they usually went on to become parish centres and their churches were replaced in the twelfth century (as at Killemlagh) or more usually later. Even their curvilinear enclosures were usually obliterated as their graveyards expanded. There are a few exceptions, however. One is Church Island, which in the seventh century had a tiny sod-built church and may have been eremitical in character. This was superseded by an unusually large drystone church with sculpted finial, and as a result of recent re-excavation we know was built in the tenth or eleventh century (Hayden 2008). Despite its island location, it was quite accessible and may have had a pastoral role before the formal establishment of parishes. Certainly its church was built to accommodate far more than could have lived on the island (thirty or more). Also, while a very modest number of

burials was associated with the earlier church, the rate of burial seems to have risen exponentially thereafter. The prestige of the site in this regard must have been bound up with its location at the heart of the principal estate of the kings of Áes Irruis Deiscirt who, especially from the mid-tenth century, emerge as the kings of the whole of Corcu Duibne (MacCotter 2008, 135). Doubtless these kings were involved in commissioning the fine new drystone church, which among other things may have served as a royal chapel.

The foregoing is a summary of some of our work on Corcu Duibne to date. This research is ongoing and will be published in much more detail in due course. Along with the other case studies undertaken as part of the project, this research is, we believe, identifying significant new patterns in the archaeological and documentary records that are illuminating various aspects of the process of *Making Christian Landscapes* in Ireland and elsewhere. One such pattern is the high and quite consistent density of ecclesiastical sites in the majority of the Irish case studies. When land unsuitable for permanent settlement is excluded, the area per definite / probable churches is usually 9–14km<sup>2</sup>, while the area per church when possible examples are also included is between 7–9km<sup>2</sup>. This suggests that the foundation of minor ecclesiastical sites was based on land-holding patterns that were fairly consistent across the country. In all areas the density is much higher than in pre-Viking England. In part, this was probably due to a relatively diffuse social structure in Ireland which meant that a relatively higher proportion of the population was entitled to found churches (Ó Carragáin 2009).

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**The Bective Abbey Project**  
**Geraldine Stout**  
*(Archaeological Survey of Ireland)*

**Introduction**

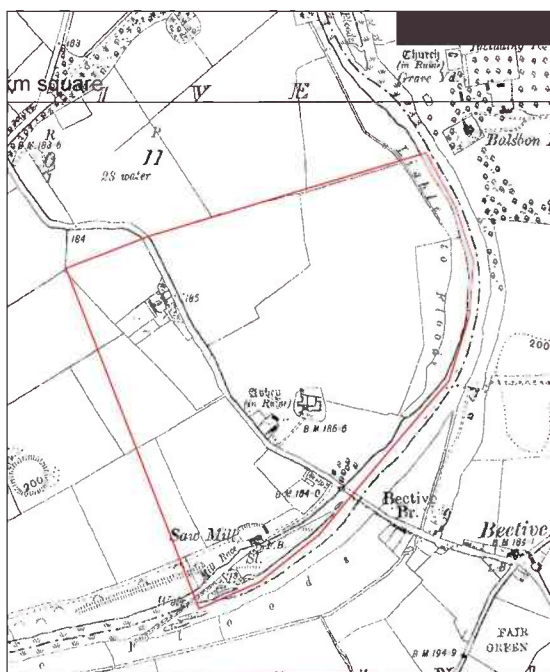
In the twelfth century the Church experienced a revolution throughout Europe resulting in the foundation of many new religious orders. The Cistercians were amongst the first of these continental orders to come to Ireland from France, settling by the Mattock River at Mellifont, county Louth, in 1142. Their outstanding architectural achievement is reflected in the impressive abbeys which now constitute some of the most picturesque ruins in this island. The ordered layout of their buildings which combined religious and domestic functions contrasted sharply with the informality of the Irish monasteries. This systematic approach was also evident in their farm management. The Cistercians were extensive landowners and played a pivotal role in the economic life of Medieval Ireland, as elsewhere in Europe. It has been estimated that at their height the Cistercians owned half a million acres in Ireland (Barry 1977, 100). They exploited their lands through a series of 'model farms' known as

granges, a generic term for buildings, especially store houses devoted to agricultural production. These independent monastic farms supplied their mother-house with agricultural products which were processed on the home grange which had additional facilities that included kilns and mills.

Much of the interaction between the farms and the abbey community took place at the precincts of these abbeys. The need for a meticulous investigation of the precincts of an Irish Cistercian abbey is long overdue and the excavation at Bective Abbey, county Meath, is addressing this striking imbalance in Irish Cistercian research. The research excavation and survey at Bective Abbey will form an essential component of a broader research study ongoing on the Cistercian estates of Ireland. It is also contributing to the current multi-disciplinary research into Irish medieval rural settlement within the Irish *Discovery Programme* and international research on medieval rural settlement in Europe.

**Location:** Bective Abbey lies just outside the village of Bective and about 6km south-west of the town of Trim in County Meath (see figure 1). It was founded in 1147, the second-oldest Cistercian foundation in Ireland. Its high status is in-





**Figure 1** Location map of Bective Abbey, County Meath

indicated by the fact that it was chosen in 1195 to hold the body of Hugh De Lacy, Lord of Meath, nine years after he was killed at the instigation of Sionnach Ua Catharnaigh of Tethba (Westmeath) whose son he had killed in 1178. The abbey with its monastic estate of nearly 1600 acres was dissolved in 1536 and stones from it were used in the repair of nearby Trim Castle.

**Historical background:** Bective Abbey, Latin name *Beatitudo Dei* meaning the ‘Blessedness of God’ and dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, was founded in 1147 with an endowment from Murchad Ua Máel Sechnaill, who ruled over the kingdom of Mide from 1106 to 1153. It was the first daughter house of Mellifont, established only five years after its foundation. Bective Abbey was established during a period of some political upheaval with Ua Máel Sechnaill fighting to maintain his dominance in Mide. The boundaries of this kingdom were undergoing a gradual disintegration; a partition of Mide imposed by Tairdelbach Ua Conchobair, king of Connacht in 1144, saw the over-kingdom divided between Tigernán Ua Ruairc (northern part), Diarmait Mac Murchada (eastern part) and Murchad and Donnchad Ua Máel Sechnaill (western part) (Clinton 2000, 372–405; Walsh 1941, 163–83; Byrne 1987, 1–42). It was also a period of intense competition for the high kingship between Ua Conchobair, Ua Lochlainn and Ua Briain.

The lands around Bective were formerly occupied by the sub-kingdom of Lóegaire with their principal royal centre at nearby Tullyard (Walsh 1940, 509). This grant was, therefore, a strategic move on the part of Ua Máel Sechnaill because the grant of lands to Bective Abbey would have

had a debilitating effect on the kings of Lóegaire and would have strengthened the Ua Máel Sechnaill hold on a part of the kingdom east of Lough Ennell. It would also have been prestigious to become a patron of the Cistercian Order and the first daughter-house of Mellifont Abbey.

The monks established themselves in an area with an existing settled community in excellent farmland. This was not a wilderness ‘far from the concourse of men’; the ideal Cistercian location. There were open, unprotected settlements in the area indicated today by the presence of souterrains at Bective (MH 31:9; MH 31:18). These subterranean structures can be dated to the last centuries of the first millennium and the earliest centuries of the second millennium (Clinton 1998, 139). In county Meath a high percentage were associated with open settlement sites dependant mainly on tillage for a living (Clinton 1998, 61).

Meath lies in an area of relatively low ringfort densities but there are high-status ringforts at Bective; to the west of the river crossing are the remains of a bivallate ringfort (diam. 56m) with others on or near the Cistercian estate at Balbrigh, Bective and Dunlough. There is a reference under the year 1150 in AFM to a ‘Dun Lochad’ in Lóegaire. The destroyed ringfort at Dunlough could be the location of this site (Moore 1987, 100). There was also a religious presence. Clady is probably an early church site and another early church, possibly sixth century associated with St Finian, is suspected at Ardsallagh (*Eascair Branáin*) townland which may also have been on an early route northwards from Clady church (Cogan 1862, I, 113; Gwynn & Hadcock 1970, 373).

The high status of the foundation at Bective is indicated by the fact that it was chosen to hold the remains of Hugh De Lacy in 1195, nine years after he was killed (Leask 1917, 96). In 1217 the abbot of Bective was involved in a riot at Jerpoint and was further charged with imprisoning a man in a tree stump until he died. He was sent to Clairvaux for trial. Subsequently, the prior of Beaubec in Normandy was appointed as abbot of Bective in 1227. During abbot Stephen of Lexington’s visitations to Ireland the following year in 1228, he visited Bective and described it as a strongly fortified place which could be used to help Clairvaux subdue the abbeys of Mellifont and Boyle (O’Dwyer 1982, 23). They agreed to strengthen Bective and enlarge it so that in future it could assist its mother Clairvaux. In 1228 it was affiliated to Clairvaux when the abbot of Buildwas visited (*ibid.* 49, 55). The small abbey of Shrulle, County Longford was affiliated to Bective. In 1380, the abbot of ‘Bekedy’ received a writ from King Richard II, directing that no Irishman or any enemy of the king were to be admitted to its community (Leask 1917, 47).

The earliest description of the estate dates from



1384. Bective is referred to as Bekty and Bexty and is given custody of certain lands and tithes. These include a grange called *Lekbla* in County Meath; the tithes of the churches of *Logbcru* (Loughcrew) and *Demor* (Damor); the grange of *Rayngban*.; including 60 acres of arable land and 1 meadow in *Kilgheny*. They also included custody of a messuage and fishing weir in *Balkyndroght*. (Leask 1917, 47). In 1358 Brother John, abbot of Bective, went to Flanders for two years on business and nominated John Young and Ralph Dylan as his attorneys in Ireland (Maxwell Lythe 1911, 83). About 1488, Ismaena, widow of Jorel Comyn, brought a writ against the abbot for a third of a messuage and sixty acres of land at *Ballybret*. (Balbrigh) at which time she paid a fine of one marc. Afterwards, the abbot agreed that a chaplain would celebrate a constant service for the repose of her soul and the souls of her ancestors (Archdall, 1786, III, 517). In 1488, John abbot of Bective, received a royal pardon from Henry VII. An abbot of Bective attended the general chapter of Citeaux in 1512 and was also one of four appointed to investigate the affairs of the Cistercian nunnery in Derry in 1512 (Hogan, 1976, 3).

Bective was still functioning as a regular community in 1534, just two years before it was dissolved on 6 May 1536. The abbot was John English and the names of three other members of the community are specifically mentioned in documentation: the prior Thomas Prowd, the cellarer or bursar John Byrrell, and a monk Edmund Fyne (Hogan 1976, 6). Bective Abbey was amongst the first of the monasteries to be suppressed. In the following year Sir John Alen, Master of the Rolls, wrote to the king's commissioners in Ireland advising that stones from the abbey should be used in the repair of Trim castle (Potterton 2005, 15). In 1537 the site of the Abbey of Bective and the lands of Bective, Balbroy, Cloncullen, Dunlough, Balgill, Balbradagh, *Reneghan*., Monkton by Trim, Balsoon, and *Balaughe* in the counties of Meath and Louth, were leased to Thomas Agarde of Bective for 21 years and the lease was renewed again in May 1545 (de Burca 1994, 52).



