

LÉARGAS AR AN TAOBH TÍRE I DO THIMPEALL

Treoir léirmhaisithe de ghnéithe den
tseandálaíocht i gContae na Gaillimhe

READING YOUR LOCAL LANDSCAPE

An illustrated guide to some
archaeological features in County Galway



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council



An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council



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SÉADCHOMHARTHAÍ ADHLACTHA Ó RÉ NA RÉAMHSTAIRE

Tuamaí Dingeacha Ba iad seo an cineál ba dheireanaí de na tuamáí adhlactha meigiliteacha in Éirinn. Idir c.4300 agus 4000 bliain ó shin a rinneadh an chuid is mó acu. Is iondúil 2-3 de leaca a shocrú i bhfoirm dingé le leac cuíl amháin agus aon leac mullaigh amháin trasna orthu sin in uachtar. Feictear lorg cairn le cuid acu agus is dócha go mbíodh a leithéid thart ar an seomra, mar a fheictear sa léaráid den tuama i nDúros, in aice le Cinn Mhara (ar an taobh thoir), Contae na Gaillimhe.



Idir c. 6000 agus 1700 bliain ó shin, bhíodh coirp á gcur i gcairn chloiche, (**cairn**), i ndumhaí cré (**tuaimeanna**) agus i mboscáí déanta as leaca (**cisteanna**). D'fhéadfadh go gcréamfaí an corp nó nach gcréamfaí agus ba mhiniac earraí, mar shampla earraí potaireachta nó aimr, a chur in éineacht leis an gcorp. Tá mullach réidh cothrom agus próifil chéimnithe leis an tuama a léirítear anseo atá i nDoire Mhic Lachna, in aice leis an Turlach Mór, Contae na Gaillimhe. Ní gá gur aon chorp amháin a bheadh adhlactha i dtuama den chineál seo.

PREHISTORIC BURIAL MONUMENTS

Wedge Tombs were the last type of megalithic burial tombs to be built in Ireland. Most were constructed between c.4300 and 4000 years ago. They are usually built with 2-3 sidestones and a backstone arranged in a wedge shape and covered with a flat capstone. Some have traces of a cairn that may have surrounded the chamber such as that illustrated at Doorus, near Kinvara, County Galway.

From about 6000 to 1700 years ago, people were often buried in stone mounds (**cairns**), earthen mounds (**tumuli**) and slab-built boxes (**cists**). The bodies could be cremated or unburnt and were often accompanied by grave goods such as pottery and weapons. The illustrated tumulus, which is found at Derrymaclaughna, near Turloughmore, County Galway, has a flat summit and a stepped profile. There could be several burials within this tumulus.

ÁRAIS CÓNAITHE

Liosanna Is iondúil déanamh ciorcail orthu seo ach tá siad ar fáil freisin i gcruth uibhe agus i gcruth 'D'. Bhíodh mún amháin, dhá mhúr nó uaireanta níos mó ná sin (ar *lios aonmhúrach, démhúrach nó ilmhúrach*), déanta as créafog (i gcás rátha) nó as cloch (i gcás cathrach), mar chosaint timpeall ar árais cónaithe agus feirme taobh istigh. Aon gheata amháin a bhíodh mar bhealach isteach is amach. Is cosúil óna méid (20-60m trasna) gur teaghlaigh a bhain le haon mhuintir amháin a dhéanadh cónaí iontu. Is iondúil achar níos fairsinge faoin dún ná faoin lios. Meastar go mbaineann an dá chineál leis an ré idir c. 2500-1600 bliain ó shin.



Crannóga Ar oiléan i loch tanaí nó i mbogach a dhéantáil crannóig. D'fhéadfadh gur de dhéantús saorga an t-oileán, adhmad, móin agus clocha leagtha ina sraitheanna os cionn a chéile. D'fhéadfadh go mbíodh cónaí ar feadh na bliana i gcrannóga nó nach mbíodh ach cónaí séasúrach ná áit folaithe, foscaidh agus faoisimh i gceist le cuid acu. Ar Loch an Chalaidh in aice le Cill Chonaill i gContae na Gaillimhe atá an ceann a thaispeántar anseo.



