

Laois Burial Grounds Survey 2011

Volume 2: Gazetteer of Burial Grounds



Authors: L.W. Barker, N. Gilligan & G. Fegan



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Volume 2: Gazetteer of Burial Grounds

The following Gazetteer lists all of the burial grounds that were surveyed during the project. The survey recorded a total of 208 burial grounds, with the majority of these being classified as historic burial grounds due to the use of the burial grounds commencing prior to the 20th century (Heritage Council 2010, 6). Where use commenced after this date burial grounds have been termed “modern” and have been visited and recorded in terms of their location and other base-line data. They have not, however, been appraised in terms of their conservation and have not been subjected to the same level of appraisal or analysis.

The historic burial grounds have been described in relation to a number of different factors. These begin with the site’s location, often with reference to its indication (or not) on the two earliest extensive editions of the Ordnance Survey maps. In the site descriptions there are occasionally comments regarding notable landscape features such as rivers, hills or unusual field boundaries.

Access (or lack of) and related issues such as parking is then described, followed by reference to any signage that may direct the visitor to a burial ground or inform them of its historic character.

The description of the vegetation at each site when visited in the survey serves the purpose of informing on the state of conservation and accessibility. This is obviously only correct at the time of writing and is subject to seasonal variation, as well as any marked changes that may occur.

The burial grounds are then discussed in relation to the presence or absence and condition of any existing boundaries, topographical features and potential for the known extents of the site. There is, of course, tremendous variation between one site and another in terms of topographical location, survival and accessibility. The presence of any structures within or associated with the burial ground are described, where known, in terms of their survival, function and date.

The memorials themselves are then discussed as a collective group in terms of their survival and character, with reference to the general types, condition and date. It is important to stress that the purpose of the survey was neither to record details pertaining to each of the memorials nor to record the people interred, but to create a record on the surviving character of each of the burial grounds.

The denominational history of each of the burial grounds is briefly mentioned where such information could be gleaned from local sources. This information is somewhat difficult to ascertain for many of the burial grounds because of the inability for the interred persons to speak for themselves. It has long been recognised in archaeological theory that burial rites do not unanimously reflect the beliefs of the deceased, but reflect those of the people performing the rites and burial. Historic reasons also make it difficult to ascertain religious beliefs.

Any relevant information regarding folklore, stories and traditions surrounding the burial grounds are also presented where such information was forthcoming. The lack of available folklore is perhaps the most evident loss of information in the survey. One of the most common responses in many of

the interviews was, "If only (.....) was alive...". It is probable that the antiquarians Carrigan and Comerford amongst others had the same frustration when researching their respective accounts over a century ago, but it is clear that knowledge of folklore and tradition have diminished greatly in the intervening time. Despite this general trend, there are occasional memories and brief recollections of stories and traditions that have, where possible, been included in the survey.

The survey has not been an historical one, but a brief account of historical context to the burial ground is also presented where possible.

Contents of the Gazetteer

This list of sites indexes the burial grounds described in the Gazetteer using the Burial Ground ID. The referenced maps can be found in the Project Report (Volume 1).

| Burial Ground ID | Graveyard Name | Townland | Map Ref |
|------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|---------|
| L001 | Old Church, Abbeyleix | Abbeyleix Demesne | 2 |
| L002 | Ivy Church | Acragar | 9 |
| L004 | Aghmacart | Aghmacart | 1 |
| L005 | Dysart, Aghnacross | Aghnacross | 2 |
| L006 | St Bridget's, Aharney | Aharney | 2 |
| L007 | Churchhill | Akip | 1 |
| L008 | Old Church, Antrim | Glebe | 4 |
| L009 | Society of Friends, Ballinakill | Ballinakill | 2 |
| L010 | St Brigid's, Ballintubbert | Ballintubbert | 6 |
| L011 | Ballyadams | Ballyadams | 6 |
| L012 | Ballyadden | Ballyadding | 10 |
| L013 | Killoge, Ballyboodin | Ballyboodin | 1 |
| L014 | St Brigid's, Ballybuggy | Ballybuggy | 1 |
| L016 | Kylealiss CBG | Ballylusk | 8 |
| L017 | Sacred Heart, Arles | Ballynagall | 3 |
| L018 | Carrigeen | Ballynahown | 12 |
| L019 | Ballyroan | Ballyroan | 5 |
| L020 | Baunaghra | Baunaghra | 1 |
| L021 | Boughlone | Boughlone | 9 |
| L022 | Shanakill, Boley Lower | Boley Lower | 5 |
| L023 | Bordwell Big | Bordwell Big | 1 |
| L024 | Old St Peter's, Portlaoise | Maryborough | 9 |
| L025 | The Ridge of Maryborough | Maryborough | 9 |
| L026 | Killyann CBG | Brittas | 12 |
| L027 | Oakvale, Carricksallagh | Carricksallagh | 6 |
| L028 | Cashel | Cashel | 4 |
| L029 | Castlebrack | Castlebrack | 12 |
| L030 | Castlequarter, Cullahill | Castlequarter | 1 |
| L031 | Killaban | Castletown | 3 |
| L032 | Churchtown | Churchtown | 4 |
| L033 | Clonagh | Clonagh | 3 |
| L034 | Clondarrig | Clondarrig | 9 |
| L035 | Cloneeb | Cloneeb | 1 |
| L036 | St Fintan's, Clonenagh | Clonenagh | 8 |
| L037 | Clonenagh | Clonenagh | 8 |
| L038 | St Brigit's, Clonenagh | Clonenagh | 8 |
| L039 | Clonkeen | Clonkeen | 2 |
| L040 | Churchfield, Clonkeen | Clonkeen | 5 |

| Burial Ground ID | Graveyard Name | Townland | Map Ref |
|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| L041 | Clonmeen South | Clonmeen South | 1 |
| L042 | Cloppook | Cloppook | 6 |
| L043 | Coolbanagher | Coolbanagher | 9 |
| L044 | Coolkerry | Coolkerry | 1 |
| L045 | St Paul's, French Church | Cooltedery | 11 |
| L046 | Corbally | Corbally | 6 |
| L047 | Cremorgan | Cremorgan | 5 |
| L048 | St Fintan's, Cromoge | Cromoge | 5 |
| L049 | Cuffsborough | Cuffsborough | 1 |
| L050 | Curraclone | Curraclone | 6 |
| L051 | Dairyhill, Rath Hill | Dairyhill | 1 |
| L052 | Dangans | Dangans | 11 |
| L053 | Kyletabreeheen, Derrykearn | Derrykearn | 5 |
| L054 | St Patrick's, Donaghmore | Donaghmore | 1 |
| L056 | St Fintan's, Durrow | Durrow Townparks | 2 |
| L057 | Dysart-Enos | Dysart | 9 |
| L058 | Rathsaran, Eglish | Eglish | 1 |
| L059 | St Kieran's, Errill | Errill | 1 |
| L060 | Farraneglish Glebe | Farraneglish Glebe | 4 |
| L061 | Fossy Lower | Fossy Lower | 5 |
| L062 | Clomeen, Garyduff | Garryduff | 7 |
| L063 | St. Brigid's, Glebe | Glebe | 2 |
| L064 | Graigue | Graigueadrisly | 1 |
| L065 | Grange | Grange | 3 |
| L066 | The Heath | Greatheath | 9 |
| L067 | All Saints, Ballinakill | Haywood Demense | 2 |
| L068 | St Bridget's, Kilbreedy | Kilbreedy | 1 |
| L069 | Kilbrickan | Kilbrickan | 4 |
| L070 | Kilcolmanbane | Kilcolmanbane | 5 |
| L071 | Kilcoran | Kilcoran | 1 |
| L072 | Kilcronan | Kilcronan | 2 |
| L073 | St Ernan's, Kildellig | Kildellig | 4 |
| L074 | Kildellig | Kildellig | 1 |
| L076 | Kilgory | Kilgory | 3 |
| L077 | Killabban | Killabban | 3 |
| L078 | Killeen | Killeen or Killeenlynagh | 9 |
| L079 | Killenny | Killenny | 9 |
| L080 | Killermogh | Killermogh | 2 |
| L081 | Killeshin, Old | Killeshin | 3 |
| L082 | Kilmainham | Kilmainham | 11 |
| L083 | Kilmanman | Kilmanman | 12 |
| L084 | Kilminfoyle | Kilminfoyle | 1 |
| L085 | Kilmurry | Kilmurry | 9 |
| L086 | Kilteale | Kilteale | 9 |
| L087 | Kilvahan | Kilvahan | 5 |
| L088 | Knockseera | Knockseera | 4 |
| L089 | Kyle Abbey | Kyle (Clandonagh By.) | 7 |

| Burial Ground ID | Graveyard Name | Townland | Map Ref |
|------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------|
| L090 | Kyleballintallon | Kyle (Clandonagh By.) | 2 |
| L091 | Kyle | Kyle (Tinnahinch By.) | 12 |
| L092 | Leagh | Leagh | 3 |
| L093 | Lismore | Lismore | 4 |
| L094 | Lea, Old | Loughmansland Glebe | 11 |
| L095 | EGLISH Friary | Mondrehid | 7 |
| L096 | Skeaghnakilla, Morett | Morett | 9 |
| L097 | Morrett | Morett | 9 |
| L098 | Moyanna | Moyanna | 10 |
| L099 | Skirk | Newtown or Skirk | 7 |
| L100 | Portnahinch | Portnahinch | 11 |
| L101 | Tullore | Rahanavannagh | 5 |
| L102 | Ballylynan | Rahin | 6 |
| L103 | Rathaspick | Rathaspick | 6 |
| L104 | St Andrew's, Rathdowney | Rathdowney | 1 |
| L105 | Yew Tree | Rathnaleugh | 7 |
| L106 | Rathronshin CBG | Rathronshin | 10 |
| L107 | Reary More | Reary More | 12 |
| L108 | St Brigid's, Rosenallis | Rosenallis | 12 |
| L109 | Rossdarragh | Rossdarragh | 1 |
| L110 | Shrule Castle | Shrule | 3 |
| L111 | Sleaty, Old | Sleaty | 3 |
| L112 | Srahanboy CBG | Srahanboy | 8 |
| L113 | Shaen, Straboe | Straboe | 9 |
| L114 | Tankardstown | Tankardstown | 6 |
| L115 | Timahoe | Timahoe | 5 |
| L116 | St Mogue's, Timogue | Timogue | 6 |
| L117 | Society of Friends, Rosenallis | Tinneel | 12 |
| L118 | Tirhogar | Tirhogar | 11 |
| L119 | Tubberboe | Toberboe or Killenny More | 2 |
| L120 | St Paul's, Mountmellick | Townparks | 11 |
| L121 | Kylemahoe, Vicarstown | Vicarstown (Dodd) | 10 |
| L122 | Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix | Rathmoyle | 5 |
| L123 | St Michael & All Angels, Abbeyleix | Tullyroe | 5 |
| L124 | Aghaboe Abbey | Aghaboe | 4 |
| L125 | Ballacolla | Park | 2 |
| L126 | Shanahoe | Shanahoe | 4 |
| L127 | St. Mary's, Barrowhouse | Shanganagh More | 6 |
| L128 | Clogh | Chapelhill | 1 |
| L129 | White Family Cemetery | Castletown | 7 |
| L130 | Anatrim, Coolrain | Glebe | 4 |
| L131 | St Fintan's, Ballyfin | Knocknakearn | 8 |
| L132 | Bealady | Johnstown Glebe | 1 |
| L133 | Castle Fleming | Castle Fleming (Giles) | 7 |
| L134 | Rathdaire, Ballybrittas | Ballyadding | 10 |
| L135 | St Edmund's, Castletown | Elderfield | 4 |
| L136 | De La Salle, Castletown | Elderfield | 4 |

| Burial Ground ID | Graveyard Name | Townland | Map Ref |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| L137 | Clonad | Clonaddadoran | 5 |
| L138 | Clonaslee | Ballyfarrell/Corbally | 12 |
| L139 | St John's, Emo | Morett | 9 |
| L140 | Raheen | Raheen | 5 |
| L141 | Derrinsallagh, Borris-in-Ossory | Derrinsallagh | 7 |
| L142 | Newtown, Doonane | Doonane | 3 |
| L143 | Holy Trinity, Durrow | Durrow Townparks | 2 |
| L144 | St Paul's, Emo | Killimy | 9 |
| L145 | Timahoe | Timahoe | 5 |
| L146 | Former Workhouse, Abbeyleix | Knocknamoe | 5 |
| L147 | Gate of Heaven, Abbeyleix | Ballymaddock | 5 |
| L148 | St Abban's, Killeen | Killeen | 3 |
| L149 | Holy Cross, Killeshin | Killeshin | 3 |
| L150 | St John's, Killenard | Ballycarroll | 11 |
| L151 | Church of the Assumption, The Heath | Greatheath | 9 |
| L152 | St Lazerian's, Knock | Graiguenahown | 2 |
| L153 | Ballaghmore | Ballinla | 7 |
| L155 | Rathdowney Local | Johnstown Glebe | 1 |
| L156 | St Mary's, Mayo | Mayo | 3 |
| L157 | Mayo | Monavea | 3 |
| L158 | Sacred Heart, Stradbally | Stradbally | 6 |
| L159 | St Patrick's, Stradbally | Stradbally | 6 |
| L160 | Ratheniska | Raheenanisky | 5 |
| L161 | Sleaty | Sleaty | 3 |
| L162 | St Canice's, Aghaboe | Aghaboe | 4 |
| L163 | St John the Baptist, Ballyfin | Ballyfin Demesne | 8 |
| L164 | Ballyfin | Springfield | 8 |
| L165 | Holy Trinity, Ballycarroll | Ballycarroll | 9 |
| L166 | Kilmaleed, Monascreeban | Monascreeban | 6 |
| L167 | St Joseph's, Ballyadams | Ballyadams | 6 |
| L168 | St Mary's, Clonaghadoo | Clonaghadoo | 11 |
| L169 | St Joseph's, Mountmellick | Acragar | 11 |
| L170 | Graigue, Mountmellick | Graigue | 11 |
| L171 | Emo, Cappakeel | Cappakeel | 9 |
| L172 | Lea, Rathmiles | Rathmiles | 11 |
| L173 | St Mathew's, Rosskelton | Rosskelton | 5 |
| L174 | St Peter's, Mountrath | Mountrath (Maryborough West By) | 8 |
| L175 | St Joseph's, Mountmellick | Townparks | 11 |
| L176 | Society of Friends, Mountrath | Mountrath (Maryborough West By) | 8 |
| L177 | Brigidine Sisters, Mountrath | Dysartbeagh | 8 |
| L178 | St Peter & Paul's, Beladd | Beladd | 9 |
| L179 | Former Lunatic Asylum, Beladd | Beladd | 9 |
| L180 | Presentation Convent, Portlaoise | Maryborough | 9 |
| L181 | Saint Peter's, Portlaoise | Maryborough | 9 |
| L183 | Sothorn Family Cemetery | Grogan | 1 |
| L185 | Abbeyleix | Raheenabrogue | 5 |
| L186 | Killadooley | Killadooley | 7 |

| Burial Ground ID | Graveyard Name | Townland | Map Ref |
|------------------|--|-------------------------|---------|
| L187 | Killermogh, Ballycolla | Rathmakelly Glebe | 1 |
| L188 | St Fintan's, Mountrath | Dysartbeagh | 8 |
| L189 | Knockaroe | Knockaroe | 4 |
| L190 | Rathdowney, Old | Rathdowney | 1 |
| L191 | Cullahill | Ballynevin | 1 |
| L192 | St Canice's, Clogh | Rahandrick Lower | 1 |
| L193 | St Fergal's, Ballacolla | Ballycolla | 1 |
| L195 | St Brigid's, Ballinakill | Ballinakill | 2 |
| L196 | St Peter's, Monaferrick | Monaferrick | 6 |
| L197 | St Joseph's, Raheenbarnagh | Raheenbarnagh | 6 |
| L198 | Pike of Rush Hall | Knockbrack | 4 |
| L199 | St Kevin's, Camross | Camross | 8 |
| L200 | Rosenallis Local | Corbally | 12 |
| L201 | Timahoe | Timahoe | 5 |
| L202 | Durrow Local | Durrow Townparks | 2 |
| L203 | Killeshin Local | Killeshin | 3 |
| L204 | Anatrim/Coolrain Local | Glebe | 4 |
| L205 | Thomas Family Cemetery | Olderrig | 3 |
| L206 | Wolfhill | Crissard | 3 |
| L207 | Heywood Family Mausoleum | Haywood Demense | 2 |
| L208 | Clashawalla | Clonard | 4 |
| L209 | Raheen | Tinakill | 5 |
| L210 | Killeen | Killeen (Upperwoods By) | 8 |
| L211 | Tullomoy | Tullomoy | 6 |
| L212 | Clonenagh East | Clonenagh | 8 |
| L213 | Grogan | Mountoliver | 1 |
| L214 | Donaghmore Workhouse | Dunacleggan | 7 |
| L215 | Clonpierce | Clonpierce | 3 |
| L216 | Church of the Holy Trinity, Rathdowney | Rathdowney | 1 |

Acknowledgements

We would like to extend our gratitude to the following people for their assistance in the survey and our sincere apologies to anyone we have omitted. Many of the people mentioned are representatives of the cemetery committees or community groups that invest their own time to look after our heritage. It is hoped that our best regards are passed on to those people with whom we did not have chance to speak with.

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| | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L001 | Name: | Old Church, Abbeyleix |
| Townland: | Abbeyleix Demesne | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 242039 , 183372 | RPS No: | RPS 090_B |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA023-036002 |



Overview of burial ground and church, looking south.



Early re-used un-inscribed headstone with cross in relief, looking southeast.

The site is located within Abbeyleix Demesne. The demesne house and farm buildings are located immediately to the north and south of the graveyard and woodland lies to the south and southwest. A river runs to the west of the site.

The graveyard is accessed by driving southwards through Abbeyleix Demesne.

A gate in the western wall leads to the site and it is open for visitors. There are no directional or informative signs. The site is covered in short grass and the ground is fairly level, although there is a small slope to the southwest which is slightly overgrown. Here there are memorials hidden by pine trees. The site is bounded on all sides by a high stone wall which is in good condition, although there is ivy and hedgerow growth.

There is a pre-18th century church on the eastern side of the site. This is disrepair but is currently being renovated by the landowner. The site is associated with a Cistercian Abbey, but there is no recorded location for this abbey. However, tradition holds that one Lord de Vesci uncovered cloisters belonging to an old abbey just outside the graveyard grounds to the east (Carrigan 1905, 389).

The graveyard contains box-tombs, altar-tombs, recumbent and upstanding round and flat-headed headstones, metal headstones and railed burials. Many are covered in moss and ivy and are subsiding. The earliest visible inscription dates to 1740, although an un-inscribed headstone with relief crosses on both faces may represent an earlier example (possibly reused). The de Vescis are buried in the south-western side of the

site; their double-cross crest is visible on their grave slabs. Sarcophagi belonging to Lady Emma (d. 1884) and the 4th Viscount de Vesce (d. 1882) are located within the church. The last burial in the graveyard was c. 15 years ago and the site is open for burial of relatives of the de Vesce family only.

The church was part of the old town and was situated on the de Vesce's land. Both Church of Ireland and Roman Catholic burials took place here. The building eventually became too small to hold its large congregation and in 1831 it was replaced by All Saints, Abbeyleix. The church, which is deconsecrated, and graveyard have been retained by the de Vesce family, while Abbeyleix Demesne has another private owner.

The balcony within the church itself was built in 1750, but there is no documentary evidence for the construction date of the church. It was decorated and restored in 1958. The de Vesce family commissioned art and the green stained-glass windows in the building are evidence of this. The church sanctuary is asymmetrical which has been suggested as an indication that the church was built directly over the Cistercian Abbey.

A 16th century effigy of Melaghlin O'More on an altar-tomb has been incorporated into the north-eastern angle of a walled garden, which is located to the southwest of the graveyard. A font has been placed close to this effigy and a 16th century grave slab dedicated to William O'Kelly has also been placed in this area.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L002 | Name: | Ivy Church |
| Townland: | Acragar | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 246764 , 205382 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA008-008001 |



High-banked entrance to the site, looking southwest



1798 memorial, looking south

The burial ground is located immediately west of a local road in undulating pasture that slopes down to the south and east. The site rises noticeably from the surrounding land, within the enclosed area. The graveyard is situated between two levelled enclosures, to the north and southwest. The site is depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map as 'Ivy Church (in Ruins)' and 'Grave Yard' and on the 2nd edition as 'Ivy Church (site of)' and 'Grave Yard'.

Access to the site is provided directly from the public road via a high-banked laneway approaching a stone-piered gateway and stile. The wrought iron gate still opens. There is a sign for 'Ivy Cemetery' on the public road directly opposite the entrance.

Vegetation comprises well-maintained grass, recently planted shrubbery and bushes bounded by ivy-covered walls.

The site is bounded by a well-constructed stone wall on the eastern and southern sides. This wall is heavily overgrown with ivy in some places. The rest of the boundary consists of planted hedgerow. There is no evidence for burials extending beyond the current boundaries.

The 1st edition OS map illustrates an east-west oriented building within the graveyard. The 1910 25" map states 'Site of' church. There is a length of mortared stone wall running north-south near the summit of the burial mound. It is thought to be the remains of the original church, but appears to be of more recent

construction. However, it was in place when restoration work began here in 1994. There is a modern shelter located in the northwest corner of the burial ground which contains an altar.

A mixture of headstones, wrought iron crosses Celtic crosses and recumbent slabs - some of which have been arranged on the mound like steps. There are also some hewn-stone markers without any apparent inscriptions. A railed monument and table tomb are located in the south-western corner of the cemetery. The site also contains a 1798 monument erected in 1998. A simple timber cross has been mortared into the north-south running section of wall with RIP carved into the cross arm. A headstone to the memory of Dennis Tynan 1710 seems to be the oldest headstone in place. Some burials took place through to the 1980s even though the site was heavily overgrown. Since the restoration a burial took place here as recently as 2009.

The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Roman Catholic.

Local tradition tells of a connection with Kilmainham Friary (L082), to the northeast. There is reputed to be a causeway or track between the two, but no evidence can be seen in the landscape or in the mapping. There is also mention of a tunnel between the two dating to penal times. Mass is celebrated once a year on site, in July or August.

A previously recorded simple incised cross-slab (LA008-008002) could not be located. It was located 50m to NE in roadside ditch opposite entrance to graveyard (JKAS 1904, Vol. IV, 193). The immediate area looks to be quite eroded.

Burial Ground ID: L004
Townland: Aghmacart
NGR (E,N): 233099 , 174469
National Monument No: N/A

Name: Aghmacart
Dedication: St. Tighernagh
RPS No: RPS 386
RMP No: LA034-019005; LA034-019007



Remains of the Augustinian Church and later medieval Parish Church of Aghmacart, facing south



View of the church and memorials, facing west

This graveyard is situated in a rural area, with a minor road running to the west and pasture fields located to the north and south. There is a small house to the east of the site.

The graveyard is accessed by a gate in the west. Here there is a gravel track-way, delineated by a low wall, which leads to the church and the graveyard. There is minimal parking space at the entrance to the site.

There is no directional or informative signage.

There is well-maintained grass and trimmed yew trees on the site and it is bounded by a stone wall. There is some ivy and weed growth along some sections of the wall, but the vegetation is kept to a minimum.

The site is associated with an early Monastery of St. Tigernach of which there are no remains. It was also the site of an Augustinian Priory. There are extant remains of this structure in the graveyard. Additionally, a section of the northern boundary wall may have been part of the structure; much of the building may have been incorporated into the Parish Church of Aghmacart, which was destroyed by 1640. There is also an indication that the priory gateway was incorporated into the north-western wall, at the point where the access path meets the graveyard. The present church is upstanding and in use. There are no visible remains of a round tower, which was located to the north of the site.

There is a mixture of upright headstones; both flat and round-headed, box-tombs, coped tombs, Celtic crosses and a few simple stone markers within the graveyard. Some of the burials are kerbed. The earliest visible inscription is 1804. A 16th century mausoleum, belonging to the Fitzpatricks is visible; this may have originally

been a cell used by an Augustinian monk associated with the priory. Scattered stone fragments may have been part of dilapidated box-tombs. The burials are both Roman Catholic and Church of Ireland.

Burial Ground ID: **L005**
 Townland: **Aghnacross**
 NGR (E,N): **249090 , 182660**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Dysart, Aghnacross**
 Dedication: **St. Monahan**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA030-011002**



View of the graveyard from the church ruins, facing south



View of memorials facing south

The site is located in a rural area. A small road runs to the west, which allows access to the site; a house is situated off this road. There are hedgerows to the east and south, beyond which the land rises to pasture fields. A farmyard is located immediately to the north.

The site is accessed by a gate in the north-western corner; there is also a stile. There is minimal space for parking. There is no directional or informative signage.

The grass is kept short and there are no trees or bushes within the site. The site is enclosed by a stone wall, the eastern end of which is covered in hedgerow and ivy.

There are upstanding remains of the original Parish Church of Dysart-Gallen on the site; the church was replaced by All Saints, Ballinakill. An earlier medieval church stood on the site, which was associated with St. Monahan. Tradition holds that remnants of the church were incorporated into walls just north of the site. Hedgerow and ivy are present on the church ruins.

The memorials predominantly consist of round headed upright headstones; although some have become recumbent. There are a few Celtic crosses and simple stone markers and there are two burials with railings. The earliest slab (1690) is cracked and has been moved to a position close to the door. All visible memorials are Roman Catholic.

A large gravestone dedicated to Margaret Cullen and John Keys has recently been cleaned. The couple died within a day of each other in 1909 and their seven children were orphaned. One of their children moved to France and married the founder of the French Foreign Legion. Their grandchildren returned to their grave in 2009 for a centenary mass, which the French ambassador attended. They produced a booklet for the occasion which outlined the family tree and history.

The base of a stone cross was removed from the site in the past and built into a wall situated at the summit of the hill to the northwest. Here there is also an associated rag bush known locally as the "*wart bush*".

In the recent past, donkeys were used to graze the grass. Reportedly, the tradition existed that non-baptised children could only be buried between sunset and sunrise; they arrived on a horse and cart. There are local memories of parents coming to nearby houses for cups of tea whilst burying the babies before the sun rose.

Burial Ground ID: **L006**
 Townland: **Aharney**
 NGR (E,N): **239940 , 172290**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Bridget's, Aharney**
 Dedication: **St. Bridget**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA035-047001**



The ruins of St. Bridget's Church, now used as a grotto. Facing southeast



18th century headstone, facing west

The site is located in a rural area midway along a southern slope. A road runs immediately to the south, while fields, which appear to be both arable and pastoral, border it on all other sides. A farmhouse and buildings are situated to the north where Aharney House once stood.

The site is accessed by a gate in the south-eastern corner. There is also a stile in the southern wall, but this is too dangerous to use with oncoming traffic. A car-park has been constructed at the side of the road to the east of the entrance.

The name of the graveyard is indicated at the entrance. There does not appear to be any directional signage.

The site is well-maintained and there is minimal ivy growth on the walls and church remains. The grass is kept short. A pathway has been constructed which leads to the middle of the graveyard. The ground surface appears to be fairly even and may have been levelled in the recent past.

The boundary consists of a stone wall which has been consolidated in the recent past. Murals/headstones from dilapidated burials have been incorporated into the wall. There is no ivy growth and it is well-maintained.

The western gable of a church dedicated to St. Bridget is situated in the western side of the site. The church was linked to the parish of Lisdowney and it became the parish church during the Reformation. A statue of Holy

Mary has been inserted into the gable and roses are growing around it. A cross was inserted at the top of the structural remains. An altar and a floor surface were recently constructed from reused memorials and are located just east of the gable. A headstone belonging to Fr. William Delaney (d. 1726) has been set into the wall remains; this is a modern replacement of the original. Two 18th century headstones lean against the ruins.

The site contains a mix of round and flat-headed headstones, Celtic crosses, table-tombs, metal crosses, railings and kerbed burials. Many are recumbent and covered in lichens. The reused murals in the walls, altar and floor were either collapsed headstones or were part of table or box-tombs. The memorials date from the 18th century to the present day. The earliest inscription is dated to 1721. All visible memorials are Roman Catholic. Apparently the owners of Aharney House (whose family name was Marum) are buried in the graveyard.

A well, situated to the south of the graveyard, is also associated with St. Brigid; this was the focus of patterns and visits, especially on the 1st of February (St. Brigid's Day).

The townland means '*Ford of the Heap*' and it is believed to be named after a skirmish between the men of Upper Ossory and central Ossory. The former retreated to a nearby stream to recover from the battle and were so exhausted and injured that they drowned and their bodies lay in a heap.

There was also a tree situated in the field to the southeast called *Sceacharawash*: which means '*the monument of the Bush of the Race*', where it is thought that the Earl of Ormond's son was slain.

Burial Ground ID: **L007**
 Townland: **Akip**
 NGR (E,N): **228570 , 181280**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Churchhill**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA028-027001**



View of the recorded location of the graveyard, facing north



Linear feature suggestive of structural remains, facing northwest

The site is located within a field which is currently used as pasture land, but which has been ploughed in the past.

The site is visible as two humps in the northern end of the field.

It is accessed by a gate off a minor road. There is a small disused cottage in the western side and a track leads past this.

There are no information panels or directional signage present at the burial ground.

The site is not enclosed.

There are no upstanding structures or memorials surviving at the site.

Burial Ground ID: **L008**
Townland: **Anatrim**
NGR (E,N): **229520 , 192160**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Old Church, Anatrim**
Dedication: **St. Kavan**
RPS No: **RPS 611**
RMP No: **LA016-016004**



Overview with converted mausoleum, looking west.



Overview of Anatrim Old Church and burial ground, looking northwest.

The burial ground is located in a small southern branch of the townland of Glebe and immediately adjacent to the small townland of Anatrim from which the church and burial grounds take their common name. Anatrim lies at the junction of the rivers Delower and Tonet before they join the river Nore (which lies to the east and south). The burial ground is marked on 1841 map as "Anatrim Church (in ruins)".

Access is via the gated enclosure from the local road. There is no designated parking and there are no paths, with the burial ground currently too overgrown for safe access.

There are no signs or information panels at the site but there is directional signage to "St. Kavan's Church" from the road junction at Coolrain. The site of the Holy Well to the north however is signposted at its location.

The burial ground is revetted on all sides by a high stone wall. This is in good condition and has been heavily restored, especially on the northern and western sides. The burial ground is a minimum of 1m above the level of the surrounding land and above 2m higher on the northern and parts of the western sides.

The ruins of the late medieval Church of Ireland church are east-west-orientated. The church was modified in the 18th century (Sweetman et al, 1995, pp72-3).

Another barrel-vaulted structure is north-south orientated and is located north of the east-end of the church. This once formed the sacristy of the church but was detached and converted into a mausoleum in the 19th century (Sweetman et al, 1995). The walls are low but quite thick, suggesting greater original height and a possible medieval origin.

Additionally, a long low mound, orientated east-west and located south of the ruins of the existing church, may represent the site of an earlier church or associated remains.

Previous accounts show a large variety of headstones and tomb-memorials, but these could not be reasonably appraised. A small section of the burial ground (the "Paupers' Section" - in the northeast corner comprises several rows of simple irregular stone markers. Internet searches show photographs of more rows of such memorials within the eastern side of the burial ground, along with a number of inscribed headstones and box-tombs. The earliest inscription in the current survey was found to date from 1767. Some recent burials have also taken place and one further burial is planned to take place.

The site has associations with an Early Monastic community prior to a pre-reformation Roman Catholic Church. The Church of Ireland Church was constructed sometime around 1700. Burials within the burial ground are of mixed denominations.

There is a tradition that a tunnel runs from beneath the converted mausoleum (Derek Alcorn pers. comm.). It is possible that this tradition may relate to a souterrain associated with early medieval ecclesiastical remains, possibly even associated with the early monastic founded by St. Pulcherius, in Irish known as St. Mochaemog, who is reported to have built a monastic church in Antrim in the second half of the 6th century, prior to it being left by him to St. Kavan (Carrigan, 1905).

Carrigan noted that the existing Church of Ireland church was in ruins in his own time and that a pre-reformation Roman Catholic Church was formerly on the site, as noted in the Red Book of Ossory around AD 1510. A "stone-roofed chamber which adjoined it on the north side" was thought to be all that remained of the church.

An early photograph of the structure shows it covered with thatch (www.irishmidlandsancestry.com).

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|--|
| Burial Ground ID: | L009 | Name: | Society of Friends, Ballinakill |
| Townland: | Ballinakill | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 246721 , 180086 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA030-018010 |



First edition Ordnance Survey map showing the location of the burial ground

This burial ground could not be accessed during the current survey but was accessed in the Preliminary Survey.

The graveyard is in rural area surrounded by pasture land, adjacent to farmhouse, just to the south of town of Ballinakill. It is marked on 1st and 2nd editions of the Ordnance Survey map as "Quakers Burial Ground".

Access is via a gravel laneway that leads up to the burial ground through an unlocked field gate. The burial ground is overgrown.

There are no associate structures and there are no visible headstones. The burial ground possibly dates to the 17th or 18th century. The number of burials unknown though tradition maintains that only one person was interred here.

The burial ground has rectangular shape and is enclosed by hedgerow and fence along line of a denuded stone wall.

Burial Ground ID: **L010**
 Townland: **Ballintubbert**
 NGR (E,N): **261350 , 193000**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Brigid's, Ballintubbert**
 Dedication: **St. Brigid**
 RPS No: **RPS 312**
 RMP No: **LA019-014002**



View of St. Brigid's Church with older foundations in foreground, looking west.



St. Brigid's Well, looking east.

The burial ground is located in the townland and village of Ballintubbert. It is depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey mapping as "Church" with the "School Ho.[use]" also represented. The 2nd edition map depicts it as "St. Bridget's Church" with the "Well" and "Graveyard" also depicted.

Access is via two old metalled roads in poor condition leading south then east from the present church in Ballyadams. The enclosure is gated with an adjacent stile.

There is a church sign by the gate, but there is no information regarding the history of the burial ground. There are small directional signs (reading "Church" - mostly toppled at the time of the visit) from the village green.

The enclosure comprises a stone wall (partially concrete where it comprises the old schoolhouse on the southern side). The eastern boundary has a large breach in the wall through to the neighbouring property (a garden with decorative sculptures). An overgrown ditch or low-lying area appears to be an internal feature alongside the eastern boundary. The northern boundary wall is about 1m in height and the ground level here is the same both within and without the burial ground. The possible remains of an earlier earthen embankment appear to be preserved in the northwest corner, south of the entrance and revetted by the western stone wall. This may have curved to the north, partially underlying the northern boundary and was presumably truncated by the gateway in the northwest corner.

St. Brigid's Church of Ireland church is east-west-orientated. It was built from 1800 and renovated in 1870.

Southeast of the church lie the remains of an earlier structure which is probably an earlier church. A small portion of the north-eastern corner still stands to a mere 1m in height, with overgrown rubble foundations giving the impression of the size of the structure, which would appear to have been quite small.

St. Brigid's Well comprise a large northwest-southeast-orientated channel/trench which is heavily overgrown. The north-western end has been lined with large stone blocks which form a narrow channel at this end. Steps possibly ran down to the well at this end. An iron grid loosely covers the well which runs southeast through a culvert in the southern boundary.

A large mausoleum dedicated to the Kelly family lies northeast of the church. This is topped by an old granite memorial with lead plaques which note the Kelly family members interred as well as Capt. Richard T. Wingfield died 1870. Some of Kelly's published hymns are also recited on the memorial.

Most of the burials lie on the southern side of the church, where the oldest identifiable memorials are to be found (the earliest identified dates to 1795). There are many uninscribed simple stone markers, many of which are in rows, with many others that are in perhaps less evident alignments. A small headstone from 1816 is in memorial to a child of 2 years and 6 months of age.

There are many inscribed headstones and Celtic crosses, table and box-tombs, wrought iron crosses and "low monuments". Most of the memorials on the north side date from the 20th century.

The earlier church was in use in 1616 by the Established Church, with worship continuing in the new church until disestablishment, after which time the church has been used for worship by the Church of Ireland. It is unclear whether Roman Catholic burial ever took place here or elsewhere (e.g. Ballyadams or Monascreeban).