**Figure 2** Bective Abbey monastic estate

The *extents* made at Bective on 5 October 1540 are the most detailed accounts available and are provided in an edited form below (White 1943,

267–70). At the time of the dissolution the estate contained an estimated total of 1,580 acres valued at £83 18s 8p. There were eight granges reflected in the present townlands in the immediate area of the abbey, comprising Bective, the Grange (of Bective); Balgill, Balbrigh, Balbradagh; Dunlough, Cloncullen, Balsoon; Yellowwalls, a detached townland at Monkton near Trim, lands attached to the parish church at Balsoon and lands in Westmeath (see figure 2). There were nineteen tenants and twenty cottiers. The *extents* would indicate some deterioration and desertion from the land after dissolution. There are two cottages in ruins in Balbrigh and another messuage in Bective laid waste for the want of a lessee. The 1540 *extents* indicate that a basic settlement hierarchy had developed on the estate with messuages (a dwelling house with out-offices and land) and cottages in each grange. The presence of a messuage suggests that individual property boundaries were in place, the greatest nucleation being at the Grange of Bective with five messuages and four cottages. By the sixteenth century mixed farming was being practised on the granges with a major percentage of arable to pasture and meadow. In each land division there was a generous allotment of land for common pasture. The customs of the estate tenants refer to carting grain and hay in the demesne. This could also be to the monastic mill. Some of the tenants have their own ploughs while others share a plough. They also had to help with the harvest. The tithes to the abbey were paid in units of *copule* of grain, an indication that a tillage-based economy predominated. In addition to the farming system, there were the resources of a mill and a fish weir at Bective. The monks themselves were farming 250 acres under tillage, 7 acres of meadow and 23 of pasture. The farms outside the demesne varied in size from 15 to 70 acres. At Bective the *extents* refer to ‘other buildings necessary for the farmer’ suggesting that there are outbuildings within the precincts of the abbey.

A subsequent series of inquisitions to ascertain the possessions of this abbey also mention five orchards within the precincts of the abbey; a fulling mill erected by the farmer of the abbey, a watermill and a fishing weir on the Boyne. They also mention the fifty acre wood of Scryboke, a dovehouse, and the fishery rights of the Boyne from Ardsallagh to Dunkerry. The extent of the rectory of Bective and the limitation of tithes, as usually collected in the parish, are precisely defined in each townland.

By the sixteenth century, the Cistercians in Bective had become great landlords with the main source of income coming from rents, together with tithes, altarages from the rectory of Bectiff and oblations from the church of Bective. After the expulsion of the monks the community retired to a residence in the neighbourhood. One

of the more colourful abbots was Sebastain or Stephen Shortal who became a Cistercian monk in the monastery of Nucale in Galicia, Spain. He became Titular abbot of Bective in Meath and died 3 December 1639 (Cogan 1862, 120).

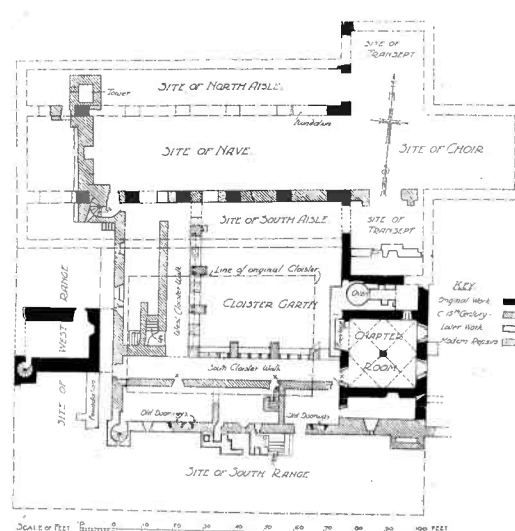
The abbey and its possessions were purchased in 1552 by Andrew Wyse, Vice-Treasurer of Ireland for the sum of £1,380 16s 7d. There is a memorandum of the receipt of the money in the *Calendar of the Patent and Close Rolls 1552* (Morrin 1863, 265). A memorandum of the grant is also given reciting all the rights and privileges attached. The grant repeats much of the detail contained in the 1540 extents. It reads as follows:

Owing to financial difficulties, in 1552 Andrew Wyse was granted a licence to 'alienate to Richard Dillon of Perteston, John Wycombe of Dublin, and Richard Cox, the site and possessions of the late abbey, monastery, or religious house of Bective including Scriboke, Cladaghe, Balgill, otherwise called the Grange of Balgill' (de Burca 1994, 213).

In 1558 Jacques Wingfelde was farming the lands for the Queen. In 1560 he conveyed Bective and other property to one Gregory Cole, citizen of London, or agent of his wife, Anne, Countess Dowager of Sussex, who re-conveyed them to him soon after. Following the death of Wyse in 1567 Bective passed to his son-in-law, Sir Alexander Fitton, and afterwards to *his* son-in-law, Sir Bartholomew Dillon of Riverstown castle (Kavanagh 2005, 45). Bective seems to have declined after this period and in 1619 the abbey was described as deserted (Hogan, 1976, 10). In 1630 there was a grant to Henry Stanes, as assignee of Roger Nott, of London:

... of the abbey, monastery, or religious house of the Bectiffe, with all the towns, villages, hamlets, lands, tenements, tithes, profits, and commodities... and also the manor of Renagh, in the county of Westmeath; to be held of his majesty in capite.

The premises were formed into a manor, to be called the manor of 'Bectiffe, with Court leet and court baron, waifs and strays', and the abbey buildings were adapted to create a manor house which served as the centre of the new estate. In 1639 Bective became the property of Sir Richard Bolton, of Brazille, in County Dublin. They were chiefly resident in Brazille, and Bective Abbey was leased to others including Sir Thomas Taylor whose descendants, in recognition of this, became Earls of Bective. They resided there into the late eighteenth century (Kavanagh 2005, 50). The Civil Survey 1654-56 reports that the lands at Bective were owned by 'Sir Edward Bolton of Brassele - Protestant' (Simington 1940, 239). The Civil Survey lists within the townlands of Bective, Grange, Gillstowne, Ballybradagh, Bailbreagh, Cloncullen, Dunlogh and Screiboy; one



**Figure 3** Architectural survey of Bective Abbey, County Meath (after Leask 1917)

castle, an abbey, a church (Clady), two mills and two weirs (at Bective). It remained in Bolton hands until 1862, when the abbey farm passed to a Bolton relative, Reverend Martin. He subsequently vested the abbey ruins to the Board of Public Works in 1894 (Leask 1917, 49).

**Architectural history:** Bective Abbey is a multi-period construct. Three well-defined phases in the history of the buildings are evident today; the church and conventual buildings of the late-twelfth-century abbey, re-building on reduced lines and heavy fortification in the fifteenth century and sixteenth-century alterations which turned it into a Tudor mansion (see figure 3).

**Geophysical Survey:** In July 2009 geophysical survey was undertaken by Joanna Leigh in the south and west precinct of Bective (Licence No. 09-R-149; Leigh 2009) (see figure 4 on page 9). The objective of this survey was to identify features within the abbey precinct that may relate to the original occupation of the abbey. A clear high resistance linear 'response' between the present boundary wall and the south elevation suggests a wall or structural remains with a terminus or gateway. This curves in the west suggesting an enclosing feature. It may be a foundation of the south wall of the original south range, which stood on the site prior to fifteenth-century remodelling of the abbey. South of this area beyond the boundary wall, within a rectilinear banked enclosure identified in a topographical survey, high resistance responses suggest the location of two possible buildings and internal divisions. In the western precinct the resistance survey had identified the probable remains of a wall, running on a north/south axis, and a silted up pond east of it.

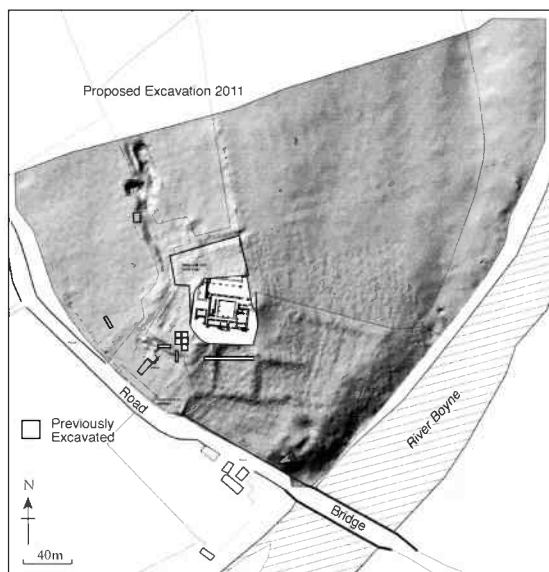
**Archaeological excavations 2009-2010:** The beginning of the project was marked with a blessing and ceremonial turning of the sod by Fr Augustine Mc Gregor, the Cistercian Abbot of New





**Figure 4** Results of geophysical survey 2009–2010

Mellifont, whose predecessor had founded Mellifont Abbey over 800 years ago. An enthusiastic group of students from Ireland, America, Greece and The Phillipines were on hand to assist in the excavation. Some were participants in the Irish Archaeological Field School organised by CRDS Ltd where they had training in a broad range of archaeological techniques which included finds analysis, feature recording, architectural / topographical survey and geo-physics (see figure 5).



**Figure 5** Topographical survey of the precinct of Bective Abbey showing areas of excavation

Excavations in 2009 revealed that a large area in front of the abbey was artificially raised when stone debris resulting from the demolition of masonry buildings was spread across the site, probably in the seventeenth century. However, what was most significant about this demolition layer was that it sealed valuable archaeological deposits and structural features contemporary with the lifetime of the medieval abbey. Excavations exposed the corner of a building with an outside drain and enclosed by a medieval ditch. The

drain produced an array of medieval pottery, oyster shells and animal bones. A preliminary examination of the animal bones from this drain has identified the remains of cows, sheep, boar and horse. Bective has remarkably rich archaeological deposits. Almost 600 finds were retrieved in the first season from just three small cuttings. These were mainly pieces of medieval jugs, and decorated floor tiles from the abbey; one particular tile had on it an inscription *Crom abu* – the war cry of the Geraldines. Metal finds included nails and rivets from former medieval timber buildings, which had stone slated roofs to judge from the large number of slates discovered. Amongst the most decorative pieces was a thirteenth-century bronze, double-spiral-headed stick pin.

The objectives of the 2010 excavation were two-fold; to expose further remains of a medieval building discovered in 2009 and to investigate an enclosure in front of the South Range of the abbey which was thought to be the former site of the medieval monastic garden. Excavation over four weeks successfully revealed further evidence for the medieval building when a post-pad was exposed attached to a short section of wall. The flue, chamber and stone-built superstructure of a medieval cereal-drying kiln were also uncovered in association with a series of rake-out deposits and pits in the lower medieval levels. The possible remains of a seventeenth-century structure were uncovered in the upper levels of the site. Excavations in 2010 also confirmed a medieval date for the construction of the enclosure in front of the South Range and uncovered within its interior 'garden soil' with charcoal-enriched shell deposits, a linear trench and a stone spread.