DWELLINGS

Ringforts are usually circular but can be oval or D-shaped. One (univallate), two (bivallate) and sometimes more (multivallate) protective banks of earth (rath) or stone (caher) enclosed the domestic farm buildings in the interior. A single gateway allowed entry. Their size (20-60m in diameter) suggests they were occupied by one extended family. Hillforts usually enclose larger areas. Both types are believed to have been in use between c. 2500-1600 years ago.

Crannógs are enclosures built on islands in shallow lakes or marshy areas. The islands can be man-made from layers of wood, peat and stone. The structures may have been used as permanent or seasonal dwelling places or just as places of refuge. The example shown is in Lake Callow near Kilconnell, County Galway.



BIA AGUS FOSCADH

Uaimh Thalún Pasáiste faoin talamh, de dhé-antús saorga, atá san uaimh thalún (*souterrain*). Ní mar a chéile an fad a bhíonn iontu uilig agus bíonn níos mó ná leibhéal amháin agus seomráí beaga le cuid acu. Is minic gur taobh istigh nó díreach taobh amuigh de lios a thagtar orthu. Meastar gur mar áit sídine agus mar áit chun earráil a stóráil iontu a dhéantáí iad. Baineann siad le ré idir c. 2700-900 bliain ó shin. Ar an gCarraig Thoir, in aice le Corr na Móna, Co. na Gaillimhe atá an sampla sa léaráid.



Fulacht Fiadh Is iondúil gur i ngar d'fhoinse uisce a thagtar ar charn de chlocha dóite na scoilte ag an tine, iad i gcruth dúbháin. Nuair a bhídis in úsáid, dhéantáí poll, chuití adhmad leis na taobhanna agus líontaí le huisce é. Chuití na clocha ag téamh sa tine in aice láimhe agus chuití an t-uisce ar fiuchadh trí na clocha te a chur ann. Ceaptar go gcócaráiltí feoil san uisce ach d'fhéadfadh go mbíodh sé in úsáid freisin le haghaidh folctha nó ag déanamh bearach. Is iad na clocha fuaraithe atá sna carnáin a fágadh. Bhíodh an modh oibre seo in úsáid tuairim is 4,000 bliain ó shin. I gCill Chúile, Cill Rícil, Contae na Gaillimhe atá an dumha a thaispeántar sa léaráid.



FOOD AND REFUGE

A Souterrain is a man-made underground passage. They vary in length and can have changes in level and small chambers. They are frequently found in or just outside ringforts. It is thought that they were probably built as places of refuge and goods storage. They range in date from c. 2700– 900 years ago. The example illustrated is in Carrick East, near Corr Na Móna, County Galway.

Fulacht Fiadh are kidney shaped mounds of burnt and fire-cracked stone usually found close to a water source. When in use, a pit was dug, lined with wood and filled with water. Stones heated in a nearby fire were placed in the water to bring it to boiling. It is believed that meat was then cooked in the water, but it may also have been used for bathing or even beer making! The discarded stones form the left over mound. The method was in use from about 4,000 years ago. Illustrated mound at Kilcooly, Kilreekil, County Galway.

GALLÁIN

Gallán Clocha móra neamhghearrtha iad seo a cuireadh ina seasamh in áiteanna suntasacha. Meastar go dtéann a gcur suas siar go dtí túis Ré an Chré-umha agus anall go dtí Ré an larainn.

Bíonn siad ar fáil mar ghallán aonair, ina bpéirí gallán, ina rónna de thrí cinn nó níos mó agus ina gciornail.

Níltear cinnte céin úsáid go díreach a bhain leo. Siltear go bhféadfadh an gallán aonair a bheith ina chomhartha suntasach ar theorainneacha idir críocha éagsúla, ar bhealaí taistil nó ar láthair adhlactha. Tá léirithe ag lucht taighde go bhfuil rónna áirithe gallán ag síneadh ar bhealach a bhaineann le cursaí na gealaí nó na gréine. Is é is dóiche gur ar mhaithe le deasghnátha nó searmanais éigin a cuireadh suas an chuid is mó de na galláin.

Grangraf: An Cnoc Rua, Baile na Cille, Contae na Gaillimhe



STANDING STONES

Standing Stones are large, unhewn stones usually placed upright in prominent locations. Their construction is believed to date back to the Early Bronze Age and right up into the Iron Age.

They can appear as single stones, in pairs, rows of three or more or in a circle.