In 1956, Caroline R. Butler recalled some local tradition: "Facts, which it is hoped will not be forgotten", which were dictated to Kathleen Malley. She notes that the church in Ballintubbert succeeded the old church in Ballyadams subsequent to the old church being burnt down in the 1798 rebellion and was reportedly built in Ballintubbert in 1804 to be more central to the Protestant population. The parish records were sent for safekeeping to the Four Courts in Dublin, but were destroyed in rebellion in 1920. The townland was renamed "Fontstown" upon plantation, with the church referred to as "Fontstown Church" ("Old Churches Of Leix" in *The Irish Builder*, Vol 28).

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L011 | Name: | Ballyadams |
| Townland: | Ballyadams | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 262330 , 190540 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA019-031002 |



Overview of the burial ground, looking north.



Stone effigies around the Bowen Sarcophagus.

The burial ground is located on a low rise in undulating pasture and lies within Ballyadams townland close to the border of Parkahoughill townland. The burial ground has sweeping views to the east towards Athy and the plains of Kildare.

Access is via a gated gravel footpath with low concrete walls running north from the road.

There are no information panels and no directional signage.

Ivy has been cut back from the church by being cut at the root and left to die off. Some still remains on the western gable. There is a single large evergreen, possibly a cedar, in the southern part of the burial ground.

The burial ground has a rectangular stone enclosure within which the level of the ground is higher than the surrounding land. The walls are maintained and heavily restored on the eastern side.

The east-west-orientated ruins of the church occupy a focal point in the burial ground. The northern wall is the best preserved though significant portions of the east and west gables also remain. The southern wall is very much denuded. There are clear indications of burrowing animals here as elsewhere the footings of the walls appear to be burrowed or otherwise missing in places. A dividing wall at some time had the addition of an iron fence with a gate. An epitaph dating to 1631 survives on a large stone plaque dedicated to Robert Bowen, below which is his sarcophagus.

A short distance to the west of the church lie two wells known as Toberneebe and Tobernasoole.

The ruins of the castle of Ballyadams lie to the east of the church.

Many headstones survive, many of which are simple stone markers, often consisting of locally quarried flagstones - one of these is exceptionally large at over 1.2m in height and breadth. Another example has two square sectioned holes (c.2cm in size) suggesting re-use from some architectural function. Other memorials include plain and Celtic crosses, kerbed memorials and table-tombs.

The sarcophagus of (or memorial to) Robert Bowen, his wife (Alice Harpole) and sons survives well (except for the covering slab) in the choir. The sides have several effigies which survive best in the northeast corner where they are least exposed. The first and second edition OS maps label the burial ground with the presence of this sarcophagus "Shone Apheeka Bowen's Tomb" recalling Bowen's son, John Bowen.

A recumbent effigy lies in the southeast corner of the choir and is dedicated to Thomas and Walter Harpole (possibly the brothers of Alice Harpole). The denominational history of persons buried in the burial ground is unclear from the present survey.

Shaun-na-phica ("John of the Pike") was the name attributed to John Bowen due to his reputed cruel use of a pike during the many conflicts within the surrounding area.

The Harpole Slab is said to have the following inscription:

HERE LYETH UNDER THIS STONE
TWO BRETHERN ALL IN ONE
BRITTIANES BORN, HARTPOOLES BY NACION
HEARE LIVING GOTT GREAT COMENDACION
VALLIANT THOMAS WITH HIS SWOORD
VIRTUOUS WALTER BY THE WRITTEN WOORD

It is possible that the soldier Thomas and the cleric Walter were brothers of Alice Harpole Bowen.

The Bowen Epitaph reads thus:

AN EPITAPH ON THE DEATH OF ROBERT BOWEN ESQUIRE
IF TEARS PREVENT NOT EVERY READERS EYE
MAY WELL PERCEIVE THAT IN THIS TOMB DOOTH LYE
FREINDS HOPE FOES DREAD WHOSE THRICE VICTORIOUS HAND
GAINED LOVE, WROUGHT PEACE WITHIN THIS JOYFUL LAND
WHOSE WORTH DOOTH MOUNT ITSELF ON ANGELS WINGS
WHOSE GREAT DESCENT WAS FIRST FROM ROYAL KINGS
WHOSE NEVER=DYING=VERTUES LIVE FOR WHY
WHOSE FAME'S ETERNIZ'D HE CAN NEVER DY

The missing slab is said to have had an effigy of a man in full length armour with a dog at his feet. At his side was the effigy of a woman "in the dress of the times". The slab is said to have been destroyed by Whitefeet in 1832 (Comerford 1882, Vol. 3). A severely damaged slab similar to the one described is located in the People's Park in Portarlinton and has itself been identified as the "Harpole" effigy from the Bowen sarcophagus

(www.tidytowns.ie; Ronnie Matthews pers. comm). This is currently housed beneath a purpose-built shelter and forms a centre-piece in the People's Park, Portarlinton, but has evidently continued to be vandalised.



Views of the "Hartpole" or Bowen effigy located in the People's Park, Portarlinton (NGR 254441, 212448)

Burial Ground ID: **L012**
Townland: **Ballyadding**
NGR (E,N): **259365 , 206552**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Ballyadden**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA009-014001**



Overview of the burial ground, looking northeast.



Overview of the burial ground, looking west.

The burial ground is located in the townland of Ballyadding and is surrounded by fields in pasture. It is present on the first and second edition Ordnance Survey mapping.

Access is via a gated gravel footpath with low concrete walls running north from the road.

There are no information panels and no directional signage.

There is a significant amount of ivy over the ruins. This has in the past been partially cut back. The floor of the church has been treated to remove vegetation (possibly the sod has been removed).

The yew tree, which is slowly toppling an adjacent headstone, has been seen as a problem for cattle in the adjacent field (to which the berries are poisonous) and there has been discussion as to whether the tree should be removed. It is reported that the extents of the burial ground were reduced to their current size at an unspecified time (though prior to the first edition Ordnance Survey map). These are said to have been further south and east at an earlier time.

The burial ground has a sub-rectangular stone enclosure in good condition within which the level of the ground is mounded and higher than the surrounding land. Human remains have been encountered during ploughing of the adjacent fields to the south and east of the burial ground.

The east-west orientated medieval church is in fair condition generally with a denuded southwest corner and entrance in the west. It is also denuded at the east end of the south wall where a second entrance is located. There is a well-preserved single-light ogee window in the eastern gable and a single-light pointed window is located in the northern wall.

There are many east-facing headstones and Celtic crosses with some wrought iron crosses, recumbent slabs and simple markers - some of which are dressed and may be reused stones from the church. One of these appears to have been recently removed from its socket and is currently in use as a step inside the church. The inscribed memorials date from the 18th century, though there is a large number of a 20th century burial; internment continues. There are large areas of the burial ground with no grave markers.

Mass is said here annually by the Roman Catholic parishioners.

The church is reputed to have been demolished by Cromwell. The burial ground contains a number of O'Dempsey graves and is traditionally the burial place of the rapparee Charles O'Dempsey (locally known as Cahir na gCapall) for his horse thievery. O'Dempsey and his brother Daniel were hanged in 1735 and his burial place is traditionally said to be located on the north side (from Tom Murphy's local history of Ballyadden p69).

In the penal times a priest giving mass at the church reputedly escaped capture by squeezing out of the very narrow eastern window.

Comerford identifies the church as *Capella quoe dictur Teampull-micandamna* (Comerford 1883).

Burial Ground ID: **L013**
Townland: **Ballyboodin**
NGR (E,N): **235560 , 177100**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Killoogue, Ballyboodin**
Dedication: **St. Aedhog/Maedhog/Mogue**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA029-041002**



View of church ruins associated with St. Aedhog/Maedhog/Mogue, facing northwest



View of simple stone markers, facing southwest

The site is located in a rural area, surrounded on all sides by fields; both arable and pastoral. The Gowl River runs to the south and the land here is marshy suggesting that it was once part of the floodplain.

The site is accessed by entering the landowner's driveway from the main road and crossing two fields. The driveway would originally have continued southwards and was the right of way for the graveyard. There is no directional signage to indicate the presence of the graveyard and no information plaque to indicate its name or history.

The site is well-maintained and the grass is kept short, although it would appear that herbicide is used around the church foundations and memorials. A large tree is situated close to the church foundations.

The boundaries are formed by stone walls which were probably built in the 1800's; there is a history of skeletal remains extending beyond the walls. These walls are well-maintained and free of vegetation. The graveyard has been infilled in the past; however, there are visible hummocks formed by successive burials. There is a noticeable slope from the southern wall towards the middle of the site.

The ruins of a church associated with St. Aedhog/Maedhog/Mogue are located in the northern end of the burial ground. Carrigan (1905, 229-30) records that no foundations were visible at that time, however, there is a low rectangular wall on the site today and the landowner remembers the presence of other structural remnants. There is also a font which was retrieved from the Gowl River and set into the east wall of the church.

There are few remaining memorials on the site and the burials of the recent past were not accompanied by memorials. There are three rows of uninscribed simple stone markers in the southern half of the site, which were moved during cleaning and set into rows. There is also a large Celtic cross within the church foundations and a few simple markers laid in a row close to the cross. This is probably not the latter's original location. A small statue on a concrete plinth was also constructed in the recent past. There are modern graves in the northern half; few burials take place now as most families bury their relatives in Holy Trinity, Durrrow. The last burial took place in 1992. A book documenting burials since 1933 is held by the landowners. It is thought that the burial ground contains only Roman Catholic graves.

There is a tradition of a tunnel running from the graveyard to a nunnery to the south, which may possibly recall the existence of a souterrain and is suggestive of early medieval activity at the site. A noticeable ridge to the east is probably part of the recorded ecclesiastical enclosure.

Burial Ground ID: **L014**
Townland: **Ballybuggy**
NGR (E,N): **226608 , 176618**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Brigid's, Ballybuggy**
Dedication: **St. Brigid**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA034-004002**



View of enclosure which surrounds the site, facing southwest



Modern grotto and 19th and 20th century memorials, facing north

The site is located in a rural area in the north-eastern corner of a rectangular field. The landowner's house is situated to the southwest of the site. The fields surrounding the site are used for pasture, whilst fields beyond the immediate environs are arable. The graveyard itself is situated within an earlier rath.

The site can be accessed by entering a gate and walking west along an old sunken route-way, which leads to an earthen enclosure within which the graveyard is located. It is accessed through a gate, which is often locked, or a stile. The permission of the landowner should be sought however, as there are often bulls grazing on the surrounding land.

There is no directional signage, but a plaque has been placed at the graveyard gate displaying its name.

The wall surrounding the site dates to the 19th century and was built by the Board of Guardians. It is c. 1m high and covered in ivy and moss; there are yew trees and bushes growing along the northern edge in particular. Local traditions record that burials extend into fields in the west. The ground is very bumpy and memorials and church ruins are hidden below the grass.

The site is associated with St. Brigid, to whom a nunnery was dedicated. It is believed that the saint visited the site on her way to meet St. Patrick in Cashel. The buildings included a church of which there is structural debris remaining in the graveyard. A grotto dedicated to St. Brigid was constructed in 2000; the statue placed here derives from a convent in Cork which was closing down.

There is a mixture of round and flat-headed headstones, Celtic crosses and metal headstones, although the majority are simple stone markers. Ivy, trees and moss cover many of the markers, especially along the

northern wall. It is thought that the burial ground has been used solely for Roman Catholic interment. The graveyard was closed in 1990 but it is still consecrated. Burials now take place in Bealady, Rathdowney.

A Bullaun stone and a kneeling stone associated with St. Brigid are situated to the north of the graveyard; a rag-bush is also present here. The Bullaun stone was traditionally used as a cure for headaches and this tradition reportedly continues.

Local inhabitants remember that when funerals took place in the site in the past, cars were driven up the old route-way to the graveyard. A mass-path once ran from Rathdowney to the site entering the graveyard from the field to the northeast.

A moated site and medieval village are located to the south of the graveyard and rath.

Burial Ground ID: **L016**
Townland: **Ballylusk**
NGR (E,N): **238440 , 199830**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Kylealiss**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA012-005001**



View of the remaining overgrown portion of the burial ground, looking northwest.



A few small mossy boulders mark the graves of unbaptized children.

The burial ground is located on a low hill between a stream and “St. Fintan’s Road” with wide views over Ballylusk townland. The immediately adjacent old “bog road” to Mountrath forms the boundary between Ballylusk and Brockera townland.

The old laneway leading to the burial ground is overgrown. Access is through private fields which are gated on the road to the northeast of the burial ground.

There are no information panels and no directional signage.

The vegetation in the surviving portion of the burial ground comprises large trees and thick brush with dense undergrowth.

The original extents of the burial ground are not enclosed and are now in pasture following reclamation. A small portion of the original burial ground is enclosed by post-and-wire fencing. A possible wide boundary ditch (fosse) exists on the western side of the burial ground adjacent to the lane. There are no associated structures.

Nearly impenetrable vegetation covers the remaining portion of the burial ground and it is difficult to assess. Local people report existing rows of simple stone grave markers. Rows of these used to be found across the wider original extents of the burial ground.

The burial ground is traditionally remembered as having been used for the burial of unbaptized children. “Unbaptized children and strangers who died in the locality were buried there, although formerly all classes of people were buried there” (Jim Scully – local historian).

The area is rich in tradition. Local places include the "Fairy Bush" marked a short distance to the northwest on the 1st edition OS map and Fairy Glen Wood, which exists to the north of the burial ground.

An "Altar Stone" was apparently retrieved during "reclamation" of the area, but the location of the stone is not known.

The adjacent roadway was traditionally built by St. Fintan, who built the road for a poor woman he met and took pity on whilst crossing the bog.

A local man who was coming home from the pub on St Fintan's Road is supposed to have met an old horse and cart style hearse on the road one night, and this is believed to have been a ghost.

Another local man attempted to plough the burial ground and is supposed to have fallen and hit his head on his plough, dying that day. His two horses are also reported to have died the next day.

Last century a member of the I.R.A. was supposedly buried in Kylealiss, but exhumed and reinterred back home in Tipperary at a later date.

In the 18th century a building to the east was used as a "hospital". A stone-built small structure at the back of the hospital was reputedly used as the morgue. A blocked hole in the rear of the morgue survives and is reported to have been where the bodies were brought out of (bodies were never brought out of the morgue the way they went in). At the rear of the morgue is a small enclosed area which is now planted, but local tradition suggests that there were people also buried here during the famine around 1847.

Burial Ground ID: **L017**
Townland: **Ballynagall**
NGR (E,N): **266000 , 182888**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Sacred Heart, Arles**
Dedication: **Sacred Heart**
RPS No: **RPS 375**
RMP No: **LA032-001002**



View of the Grace Mausoleum, facing west



View of the church and memorials, facing northwest

The site is located in the small town of Arles. Although there are buildings on all sides of the graveyard, fields lie beyond the small town in all directions. These appear to be both arable and pastoral.

The site, which is clearly visible from the side of the road, is accessed by a gate in the western wall. There is a driveway along the northern side which leads to the car-park in the north.

There is no informative signage at the site.

There are hedges and trees present on the site and although it is fairly well-maintained, there is overgrowth of grass, ivy and hedgerow. Moss and lichens are also visible.

The site is enclosed by a hedgerow and wall in the south; a wall in the west; a hedgerow to the east and a car-park and community hall to the north. It is an irregular shape which reflects its expansion throughout the past.

The Church of the Sacred Heart is located in the western side of the site and was reportedly built by the Grace Family. A mausoleum owned by the Grace Family lies to the south of the church; this was where the southern wing of an earlier 17th century church was located. Two earlier churches are recorded by Sweetman *et al.* (1995) as predating the present one; one dated to the 17th century and was built by the Harpoles. This was replaced by an 18th century church. Walker (2001) noted that an earlier medieval church had been extant in the town and it was this which had been replaced by the afore-mentioned 17th century church. The exact location of this is unknown.

The site contains a mix of headstones, Celtic crosses, table-tombs, metal crosses, railed and kerbed burials. They date from the 18th century to the present day. The oldest graves are located in the south and south-

western sides of the graveyard. There are three 19th century priests' burials within the church itself, while there are more immediately south of the church and in the southern end of the graveyard. Five 18th century priests' memorials lie side by side in the south, including Rev. William Keating and Rev. Patrick Wall. These memorials were probably table-tombs which collapsed. This burial ground is thought to contain only Roman Catholic burials.

The walls of the Grace family mausoleum contain 18th century memorials belonging to burials which predated its 18th century construction; it also contains a tablet showing the Grace family shield and motto "*En Gracie Affie*", which translates as "*On Grace Depend*".

The land to the north of the community hall and the graveyard is designated for an extension when the present site is full.

There is also an associated well in the area, which is dedicated to St. Abban, and a penal mass-station.

Burial Ground ID: **L018**
Townland: **Ballynahown**
NGR (E,N): **224934 , 210290**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Carrigeen/Corrigeen**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA002-013002**



Overview of the burial ground, looking east.



Cross-slabs from Carrigeen removed to Clonaslee R.C. Church.

The burial ground is located in pasture in the northern foothills of the Slieve Bloom range close to the border with Offaly. There are extensive views over County Offaly to the north. The immediate area is marked on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey mapping as "Carrigeen", with the burial ground marked as "Church (in ruins)" and "Graveyard".

Access is from the local road to the west of the burial ground and then via an old east-west-running metalled lane-way. A field gate is located on the northern side giving access to the fields in the lower slopes and the burial ground in the adjacent field. The burial ground is gated on the northern side and also has an adjacent stile.

There is a faded information plaque on the interior of the northern wall. There is no directional signage.

There is some ivy and small hawthorn shrubs growing from the southern side of the boundary wall but there is no immediate threat to the stability of the enclosure here. Thick ivy covers the remains of the eastern gable, window and aumbrey. Despite having been strimmed, the grass underfoot is in thick clumps and difficult to walk over.

The burial ground is enclosed by a late roughly circular dry-stone wall which has utilised squared sandstone blocks. This contains the raised burial ground which is higher than the surrounding land by approximately 1m. Earthworks and sloped ground outside of the northern and eastern extents of the enclosure suggest that the burial ground extended beyond the currently enclosed area, which appears to have changed shape between

the depictions on the 1st and 2nd edition OS maps. A quern stone is reportedly incorporated into the boundary wall, but this could not be identified at the time of the visit (it was possibly overgrown).

Traces of earlier enclosure in the form of a low earthen embankment exist to the east of the burial ground. These may have originally extended around a larger burial ground or may have formed part of an enclosure system associated with the reputed ecclesiastical enclosed settlement here.

The remains of an east-west orientated medieval church are located in the centre of the burial ground. The eastern gable of the church is the best preserved with much of the low walls of the western side appearing to have been excavated and restored. The low remains of the western gable have apparently been reconstructed in the wrong place and have fore-shortened the actual length of the church remains (rubble continues beyond the western wall). A well-preserved aumbry is located in the southeast corner of the eastern gable and this has a cross-slab re-used as the bottom stone. Some of the design is presumably hidden within the church wall, but a double-incised circle representing the base of a cross is visible.

The majority of the memorials in the burial ground are early 20th century and are mostly headstones with a smaller number of pedestalled Celtic crosses, wrought iron crosses and plain crosses. There are large areas with unmarked graves and no simple stone markers were encountered. Two additional cross-slabs with incised ringed-crosses were removed to Clonaslee Roman Catholic Church where they are located in the car park.

The denominational history of persons buried in the burial ground is unclear from the present survey.

Burial Ground ID: **L019**
Townland: **Ballyroan**
NGR (E,N): **246734 , 188902**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Ballyroan Graveyard**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **RPS 318**
RMP No: **LA024-060002**



Overview of south side of the burial ground, looking northwest



Overview of south side showing simple stone markers present in the foreground, looking southeast

The burial ground is located a short distance from the medieval motte in the village of Ballyroan. It appears on both the first and second edition of the Ordnance Survey mapping.

Access is via a small lane leading to the gated churchyard. A gravel path leads to and circuits the church. Limited parking is available at the site and further parking is available in the village.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

A mature deciduous tree occupies the north-eastern corner of the burial ground. Some ornamental bushes are also present but vegetation at the burial ground mostly comprises well-mown grass. High stone boundary walls enclose the burial ground on each side. A significant section of the enclosing wall has been repaired with concrete block-work. The burial ground is significantly raised by approximately 1m above the surrounding land on each side.

An east-west orientated church dating constructed in 1800 and renovated in 1860 is situated adjacent to the western edge of the burial ground. A slightly raised area on southern side may have been an earlier structure.

The majority of the memorials are kerbed headstones with some box-tombs, slabs and coffin ledgers present. Some simple stone markers are also present in the southwest corner. Most of the memorials date to the 19th and 20th centuries, though some in the southwest corner date from the mid-18th century (earliest 1755). The majority of the marked burials are on the south side of the church with large green spaces on the eastern and northern sides presumably containing unmarked graves.

The present Church of Ireland church was built in 1800. Given that the earliest surviving graves date to at least 45 years prior to that in addition to the relative height of the burial ground, it is likely that a previous church of

unknown denomination was located here. It is unclear whether the burial ground has been used exclusively for members of the Church of Ireland.

Burial Ground ID: **L020**
Townland: **Baunaghra**
NGR (E,N): **223320 , 171630**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Baunaghra**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA033-017002**



View of the remains of a medieval church, facing northwest



View of the eastern gable of the church ruins, facing south

The site is visible from the road to the east and is marked by the ruins of a church. There are no visible remains of the graveyard. It is easily accessed through a gate.

There is no signage visible, either along the road or at the site.

There is grass growing over the site of the graveyard. There are small trees, bushes and ivy within the remains of the church. The graveyard boundaries are not visible and have disappeared in the last 50 years. The landowner remembers a small bush delineating the southern extent of the graveyard, which ran northwards to meet the current east-west field boundary. Carrigan (1905, 283) notes that corn was grown in the field in the 1900's and that ploughing was probably the cause of the graveyard's disappearance. The landowner does not plough here now; it is used for silage only.

The ruins of a church are present; they are relatively well-preserved in places and a piscina and window lintels remain in the northern gable. The remains of the ecclesiastical enclosure are visible in the western side of the field. This has been ploughed out in living memory, though the scarped land is still visible. This was known locally as the Sconces (pronounced Sconch). An 8th century Anglo-Saxon coin was found in the enclosure in the 19th century (Drapes 1867, 72-3).

No memorials survive at the burial ground. Human remains were reportedly uncovered in the ditch to the north of the church during the insertion of electricity poles in the 1950's.

There is a local tradition of a mass stone situated at the site but it was not identified during the survey.

Burial Ground ID: **L021**
 Townland: **Boghlone**
 NGR (E,N): **244827 , 198264**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Boghlone**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA013-040**



Miniature headstone in memory of William Henry Allen who died at 4 yrs (1876), looking west



General view of graveyard, looking southwest

The burial ground is located immediately south of a local road in undulating pasture. The site rises noticeably from the surrounding land, within the enclosed area. Marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map as 'Grave Yard' and on the 2nd edition as 'Grave Yd. (Disused)'. The 1st edition OS map does not indicate a formally enclosed space, rather a roughly triangular area delineated by tree-lined field boundaries. The 2nd edition map shows a roughly rectangular enclosure within this triangular parcel of land which slightly juts out into the road. Up to date orthographic imagery does show a slight curve to the road at this spot. The townland boundary runs along the road immediately north of the site.

Access to the site is provided directly from the public road by a wrought iron gate and well-constructed stile.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The burial ground is planted with grass which is kept well-mown. A number of evergreens and small bushes have been planted within the site. There is one mature deciduous tree in the south-western corner.

The site is bounded by a well-constructed stone wall on all four sides. There is no visible trace of an extension of the graveyard beyond the stone wall, despite its indication on the 1841 map.

There are no extant associated structures.

Grave markers consist of a number of recumbent slabs, upright headstones and a single Celtic cross on a pedestal base, all dating from 18th to 20th centuries. One large headstone was erected in memory of Sgt. J. Wilson (1892) by D company of the 4th Leinster Regiment. There are no simple stone markers apparent.

The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey.

The burial ground is known locally as a famine graveyard and is linked with a workhouse on the road into Portlaoise.

Comerford describes it as an 'ancient and still used cemetery' (www.irishmidlandsancestry.com).

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L022 | Name: | Shanakill |
| Townland: | Boley Lower | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 240590 , 185100 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA023-025001 |



Overview of the burial ground showing the raised circular central area, looking



Small 18th century headstone with well-preserved inscription to James Maher, died 1779 aged 14.

The burial ground is located on a low rise in undulating pasture and lies within Boley Lower near the boundary of the neighbouring townland of Boley. It lies just to the west of the River Nore. It is marked on the 1st and 2nd editions of the Ordnance Survey mapping as "Templeshankyle (in ruins)".

The site is accessed across country by a public right of way from the end of a farm lane which comes from a minor road.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

A few medium sized yew trees grow in southern half of the graveyard along with a couple of larger evergreens, possibly cedar. A few small wild flowers grow amongst the stones at the base of the surviving church wall and some ivy grows atop the boundary walls. Elsewhere the burial ground is a green lawn.

The burial ground is surrounded on all sides by a well-maintained polygonal stone enclosure which survives to a height of c.1m, with the level of the burial ground inside the walls nearly reaching the top of the enclosure. An earlier circular raised area appears to denote earlier extents prior to expansion.

A single wall atop a low mound, probably comprising rubble, constitutes the surviving remains of the church.

All memorials in the burial ground face to the east. Many headstones and Celtic crosses, some kerbed monuments survive. Some older headstones appear to have been re-erected on newer pedestals. Some of the headstones are severely leaning and others have been propped against the surviving wall of the church. In at least one case a (possibly 18th century?) headstone has had a modern black granite plaque affixed over the inscription. No simple markers are present and there are large parts of the cemetery without of memorials,

especially in the northern half. It is quite certain that there are unmarked graves within such areas. The denomination of persons buried in the burial ground is unclear from the present survey.

Burial Ground ID: **L023**
 Townland: **Bordwell Big**
 NGR (E,N): **232050 , 180910**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Bordwell Big**
 Dedication: **Borfwellis, Forlenus or Fuilinus**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA028-034002**



View of memorials located to the south of the church ruins, facing northeast



General view of the site, facing northwest

The site is located in a rural area and it is surrounded on all sides by fields; both pasture and arable. A minor road runs to the south and east of the site, while Bordwell Cross Roads are also situated to the east. There are a few houses located to the north and southwest and a single one to the southeast.

The graveyard is accessed by a gate in the south-eastern corner of a field. This leads through another field which has been cordoned off on both sides to allow access to the gate of the site.

There is no directional or informative signage.

The grass is well-maintained. However, there is ivy growth on the ruins of the medieval church and overgrowth within its interior.

The site is bounded on all sides by a stone wall, which probably dates to the 19th century. This is in good condition and free from ivy. The graveyard is rectangular in plan and fairly flat which may be a result of levelling in the past.

The ruins of the medieval church and the older memorials are located in the west of the site, while the eastern side of the graveyard comprises a modern extension. An early Christian foundation was located here. In the 13th century the lands were granted to the Augustinians of St. Thomas' Abbey, Dublin. This monastery was subsequently burned down in the 14th century.

The site contains recumbent and upstanding round and flat-headed headstones, Celtic crosses and metal crosses. There are also kerbed burials. Headstones and a box-tomb are also located within the ruins of the church. The memorials date from the 1700's with the earliest visible inscription dating to 1758. Burials

continue to the present day. It is thought that in more recent years the burial ground has been used solely for the interment of Roman Catholics.

Local tradition states that a bush which grows beside Patrick Delaney's grave cures a toothache if the sufferer visits the bush early in the morning, prays for the local priest's soul and hangs a rag on the bush.

The remains of an ecclesiastical enclosure is situated to the northwest and west of the site.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L024 | Name: | Old St. Peter's, Portlaoise |
| Townland: | Maryborough | Dedication: | St. Peter |
| NGR (E,N): | 247016 , 198419 | RPS No: | RPS 186_A; RPS 186_B |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA013-041004 |



Arched gateway and Heritage Trail plaque on boundary along Railway St, looking west



View through the gate of the church tower in the northwest corner, looking west

The graveyard is in centre of Portlaoise town (formerly Maryborough) between Church Street and Railway Street. There is an arched gateway onto Railway Street which has a locked, wrought iron gate.

There is a blue Laois Heritage Trail plaque on the wall near the gate which outlines the history of the site.

There are two mature sycamore trees; one near the arched entrance and the other along the northern boundary. There is a concentration of medium sized trees in the western extent where the remains of the church and tower are located. The rest of the burial ground is very overgrown with high grass, cow parsley and nettles. Ivy is growing heavily on the inside of the boundary walls.

The graveyard has sub-rectangular shape and a stone wall boundary surviving to c. 3-4m in height. The western boundary consists of modern buildings and part of the southern boundary is made of ashlar blocks, most likely part of the courthouse building.

There is no evidence on the ground for burials extending beyond the current extent of the site. However, there is archaeological evidence for burials immediately adjacent to the site, possible connected to the courthouse.

The graveyard contains the ruins of a medieval church known as 'Old St Peter's Church'; built in 1560 for the residents of the fort in the reign of Queen Mary, the belfry tower remains the 2nd oldest building in town and

is marked on the 1841 OS map as 'Tower of Church, Graveyard'. The ruins consist of a tower (c. 5m by 5m) and upstanding north wall of a nave (c. 18m long).

The burial ground is very overgrown and only two headstones could be seen from the gateway. A clump of vegetation between these two headstones is most likely a tomb of some sort that has become completely overgrown.

The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey.

The plaque states that the church's most famous vicar was Thomas Mosse who's son Bartholemew founded the Rotunda in Dublin - the first maternity hospital in the English speaking world. John Welesley preached here. Buried in the graveyard are members of the famous medical family the Jacobs'. It is also the burial place of a notorious 19th century villain "Grant the Robber".

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L025 | Name: | The Ridge of Maryborough |
| Townland: | Maryborough | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 247354 , 198595 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA013-102001 |



Entrance gate to the burial ground at the south-eastern corner, looking northwest



Leaning headstone to west of path, looking west

The site is located on what remains of a steep-sloped esker ridge in an urban area, to the northeast of Portlaoise town, immediately northeast of Ridge Road. It is marked on the 1st edition OS map as "Ridge Grave Yard". The townland boundary between Maryborough and Borris Little runs along the eastern boundary of the site.

Access to the site is via a wrought iron 'kissing gate' and wrought iron arch between two stone pillars. The path through the burial ground rises sharply to the northwest and consists of narrow gravel path. The site falls away sharply to either side and peters out to the northwest where the ground also falls away sharply. A blue Laois Heritage Trail plaque is located on the stone wall next to the entrance gate. It identifies the site as the "Burial Ridge of Maryborough".

The site is largely overgrown with grass.

The burial ground is roughly rectangular in shape, running northwest to southeast. The shape of the graveyard seems to have changed since the 2nd edition OS map having expanded somewhat in its north-eastern extent. The western and southern boundaries consist of a dressed stone wall in good condition. A wrought iron railing tops this wall along the Ridge Road side. The north-western boundary consists of a combination of stone wall

and concrete slab, which is showing some signs of bulging. The eastern boundary could not be assessed as it was inaccessible.

There are no extant associated structures associated with the burial ground.

The burial ground contains 18th to 19th century headstones in varying styles; rounded, recumbent, Celtic style and table-tombs. The memorials are in mixed condition, with some leaning or damaged. At least one headstone was partly buried by subsidence in the northern extent of the burial ground.

The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be mixed, however it is likely to have been used more for Roman Catholic burial remains due to the use of St. Peter's and Old St. Peter's by the Church of Ireland community in the past.

Burial Ground ID: **L026**
 Townland: **Brittas**
 NGR (E,N): **231548 , 210653**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Killyann**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA002-019**



The overgrown and neglected children's burial ground at Killyann, looking northeast

Eastern gate in the stock-fence, looking west

The burial ground is located within a field in pasture southwest of the village of Clonaslee in the townland of Brittas, in the old Brittas Demesne. It is marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map with a small dotted oval shape as "Killyawn Graveyard" and on the 2nd edition as a slightly larger sub-circular enclosure as "Kilyann Burial Ground".

Access is via the lane leading to a private property and crossing through the field.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

The burial ground is entirely overgrown with impenetrable vegetation with the exception of a thin winding path that leads inside from the open gate. Vegetation includes rhododendron/laurel, hawthorn and other thick shrubs, some of which might be invasive species.

The burial ground is enclosed by an old wrought iron barred-fence which requires repairing in a few places. This has a small gate on the east side. There are no known associated structures.

No memorials could be identified within the burial ground as at the time of the survey the majority of the burial ground was overgrown and impenetrable.

Previously identified as a Children's Burial Ground, there is little information regarding the person's buried here. Further investigations regarding local tradition might provide more evidence.

Burial Ground ID: **L027**
Townland: **Carricksallagh**
NGR (E,N): **258240 , 195660**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Oakvale, Carricksallagh**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA019-003002; LA019-003004**



Chancel mortuary and nave, looking south-west



Ash tree growing on top of the southern wall of the nave, looking north

The burial ground is located to the south of Stradbally town.

Original entrance from existing main road is marked by a Lynchgate that was renewed in 2010 and dedicated to the cemetery occupants. Extreme caution is needed with this access due to its location on a blind bend on a National Primary route. Safer access is available through the extended grave yard, adjoining and to the south of the site with further access from minor road to the west of site

There are no information plaques or directional signage. There is a dedication on the renewed Lynchgate to east of site.

An avenue of yew trees lead from the eastern lynch gate and the grass is well mown.

The boundaries consist of stone walls and are in a good state of preservation. A marked internal elevation of c.1.25m can be observed to along the eastern boundary with the road and this may represent part of the original enclosure, a lesser change in topography is present to the northeast of the Church and it may be that the existing wall only partially maps the original monastic enclosure which was removed by the 'Poor Law Guardians'.

Within the burial ground are the ruins of an east-west orientated church with tower at the outer NW corner, but which is much altered. The Cosbys of Stradbally Hall added a mortuary-chancel to it. The chancel has a vaulted basement with family sarcophagus the ground floor of the chancel is thus elevated from the Nave. The chancel has a barrel vault ceiling supporting a stone corbelled roof, in the manner of St Kevin's at Glendalough. Parts of the nave and tower may date to the medieval period.

The burial ground contains 18th to 21st century headstones, in variable condition together with 18th and 19th century family tombs, vaults and mausoleums built into and around the church ruins. A memorial on the south wall of the church to Thomas Douglas (1630-1734) reads:

“Blest be ye men who spare these bones, Curst be they who move these stones!”

The site is reputed to have been founded by St. Colman Mac *Ua Laoigse*, a contemporary and disciple of St. Columba, as an early Christian monastery sometime in the 6th century. It appears to have fallen from monastic use, however, prior to the dissolution. Traditionally it is believed that the Book of Leinster may have resided here at some time.

Comerford quotes O’Hanlon’s criticism of the Poor Law Guardians who removed the stone cashel or enclosure which was:

“...once faced on the outside with lichen-cruste and large lime-stones, and breasted on the interior by a wide supporting mound of earth. While enlarging the boundaries, or while extending gravelled walks, or planting yew and cypress trees for ornament within, it would have been possible to serve every useful purpose and to have added greatly to picturesque effect, had the historic cashel,- possibly constructed in part by the hands of St. Colman in the sixth century,- been suffered to remain. In the absence of commissioners for the preservation of our ancient monuments, our local Boards should learn not to perpetrate what Cobbett called 'improvements for the worse.’” (1886, Vol. 3)

The graveyard now contains burials of mixed Church of Ireland and Roman Catholic denominations.

Burial Ground ID: **L028**
Townland: **Cashel**
NGR (E,N): **227852 , 188925**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Cashel**
Dedication: **St. Garadh**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA022-005002**



Possible traces of an early ecclesiastical enclosure, looking north



Location of levelled burial ground on the 1st edition OS mapping.

The burial ground is located south of the River Nore on the ridge of land overlooking the upper Nore valley and the Slieve Bloom uplands to the north. One of the ancient roads of Ireland, the *Slí Dála*, passes just to the south of the burial ground. This is marked on the first and subsequent editions of the Ordnance Survey maps and is partly preserved in the present farm lane that runs west towards the site. The exact location of the formerly enclosed burial ground is, however, uncertain.