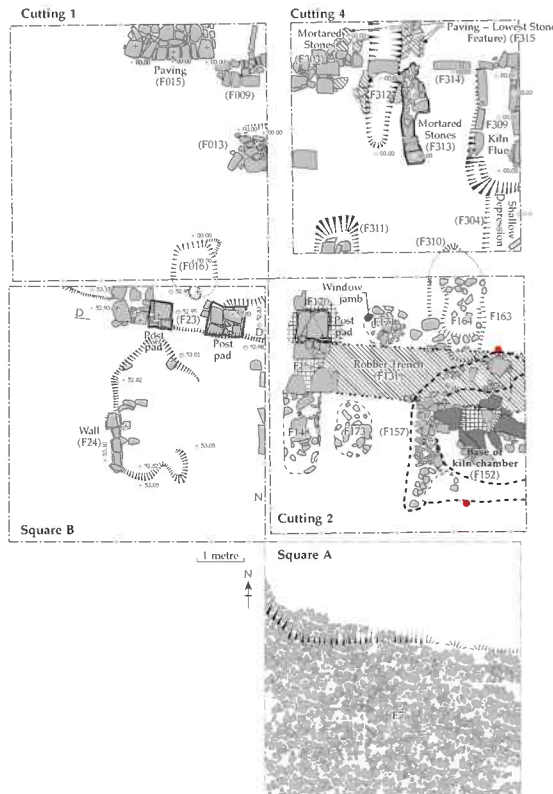
To date three post-pads and a section of mortared wall of a medieval building have been uncovered. Another possible section of this medieval wall, which formerly abutted one of the post-pads, was robbed during the Post-medieval demolition phase at Bective Abbey. This building had an external drain and was enclosed by a medieval ditch. It is aligned ESE/WNW. At this stage it is difficult to determine whether we are dealing with the interior or outer walls of a structure as the post-pads may have carried internal arches. Contrasts in surface deposits seemed to suggest an 'inside' and 'outside'. Further investigations to the north and west of the 2010 Cuttings are needed to establish its full extent (see figure 6 on page 10).

The excavation revealed evidence for processing of cereal on a large scale. The cereal probably came from the farms or granges on the surrounding monastic estate. The Bective kiln is of 'key-hole' type which is the most common type of cereal-drying kiln found in Ireland. Their overall size relates to capacity and efficiency. The Bective example fits in well with the average dimensions and the fact that it is stone-lined (Monk, & Kelleher 2005, 77–114). The closest parallels

for the Bective kiln is that from Kilferagh, Co. Kilkenny which was dated by pottery to the thirteenth–fourteenth century (Hurley 1987, 88–100). The Bective example might be earlier, however. The relationship between the kiln and the medieval building needs further investigation. For the most part, structural evidence elsewhere indicates the presence of buildings close to the kilns rather than the kilns within buildings with the exception of Rathbane South, County Limerick, where a kiln might have been inside a barn and at Haynestown, which featured a kiln inside a storage shed (Monk & Kelleher 2005, 84).

radish, pulses and vetches and elderberries.

In 2010 a cutting was placed across this enclosure to determine its date and function. There are a number of different archaeological indicators for the presence of gardens which were observed at Bective: the presence of ‘garden soil’, a soil rich in organic material (Collins 1996); abraded fragments of shell, bone and ceramic indicating manuring and regular cultivation; and the presence of an enclosure. The interior was almost featureless which is what one would expect for a garden. The only features identified were a shallow linear trench running north/south on the same axis as the enclosure and an isolated spread of stones. These may indicate some internal division in the garden. In vegetable and medicinal gardens raised beds were often a major feature from the plan of St. Gall onward. Beds were almost universally rectangular, and arranged in a regular pattern, either windowpane check or checkerboard. The individual raised planting beds, wattle fences, and central well-head of the garden are all characteristics typically found in medieval monastic gardens. A number of soil samples were taken for environmental analysis and these results are eagerly awaited. The soil profile down to boulder clay was a rich garden soil and was much deeper downslope. This may have resulted from turning the plough which creates a positive lynchet. Large quantities of plough pebbles have been found on site indicating that a mouldboard plough was used here in medieval times. There were large deposits of shell particularly mussels, cockles, whelks. These could simply be a result of household waste but they could have been used as fertiliser. These are pure lime with other minor constituents which were also beneficial. They were being used as manure in Wexford and Carlow in the thirteenth century, in Donegal in the seventeenth century and in north county Dublin in the eighteenth century (Collins 2008, 51–55).



**Figure 6** Plan of the building and cereal drying kiln uncovered during the 2009–2010 excavations

The topographical survey undertaken in 2009 identified a number of low earthworks in the immediate vicinity of the upstanding remains. These enclose regular areas that are roughly rectangular or square in plan. Immediately south of the abbey there is a square enclosure defined by a low broad embankment, c.43m east/west by c.46m north/south. It has been encroached by the present National Monuments boundary wall. The ground falls away to the south-east and the Boyne river. Given its location outside the south range of the abbey, where all the cooking would have taken place, it was thought that this could be the location of the medieval kitchen garden. Environmental samples taken in 2009 from a drain running along the remains of a medieval building in the south precinct of Bective Abbey produced evidence for herbs, vegetables, salads and fruits – including cabbage/mustard, dock, sorrel, wild

The results of the 2010 excavation of the southern precinct of Bective Abbey are very encouraging. Structural remains have thrown light on the agricultural and industrial activities of this medieval Cistercian abbey. A broad range of domestic artefacts such as iron nails/rivets, ridge tiles, roof tiles and floor tiles have improved our knowledge of the appearance of the medieval buildings within the precinct. Pottery evidence points to contacts between this community and Dublin, Britain and the Continent. The objectives of the proposed 2011 season of excavation are threefold: firstly to uncover the full extent of the medieval building and determine what it would have been used for within the abbey precinct. Secondly, to further investigate an enclosure in front of the South Range thought to be the medieval monastic garden. This area does not appear to have been disturbed during the post-medieval demoli-



tion phase at Bective Abbey and contains rich medieval deposits. Thirdly, to initiate a detailed architectural and descriptive survey of the upstand-

ing remains at Bective Abbey.

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*The Bective Abbey Project* would like to acknowledge the Royal Irish Academy who granted aided the research excavation and the participants in the Irish Archaeological Field School organized by CRDS Ltd. The team received a phenomenal response from the local community who visited the dig on a regular basis. Many offered their time to work as volunteers on the site as did many of the National Monuments guides in county Meath who generously worked on their days off. The team would like to acknowledge the help of colleagues in our own department who gave us a 'dig out' and staff in the National Monuments section of OPW for their support of the project. Check out our blog site [Bective.wordpress.com](http://Bective.wordpress.com)

**Landscapes with and without figures:  
the Landed Estates of western  
and southern Ireland: an online resource**

**Marie Boran & Brigid Clesham**  
(*NUI, Galway*)

*Introduction.*

Since 2005 a project team based at the Moore Institute, NUI, Galway, has been creating a database of the landed estates and associated big houses in the provinces of Connacht and Munster. Phase I of the project, funded by the Irish Research Council for Humanities and Social Sciences, saw the collection of information on the five counties of Connacht. Brigid Clesham and Marie Boran, researchers on the project, work in the Archives and Library sector. The volume of queries they received on landed estates in their everyday work led them to the conclusion that a comprehensive signpost to landed estates information was sadly lacking. Under the direction of Prof. Gearóid Ó Tuathaigh of NUI, Galway School of History, they set about rectifying this omission. The Project team set themselves three objectives:

- To create a listing of all of the landed estates existing in Connacht between c.1700 and 1920 with records of associated “Big” houses
- To identify and list information sources relating to these estates, both primary and secondary but especially unpublished material
- To publish the project’s findings so as to make them freely available to as wide an audience as possible.



**Figure 1** Landed Estates Home Page

The Project team quickly realised that an electronic database was the most efficient means of recording the findings and keeping them updated (see figure 1). Using the expertise of the Project’s technical advisor, Mr. Joe Desbonnet, a custom-built database structure was created.

The data entered includes the following:

- Estate Description – a brief description usually indicating the size of the estate, how it evolved and how it was divided in the end. An estate is always named for the owners, not the location, as many landowners held property in multiple locations
- Associated Families – associations usually reflect family relationships, junior branches, connections through marriage and changes in ownership
- Associated Houses – the bulk of the houses in-

cluded are those which had a valuation of £10 or more at the time of Griffith’s Valuation. The database does, however, contain a significant number which do not appear in the valuation because it pre-dates their construction. Some houses which did not have a £10 valuation are nevertheless included because they were previously of significance as confirmed by other reference sources.



**Figure 2** (L to R): Dr Martin Mansergh, TD, Marie Boran, Prof. James Browne, President, NUIG, Brigid Clesham, Joe Desbonnet.

Where possible, each estate entry draws on archival, contemporary and modern printed sources. These are listed at the end of the entry in that order. Details of the repository where archival sources are located are also included. Amongst these are upwards of fifty repositories outside of Ireland. The availability of on-line listings such as the National Register of Archives and A2A has facilitated this. Within Ireland resources in all of the major repositories such as the National Library, National Archives, Public Records Office of Northern Ireland and the Irish Architectural Archive have been consulted. Visits have been made to other repositories such as university libraries and the county libraries and archives services. The Connacht phase of the database was completed by the end of 2007. It contains information on over 1700 estates and 1500 houses in the province. A trial version was circulated to a group of archivists, librarians and scholars who provided valuable feedback. The database went live in Spring 2008 and was officially launched by Dr Martin Mansergh, TD, in July of that year (see figure 2).

The statistical tracker set up on the database indicates that it receives in excess of 8000 hits per month. The analysis shows the bulk of these are from Ireland and Britain but it has been accessed by researchers in Europe, North America, Australia and New Zealand. The email inquiry facility on the website allows researchers to make contact with the project team and this had proven to be a means of acquiring pictures of houses no longer extant and more detailed information about some of the estates.

Phase II of the project commenced in April 2008 with funding provided by the Program for Research in Third-Level Institutions. It will conclude in Summer 2011 with the publication on the website of the data for the six counties making up the province of Munster. To date it contains over 1950 estates and 3200 houses. The methodology and arrangement of the data are the same as for Connacht.

The researchers also carry out fieldwork in areas of each of the counties, often in a spirit of adventure not know-



ing what we will find at the end. Sometimes there are only scant remnants, such as the fireplace at Cloonmore, County Mayo, all that remains of the Phillips

house which once stood there (see figure 3).



Fireplace at Cloonmore, County Mayo



Castle Hewson, County Limerick

**Figure 3** Photos: Brigid Clesham

Frequently a stark shell serves as a reminder of former grandeur. Other sites, such as Castle Hewson, in the townland of Ballyengland, County Limerick, provide evidence of occupation from medieval times onwards. In this case the Hewson family have occupied the site since the late 17th century (see figure 3).

Photographic evidence for houses is also provided by the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage who have kindly allowed us to use images from their online database <http://www.buildingsofireland.ie>

The data from both the Connacht and Munster projects will be published as a single database at <http://www.landedestates.ie>. It is intended to hold a launch event, including a seminar, at the Moore Institute, NUI, Galway, in late May 2011. Further details will be avail-

able from the Moore Institute website at <http://www.nuigalway.ie/mooreinstitute>

We have received inquiries from researchers as to the likelihood of us continuing the work to include Ulster and Leinster. This would be very desirable in order to provide the most comprehensive source for scholarship. However, as we all know, the economic situation has altered considerably since the commencement of the project in 2005. It is likely, in any case, that work on either one of those provinces would require considerable cooperation with another partner institution in the conduct of the research. It is hoped to investigate the possibilities for this following the launch of the Munster database. Suggestions and offers of funding would be most welcome!