Their precise function is unclear. It is thought that single standing stones may have acted as markers of territorial boundaries, routes or burials. Some stone rows have been shown to have an orientation connected to lunar and / or solar events. It is most likely that the stones were erected mainly for ritual and ceremonial purposes.

Photograph: Knockroe, Ballynakill, County Galway.

IARSMAÍ EAGLASTA Ó LUATHRÉ NA MEÁNAOISE

Láithreacha Eaglasta ó Luathré na Meánaoise

Meánaoise Tá gnéithe éagsúla ag gabháil le láithreacha faoi leith.

Bhíodh mún ciorclach créafóige nó cloiche thart ar an 'termon' nó an chuid choisricthe. Bhíodh aireagal beag dronuilleogach ansin leis an doras ar an gceann thiar, fuinneog sa bhinn thoir agus díon géarchlaonta agus beanna starracha. Ar na gnéithe eile a d'fhéadfadh a bheith ar láthair, bheadh reilig, leaca a mbeadh focail nó léaráidí greanta orthu, leaba an naoimh, cloigtheach, ballán agus tobar beannaithe.

Ní hiondúil na gnéithe uilig a bheith ag baint go dtí an lá atá inniu ann le haon láthair amháin.

Taispeántar sna léaráidí an séipéal i gCill Tiarnáin, Contae na Gaillimhe agus leac le crois greanta air as Cluain Fearta, Contae na Gaillimhe.

EARLY MEDIEVAL ECCLESIASTICAL REMAINS

Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Sites

are characterised by a number of features.

The 'termon' or holy area was enclosed with a circular embankment of earth and/or stone. Within the area was a small, simple, rectangular oratory with a west doorway, plain east window with a steeply pitched roof and projecting gables or antae. Other typical features of the site can include a graveyard, cross incised slabs, saint's bed, round tower, bullaun stone(s) and a holy well.

It is unusual to find all these features surviving at any one site.

Illustrated are the church at Kiltiernan County Galway and a cross inscribed slab from Clonfert, County Galway.



IARSMAÍ EAGLASTA Ó LUATHRÉ NA MEÁNAOISE

Ballán Bíonn logán sa bhallán agus is iondúil gur logán cruinn é. Is minic i seanchas na háite go gceaptar na clocha seo le naomh agus go ndeirtear leigheas le fáil ón uisce a bhaillíonn sa logán. Ag Team Pall an Tóchair, Baile Liam, Contae na Gaillimhe atá an chloch a léirítear sa léaráid, ceanglaítear le Pádraic Naofa í agus le leigheas ar ghalar súl. Is dócha go mbíodh na ballán in úsáid ag meilt arbhair tráth.



Toibreacha Beannaithe Is minic toibreacha ceangailte le láthair eaglasta agus ócáidí deabhdóide i gceist leo. Is iomáí cruth agus cuma ar na toibreacha, idir fhoinsí neamhchóirithe, thithe cloiche maisithe le céimeanna, agus eile. D'fhéadfadh a bheith de nós ábhar a fhágáil le teamn móide sa tobar (airgead) nó ar na crainn in aice láimhe (píosaí éadaigh) agus leigheas a cheapadh le huisce an tobair. Tarlaonn i gcásanna áirithe go mbaineann deasghnátha casta le cuairt an tobair agus lá pátrúin faoi leith, lá fhéile an naoimh lena gceanglaítear an tobar go hiondúil, i gceist anuas go dtí an lá atá inniu ann. Grianghraif: Tobar na Craobháí Báine, an Choill Mhór, in aice le Bearna Dhearg, Contae na Gaillimhe.



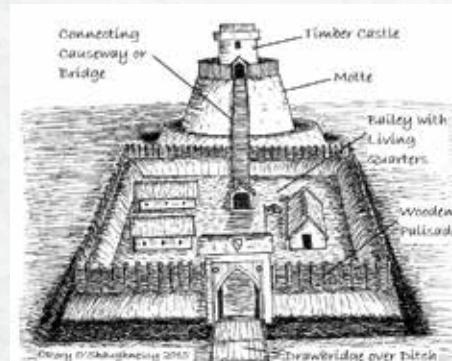
EARLY MEDIEVAL ECCLESIASTICAL REMAINS

Bullaun Stones have depressions on their surface which are usually circular. In local tradition the stones are often associated with a saint and the water that collects in the depression with a cure for an ailment. The stone illustrated is located at Templetoher, Williamstown, County Galway and is associated with St Patrick and a cure for eye ailments. It is likely that bullaun stones had a function as grinding stones in the past.