The burial ground is accessed from the N7 in Cashel townland. A laneway leads to the site of the burial ground - running north then west then north again.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

The fields are in pasture, though the exact location is unclear.

The burial ground was described by Carrigan to be within a substantial rectangular stone "cashel" (which gave the townland its name). The enclosure measured approximately 15m east-west by 22m north-south but was subsequently destroyed when the stone was robbed to build an adjacent farmhouse.

There are now no traces of the east-west-orientated stone church which lay within the enclosure, located close to its northern wall.

A cave may have been associated with the early foundation and is marked on both editions of the Ordnance Survey mapping.

The vestiges of an ecclesiastical enclosure appear to have been partially preserved in the field boundaries marked on the 1st and 2nd edition OS mapping. A slight trace of this appears as a feint curving ridge to the southeast.

A Bullaun stone or font (mentioned by Carrigan) was reputedly saved from being destroyed and is reportedly kept locally.

There are no surviving memorials and any surviving graves remain unmarked.

Carrigan notes open-air use of the ruins for Roman Catholic worship during the Penal times, and a temporary chapel was erected close by. Carrigan associates the site, which he relates was known locally as *Cashel-Gorra*, with the historical *Disert-Garadh* in *Ui-Foirchellain* (Offerlane), associated with St. Garadh or Longarad, a contemporary of St. Columcille.

The exact location of the burial ground is unclear. Carrigan (1905, Vol @ p177-80) report's a large stone enclosure or "Cashel" which was largely dismantled to build a mid-19th century farmhouse. The current landowner believes the site to lie southeast of, and in the same field as, an associated cave. The current position recorded by the Archaeological Survey places it in the adjacent field to the south - in the former enclosure (depicted on the 1st edition OS map) to the east of the farm-lane. Carrigan, however, places it north of the adjoining England's farmhouse built from its ruins, which might be assumed to be the larger of the houses on both editions of the OS mapping, which lies directly opposite the currently assumed position and to the west of the farm-track. Carrigan also locates it "two to three hundred yards" southwest of the cave, which would put it much further south and west than any of these locations.

Burial Ground ID: **L029**
Townland: **Castlebrack**
NGR (E,N): **240431 , 216528**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Castlebrack**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA001-004**



Restored west end of church with foreign stone capping a possible famine grave.



A range of memorials at the burial ground.

The burial ground is located in the north of the County in Castlebrack townland, and is sited a short distance north of the ruins of Castle Brack. It is depicted on the 1st and 2nd editions of the Ordnance Survey mapping as "Church (in ruins)" and "Graveyard".

Access is via the gated roadside enclosure. There are no paths. Roadside parking is available alongside the burial ground.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

There are mature beech and ash trees along the southern and eastern boundaries. Evergreen garden trees line the western boundary. A young ash tree is growing in the south-eastern corner of the church. A large and fully mature beech tree grows to the east of the church. Several ornamental bushes grow around the burial ground.

The sub-rectangular enclosure for the most part comprises an earthen embankment with an external ditch. The eastern side has in addition a high stone wall cutting off the north-eastern corner where there is a neighbouring property.

The northern boundary comprises a stone wall which was restored in the 1980s. The eastern part of this wall utilised rubble and other stone which had been removed from around the burial ground, much of it coming from the church. Towards the western part of the same wall it includes imported stone from Mountmellick. Several architectural fragments including window mouldings are present but it is unclear how much of this came from Mountmellick.

The burial ground is raised towards the centre. It is possible that much of the mound surrounding the church is formed of rubble from the church itself but it also undoubtedly due to that area having been subject to the longest tradition of burial.

The ruins of the medieval church are for the most part difficult to appraise as only foundations survive beneath a capping of latterly introduced stone rubble. A part of the southern wall, however, survives to over 2m in height. This now has a grotto attached to its internal face and the ground within the church has been covered with gravel. The church is thought to have been built at the same time as the castle by Tadhg O'Duinn (who also built Kilmanman and Rearymore churches) around 1475. It is said to have been destroyed in 1691.

There are many inscribed headstones which date from the mid 18th century (the earliest identified inscription dates to 1740). There are in addition many slabs and table- and box-tombs, some Celtic crosses and a coffin-shaped "low monument". There is a kerbed family plot dating from the early 19th century which appears to have a recent addition in the form of very large pedestalled granite Celtic cross. The kerb of this plot partly overlays an earlier slab dating to 1766.

There are no simple stone markers in the burial ground despite vast spaces devoid of memorials, especially on the northern and western sides, which undoubtedly contain unmarked graves. It is thought that there may have once been simple stone markers present in the burial ground but that during graveyard cleanups previous decades these were unrecognised as memorials and were "cleared" with loose rubble. Many of these may have latterly been incorporated into the restored northern boundary wall.

There are mixed denominations present within the burial ground. Tradition recalls that this derives from some changes in faith for some families.

There is a tradition of "underground passageways" around the castle, which may recollect the presence of a souterrain associated with early medieval settlement.

Burial Ground ID: **L030**
Townland: **Castlequarter**
NGR (E,N): **235492 , 174000**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Castlequarter, Cullahill**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA035-021002**



View of remains of church and Cullahill Castle, facing east



View of original site of graveyard, facing southwest

The site is located in small town of Cullahill. It is associated with Cullahill Castle to the west. A house is located immediately north of the northern boundary, while there are also houses and buildings located to northwest. It is surrounded on all other sides by fields; under pasture and tilled. The field where the graveyard is located is used as a cattle pasture.

The site is accessed by a boreen and track which run from the road in the town. The medieval church is located at the south-western end of the boreen, while the graveyard is located just south of the church.

The graveyard is covered in short grass and has been used as cattle pasture land for a number of years.

The boundaries are formed by stone walls in the northern and western sides and hedgerow in the east and south. The north-eastern side is formed by the church, while there is an entrance to the eastern field through a gap in the eastern hedgerow.

There are no surviving memorials, although the landowner believes that the graveyard was sited in a hollow just south of the church.

The medieval church was a private chapel was constructed for the Catholic Lords of Upper Ossory, who resided in the tower-house to the northeast. Although the church was cleaned in the recent past, it is now overgrown with ivy, trees and long grasses.

There were houses located along the boreen in the past; one gable wall is retained behind overgrowth and was called Roberts' Yard. There is a lime kiln situated beside the track leading to the boreen and church.

Burial Ground ID: **L031**
 Townland: **Castletown**
 NGR (E,N): **264717 , 185552**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Killaban**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **RPS 482**
 RMP No: **LA026-011003**



View of the church and surrounding memorials, facing northeast



Ffolliot and Hovenden graves with armorial plaques, facing west

The site located in a rural area. There are pasture and tillage fields on all sides, apart from the south where the road is located. The fields are all bounded by hedgerows. There is a small river which runs just north of the site; there is also a house located to the northwest which originally belonged to the Furneys, who were of French Huguenot origin.

The site is accessed through a gate at the side of the road. There is also a stile in the western wall which is accessed by the driveway in the west leading to the house in the northwest.

There is an information plaque at the front of the church and the graveyard is clearly visible at this point.

The site is very well-maintained; the grass is kept short. Some large yew trees are present on the site.

The boundaries are formed by stone walls. The southern wall has crenulations and is cemented and painted. The graveyard is situated at a distance above the road and it rises in the west.

A church is positioned in the eastern side of the plot. There are graves on all sides of the church, although most are situated in the west. The graveyard predates the church; they were associated with an earlier church on the site.

The grave markers consist of round and flat-topped headstones, Celtic crosses, kerbed and railed burial plots. There are railed plots which have never contained memorials; instead they have a small plaque displaying the family name. There are plaques within the church displaying additional family details. The Edge family plot is located in the north-eastern corner of the graveyard and is delineated by a low stone wall with a plaque on the

western side. The Edge family reportedly owned lands and properties in Laois including Tolerton House, Clonbrook House, Crettyard, House and Fairymount House.

There are also armorial stones with engraved coats of arms within the Hovenden and Folliot burial plot, which were recorded as being brought here from the gates of their houses. These families intermarried; the Hovenden's seat had been at Ballylehane Castle and their traditional burial ground was located in Tankardstown.

The earliest visible gravestone dates to the first decade of the 18th century although the exact year is not visible. It is thought to contain both Roman Catholic and Church of Ireland burials.

The sexton's house was located in the north-western corner of the site; the ruins of this were removed in the recent past. The last sexton died in 1951 and his house fell into disrepair.

Local tradition states that skeletal remains were uncovered in a field to the south of the site. However, the exact location is not known. A deserted medieval settlement, a castle and motte and an enclosure are also situated in the south.

The site was 200 years old in 2001 and the celebrations included a service and dinner which was attended by local TD's and members of Laois County Council. A booklet outlining the history of the site was produced by the families for the occasion.

Burial Ground ID: **L032**
 Townland: **Churchtown**
 NGR (E,N): **233710 , 191440**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Churchtown**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA016-018002**



Overview of the burial ground, looking southeast



Many simple stone markers are located around some of the older inscribed memorials on the south side

The burial ground is located on rising ground in the townland of Churchtown on the southern outskirts of the small town of Castletown.

Access is via the stiled and gated enclosure at the end of the access road. There is ample dedicated parking.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

There is an abundance of vegetation comprising boundary shrubs and some mature trees including a number of yew trees, horse chestnut and other large trees. It is generally well-maintained. The church walls, however, are completely overgrown with ivy and elder. The ground appears to be mown and there is no evidence for the use of pesticides. Within the modern extension there are ornamental shrub bushes.

The burial ground is revetted by a sub-circular stone enclosure which surrounds at least one and possibly two successive earlier phases of enclosures as evidenced by earthen embankments. The most evident of these is visible from the northwest quadrant running eastwards across the burial ground (truncated by a number of burials), with a possible earlier phase a short distance to the south and closer to the church. The embankment is also very evident in the southwest corner where it is breveted by the later stone enclosure. The burial ground is raised above the surrounding land by between 1-2m, and is highest around the church and on the southern side. A 20th century extension to the burial ground has been added immediately to the south of the stone enclosure.

The ruins of the east-west-orientated medieval church occupy a raised and central position in the burial ground is completely overgrown with ivy. Little appears to have changed from Carrigan's description however, as the four walls survive as described with the western gable and northern wall being the best preserved. The

font which Carrigan mentions, however, is not present. A mound in the southeast corner of the burial ground has been truncated by burials from the early 18th century. This might be related to rubble from the collapse of the church or might represent some other early structure. A grotto in the southeast corner, which is dedicated to the Holy Virgin, appears to be 19th century in date (appearing on the 2nd but not the 1st edition OS maps).

Most of the memorials in the burials ground are aligned to the east, but on the northern side there was a later break with tradition and most of the burials are aligned to the north.

There are many inscribed headstones with a smaller number of pedestalled Celtic Crosses and a large number of simple stone markers in rows. There are also a large number of slabs, which are early 18th century in date. Some of the memorials have kerbs and some have railings (two of these are box-tombs with high railings). There are a number of wrought iron crosses, with three identical silver-painted wrought iron crosses within the church ruins marking the burials of three monks from the nearby De La Salle monastery in Castletown. There are also some large areas of unmarked graves, especially in the northern side where there appear to have been later extensions to the burial ground.

Only existing family plots are used for continued burial, which is mostly directed to the new extension.

Traditionally the burial ground is used to inter Roman Catholics, although at least one burial is thought to have been Church of Ireland, in a high-railed plot (now overgrown with young ash trees). This is reported to have been a certain Mr. Price who was said to have been buried on his own land adjacent to the burial ground prior to extension to the west.

One of the iron crosses of the De La Salle brothers interred within the grounds of the church is dedicated to a young man who died at the age of 15 was remembered by his nickname "Credo", reportedly named after his characteristic of repeating aloud "I believe".

Burial Ground ID: **L033**
 Townland: **Clonagh**
 NGR (E,N): **269080 , 183000**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Clonagh**
 Dedication: **St. Fintan**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA032-007002**



View of suggested graveyard location, facing northwest



General view of church ruins, facing north

The site is located within pasture land, close to the road in the east. There is a hedgerow boundary to the north and a modern house and shed to its south.

The site is accessed through a gate at the side of the road. There is no directional or informative signage but the ruins of the church are visible from the road.

There are no visible remains of the site and no visible boundaries. The land is under pasture.

The late medieval ruins consist of four limestone walls which are covered in ivy, trees, grasses and moss. The remains of a stair tower are visible in the western wall. The structural remains extend into two fields. Gates have been erected within the gaps of the church walls, while there is modern rubbish and an area of modern burning within.

The site is recorded as a religious house which was dedicated to St. Fintan. It was reportedly knocked for its limestone blocks.

There is a linear ditch running southwards from the church, which is visible on the Ordnance Survey maps. This may be associated with the church and graveyard.

Burial Ground ID: **L034**
Townland: **Clondarrig**
NGR (E,N): **243290 , 200501**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Clondarrig**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA012-006**



Wrought iron entrance gate and stone stile in southern boundary wall, looking northeast



Simple stone marker with crude inscription, this one written backwards

The graveyard is located immediately north of a local road, surrounded by pasture and just southwest of a farmyard complex. It is marked on the 1st edition OS map as "Grave Yd." and "Site of R.C. Chapel" and on the 2nd edition as "Grave Yard".

Access is provided via a stone stile and wrought iron gate in the southern boundary wall.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The site is covered in well-mown grass, there are a number of yew trees and ivy covers the southern boundary wall.

The site is largely rectangular in shape, but tapers to a point to the north. It is enclosed by a stone wall which survives to c. 1.5m in height and in good condition. There is no evidence for burials beyond the current boundaries.

There are no extant associated structures. However, the 1st edition OS map seems to indicate some remains in the centre of the burial ground.

Some of the grave markers appear to be architectural fragments.

Graveyard contains 17th to 21st century headstones in mostly good condition with some leaning, illegible or collapsed. These include round headed, Celtic crosses and metal crosses. The earliest visible headstone is dated to 1610. Some of the stones appear to be very early, but have no legible dates. One of the markers has what appears to be reversed writing; "YRAM FO YHPORB" ("MARY OF BROPHY").

The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey but the majority are thought to be Roman Catholic.

The late farmer, Mr McHugh (interred here in 2010) has done some work in recording the inscriptions. The register is held by the McHugh family who live in the adjacent farm.

Burial Ground ID: **L035**
Townland: **Cloneeb**
NGR (E,N): **225465 , 176380**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Cloneeb**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA034-001002**



General view of graveyard, facing west



View of church gable, facing north

The site is situated in rural land. A road and a river run to the south. It is accessed from the road through a gate.

There is no directional or informative signage.

There are stone walls surrounding this graveyard. Two extant, but collapsing, remains of an associated church are located within the walls. There are small bushes and ivy growing out of the structural remains. The ground immediately bordering the walls is lower than the interior which is notably raised. The field to the east and south is very stony, which may be associated with demolished structures.

There are few upstanding headstones; many are covered in grass or have collapsed. There are two Celtic crosses and simple stone markers. A large headstone of a kerbed burial is situated in the centre of the site. Burials have been reported extending beyond the walls. It is believed to contain only Roman Catholic burials.

A section of a stone cross was uncovered close to the site in the past and it may have derived from the graveyard.

The local people pronounce the site as "*Cloneebh*" suggesting there was an 'h' at the end of this which was dropped.

Burials are remembered here in the past, but many of the local people have moved away and the graveyard has fallen into disuse.

Burial Ground ID: **L036**
 Townland: **Clonenagh**
 NGR (E,N): **238765 , 195621**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Fintan's, Clonenagh**
 Dedication: **St. Fintan**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA017-003002**



View of St. Fintan's, looking northwest



Simple stone markers and other memorials in ordered rows, looking southwest

The burial ground is located south of the adjacent N7 Portlaoise to Mountrath road and is surrounded by fields in pasture. It is marked on the first edition OS map as "Old Graveyard". A platform earthwork identified as a ringfort is located immediately to the south.

A lay-by/local access road off the main N7 road provides limited parking for several cars. A gate and high stile on the west side provide access. There are additional stiles in the south and northeast.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

There are many mature trees around the northern and eastern peripheries of the enclosure and a number of mature trees within the heart of the burial ground and the grass is regularly mown. In the north-western corner some elder is beginning to take hold. Ivy has been allowed to come back along the gable tops of the ruined church, but it does not appear to be too thick or heavy.

The burial ground is surrounded on all sides by a well-maintained stone revetment which survives to a height of c.1.5m, with the level of the burial ground inside the walls nearly reaching the top of the enclosure.

The medieval ruins of one of the latest of, reputedly, many churches still stand in the burial ground. This is dated to the 16th century by Sweetman et al. (1995, p76) and was somewhat restored in the 1980s.

The burial ground contains memorials dating to 18th to 19th century headstones, crosses and Celtic crosses, some are wrought iron. There are many rows of simple unscribed stone markers of unknown age. Occasionally such memorials have made use of existing architectural pieces.

The burial ground occupies the site of an early monastery. The medieval church was latterly used for worship by the Established Church until it fell into a poor state and a new church in Mountrath (St Peter's) was erected in 1796.

The site has continued to be used as a burial ground by people of both Roman Catholic and Church of Ireland denominations.

Tradition recalls that the long fields to the southeast apparently mark the pilgrimage path to St Fintan's Holy Well in Cromoge. There is also the tradition of tunnels (possibly indicative of the presence of a souterrain) in the fields to the south.

A possible stone *fidchell* (or similar game) board was identified in the stile in the southern side of the enclosure, currently being used as a step. It is made of unusual geology and has a grid incised into with at least five rows to a broken edge and at least four rows in the other direction (beyond these four rows it has been concreted into the enclosure wall).

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L037 | Name: | Clonenagh |
| Townland: | Clonenagh | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 238972 , 195746 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA017-003007 |



The huge mound at Clonenagh with precariously placed memorials, looking northwest



Row of early headstones and cross-slabs removed to the western boundary wall, looking northwest

The burial ground is located on the north side of the adjacent N7 Portlaoise to Mountrath road and is surrounded by a farm to the northwest and fields in pasture. It is marked on the first edition OS map as "Old Graveyard". The site of the monastery of Clonenagh (founded by St Fintan c. 548) and the ruins of the late medieval St Fintan's church are located c. 200m southwest across the road. A holy tree associated with a holy well site dedicated to St Fintan is located immediately adjacent to the southeast.

A lay-by/private access road off the main N7 road provides limited parking for several cars. A gate and high stile in the southwest corner provide access, with a short stretch of path sloped into the graveyard.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage. There is, however, an information panel relating to the adjacent St Fintan's Well.

Shrubs grow immediately outside of the eastern and western boundary walls and there is a mature sycamore on the eastern periphery of the enclosure (which has been looped around this old tree). Ivy has been allowed to grow along the boundary walls and in very few places some shrubs have grown up within the heart of the burial ground, but these all appear to be kept in check and the grass is regularly cut.

The burial ground is surrounded on all sides by a well-maintained square stone enclosure which survives to a height of c.1.8m, with the level of the burial ground inside the walls nearly reaching the top of the enclosure.

The burial ground is centred on a circular tall round-topped mound that towers above the surrounding landscape by at least 3-4 metres. The burial ground predates the stone enclosure by several centuries - the stone enclosure having been built around a large sycamore in the northeast corner. It is possible, therefore, that earlier burials extend beyond the enclosure.

There are no surviving structures associated with the site.

There are approximately 14 stones set against the western wall of the enclosure. These are a mixture of some 18th century headstones and a large number of apparently early Christian cross-slabs with at least one architectural fragment. All of these would have been grave markers in the past and were recovered during a cleanup of the cemetery in 1988.

There are many inscribed headstones dating to the 18th century onwards, with a large number of Celtic crosses, some wrought iron crosses and some recent plain wooden crosses. There are a number of slabs and one table tomb is perched on the very eastern edge of the mound. The steep side of the mound on this side has been shored up at the base with small flag stones which were probably also once grave markers. There are many rows of simple uninscribed stone markers of unknown age.

The burial ground is reportedly reserved for Roman Catholic burial.

Burial Ground ID: **L038**
 Townland: **Clonenagh**
 NGR (E,N): **238951 , 195601**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St Brigit's, Clonenagh**
 Dedication: **St. Brigit**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA017-003008**



The western half of the burial ground, looking southeast



Unscribed simple flag-stone memorial on the eastern side of the burial ground, looking west

The burial ground is an east-west-orientated long mound located in two fields in pasture south of the N7 Portlaoise. It is marked on the first edition OS map as "Old Graveyard". A north-south orientated boundary ditch bisects the burial ground, so that there is a western and an eastern half. The site of the monastery of Clonenagh (founded by St. Fintan c. 548) and the ruins of the late medieval St. Fintan's church are located in the adjacent field to the west.

Access is through either of two fields, which are both gated from the main road. The nearest parking is at St Fintan's burial ground just west of the gates. Neither of the two halves of the burial ground can be accessed directly from each other.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

The fields had been cut for silage at the time of the visit and the crowns of the mounds on both of the sides were left uncut (but not so the lower slopes). This is probably due to the presence of hidden grave markers. Nettles and thick grass were growing on both sides. The bisecting boundary ditch is thick with vegetation and several hawthorn bushes grow around the eastern slope of the mound. Neither half of the burial ground is enclosed.

There are no surviving structures associated with the site, though it is to be noted that traditionally there were seven churches in Clonenagh.

One definite simple stone grave marker and a few slightly protruding stones within the eastern half of the burial ground were identified due to the dense long grass and other vegetation. The denomination of persons buried in the burial ground is unclear from the present survey.

Burial Ground ID: **L039**
Townland: **Clonkeen**
NGR (E,N): **244033 , 180731**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Clonkeen**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA029-025001**



Overgrown and neglected memorial, looking southwest



The medieval church ruins are under severe threat from overgrowth, looking northwest

The burial ground is in a rural area south of Abbeyleix in Clonkeen townland and is surrounded by undulating pasture. It is marked on both the 1st and second edition Ordnance Survey maps as “Clonkeen Church (in ruins)” and “Grave Yard”.

Access is from a farm track across fields at the southern end of a minor road. The enclosure is gated but blocked by thick vegetation. There is a stile but the interior of the burial ground is dangerously overgrown.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

Vegetation is dense and severely overgrown (nettles and briars dominate) covering many of the memorials and making the ground uneven. Young trees and shrubs grow thickly along the enclosure wall and threaten its future integrity. The church is covered with thick ivy and other shrubs with young trees starting to take hold both within and around the church.

The burial ground is bounded by a stone-walled polygonal enclosure approximately 1m in height which appears to be later than the earlier burial ground. Within the enclosure the level of the ground is higher than the surrounding land but the earliest extents of the burial ground are unknown.

The burial ground contains the ruins of a medieval church comprising a nave with dividing wall and measures c. 7m by 15m.

The burial ground contains memorials dating to 18th to 19th century headstones, crosses and Celtic crosses, some are wrought iron. Many are upright but some are leaning, collapsed or damaged. The last known burial took place in 1979; however a small wooden cross within the church suggests recent burial has taken place.

Clonkeen has been identified as a possible early monastery and might date from as early as the 7th century. Perhaps the historic Clonkeen - as opposed to that identified as neighbouring the later Abbey at Clonenagh. A map of 1563 shows the church at Clonkeen or *Clocuine*, with the land between Clonkeen and Abbeyleix called *Franamanagh* or "Land of the Monks".

In the medieval period the parish of Clonkeen was disputed between the dioceses of Leighlin and Great Connall, which suggests that the area was of some significance. The lands around Clonkeen became subsumed by the lands of the Abbey of Leix.

The lands changed hands many times over the coming centuries. By the 17th century there was an Anglican presence at Clonkeen with the first vicar present in 1616. At this time the church was apparently in good repair and said to contain many books and religious artefacts. Conflict in this century gave rise to an absence of a vicar here for nearly 20 years after the murder of the vicar Thomas Bingham, whose wife attested to his decapitation by "rebels" who carried his head off to the Ormonds in Kilkenny.

Tradition recalls the removal of lead from the roof of the church at Clonkeen by the Earl of Ormond in the 17th century. At the time of the Penal Laws which attempted to suppress Catholicism, Masses were celebrated in the now largely wild area in field still known locally as the Mass Field at the nearby Kenny's gravel pit. By the 19th century Clonkeen was incorporated into the Parish of Abbeyleix where a new Catholic church was built (O'Brien 1998).

Burial Ground ID: **L040**
Townland: **Oldtown**
NGR (E,N): **243150 , 194710**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Churchfield, Clonkeen**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA017-007002**



Burial ground in the foreground. The zig-zag townland boundary with Clonkeen. The Church Field is the other side, looking east



The deep, wide, hollow way which leads to the burial ground, looking south

The burial ground is located on the western edge of Coolnacartan Bog in Oldtown townland. The site has been previously identified within the adjacent field "Churchfield" to the north in Clonkeen townland, where the site of the early church and ecclesiastical enclosure lie. Landowners on both sides agree, however, that the burial ground was sited in Oldtown.

The site can be accessed through the Allen's farm, travelling alongside the field boundary by the old Hollow Way. There is no designated parking.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

The site of the burial ground is in pasture.

The site is not enclosed and the original extents are unknown. A zigzagging field boundary in the northern side of the field may preserve an earlier northern boundary.

The field to the north is known as "Churchfield", within which is the site of an early church. There are no surface traces and the field has been levelled in living memory, with possible structural stones being recalled as coming up out of the ground.

The Hollow Way, which is locally known as the "Mass Path", is a very large excavated trench up to 10m in width and about 3m in depth. The Archaeological Inventory of County Laois notes the possible presence of an enclosure at the site, but there are no visible traces.

There are no visible remains of burials at the site of the burial ground.

In terms of denominational history, all we can say is that the burial ground is of a possibly early Christian foundation.

Traditionally the site is a candidate for being the Clonkeen that was the birthplace of St. Fintan of Clonenagh. That distinction, however, might also belong to Clonkeen in Ballinakill parish.

O'Hanlon notes "We are told that *Cluainchaoin* was an ancient monastery, not far distant from Clonenagh" (1907, Vol. 1, p210). Its proximity to Clonenagh, however, remains an unclear and relative perspective.

Burial Ground ID: **L041**
Townland: **Clonmeen South**
NGR (E,N): **222870 , 173750**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Clonmeen South**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA033-010001**



View of church ruins, facing northwest



Boundary wall which may have been constructed from stones of church, facing north

The burial ground is located in a farmyard which has been covered in concrete. The field to the north is ploughed for barley and the field to the west is used as pasture land.

Access is via a gate off the road that leads to a farm-track. The farmyard lies just to the north.

There are no information panels or directional signage present at the burial ground.

There are trees and ivy growing on the church remains.

There are no boundaries delineating the burial ground itself as there are no surface remains. The northern boundary of the site is formed by a stone wall, which may have been built with stones from the church. The southern side is bordered by farm sheds. The eastern and western sides are formed by hedgerows.

The ruins of a medieval church are represented by two short east-west walls located in the north-western corner of the concrete yard. They are in danger of completely collapsing.

No memorials survive at the burial ground.

The denominational history of the people interred in the burial ground is not clear from the present survey.

This graveyard had been out of use for over 100 years.

Human remains were found by the landowner in 1989 and were retrieved by the National Museum of Ireland.

Burial Ground ID: **L042**
 Townland: **Clopook**
 NGR (E,N): **258213 , 190478**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Clopook**
 Dedication: **Blessed Virgin**
 RPS No: **RPS 625**
 RMP No: **LA019-022001**



Overview of the burial ground, looking northwest



Many burials are within the ruins of the medieval church, looking east

The burial ground at Clopook is located on a low rise in a valley between two larger hills (Fossy Mountain and another hill to the north upon which the Hillfort known as the "Dun of Clopook" is sited. On another low hill to the southeast lies another Hillfort known as the "Dun of Luggacurren". It is marked on both the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps as "Church (in ruins)" and "Grave Yard".

Access is via the gated enclosure off the minor road. There are no paths and only a small amount of parking.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

There are two yew trees growing together in the graveyard. Ivy covers the church in addition to a number of small shrubs. Ivy covers parts of the tops of the enclosure wall but is not a threat if maintained. Pesticides are not used at the burial ground.

The burial ground is enclosed on all sides by a stone-walled enclosure. The northern half of the enclosure is circular and the straight southern section adjacent to the road forms a D-shape. The low wide mound within the heart of the burial ground indicates that at an earlier date the burial ground was circular, and has been extended to the southeast and southwest. This is also confirmed by a renewed section at the southern end of the eastern wall (which is in this section constructed from concrete). Outside the enclosure to the north and east the burial ground is considerably higher than the surrounding land.

The ivy-clad ruins of the church are orientated east-west and comprise a solidly built nave with an adjoining narrower chancel or choir to the east. A significant amount of rubble lies against the exterior northern wall of the choir, and may originally derive from the fallen ruins of the church. An arched dividing wall is covered with

thick ivy and now has an iron gate inserted. Within the church are a number of burials which post-date its use as a place of worship. The western gable no longer survives and the eastern gable is leaning dangerously.

The memorials are often kerbed and some have railings and comprise inscribed headstones, Celtic crosses, slabs, table-tombs, box-tombs (some of which are collapsing), wrought iron crosses and simple stone markers. There is a notable absence of memorials on the northern side of the burial ground which does however, have characteristic humps and bumps suggesting unmarked graves. It is possible that simple markers have been removed to maintain the enclosure wall, which does have a notable amount of rubble in the vicinity. Some of the rubble against the northern wall of the church also originally derived from simple stone grave markers where they were thought to not be *in situ*.

There are many memorials which date from the early 18th century. The earliest of these is a slab within the choir of the church which reads:

"ROGER MOORE PRIEST TO OVR GREEFE IS DEAD AND
IN THIS NARROW GRAVE
NOW TAKES HIS REST
LET ALL THAT READS TH
IS WITH DEVOTION PRAY
GOD REST HIS SOVL IN
PEACE THEN AMEN SAY
HE WAS BORNE IN 1640
DYED DESEMBER IX 1706"

It is thought that only Roman Catholics are buried in the burial ground.

Daniel O'Byrne notes that the original name of the church was *Bla-kil-anan* from *Baile-kil-anan*. He associated this with the goddess Aine (1856, p37).

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L043 | Name: | Coolbanagher |
| Townland: | Coolbanagher | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 251466 , 203218 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA008-014002; LA008-014004 |



Headstones and slabs visible through the vegetation, looking northwest



18th century headstone showing signs of cleaning, looking west

The graveyard is in a rural area, surrounded by undulating pasture and crop land, immediately west of a local road. It is marked on 1st and 2nd edition OS maps as 'Coolbanagher Church (in ruins)' in gothic script and 'Grave Yard'. A towerhouse is located c. 100m to northeast. The townland boundary between Cottage farm and Coolbanagher runs along the northern, western and southern boundaries of the site.

Access to the graveyard is through a wrought iron gate in the eastern boundary wall from the roadside. There is also a wrought iron gate in the surrounding fence in the south-western corner. There are no information panels or directional signage.

On the first visit the site was covered in high grass, but on a return visit the grass had been cut. The only trees on the site are relatively young ash trees located to the east of the church.

The rectangular-shaped site has a stone wall on the eastern boundary with the other three boundaries consisting of post and wire fencing. There is no evidence for burials beyond the current boundaries.

The graveyard contains the ruins of a medieval church with both gables and walls remaining. The church measures c. 19m by 7m, and consists of a chancel and nave with a Romanesque doorway in the west gable. There are at least two phases of construction. The structure has been significantly restored in recent years.

The graveyard contains 18th century headstones which are mostly in good condition, though some are leaning or collapsed. These are mainly in round headed or recumbent style. The earliest inscribed memorial dates to 1728 and is that of Henry Toole. A headstone dated to 1774 is notable for its depiction of the crucifixion with a ladder and spear. A few illegible headstones possibly date to the 19th century. The memorials are exclusively

located to the south and east of the church. An Early Christian cross slab is set into the internal wall of church ruins by means of metal brackets and was moved here after recent restoration. There are recumbent slab memorials within the eastern part of the church. According to Jackie Hyland, who is a member of the "Four Parishes" maintenance committee, some of the 18th century headstones have been sandblasted in recent years.

The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L044 | Name: | Coolkerry |
| Townland: | Coolkerry | Dedication: | St. John the Baptist |
| NGR (E,N): | 230150 , 177780 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA028-061001 |



View of church ruins and memorials, facing northwest General view of the site, facing southeast

The site is located in rural lands to the west of Rathdowney. It is surrounded by fields on all sides, which are used for both pasture and crops. The river Erkina runs to the south of the site, but the land appears to be well-drained. The site of Coolkerry Castle is just south of the graveyard; all that remains is a distinctive mound.

The site is accessed through a gate which leads to a drivable narrow boreen and a gate or stile in the wall of the graveyard. There is also some grass to park on the road that leads to the boreen.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

A stone wall encloses the roughly subrectangular graveyard. The wall is probably 19th century and is covered in ivy in places. The graveyard rises from the wall to the middle, which is higher than the surrounding field. The site is fairly well-maintained. However there are some overgrowth and bumps in the west of the site.

The ruins of a church are situated in the western side of the site. A portion of the western gable is upstanding and covered in ivy. The recent cleanup revealed the traces of the north wall; however, the southern and eastern are not visible. Reportedly, prior to the Reformation, the site belonged to the Canons Regular of St. Thomas's Abbey, Dublin. The patron saint is St. John the Baptist.

The committee have recently constructed an altar to the east of the church.

The majority of the memorials consist of headstones, which are upstanding, recumbent and collapsed. There are also Celtic crosses and collapsed slabs which may have been upstanding headstones or table-tombs. The above are concentrated to the east and south of the site, while simple stone markers are situated to the

northeast of the site. Legible memorial dates run from the 19th to the 21st centuries. It is believed to contain only Roman Catholic burials. It was reported that there were Famine burials here.

Burial Ground ID: **L045**
 Townland: **Cooltedery**
 NGR (E,N): **254189 , 212589**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Paul's, French Church**
 Dedication: **St. Paul**
 RPS No: **RPS 121**
 RMP No: **LA005-031005**



View of church from across French Church St, looking southwest



Overgrown headstones and tombs to west of central path, looking southwest

The graveyard is in the middle of the town of Portarlinton, at the southwest corner of Market Square and immediately south of French Church Street. It is marked on the 1st edition OS map as simply "Ch" and on the 2nd edition as "St Paul's Church" and "Grave Yard".

Access is provided via a wrought iron gate in the northern boundary. The gate remains locked and a key is available for collection at a nearby shop.

An information panel is located inside the gate that identifies the site as "St Pauls The French Church" and details times of service and the name of the reverend.

The graveyard is covered in regularly mown grass, with gravel paths providing access to the memorials. There are a number of mature yew trees and some deciduous trees also present. The eastern and western boundary walls are covered with ivy in places. Some memorials along the western side of the graveyard are very overgrown with briars and ivy.

The site is linear and runs southwest from French Church Street, narrowing somewhat to the south. The northern boundary consists of a stone wall with iron railings. The eastern and western walls are stone and brick. The southernmost extent of the site is overgrown but the presence of a mature yew tree indicates that the graveyard once continued south beyond its current extent. Comparison of the OS mapping indicates that the graveyard took in the neighbouring plots to the east between the 1st and 2nd editions.

The church is located in the north-eastern corner of the site. It was built in 1851, on the site of the earlier Huguenot church, c. 1696. The current structure church may incorporate some fabric of the earlier 17th century building.

The graveyard contains 18th to 21st century headstones, including crosses, round headed, recumbent slabs and table-tombs. Most of these are in good condition, with very few that appear to be leaning or damaged. The oldest graves are located in the western half of the graveyard. These are separated from those in the eastern half of the burial ground by a gravel path.

The church was established as a Huguenot church in the 16th century. The graveyard appears to be exclusively Church of Ireland in more recent times.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L046 | Name: | Corbally, Tecolm or Teampull |
| Townland: | Corbally | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 261326 , 188955 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA025-010001 |



The only surviving above-ground feature at this burial ground is the western gable of the medieval church, looking east



Ivy has been allowed to grow to the extent that complete removal would risk structural collapse

The burial ground is located in the corner of a field in pasture close to the old Portlaoise-Carlow Road in the townland of Corbally (formerly Tecolm). It is marked on the first and second editions of the Ordnance Survey maps as "Tecolm Church (in Ruins)" and "Graveyard". The burial ground is marked on both the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey mapping as "Tecolm Church (in ruins)" and "Grave Yard".