## 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.

***Celtic from the West: alternative perspectives from archaeology, genetics, language and literature***

Edited by Barry Cunliffe and John T. Koch

(Celtic Studies Publications, XV)

(Oxford: Oxbow Books, 2010. vii, 384 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781842174104. £40)

Proceedings of a conference that brought together archaeologists and experts in Celtic language and literature are published in this well produced and nicely illustrated volume. The essays explore the new idea that the Celtic languages emerged in the Atlantic Zone during the Bronze Age, approaching the issue through the varied lenses of archaeology, genetics and philology. This Celtic Atlantic hypothesis presents a major departure from the long-established scenario in which the ancient Celtic languages and people called 'Keltoi' (Celts) are closely bound up with the archaeology of the Hallstatt and La Tène cultures of Iron Age west-central Europe. As well as considering whether an earlier starting point in the west might provide a better foundation for Celtic studies, the collection aims to bring to an English-language readership some recent and often neglected evidence of the pre-Roman peoples and languages of the western Iberian Peninsula.

***Churches in early medieval Ireland: architecture, ritual and memory***

Tomás Ó Carragáin

(New Haven & London: Yale University Press for the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art, 2010. xvi, 392 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9780300154443. £40)

The churches built in Ireland from the coming of Christianity in the fifth century down to the eleventh century are surveyed in this lavishly illustrated book. Ó Carragáin examines the reasons why these simple stone churches were built in a particular way and considers their role in early Christian Irish society. He argues that these churches were modelled on the wooden churches of early saints, and adhered to the style of those earlier structures in homage to the saints concerned. The more complex ecclesiastical settlements at Armagh, Glendalough and Clonmacnoise, which contained a range of religious edifices including round towers and high crosses as well as ten or more churches, are also discussed. Ó Carragáin suggests that these major Irish ecclesiastical complexes were intended to echo the sacred topographies of the major Christian sites at Jerusalem and Rome.

***Early Christian settlement in north-west Ulster***

Thomas R. Kerr

(BAR, British Series, 430)

(Oxford: Archaeopress, 2007. iii, 143 p. Illus. Pbk. ISBN 9781407300153. £32)

This technical study examines the environmental and political factors that have influenced the distribution of settlement types in north-west Ulster during the Early Christian period (AD 500–1000). Various site types are discussed in the introductory chapter; the physical geography and history of the region now encompassing the counties of Donegal, Londonderry, Tyrone, Fermanagh, Armagh and Monaghan, are discussed in the second and third chapters while the cultural remains and written sources that cast light on individual farm economies are discussed in the fourth chapter. Statistical analysis of the landscapes of the region follows, and the various types of settlement are correlated to variations in the landscape. The chronology of settlement is analysed in detail in chapter eight where the author concludes that the ninth and tenth centuries marked a watershed in economic and social terms and 'should signal the start of a different period of

study for Irish archaeology and history' (p. 116).

***Lough Kinale: studies of an Irish lake***

C. Fredengren, A. Kilfeather and I. Stuijts

(Lake settlement project. Discovery Programme Monograph, no. 8)

(Dublin: Wordwell, 2010. x, 284 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781905569298. €40)

This book is the result of one module of the Discovery Programme's Lake Settlement Project and it studies settlement from the Mesolithic to the present. In landscape terms, Lough Kinale is a large lake on a river system with associated archaeology; it is comparable to Lough Ennell and Lough Gara. As in the case of the Lough Gara region, prehistoric monuments around Lough Kinale occur in upland areas. From a purely topographical angle, the Kinale study area may be compared with the small drumlin lake areas in south Ulster and north-east Connacht.

Lough Kinale was selected for study because a soft-bed lake was thought likely to provide good environmental information. The study examines the question of the construction in the Mesolithic of man-made islands, and attempts to interpret the context of many of the late Mesolithic artefacts found on lake shores in different parts of Ireland. Other issues raised by the Lough Kinale research include the building and use of larger high-cairn crannogs in proximity to each other. There are three large crannogs here, two of which have yielded rich artefact material.

***Relics of old decency: archaeological studies in later prehistory: Festschrift for Barry Raftery***

Edited by Gabriel Cooney, Katharina Becker, John Coles, Michael Ryan and Susanne Sievers

(Dublin: Wordwell, 2009. xii, 560 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781905569373. €50)

Over forty contributions are published in this large volume, arranged thematically. The categories adopted are: wetlands; artefacts and contexts; contacts and connections; La Tène art; later prehistoric life and death, and hillforts and enclosures. The volume concludes with a historical perspective, looking at archaeological events and personalities in the twentieth century.

***Antiquities of Old Fingal: the archaeology of north County Dublin***

Christine Baker

(Dublin: Wordwell, 2010. x, 132 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781905569496. €30)

Fingal is the name given to the northern part of Co. Dublin since the Viking Age. Although it has long had a distinct geographical and linguistic identity, it was only recently designated a distinct county with its own local administration. Prior to that the boundary of Fingal was not clearly defined but it extended almost to the medieval city of Dublin and comprised a large part of its fertile hinterland. The fertility of its soil, its fishing ports and its closeness to Dublin ensured that Fingal was prosperous in medieval and modern times. Proximity to Dublin not only brought great benefits but in modern times it was the spur to a great deal of development which engulfed much of the countryside and brought a rapid expansion to Fingal's towns and villages. While this growth threatened much of the physical heritage of the region, recent development work has led to the discovery of hitherto unknown archaeological sites. Information gleaned from recent excavations are used to good effect in this account of the archaeological monuments of Fingal.

***The archaeology of Killeen castle, Co. Meath*****Christine Baker****(Dublin: Wordwell on behalf of Margaret Gowen & Co., 2009. xi, 212 p. Hbk. ISBN 9781905569304. €30)**

Killeen castle, Co. Meath is the focus for this study which presents the results of archaeological exploration that took place within the demesne in connection with the development of the Killeen Castle Golf Resort. While the castle church and wayside cross were indicative of a surviving archaeological landscape, the true extent of this was only uncovered as the project progressed. The scope of the development meant the removal of topsoil over virtually the entire demesne land (c.600 acres), its shaping and the insertion of drainage as well as the clearing for foundations in close proximity to the known archaeological monuments. The six major sites investigated dated from the Bronze Age to the nineteenth century and encapsulated the development of Killeen, specifically the changes from the early medieval period, the effects of the Anglo-Norman arrival and the subsequent consolidation of the medieval economy. Post-excavation analysis allows this book to place the archaeological findings in their historical, geographical and cultural context.

***In the shadow of the Galtees: archaeological excavations along the N8 Cashel to Mitchelstown road scheme*****Melanie McQuade, Bernice Molloy and Colm Moriarty (Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd)****(NRA Scheme Monographs, 4)****(Dublin: National Roads Authority, 2009. xxi, 412 p. Includes CDROM. Illus. Pbk. ISBN 978095495593. No price given.)**

The excavations undertaken on this road scheme uncovered 63 previously undocumented archaeological sites where the remains of settlement, ritual, burial, and industrial activity were uncovered. The finds span a period of 5,000 years, and the reports are arranged chronologically in this book, with particularly rich finds recorded for settlement sites of the Bronze Age (2400–600 BC).

***Places along the way: first findings on the M3*****Edited by Mary B. Deevy and Donald Murphy****(NRA Scheme Monographs, 5)****(Dublin: National Roads Authority, 2009. xv, 197 p. Illus. Pbk. ISBN 9780956418005. No price given.)**

Reports on eight of the most significant sites on the Clonee to Kells section of the M3 road-building project in County Meath are presented in this book. The area covered encompasses the landscape around the hill of Tara, and there are reports on excavations at Lismullin, Castlefarm, Roestown, Collierstown, Baronstown, Dowdstown and Boyerstown. The evidence from the sites concentrates on the early medieval period, with some new evidence also for later medieval settlement. The concluding essay in the volume, by Margaret Murphy, surveys the documentary evidence for rural settlement in Meath from 1170 to 1660.

***The Viking Age: Ireland and the West. Papers from the proceedings of the fifteenth Viking Congress, Cork, 18–27 August 2005*****John Sheehan & Donnchadh Ó Corráin, editors. Shannon Lewis-Simpson, editorial assistant.****(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2010. xxviii, 569 p. Hbk. ISBN 9781846821011. €50)**

Ireland's relationship with the Viking world is a core theme of this volume, comprising fifty essays derived from the proceedings of an international conference held in Cork in 2005. Viking house sites in both rural and urban contexts are discussed in a number of different essays. The development of urban settlements in the Viking era is considered by six separate contributors, and includes discussion of significant sites in Denmark and Norway as well as Irish Viking settlements at Cork, Waterford and Dublin. The trend towards urbanisation in these areas is contrasted with the lack of urban development in Iceland in an essay on Reykholt by Guðrún Sveinbjarnardóttir. The chronology of Viking settlement in Ireland is

re-examined in a useful essay by Emer Purcell evaluating ninth-century entries in the Irish annals.

***Vikings of the Irish Sea: conflict and assimilation, AD 790–1050*****David Griffiths****(Stroud: The History Press, 2010. 191 p. Illus. Pbk. ISBN 9780752436463, £17.99)**

Ireland features strongly in this study of the Viking era. Vikings began raiding islands and monasteries on the Atlantic fringes of Europe in the 790s and the Irish Sea rapidly became one of their most productive hunting-grounds. Vikings crossed and re-crossed the Irish Sea in search of land, wealth and power. Raids were followed by settlement, firstly in fortified camps, and later in towns, market enclaves and rural estates. Vikings came into contact with existing populations in Ireland, Britain and the Isle of Man. By 1050 the process of assimilation was well under way, yet Viking influence and distinctiveness did not altogether disappear. This book takes the sea as its starting point, and looks afresh at the story of an opportunistic people who left their mark in ways which still resonate today.

***L'Irlanda e gli Irlandesi nell'alto medioevo (Spoleto, 16–21 aprile 2009)*****(Settimane di Studio della Fondazione Centro Italiano di studi sull'alto medioevo, LVII) Spoleto: Fondazione Centro Italiano di studi sull'alto medioevo, 2010. xiv, 749 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9788879882347. €115)**

Essays by twenty-five specialists in medieval Ireland are collected in this volume. Most of the essays are in English, together with a small number in either Italian or French. The emphasis is on literature and cultural history, but there are important essays by Fergus Kelly on 'The relative importance of cereals and livestock in the medieval Irish economy: the evidence of the law-texts', and Wendy Davies on 'Economic change in early medieval Ireland: the case for growth'. The book offers a good overview of some of the latest research in medieval studies in Ireland.

***The Dublin region in the middle ages: settlement, land-use and economy*****Margaret Murphy & Michael Potterton****(A Discovery Programme monograph: Medieval Rural Settlement project)****(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2010. 598 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781846822669. €50)**

This authoritative publication is a product of the Discovery Programme's Medieval Rural Settlement Project. The book is a study of the medieval region that contained and was defined by the presence of Ireland's largest nucleated settlement. Combining documentary and archaeological data this volume explores the primary settlement features of the hinterland area (all of Co. Dublin and large parts of Kildare, Meath and Wicklow), including defensive monuments, manors, the church and the Pale. It examines the ways in which resources of the region were managed and exploited to produce food, fuel and raw materials for both town and country, and investigates the processing of the raw materials for human consumption. Then as now, the city profoundly affected its surrounding area through its demands for resources and through the ownership of land by Dubliners (ecclesiastics and lay) and the control of trade by city merchants. In addition to presenting a timely examination of urban-rural interaction, the volume contributes to wider debates on topics such as settlement landscapes, the role of lordship and the productivity of agriculture.