Holy Wells are often associated with ecclesiastical sites and are the focus of devotion. The wells vary greatly in shape and ornamentation from simple springs to stone housings with steps. There may be a tradition of votive offerings being left in the well (coins) or on surrounding trees (rags) and a cure associated with the water. Complex rituals associated with a visit to the well and pattern days, usually the anniversary of the saint connected to the well, can survive. Photograph: Creevaghbaun Well, Kilmore, near Barnaderg, County Galway.

CAISLEÁIN

Caisleán móta agus bábhúin Rinne na hAngla-Normannaigh caisleán den chineál seo i ndeireadh an 12ú aois. Bhíodh dumha cré, a mbíodh a mhullach maolaithe, in ióchtaír chomh maith le clós mórtha ar dhéanamh leathchiorcail, sonnaigh adhmaid agus díog timpeall orthu. Túr adhmaid a thógtáí ar an dumha agus ansin a chónaíodh an tiarna. Sa bhábhún a chónaíodh na saighdiúir agus a choinníti na capaill.



Túrtheach Caisleán cloiche ar dhéanamh dronuilleoige a rinneadh idir an 15ú céad agus an lár an 17ú céad. Is iondúil iad trí stór nó níos mó ar airde le huchtbhalla starrach agus díon beannach in uachtar. Áit stórála bhoghtach a bhíodh ar stór na talún lena mbíodh gnéithe cosanta, mar shampla, fuinneoga cúngá, poll marfach agus doras daingean adhmaid. Ar na stóرtha uachtair a bhíodh an t-áras cónaithe, tinte, leithris agus fuinneoga níos fairsinge. Bhíodh áras cónaithe na searbhóntaí sa 'bhábhún' nó clós dúnta le balláí le taobh an chaisleáin. Caisleán na Pailíse, Tíne, Contae na Gaillimhe a thaispeántar sa ghrianghraif.



CASTLES

Motte and bailey castles were built by the Anglo-Normans in the late 12th century. They consisted of a flat topped earthen mound with a semicircular banked enclosure at the base, both enclosed by wooden palisades and surrounded by a ditch. A wooden tower, in which the lord resided, stood on the mound and the soldiers and horses were housed in the bailey.

Tower Houses are rectangular stone castles, built between the 15th and mid-17th century. They generally had three or more storeys, topped by a crenellated parapet and gabled roof. The ground floor acted as a vaulted store with defensive features such as narrow windows, a murder hole and a stout wooden door. The upper floors were living quarters, with fireplaces, latrines and larger windows. Servants quarters were in the attached 'bawn' or walled courtyard. The photograph shows Pallas Castle, Tynagh, Co. Galway.

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This illustrated guide has been produced in response to the identified needs of the participants of the 'Reading Your Local Landscape Course Parts I and II' delivered in County Galway in 2014 and 2015. It is intended to be a companion guide to the publication Hoctor Z., 2015 'Reading Your Local Landscape - A Heritage Audit Toolkit for Local Community Heritage Groups' Galway County Council.

Further information with regard to the heritage resources of County Galway and the community groups involved can be accessed at
<http://heritage.galwaycommunityheritage.org/content/category/heritage-publications>

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Rinneadh an treoir léirmhaisithe seo a chur ar fáil d'fhonn freastal do riachtanas na ndaoine a ghlac páirt sa chúrsa (cuid 1 agus cuid 2) faoi Léargas ar an Taobh Tíre i do Thimpeall a cuireadh ar siúl i gContae na Gaillimhe i rith na mblianta 2014 agus 2015. Tá de rún go mbeadh sí ina treoir bhreise ag gabháil leis an bhfoilseachán *Hoctor Z., 2015 ‘Reading Your Local Landscape - A Heritage Audit Toolkit for Local Community Heritage Groups’ Galway County Council.*

Tá breis eolais maidir le hacmhainní oidhreachta i gContae na Gaillimhe agus leis na grúpaí pobail a oibríonn ina leith ar fáil ar
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