Access is via the field gate to the west of the burial ground. There are no paths and there is no parking.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

The site is in pasture. A heavy cloak of ivy drapes the remains of the western gable of the church and has developed to such an extent that removal of the roots would risk collapse of the structural remains. The burial ground is not enclosed within the field and livestock have full access. A crop mark, comprising a marked difference in grass length at the time of the site visit provided a view of the extents of the former boundary, presumably an earthen bank and ditch, which once enclosed the church and burial ground (marked on both the first and second edition Ordnance Survey maps). The ground surface is relatively level but slightly raised to the east of the church

The western gable with a few keystones surviving in the degraded arched entrance is all that survives above ground of an east-west orientated medieval church which presumably went out of use during penal times.

It is not clear when burial here ceased. No surface expressions or grave markers survive at the site to indicate burials.

The church is known locally by the Irish word for church, *Teampull*, which has given its name to the landowner's herd of cattle.

The townland name "Tcolm" presumably derives from *Tigh-Colm*, or "House of Colm", possibly identified as one of the St. Colmans associated across the wider area around Stradbally (see also L027, L047 and L070).

The Record of Monuments and Places mentions that post-1700 memorials survive at the site which is incorrect.

Burial Ground ID: **L047**
 Townland: **Cremorgan**
 NGR (E,N): **251640 , 192220**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Cremorgan**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA018-021002; LA018-021003**



Overview of the overgrown burial ground, looking southeast



Vandalised box-tombs lie within the well-preserved remains of the medieval church , looking east

The burial ground is located in undulating pasture in the townland of Cremorgan (formerly Kilcolmanbrack). It is marked on both the first and second editions of the Ordnance Survey mapping.

As the old right of way is now blocked, access is via the farm track around the back of the adjacent modern farmhouse and then a short distance through a field. The burial ground is gated but there are no paths and the burial ground is much overgrown.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

There are many hawthorn bushes located around the boundary wall. A large mature laurel bush has taken over the majority of the northern side and has made access through this area impossible. On the south side there are some mature yew trees. The burial ground is heavily overgrown with briars, nettles and other weeds.

The eastern gable has been overgrown with ivy which has been to some extent cut back, the north and south walls of the church are also topped with ivy.

The burial ground is enclosed by a dilapidated boundary wall which revets the raised burial ground within. The western side is in the worst condition with the burial ground appearing to have been eroded by cattle at some point.

The northern and eastern revetments are in good condition generally, though many of the upper stones have fallen. The southern boundary wall appears intact but overgrowth prevents appraisal. This appears to be a later addition to the enclosure, as it is not drawn on the first edition OS map. The burial ground was fully enclosed in its present shape prior to the drawing up of the second edition map, but prior to this it is likely that burials took place south of the currently enclosed area.

The east-west orientated medieval church is in good condition. Buttressing of the entrance and a pointed brick-headed arch shows some restoration in recent years along with an old iron gate that was inserted in the entrance. The eastern gable has a twin-light mullioned window (mullion missing). An aumbry is found in the southeast corner. A long low mound to the east of the church may be rubble from the ruined church.

There are a number of box-and table-tombs within the church, a large number of which have been vandalised in living memory. A tomb with high railings is the only identifiable memorial outside of the church. The inscribed memorials are all to the Moore family with only one or two exceptions.

It is likely that the burial ground contains unmarked graves where there probably were once simple stone grave markers (these may have been removed at some time in the past with rubble from the ruined church). The burial ground probably extends beyond the enclosure and almost certainly south of the southern wall. The church's origins would appear to be medieval. It would appear to have been used for Protestant worship since the early 17th century until it had fallen out of use by the 19th century.

Tradition associates the burial ground with the Moore family of Cremorgan, descendants of the *Ua Mordha* tribe who previously ruled this part of Laois. This branch of the Moores apparently converted to the Protestant Established Church in order not to lose the right to their lands.

The townland was formerly known as Kilcolmanbrack - "the church of Colman the freckled" (distinguishing this Colman from "the fair" who is associated with the nearby Kilcolmanbane (L070). O'Hanlon names the rector as Thomas Haslam in 1616.

Burial Ground ID: L048
Townland: Cromoge
NGR (E,N): 239425 , 189953
National Monument No: N/A

Name: St. Fintan's, Cromoge
Dedication: St. Fintan
RPS No: N/A
RMP No: LA017-014001



Ruins of the medieval church and tower, looking northeast



Bullaun stone at the nearby St. Fintan's Well possibly came from the burial ground

The burial ground is on elevated ground in a rural area and surrounded by pasture. The church and burial ground are marked on the 1841 OS map as "St Fintan's Church (in ruins)" and occupies the same area as it does today.

Access to the burial ground is via the gate and stiles from the roadside. The width of the former path, now grassed over but detectable as slightly recessed firmer ground, matches the gate and leads to concrete steps up the slope of the original extent of the burial ground, and on towards the church.

A plaque on the wall of the enclosure was donated by a local resident.

The grass is mown to a reasonable length with regular mowing. There is no evidence of pesticide use.

Many trees, including several old yew trees, are located within the burial ground and around its periphery. Six more recent garden conifers have been planted, possibly in association with a family plot.

Ivy is allowed to grow on the church (quite heavy on the south-eastern corner). Some wild flowers grow in some of the kerbed plots.

A rubble wall partially exists on the southern boundary and elsewhere the boundary consists of hedgerow. The enclosure is sub-rectangular in shape and measuring 31m north - south by 44m east - west. The southern boundary is c. 1m in height, is gated and has two stiles. The burial ground can be seen to have been roughly circular in shape at an earlier date and is c.1m higher than the surrounding land. Within the burial grounds are the ruins of a medieval church, which comprise a divided nave and chancel and a late medieval bell tower at the west gable. The eastern gable and south-eastern corner are partially overgrown with ivy. The church measures 14m by 8m and the date of construction is unknown.

A holy well dedicated to St. Fintan is located 100m to the south (also marked on the 1st edition OS map). This is in regular use and a possible Bullaun stone here is said to have derived from St. Fintan's church.

The graveyard contains mid-18th to 21st century headstones, including crosses, Celtic crosses and recumbent slabs; most in good condition, very few appear to be leaning. The earliest identified inscribed memorial dates to 1737. Burials of more recent date now occupy the lower ground within the enclosure. The burial ground is evidently still in use. Headstones are located on the south, west and east sides of the church, with some within the church ruins and are facing both east and west.

The original denomination of the ruined church is unclear, but there may have been worship at the site for many centuries. Certainly many Roman Catholic burials but unclear if there are other denominations present.

The burial ground has associations with St Fintan's monastery and later (Church of Ireland) church in Clonenagh, where there was a possible pilgrimage to the Holy Well here. Stella McHugh of Clondarrig, Ballyfin, recalls travelling to the Holy Well with her brother one fine day in their youth, whereupon they discovered a trout in the well. As her brother attempting to "tickle" the trout to remove it there was a clap of thunder which instantly put a stop to the attempt as the two fled for home.

The church and burial ground are dedicated to St Fintan who according to Comerford (1886, vol. 3, 375) resided here before moving to Clonenagh. Traditionally a pattern was held at the nearby well on February 17th.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L049 | Name: | Cuffsborough |
| Townland: | Cuffsborough | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 233590 , 182500 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA028-015002 |



View of remains of graveyard, facing east



View of north-south orientated ditch, facing northeast

The site is located in a rural area which is surrounded on all sides by fields, which are predominantly used for pasture. The field boundaries are formed by hedgerow and there is a small stream running alongside the western boundary.

The site is accessed by a gate at the side of the road.

There is no directional or informative signage.

The vegetation consists of short grass and weeds. The western side of the graveyard remains visible as a northeast-southwest flat ridge, which is more pronounced along the western edge. It slopes along the eastern side. This ridge measures about 40m in length and is c. 2m high and c. 5m wide. There is a ditch/dyke running along the western side, which continues southwards past the site of the graveyard. The graveyard may originally have extended into the field in the east

The remains of a church are located northwest of the graveyard. They consist of stones located c. 10m apart and they may represent the east and west gables. Reportedly, this part of the field was quite waterlogged in the past. Apparently the church stones were removed to build a sheep-dip in the river to the west.

There are no memorials present at the site. The land was undergoing levelling about 30 years ago when burials were uncovered. The works were stopped and the skeletal remains were reburied with the blessing of the

local priest. It is believed that the site may have extended into the field in the east; however this land is flat and it may have also been levelled in the past.

Two ditches were also noted running from the site of the graveyard; one towards the west and another towards the south. An associated enclosure is recorded here which may be represented by these ditches.

It is believed that this site was associated with the monastery of Aghaboe. Tradition maintains that a tunnel runs from the site to Aghaboe.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L050 | Name: | Curraclone |
| Townland: | Curraclone | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 260340 , 198300 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA014-035002; LA014-035004 |



Ridge of raised ground with visible memorials, looking north towards the overgrown church ruins



The mounds of these burials are barely visible beneath the covering of ivy, looking southwest

The burial ground is located on the eastern bank of the adjacent Stradbally River in the small townland of Curraclone. It is marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map as "Site of Church" and "vault". A rounded enclosure is depicted around the burial ground and denoted "Glebe". On the 2nd edition map the burial ground is marked as "Church (in ruins)", "Graveyard" and "vault". Also by the time of the 2nd edition, part of the surrounding enclosure is no longer marked, though the curving northern and eastern boundaries continue to be represented.

Access is via the roadside gate in the southern boundary of the enclosure. A small bay in front of the gate is currently blocked with large boulders to prevent parking.

There are no information panels or directional signage at the burial ground.

Mature trees are located around the peripheries as well as some other, mostly younger, trees within the heart of the burial ground. Some of these are yew trees. There are many elder and other shrubs present and ivy carpets the western side of the burial ground. The higher ground in the middle of the burial ground is thickly overgrown with nettles, briars, bracken and tussocks of long grass. Several young but large ash trees and a large laurel tree occupy the eastern part of the church and prevent access to this area. It is located partly over the burial vault.

The stone-walled sub-circular enclosure is in reasonably good order, but is severely overgrown and in places a post-and-wire fence provides additional protection against livestock. The burial ground survives to an average height of 1m above the surrounding land. The ground level is highest at the centre with a ridge of high ground descending south towards the gate.

The western gable of the east-west-orientated medieval church survives well, with an entrance and the remains of an external entrance. The north and south wall foundations survive but are thickly overgrown and the eastern end of the church has been converted into a burial vault.

The earlier burials that can be identified appear to be located on the high ground south of the church, along a ridge of higher ground. It is likely that this area was favoured for many generations but the lower areas around the peripheries have also been fully used.

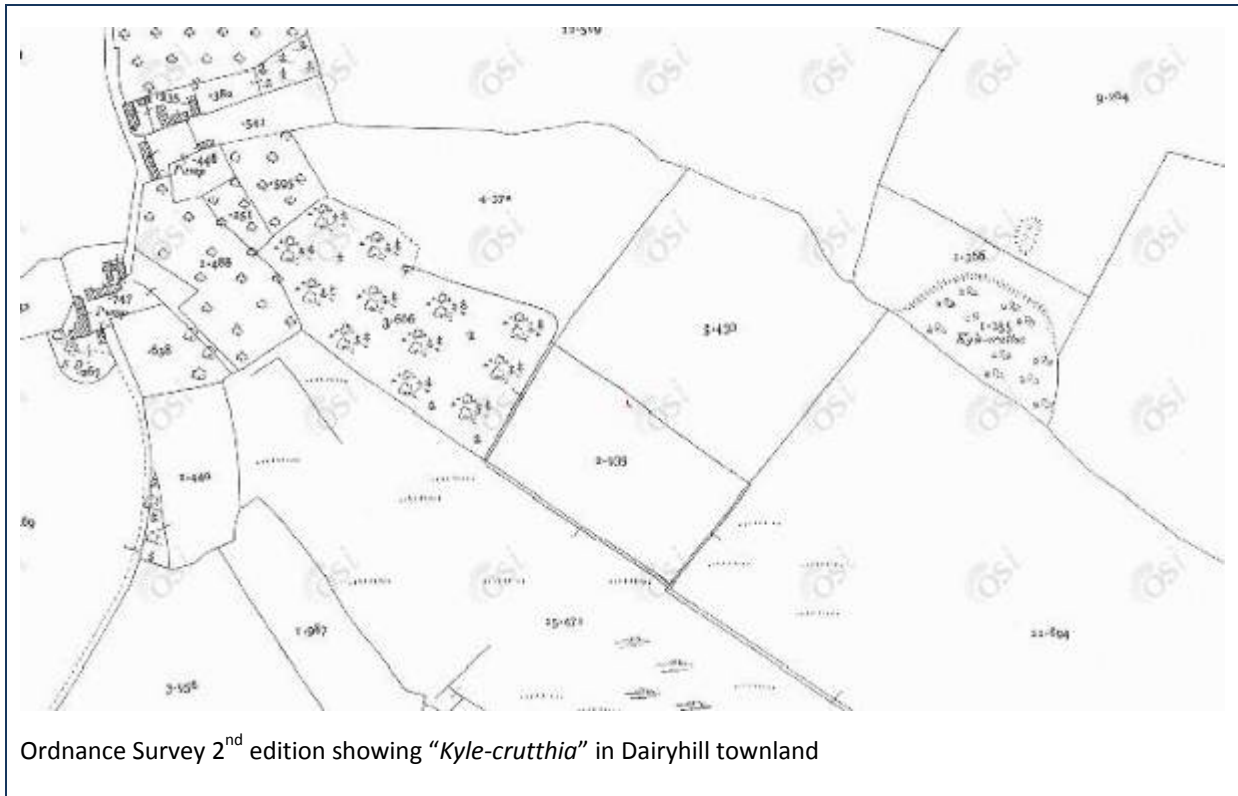
A large burial vault has been erected in the past at the east end of and below the ruined church with which it is nearly aligned. This has a sealed entrance and a slit window at ground level. No inscription or mural tablets survive on the exterior.

The majority of the memorials on the south side of the church are inscribed headstones and Celtic crosses, many of which are leaning or fallen over. A large number of table- or box-tombs on the western side are being toppled by ivy and trees, where many slabs are also located. The earliest identified inscription dates from 1778. An early recumbent cross-slab that reportedly survives in the burial ground could not be identified. It's described location places it in an area covered in thick ivy, but an erect slab-like memorial in this area might be identified as the cross-slab (re-erected) if the thick covering of ivy was carefully treated. Some simple stone markers survive in rows and there are a number of mounded and unmarked graves. On the northern side there is a large kerbed plot for the Fraser family, where burial has continued and which continues to be maintained.

There are thought to be mixed denominations present within the burial ground.

Local tradition recalls that Cromwell destroyed the church, although it is also said that the church fell into disrepair and was replaced at Monaferrick by St. Peter's Church of Ireland church (L196). Lewis reports that at Curraclone "the church is a neat small edifice in good repair" (1837, p401), but this possibly refers to St. Peter's in Monaferrick townland.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L051 | Name: | Dairyhill, Rath Hill |
| Townland: | Dairyhill | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 236230 , 182800 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA029-005002 |



This burial ground could not be accessed in the current survey but was accessed in the Preliminary Survey.

It is described as within pasture land. Only an oval-shaped enclosure with a path running through is shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey mapping. On the 2nd edition it is marked as a D-shaped enclosure and named as 'Kyle-cruttia'.

Access to the site is across the farmyard and fields. There are no paths or parking and the site is very overgrown.

The burial ground retains its D-shape boundary comprising an earthen bank and fence.

There is now no visible surface trace of church and there are no visible memorials in the burial ground.

Carrigan states that adult internments continued until early 19th century and afterwards used as children's burial ground in his own time (1905, Vol. 1, p57). At that time it was said locally that the church was of great antiquity.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L052 | Name: | Dangans |
| Townland: | Dangans | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 249128 , 207525 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA008-002001 |



Access lane, looking east



Upright headstone, looking west

The burial ground is located in a rural area, surrounded by pasture with farmyard adjacent. It is marked on 1841 and 1908 OS maps as 'Church (in ruins)' in gothic script and 'GraveYard'. The 1st edition OS map indicates the immediate area as 'Donagher's Grove'.

Access from main road is via an overgrown laneway that leads to a wrought iron gate between two dressed-stone piers. The gate is rusted shut but can be climbed with some difficulty.

There is no directional signage. Within a railed monument are two plaques/information panels. Leaning against the tomb dedicated to Richard Hinch is a plexiglass plaque with details of his descendants and where they are buried. Leaning against Richard Warburton's tomb is a timber and brass plaque on which is written the inscription from the stone tomb (quite worn).

Mature ash and sycamore trees are planted along the inside of the boundary. A mature yew is located in the southwest corner. Three new beech trees have been planted just south of the railed monument. The ground is very overgrown with tall grass, nettles and briars. There are some 'clumps' of briars throughout the ground which may indicate other headstones or tombs.

The burial ground is rectangular in shape, with the gate in the southwest corner. The boundaries consist of stone walls to the west and south. These walls may continue to surround the entire perimeter but are overgrown. Mature ash and sycamore trees are planted just inside the boundary.

A local road curves around the site and farmyard to the north, this may be indicative of much earlier origins in the form of an ecclesiastical enclosure. An upstanding building is located along the northern boundary, just north of centre. It consists of a northern gable and two adjoining walls. The stonework is heavily overgrown with ivy and briars. An iron railing with a closed gate forms the southern extent. This structure has been identified as the mortuary house that would have been attached to the church (archaeology.ie). No surface remains of the church, however, are visible.

Many previously identified memorials could not be identified in the current survey due to the increased height and density of vegetation. Two table-tombs are currently visible in the northeast corner, with another located further south - toppled and just visible through the vegetation. The railed monument contains two tombs (Richard Hinch 1862 and Richard Warburton 1921) and the stumps of two large yew trees. An upright headstone is located just east of the railed monument - dating to 1906 it is dedicated to Emily Champ. Lead filler has been used in the inscription, which has come away in places.

The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey but it is locally thought that the graveyard may have associations with the nearby Commons School House, in which Church of Ireland mass was celebrated on Sunday evenings into the 1960s.

Funerals occurred in living memory, but the burial ground has long ceased to be used.

Burial Ground ID: **L053**
Townland: **Derrykearn**
NGR (E,N): **241061 , 188355**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Kyletabreeheen**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA023-007004**



Overview of the neglected burial ground, looking south



The ruins of the church covered by impenetrable overgrowth, looking north

The burial ground is located in the south-western corner of a field in pasture west of the Abbeyleix to Mountrath road in the townland of Derrykearn. The first edition Ordnance Survey map shows "Kyletabreeheen Church In Ruins" and "Graveyard" occupying a sub-rectangular area. The second edition OS map shows the graveyard as "... (Disused)" and shows a rectangular enclosure, reduced in extents on the eastern side.

Access is via the disused laneway running west from the main road and adjacent to the farmhouse north of the burial ground. This can be followed to the end before returning south alongside the western field boundary (also formerly a laneway).

There are no information panels or directional signage at the burial ground.

The burial ground is covered by thick overgrowth which prohibits even determined attempts to assess the survival of features. This is most marked around and in the vicinity of the church which was impenetrable at the time of the survey. Large mature trees stand on the substantial field boundaries to the west and south. Many large shrubs are dotted around the burial ground, especially in the dell in the north-western corner.

The western side of the burial ground is bounded by a substantial earthen embankment with apparently internal ditch, post-and-wire fencing and thick hedgerow. There are traces of internal stone revetment along the earthen embankment, best preserved along the northern section. The southern side of the enclosure is formed by an additional substantial field boundary identical to the western side. The eastern and northern sides are no longer enclosed, though traces of a possibly curving earthen embankment survive especially in the north-eastern corner. The burial ground is substantially raised above the surrounding land.

The remains of the east-west-orientated medieval church were too overgrown to assess, although four walls survive to some degree and architectural features have been previously identified.

A large dell immediately to the northwest of the burial ground and depicted on the 1st edition OS map is a curious feature and may once have served as a mass pit. The burial ground rises very steeply from this side.

Some loose boulders may have formerly marked burials, but no memorials could be identified in the current survey. Previous assessments have, however, identified at least one 19th century memorial within the inaccessible church (dedicated to the Phelan family). Clearly the church and burial ground are much older and contain many more burials than this suggests and many unmarked burials are suggested by the undulating ground.

The denominational history of the burial ground is unclear.

Local tradition suggests that there were burials as late as the 1920's within the burial ground.

Burial Ground ID: **L054**
Townland: **Donaghmore**
NGR (E,N): **226980 , 180240**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Patrick's, Donaghmore**
Dedication: **St. Patrick**
RPS No: **RPS 489**
RMP No: **LA028-025001**



View of the church and memorials, facing west



General view of the site, facing southwest

The site is located in Donaghmore, at the summit of a low hill sloping to the village in the west. Pasture and arable fields are situated on all sides, while a small road runs to the south.

The site is accessed by a gate in the southern wall. There is a driveway to the church although there is a grassy area to the south of the graveyard where cars can be parked.

There is no directional or informative signage.

The site is enclosed by a stone wall and is well-maintained. The rectangular-shaped area is much higher than the road along the south; there is also a slope within in the east and north from the site of the church.

There is minimal ivy and moss growth on the walls; there are trees within the site. The grass is kept short. It appears that herbicide is used around some of the memorials and there is lichen and moss growth on the memorials.

The site is associated with a medieval church dedicated to St. Patrick, which was destroyed in 1821. The present church is situated within the middle of the site and was built in 1824.

There are recumbent flat and round-headed headstones, Celtic crosses, metal crosses, box-tombs, railed and kerbed burials. There are also some memorials with no visible writing. The legible memorials date from 1762; it looks as though unmarked graves may also be present alongside the southern walls.

The Roman Catholic graves are buried on the south and the Church of Ireland graves are on the north. The former memorials tend to comprise headstones, while the latter graves consist of railed plots.

St. Patrick's Well and Donaghmore Motte and Castle are situated to the northwest of the site.

The area was used in a film (*All Things Bright and Beautiful*) filmed in 1991 as it is fairly untouched by modern development. The church was cleaned for the production.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L056 | Name: | St. Fintan's, Durrow |
| Townland: | Durrow Townparks | Dedication: | St. Fintan |
| NGR (E,N): | 240652 , 177367 | RPS No: | RPS 151 |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA029-045001 |



Box-tombs with ivy growth, facing southwest



View of headstones, facing south

The site is located in Durrow town. Its eastern boundary forms the western boundary of the town square, to the east and south of which lies the heart of the town. Castle Durrow is located to the east. There is a building located to the north, while there are fields to the west. The site of the original Durrow Monastery is thought to have been located to the west.

The site has three gates; it can be accessed in the eastern wall from the town square, to the south of the church. This gate is kept locked. There is also a gate in the south-western corner, located just off the access road to Castle Durrow in the southwest. This is open. There is also a gate in the north-western corner.

There is an information plaque at the front of the church and the graveyard is clearly visible at this point.

There is grass across the site, which is generally in good condition; however, pesticide is being used around the base of the headstones and on some of the box-tombs. There is also thick ivy growth along the walls which hides a number of graves.

The graveyard is bounded by stone walls on all sides. The eastern side is crenulated, while the others are covered in ivy. St. Fintan's church is located in the north-western corner; this is recorded as being the third replacement of a Church of Ireland church on this site since the 16th century.

There is a mixture of round and flat-headed headstones. Some are recumbent and others are thick with a convex western side, which hinders their collapse. There are a number of box-tombs, one table tomb and a Celtic cross. Many of the stones are illegible from weathering; those which can be read date from 1746.

The majority of the interments are Church of Ireland but there are at least two Roman Catholic burials known in the south-western side.

The church organ in this church was brought to the church in the 1700's from Trinity College, Dublin, by Lord and Lady Ashbrook. They lived in Castle Durrow, but it is not clear where their graves are located in the graveyard.

Burial Ground ID: **L057**
Townland: **Dysart**
NGR (E,N): **251530 , 196430**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Dysart-Enos**
Dedication: **St Aongus**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA013-059003**



Damaged table tomb adjacent to 18th century headstone showing signs of cleaning, looking southwest



South-western boundary wall, looking north

The graveyard is on high ground in a rural area, surrounded by pasture land and commands extensive views to the west. It is marked on the 1st edition OS map as "Church and "Grave Yard", with a "Tomb" also indicated. On the 2nd edition it is marked as "Church (in Ruins)" and "Grave Yd". A circular earthen enclosure is located c. 200m to the northeast in lands marked as "Fair Green" on the 1st edition map.

Access is currently provided from the northeast. A short track leads from the local road to a closed gate, from here one must walk southwest through a field of pasture. The OS maps indicate the presence of an access track along this route, as well as a path running to the south west of the site. This access is no longer available according to the local committee. The entrance to the site consists of a stone stile and wrought iron gate in the western boundary wall. There is a sign for 'Dysart-Enos' at a junction c. 2km to the south. An information panel is located inside the gate which details the historical background and layout of the graveyard. A sign is attached to the gate which reads "Danger - falling stones enter at own risk".

The graveyard is covered in regularly mown grass, with a gravel path leading from the gate to the bell tower. There are a number of mature yew trees in the north-eastern corner of the graveyard and mature blackthorn trees along the northern boundary. The inside of the church is quite overgrown.

The site is rectangular in shape. The boundaries to the west, south and east consist of stone walls and to the north consist of a low bank with blackthorn trees. There is no evidence for burials beyond the current boundaries.

The graveyard contains ruins of an Established Church and bell tower, built around 1764 and ruined about 1829, when it was de-roofed by a storm. The stone walls of the church survive to what appears to be just below roof level. The brick window surrounds are quite damaged by ivy growth. A large opening in the northern wall of the church has been closed in and plastered over. Nineteenth century graffiti has been etched into the plaster dating from 1893. The bell tower survives to a considerable height with round and rounded window openings, also with red brick surround.

The graveyard contains 18th to 20th century headstones, metal crosses, recumbent slabs and table-tombs, most are upright, though some are leaning. There are a notable number that are collapsed and in fragments, perhaps an indication of vandalism in antiquity. There are a large number of small uninscribed markers arranged in rows. A stone and brick vault is located immediately north of the bell tower and is dedicated to the Budd family of Timahoe. Two railed and kerbed monuments located to the northwest of the church are dedicated to the Baldwins, who were local landlords. There is another vault located up against the north-eastern corner of the church. It is covered in earth and only the stone opening is visible. A distinctive coffin-shaped slab lies immediately east of this opening.

The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey.

Comerford noted that the burial ground is associated with St Aengus who reportedly founded a monastery in Dysart in the late 8th century, and that a round tower is also reported to have stood here in ruins until at least 1792 (www.irishmidlandancestry.com).

Burial Ground ID: **L058**
Townland: **Eglish**
NGR (E,N): **224590 , 178150**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Rathsaran, Eglish**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **RPS 363**
RMP No: **LA027-030; LA027-030003**



View of the church and memorials, facing northeast



Headstones and simple stone markers, facing southwest

The site is located in a rural area west of Rathdowney. It is surrounded on all sides by fields, which both arable and pastoral. There is a modern extension to the graveyard in the west.

The site is accessed by either a small or large gate in the northern wall. There is a large area for parking beside the entrance.

There was a plaque on the entrance pillar showing the date of the church (1798), but it has fallen off.

Vegetation on the site includes hedgerow, trees, ivy and bushes. Much of the site is in good condition. However, there are box-tombs which are falling into disrepair and are covered in ivy.

The site is bounded by a stone wall in the northern side and a hedgerow/stone wall in the south and east. The western boundary is formed by trees; this separates the old and new graveyards. The graveyard is quite small and rectangular in shape. The land is flat and the graves are located on all sides of the church. Rathsaran Church is situated in the middle of the site.

Markers include simple stone markers, box-tombs, round and flat-headed headstones, pedestal tombs, railed and kerbed plots. They date from the mid 1800's. Some are recumbent and overgrown, while many are in good condition. The last burial was in 2007.

The majority of the interments are Church of Ireland but there are some Roman Catholic burials also known.

This was the site of a medieval monastery dedicated to St. Nicholas. The buildings associated with the monastery included a church and graveyard, which was reportedly attacked by invaders. This site is said to have lost its parochial status in the medieval period and it became dependant on Kylermogh.

Apparently, skeletons of children were uncovered in the recent past during pipe-laying. They were subsequently reburied. Lord Castletown's Catholic wet-nurse, Eliza Meagher, is buried in the graveyard. She died in 1912.

Tradition reports that skeletons were uncovered where the site of a ringfort is recorded, to the southwest. It is believed that this was the site of the monastery. It is also reported that Taigue O'Brien was a 10th century priest who served at this monastery.

Burial Ground ID: **L059**
Townland: **Errill**
NGR (E,N): **222144 , 178004**
National Monument No: **113**

Name: **St Kieran's, Errill**
Dedication: **St Kieran**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA027-024001**



St. Kieran's Church and memorials, facing north



Memorials within the church ruins, facing northwest

The site is located south of the small village of Errill. There are fields on all sides of the site, except for where the road runs to the west. There is a modern extension to the graveyard in the southern end. A river runs to the north and there is a small clochan to the south.

The site is accessed by a gate leading from the modern graveyard in the south. There is room for parking outside the site.

There is a directional sign in Errill town and there is also a sign at the entrance to the new graveyard in the south. There is also a Duchas sign at the entrance to the church ruins denoting that it is a National Monument (No. 113).

The graveyard is well-maintained and the grass is kept short. There are some trees, but they are well-maintained.

The site is almost rectangular in shape and a stone wall encloses it. The graveyard is considerably higher than the ground to its west. The church ruins appear to be the highest point of the site and the ground slopes down from this. It is probable that the road truncated the site along the western side, with the burial ground presumably extending beyond this.

The church in the middle of the site is of late medieval date. Although ruinous, it is in good condition and well-maintained.

There is a mixture of round and flat-headed headstones, sometimes railed and kerbed. There are also box-tombs, metal and Celtic crosses and simple stone markers. Memorials are both recumbent and upstanding;

most are in generally good condition. There are also burials within the church ruins. The earliest visible memorial date is 1732.

The pre-Reformation site was Christian and the site is presently Roman Catholic. There is no knowledge of Church of Ireland burials within.

The man who constructed Grogan Church is was buried in the graveyard.

Three other sites in the local area attest to earlier medieval association; St. Kieran's Friary and an associated ecclesiastical enclosure. There was also holy-tree located to the north, but it has disappeared. There is a 17th century wayside cross situated to the southwest of the site which is dedicated to the Baron of Ossory and family.

Local tradition holds that St. Kieran apparently fell asleep close to the graveyard and his boots were stolen; he left the area for Offaly after this incident.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L060 | Name: | Farraneglish Glebe |
| Townland: | Farraneglish Glebe | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 235582 , 184587 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA023-029001 |



Ploughing in the "Church Field" close to the surviving northern wall of the church, looking southeast

The burial ground is located a short distance west to the "five-cross" road in Farraneglish townland. It is marked on the north side of the road on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey mapping as "Church in ruins" on the southern side of a square enclosure. The 2nd edition has the church incorrectly marked on the south side of the road.

There is a field gate immediately to the east of the ruins of the church. There are no paths and there is no designated parking.

There are no information panels or directional signage at the burial ground.

The church is completely overgrown with ivy, elder and other shrubs and is inaccessible. Some mature trees are also present. The "Church Field", where there have been known burials, had been recently ploughed to within approximately 2m of the church walls (no disturbed human remains were evident on inspection).

The rocky field to the south of the road is currently pasture.

In the area of rubble spread immediately west of the church is a plantation of conifer trees.

The burial ground is currently unenclosed. The 1st edition OS mapping may indicate the preservation of a rounded enclosure system on the south side of the road.

The square enclosure marked on the 1st edition OS mapping to the north of the church may represent the burial ground that Carrigan reports to have been "uprooted" around 1845 (Carrigan, Vol. 2, p55). The current large field is known as the "Church Field" and there are reports that large quantities of human remains were encountered in the field in the 1950s.

The local road appears to have overtaken the burial ground and may have bisected it. It is therefore possible that the extents of the burial ground also extend to this side of the road. The south side of a church is also the more usual side for the location of a burial ground.

The northern wall of a medieval church is preserved to a height of around 2m and contains a doorway complete with a bar-hole on the eastern side. The interior of the church is completely overgrown with shrubs and large trees and it is difficult to assess the survival of any additional features. To the west of the church there is a stone dump that might represent some remains of the church and the road itself is lined with stone walling which may have derived from the ruins of the church.

There are no memorials or other markers in the "Church Field" which is under plough. The field to the south contains many boulders and it is possible that some of these might have once marked burials.

It is not clear whether the burial ground was in use subsequent to the Reformation, before which time the church was a chapel of ease to Aghaboe parish church (Carrigan 1905, Vol.2, p55-6).

Carrigan notes that the "uprooting" of the burial ground led to ill-luck for the perpetrator in the 1840s (1905, Vol.2, p55-6). Carrigan (after Ledwich) notes that there was reported to be a nunnery adjoined to the church and that it was called *Teampull na gCailleach Dubh* or "Church of the Black Nuns" (1905, Vol.2, p55-6).

Burial Ground ID: **L061**
Townland: **Fossy Lower**
NGR (E,N): **254453 , 189898**
National Monument No: **114**

Name: **Fossy Lower**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA019-016001; LA019-016002**



Overview of the burial ground, looking south



View of church across burial ground, looking northeast

The burial ground is located to the southeast of Timahoe, situated in a low point in a valley in Fossy Lower townland and overlooked by Fossy Mountain to the south. The burial ground is marked on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps as “Fossy Church (in ruins)” and “Grave Yard”.

Access is through the gate on south side of road, before crossing a field to the gated enclosure.

There are no information panels but there is a directional signpost on the road.

The boundary consists of a stone wall, 53m north to south, 33m east to west and c. 1-1.5m high. There is a gate and stile located in the northeast corner. The line of the wall is irregular being polygonal in plan with pronounced curve to the north. The site is roughly mowed or strimmed and appears to have been cleared of vegetation in the recent past. A slight break of slope to the south and west may indicate the line of an earlier enclosure.

The burial ground contains the ruins of a medieval church with upstanding walls and gables with door and window opes, measuring c. 14m by 8m (part of National Monument No. 114; see Timahoe). The church was rebuilt or remodelled in 1608. The church is located in the northeast quadrant of the graveyard. The ruins of the church were restored by the OPW in 1945. The structure has partial moulding on east window and an aumbry in the southeast corner.

Graveyard contains 18th to 20th century headstones, Celtic crosses and recumbent slabs. Most of the memorials are upright though some are leaning or collapsed and some are eroded. The earliest inscribed

memorial is to Michael Walsh and possibly dates to 1612. An Early Christian cross slab inscribed with 19th century initials, found during a graveyard cleanup scheme in recent years was not located in the present survey.

The burial ground contains mixed denominations.

Folklore records that sod was taken from the adjoining field, along the track down to the site from the country road. But that this was subsequently removed from the grave and returned to the field. Folklore tells of a nineteenth century priest converting from Church of Ireland to Roman Catholic, yet remained at the Church.

Burial Ground ID: **L062**
Townland: **Garyduff**
NGR (E,N): **219990 , 181680**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Clomeen, Garyduff**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA027-001003**



General view of the graveyard, facing northwest



Wooden and metal crosses, facing west

The site is located in a rural area. The surrounding fields are used for silage and pasture. The field which the graveyard is located in is bounded by hedgerows on all sides. There is a small east-west flowing river to the north of the site and there is a noticeable ridge to the west which runs towards the river.

The site is accessed by a track-way which is signposted from the road. At the end of the track-way there is a gate to the field which the site is in. There is a gate and stile in the western side of the graveyard. There is no information panel.

The grass appears to be maintained with the use of pesticide or fire and it is barren-looking. There are some spots of moss.

The graveyard is delineated by a stone wall which is free of ivy and hedgerow. A church associated with St. Kieran once stood here, but there are no surviving traces. A bullaun stone is visible to the northeast of the graveyard.

The graveyard contains mainly crude headstones which have not been engraved. Their layout is regular and most are leaning eastwards. They are situated in the south-eastern corner. There are a few isolated stones along the eastern side, but these consist of small stone markers rather than headstones. There are also simple wooden and metal crosses. There are modern gravestones with kerbing along the north-western edge close to the entrance. The burials are believed to be Roman Catholic only.