***Medieval Dublin X: proceedings of the Friends of Medieval Dublin symposium, 2008*****Seán Duffy, editor****(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2010. 326 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781846822209. €55 Pbk. ISBN 9781846822216, €29.95)**



This 10th volume of proceedings of the annual Friends of Medieval Dublin Symposium contains reports on recent archaeological excavations: Sinéad Phelan found evidence for Hiberno-Norse activity on Hammond Lane; Giles Dawkes discusses his excavations at Church Street and May Lane; Alan Hayden relays his findings from a dig on the site of a late-medieval mill in St Augustine's Street; and Edmund O'Donovan's excavation at St Nahi's church in Dundrum revealed a series of fortified enclosures around the early monastic foundation. Other papers include Stephen Harrison's fresh look at a furnished Viking grave discovered in Bride Street in the 19th century. Historical perspectives on the medieval city and county are provided by Áine Foley's essay on crime in the royal manors of medieval Dublin (Crumlin, Esker, Saggart and Newcastle Lyons) in the early 14th century. Sparky Booker identifies a perhaps surprising level of Gaelicization in 15th-century Dublin. Clare Downham focuses on historical records relating to Viking bases in 9th-century Ireland. The volume concludes with a hitherto unpublished essay by the late Professor A.J. Otway-Ruthven on the town in medieval Ireland.

***Medieval Lough Cé: history, archaeology and landscape***  
Thomas Finan, editor

(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2010. 185 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781846821042. €45)

The role of Lough Key and its relationship to the various lordships of north Roscommon in the later Middle Ages is examined in this collection of essays. The world of the MacDermot lordship of Moylurg is central to these studies. Kieran O'Connor, Niall Brady, Anne Connors and Carlos Fidalgo-Romo study the Rock of Lough Key, a small island on the eastern end of the lake known as Castle Island. The site functioned as the centre of the MacDermot lordship for centuries. Essays on ecclesiastical topics are presented by Christopher Read and Miriam Clyne, on livestock by John Soderberg and Jennifer Immich, and also by Fiona Beglane. There is an essay on Romanesque sculpture in the region by Rachel Moss, and finally a study of the politics of the O'Connor lordship in the thirteenth century by the editor, Thomas Finan. The book is well designed and clearly and appropriately illustrated.

***The present and the past in medieval Irish chronicles***  
Nicholas Evans (Studies in Celtic History)

(Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2010. xiii, 289 p. Hbk. ISBN 9781843835493. €72)

While the special significance of the extant Irish annals as sources for the study of medieval Ireland is well recognised, scholars are not yet agreed on precisely when and how and to what purpose the chronicles now available to us were compiled. In this study, Evans analyses the principal Irish chronicles that originated in the tenth and eleventh centuries: the Annals of Ulster, the Annals of Tigernach, and the Chronicon Scotorum. Despite appearances, annals are not objective sources. The biases inherent in these various medieval compilations are only gradually being acknowledged, and Evans makes an important contribution to this debate.

***A grand gallimaufry, collected in honour of Nick Maxwell***  
Edited by Mary Davies, Una MacConville and Gabriel Cooney

(Dublin: Wordwell, 2010. xv, 306 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 978190569458. €40)

Enlightenment in the form of entertainment provides the inspiration for this eclectic volume. There are more than 75 contributions, with a strong emphasis on archaeology. A few contributions are derivative of previously published items, but many snippets of new research are published here also.

***Longford (Irish Historic Towns Atlas, No. 22)***

By Sarah Gearty, Martin Morris and Fergus O'Ferrall  
(Dublin: Royal Irish Academy, 2010. 19 p. text; 18 p. loose maps and plates. Illus. Includes CDROM. Pbk. ISBN 9781904890676. €30)

The historical essay introducing this atlas traces the evolution of the urban settlement at Longford from the fifteenth century to the twentieth. The text is accompanied by the usual detailed categorisation of topographical information in the built-up area of Longford as it has evolved over time. In addition to the reconstruction map of the town in 1836 produced at a scale of 1:2500, a selection of eighteenth and nineteenth-century historical maps of the town are also reproduced.

***Longford: history and society. Interdisciplinary essays on the history of an Irish county***

Editors: Martin Morris & Fergus O'Ferrall; Series editor: William Nolan

(Dublin: Geography Publications, 2010. xxviii, 775 p. Hbk. ISBN 9780906602584, €60)

Among the thirty-two chapters on Longford published in this volume there are several of particular interest to students of Irish historic settlement. Kieran O'Connor and Ciaran Parker survey Anglo-Norman settlement in County Longford; Linda Doran researches communication routes (both roads and rivers) in the medieval period; Freya Verstraten Veach and Neil Farrell present complementary studies of the O'Ferrall lordship of Annaly at different periods; James Lyttleton undertakes a case-study of plantation architecture by focussing on the castle of Rathcline; Raymond Gillespie examines two late seventeenth-century descriptions of the county by Robert Downing and Nicholas Dowdall, while William Nolan examines estates and large farms in County Longford from 1841 to 1911. The volume is nicely presented in the familiar format of this well established series, though in this instance the index is barely adequate and does not do justice to the range of topics covered in the volume.

***Limerick, c.840 to c.1900: Viking Longphort to Victorian city***

Eamon O'Flaherty and Jennifer Moore

(Dublin: Royal Irish Academy, 2011. 20 p. text; 1 large folded map. Pbk. ISBN 9781904890713. €10)

Latest in a series of pocket maps of Irish historic towns, this detailed map of Limerick records the locations of all the significant sites in the city from the ninth to the nineteenth century. Ideal for the historically minded tourist, though with well over 250 sites marked it would take even the most energetic visitor multiple outings to view them all.

***O'Neill's own country: a history of the Ballinderry valley***

Kevin Johnston

(Dublin: Nonsuch Publishing, 2009. 254 p. Illus. ISBN 9781845889562. €19.99)

A river valley is the focus for this local study which ranges across many centuries. The Ballinderry River rises north-west of Pomeroy in Co. Tyrone, and much of it runs on the boundary between the counties of Tyrone and Londonderry, until it reaches Lough Neagh. It was the backbone of Cookstown's vibrant linen industry in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The book traces the impact of the river on the development of the locality from earliest times to the present. The river is currently undergoing a rejuvenation project with the help of the WWF and the local community. The book is fully illustrated and also includes a gazetteer, which follows the course of the Ballinderry River, and explains the rich archaeological, ecological and cultural elements of one of Ulster's richest rivers.

***The history of Tralee: its charter and governance***

Gerald O'Carroll

(Tralee: The author, 2009. x, 164 p. Illus. Pbk. ISBN 9780954790226. €20)

Urban history has been relatively under-researched in Ireland, and this study of the evolution of Tralee, Co. Kerry, from the seventeenth century, is to be welcomed. The principal focus is on the governance of the town from the time it was

awarded a royal charter in 1613 through to the early twentieth century.

***Bristol's trade with Ireland and the continent, 1503–1601: the evidence of the exchequer customs accounts***  
Susan Flavin and Evan T. Jones, editors  
(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2009. xxv, 1,081 p. Hbk. ISBN 9781846821820, €65)

Data from eleven Bristol 'particular' accounts and port books are reproduced in this volume. The sources selected record in minute detail the most important branch of Ireland's overseas trade. They have been chosen to assist the re-evaluation of the economic development of southern Ireland in the late sixteenth century, and in this accessible published format they will serve as the starting point for future research on the economic and social development of southern Ireland in the early modern period.

***Plantation Ireland: settlement and material culture, c.1550–c.1700***  
James Lyttleton & Colin Rynne, editors  
(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2009. 323 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781846821868. €45)

Emerging from a joint conference of the Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement and Irish Post-Medieval Archaeology Group held in Cork, this volume presents fourteen new essays on the subject of plantation in early modern Ireland. The book explores the concept of plantation as a model for explaining cultural and social change, examining the implications of the various plantation schemes for economic development, architecture, landscape and ideology. There are in-depth studies of Ightermurragh castle, Co. Cork, alehouses in Ulster, famine and displacement in plantation-era Munster, and the significance of a range of cultural and religious artefacts and edifices in the plantation landscape. The industrial initiatives of the plantation period are also considered in a study of ironworks. The final essay, on the last stages of plantation, extends into the mid-eighteenth century.

***The Donegal plantation and the Tír Chonaill Irish, 1610–1710***  
Darren McGettigan  
(Maynooth Studies in Local History, 93)  
(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2010. 72 p. Illus. ISBN 9781846822643. €9.95)

This book is a short study of how the Ulster plantation impacted on the Gaelic Irish lordship of Tír Chonaill, transforming it in the century after 1610, from a powerful autonomous lordship, with a warlike population, into a quiet and well-settled territory, albeit with a still largely unplanted, Gaelic western seaboard by 1710. County Donegal became the most successfully planted area of the official Ulster plantation. The settlers in the county were led by the Lowland Scots, mostly from Ayrshire, headed by two powerful Scottish favourites of King James I himself. This study analyses how the Donegal plantation grew and consolidated itself throughout the 17th century, helped in large measure by the manner in which the Gaelic Irish population of Donegal became isolated in the west of the county, where it had a development which was almost separate and distinct from the Gaelic Irish in the rest of the province.

***William Petty and the ambitions of political arithmetic***  
Ted McCormick  
(Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009. xvi, 347 p. Hbk. ISBN 978199547890. £60)

This is an intellectual biography of one of the key thinkers behind the English colonisation of Ireland in the seventeenth century. Amongst other themes, McCormick explains the thinking behind Petty's renowned 'Down survey' in the 1650s, and examines the practicalities of implementing the survey which measured over two million acres of Irish land.

***Politics and provincial people: Sligo and Limerick, 1691–1761***

D.A. Fleming  
(Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2010. xvi, 272 p. Hbk. ISBN 9780719081798, £60)

Political life in two contrasting provincial towns in the eighteenth century is examined in this study of Limerick city and the considerably smaller urban centre at Sligo. The role of local communities and agents of the state – including the revenue and the military – are considered, and the book illustrates the extent to which, in larger provincial urban centres in particular, there was scope for those below the level of the elite to have an effective role in local politics.

***The eighteenth-century Dublin town house: form, function and finance***

Christine Casey, editor  
(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2010. xxv, 286 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781846821875, €45)

Drawing on a wide variety of sources, ranging from archaeological investigations of individual sites to documentary records such as leases and family correspondence, this book of essays considers many aspects of the physical growth of Dublin city in the eighteenth century. Attention is given to the urban politics that drove the physical expansion of the city, the financial context that allowed development to take place; and also the minutiae of daily life as lived in those town houses that have helped define Dublin city since the eighteenth century.

***John Rocque's Dublin: a guide to the Georgian city***

Colm Lennon & John Montague  
(Dublin: Royal Irish Academy, 2010. xvi, 82 p. Illus. Pbk. ISBN 9781904890690. €15)

Rocque came to Ireland in 1754, towards the end of his cartographic career, and produced several important maps of the city and county of Dublin. The subject of this well-illustrated book is Rocque's 4-sheet map of the city published in 1756 which was entitled 'Exact survey of the city and suburbs of Dublin'. As this book illustrates, Rocque's map is an invaluable source for the history of Dublin city in the eighteenth century. Forty significant extracts from the map are illustrated here with accompanying commentary focussing on individual streets and buildings. Two contextual essays set the scene. John Montague introduces the career of John Rocque and explains the circumstances in which the map was produced, while Colm Lennon describes mid-eighteenth-century Dublin as depicted on Rocque's map.