Local history records that the site was associated with St. Patrick who passed there on his way to Munster.

Tradition maintains that the locations of the graves of stillborn children on this site are marked with snowdrops.

The original right of way runs along the ridge of the field to the west of the graveyard.

Carrigan (1905, 139) calls this site Clooneen and states that there was a monastery located to the south which may be retained in a small plot of land known as the Orchard. This was associated with Old Street and the entrance to a cave as well as St. Kieran's Well.

Burial Ground ID: **L063**
Townland: **Glebe**
NGR (E,N): **244112 , 175967**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Brigid's, Glebe**
Dedication: **St Brigid**
RPS No: **RPS 167**
RMP No: **LA035-017001**



View from gates in the northern wall, facing southeast



View of various memorial types in one plot, facing southeast

The site is located in a small rural village. A road bends around it to the north and east; there are houses along this road. A road running to the Glebe House is situated to the west, while the lands to the south consist of green-fields. Beyond the houses, there are arable and pastoral fields. The site is located at a height above to the road in the east and north, while elsewhere the site appears level with the surrounding lands.

The site is accessed by a gate in the south-western wall. There is also a gate in the western wall which runs from the roadway to the Glebe House. There is no room for parking at the entrance; there is space in the village however.

There is an information panel with the name of the church at the entrance to the site.

The site is bounded by a stone wall on all sides. This is extremely high on the eastern side where the site is above road level. It is covered in ivy, bushes and trees, especially in the southern side. There are also large trees on the site which hang over the walls. The land slopes towards the north but is generally even.

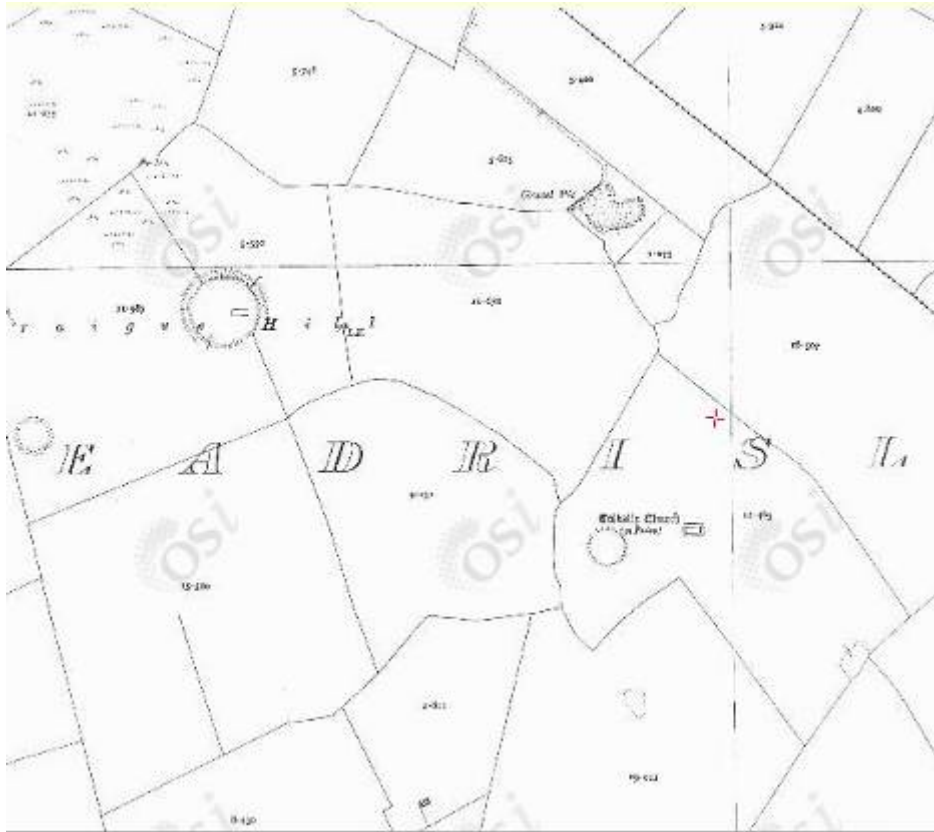
St. Brigid's Church is situated in the middle of the site. This is an 18th church which has been sold to a private developer. There are two earlier churches associated with the site; one is dated to the 12th/13th century and owned by the monks of St. Thomas Abbey, Dublin. A later church was recorded in the Down Survey as being ruined. However, there are records that a church was present in the 18th century which incorporated an earlier building, so there may have been three churches which predated the present 19th century building.

There are various memorials on the site including box-tombs, Celtic crosses, pedestal tombs, round and flat-headed headstones, coped stones, railed and kerbed plots. They date from the 1700's to the 2000's. Many people are now buried in Durrow, but there are rare burials here in family plots. The memorials are in various states of disrepair. Some have been engulfed by ivy, grasses and trees. Moss and lichen growth is also present. The site is believed to contain only Church of Ireland burials.

An 18th century Glebe House, which belonged to the Vicars of Attanagh, is located to the south.

Burial Ground ID: **L064**
Townland: **Graigueadrisly**
NGR (E,N): **224100 , 172860**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Graigue**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA033-012**



Ordnance Survey 2nd edition showing the site in Graigueadrisly townland

The site is located in a rural area; the fields in the vicinity are used for cultivation or pasture. The fields in this area are all delineated by hedgerow.

A dairy farm is situated to the southeast of the site.

The site is accessed by a track-way located to the rear of the Bowe's house. The track-way leads to a dairy-farm where the car must be parked; from here the site is located northwards through a pasture field.

There are no information panels or directional signage present at the burial ground.

Vegetation at the burial ground comprises of rank grass and weeds.

The site is barely visible as a low mound.

There are no associated structures and no memorials surviving at the burial ground.

Burial Ground ID: **L065**
 Townland: **Grange**
 NGR (E,N): **271020 , 182740**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Grange**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA032-009001**



View of the site, facing northwest



Railed plot and Celtic cross, facing southwest

The graveyard is located in a rural area in a field sown with barley. There are grass-fields on all sides, apart from in the north. The land slopes to the south somewhat.

The graveyard is accessed by a gate off the road and through a grass-field. There is a stile to climb over.

There are no directional or information signs.

There are yew trees and understory vegetation in the southern part of the site, as well as low weeds. The northern part was inaccessible due to the trees and ivy.

The boundaries are formed by stone walls, much of which is covered in ivy, particularly in the northern side of the site. There is a division in northern side which is formed by a stone wall with a gate in the north-western side.

There was a church here in the past, but there are no extant remains. It is possible that the division in northern side was associated with the church.

Few graves are visible in the southern side. These consist of a mix of headstones, Celtic crosses and railings. They date to the 1800's, although it is probable that earlier ones survive below the overgrowth. One grave with collapsing railings is visible in the division in the north.

The burial ground may contain both Roman Catholic and Church of Ireland burials. It is believed that the latter are located in the northern end, beyond the dividing wall.

This site is associated with the Hartpoles and Grange Castle.

Burial Ground ID: **L066**
Townland: **Greatheath**
NGR (E,N): **251990 , 201015**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **The Heath**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA013-029003**



View into graveyard from the road, looking southwest



Water stoup built into eastern wall of church, looking south

The graveyard is in the village of The Heath, surrounded by flat pasture and housing, immediately west of a local road. The site is marked on the 1st edition OS map as "Grave Yard" and "Site of RC Chapel". This map indicates that the townland boundary between Ballydavis and Greatheath ran along the western boundary of the graveyard, separating it from the church. On the 2nd edition, the townland boundary has moved to incorporate the church site (although no longer indicated) in Greatheath townland.

Access is provided from the roadside through the eastern boundary via a wrought iron gate and stone stile. A gravel path runs from the gate to the church ruin.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The graveyard is covered in regularly mowed rough grass. There are a number of mature yew trees on the site and in the boundaries.

The burial ground is T-shaped. The boundary consists of a stone wall c. 1m high along the eastern boundary, and deciduous and evergreen hedging along the remaining boundaries. There is no evidence for burials extending beyond the current boundaries.

The burial ground contains the remains of a 19th century church. The church ruins consist of foundation walls of a T-plan church, measuring c. 22m by 18m. The walls appear to have been repaired or rebuilt to lower courses during a graveyard cleanup in the late 20th century. There is a small stone font set low into the eastern wall of the church. A building marked on the 1st edition OS map as "National School Ho" still stands in the south-western corner of the site.

The burial ground contains 19th - 20th century headstones, Celtic style crosses, recumbent slabs and metal crosses; mostly in good condition, though a few are leaning. The older monuments appear to be concentrated on an area of higher ground immediately south of the church.

The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L067 | Name: | All Saints, Ballinakill |
| Townland: | Haywood Demesne | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 246634 , 180716 | RPS No: | RPS 299 |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA030-018004 |



General view of the church and graveyard, facing northwest



18th century headstone, facing west

The church is located in the town of Ballinakill. It is bordered on its southern side by the Roman Catholic Church, on the west by a road and on the north by the school. There is a swimming pool to the east but the land east of this is divided into long and narrow fields.

The site is accessed by a locked gate in the western side. There are parking spaces along the road.

There is a plaque above the door of the church; however this is difficult to read as it is quite weathered.

Short grass covers the site. The graveyard is enclosed by a stone and brick wall, which is uneven in places. The walls on all sides but the west are covered in ivy; particularly in the north and the east. There are a few trees around the site and there is minimal lichen growth on the gravestones. There is a flower-bed in the north-western corner and a vault is incorporated into this.

A church is extant in the northern side of the plot. This church is a replacement of an earlier one although nothing remains of the latter.

There is a mixture of table-tombs, stone crosses, simple stone markers and round-headed headstones. Graves are situated on all sides of the church, although most are in the south. A headstone (dating to 1803) has been set in the eastern wall. The earliest visible gravestone is dated to 1753. A vault belonging to the Poe family of Heywood Demesne is located in the north-western corner of the site. It is believed to contain only Church of Ireland burials.

The church has no electricity and services take place in candlelight.

The Christmas Carol Service serves both Church of Ireland and the Roman Catholic Church.

The Empress Elizabeth of Austria visited here in 1879/80 when she was staying in Heywood House. A stained glass window was donated by Lady Poe of Heywood Demesne upon hearing of the Empress' execution in 1898.

Reportedly, the lead from the church tower was stripped for the war; when they renovated it this century it had to be specially ordered from the UK.

Burial Ground ID: **L068**
Townland: **Kilbreedy**
NGR (E,N): **230460 , 180110**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St Bridget's, Kilbreedy**
Dedication: **St Brigid**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA028-035001**



View of the entrance to the site, facing east



General view of the site, facing west

The site is located in a rural area. There is a road to its west; while on all other sides there are fields, which appear to be both arable and pastoral. There is a small group of houses further to the north and northeast and a building to the west. There may have been a quarry in the field within which the site is situated. This area is also quite stony.

The site is accessed by a gate in the western wall. However, it is impossible to walk into the site as it is too overgrown.

There is no directional or informative signage.

The site is completely overgrown with grasses, trees and bushes. The walls are covered in ivy.

The boundaries of the rectangular site are formed by a stone wall, which is in generally good condition. The eastern and southern sides have some visible collapse however and there is ivy growth on all. The south-western wall extends beyond the confines of the site to enclose the field and it may indicate a larger site in the past. It is likely that the site extends beyond the present boundaries as it is quite small.

The site is associated with a medieval church dedicated to St. Brigid. As the area is overgrown it is difficult to see the ruins; however they are likely to be in the northern side where the growth is very dense.

There are no grave markers visible apart from one set of metal railings.

Carrigan (1905, 59-60) states there were mixed burials here. The last burial was in the 1960's.

A medieval Tower House is situated to the southwest of the site.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L069 | Name: | Kilbrickan |
| Townland: | Kilbrickan | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 236530 , 189830 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA017-012002 |



The church is located immediately adjacent to the River Nore in an area liable to floods, looking southeast

This possible burial ground is located in a low-lying meadow immediately to the south of the meandering River Nore (on its western bank) in the townland of Kilbrickan. The 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey mapping both have the "Church (in ruins)" marked.

Access is via Kilbricken House and thence across fields. There are no paths and there is no dedicated parking.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

The church ruins are overgrown with hawthorn shrubs, bracken and nettles. Some young trees also grow out of the ruins and one large mature tree grows at the western end of the ruins. Outside of the church the field is in pasture.

It is not clear if a burial ground exists at the site, as the only remains constitute the northwest-southeast orientated medieval church. This has three sides surviving to less than about 0.50m in height and the south-western side surviving to approximately 1.6m.

There are no memorials at the burial ground. One "large inscribed monument" was reportedly moved in antiquity to Kilbrickan House where it was used as a hearth stone in a bedroom (Carrigan 1905, Vol. 2, p176).

The location of this memorial was unknown to the current owners. The denominational history of any persons buried here is unclear.

Burial Ground ID: **L070**
 Townland: **Kilcolmanbane**
 NGR (E,N): **249778 , 194822**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Kilcolmanbane**
 Dedication: **St. Colman Ban**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA018-002001**



Overview of the burial ground with the overgrown church built on a slope, looking north



View of memorials within the burial ground. Note the buried upright memorial to the right, looking west

The burial ground lies on the western slopes of a low hill north of the Cullenagh mountains. The burial ground lies approximately 500m west of a large artificial mound that is locally reported to be the inauguration site of the Ua Mordha clan.

The burial ground is sloped and is surrounded by fields in pasture with forestry to the west. Many natural springs break through the surface in this area.

Access is via a single lane metalled track from a minor road from the R425 Portlaoise to Ballyroan road. A poorly maintained farm gate on the southern side of the track gives access to the field within the burial ground is situated. The burial ground is gated but overgrown. A stile lies adjacent to this.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

There are many mature trees, including many yew and cedar, growing throughout the burial ground but especially around the periphery. Some mature trees also grow from the ruins of the church. Overgrowth throughout the burial ground but mostly cannot grow with the significant overhead canopy.

A sub-oval enclosure (straight on the western and southern sides) may have previously comprised a slight earthen embankment. The remains of this were at some point revetted with a stone wall which only now survives to any real extent (up to 1m in height) on the curving northern side, reputedly having been robbed of stone for local buildings. Several strands of barbed wire fencing have been stapled to the many large mature trees that grow around the periphery of the burial ground and for the immediate future will prevent livestock from gaining access to the burial ground.

A large church occupies the focal position within the burial ground. The nave and choir are divided by an arched wall, with the choir occupying a higher level, probably due partly to the rising ground to the east but possibly also due to infill. The western gable survives poorly and has been latterly altered to a once-gated entrance.

There are a number of inscribed headstones, slabs and some kerbs. These mostly date from the mid-18th century, though there have been burials within the last 20 years. An unusual simple kerbed monument comprises small fist-size rubble placed in a square around a plot with a minimal memorial (see also L083). There is a late 20th century cross on a pedestal memorial to the Hargrove family who latterly lived nearby. Several large slabs dating to the late 18th century occupy the in-filled area of the choir, suggesting the church fell out of use prior to this.

It would appear that mixed denominations, including some Huguenots (the Cassan's) from nearby Sheffield House, are buried in the graveyard.

There is an ancient artificial mound located 500m east of the burial ground which is said to be the inauguration mound of the chiefs of the *Ua Mhordha* (O'Moore) clan.

Carrigan notes that the name of the church and old parish (townland) associates it with St. Colman ban "the fair", which differentiates him from the adjoining old parish (townland) of Kilcolmanbrock (Cremorgan) or "Church of St. Colman the speckled".

Burial Ground ID: **L071**
 Townland: **Kilcoran**
 NGR (E,N): **228601 , 177324**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Kilcoran**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA028-057002**



View of the enclosure surrounding the site, facing northwest



Interior of the enclosure showing original location of the site, facing southwest

The site is located in a rural area to the south of a farmyard. The land surrounding the site is used as pasture and is unsuitable for crops. The land appears to slope somewhat northwards.

There are no information panels and no directional signage.

The interior of the site is covered in low grass, thistles, bushes and trees.

The boundaries are formed by the ditch and bank of a rath.

There are no upstanding structures visible apart from the rath. There was originally a church and graveyard here, but no traces of it remain.

Local traditions report that human bones have been uncovered here in the past. Tradition also maintains that fairies have been seen in this area.

There are discrepancies between the Archaeological Survey Unit and Ordnance Survey records; the former records this enclosure as ringfort (RMPLA028-057003). However, during the survey it was noted that this ringfort is actually located in the south of the townland.

Burial Ground ID: **L072**
Townland: **Kilcronan**
NGR (E,N): **247330 , 179710**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Kilcronan**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA030-026001**



Various types of memorials , facing northwest



Southern wall of church almost visible below overgrowth, facing southwest

The site is located in a rural area to the north of Ballinacill village. The western side is bordered by a minor road. The ground slopes southwards and slopes to a river in the east. There are fields on all sides, which are used for both crops and pasture.

The site is accessed by a small gate in the north-western wall. There is minimal parking here and access within the graveyard is restricted due to overgrowth.

There is no directional or informative signage but it is clearly visible from the road.

The site is overgrown with small trees, bushes, grass, moss and lichen. Many of the gravestones are covered with overgrowth and the site is difficult to traverse. The walls are covered in ivy.

The western, northern and southern boundaries are formed by a stone wall, which encloses a sub-triangular shape. The eastern boundary is formed by a hedgerow and the Owenbeg River, which are situated at a lower level than much of the site; the river is liable to flooding. The ground slopes to the east and the south.

Remnants of the eastern and western gables of a church associated with St. Cronan, as well as the southern wall, are located in the northern end of the site. These are covered in overgrowth and are not easily visible. The saint is said to have founded a monastery here.

There is a mix of recumbent and upstanding headstones, Celtic crosses, flat slabs (which may have collapsed), table-tombs, kerbing and simple un-inscribed stone markers. The earliest visible headstone dates to the 1740's.

This graveyard served the town until its replacement by St. Brigid's. The interments are all believed to be Roman Catholic.

There is speculation that the site extended beyond its present footprint; especially into the field to the west of the road.

When O'Hanlon and O'Leary the site, the river had flooded and many of the coffins were floating in it (O'Hanlon and O'Leary 1907, 235).

Burial Ground ID: **L073**
Townland: **Kildellig**
NGR (E,N): **230323 , 184078**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Ernan's, Kildellig**
Dedication: **St. Ernan or St. Sennan**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA022-022003**



Beneath the overgrowth lie rows of simple stone markers, looking east



Two late 18th century inscribed headstones in the overgrowth, looking northwest

The burial ground is located on a low rise in a field in pasture in the townland of Kildellig. It is marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey mapping as "Kildellig Church (in ruins)" and "Grave Yard", with a small dotted circular enclosure and an outer perimeter of large trees. On the 2nd edition the rectangular stone-walled enclosure is marked with "Kildellig Church (site of)" and "Grave Yard". A medieval motte is located approximately 120m to the northeast.

Access is via the farmyard and west along a farm track before turning north into the field. There are no paths and the gate is blocked by overgrowth. There is no parking.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

The burial ground is overgrown by long tufted grass, nettles, briars and bracken which make many areas of the burial ground impenetrable.

According to Carrigan the stone-walled enclosure was built in 1862 and was built using stone from the runs of the church. It is much denuded and survives to approximately 0.50m in height (formerly approximately 1m, seen in the better preserved northwest corner). The farmer has erected a post-and-wire electrified fence around the perimeter of the stone-walled enclosure, linking up to the electrified field boundary to the east.

Outside of the later stone enclosure, this otherwise straight field boundary has a notable bend around the burial ground. This appears to preserve part of an earlier enclosure. In addition, two parallel ditches running northeast-southwest are present on the northern and southern sides of the burial ground.

There is a low east-west-orientated rise with a square western end alongside the northern boundary wall. This undoubtedly represents the ruins of a medieval church marked on the 1st edition OS map. The rubble from the

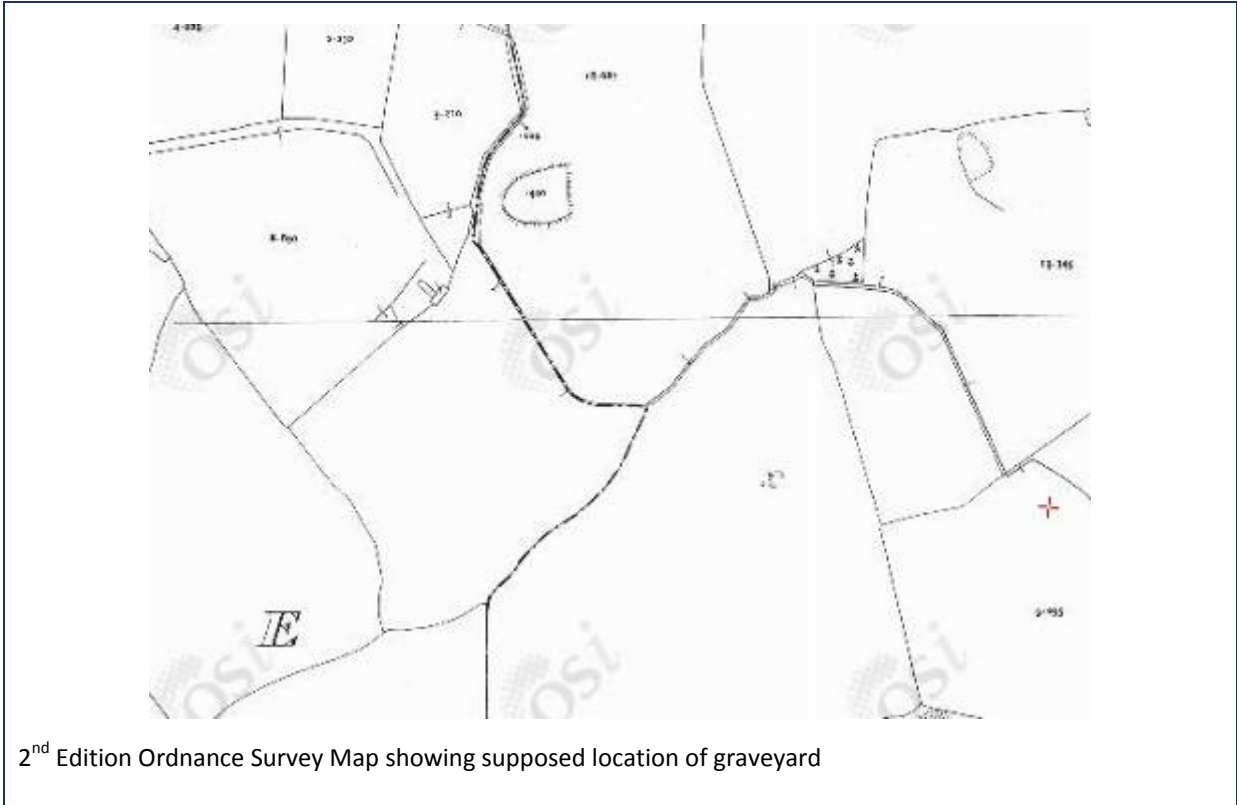
church appears to exist to the east of the stone-walled enclosure. Two inscribed headstones were identified facing east. The earliest of these dates to 1793. There are a small number of identifiable stone markers in rows. There are possibly many more of these beneath the overgrowth.

Little is known about the denominational history of the site beyond its possible Early Christian beginnings.

The last known burial took place in the 1960s. Carrigan associates the church with that mentioned in the 13th-14th century Red Book of Ossory as "Rectoria de Delgy" and notes 15th and 16th century references to appointments of priests (1905, Vol.2 p64).

Burial Ground ID: **L074**
Townland: **Kildellig**
NGR (E,N): **229120 , 183060**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Kildellig**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA028-006**



The site is located in a rural area with commanding views of the landscape on all sides apart from the northwest. The boundaries are formed by hedgerows. There is a farmyard located to the northeast. There are a few houses located along the small road used to access the site. There is no ploughing carried out in this field; it is used for silage. The site is accessed by a small road which ends at the entrance to the farmyard.

There are no directional or informative signs

The field is under pasture

There are no visible remains of the site and therefore no visible boundaries. There are no visible structures

Carrigan notes that while there is no local tradition of a church in the area, historical records maintain that there was a church here called the Church of the Long Ridge. A narrow field to the north of the site is suggestive of a disused boreen which may have been associated with a church site.

Burial Ground ID: **L076**
 Townland: **Kilgory**
 NGR (E,N): **259480 , 175599**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Kilgory**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA036-002002**



The 'lucky-box' within the church ruins, facing south



View of the renovated church and various memorial types, facing north

The site is located in rural land close to the border between Laois and Carlow. The land slopes to the west towards the river which forms the County border. The site is surrounded by pasture fields and a farm is located to the northeast.

A signpost (spelt Kilgorey) shows the boreen which leads to the graveyard and there is a small information plaque in the church on the site.

A track runs from the boreen across a field for access to the graveyard; there are stiles in both the eastern and western sides. There are steps in the latter sides also.

The site is well-maintained. It is bounded by a stone wall which probably dates to the 19th century; there is a small amount of ivy growth on it. The graveyard is triangular-shaped in plan and the ground within is much higher than that of the surrounding fields, especially in the western side. The interior of the graveyard has been levelled in the past.

The site was associated with a medieval monastery dedicated to St. Longory (O.S. 2nd Edition)/ St. Lony (Comerford 1886, 97). The western gable of a church survives within the small modern church built within the original footprint. This is surrounded by a low wall within which there are benches and a 'lucky-box' where people place prized possessions; there is a money-box below.

There are many simple stone markers and headstones on the site as well as 18th-21st century recumbent and upstanding headstones. There are a few metal crosses and stone crosses, along with kerbed burials. The

earliest legible headstone is 1775. The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Roman Catholic.

A holy well and a rag bush are located to the northwest of the graveyard while there is also a rag bush located just to the southeast of the new church. The former rag-bush reputedly cures warts.

Burial Ground ID: **L077**
 Townland: **Killabban**
 NGR (E,N): **269022 , 185572**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Killabban**
 Dedication: **St Abban**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA026-013003;LA026-013005**



Various memorials within the site, facing east



View of church ruins and memorials, facing west

The site is situated in a rural landscape and is surrounded on all sides by arable and pastoral fields. The small village of Killabban is located to the east. The site itself was a subrectangular shape; the north-eastern corner is now occupied by a house which was formerly a 19th century schoolhouse. There is a slope from the northern entrance of the site northwards which may be associated with subsurface structural remnants.

The site is accessed from the road through a gate into the north-western corner of the plot. This leads through a linear field, which was probably originally part of the site, southwards to the church and graveyard. Cars can be parked on the grass at the access point.

There is no directional or informative signage.

The grass along the entrance to the site is maintained; donkeys are often allowed to graze here. However, the grass within the graveyard site is very long. There are hidden stone markers and memorials below the grass in the graveyard and church interior and the church ruins are overgrown with ivy, trees and grasses.

The borders of the graveyard proper are formed by low stone walls on all sides; the northern wall of the church forms part of the northern wall. The linear field which leads to the site is lined with stone walls. There is a shed along the eastern side which forms part of the entranceway and which was built from church stones. The site is presently an L-shape due to the location of the house in the north-eastern corner. The level of the site is considerable higher than the surrounding land and the walls are covered in ivy and tree growth.

The foundation was apparently set up in 650 AD by St. Abban. The remains of a medieval church are situated in the northern side of the present plot, but would have originally been in the middle of the site prior to construction of the schoolhouse..

There are round and flat-headed headstones, table-tombs, metal crosses, simple blocks, Celtic crosses and kerbed burials plots. Fragments of a broken sarcophagus are reportedly distributed around the graveyard; they were not visible during the visit. Many headstones are recumbent; the stone markers and table-tombs are subsiding. Structural remains of the church were also reused as memorials. Many memorials are covered in ivy and trees and are broken. The earliest visible date of a memorial is 19th century. The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Roman Catholic.

There is a white marble headstone set into the window in the western gable of the church; there are also Celtic crosses and headstones within the interior. There is reportedly a famine plot on the site, but no exact location is known.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L078 | Name: | Killeen |
| Townland: | Killeen or Killeenlynagh | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 249476 , 205300 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA008-009002 |



Recorded site of Killeen burial ground in far distance, looking north



Recorded site of Killeen burial ground at edge of forestry, looking northeast

The burial ground is located in pasture, immediately southwest of forestry. The site is marked on the 1st edition OS map as "Killeen Grave Yd" and is shown as being square in shape and surrounded by an intact tree-planted boundary. On the 2nd edition map the site is marked as "Killeen Grave Yard (Disused)" and is indicated in the corner of a field with dashed lines showing its previous extents.

Access to site is through private lands across pasture fields from the local road to the south.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The site is covered in pasture with a deciduous hedgerow to the west and recently-planted evergreen forestry to the northeast.

As indicated on OS mapping the site was formerly square-shaped. The burial ground is no longer enclosed. Only the hedgerow that forms the western boundary of the site remains, with all other field boundaries consisting of post and wire fencing.

There are no visible headstones or markers on the site.

The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey.

Burial Ground ID: **L079**
Townland: **Killenny**
NGR (E,N): **253755 , 201416**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Killenny**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA013-018002**



Church and graveyard, looking south



Burial monuments within the church, looking west

The graveyard is located in gently undulating pasture on the south-eastern edge of the Heath. The 1st and 2nd edition OS maps indicate the site as "Killenny Church (in ruins)" in gothic script and "Grave Yard". The site is located in isolation in the middle of a large pasture field. The townland boundary between Killenny and Garryduff runs along a curving field boundary to the east of the site. The 1st edition indicates this field boundary as continuing to curve to form the northern half of a larger enclosure. This is likely to have been the surviving remnants of a larger, earlier ecclesiastical enclosure. An active Roman Catholic church and graveyard (Church of the Assumption) are located c. 100m to the northwest.

Access is through private lands across a pasture field from the local road to the west. There is a wrought iron gate and stone stile in the northern site boundary

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The site is covered in well-mown grass.

The site is D-shaped and surrounded entirely by a stone wall c. 1.5m high; the landowner has indicated that this was built by the landlord in the 18th century. The site is located on a slight plateau which extends to the north and west. As is also indicated by the relict field boundaries to the north, there is a possibility that burials are present outside the current boundary in this area.

The church is located centrally within the stone boundary walls and is built of roughly coursed limestone blocks. It measures approximately 14m long by 7m wide. The building includes a walled burial area to the west, constructed in the 19th century, which has been comprehensively restored in recent years. A drawbar

slot is visible in the doorway in the western gable. An aumbry survives in the southern wall of the church near the south-eastern corner. A trapezoidal cross-incised stone has been mounted on the eastern wall of the church below the window opening.

There are three Celtic cross memorials within the church and one upright gravestone. The walled area to the west contains a recumbent slab and a table tomb. Any simple markers or monuments outside the church have been removed in recent years. Some memorials are visible gathered against the wall in the southern corner of the graveyard.

The church used for protestant service in 1615. The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be mixed since at least the 19th century.

Burial Ground ID: **L080**
Townland: **Killermogh**
NGR (E,N): **239050 , 180770**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Killermogh**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA029-022001**



Recumbent memorial within overgrowth, facing north



Overgrowth is engulfing memorials and boundary walls, facing southeast

The site is located in a rural landscape to the south of Ballacolla. There is a farmyard to its south, but elsewhere there are pastoral and arable fields. The landscape is fairly flat.

The site is accessed by driving down a laneway north-eastwards to a house. A field must then be traversed to reach the gate in the eastern side of the graveyard. This is very overgrown and must be climbed rather than opened. The western gate can be opened and there is also a well-preserved stile here. This was reportedly the original right of way.

There is no directional signage to indicate its presence and no information plaque to indicate its name or history. The graveyard and church ruins are completely engulfed in ivy, trees, grasses and bushes. The eastern side of the site is difficult to access, as is the interior of the church.

The boundaries consist of stone walls which are so overgrown with hedgerow and brambles that they are not visible across the site. The graveyard is very uneven and so overgrown that most of the eastern side cannot be accessed. The site is an irregular shape in plan.

The church, situated in the middle of the site, is dedicated to St Muicin and is probably medieval in date. Lewis suggests that St. Columb founded an abbey here in 558 (cf. Byrne 2000, 22). This was in ruins by 1731 and was replaced by Killermogh, Ballacolla in 1796.

The memorials comprise table-tombs, pedestal tombs, round-headed headstones and Celtic crosses. Headstones are leaning within the western gable of the church. Most of the headstone are recumbent and are below grass level. They are covered in trees, ivy and lichens and are almost illegible.

There are both Church of Ireland and Roman Catholic burials on the site and the last burial was in roughly 1970's.

Burial Ground ID: **L081**
Townland: **Killeshin**
NGR (E,N): **267340 , 177820**
National Monument No: **115**

Name: **Killeshin, Old**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA032-020004**



General view of church ruins and memorials, facing northwest



Plaque dedicated to 18th century builder of boundary wall, facing north

The site is located on the southern edge of the small village of Killeshin. It is surrounded on all sides by fields, apart from the south where the road is located. There is a river to the north and Holy Cross Church is situated to the southeast. The site is accessed by a laneway in the western side, which was constructed in the 1990's. A gate at the end of the lane leads to the graveyard in the east.

A sign in Killeshin village directs towards Killeshin church and a sign at the site shows the entranceway and displays the name. Another plaque informs that FAS and the Rossmore Killeshin Development Association cleared the overgrown site in 1992. A historical information panel is also positioned at the entrance to the graveyard proper.

The site is well-maintained and the grass is kept short. There are large trees growing along the southern boundary wall and there is a minimal amount of vegetation growth along the boundary wall.

Stone walls enclose the square site. They are in generally good repair, although the northern wall is collapsing in places. The graveyard is located at a considerable height over the road to the south; it is however at roughly the same level as the land on all other sides. It rises slightly towards the 12th century church ruins in the middle of the site. A granite font is present at the western gable of the church and here there is also a well-preserved Romanesque doorway.

The site contains round and flat-headed headstones, kerbed burials, table-tombs and stone markers. There are memorials within the ruins of the church also. Although many are recumbent and collapsed or subsiding, most

memorials are generally in a good state of repair. The earliest visible inscription dates to 1688; there is a yew tree growing out of this headstone. The site is used for Roman Catholic burials at present.

A local tradition exists which suggests that there this area was used as a cillín.

A round tower is recorded as having stood in the south-western corner of the site, but there are no visible remains. There is a memorial on the southern wall which can only be read from the road. It is dedicated to James Fitzgerald, who built this wall and planted the trees in 1787.

Burial Ground ID: **L082**
Townland: **Kilmainham**
NGR (E,N): **247860 , 206690**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Kilmainham**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA008-003002**



Remains of friary and graveyard, looking west



General view of field and overgrown area, looking northwest

The site consists of heavily overgrown area containing remains of a building marked on 1841 OS map as 'Friary (in ruins)' alongside a 'Grave Yd'. The site is located in gently undulating pasture just north of the junction of two local roads in a roughly triangular field. A disused road curves around the site immediately to the north. The road layout has changed in this location since the 1840s when the junction consisted of a crossroads. This had changed to a T-junction on the 1908 OS map. In the 1970s a new branch of road was constructed which now runs to the southwest of the site. The townland boundary is located immediately south of the Y junction.

Access to the site is through a gate and across private land owned by Donal Mooney, who lives in the farm to the southeast. There are no visible paths.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The immediate area surrounding the ruins is heavily overgrown with mature oak and blackthorn trees. There are also thick briars, nettles and ivy surrounding the ruins themselves. The surrounding field is covered in high grass.

There is no upstanding boundary surrounding the graveyard within the field. The friary is built on a raised area which extends to the west of the ruins. An outcrop of bedrock is visible in this area. Examination of orthostatic imagery indicates a roughly triangular shaped area defined by vegetation running alongside the northern field boundary. The field boundary to the southwest consists of a concrete rail fence, presumably built at the same time as the road, in the 1970s. The eastern and northern boundaries are hedgerow. The northern, curving boundary appears to be banked. A ring of darker, wetter vegetation is clearly visible in the field running from

the northern boundary to the west and south of the graveyard - this is somewhat apparent in orthostatic mapping. This is likely to be the remains of a stream, visible on the earlier OS mapping, which may have formed part the original boundary to the site.

The ruins consist of an east gable, foundations of other walls and an attached vaulted building to south. The full extents of the ruins were difficult to ascertain due to the extensive overgrowth and were only viewable from the east. The east-facing gable has a denuded window opening with at least one architectural fragment apparent in the associated rubble. A barrel-vaulted building is attached to the south with what appears to be the base of a tower with a spiral staircase between the two buildings.