***Ireland's Royal Canal, 1789–2009***

Ruth Delany and Ian Bath. In association with Waterways Ireland  
(Dublin: Lilliput Press, 2009. xvi, 336 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781843511625, €30)

Connecting Dublin with the River Shannon, the Royal Canal's history extends back more than two hundred years. The canal was fully operational in the years 1818 to 1845, serving places such as Leixlip, Maynooth, Enfield, Kinnegad, Mullingar, Ballymahon, Longford, Cloondara and Termonbarry, but declined following the coming of the railways and the take-over of the canal by the Midland & Great Western Railway Company, eventually closing in 1961. The first half of this book traces the canal project from its inception, examining the work of the planners, engineers, administrators and the 2,000 labourers involved in constructing the canal. The second part of the book takes up the story in 1974 when a campaign to restore the Royal Canal began, culminating in its transformation once more into a fully navigable waterway through the heart of Ireland.

***The Famine clearance in Toomevara, County Tipperary***  
Helen O'Brien (Maynooth Studies in Local History, No. 89)

(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2010. 64 p. Illus. ISBN

9781846822605. €9.95)

On 28 May 1849 at the height of the Great Famine, over 500 people were evicted from the village of Toomevara, county Tipperary. Reports of the clearance spread far and wide and its notoriety was such that it was discussed in the British House of Commons. This short book examines Toomevara's experience throughout the years 1845 to 1851 with particular focus on the clearance and the events which followed. A wide variety of sources are referred to, from official government records to local newspaper reports and local folk memory. The effects of the Famine were more than evident throughout the parish with close to half the population perishing or leaving the area. The study also shows that the role some of its own people played in the suffering of their fellow parishioners after the clearance sparked a bitterness that remained in the social memory of the parish for generations.

***Fethard, County Tipperary, 1200–2000***

**Michael O'Donnell**

(Dublin: Geography Publications, 2010. xiv, 557 p. Illus. ISBN 9780906602546. €40)

An in-depth local study of an Irish town is provided by Michael O'Donnell, who traces the survival of the community of Fethard over eight centuries. There is a particular emphasis on the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

***Drystone walls of the Aran Islands: exploring the cultural landscape***

**Mary Laheen**

(Cork: Collins Press, 2010. vii, 184 p. Illus. Pbk. ISBN 9781848890251. €19.99)

Field-boundaries on the Aran Islands are a repository of history and heritage, retaining considerable continuity with the past. Mary Laheen's study of the drystone walls of the Aran Islands examines the many factors that influence a cultural landscape, including topography, geology and political history. The changing settlement pattern and increased amount of wall building during the nineteenth-century are outlined. In a micro-study of the landscape of one particular townland and one farm within that townland, the pattern of landholding and farming as practised today is examined in detail.

***An Admiral's eye view: sketches of Ireland by Lord Mark Kerr***

**Anne Casement, with an introduction by Hector McDonnell**

(Belfast: Ulster Historical Foundation, 2010. xiv, 106 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781903688816. £16.99)

Images of Irish landscapes and Irish life in the first half of the nineteenth century are preserved in the sketches of Lord Mark Kerr (1776–1840). Some of his sketchbooks are still in private ownership while other drawings are preserved in the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. In 1799 Kerr married Charlotte McDonnell, heiress to half of the McDonnell family's Antrim estates, and his sketches were produced during his regular visits to the north of Ireland to manage his wife's Irish estates. This beautifully produced book is well illustrated and has extensive historical notes to accompany the images.

***Troubled waters: a social and cultural history of Ireland's sea fisheries***

**Jim Mac Laughlin**

(Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2010. xv, 397 p. Hbk. ISBN 9781846822582. €55)

This is the most comprehensive study of the history of sea fishing in Ireland to date. It charts the evolution of fisheries from the earliest times, and discusses the historical importance of the coastal economy to the country's maritime communities. *Troubled Waters* demonstrates the significant roles played by inshore and deep-sea fishing in the evolution of modern Irish society. Topics examined include the archaeology of Irish fishing; cultural representations of coastal workers in Irish art and literature; the internationalization of Irish waters in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries; the

organisation of fish shambles and markets in coastal Ireland; the social world and working lives of Irish fishing communities; and the 'crowded shoreline' of nineteenth-century Ireland.

***Working the Irish coast***

**Mike Smylie**

(Dublin: Nonsuch, 2009. 160 p. Illus. Pbk. ISBN 9781845889449. €19.99)

Fishing has always been an important part of Irish culture and identity. In his account of a 23-day journey around the Irish coast, Mike Smylie celebrates the industry and outlines its role in the cultural and economic development of the country. He takes a close look at the various vessels used that are native to Ireland. He also includes many anecdotes about the fishing industry collected as he engaged in conversation with boat-builders and fishermen encountered on his travels.

***Landholding, society and settlement in nineteenth-century Ireland: a historical geographer's perspective***

**T. Jones Hughes. With an introduction by William J. Smyth**

(Dublin: Geography Publications, 2010. xviii, 366 p. Hbk. ISBN 9780906602591. €30)

This book brings together a selection of eighteen previously published essays written by T. Jones Hughes and published between 1956 and 1987. The first part of this collection focuses on local case-studies and includes a series of studies of landholding and settlement in the nineteenth century in Counties Tipperary, Meath, Cavan, and the Cooley Peninsula, in County Louth. The second half of the book contains broader, more synthetic, articles on aspects of settlement both urban and rural in nineteenth-century Ireland. The volume opens with an engaging article by W.J. Smyth (UCC) elucidating the influence of Thomas Jones Hughes on two generations of historical geographers in Ireland.

***The Sperrins and their foothills: a geographical, social, and economic study from earliest times to the new millennium***

**Daniel J. Donnelly**

(Galbally, Co. Tyrone, The Donnelly Family, 2010. xxx, 506p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9780956360304. £25)

Landscape and people are the focus of this detailed local study of the settlement history of the upland region of the Sperrins in County Tyrone. The book opens with a chapter devoted to the physical description of the region, followed by a survey of the evidence ranging from the prehistoric to the early Christian periods. There are brief chapters on late medieval Gaelic settlement and on the seventeenth-century plantation. The remainder of the book then focuses on the nineteenth century, with individual chapters on water power, dwellings, flax and linen production and agriculture. Although privately published, the book is well produced and effectively illustrated.

***Building over the centuries: a history of McLaughlin and Harvey***

**Frederick Gilbert Watson, with an introduction by Trevor Parkhill**

(Belfast: Nicholson & Bass, 2010. xii, 380 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781905989508. £15)

Sately homes and castles, houses and hotels, churches and hospitals, harbours and railway stations, factories and power stations are among the many and varied contributions of McLaughlin & Harvey to the built heritage of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. This illustrated book, by a former managing director of the company, reflects on how the fortunes of this major construction firm have echoed those of the wider economy since the mid-nineteenth century.

***Brown gold: a history of Bord na Móna and the peat industry in Ireland***

**Donal Clarke**

(Dublin: Gill & Macmillan, 2010. xii, 417 p. Illus. Hbk.



ISBN 9780717147533. €24.99)

**B**ord na Móna owns 80,000 ha of peatland, employs approximately 1,800 people and operates out of 30 localities mainly in Ireland, but also in the United Kingdom and eastern United States. This book draws on the company archives to tell the story of the development of a commercial enterprise focused on utilising Irish peatland resources.

*The making of the British landscape: How we have transformed the land, from prehistory to today*

Francis Pryor

(London: Allen Lane, 2010. xix, 812 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781846142055. £30)

**A**n admirer of W.G. Hoskins' *The making of the English landscape* (London, 1955), whose title is echoed in this new book, Francis Pryor nonetheless rejects the idea that this new book is any kind of update of Hoskins. Hoskins' thesis was that a landscape could be read to discern its historical layers, and he was among the first landscape historians to insist on what has now become standard practice, whereby evidence garnered from fieldwork and archaeological exploration is balanced by documentary research using maps, deeds, and local records. In other ways Hoskins' work was rather old-fashioned, and Pryor suggests that 'Hoskins' work had its roots in the Romantic tradition of landscape appreciation, as exemplified by poets such as Wordsworth' (p. 14). Pryor's large book, aimed at a general readership, is an ambitious new sur-

vey of the evolution of the British landscape from prehistory to the present. The author is an archaeologist with interests in prehistory, but he also acknowledges the extent to which the consequences of changes to the landscape in the early modern period from 1550 to 1750 have shaped the modern world. Particular emphasis is placed on the way human relationships, and patterns of trade and commercial development have impacted on the landscape of Britain. The major impact of twentieth-century infrastructural projects to meet water, energy and transport needs are also given due consideration.

*If maps could speak*

Richard Kirwan

(Dublin: Londubh Books, 2010. 192 p. Illus. Pbk. ISBN 9781907535093, €14.99)

**A** former director of the Ordnance Survey of Ireland takes the reader through the story of the surveyors and map-makers employed on the original Ordnance Survey of Ireland in the mid-nineteenth century, before moving on to the story of his own career in the OSI in the twentieth century. The book is a mixture of historical narrative, personal reminiscence, and cartographic analysis. In the course of his map-making career Kirwan experienced a revolution in the methodologies of map-making and the memoir includes his reflections on the implications of this momentous change.

## Newly published sources and guides to sources

Bernadette Cunningham

*Excavations 2006: summary accounts of archaeological excavations in Ireland*

Edited by Isabel Bennett

(Dublin: Wordwell, 2009. xc, 603 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781905569397, €45)

*Excavations 2007: summary accounts of archaeological excavations in Ireland*

Edited by Isabel Bennett

(Dublin: Wordwell, 2010. lxxxix, 576 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781905569427, €35)

**S**ummary reports of archaeological investigations are collected here in an important annual work of reference. The sheer size of these volumes is a clear indication of the growth in archaeological exploration in these years, much of it prompted by road-building schemes. As Isabel Bennett points out, the geographical spread of archaeological research is skewed by these schemes, with a high concentration of work in some counties, such as Dublin, Meath, Tipperary and Cork, but relatively little elsewhere. The high level of activity associated with infrastructural activity is indicated by the fact that the 2006 volume contains 2,214 summary reports, with a further 2,023 reports contained in the 2007 volume. These convenient and permanent printed records of such an extensive range of work are invaluable, though as the editor points out, some 200 site reports go unreported each year through the failure of those involved to submit a summary for publication.

*A bardic miscellany: five hundred bardic poems from manuscripts in Irish and British libraries*

Edited by Damian McManus and Eoghan Ó Raghallaigh

(Léann na Tríonóide: Trinity Irish Studies, 2)

(Dublin: Department of Irish, School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies, Trinity College Dublin, 2010. xxxii, 710 p. Hbk. ISBN 9780954688219. €50)

**F**ive hundred hitherto unpublished bardic poems are presented in this volume, greatly increasing the proportion of extant Irish bardic poetry now accessible in print. The texts are transcribed from the earliest authoritative manuscript for

each item, and are published without translations. The poems range in date from the thirteenth to the seventeenth centuries, and are mostly addressed to contemporary leaders in medieval Ireland, and reflect many aspects of life among the elite. The volume acts as a companion volume to the bardic poetry database compiled by Katharine Simms and published on the website of the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies. (<http://bardic.celt.dias.ie/>)

*Calendar of State Papers Ireland, Tudor period, 1566–1567*

Edited by Bernadette Cunningham

(Dublin: Irish Manuscripts Commission, 2009. xxiii, 343 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781906865009. €65)

**D**ocuments calendared here are preserved among the State Papers, Ireland, series in the National Archives, Kew. While primarily administrative and political in nature the correspondence and administrative documents in the collection reveal much incidental detail on life in the Irish provinces in the late sixteenth century. This entirely new calendar of the documents is designed to supersede the relevant section of the original calendar of this collection edited by Hans Claude Hamilton in 1860.

*Calendar of State Papers Ireland, Tudor period, 1568–1571*

Edited by Bernadette Cunningham

(Dublin: Irish Manuscripts Commission, 2010. xviii, 365 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781906865016. €65)

**T**he volume continues the re-calendaring of documents from the State Papers Ireland series in the National Archives, Kew. Many aspects of the changes that took place under English influence in sixteenth century Ireland are recorded in these primary sources. Access to the document summaries presented here is enhanced by a comprehensive index of people, places and subjects.

*The Conolly archive*

Edited by Patrick Walsh and A.P.W. Malcolmson

(Dublin: Irish Manuscripts Commission, 2010. xxviii, 373 p. Hbk. ISBN 9781906865092)

The archive of the Conolly family of Castletown, County Kildare, is now dispersed through various repositories in Ireland, with some still in private hands. This comprehensive calendar of documents, mainly from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, includes papers relating to estates in counties Donegal, Dublin, Fermanagh, Leitrim, Londonderry, Kildare, Meath, Offaly, Roscommon, Waterford, Westmeath and Wexford. There is also material on estates in England and Wales.

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*The Clements archive*

**Edited by A.P.W. Malcolmson**

**(Dublin: Irish Manuscripts Commission, 2010. iv, 882 p. Hbk. ISBN 9781906865085)**

Counties Cavan, Donegal, Galway and Leitrim, together with Dublin city are the principal regions covered by the documents in the Clements archive. The family is traced back to Nathaniel Clements (1705–77), whose descendants established themselves at four principal seats: Killadoon, Celbridge, Co. Kildare; Ashfield, Cootehill, Co. Cavan; Lough Rynn, between Dromod and Mohill, Co. Leitrim, and Manor Vaughan, Carrigart, Co. Donegal. The bulk of the papers relate to the period 1750–1850. Listings are provided of the Killadoon papers at Killadoon; the Killadoon papers in the National Library of Ireland; the Ashfield papers in TCD; three volumes of Clements letters in TCD; the Warrens papers in NLI; the Seamus Geraghty donation to the Carrick-on-Shannon and District Historical Society, along with miscellaneous other Clements papers.

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*Ordnance Survey Letters: Roscommon. Letters relating to the antiquities of the county of Roscommon, containing information collected during the progress of the Ordnance Survey in 1837*

**Editor: Michael Herity**

**(Assistant editor: David McGuinness)**

**(Dublin: Fourmasters Press, 2010. xxviii, 178 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781903538142. €60)**

John O'Donovan researched County Roscommon for the Ordnance Survey in the summer of 1837, where his informants included Denis H. Kelly at Castlekelly, and Matthew

O'Connor of Mount Druid, who provided much information on Rathcroghan. He also consulted other local people throughout the county on the place-names and antiquities of their own localities. O'Donovan enhanced his enquiries with research on manuscript sources, and his findings were reported regularly to George Petrie in the collection that became known as the 'Ordnance Survey Letters' preserved in the Royal Irish Academy Library.

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*Ordnance Survey Letters Sligo. Letters relating to the antiquities of the county of Sligo containing information collected during the progress of the Ordnance Survey in 1836 and 1837*

**Editor: Michael Herity**

**(Assistant editor: David McGuinness)**

**(Dublin: Fourmasters Press, 2010. xvi, 165 p. Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781903538166. €60)**

Patrick O'Keeffe and Thomas O'Connor, along with John O'Donovan were responsible for research into the place-names and antiquities of County Sligo for the Ordnance Survey project in the mid-1830s. Their full correspondence, together with a selection of associated sketches and rough maps, is reproduced here from the original manuscripts of the Ordnance Survey letters preserved in the Royal Irish Academy Library.

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*Farnham: images from the Maxwell estate, Co. Cavan.*  
**Brendan Scott**

**(Dublin: Wordwell, 2010. vii, 99 p. Illus. Pbk. ISBN 9781905569335, €19.50)**

Among the treasures of Cavan County Museum is a collection of over 400 photographs and some glass plate negatives dating from the second half of the nineteenth century. The collection was generously donated in recent years by the Maxwells, barons Farnham. Highlights from this photographic collection are published in this new book by Brendan Scott, depicting aspects of life on the Farnham estate, Co. Cavan in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

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## Landscape and historic settlement in Corca Dhuibhne

### Dingle conference, 2010

The Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement fulfilled a long-held ambition in May 2010 with the hosting of a very worthwhile regional conference based in Dingle, Co. Kerry. The conference was held in association with the Dingle Historical Society and Oidhreacht Chorca Dhuibhne, Baile an Fheirtéaraigh.

#### Friday 7 May 2010

Beginning in Benner's Hotel on Friday evening, the opening lecture, by Isabel Bennett, provided a comprehensive introduction to the settlement archaeology of the Dingle Peninsula from the Bronze Age to the medieval period. As an archaeologist resident in Corca Dhuibhne, working with Músaem Chorca Dhuibhne, Isabel Bennett was able to communicate her in-depth local knowledge of the archaeology of the region. This set the scene most effectively for subsequent lectures and most especially for the field trip held on Saturday afternoon.

#### Saturday 8 May 2010

Saturday morning's four lectures were held at the Díseart Institute of Education and Celtic Culture, a community-run education and heritage venue located in a former convent in Dingle. Clare Cotter reported on excavations at promontory forts along the west Kerry coast, including that at Dunbeg, a site to be visited on the conference field trip. Discussion following the lecture focussed on the architectural features of the forts with comparison made with promontory forts in other parts of the west coast of Ireland as well as with the construction of early medieval churches. Previous research and related excavations by Terry Barry and Con Manning were also discussed.

Tomás Ó Carragáin's paper drew on new research being undertaken by an interdisciplinary team at University College Cork and Newcastle University on the theme of 'Making Christian landscapes'. (An Instar/Heritage Council project). Focussing on the Christian landscapes of early medieval Corca Dhuibhne, the paper also drew comparisons with England and western Europe. The research adopts a holistic approach to uncovering the past, and to characterising historic landscapes, both ecclesiastical and secular. In addition to documentary research, field system surveys, combined with GIS to analyse settlement patterns, have been carried out, and assessments made of the survival of pre-modern settlement patterns in the contemporary landscape. (A detailed progress report on this 'Making Christian Landscapes' project may be consulted on the Heritage Council website: <http://www.heritagecouncil.ie>)

Breandán Ó Cíabháin discussed the population groups of the Dingle and Iveragh peninsulas in the early historic period, drawing on evidence of Ogham stones as well as the documentary evidence of the early annals. While one-third of surviving Ogham stones are in Kerry, there are problems with dating since archaisms appear to be a feature of Ogham inscriptions. Place-names with the elements 'cill', 'eaglais', 'teampall' and 'tearmann' were also discussed.

Dan Graham's paper focussed on the links between the fishing communities of the Isle of Man and the Dingle peninsula in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Coastal settlements in the region were strongly dependent on the fishing industry, and the influence of the Manxmen helped commercialise the catching, harvesting and exporting of fish from Dingle. This led to the development of a 'golden age' for the Dingle fishery. Types of boat used, drift nets, steam engines used for hauling nets were all illustrated, while the seasonal nature of the work in the herring fisheries was also explained.

On Saturday afternoon a full coach party (with some accompanying cars) took part in a field trip around Corca Dhuibhne. The visit to Dunbeg promontory fort was led by Isabel Bennett, who also brought the group to see some nineteenth-century 'beehive' houses nearby. The visit to the Riasc monastic site was led by Conleth Manning, while the Kilmalkedar early Christian and medieval monastic site visit was led by Paul McCotter and Isabel Bennett. The spectacular drive around the Dingle peninsula to visit these sites took place in glorious spring sunshine which enhanced everybody's enjoyment of the outing and encouraged lengthy visits to each site.

The group reassembled in Benner's Hotel for the evening. Before dinner, the Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement's latest publication was launched at a wine reception hosted by the hotel. Published by Four Courts Press, and supported by a Heritage Council grant, *Plantation Ireland: settlement and material culture, c.1500-c.1700*, has been edited by James Lyttleton and Colin Rynne. It was launched by the Group President, Charles Doherty, and is on sale through bookshops and online from the publishers (<http://www.fourcourtspress.ie>). The launch was followed by the annual conference dinner at Benner's hotel, where the conference speakers were guests of the Group.

#### Sunday 9 May 2010

Following the early morning AGM of the Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement, there were a further four lectures on Sunday morning. Paul MacCotter's paper on lordship and settlement in Corca Dhuibhne focussed on evidence for secular settlement in the region between the thirteenth and sixteenth centuries. Drawing on written sources including genealogies, historical narratives and place-names, and some cartographic material, MacCotter linked the baronies formed in the sixteenth century with older divisions whose borders can be traced back to the eleventh century. Similarly he traced many parish units to older pre-Norman 'baile' territorial divisions. He also revised earlier suppositions about the territories of families such as the O'Sheas, O'Connells and O'Falveys,



while also discussing the significance of the MacCarthy kings and their O'Sullivan followers. The Anglo-Norman settlers in the north of the peninsula were also considered. Mac Cotter's research on Corca Dhuibhne is part of a wider INSTAR archaeological research project funded by the Heritage Council.

Declan Downey's paper analysed the evidence for Spanish links with Dingle in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Ecclesiastical aspects in the form of religious orders and even the medieval pilgrimage to Santiago were considered, in addition to commercial links with the Iberian peninsula as evidenced by the presence of Spanish and Flemish merchants.

Mícheál de Mórdha gave a lively talk on the historic settlement of the Blasket Islands since the seventeenth centuries, with particular emphasis on developments in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The islands were finally evacuated in 1953–54, and since 2009 the Great Blasket is largely state owned. Drawing on expertise gained as director of Ionad an Bhlascaoid Mhóir (The Blasket Centre) in Dún Chaoin, de Mórdha's audience was made aware of the various late twentieth-century initiatives to preserve aspects of the Blasket heritage. The talk traced settlement patterns on the island over time, and illustrated the significant role of women in precipitating the gradual move to the mainland and away from island life. Amongst the audience for de Mórdha's talk were some former island residents and their descendants.

The final talk on Sunday morning was delivered by Mícheál Ó Moráin, and concerned the Land Commission instigated resettlement of Baile Riabhach in 1959. Ó Moráin traced the history of the townland from the mid-seventeenth century, including the Cromwellian resettlement, and the nineteenth century clearance of tenants from the lands. The Land Commission initiative meant that the descendants of families that had been cleared from the land in the nineteenth century ultimately regained ownership of the land. Among the audience for the lecture were members of some families who had been resettled in Baile Riabhach in the 1950s.

Following the lecture, a field-trip to Baile Riabhach, led by Isabel Bennett with the able assistance of local residents, proved to be a highly instructive and enjoyable conclusion to a very successful weekend conference. As an encore, the more energetic participants then proceeded uphill to see the nearby early medieval monastic enclosure of Teampall Mhancháin.