There are no upright headstones. Immediately east of the ruins the ground is higher than the surrounding field and there are a number of stones scattered between the oak trees. These could be simple grave markers but could also be scattered rubble from the dereliction of the ruins.

The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey.

The landowner, Mr Donal Mooney, has lived here all his life and used to play in the ruins as a child. The site is known locally as 'the monastery' and it is believed that there is a tunnel connecting it with the Ivy Chapel to the southwest. The landowner remembers a stone archway or culvert of some kind in the northern field boundary."

Unclassified monastic establishment also called Triogue, probably an abbey" (Gwynn & Hadcock, 1988).
"Present remains are probably of a late medieval parish church" (O'Hanlon & O'Leary, 1907) - archaeology.ie.

Burial Ground ID: **L083**
Townland: **Kilmanman**
NGR (E,N): **230454 , 212358**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Kilmanman**
Dedication: **St. Manman**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA002-002004**



Overview of the burial ground at Kilmanman, looking south-west



Simple stone marker with inscribed cross

The burial ground is located on rising ground in the townland of Kilmanman.

Access is via the gated enclosure on a local road. There is no designated parking.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

There are mature shrubs and trees around the enclosure. One old hawthorn tree has been cut back into the shape of a cross.

The burial ground is surrounded by a stone revetted enclosure on all four sides. The ground within the enclosure is notably higher than the surrounding land by c. 1m. The curving northern field boundary and trackway (on the 1st and 2nd edition OS map) and adjacent well suggest that the burial ground and associated church may be located within an earlier ecclesiastical enclosure.

A holy well dedicated to St. Manman is located approximately 100m to the south.

The large east-west-orientated church is well preserved with high eastern and western gables. The western gable retains the upper remains of an exterior bell tower. The western gable projects very slightly beyond the northern wall, and together with some projecting stones further along the wall, suggests that an additional early structure adjoined on to this side.

There are a number of inscribed headstones, slabs and some kerbs with only a few Celtic crosses (some plain crosses). There are many simple stone markers in rows. Some of these have used architectural fragments and one small simple slab has had a plain cross incised/chiselled into its face. Inscriptions mostly date from the mid-18th century (1738 earliest found), though burial has started again in recent years. An unusual recent simple kerbed monument comprises cobbles placed in a square around a plot (this is seen also at Kilcolmanbane (L070). Burials within the church date from the 18th century.

Tradition recalls a nunnery at the site.

Burial Ground ID: **L084**
Townland: **Kilminfoyle**
NGR (E,N): **235420 , 182370**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Kilminfoyle**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA029-002002**



General view of graveyard, which is overgrown and inaccessible, facing south

The site is located in a rural area. The land slopes to the south and southwest allowing views of the landscape. Kilminfoyle House and sheds are located to the north and northeast; elsewhere the surrounding fields are used to hold cattle and horses. The site is accessed by driving up the gravel driveway for Kilminfoyle House and crossing a field. The northern boundary of the graveyard forms the southern boundary of this field.

There are two points of access into the graveyard from this field, but the site itself is too overgrown with trees, grasses and hedgerow to view properly.

There are no directional or information signs to suggest where the site is.

The boundaries are not visible apart from a small portion of wall in the northern side, which is covered in vegetation. The site has been fenced off in the past 20 years and pine trees have been planted to protect it.

There are no associated structures visible through the overgrowth. However, there are local memories of extant memorials. The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey but the majority are thought to be Roman Catholic.

The site is traditionally associated with the flax village of Dairy Hill; supposedly located to the southwest in lands controlled by Lord Castletown.

The site is reportedly blessed annually during mass in the Vatican.

Burial Ground ID: **L085**
Townland: **Kilmurry**
NGR (E,N): **256156 , 201308**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Kilmurry**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA014-003001**



Stone piers, wrought iron gate and stile in north-eastern boundary, looking southwest towards church



Eastern gable of church, looking west

This site is located in a rural area, in the garden of a modern bungalow, immediately south of a local road. The 1st edition OS map indicates the site as "Church (in ruins)" in gothic script and "Grave Yard". The 2nd edition map identifies the site as "Church (in Ruins)" in gothic script. Access is provided from the roadside through a wrought iron gate and stile.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The site is covered in lawn grass. There is some ivy growth on the southern and western walls of the church.

The site is bounded to the northeast and south by a hedgerow and post and wire fence. There is no extant boundary to the north or west, as the site has been incorporated into a modern garden.

The church is constructed of roughly coursed limestone blocks, with the remains of a doorway in the northern wall. The ruins measure c. 36m long by c. 16m wide. There is an aumbry in the southern wall of the church near the south-eastern corner.

There are no visible headstones or markers on the site.

The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey.

The church was possibly dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary (archaeology.ie).

Burial Ground ID: **L086**
 Townland: **Kilteale**
 NGR (E,N): **253950 , 198600**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Kilteale**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA013-053002**



General view of burial ground and church, looking south



18th century headstone to south of church, looking southwest

This site is located in a rural area in undulating pasture c. 1km east of the Rock of Dunamase. The site is indicated on the 1st and 2nd edition OS maps as "Kilteale Church (in ruins)" in gothic script and "Grave Yard".

Access is provided from the roadside through a wrought iron gate in the western boundary. There are no paths.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The site is covered in mown rough grass with mature deciduous, evergreen and orchard trees in the eastern portion of the site.

The site is roughly circular in plan and is bounded on all sides by a stone wall varying in height and state of preservation. It is best preserved along the north-western boundary and is at its worst along the southern and eastern boundaries where it bulges and has been broken through in two places.

The ruins of the medieval church are built of roughly coursed limestone blocks. Remains consist of the eastern gable with a segmental arched doorway and a rectangular window overhead. The northern and southern walls survive only in part; there is a rectangular window opening visible in the northern wall. There are no remains of the western wall. Kilteale House is located to the east of the burial ground and may have used architectural fragments of the church in its construction in the 18th century.

The graveyard contains 18th to 21st century kerbed monuments, headstones, Celtic style crosses, metal crosses and recumbent slabs. Many of these are leaning, collapsed, worn or overgrown. A substantial number of small uninscribed markers are visible within the graveyard, west of the church. These markers appear to form rows running northwest-southeast. There are no burial monuments visible in the eastern portion of the burial ground.

The church was used for protestant service in the 17th century. The site was known locally as being mixed denomination and exclusively Roman Catholic since the establishment of the Holy Trinity (L165) in nearby Ballycarrol.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L087 | Name: | Kilvahan |
| Townland: | Kilvahan | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 249210 , 192390 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA018-017002 |



Overgrowth in the burial ground, looking south

Headstone and pedestal in southern portion of graveyard, looking northwest

The graveyard is in a rural area, on a raised plateau, within undulating pasture. The land falls away gently to the south and east. The 1841 6" OS map shows it as a trapezoidal 'GraveYard', while the 1908 25" map shows it as a D-shaped 'Burial Ground'. The OS maps indicate a 'Woollen Factory' to the southwest. The remains of what is known locally as Barrington's House is located to the southeast.

Currently, access is difficult requiring cutting through a number of fields and boundaries. The original access appears to be to the northwest, represented by the remains of a banked routeway. This is also apparent on the OS mapping which indicates a continuation of the route in the form of a relict field boundary and track.

There is no directional signage from the main road or within the vicinity of the monument.

The burial ground is extremely overgrown with briars, nettles and grass. Mature yew and large bushes surrounding the burial ground - some affecting the surrounding stone wall.

The enclosure comprises a stone wall, heavily overgrown with ivy in places. A post and wire (electric) fence in turn surrounds the stone wall. The wall survives very well to the south and east. To the northwest the wall is quite badly damaged by a combination of cattle pitch and mires undermining the wall and mature trees

damaging the stonework directly. There is a significant break in the wall to the west - which currently provides access to the interior. A small wrought iron gate with a small cross atop is present in the western boundary.

There are no extant associated structures.

One headstone was noted with an inscription commemorating Barnaby Horahan, 1786. Also, at the base of a low plinth was visible a recumbent slab commemorating Pierce Walsh, 1877.

Several simple stone markers surround these memorials. Given the uneven ground surface and the dense vegetation it is very likely that there are many more such markers within the interior.

The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey.

The stone enclosure was built with money from the Famine Relief scheme. Tradition states that the stones from the former church were used to build the woollen factory located to the southwest. Burials took place up to the 1960s.

Burial Ground ID: L088
Townland: Knockseera
NGR (E,N): 226920 , 185790
National Monument No: N/A

Name: Knockseera
Dedication: St. Kieran
RPS No: N/A
RMP No: LA022-013002



Overview of the neglected burial ground, looking north



St. Kieran's Well with rag tree located a short distance to the north of the burial ground, looking north

The burial ground is located on the summit of the western end of the hill of Knockroe, with views over the surrounding countryside including extensive views to the north and west. The surrounding land is in pasture.

Access is via a lane running north from the minor road east of the Green Crossroads. This is somewhat overgrown higher up the hill and unrecognisable.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

The burial ground is thick with overgrowth including hawthorn, blackthorn and briars. Several shrub trees are located around the burial ground and threaten the integrity of the enclosure wall and the memorials. The gate is blocked by blackthorn bushes.

The burial ground is surrounded by a square stone enclosure wall surviving to approximately 1m in height. The ground level within the burial ground is higher than that outside. The enclosure wall is damaged in a few places and the northern side is breached for approximately 3m in length.

Traces of the low walls of the church survive in the northwest corner of the burial ground. This appears to have been dug into in recent times, possibly due to burrowing animals. There is no sign of an altar at the eastern gable (as reported the same by Sweetman et al 1995). There are many memorials with simple stone headstones, inscribed headstones and wrought iron crosses dominating. Many rows of uninscribed simple markers are also found throughout the burial ground. Vegetation makes assessment difficult.

Given the shallow soil and the rocky ground, the graves are reportedly often quite shallow, with past recollections of the exposure of human remains. Carrigan reports that the graves had to be quarried out of the bedrock and filled in with rock (Carrigan, Vo. 2, p130). Roman Catholic masses were said at the mass rock in a

nearby hidden "Black Quarry" during Penal times. It is likely that at least the majority of the persons interred in the burial ground were Roman Catholic.

The site is said to be associated with St. Kieran, whose pattern day is March 5th, and is reportedly named after its sister church in Offaly (Seir Kieran). A hawthorn bush in the northwest corner, toppled but still growing, is said to be St. Kieran's Holy Bush. Two hundred metres to the northeast lies a Holy Well and tree which used to be a rag tree. It is said that the well was built on a spring that sprang up after a priest asked a young boy to walk for 200 paces northeast where he would find water.

The field to the north is known as the "Church Field" to the northwest is known as the "Pedlar's Park" where feast days would once be held.

There is a quarry immediately north of the burial ground which may have been used to erect the enclosure wall. Similar small quarries are dotted across the hill. These are not marked on the first edition OS map but are marked on the second edition and appear to be the result of famine works. It is possible that the cemetery was used to inter victims of the famine.

Burial Ground ID: **L089**
 Townland: **Kyle**
 NGR (E,N): **223337 , 190124**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Kyle Abbey**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **RPS 609**
 RMP No: **LA015-023002**



General view of the site, facing west



General view of the site, facing southwest

The site is located in a rural area. The fields surrounding it are used for silage and pasture. There is a modern house located to the west; the footprint was archaeologically tested but no archaeological remains were uncovered. The land appears relatively flat and the hedgerows form the field boundaries. The site is accessed by a gate in the south-western wall. There is also a stile here which has been damaged. There is another stile in the south-eastern corner. A plaque on the graveyard piers displays the name of the graveyard; there is also a directional plaque on the road from Ballaghmore.

The grass is kept short; there is minimal ivy on the walls, church ruins and some of the railed tombs. There is also some moss and lichen growth on the headstones. There are bushes growing on the site and the ground is very uneven. The graveyard is located a height above the road; this height is more noticeable to the north

The site is bounded by stone walls on all sides. This wall is crumbling in places; particularly in the west. Portions of this were rebuilt during the recent clean-up. The remains of a medieval church are extant in the middle of the site; a plaque which was set into the eastern wall has recently been removed.

The memorials comprise a mix of table-tombs, flat and round-headed headstones, simple stone markers and modern headstones. The oldest burials are reportedly to be found in the western end of the site. The earliest visible date is 1760. Burials belong to both the Church of Ireland and Roman Catholic Church.

Architectural fragments probably associated with St. Molua's monastery are scattered around the graveyard and there are two medieval cross-slabs, one of which was reused as a headstone. The site of St. Molua's sarcophagus is located in the south-western corner; it is marked by a Celtic cross erected in 1920. Apparently, the saint was buried in Aghaboe and then moved here at a later date.

The bullaun stone, which is positioned in the south-western corner, was moved from the field to the south in the past. St. Molua's Trough was moved from this graveyard to the modern graveyard in Ballaghmore. According to local tradition, this was originally situated below a hawthorn 'rag-tree' and it was used cure warts. The water within it supposedly never ran dry. However, once it was moved the water dried up and the cure for warts has disappeared.

The empty area to the west of the gate is reserved for those without families.

It has been suggested that there was a cillín in this area, but the exact location is not known.

Part of the Slighe Dhála remains in the field to the south of the site and a standing stone is situated in the field to the west. The remains of an enclosure lie the east of the site.

Burial Ground ID: **L090**
 Townland: **Kyle**
 NGR (E,N): **239984 , 181156**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Kyleballintallon**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA029-023**



Single stone marker on the summit of the mound, facing south

View of the mound from the road, facing southwest

The site is located in rural land. There is a small house to the east and farm buildings to the north; the land beyond this is pasture and arable land. The field within which the site is located is wet and stony.

The site is accessed by a gate in the north-eastern side of the field

There are limestone blocks at the gate which were probably part of the original boundary or graveyard.

There are no directional or informative signs and the site is difficult to locate.

It consists of a mound which appears to have been scarped in its eastern side by the road. It is covered in grass, while a hedgerow runs along its eastern and southern sides. There appears to be a lot of limestone scattered within the mound.

There is no visible structure and no local history of one in the area. A single limestone marker is located on the summit of the mound which may be a memorial; there is no visible engraving however.

Local tradition suggests that two priests are buried here and that there are architectural fragments below the farm buildings to the north. A hawthorn tree stood on the site for many years; someone had carved rosary beads into the bark. The tree fell down a number of years ago.

Burial Ground ID: **L091**
Townland: **Kyle**
NGR (E,N): **235150 , 209520**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Kyle**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA003-011002**



These slabs cresting an earthen embankment in the neighbouring field may have once been grave markers, looking north



The townland of Kyle and the surrounding field boundaries preserve the early ecclesiastical enclosure. The River Barrow lies to the east.

The burial ground is located on a low rise in the centre of a nearly circular field in Kyle townland, approximately 250m to the west of the River Barrow. The burial ground is marked on the 1st and 2nd edition of the Ordnance Survey mapping. On the 1st edition the site is marked as "Site of Church and Grave Yard" whereas on the 2nd edition it is merely marked as "Church (site of)".

Access is through fields from a minor road. There is no designated parking and there are no paths. There are old roads which approach from the west, but these are now overgrown.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

The site is in pasture and apart from occasional small clumps of nettles the only vegetation across the site is grass. The circular field boundary, however, comprises thick hedgerow and has many young and mature trees. The burial ground itself is currently unenclosed. Reportedly there were formerly hedges or boundaries of some kind in recent years and Ordnance Survey orthostatic photographs show a difference in land use in recent years in the centre of the field. The circular field boundary strongly suggests the preservation of an ecclesiastical enclosure.

The site of the church which is marked on the Ordnance Survey mapping has no surface expression.

There are no visible grave markers in the area of the burial ground. The exact location of the burial ground is thought to be on the centre of the low mound along with the church. However in an adjacent field to the south the southern field boundary comprises an earthen embankment topped with dozens of unmarked slabs of locally derived sandstone placed like crenulations. It is possible that they represent former simple stone markers that were removed to a more convenient or desired location. These do not appear atop any other local field boundaries and lie only about 100m from the site of the burial ground.

Several old roads converge on the site and are also marked on the 1st edition.

Little is known about the denominational history of the site beyond its possible Early Christian beginnings.

A bell-shrine in the British Museum is supposed to have originated from the enclosure at Kyle (Crawford 1922, p1-10).

Burial Ground ID: **L092**
Townland: **Leagh**
NGR (E,N): **269427 , 180073**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Leagh**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA032-015**



View of coffin rest/stile and large hump along south-western corner, facing west



Various memorial types, facing west

The site is located in a rural area and it is surrounded on all sides by fields. The access field was sown with corn at the time of the visit, as were those to the east and west. The fields to the north are also agricultural fields, with hedgerow boundaries.

The site is accessed from the road by a gate and a trackway clear of corn. It is located at the end of the field, and appears to be visited often. There is a stile and a gate at the graveyard.

There is no directional or informative signage and is not visible from the road. There are small areas of trees and bushes within the graveyard; especially along the western side. These are well-maintained and have protected the headstones in this area. The grass is kept short.

The boundary is formed by a low stone wall, within which a stile was built. This also served as a coffin rest and is similar to those at Shrulle and Sleaty. The wall is in good condition; there is some ivy growth in the north but it is maintained.

The graveyard slopes in the middle and is quite high along the southern side. It is generally uneven suggesting many unmarked graves. Comerford (1886, 265) mentions an association with church called Killanure; however, there are no visible remains of a church and there is no recorded history of any.

There are few memorials visible on the site; those that are there are located along the edges, especially along the western side. They consist of Celtic crosses, metal crosses, simple stone markers, kerbed burials and

headstones. The earliest legible headstone dates to 1744. The burial of a Bombardier is present; it is dated to 1917. The site is still open for Roman Catholic burials in family plots.

The irregular field boundary to the north of the site suggests that there may have been a building here in the past.

Burial Ground ID: **L093**
Townland: **Lismore**
NGR (E,N): **228444 , 185806**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Lismore**
Dedication: **St. Canice**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA022-018002**



The burial ground is located in level pasture in the townland of Lismore. It is marked on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey mapping as "Church (in ruins)" and "Grave Yd".

Access is via the lane leading to Lismore House and thence through a field. There are no paths and no designated parking.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

The burial ground is heavily overgrown with tufted grass, and thick nettles, briars and shrubs. The enclosure gate is blocked with vegetation and access can only be readily got by climbing the high walls.

The church is severely overgrown with thick-rooted ivy which appears to be damaging the gable tops. Young trees grow within the centre of the church which is almost impenetrable.

The burial ground is enclosed by a late rectangular concrete rendered stone wall which stands to a maximum of 1.5m in height. A gate is in the east side. The land outside of this area has reportedly not been ploughed in

at least the last two generations out of respect for the burial ground and with the understanding that its extents lay outside the enclosure. This approach, combined with the livestock comprising sheep, has led to a preservation of many surface features that are not immediately understandable. Satellite imagery, however, shows a field system earlier than that depicted on 19th century maps and aligned with the partially preserved roadway that Carrigan describes as having once run between Aghaboe and Monahinch and running by Lismore. This road is seen passing by the church about 65m to the northwest, running from northeast to southwest.

The ruins of the heavily overgrown east-west orientated medieval church are located at the northern edge of the enclosure. Carrigan supposes these to be early medieval in date.

There are a number of simple grave markers present in rows, and at least two inscribed box-tombs were identified which are reported elsewhere as dating to "post-1700". The majority of the burial ground, however, is too overgrown to appraise.

The denominational history of the burial ground is unclear.

The field immediately to the south has been traditionally known as Kilkennybeg, which was truncated by the construction of the M7 Portlaoise to Castletown Motorway. It was also known as "the lawn" or "the church field" according to Carrigan.

Carrigan, from the place name association, reports that the church was dedicated to St. Canice and was thus distinguished from the greater foundations at Aghaboe and Kilkenny (Carrigan 1905, Vol. 2, p131-2).

An early medieval enclosure and a small burial ground were excavated approximately 400m to the southeast of the Lismore burial ground and to the east of the field known as Kilkennybeg, on the townland border in Bushfield or Maghernaskeagh (Wiggins & Kane, 2009).

| | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L094 | Name: | Lea, Old |
| Townland: | Loughmansland Glebe | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 257497 , 211961 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA005-007001 |



Kerbed monuments and table-tombs located in northern extent of graveyard, looking northeast



Stone gateway arch in western boundary wall, looking southwest

The graveyard is in rural area, surrounded by low-lying pasture fields, north of the Grand Canal and south of the River Barrow. The site is marked on the 1st edition OS map as roughly square in shape and with "Lea Church (in ruins)" in gothic script and "Grave Yard"; and on the 2nd edition as "Lea Church (Site of)" in gothic script. The townland boundary of Loughmansland Glebe runs along the northern, western and southern boundaries of the site. This townland takes in further lands to the east and is surrounded entirely by the townland of Lea.

Access to the site is via a heavily overgrown laneway from a local road to the west. A stone arched gateway with wrought iron gate and adjacent stone stile provide access through the western site boundary.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

Vegetation consists of large, mature oak and sycamore trees throughout the burial ground. Ivy covers many of the memorials and is heavy underfoot. Nettles and briars are c. 1m high in most places.

The boundary wall is intact to c. 1m high along the western and northern boundaries. The southern and eastern boundaries were inaccessible. There is no evidence for burials extending beyond the current boundaries.

The only upstanding remains on the site consist of a wall fragment located immediately east of the access gate. This is locally thought to be the remains of the bell tower.

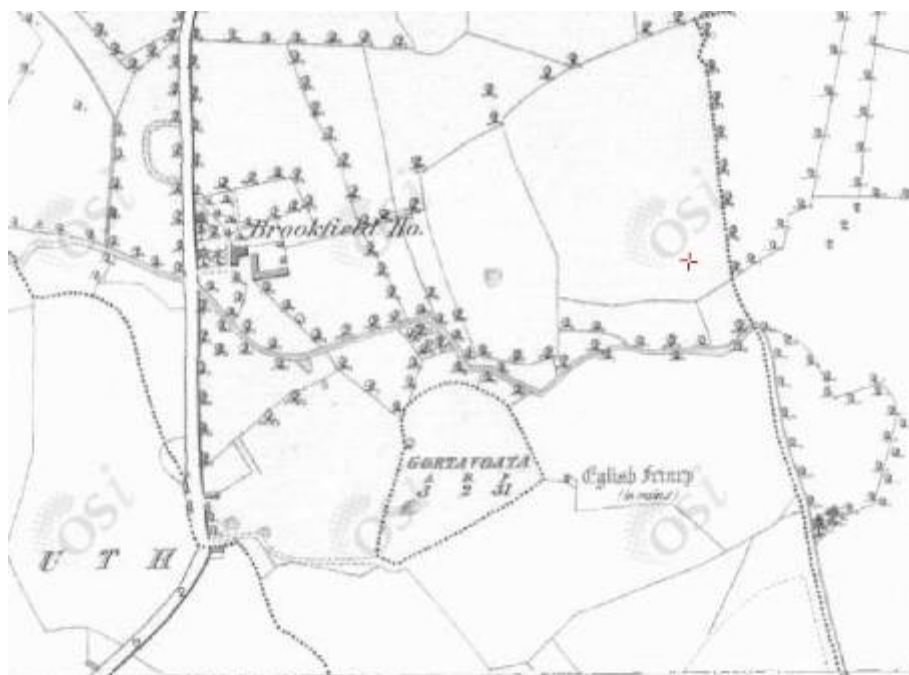
The graveyard is overgrown, but visibly contains 19th century headstones and a few 18th century memorials. A few headstones are upright, most are leaning, collapsed or damaged by overgrown vegetation. Some railed

and table-tombs are visible beneath the overgrowth. Recumbent slabs, low coped tombs, table-tombs and chest tombs are also visible. The earliest memorial dates to 1761 and commemorates Gearge Sauage. Due to heavy growth only the western and northern portions of the graveyard could be assessed.

The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey.

Burial Ground ID: **L095**
Townland: **Mondrehid**
NGR (E,N): **225570 , 189770**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **English Friary**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA016-022002**



1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map showing site of English Friary "in ruins"

The site is located in rural land and the fields surrounding it are used to graze cattle, sheep and horses. The field within which the site is located is covered in low scrub and small bushes. It is bounded by hedgerow.

The site is accessed by a gate in the side of the road, which leads through three fields. The exact location of the graveyard could not be accessed during the visit due to grazing livestock and the description given here includes local knowledge, previous survey findings and study of aerial photography.

There is no directional or informative signage for the site.

There are no surface traces of a friary or graveyard and there is no local knowledge of this site. However, the southern line of the site may be retained in the southern side boundary and the curving crop-mark to the east may be remnants of eastern extent of the site or part of the associated field system. The land is uneven in general in this area.

Carrigan (1905) states that the name Mondrehid derives from the bridge constructed over the River Mén (*Mena-droichid*), and that the first abbot of the Friary was St. Laisren/Lazerian.

Burial Ground ID: **L096**
Townland: **Morett**
NGR (E,N): **253540 , 204260**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Skeaghnakilla, Morett**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA008-018**



Recorded site of Skeaghnakilla graveyard, looking north

The site is located in a gently undulating tillage field, on a low rise north of the M7. The site is marked on the 1st edition OS map as a trapezoidal enclosure marked "Skeaghnakilla Grave Yd". There is no indication of the site on the 2nd edition map.

Access to the site is through a gate off a local road and across private lands.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The site is planted with arable crop.

There are no upstanding boundaries.

There are no associated structures.

There are no visible headstones or markers on the site.

The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey.

Burial Ground ID: **L097**
Townland: **Morrett**
NGR (E,N): **254130 , 203090**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Morrett**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA009-021008**



Ruins of Morett Church, looking east



Incised grave slab "W.D." built into boundary wall to west of the church, looking northeast

The graveyard is located in a rural area in gently undulating pasture, south of the M7 and directly east of a farm complex. The site is marked on the 1st and 2nd edition OS maps as "Morett Church (in ruins)" in gothic script. There is no indication of the shape or extent of the graveyard. "Bridget's Well" is indicated on the 1st edition to the north of the site and "St. Brigid's Well" on the 2nd edition. Morett Castle is located c. 100m to the north.

Access to the site is via a private driveway from the north and across a field.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The site is in pasture with a mature ash growing up against one of the surviving walls. Conifers have been planted around the holy well.

There are no upstanding boundaries and no indication of boundaries on the OS mapping.

The ruins of the church consist of two portions of masonry, comprising the remains of the southern and western walls. A holy well is located c. 50m to the north and consists of a modern shrine to St Brigid. A bullaun stone has been incorporated into the shrine.

There are no visible headstones or markers on the site. An 18th/19th century headstone with simple incised cross and the initials WD is incorporated into a boundary wall to the west of the church ruins.

The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey

Burial Ground ID: **L098**
 Townland: **Moyanna**
 NGR (E,N): **258870 , 200560**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Moyanna**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA014-016002**



Overview of the burial ground with the grand entrance provided by Lady Grattan-Bellew, looking north



Overview of the burial ground, with the ground dropping to the west, looking north

The burial ground is located at a road junction in the townland of Moyanna at the boundary with Raheenaniska and appears on the first and second editions of the Ordnance Survey mapping.

Access is via the modern extension to the east, though in the past access was via two gates, one in the southwest corner and the other in the southeast. Prior to this, access was probably via the northwest corner where a path is shown leading to the church and the earlier extents of the burial ground. There is parking to the south of the modern extension to the burial ground.

There are no information panels at the burial ground. There is directional signage from the Stradbally and Ballybrittas roads.

Vegetation in the burial ground comprises mostly mown grass, with severe overgrowth over and around the church ruins. The overgrowth was reportedly burned off in 1989 but is now thick with ivy, elder and other shrubs. Some ivy grows atop the northern wall. Two pairs of yew trees also stand within the burial ground.

The burial ground has a curving earthen embankment on its southern and western sides. The eastern and northern sides comprise stone walls approximately 2m in height. Beyond the eastern boundary lies the modern extension to the burial ground. Earlier extents to the burial ground are defined by a defined drop in ground level to the west of the church ruins, with a more gradual drop in level to the south. It is possible that the burial ground extended to the east and north of the church, outside of the later stone boundary walls.

The ruins of the heavily overgrown medieval church are east-west orientated with four walls surviving - the north and south walls however being severely denuded in places - with render surviving where visible. The

east and west gables survive well with an entrance in the west gable and a single light window in the east gable. An additional entrance is in the southern wall with chamfered edging. An apparent dividing wall at the western end may have been a later addition.

The burial ground contains mid-18th to 20th century headstones, including crosses, Celtic crosses, wrought iron crosses and a small number of recumbent slabs and table-tombs; most in good condition, very few appear to be leaning. Most of the memorials are limestone though most of the recent memorials are granite/marble. Headstones are located on the south, west and east sides of the church, with some within the church ruins and all face east. A large number of simple stone markers survive around the burial ground, some of which are located within the church.

The earliest identified inscribed memorial dates to 1736 (Cosby). The burial ground is evidently still in use despite the modern extension, although apparently only within family plots.

The old church was reportedly used for worship by the Protestant/Established Church in the 16th century. The denomination of the people buried within the burial ground is not clear at the present time, though it is likely to have been mixed.

Henry Grattan owned an estate in Moyanna and it is said that he wished to be buried in the burial ground. He was, however, buried in Westminster Abbey. The grand entrance in the southwest corner of the burial ground was an addition in the 19th century by Mrs Grattan-Bellew, the daughter or granddaughter of Henry Grattan.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L099 | Name: | Skirk |
| Townland: | Newtown or Skirk | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 222976 , 184851 | RPS No: | RPS 635 |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA021-010002 |



Overview of the two ruins, looking west



Simple cross-incised stone, looking west

The burial ground is located on a high rise in the townland of Newtown or Skirk with wide views over the surrounding countryside in all directions. Both Churches are depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey mapping within the "Grave Yard" but the 2nd edition shows the older of the two to be "in ruins".

Access is via the roadside gated enclosure which also has a stile. There is a gravel path but no designated parking.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

There are a number of mature trees in the northwest corner of the burial ground. Some young ornamental evergreen and other trees are also dotted across the burial ground. The grass is regularly mown.

A sub-circular stone-walled enclosure in good condition surrounds the burial ground which is raised by approximately 1m above the surrounding land. The mounded burial ground gently slopes down on the exterior of the enclosure, demonstrating the likelihood of further burials existing beyond the enclosure.

The ruins of two heavily restored churches survive in the burial ground. The older of the two is slightly off an east-west axis and was reported to have collapsed in the year 1835 (despite being depicted on the 1839 1st edition map). Carrigan reports that the church was uprooted to construct the boundary wall, and that only the eastern gable and fragments of the southern wall with part of the doorway then remained (1905 Vol. 2, p135).

Today there is no survival of the southern wall and only a short stretch of the northern wall along with the eastern gable remain. The window in the eastern gable has been converted into a niche or recess within which a figure of the Holy Virgin has been placed.

The later northwest-southeast orientated Church of Ireland church is reported by Lewis to have been granted a loan towards its erection in 1831 (1837, p556), whereas the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage dates the church to c.1750 (<http://www.buildingsofireland.ie>, No. 12802105).

The majority of burials face east in spite of the orientation of the churches. Most of the memorials are inscribed headstones with some box-tombs around the later church. The southern side of the burial ground has a small number of Celtic crosses and a number of simple stone markers - one of which has an inscribed cross on its face. There are a number of kerbs around later plots and several kerbed and railed plots around the later church. One of these has an ornate pedestalled urn monument within footed iron railings. The southern side of the earlier church was converted at some point into a large burial vault.

Burial Ground ID: **L100**
 Townland: **Portnahinch**
 NGR (E,N): **249010 , 209980**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Portnahinch**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA004-004001**



Eastern gable of church and burial monuments within church ruins, looking east



Wrought iron gate and stone stile in eastern boundary wall, looking northwest

The site is in a rural area, immediately west of a regional road. The River Barrow bends noticeably around the setting of the site to the east, north and west. The county boundary with Offaly follows the line of the river here. The site is marked on the 1st and 2nd edition OS maps as "Church (in ruins)" in gothic script and "Grave Yard". Portnahinch House is located c. 100m to the northwest and its access road runs along the northern boundary of the site.

The site is accessible directly from the roadside through a wrought iron gate and stone stile in the eastern boundary wall. A gravel path runs from the gate to the western extent of the site.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The site is covered in low grass and weeds, which appear to have been sprayed in recent times. Mature deciduous and evergreen trees are planted throughout the site.

The site is bounded on all sides by an intact stone wall, c. 1m high. The site is trapezoidal in plan and there is no evidence for burials extending beyond the current boundaries.

The graveyard contains the ruins of a medieval church which consist of upstanding walls and gables measuring c. 13m by 7m. A narrow window opening survives in the western gable and two window openings in the northern and southern walls survive in part. The church is the possible original location of a *sheela-na-gig*, which was later buried near Tinnakill Castle.

The graveyard contains 18th to 20th century headstones, Celtic-style crosses and recumbent slabs; mainly in good condition, with some leaning or collapsed. Some of the headstones have been laid horizontally into the

gravel pathway. There are two timber crosses and a wall-mounted plaque in the western portion of the site as well as a rough kerbed monument. A number of damaged headstones have been placed against the western wall. There are two headstones and a number of recumbent slabs within the walls of the church. A simple cross slab is located immediately west of the church. A possible font has been built into the boundary wall immediately south of the gate post.

The religious denominations of people interred are locally thought to be Roman Catholic.

Burial Ground ID: L101
Townland: Rahanavannagh
NGR (E,N): 247833 , 186705
National Monument No: N/A

Name: Tullore
Dedication: None
RPS No: N/A
RMP No: LA024-023001



Overview of the burial ground, looking northeast



Three closely set simple markers with a larger slab covering, looking southwest

The burial ground is located in pasture on a low drumlin in the townland of Rahanavannagh. The burial ground is marked on the first edition Ordnance Survey map in a field marked "Church Field" as "Graveyard" and "Site of Church". It is here located within the townland of Tullore. The second edition shows the townland boundary to have moved to the west, with the site then lying within the present boundary of Rahanavannagh townland.

Access is via a stone and gated entrance on the side of the local road and then up the hill to the gated and stiled enclosure. There are no paths and parking is limited to the small recessed roadside gateway.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

A small number of hawthorn shrubs are dotted around the eastern periphery of the burial ground along with a few ornamental bushes located within the burial ground. A stand of large evergreens is located on the south-western periphery against the enclosure wall. These have presumably been planted to assist in protecting memorials from prevailing high winds.

The grass is maintained but a number of wildflower species appear to have been allowed to come back, giving a more natural appeal to the burial ground than a closely mown lawn.

The burial ground is enclosed by a polygonal stone enclosure which dates approximately to the late 19th century (appearing on the second edition Ordnance Survey map but not on the first edition). The stone is reputed to have been brought from the Massey's of Derryfore (possibly Derryfore House). The enclosure is in good condition with the western wall having recently been restored.

The burial ground is raised approximately 1m above the surrounding land but sloping ground on the eastern and northern sides indicate that the burial ground extended beyond the area now enclosed. A slight trench

around the stone walling suggests the burial ground was partially excavated to receive the stone revetment, which would have most likely disturbed many burials.

The former townland boundary is visible as a low curvilinear feature running from south of the burial ground to the northeast along the bottom of the east side of the drumlin.

There are no upstanding structures associated with the burial ground and no identifiable features. Various small undulations on the north side of the burial ground may be due to livestock or associated with renovation, but tradition suggests the church was located near here at the north-eastern corner of the burial ground.

There are many headstones and Celtic crosses and slabs which may have formerly been table-tombs. The earliest inscription identified dates to 1705. Some table-tombs have survived intact though some have clear indications of being re-erected, often using the remains of other memorials. A number of Celtic crosses have been toppled and this is said to be due to previous storms. Fragments have been collected together close to the cross bases, with one large example having been entirely pieced together and left horizontal. There are a number of simple stone markers, with a cluster in the northeast corner.

A small railed area with its own gate served as a private plot for the Bland family of Blandsfort House.

There are some areas with unmarked graves, with more recent burials appearing to have targeted such areas. Unclear if there are any other denominations other than Roman Catholic present. O'Hanlon associates Tullore with a 9th century reference to "Seven Bishops of *Tullach Labhair*" who were venerated there (O'Hanlon 1988, p189). Joyce has the derivation of Tullore from *Tul-odhar* or "dark grey hill" (Joyce 1988, p588).

Burial Ground ID: **L102**
 Townland: **Rahin**
 NGR (E,N): **264382 , 188779**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Ballylynan**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA026-003001**



Overview of the burial ground, looking northwest



One of the older headstones located close to the church doorway, looking north

The burial ground is located on the edge of the village of Ballylynan in Rahin Townland. It is marked on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey mapping as "Church (in ruins) and "Grave yard". The former "Rahin School" is also marked which is located within the northern part of the burial ground.

Access is via the gated enclosure from the road. There is limited parking alongside the burial ground.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

There is a large amount of ivy growth around the church and another area of growth around an indiscernible feature which might be either detritus or a well-hidden memorial. The grass, where present is closely mown but the general surface of the burial ground is formed by the many kerbed plots. A large laurel bush is well-maintained but is taking over some of the older memorials on the south side.

The old burial ground is bounded by a rectangular stone enclosure. The modern council extension to the west is bordered by an earthen embankment.

The ruins of the medieval east-west orientated church occupy a focal point in the burial ground. These survive well with both gable ends intact with low side walls and entrance in the southern wall. The later Roman Catholic Chapel in the village dates to approximately the early 19th century.

Most of the east-facing burials have headstones although there are some Celtic crosses and wrought iron crosses also present. The earliest headstones identified date to the late 18th century. There are also a few simple stone markers on the southern side. The majority of burial plots now visible have large kerbed plots. Within the church there are slabs which were reportedly formerly box-tombs.

It is thought that only Roman Catholics are buried in the burial ground, although the former school was known as a protestant school. It is thought that many people in the area were also brought to be buried in Rathaspick where there was an Established Church.

A mass is held in the first Sunday in July where people come to remember their deceased.

Members of the family of William Grace, the first Roman Catholic mayor of New York and founder of W.R. Grace & Company, are buried in the chapel in the village.

Comerford notes that in 1786 there was an earthen urn with coins found in a neighbouring field.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L103 | Name: | Rathaspick |
| Townland: | Rathaspick | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 262530 , 186840 | RPS No: | RPS 383 |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA025-023002 |



Overview of the restored ruins, looking north



Headstone dating to 1721, looking west

The burial ground is in a rural area on the lower eastern slopes of the Slieve Margy range of hills and is surrounded by pasture. Adjacent to the burial ground and on the north-western side lie the remains of a ringfort/rath.

Access is via the gated enclosure at the end of a maintained quiet local road. A small amount of parking is possible as it is a cul-de-sac.

There is no directional signage from the main road. There is a dressed limestone plaque on the western tower of the church, reading "A.D. MDCCCXIII, Rev. Edward Sterling Rect, Michael Carter, Richard George > Ch. W.". The plaque appears to be a recent addition to the church.

The grass is cut low. A number of medium size trees and shrubs are located within the burial ground, with some ivy allowed to grow on the top of the boundary wall and some box-tombs.

The burial ground has a D-shape with the boundary comprising an intact stone wall. Access is via a gate and stile in the northern corner. The recessed and grassed over remains of the old path run from the gate around the northern side of the church and turns to run along the eastern boundary wall. The ground surface is raised above the level of the surrounding land, although there is a gradual drop-off outside of the enclosure which suggests that the original burial ground may extend beyond the current enclosure.

The burial ground contains the ruins of a Church of Ireland church built in 1813 and marked on the 1st edition (6" series) OS map, but was in ruins by the time of the second edition (25" series). The ruins of the church itself measure c. 17m by 9m and are NNW-SSE orientated as opposed to the usual east-west orientation. The present church was built as part of the Established Church, possibly near or on the site of an earlier church. A

low rise in the middle of the burial ground (just west of the ruined church) might be identified as the site of the earlier church, which may have been pulled down to supply the stone for the later church.

The later church was built by several English settlers, one of whom was surnamed George (the landowners on the west side of the burial ground are descendants). The structure on the southern side of the church, which is possibly a sacristy, is rumoured to have been a guard room which was used to protect the graves from grave robbers in the 19th century.

A holy well (no visible remains) and a souterrain (no visible surface trace) are reputedly located outside the burial ground.

The burial ground mostly 19th to 21st century headstones in varying conditions; some upstanding headstones are leaning, many of which are worn and otherwise damaged; a number of 19th century table-tombs located north of the church. The earliest identified inscribed memorial dates to 1721.

There are burials of mixed denominations.

The adjacent ringfort is said to have once been the dwelling place of a bishop, giving rise to the place name *rath easpag*.

Burial Ground ID: **L104**
 Townland: **Rathdowney**
 NGR (E,N): **228290 , 178330**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St Andrew's, Rathdowney**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **RPS 280**
 RMP No: **LA028-055004**



19th century headstones on the site, facing east



General view of the site, facing southwest

The site is located in the centre of Rathdowney town. The town square is situated on its western side, while there are buildings to the south and east. The Parochial hall is situated in the north-western corner of the graveyard plot and a road runs to the north. There are fields in the wider landscape as the town is predominantly centred along the roadside with no real urban sprawl. The site is accessed by a gate in the western side of the site, which leads from the town square and public car-park. A pathway runs around the church, which is situated in the northern segment of the site. There is also a gate in the northern wall, beside the parochial hall.

An information board is situated at the entrance to the graveyard and church. It states the name and denomination of the church as well as the times of services and Venerable J.G. Murray's contact details.

The grass is kept short and there is ivy growth on tombs and walls. There are trees growing within the site, although they are maintained.

The sub-rectangular graveyard is bounded on all sides by stone walls, while the north-western corner is delineated by the parochial hall. The walls are in a good state of repair, although there is ivy and tree growth in places. The graveyard is hummocky and there are many unmarked graves.

St. Andrew's Church of Ireland church is situated in the northern side of the site. This was built on the site of the pre-Reformation parish church which was demolished in 1818. Burials within the graveyard precede the date of the present church and may have extended across the road.

The site contains flat and round-headed headstones, as well as box-tombs. It would appear that a few of the 'grave-slabs' lying to the west of the church were once box-tombs. There is one box-tomb situated in the north-western corner, just north of the entrance gates. This is positioned in an elevated area, surrounded by trees and cordoned off with a metal railing. No access could be made to read the inscription on the surface of the tomb. The gravemarkers are in a generally good state of repair, although there is ivy and lichen growth on some and a few are recumbent or broken. The earliest visible memorials date to the mid -1800's. There have been no burials here since 1912; most took place in Old Rathdowney.

There is a memorial in the church dedicated to Thomas Prior, who was born in Rathdowney. He founded the Royal Dublin Society (RDS) and was buried in the graveyard in 1751. Local tradition records that the memorial was brought in when the present church was built in the 19th century. The exact location of his grave is unknown.

Restoration work was carried out on the church in 2000 and the reopening included a service by the Bishop of Armagh. The church was named St. Andrew's as the service coincided with the Saint's Day.

A school previously stood where the parochial hall is now; the latter was built in the 1980's. The site of an earthwork is recorded as existing north of the graveyard. This may have been the site of the thirteenth century castle built by Adam de Hereford c. 1207-1213, which may have been constructed within a medieval graveyard. This is the rath which probably gave the town its name.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L105 | Name: | Yew Tree |
| Townland: | Rathnaleugh | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 222800 , 181830 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA027-004001 |



View of original location of graveyard, facing northwest

The site is located in a rural area. There is a trackway transecting the site. The field to the west was ploughed and re-seeded as grassland in 2010, while the field to the east is used as pastureland. There is a c. 60 year old shed located in the northern end of the western field. The track leads to other fields in the north, which are used to grow corn. A river, flowing east-westwards, is located to the south of the site. The ground here appears slightly marshy.

The site is accessed by driving up a trackway from the road. It is visible as a circular ridge which extends across the fields to east and west.

There are no visible boundaries or memorials. The extent of the site is visible as a low circular ridge covered in grass.

A church and graveyard, with an associated yew tree and holy well, were extant here in the past, but the site was levelled c. 50 years ago. After the site was levelled, bones were collected and reburied in a large pit along the northern banks of the river to the south. The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey but the majority are thought to be Roman Catholic.

According to Carrigan the church, which was called Kilclaena or Claenagh, was not visible at the start of the 20th century but memorials were present.

An associated togher is also recorded; this may be the mass-path which is still extant to the west of the site. It runs to Killadooley and ends there at a point known as the Garron stile. This togher was associated with St. Patrick who used it during his travels. He is said to have planted his walking stick beside the well and it grew into the yew tree which gave the site its local name.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L106 | Name: | Rathronshin, The Dullow Bush |
| Townland: | Rathronshin | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 260017 , 205693 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA009-017 |



The overgrown strip is a children's burial ground known as the "The Dullow Bush", looking north.

The burial ground is located on a strip of ground along the road to Vicarstown from Ballybrittas, just south and in the grounds of Rath House in the townland of Rathronshin. It is marked on the first edition Ordnance Survey map as "Dullow Bush", and on the second edition as "Children's Burial Ground (Disused)".

Access is via a field gate located just to the south of the burial ground. The area of the burial ground is scrub.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

A number of large mature trees, mostly horse chestnut, occupy the strip of land with smaller shrubs and overgrowth.

The burial ground is not enclosed from the field (currently under cultivation). The field boundary alongside the road comprises a substantial earthen embankment and ditch.

There are no structures recorded at the burial ground.

No obvious grave markers exist. There are a number of small boulders within the scrub which may formerly have marked the locations of burials, but few appear fixed in position and may have derived from ploughing the immediately adjacent field.

Traditionally children's burial grounds are places of interment for infants that died prior to being baptised. Nothing is known of any exclusion of the deceased by reason of denomination.

The area is still locally known by the name of the "Dullow Bush", which appears on the first and second edition maps. The area is locally said to be "haunted" .Joyce notes that the use of the word "Dullow" comes from the Irish *dealbh*, meaning "shape", "sculpture" or "effigy" but used to infer "phantom". It is usually associated with a group of hawthorn bushes (Joyce, 1869 p193).

Burial Ground ID: **L107**
 Townland: **Reary More**
 NGR (E,N): **235092 , 212580**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Reary More**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA003-003002**



The carpet of red weeds and bare earth is due to extensive use of pesticide, looking east



These beautiful early medieval decorated slabs can be found in the utility room of St. Brigid's R.C. Church.

The church and burial ground at Reary More are located adjacent to the River Barrow which appears to form the western and northern extents of a possible ecclesiastical enclosure. The southern extents of this appear to be preserved in the curving field boundaries to the south of Reary More house.

The burial ground is located towards the end of the access lane to Rearymore House from the minor road. There is parking in the former yard adjacent to the burial ground.

There is a directional signpost from the minor road. There are no signs or information panels at the burial ground itself.

There is no grass at the burial ground. There is a thin carpet of a short red-leaved weed and dead moss. There are several mature trees including yew trees throughout the burial ground. There is a thick covering of ivy over the western gable.

A stone walled-enclosure is formed on all sides with the church forming part of the northern boundary of the burial ground - the later stone walls butting this. It seems likely from the level of the land that the burial ground originally extended north and west of the current enclosure.

The church is east-west orientated with only the northern wall and western gable surviving above ground. The lower courses appear to be derived from smaller locally derived sandstone, whereas the upper courses comprise mostly larger dressed limestone blocks, suggesting a second phase of construction.

There are a large number of visible memorials dating from the mid 18th century (the earliest inscription identified dates to 1735). The majority of these are inscribed headstones and simple uninscribed stone markers - many of these reusing old broken headstones or architectural fragments. There are also many slabs

which may be former table-tombs. Some of these have been arranged side by side across the floor of the church and are presumably not *in situ*. There are a number of pedestalled Celtic crosses (some very large) with kerbs. Some box-tombs with railings are also present.

Reary More (*Raoire Mor*) was in the heart of the medieval territory of Hy-Regan or Dooregan (from *tuatha riagain*) which became the barony of Tinnahinch.

Burial Ground ID: **L108**
 Townland: **Rosenallis**
 NGR (E,N): **239758 , 209651**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Brigid's, Rosenallis**
 Dedication: **St. Brigid**
 RPS No: **RPS 348**
 RMP No: **LA003-016005**



Overview of the burial ground, looking southwest



One of four possibly early medieval Bullaun Stones that are re-used in the porch of the later church

The burial ground is located in the village of Rosenallis. It is marked on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey mapping as "Grave Yard". On the 1st edition it also has marked "Church" but on the 2nd edition it is presumably incorrectly marked "St. Mary's Church".

Access is directly from the village through the gated enclosure. There is no dedicated parking.

There is no informative signage or directional signage.

The grass is kept short and some ivy grows along the western wall, where neighbouring shrubs and trees shadow the enclosure wall. The use of pesticide is evident around the edges of features and the boundary wall.

The enclosure comprises high stone walls on each side except for the west side, which is formed by the current church. The burial ground is markedly raised above the surrounding land by up to around 2m. It is not clear when the burial ground was enclosed and it is possible that the burial ground originally extended under and east of the current church. This area is currently a lawn and was formerly the line of the old Shanbeg Road. This was diverted around the church grounds in the 19th century. The field boundaries to the west of the village appear to preserve the line of an early medieval ecclesiastical enclosure. The ruins of a round tower were torn down in 1834. These were reported to stand between the Shanbeg Road and the gable end of the school (www.rosenallis.com). The north-south orientated church was built in 1798 with later additions of tower and porch. Renovations were undertaken in the 1980's and 1990s. Four almost identical apparent Bullaun Stones made from (or perhaps dressed to) square sandstone blocks are set on edge and incorporated into the interior of the porch of the church. These appear to have been heavily weathered but they all appear to have

at least one and perhaps two concentric circles incised around their perimeters. It is likely that these were associated with the earlier ecclesiastical site and recovered at a later date. A single piece of a formerly large gothic traceried window has been recovered and relocated to the enclosure wall.

St. Brigid's Well is located a short distance to the southwest in the village.

There are some large pedestalled headstones and many large slabs dating from the early 18th century. These appear to have been relocated here in closely spaced rows, presumably following the machine assisted clearance of the 1990s. These have been surrounded by gravel borders. There are also some box- and table-tombs present, some of which are kerbed and railed. There are many green spaces throughout the burial ground indicating both unmarked graves and missing memorials. Some of these memorials have been relocated along the enclosure walls.

There have not been any recent burials here.

An early monastic community and pre-reformation community would have used this burial ground prior to the Established Church (latterly Church of Ireland congregation).

Roger Byrne bore the title of Ireland's heaviest man and was interred here in 1804.

Unmonitored restoration work in the 1990s included excavation of service trenches for church improvements. These reportedly encountered human remains.

Further discoveries in the burial ground include an apparently early incised cross-slab and a Sheela-na-gig, both of which were recovered during unmonitored clearance and levelling works in the burial ground. It is reported that the foundations of the earlier church were noticed in the digging of a grave within the burial ground.

Burial Ground ID: **L109**
 Townland: **Rosdarragh**
 NGR (E,N): **226780 , 174280**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Rosdarragh**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **LA034-017002**



Structural remnants of church, facing south



Tree-lined bank of graveyard, facing southwest

The site lies within the interior of an enclosure formed by a bank and ditch, which is surrounded by pasture fields. The enclosure is raised in the middle and the remains of the rectangular graveyard are located towards the western side of this feature.

The enclosure is easily accessed through a gate off the road and through a boggy pasture field. Its ditch and bank are low and can be traversed easily.

There is no signage visible, either along the road or at the site.

The graveyard itself is delineated by a low rectangular bank, which may have been capped with stones in the past; some are visible in the interior of the graveyard. There are trees and scrubby vegetation lining the bank. The ground enclosed by the trees is lower than its surrounding bank and the larger enclosure and it is covered in understory vegetation; leaves, moss, bracken and grasses. There are no visible memorials and the graveyard can only be found using the O.S. maps.

The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey but the majority are thought to be Roman Catholic.

The worked limestone foundations of a church are barely visible below collapsed trees and mosses to the north of the site.

Carrigan (1905, 281) notes that the site is called the "*Chapel yard*".

Burial Ground ID: **L110**
Townland: **Shrule**
NGR (E,N): **271353 , 181497**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Shrule Castle**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA032-012005**



18th century memorials hidden below overgrowth, facing east



General view of site, facing south

The site is located to the rear of a house, yard and sheds. The site is bounded immediately by grass/pasture land; Grange Castle is located to its south. There are ploughed fields to the north, but there is no local history of skeletal remains appearing during ploughing. The land slopes to the east towards the Barrow Rive. The site is accessed by a long driveway to the house, a walk through a concrete yard and across a pasture field. There is a stile in the north-western wall. This was also used as a coffin rest and is similar to those at Leigh and Old Sleaty.

There is no directional or informative signage. However, the castle often attracts visitors.

The graveyard contains a huge amount of tree cover especially that of laurel. Much of the vegetation in the northern end has been burnt.

The boundaries are formed by a stone wall. This wall is collapsing in the south due to tree growth and a slope in the ground. There is a lot of rubble along the western wall, which is covered in ivy.

There are five visible memorials; four 18th century recumbent headstones are very well-preserved due to tree cover. One railed burial plot is located in the middle of the site; this has been covered in metal rubbish. It is not clear as to what religion the interments belong to.

The site was owned by the Harpoles, who resided in Grange Castle.

There are no visible remains of the 17th church which is recorded as standing on the site. However, an unusual feature in the south-western corner may be associated with the structural remains. Here there is a curving

wall, which runs to the eastern wall and along with the southern boundary wall forms a narrow corridor. This can be accessed by a stile in the south-eastern corner.

Burial Ground ID: **L111**
Townland: **Sleaty**
NGR (E,N): **271314 , 179066**
National Monument No: **116**

Name: **Sleaty, Old**
Dedication: **St. Fiacc**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA032-018002**



View of church ruins, granite cross and recumbent headstone, facing northwest



General view of various memorial types, facing west

The site is located in a rural landscape. There are fields to the north, east and south; they are both arable and pastoral. An east-west stream runs to the south, while the road and a farmhouse are situated to the west; another small farm is located to the northwest.

The site is accessed by a trackway which runs through a field from a gate in the east side of the road. There is a gate and stile in the western boundary wall which lead into the boundary wall. This stile also acted as a coffin rest and is similar to those at Leigh and Shrule. There is no parking at this site.

There is a Duchas sign on the southern wall of the church ruins informing that it is a National Monument (No. 116). This panel outlines the background to the medieval site set up by St. Fiacc in the 5th century.

The site is surrounded by a stone wall and is oval in shape. The walls are in good condition. However, the southern side is overgrown with moss, ivy and trees. The grass is kept short and the vegetation is generally well-maintained. There are large trees around the site. The graveyard is uneven and noticeable higher in the northern side.

This was the site of a Christian foundation, associated with St. Fiacce and St. Aodh. The ruins of a medieval church are situated within the middle of the site; graves are positioned on all sides of this. There was reportedly an earlier church on the site. There are two medieval granite crosses within the southern segment of the site and a medieval font within the church ruins, which may have been associated with the first church on the site. The site was also the residence of the Bishop of Leinster.

The site contains round and flat-headed headstones, metal and stone crosses, Celtic crosses, railed and kerbed burials and table-tombs. There are also simple stone markers stones and the bases of headstones across the site. Many of the headstones are recumbent and covered in ivy and lichens. There are burials within the ruins of the church. The earliest legible date is 1796.

Recent burials are Roman Catholic, but there is no indication that any burials are Church of Ireland.

There was a holy well situated to the northwest of the site. Local tradition reports that a souterrain ran between Sleaty and Clopoke fort.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L112 | Name: | Srahanboy, The Burying Bush |
| Townland: | Srahanboy | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 224510 , 197110 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA010-002002 |



Earthen embankments of the earlier ecclesiastical enclosure survive well at this upland children's burial ground known as "The Burying Bush" which lies adjacent to a mountain stream, looking northwest towards Slieve Bloom

The burial ground is located on a remote terrace adjacent to a mountain stream. It lies in an upland location in the foothills of the Slieve Bloom mountain range. It is marked on the first edition OS map as "Grave Yard" with "Burying Bush" also denoted in the burial ground. This is also denoted on the 2nd edition which noted the burial ground as "Burial Gd (Disused)".

Access is upstream from the farm track and across country, keeping to the west of the stream. Several post-and-wire fences must be crossed.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

There are many very dense thickets of nettles, bramble and bracken around a number of large and old Hawthorn trees, where many of the grave markers are located. Holly also grows in some patches but in general the vegetation in the enclosure is tufted grass grows which is grazed by cattle.

A possible wide track-way appears to be cut into the scarp in the southeast corner of the burial ground giving access to the stream. The extant remains of the original enclosure comprises a curvilinear earthen

embankment with accompanying ditch which runs northeast from the southwest corner of the burial ground and turns to the east before gradually becoming too denuded to detect towards the eastern extents (a shallow dip appears to be all that remains further east). The current southern linear field boundary, constructed of post-and-wire on a slight ridge, may have joined the earthworks in the southwest corner and represent the original southern extent of the burial ground.

The burial ground is not enclosed from livestock on the northern or eastern sides. An additional post-and-wire fence circuits a raised area in the southwest corner. The east-west-orientated raised area in the southwest corner might represent the location of the ruins of a small church. It measures approximately 15m east-west by 10m north-south and is approximately 1m above the surrounding burial ground.

There are many simple stone grave markers, often found in north-south rows (with the graves traditionally facing east). Many of the stones are set on edge, with the highest standing approximately 30cm above present ground level.

There is a tradition of Roman Catholic worship in the immediate vicinity at a Mass Pit during the suppression of Catholicism in the 17th-18th centuries.

The burial ground has been traditionally used for the burial of unbaptized children. A Bullaun stone has traditionally been located in a tree in a nearby Mass Pit (not located in the present survey). The Record of Monuments and Places has the location of the ecclesiastical enclosure to the south of the burial ground. This area is a flat-topped low hill adjacent to the burial ground.

Burial Ground ID: **L113**
Townland: **Straboe**
NGR (E,N): **249498 , 202545**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Shaen, Straboe**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA013-005002**



Damaged tomb within church ruins (note piece of timber), looking northeast



Northern boundary wall of burial ground, looking south towards church ruins

The site is located in flat countryside surrounded by pasture and crop fields, just south of a junction of two local roads. It is marked on the 1st and 2nd edition OS maps as "Straboe Church (in ruins)" in gothic script and "Grave Yard".

Access to the site is directly off the roadside through a wrought iron gate in the high stone boundary wall. There are no paths within the graveyard.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The site is covered in high grass, the inside of the church has been cleared of vegetation and covered in plastic and gravel.

The extents of the burial ground on the 2nd edition take in an additional triangular plot of land to the north of the original square-shaped site. The boundary is indicated on the 1st edition map as tree-lined and as a wall on the 2nd edition. The site appears to have been truncated by the construction of the local road to the east of the church. The current boundary comprises a stone wall (over 2m high in places) along the western boundary with the local road; the other boundaries comprise post and wire fencing. A crop mark indicating the location of the previously mapped boundary wall can be ascertained in the south-western portion of the site.

The graveyard contains the ruins of a medieval church with both gables and walls remaining. The church consists of a chancel and nave with a Romanesque doorway in the dividing wall and two, gated doorways in the northern wall. An ogee-headed window opening survives in the eastern gable. The structure has been significantly restored in recent years.

The burials are located on the south side of the church and consist of upstanding and recumbent burial markers, all of limestone. The dates of headstones are from the 18th and 19th centuries. The remains of the church contain two wall-mounted memorials dating to the 19th century and an upstanding tomb which has been significantly damaged. The upper portion of a barrel-vaulted burial vault can be seen exposed in the floor of the eastern part of the church.

The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be mixed.

A gate pillar apparently stood in the field across the road into the mid-twentieth century. It is believed locally that the road construction truncated the site considerably.

Burial Ground ID: **L114**
Townland: **Tankardstown**
NGR (E,N): **270371 , 187839**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Tankardstown**
Dedication: **Possibly St. Thomas?**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA026-009003**



Overview of the overgrown church and burial ground from an adjacent mound of earth, looking north



Modern maintained kerbed burial plots next to a row of simple stone markers. Pesticide is sprayed widely to create access through the overgrowth, looking NE

The burial ground is located in pasture within the grounds of a farm/stud and lies above the western bank of the River Barrow. The adjacent site of a castle guarded the location of a ford across the river at this point. The burial ground is marked on both the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey as "Tankardstown Church (in ruins)" and "Graveyard".

Access is via the private gated access road which runs to the private residence and stud. Beyond, a farm track must be walked and thence across a field to the gated and stiled enclosure.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

The church is completely overgrown with ivy, elder and other shrubs and is inaccessible. Some young trees grow around the burial ground. Much of the north, west and south sides are also inaccessible due to overgrowth. Many of the memorials are covered in ivy or otherwise overgrown by shrubs, with many hidden in thickets.

Pesticide has been used extensively around memorials and to create paths through the vegetation.

A stone walled enclosure is generally well-preserved and possibly revets an earlier earthen embankment around the burial ground which is raised approximately 1m above the surrounding land. The northwest corner of the stone enclosure has collapsed and is in a general state of disrepair on the northern side. This has been remedied by post-and-wire fencing.

The medieval east-west-orientated church is well-preserved but is completely overgrown with ivy and shrubs and cannot be sufficiently appraised.

St. Thomas's well is located a short distance to the northeast of the burial ground.

There are a number of inscribed headstones with some Celtic crosses and some kerbs. Most of the memorials are located on the south and east side of the burial ground. A large railed plot survives on the western side.

The earliest identified inscription is located on the eastern side of the church. This is on a headstone in memorial of Sam E Cooper who died in 1674. There are a number of headstones in a similar style in this area dating to the late 17th century.

There are also a number of simple stone markers, some of which are in rows and frequently show re-use of architectural fragments.

In the northeast corner there is a very large square family plot (approximately 6m in length), with concrete kerbing, which is of recent date. A slightly smaller similar family plot to the west of this is of a similarly recent date.

Given the age and depth of the burial ground, unmarked graves undoubtedly occupy the areas devoid of memorials.

Local tradition suggests that the large railed plot in the western side of the burial ground was reserved for members of the Church of Ireland. It is likely that there are additional Church of Ireland members outside of this however in an apparently mixed denomination burial ground.

Local tradition maintains that the church was burnt by Cromwellian forces. In the Penal Times the burial ground was used for open-air masses by the local Roman Catholic population.

A tunnel supposedly runs beneath the southern side of the church. This tradition may preserve memory of a souterrain which, if it exists, may suggest early medieval settlement (possibly ecclesiastical) at the site.

Burial Ground ID: **L115**
Townland: **Timahoe**
NGR (E,N): **253600 , 190230**
National Monument No: **114**

Name: **Timahoe**
Dedication: **(Associated with St. Mochua)**
RPS No: **RPS 353**
RMP No: **LA018-031003**



The carved Romanesque doorway of the early medieval Round Tower, looking northwest



Sculpture of St. Mochua's three companions (rooster, mouse and fly), looking northwest

The burial ground is located in the village of Timahoe. It is marked on 1841 OS map marked as "Timahoe Abbey (in ruins)" and "Timahoe Round Tower" and on 1908 OS map as "Church", "Grave Yard", "Round Tower" and "Castle (in ruins) on site of Abbey".

Access is over a footbridge over the Timahoe River on the eastern side of the site. Alternative access is at northern side close to the library (formerly the Church of Ireland church) through the gate and stile from road.

An information plaque is located in the village and also located at the eastern end of the burial ground.

The site is surrounded by a number of large mature trees. On the west side however, many of these large trees have been recently cut down to stumps. Most of the site is well mowed but the peripheral areas, especially to the south which includes some memorials, have been allowed to grow wild and one area used to dispose of grass trimmings and other vegetation waste. It is not clear if this is neglected or allowed to explore the potential for biodiversity at the site.

The burial ground is enclosed by stone walls along north, south and west sides with post and wire along the east side.

The 11th-12th century round tower appears to be the later remains of the early monastery foundation. A 15th century church was later transformed into a tower house of which only a large arch survives today. A Church of Ireland church, which now functions as a local library, is located in the north quadrant of site.

The burial ground contains 19th to 21st century headstones; in quite mixed condition, some good and maintained others quite neglected.

The denominational history of the persons interred here is not clear, but there is likely to be mixed denominations present.

The burial ground is the location of an early monastic foundation of St. Mochua in the 7th century.

Burial Ground ID: **L116**
Townland: **Timogue**
NGR (E,N): **255526 , 193687**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Mogue's, Timogue**
Dedication: **St. Mogue**
RPS No: **RPS 378**
RMP No: **LA019-007003**



Overview of the burial ground, looking northwest



View of the medieval carved font with its unusual side drain

The burial ground is located on the northern side of the road and east of the nearby bridge over the Timahoe River. The ruins of a castle and later industrial works are located southwest of the road. The burial ground is marked on the 1st and 2nd editions of the Ordnance Survey mapping as “Church” and “Graveyard”.

The enclosure is gated in the west and southeast with a concrete path sloped up to the western gable and entrance to the church. There is parking for a small number of cars on the western side of the burial ground.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage. A small notice board is present on the church.

A small amount of ivy caps the boundary wall in places. Some large pine trees that were reportedly in the southeast corner of the burial ground were cut to stumps as they were seen as a threat to the church.

The stone enclosure walls are well maintained and survive to a height of around 1.8m with the burial ground within at a higher level than the surrounding land by approximately 1m.

Records show that there is a list of rectors going back to 1612 with the church being closed in 1730 until such time as it could be made safe and restored. The present east-west orientated church has “1736” on the weather vane (a replacement was made in the 1960s) which it is believed reflects the date of the restoration

of an older foundation. The site has been traditionally associated with an ancient church founded by St. Maidoc (Mogue). There are no identifiable traces of an earlier church.

A medieval font which is kept within the present church is suggested to have the face of Christ with the Crown of Thorns motif. The font suggests a long tradition of worship on the site. A list of rectors dating from at least 1612 exists, and in 1730 the then existing Church of Ireland church was deemed unsafe for entry. The 1736 date of the construction of the church possibly relates to restoration (or rebuilding?) of the church which may have existed for several centuries prior to that date. The present east-west-orientated church was extended in 1870 and renovated 1970, and was marked on the 1841 OS map as 'Church and Grave Yard'.

A number of inscribed headstones are present, the earliest of which was seen to be dedicated to Edmond Rouen in 1746. Celtic crosses, table-tombs and kerbs are all present. A long stone plinth on the northern side of the church has some architectural fragments within its makeup and is covered by 3 slabs.

Several recumbent inscribed headstones are placed alongside each other on the southern side of the church.

There are many green areas with no memorials within the burial ground, most notably on the southern side.

The southern side of the burial ground has traditionally been reserved for Roman Catholic burials and the northern side for Church of Ireland burials.

A low monument comprising coffin-shaped pedestals reserves the grave for the unrecovered remains of a soldier fighting in Africa, possibly the Boer War.

An interesting feature in the church is a small panel of glass in one of the traceried southern windows. Etched on the plain glass reads:

"This church
painted by W. Dobbin
May 1915 sinking of the Lusitania by the
Germans
Will the allies beat them or will it
be a draw He who reads
this in years to come
will know"

Burial Ground ID: **L117**
Townland: **Tinneel**
NGR (E,N): **240050 , 209390**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Society of Friends, Rosenallis**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **RPS 350; RPS 536**
RMP No: **LA003-017**



Arched entrance at the Society of Friends burial ground, looking west



Overview of the burial ground with its undifferentiated headstones, looking west

The burial ground is located on the Mountmellick Road approximately 250m southeast of the village of Rosenallis. It is marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey mapping as "Quaker's Burial Gd." and on the 2nd edition as "Friends' Burial Ground".

Access is via the roadside gate, beyond which is a gravel footpath which leads to the arched gateway of the enclosed burial ground. There are further gravel paths within the burial ground. There is a very limited space for parking (1-2 cars maximum).

There is a sign adjacent to the arched gateway which details the name of the burial ground and the cost of burial. A stone plaque on the roadside gate reads "Society of Friends Burial Ground - Rosenallis".

The burial ground has a large number of young and mature trees including yew, birch and cedar. There is a good mixture of wild and ornamental species including dog rose, garden rose ivy and other shrubs that are regularly maintained. The southern periphery of the burial ground has been allowed to grow a little wilder, but this does not detract from the whole and possibly serves to increase the biodiversity of the area.

The burial ground is enclosed by a stone-walled (nearly) square enclosure which survives to approximately 2.5m in height. The arched gateway of the enclosure is also a protected structure.

All of the burials face to the south. There are two general styles of memorials within the burial ground, both of which are headstones. The earlier headstones (generally dating from the early 18th to the early 19th century) tend to be shorter, squatter and squarer headstones. Later headstones have slightly taller forms with more rounded shoulders.

A mural tablet on the south-western wall is in memorial of William Edmundson, the first member of the Society of Friends who settled in the area, who was buried near that spot in 1712.

There are green spaces in the burial ground and it is unclear whether they contain unmarked graves.

The burial ground has been traditionally used for members of the Society of Friends (Quakers). There have been people of other denominations buried here however and it is not considered exclusive. Some association with the Society of Friends has, however, been usual.

Quaker tradition holds that all people are equal in the eyes of God and so all memorials are of the same simple design, representing all people equally. Earlier memorials are thought to have been simple stone markers (unclear whether these were dressed stones), whereas prior to the early 19th century it was traditional to not use any grave markers.

Burial Ground ID: **L118**
Townland: **Tirhogar**
NGR (E,N): **255960 , 210280**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Tirhogar**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA005-011001**



Entrance gate and stile in southern boundary, looking northeast



Sundial/headstone with sunburst design, looking east northeast

The graveyard is in a rural area surrounded by gently undulating pasture, southeast of Portarlinton and west of Killenard, immediately north of a local road. The 1st and 2nd edition OS maps identify the site as "Church (in ruins)" in gothic script and "Grave Yard". A complex of farm sheds is located immediately to the south, across the road.

Access is provided via a wrought iron gate and stone stile in the southern boundary wall. There are no paths visible through the site. A second stone stile is located in the north-western corner of the site.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The burial ground is covered with rough grass which was recently strimmed on the day of inspection. The church ruins are very heavily overgrown with ivy. Mature yew and other evergreens are located to the east and west of the church.

The site is rectangular in shape. The boundary comprises a low stone wall, planted with blackthorn and mature deciduous trees to the west and east.

The graveyard contains the ruins of a heavily overgrown single cell church located in the northern portion of the site, on elevated ground. The church is built of roughly coursed limestone block and rubble; approx. 19m east-west by 7m north-south. There are large breaks in both western and eastern gables.

The graveyard contains 18th to 20th century headstones; Celtic style, metal and regular upright; most in good condition, a few leaning or badly worn. Architectural fragments are scattered throughout the burial ground

and are likely used as simple markers. One headstone of note is located just south of the south-western corner of the church and is decorated with a 'starburst' motif facing west. All other inscribed headstones face east.

The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be mixed.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L119 | Name: | Tubberboe |
| Townland: | Toberboe or Killenny More | Dedication: | St. Finneach/Finche/Fainche |
| NGR (E,N): | 237950 , 175010 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA035-031002 |



General view of the site with the church ruins on the left, facing northeast



Decorative headstones, facing southwest

The site is located in the south-western corner of a large field in a rural landscape, surrounded on all sides by ploughed and pastoral fields. There are farms in this area, but they are located at a distance from the site and each other. The field boundaries in this area are predominantly lined with hedgerow. A river runs to the west of the site; this appears to have been diverted in the past; its present path seems quite angular.

The site is accessed by a gate in the eastern side of the field and through the metal gate or a stile in the south-western corner.

There is no directional or informative signage. A recent engraving on cement in the southern window shows that the once overgrown site was cleaned and reopened by in 2000.

The graveyard and church were cleared of vegetation in the 1990. Presently the grass is kept short and the walls are maintained. There is a small flower bed in the middle of the site which was placed over the surface rubble cleared from the graveyard.

The site is bordered by stone walls which are probably 19th century in date. They are fairly free of ivy and in generally good condition. The site seems to rise towards the middle and the church ruins; it is also higher than the ground around it. This is especially noticeable in the northern and eastern sides. It is believed locally that burials extend beyond the walls.