The entire weekend programme of events was coordinated by Isabel Bennett, a member of the Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement and director of Músaem Chorca Dhuibhne (West Kerry Museum). (<http://www.westkerrymuseum.com>). Isabel proved to be a wonderful organiser and excellent guide, and her efforts ensured that visitors to the area, as well as local participants, greatly benefited from the conference. The excellent hospitality provided by the organising committee of An Díseart and by the staff of Benner's Hotel were also much appreciated. This was the Group's first visit to Kerry in 40 years and we hope to return at the earliest opportunity. The conference was partly funded by the Heritage Council under its 2010 Heritage, education and outreach grants scheme.

## Reviews

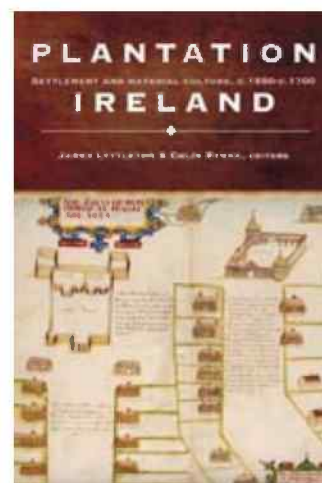
### ***Plantation Ireland: settlement and material culture, c.1550–1700***

Edited by J. Lyttleton & C. Rynne

(Dublin & Portland OR: Four Courts Press, 2010. 323pp, Illus. Hbk. ISBN 9781846821868. €45)

This book exemplifies the positive results of ongoing collaborative research between archaeologists, geographers and historians. Its contents mark a departure from the received view of early-modern settlement in Ireland for a number of reasons. While giving due consideration to religious and cultural continuity, the book dispassionately defines plantation during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries in terms of human mobility which has displaced indigenous populations throughout history. In preference to a piecemeal approach to chronology, the fourteen chapters deal consistently with events from the time of Elizabeth I until the end of the reign of Charles I. In his contribution, Toby Barnard subsequently comments on the stages of plantation after 1650 (pp 265–85).

From the start, Rolf Loeber applies a methodology which compares experiences in Ulster with similar events in Poland and Timor. In this setting, he presents the reader with a primary source he was first encouraged to study by Hugh Kearney, *Certain notes & observations touching the deducing & planting of colonies*, which Loeber complements with an analysis of the authorship in its immediate context (pp 23–42). This scientific objectivity is also found in Harold Mytum's contribution concerning external mortuary monuments in Ireland. Population studies have drawn attention to the settlement of east Ulster from southwest Scotland, and of west Ulster from the Scottish Borders. Taking regional traditions into account, Mytum adds a new dimension by identifying shared features in the mortality symbols of Ulster and eastern Scotland. The early seventeenth-century arrangement and composition of the skull on a grave-slab at Dundee, for instance, compares well with one in Co. Tyrone for 1624 (pp 174–5). This echoes the identification of common characteristics in burial practices from the first to the eighth centuries in Ireland by the Mapping Death Project at UCD, a key component of which will be the compilation of a database, and guidelines for the interpretation of the research field.<sup>1</sup>



Annaleigh Margey's article on mapping demonstrates the development of cartography from reconnaissance and military maps, to preparatory surveys and plantation maps. Dr Margey raises significant points about the baronies and estates, and reveals that the Ulster plantation was the most extensively surveyed in Ireland. Lyttleton and Rynne do not dwell solely upon Ulster, however. The case study of Ightermurragh Castle, Co. Cork, by Tadhg O'Keefe and Sinéad Quirke situates Irish plantations at the birth of the West: 'one of the building sites of modernity, literally and metaphorically' (p. 112). Colin Breen examines settlement in Munster and the widespread incidence of famine at the close of the sixteenth century, concluding his article with a call to revisit the abundant evidence provided by late-medieval urbanisation in the region. James Lyttleton illustrates how the native aristocracy of Leinster adjusted to changing religious and political circumstances in the seventeenth century. The I.H.S. monogram referred to on p. 184 is preserved in a north Italian woodcut of Bernardine of Siena c.1470-80 and the symbol continued to be preserved by the Franciscans in the seventeenth century.<sup>2</sup> Despite the comparative lack of formal plantations in Connacht, Sharon Weadick's focus upon the distribution and mapping of fortified houses throughout Ireland features data for the Shannon basin (pp 78-9). In his article Colin Rynne unearths fascinating parallels between plantation-period mining and ironworks across the Atlantic archipelago (pp 253-5, 257).

The editors and contributors make it quite clear that a great many people and institutions had a role in the realisation of this work. The wealth of diagrams, photographs and maps, especially the colour plates, serve to enhance the text. The impression created by this book is that of an up-to-date satellite survey of the area under investigation, rather than charts of otherwise isolated geographic locations. It is recommended reading for the general reader and the specialist alike.

Dr Benjamin Hazard  
School of History & Archives  
University College Dublin

## Upcoming Events

*Eighteenth-Century Ireland Society Annual Conference, 25-26 June 2010, University of Limerick.*

Contact Dr David Fleming (david.fleming@ul.ie) for details.

*Portrait of the City: framing the significance of historic urban landscapes*

December 9-10-11, 2010      [www.portrait-of-the-city.com](http://www.portrait-of-the-city.com)

In December 2010 the School of Architecture, Landscape and Civil Engineering, University College Dublin, in collaboration with the Office of Public Works will host a multi-disciplinary international conference to explore the significance of cities, their constructed heritage, and the manner in which both the city and its heritage are framed for the public, the nation and the tourist. It will construct a portrait of the city as imagined, created, destroyed, manipulated and lived by its citizens.

In order to elucidate these topics, we have invited international scholars from different fields as keynote speakers. The invitation is now open to scholars and students to submit abstracts for the open sessions.

<sup>2</sup> Dublin, University College, Dublin-Ordinis Fratrum Minorum, D.24/2/16.

## Dingle / Daingean Uí Chúis Conference Abstracts

### *The Settlement Archaeology of the Dingle Peninsula*

Ms Isabel Bennett, Curator, Músaem Corca Dhuibhne

There have been people living in Corca Dhuibhne since at least the Later Mesolithic period. In this talk, Isabel will give an overview of the settlement sites of the Peninsula from those earliest times until the present day. It will be presented more as an introduction to the area and its monuments, for those who may be unfamiliar with the peninsula, than as a serious academic exercise. As the Bronze Age and Early Medieval Period have left more traces behind than other periods of history and prehistory, these will provide most of the examples used. It is hoped that the talk will act as a taster for what is to come during the weekend, and will also encourage people to take some time to visit some of the many monuments still to be seen in the area, outside of those to be visited during the field trips.

### *Mackerel & Manx Fishermen — Visitors to the Dingle Peninsula 1880–1915*

Dan Graham

This presentation will explore the relationship between the Isle of Man fishermen and the Dingle Peninsula. The Manxmen came, worked and lived on their boats for the spring mackerel season. They were the first professional fishermen to arrive on the peninsula in the 1880s. The Manxmen brought organisation and commercial expertise into the catching, harvesting and exportation of fish from Dingle. The Dingle fisherman learnt and adapted these techniques.

The Manxmen sailed up to 250 sea miles to reach the lucrative mackerel fishing grounds. In turn, the Dingle fishermen began a relationship with ship building and chandlery businesses in the Isle of Man. The arrangement between Dingle and Manx fishing communities, though transient, was mutually beneficial over a thirty-five-year period. The impact of the Manx fishermen on Dingle fishing practices, led to the development of ‘The Golden Age’ of the Dingle fishery.

This fascinating, though incomplete story of the movement of fishermen between both fishing traditions will be illustrated through photographs, maps and original archive material.

### *A perusal of Blasket Island settlements: scráfbéachaint ar áiteanna lonnaithe ar an mBlascaoid Mór*

Mícheál de Mórdha

My talk will cover the social history and settlement pattern of the Great Blasket Island population — especially the latter days of the settlement there — say from 1800 onwards . . .

I propose to make a brief reference to Na Clocháin Gheala agus An Dún . . . but my main thrust will be a lead up to the final evacuation of that famous island in 1953/54.

If time allows I may show an excerpt from the documentary film ‘The Last of The Brood’ — the story of the last remaining islanders . . .

The talk will be amply illustrated with slides and other references . . .

### *Earls, Knights and Kings in Corca Dhuibhne: 1200–1550*

Dr Paul MacCotter

The study of lordship and settlement in what had been the pre-Invasion kingdom of Corcu Duibne presents a uniquely complex picture of interest for several reasons. The chief actors were: the three regnal families of the old kingdom (O’ Falvey, O’ Shea, O’ Connell); the MacCarthy kings of Desmond and their O’ Sullivan followers; a selection of great Norman barons of the de Mareis, de Clare, Kildare Geraldine and especially Shanid Geraldine families. Lesser actors included the Anglo-Norman knightly settlers of the northern peninsula (Hoares and Husseys, Bowlers, Ferreters, etc.), the O’ Moriarty lineage, and the Knights of Kerry. Interesting themes explored include the descent of lordship here and its territorial nomenclature; the willing subservience of the MacCarthy kings to the Earls of Desmond; the extent of colonial settlement and its relation to older, indigenous settlement patterns.



**FORTIETH ANNUAL REGIONAL CONFERENCE**  
**in association with**  
**Cumann Seanchais Bhreifne**

Farnham Estate Hotel, County Cavan

MAY 6–8, 2011

*Landscape and historic settlement in Cavan*

**Registration and opening reception: Aspen suite, Farnham Estate Hotel, 7:00pm**

**Speakers:**

Prof. P. J. Duffy (NUI Maynooth)

*Land, landscape and memory: reading Cavan's heritage*

Eamon Cody (National Monuments Service)

*Early regional identity and local prehistoric continuity in the Cavan area*

Linda Shine (Trinity College, Dublin)

*Frontier settlement in Cavan in the high medieval*

Conleth Manning (Dept of Environment, Heritage and Local Government)

*Clogh Oughter 1200–1653: at the heart of Cavan's history*

Liam Kelly (Cumann Seanchais Bhreifne)

*Photography and Settlements in County Cavan*

Dr Colmán Ó Clabaigh (Glenstal)

*Monastic settlement in the diocese of Kilmore*

Dr Brendan Scott (NUI Maynooth)

*Native and settler in the plantation towns of Cavan, 1610–41*

Dr Jonathan Cherry (St Patrick's College, Drumcondra)

*Farnham Estate: People and Place, c.1600–c.1670*

Mary Sullivan (Cavan Genealogy Centre)

*Emigration and its impact on nineteenth-century Cavan*

**Sites to be visited:** Saturday: by bus to Kilmore Cathedral, Cloghoughter Castle, Drumlane Abbey and Belturbet (**Guides:** Conleth Manning and Dr Brendan Scott)

Sunday: Walking tour of Cavan town (**Guide:** Dr Jonathan Cherry)

**Annual Dinner:** Redwood suite, Farnham Estate: €40 per person. This price is for those who have not availed of the 2 nights B&B + Conference dinner package €228 (€159 sharing)

**Conference Fee:** €60/£50. Students €30/£42. *Fee includes coffee, admissions and bus on field trips*

**Individual Sessions [Saturday/Sunday]:** €18/£15

**Annual membership fee:** €15/£13

**Annual student membership fee:** €7/£6

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*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, Early Irish History, School of History, John Henry Newman Building, University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4; or e-mail [charles.doherty@upcmail.ie](mailto:charles.doherty@upcmail.ie). Contributors are requested, where possible, to send materials, text and graphics by e-mail. For further information visit our new web-site.*

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