The site contains the ruins of a medieval church which retains evidence for a 13th century window and jambstones. There is ivy growth on the walls. Trees have been planted around its perimeters.

The site contains a mix of round-headed headstones, metal crosses, Celtic crosses and subsiding box-tombs. There are also simple stone markers. The majority of burials are thought to be Roman Catholic, but 18th century box-tombs situated within the ruins of the church are said to belong to Church of Ireland families, of which there are seven within the site. The earliest legible date is 1733 and the last burial was in 1942. The memorials are in generally good condition. Local people believe that unbaptized children were buried here close to the gate. The site was replaced by Holy Trinity, Durrow in the 1840's, although later burials took place in family plots.

The site was a medieval Christian foundation, associated with St. Finneach/Finche/Fainche. It was dedicated to St. Brendan. By the sixteenth century the church and parish of Killiny belonged to the Augustinian Canons of the Priory of Inistioge, Co. Kilkenny. However, the local inhabitants believe that the site is associated with St. Anne.

The site is also associated with the ruins of a medieval gateway, located just to the southwest of the site, and an ecclesiastical enclosure to the south of the walls. A blackthorn tree standing in the west has worked stones at its base. Local traditions include the suggestion that a tunnel runs from the graveyard to a house in the south.

Burial Ground ID: **L120**
Townland: **Townparks**
NGR (E,N): **245162 , 207452**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St Paul's, Mountmellick**
Dedication: **St. Paul**
RPS No: **RPS 038**
RMP No: **LA008-032002**



View of graveyard from south-western corner, looking southeast



St Paul's church and graveyard, looking south

The site is located in an urban area just south of Church Square in the town of Mountmellick. It is marked on the 1st edition OS map as "Church" and on the 2nd edition as "Church" and "Grave Yd".

Access is provided from the roadside footpath by means of 5 curving stone steps up to a wrought iron gate in the northern boundary. Gravel paths provide access within the graveyard.

A blue Laois Heritage Trail plaque is attached to the railings alongside the access gate. An information panel is also located inside the gate giving information regarding times of service and contact details.

The site is planted with lawn grass and ornamental shrubs.

The site has expanded slightly to the southeast by the inclusion of a small, additional plot of land. The boundary to the north comprises a plastered wall, c. 1m high topped with railings. The boundary wall in the south-eastern extension is built with modern cavity blocks. The remaining boundaries are of stone and are up to 2m high in places.

The graveyard contains a Church of Ireland church dedicated to St. Paul, dated c. 1820, renovated c. 1860. This was possibly built on the site of an earlier 17th century church (the heritage trail plaque identifies this as the chapel of ease which dated to 1665). There is no visible trace of this church.

Grave markers date from 18th to 21st century and comprise table tombs, upstanding tombs, recumbent slabs, simple and ornate headstones, kerbed monuments, obelisks and pedestals. Six slabs have been laid into the path that runs along the northern wall of the church. There is a concentration of obelisks and other Masonic monuments to the southeast of the church. There are table- and box-tombs to the west, recumbent slabs to the north and east and modern headstones to the southeast.

The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Church of Ireland

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L121 | Name: | Kylemahoe, Vicarstown |
| Townland: | Vicarstown (Dodd) | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 261020 , 200800 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA014-022002 |



Overview of the burial ground and the remaining boundary, looking southwest



One of the simple stone slabs which were removed to Vicarstown House

The burial ground is located at the southern end of a large field in pasture in the townland of Vicarstown (Dodd). It is marked on both the first and second edition Ordnance Survey maps as the "(Site of) Kylemahoe Church". On the first edition only, a rectangular enclosure is denoted.

Access is via the field gate to the south of the burial ground and along the south of the field boundary before returning along the boundary on the northern side.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

The burial ground is in pasture. The southern field boundary contains a large number of mature trees.

The southern field boundary appears to have originally incorporated the southern boundary of the burial ground, but the area is not enclosed from the field which is in pasture. A slight curve in the field boundary is all that marks the location.

There are no surviving structures at the location above ground level and no surface expressions.

There are no memorials at the location but the landowner is in possession of a number of plain but simply shaped limestone slabs which are said to have formerly been grave markers.

There appears to have been a Roman Catholic mass-house here in penal times.

P J Tynan records that the church at Kylemahoe was constructed after the church at Moyanna was reserved for Protestant worship. The Roman Catholic Church at Vicarstown is said to be a replacement for the church at Kylemahoe subsequent to Catholic Emancipation (www.irishmidlandsancestry.com).

Burial Ground ID: **L122**
 Townland: **Rathmoyle**
 NGR (E,N): **244054 , 185044**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix**
 Dedication: **The Most Holy Rosary**
 RPS No: **RPS 089**
 RMP No: **N/A**



More recent memorials in the Council-owned cemetery have become very large, looking northwest



The area with the oldest known burials has few surviving markers, looking south

The burial ground lies in the town of Abbeyleix and surrounds the modern Roman Catholic Church of the Most Holy Rosary.

Access is via the western road to the church, with a tarmac driveway around the church itself, or by the pedestrian entrance to the south, via a lane leading to the Carlow Road.

There is ample parking adjacent to the burial ground on the western side.

There is directional signage from the main road.

The grass is mowed in the south-western area. There are many hedges and trees which divide the large area and give the impression of seclusion.

Mature trees surround the entire burial ground, some of which are yew.

The burial ground extends anti-clockwise around the church from the south-western side to the northeast. On the southern side is a large plot dedicated to the burial of priests. The majority of visible graves are located on the eastern side of the church.

East of this area lies an extension to the burial ground which is known as the County Council cemetery. This is a newer burial ground that is not marked on the 1st edition OS map but is marked on the second edition.

Northeast of the church lies a burial ground for the Brigidine Sisters that appears to have once been fully enclosed, but the southern wall has been reduced to a step, joining the two burial grounds. The church was built in 1893-95, and was joined to an earlier Brigidine convent. An earlier catholic church is also marked on the 1841 1st edition OS map.

In general the memorials, comprising headstones, slabs, kerbed plots, some crosses and Celtic crosses, are upright and in good condition, but a handful are leaning and some older headstones are sunken.

In the southwest corner there are a number of memorials (Celtic crosses and headstones) dating from the 1840's. Much of this area, however, has no grave markers, though a small number of headstones lie against the southern boundary wall in this area.

The burials east of the church all face to the east and mostly date to the late 19th and 20th centuries and burials still take place here within family plots.

The burials in the County Council Cemetery also face to the east and date from the 1940's and are enclosed by a high stone wall with a drop in level of 2-3m from the original Roman Catholic Church burial ground. The memorials are mostly headstones and kerbed monuments though some of these are very large and ornate, especially so in the southeast corner.

The memorials in the convent burial ground in the northeast are ordered, uniform, high and simple pedestals giving both the name of the deceased and her Brigidine name. The inscriptions face to the north.

The church is Roman Catholic with predominantly Roman Catholic Burials (the attached local authority burial ground is mixed denominations).

Burial Ground ID: **L123**
 Townland: **Tullyroe**
 NGR (E,N): **243406 , 184592**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Michael & All Angels, Abbeyleix**
 Dedication: **St. Michael & All Angels**
 RPS No: **RPS 088**
 RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of the burial ground and Church of Michael & All Angels, looking north



Large kerbed headstones on the western side of the burial ground, looking northwest

The burial ground lies in the town of Abbeyleix and surrounds the 19th century church.

Access is via a gravel driveway off the Rathdowney Road in Abbeyleix. There is a double open gate in the south wall and a gravel path around the church.

There is a small amount of parking on the edge of the gravel driveway.

There is a church information board within the gates describing the church.

A number of large mature trees are located around the edges of the burial ground on all sides, with some smaller examples, including a few yew trees amongst the memorials.

The burial ground extends around the church on the all sides with the largest number of burials on the south side. It is enclosed by stone walls on the south and east sides with boundary hedges on the north and west sides.

The burial ground surrounds the Church of Michael and All Angels' (Church of Ireland) by Thomas Wyatt which was constructed c. 1865 and incorporated the tower and steeple of an earlier church built by John Semple c. 1831. The former "Old Church" in Oldtown had become too small for the population at this time. The church is still in use today.

Most of the memorials are upright 19th - 21st century headstones with the earliest dating to the 1830's and burial still taking place here. Some of the memorials are leaning but are mostly in good condition. A number of table tombs are present with some leaning and some damaged. Many memorials are kerbed with rails/chains.

There are burials of mixed denominations in the burial ground.

Burial Ground ID: **L124**
Townland: **Aghaboe**
NGR (E,N): **232738 , 185776**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Aghaboe Abbey**
Dedication: **St. Canice**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA 022-019**



Abbey Church and Phelan's Chapel, looking northwest Two memorials in Phelan's Chapel, looking south

The burial ground is located in the medieval abbey of Aghaboe. It is marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey mapping as "R.C. Chapel (in ruins)" and on the second edition as "Aghaboe Abbey (In ruins)".

Access is via the main road and designated car-park.

There is a large limestone plaque with a historic timeline of events at Aghaboe. There is directional signage from the main road.

The interior of the churches are surfaced with gravel. The lawn on the southern side of the church is well mown and there is a single young tree. The field to the north is in pasture (cattle). The burials are located within the St. Phelan's chapel, attached to the Abbey Church, and these two buildings form the only boundaries to the burial ground. It is not known if there were other designated burial grounds in the area but the existing burial ground around the adjacent St. Canice's may have always been the burial ground for the abbey.

The ruins at Aghaboe have been much restored through the work of the Aghaboe Abbey Preservation Committee and the former A.N.C.O. The east-west orientated Abbey Church dates to 1382 when it was constructed for the Dominican Order. The southern wall and gable ends survive well but the northern wall which adjoined the Abbey itself survives to only a few courses in height. The north-south orientated Phelan's Chapel is reportedly contemporary and adjoins the southern wall. It is linked by two gothic arches and both gables survive intact.

There are extant medieval surface features preserving part of the medieval Abbey lands immediately north of the church which can be seen both at ground level and by satellite imagery. The most notable of these

features includes the preserved remnants of the medieval road that reputedly ran between Aghaboe and Monahinch. This can also be seen at Lismore (L093).

There are only two memorials, both being located within Phelan's Chapel. One is a 20th century headstone dedicated to the Phelan family of Four Roads, whilst the other is a 19th century slab that Carrigan notes as the only existing memorial (Vol.2, p45).The site has early monastic origins and later held by the Dominican order. The Abbey was destroyed c.1540 with the dissolution of the monasteries.

The site has a long history which is recounted elsewhere (Carrigan, Vol. 2 p26-52). Of especial note are its early monastic origins being founded in the 6th century by St. Canice.

Burial Ground ID: **L125**
Townland: **Park**
NGR (E,N): **237395 , 181332**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Ballacolla**
Dedication: **The Immaculate Conception**
RPS No: **RPS 495**
RMP No: **N/A**



View of the site and bell-tower, facing northwest



General view of memorials, facing west

The site is located in the south-eastern edge of the village of Ballacolla. There are houses and a road situated to its south and houses to its west and northwest; fields are located immediately to its north and east. Pastoral and arable fields lie beyond the village. The site is accessed on its southern sides through gates leading from the pathway and roadside. There is no car-parking here, although there is space in the village.

There is no directional or informative signage.

The site is well-maintained and the grass is kept short. There is a minimal amount of ivy growth on the northern wall. The rectangular site is enclosed by a stone wall which is in good repair. The southern wall is covered in concrete, while elsewhere the original stone are visible. The graveyard appears to be situated at a higher level than along the path and road in the south; elsewhere the local environs are at the same level as the graveyard. It is relatively flat.

The Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception is situated in the middle of the site. This was constructed in 1822 and replaced Clogh for the people of this area. A bell-tower stands to the west of the church.

There are round and flat-headed headstones, Celtic crosses, kerbed burials and metal crosses. There are also a few unmarked simple stone markers. The memorials are predominantly upstanding, with a few beginning to lean slightly. There is a small amount of lichen growth. The earliest visible inscription dates to 1851. There is an empty area in the southeast of the graveyard which may contain unmarked graves. The religious denominations of all people interred are thought to be Roman Catholic.

The graveyard is now closed and has been replaced by St. Fergal's. The church is still open.

Burial Ground ID: **L126**
Townland: **Shanahoe**
NGR (E,N): **238550 , 186571**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Shanahoe**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of the burial ground, looking southwest

This burial ground in Shanahoe dates to the 20th century.

Burial Ground ID: **L127**

Townland: **Shanganagh More**

NGR (E,N): **267718 , 189594**

National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Mary's, Barrowhouse**

Dedication: **St. Mary**

RPS No: **N/A**

RMP No: **N/A**



Table-tombs along the southern edge of the old burial ground, looking southwest



Memorial to I.R.A. volunteers James Lacey and William Connor who died in a failed ambush in 1921

The burial ground is located in Shanganagh More townland to the west of the road forming the townland boundary between Shanganagh More and Barrowhouse. It is located on the 1st and second edition Ordnance Survey mapping as "St. Mary's (only on second edition) R.C. Church" and "Graveyard".

Access is via either the gated enclosure around the church and older part of the burial ground or from the extension to the south - both of which have roadside entrances. There is a concrete path to the church and gravel paths around the burial ground. A stile over the boundary links the old and new sections of the burial ground.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

Several large beech trees are located on the northern, western and southern sides, with a few small trimmed yew bushes within the burial ground. A flower bed has been dug by the schoolhouse. The eastern boundary comprises a low concrete wall. The western and northern boundaries comprise hedgerow with post-and-wire fencing, whilst the southern boundary is a stone revetted earthen embankment.

St. Mary's church, which is still in use, occupies a central place in the older part of the burial ground.

The old schoolhouse, which was also marked on the 1st edition OS map, occupies the northeast corner of the burial ground.

Two stone features are currently being used at the eastern entrance to the church to hold flowers. The first of these is reportedly a trough, but the square, well-dressed, limestone object only measures approximately 40cm in width and about 15cm in depth and might have formerly been used as a font. The other object is a very rough possible Bullaun stone with a number of holes.

There are many pedestalled Celtic crosses and a large number of inscribed headstones in addition to a number of table-tombs and slabs with very few wrought iron crosses. The majority of the memorials are kerbed but there are also some unmarked graves. The earliest identified inscription dates to 1831, with the earlier memorials on the southern side and the latest on the north side (excluding very recent memorials in the modern extension to the south).

An interesting memorial is dedicated to two IRA volunteers, James Lacey and William Connor, who were killed in a failed ambush of RIC (Black and Tans) in Barrowhouse just a few weeks prior to a truce being signed in 1921.

The church is used for Roman Catholic worship and the older part of the burial ground has been traditionally used for Roman Catholic burial. The religious denomination of the extension, owned by the County Council, is not clear, but it is presumably open to all denominations.

Local tradition holds that the possible Bullaun Stone was dug up by a local man who dreamed three times that there was hidden treasure buried beneath the stone. It is not recounted whether he was successful in his venture, but the stone was retained.

The expatriated priest and poet Rev. J.J. Mallone, who lived most of his life in Australia, wrote two poems in remembrance of the church and schoolhouse in Shanganagh More. These were entitled "The Little Wayside Chapel in a Green Old Irish Lane" and "The Old Whitewashed Schoolhouse of Shanganamore".

Burial Ground ID: **L128**
Townland: **Chapelhill**
NGR (E,N): **233005 , 181848**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Clogh**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **RPS 089**
RMP No: **N/A**



Retention of wall of 18th century church, facing northwest



View of memorials, facing west

The site is located in the small village of Clogh. A road runs to the south, while there are buildings immediately to the east and west. Beyond this there are fields to the northwest and south. A community hall stands on the eastern side of the site.

The site is accessed by a gate in the north-western wall and a stile in the south. It is situated on the side of the road.

There are no directional or informative signs.

The subrectangular site is bordered by stone walls on all sides; the eastern wall has houses attached to it. There is minimal ivy and moss growth on the walls; there are some hedges outside the west border and pine trees outside the south. The grass is kept short. It appears that herbicide is used around some of the gravemarkers. The level of graveyard is fairly flat.

A former church stood on the site. It was in disrepair and was replaced by St. Lazerian's. A wall of the building is retained in the graveyard and memorials (mainly those of priests) are positioned within it. .

The memorials on the site consist of round and flat-headed headstones; Celtic crosses, box-tombs, railed, kerbed, metal crosses and a single metal graveslabs. There is lichen growth on some; others are recumbent, while the box-tombs are subsiding and cracking. The earliest partially legible date is 1832. The religious denominations of all people interred are thought to be Roman Catholic.

The metal graveslabs in the east of the site belongs to Richard Wilson Fitzpatrick, Esq., of Grantstown Manor; late of the Grenadier Guards, Deputy Lieutenant and Justice of the Peace. The grave is surrounded by a metal band inscribed in Old English script.

The site is associated with Bordwell cemetery, where rosary is recited after the annual mass in Clogh.

Burial Ground ID: **L129**
Townland: **Castletown**
NGR (E,N): **222387 , 189226**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **White Family Cemetery**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



Celtic cross standing upright in east of graveyard, facing southeast



General view of overgrowth in northern end of graveyard, facing north

This site is located in a rural area, which is predominantly level. It is surrounded on all sides by fields; pasture and tillage. It is incorporated within the south-eastern boundary of a long and narrow silage field. Boundaries in this area are formed by hedgerows.

The original route of access is through a field to the west, owned by the O' Donoghues. At the time of the visit, the site was accessed through a gate leading to Delaney's silage field at the southern end of which the graveyard is located. The site is located at the summit of a low mound which must be climbed; the stone walls must also be climbed.

There is no directional or informative signage.

The graveyard is overgrown with trees, bushes, long grasses, ivy and moss. The southern side is covered with rhododendron which is killing other vegetation in this part of the site, as well as pushing the stone boundary walls over. Badger-burrowing is also causing wall collapse.

There is a mixture of 19th and 20th century memorials on the site, consisting of table-tombs, headstones with associated kerbing, Celtic crosses and a mausoleum. The latter is completely overgrown and the inscription has disappeared, while the others have collapsed or are becoming completely overgrown. The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be mixed.

This was the private graveyard of the White Family, who lived in Charleville House, to the southwest. The site reportedly fell out of use was after the last direct descendant of the White Family drowned in a boating

accident in 1906 on an artificial private lake close by. The woman who accompanied him was also buried here; she may be the only non-family member in the graveyard. This lake was backfilled after the accident.

The site is recorded as the location of a castle and a bawn; it is located on a small hill, which was previously recorded as a motte. The remains of the castle/towerhouse are visible in the north-eastern quadrant of the site. There appears to be remnants of an unrecorded enclosure running from the southeast to the northeast, which is visible on aerial photographs. It corresponds with kinks in the boundaries in this area.

Local tradition states that there is buried treasure on the site and people have excavated in the hope of finding it.

Burial Ground ID: **L130**
Townland: **Glebe**
NGR (E,N): **229515 , 192102**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Anatrim, Coolrain**
Dedication: **St. Jude**
RPS No: **RPS 610**
RMP No: **N/A**



St. Jude's Church of Ireland church, looking east

The burial ground is located in a small southern branch of the townland of Glebe and adjacent to the small townland of Anatrim. The modern "Anatrim/Coolrain Local" burial ground which is owned by Laois County Council is immediately adjacent on the eastern side.

Access is via the gated enclosure from the local road. There is no designated parking. There is a gravel path which circuits the church.

There are no signs or information panels at the site but there is directional signage to "St. Jude's Church" from the road junction at Coolrain.

There is no vegetation at the burial ground in addition to the well-maintained grass.

The burial ground is enclosed on all four sides by stone walls. A high-walled laneway to the north separates St. Jude's burial ground from St. Kavan's burial ground.

The present east-west-orientated Church of Ireland church dates from c.1835.

Memorials generally comprise inscribed limestone and granite headstones and plain crosses with some kerbs. These date from the late 19th century with the majority being 20th century. The burial ground is still in use for burial. There are many green areas, especially in the northern section. It is likely that there are some unmarked burials here.

The burial ground is owned by the Representative Church Body and is reserved for the Church of Ireland.

Burial Ground ID: **L131**
Townland: **Knocknakearn**
NGR (E,N): **239746 , 200765**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Fintan's, Ballyfin**
Dedication: **St. Fintan**
RPS No: **RPS 367**
RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of Celtic crosses in the burial ground, looking west



Iron Bell-tower in the south-western corner of the burial ground, looking west

The burial ground is located in the village of Ballyfin. The burial ground is marked on the first edition OS map as 'R.C. Church' and 'Grave Yard'.

A gate with a wide railed concrete path leads down to the church. Suitable for wheelchairs though there are no paths around the burial ground. There is limited parking outside the burial ground.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

A number of small trees are located around the peripheries of the burial ground and a several shrubs grow within. The burial ground is enclosed on all four sides. The northwest, southwest and northeast sides have stone walls, whilst the southeast side has a timber fence.

The burial ground contains a northeast-southwest-orientated church dedicated to St. Fintan (a gable-fronted barn-style church built c. 1823, renovated and extended c. 1975).

There is a wrought iron bell-tower complete with bell which is similar to others found in the county.

Memorials generally comprise inscribed headstones and Celtic crosses with kerbs. These are mostly limestone but some recent granite headstones have also been erected. Some plain crosses and wrought iron crosses are also present. Some slab memorials appear to be collapsed box- or table-tombs.

The church is Roman Catholic and it is thought that all burials within the burial ground are of members of the Roman Catholic Church.

Human remains were reportedly encountered during the construction of the sacristy in 1975.

Comerford (1886, Vol. 3) notes that the current chapel is the third that has stood on this site.

Burial Ground ID: **L132**

Name: **Bealady**

Townland: **Johnstown Glebe**

Dedication: **None**

NGR (E,N): **226244 , 178911**

RPS No: **N/A**

National Monument No: **N/A**

RMP No: **N/A**



General view of the site, facing southeast

This site is located west of Rathdowney town. It is a 20th century graveyard, constructed to replace Rathdowney Local. The religious denominations of people interred is mixed.

Burial Ground ID: **L133**

Name: **Castlefleming**

Townland: **Castlefleming (Giles)**

Dedication: **None**

NGR (E,N): **220661 , 180455**

RPS No: **N/A**

National Monument No: **N/A**

RMP No: **N/A**



General view of graveyard and church, facing northeast



Gravestone for church builder and first burial in the graveyard (1916), facing west

This site is located north of Errill. The church was constructed in the late 19th century on the site of a schoolhouse and the first burial was in 1916. The religious denomination of people interred is Church of Ireland.

Burial Ground ID: **L134**
Townland: **Ballyadding**
NGR (E,N): **258498 , 206532**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Rathdaire, Ballybrittas**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **RPS 390**
RMP No: **N/A**



The few burials date to the 20th century, looking east



Revival Romanesque church, looking north

The burial ground is located to the rear of Rathdaire church in Ballyadding townland. It lies about half-a-mile southeast of Ballybrittas and opposite the Gate Lodge to the Rathdaire Demesne. It does not appear on the 1st edition but appears on the second edition Ordnance Survey mapping.

Access is via the gated enclosure at the roadside. There are gravel paths around the church and to the burial ground. There is limited parking at the roadside.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

The majority of the burial ground has been allowed to go to seed prior to being cut for hay. The area of burials is regularly mown.

The northern, western and eastern boundaries of the burial ground are thick hedgerows. The southern boundary of the burial ground is formed by a stand of tall deciduous and coniferous trees.

The beautiful church at Rathdaire dates from the late 19th century and was founded by Lady Adaire.

The burial ground dates from the 20th century and includes a small number of headstones and a small Celtic cross, some of which are kerbed. Some mounded burials are yet to receive more permanent memorials. Approximately 90% of the burial ground has yet to be used for interments.

The burial ground has been used for interment of Church of Ireland parishioners, although in recent years some non-locals have also elected to be buried here.

Burial Ground ID: **L135**
Townland: **Elderfield**
NGR (E,N): **234059 , 191892**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Edmund's, Castletown**
Dedication: **St. Edmund**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of the 19th century burial ground with relocated memorials subsequent to replacement of the church in the 1990s, looking south

The burial ground is located on the south side of the village green in Castletown. It is marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map as “R.C. Chapel” and on the 2nd edition as “St. Edmund’s R.C. Church” and “Grave Yard”.

Access is directly from the road on the village green. Gravel and concrete paths circuit the church.

A bronze plaque inside the church entrance shows a diagrammatic representation of the old church, its later extensions and its replacement by the new church.

A number of young birch trees have been planted around the burial ground. There are some garden features including a rose bed and ornamental bushes on the western side of the burial ground. A privet hedge grows along the western boundary and several small lawns are regularly mown.

The burial ground is surrounded by stone walls on three sides, with the northern wall comprising a low concrete wall with iron railings and a wide entrance.

A low secondary wall on the east and south sides, which revetts a raised border.

The earlier church was originally a single aisled church which developed into a structure which was cruciform shaped in plan. The earliest aisle was the southernmost, dating to 1784. The second (western) arm of the cross was built in 1810 followed in 1836 by the northern arm. The eastern arm was then built in 1882. The new

church was built in 1993 and is located on the site of the old church which evidently was torn down to be replaced.

The north-eastern quadrant of the burial ground contains burials dating from 1900. These include five recumbent slabs in memorial of priests, three Celtic crosses and a single coffin monument.

The plaque in the interior of the church also describes the location of four priests buried within the church from 1851-1880.

There are three slabs located over the raised border in the southeast corner of the burial ground. It is unclear if there are burials within this border or if these have been relocated from disturbed burials.

The burial ground has been utilised for the interment of Roman Catholic priests. Its earlier use is not well understood as the nearby burial ground at Churchtown may have been the traditional place of burial for the local population.

Burial Ground ID: **L136**
Townland: **Elderfield**
NGR (E,N): **233992 , 191821**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **De La Salle, Castletown**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **RPS 332**
RMP No: **N/A**



Simple wrought iron crosses at the De La Salle monastery burial ground, looking north

The burial ground is located to the rear of the monastery buildings adjacent to St. Edmunds Roman Catholic Church in Castletown. It is not marked on the 1st edition but is marked on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey mapping.

Access is via the grounds of the monastery. There is parking within the grounds.

There are no additional information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

There are a large number of ornamental bushes along the peripheries and a smaller number of mature trees around the burial ground. The grass is regularly mown. A small memorial garden and tribute to the Brothers includes many who have served and been buried abroad. This lies immediately north of the burial ground.

The burial ground is bounded on all sides by stone walls. The burial ground is a uniform level area divided into quadrants by small kerbed tarmac roads.

Several monastery and rest-home buildings occupy the main parts of the monastic grounds.

The memorials are uniform silver-painted wrought iron crosses. A small number of higher ranking Provincials are marked by larger memorials, although the distinction was latterly abolished. The burials are interred in

rows in order of the date of the death of the departed and begin from the west in the southwest quadrant where the burials all face north. The burials in the northwest quadrant then all face south. There are no burials to date in the eastern quadrants of the burial ground. Three Brothers from the early days of the Monastery are buried within the medieval church in the burial ground in Churchtown (L032).

The burial ground is reserved for the interment of Brothers of the De La Salle Monasteries who have served around the world.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L137 | Name: | Clonad |
| Townland: | Clonaddadoran | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 246448 , 194057 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | N/A |



The raised central area – possibly the site of a church or an accretion of burial, betrays earlier origins, looking west



Recent kerbed burials truncate the earlier earthen embanked enclosure

The burial ground is located by the side of the old Portlaoise road on ground which rises to the west. It is located on both the first and second edition Ordnance Survey maps and denoted by "Graveyard".

Access is via the gate in the eastern wall of the enclosure. There are no paths within the burial ground. Parking is available at the side of the disused road.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

The western part of the burial ground (approximately a third of the total area) appears to have been desodded leaving bare earth. The sods have presumably been used elsewhere in the burial ground. Vegetation in this area comprises a few shrubs and weeds with mature trees around the western and northern periphery. Trimmings of vegetation have been piled up in the northwest corner of the burial ground.

The eastern two-thirds of the burial ground comprises only short grass, with a strip of less than 1m in width disturbed alongside the southern boundary wall.

The current rectangular enclosure comprises rendered concrete or stone walls and dates to the late 19th century (it appears on the second edition Ordnance Survey map). Prior to this a smaller circular enclosure, possibly of some antiquity, is marked in the first edition Ordnance Survey map. The remains of this circular earthen embankment are evident just within the western boundary, surviving best in the northwest corner. The eastern extents of this earlier enclosure are found approximately two-thirds the way across the burial ground where the embankment has been truncated by several large modern graves with kerbed plots. The truncated remains of the embankment are seen to run to the north of these graves.

The raised central area is notable and presumably derives either from rubble associated with a structure or from generations of burial within the small graveyard, suggesting a greater antiquity than is apparent from the identifiable 18th century memorials.

There are no records of an associated church at Clonad. However, the raised central area may derive from the ruins of a small ancient church.

Most of the memorials are upright 18th - 21st century headstones with the earliest dating to 1779 and burial still taking place here. A number of recumbent slabs are present and some simple stone markers are evident in the western side. A few Celtic crosses are present and many of the more recent burials are within kerbed plots. Some of the memorials are leaning and a number are broken and toppled, especially within the western side which appears to have the oldest surviving memorials. A large number of recent kerbed burials have truncated the surviving remnants of the earlier earthen embankment of unknown date that surrounded the burial ground.

The denominational history at the site is unclear.

Burial Ground ID: **L138**

Name: **Clonaslee**

Townland: **Ballyfarrell/Corbally**

Dedication: **None**

NGR (E,N): **232611 , 210845**

RPS No: **N/A**

National Monument No: **N/A**

RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of the modern burial ground at Clonaslee, looking north

This is a modern 20th century burial ground.

Burial Ground ID: **L139**
 Townland: **Morett**
 NGR (E,N): **252376 , 204450**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. John's, Emo**
 Dedication: **St. John**
 RPS No: **RPS 377; RPS 559**
 RMP No: **N/A**



Railed monuments along eastern boundary, looking southeast



Overview of memorials, looking west

The site is in a rural area, in undulating pasture, south of the village of Emo and immediately east of a regional road. The site is rectangular in shape and is marked on the 1st edition OS map as "Church" and on the 2nd edition as "St. John's Church" and "Grave Yard". Coolbanagher School house is located to the immediate south and Glebe House, c. 100m to the northeast.

Access is provided directly from the roadside through the western boundary by means of a wrought iron gate and stone stile a second stone stile is located in the south-eastern corner of the site and a small gateway is located midway along the northern boundary wall. A wide gravel path leads from the gate to the church.

A directional sign is located directly across the road. There is a wall-mounted plaque alongside the gate in Irish and English detailing the history of the site. An informational panel is located just inside the gate detailing the times of service and contact details.

The site is planted with lawn grass. Rows of low yew trees bound the gravel path on either side. There is some ivy growth on the boundary wall in the north-western corner.

The site is bounded by a rough coursed stone wall to the north and west, a vegetative boundary to the south and wall of grave markers built into the walls to the east. There is no evidence for burials beyond the current extents.

The graveyard contains a Church of Ireland church dedicated to St John. This church, which was completed in 1786, was designed by James Gandon. It was renovated/remodelled c. 1870.

An ornate mausoleum is attached to the south-eastern corner of the church, dedicated to the Earl of Portarlington, dated to 1788 and 1798. Headstones date from 1800 to the present with the majority in good condition. Most are upright with a few leaning. The graveyard contains table-tombs, mausoleum and slabs, many are overgrown and cracked. A row of kerbed and railed monuments are set into the eastern boundary wall.

The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Church of Ireland.

Burial Ground ID: **L140**
Townland: **Raheen**
NGR (E,N): **242357 , 190554**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Raheen**
Dedication: **St. Fintan**
RPS No: **RPS 373**
RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of the modern burial ground, looking south-west

This is a 20th century burial ground.

Burial Ground ID: **L141**
Townland: **Derrinsallagh**
NGR (E,N): **225466 , 185546**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Derrinsallagh, Borris-in-Ossory**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of the modern burial ground, looking west

This is a 20th century burial ground.

Burial Ground ID: **L142**
 Townland: **Doonane**
 NGR (E,N): **258514 , 178692**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Newtown, Doonane**
 Dedication: **St Abban**
 RPS No: **RPS 376**
 RMP No: **N/A**



Table-tomb with weathered engraving, facing southwest



Collapsing and illegible tombs alongside modern graves, facing west

The site is located in a clochan. A road runs along the northern side and there are house to the east and west. There are fields immediately to the south and they extend in all directions beyond the houses. They appear to be both arable and pastoral.

The graveyard is accessed by a gate in the northern boundary wall. There are areas for parking in the surrounding clochan.

There is an information board at the entrance to the site. This tells the name, denomination and date (1712) of the church.

Maintained hedgerows surround the graveyard; the grass is kept short. However, in places the grass has grown over grave slabs (perhaps collapsed table-tombs). An unmaintained tree in the east of the site has engulfed a table-tomb.

The boundaries are formed by a stone wall in the north and a hedgerow elsewhere. The graveyard is rectangular in shape and burials are situated to the east, west and south of the church. A large portion of land in the south appears to be a modern unused extension. There is a small slope in the south-western corner; this seems to be the site of some of the earliest burials. Newtown Church is situated in the northern end of the site, while there is also a small utility shed in the north-western corner.

The gravemarkers consist of a mix of headstones, box-tombs, table tombs, kerbed plots, Celtic crosses and metal crosses. Some are recumbent. There are also some large headstones in the west and east which are almost illegible, but appear to be the earliest on the site. A single metal cross situated in the eastern border may signify the burial of a person banned from consecrated ground. Three 19th century priests are buried within the church itself. The burials are thought to be all Roman Catholic.

The clochan was built for the local miners in the 1800's. Stained glass windows in the church were donated by Crettyard Collieries after a disaster in 1964, when many miners were killed at work.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L143 | Name: | Holy Trinity, Durrow |
| Townland: | Durrow Townparks | Dedication: | Holy Trinity |
| NGR (E,N): | 240999 , 177150 | RPS No: | RPS 162 |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | N/A |



Memorials of the wealthy in the eastern side of the site, facing east



General view of headstones, facing east

The site is situated on the eastern edge of Durrow town, immediately north of Holy Trinity Church. A modern extension lies immediately to the north of the older graveyard. There are houses to the east and fields to the east and west; beyond this is a rural landscape. The site is accessed through the church car-park which is located at the side of the road. There are two gates leading to the graveyard in a wall which runs to the rear of the church; one in the south-eastern and one in the south-western corner. These gates differ and are in keeping with the social standing of those who were buried in either side in the 19th century. That of the south-eastern side is more elaborate and leads to the graves of the wealthy. A stone font stands at the side of the south-western gate.

There is a stone panel on the church displaying the name and date of construction (1839).

The grass on the site kept short. There are trees running alongside the eastern and western walls which are well-maintained; there are also well-trimmed trees scattered around the graveyard. There is some ivy growth around the oldest burials in the south-eastern corner. There are paths running through the site.

The rectangular site is bordered by stone walls along all sides, apart from the north; this was built with breeze blocks and there is a gap which leads into the modern extension. The wall which runs to the rear of the church appears to be a 19th century construction and is covered in ivy. The walls are in fairly good condition but there is ivy growth in places. The ground on the site is fairly level, although there is a slight slope to the north.

The memorials consist of a mix of round and flat-headed headstones, table-tombs, pedestal tombs, Celtic crosses, metal crosses, kerbed and railed burials. There are also simple stone markers and unmarked burials.

Most of the memorials are upstanding and are in generally good condition, although there is lichen growth and ivy on some, particularly to the rear of the church. The gravemarkers differ on the southeast and southwest corners; the former was reserved for the rich and there are more elaborate memorials here, including a table-tomb and pedestal tombs. There is a large family plot here where apparently the last of the family died a pauper and was buried outside the plot.

Reportedly, the first three rows north of the church were reserved for Tubberboe locals when Tubberboe was closed in the 1840's. These are the oldest burials and the earliest legible headstone dates to 1867. However, there are others which are weathered and illegible. A soldier who died in the First World War (1920) is buried in the middle of the graveyard. The site consists of Roman Catholic burials.

The path dividing the elaborate and simple burials in the south-western corner was placed down in the 1930's. Local tradition suggests there may have been burials which were moved.

Burial Ground ID: **L144**
 Townland: **Killimy**
 NGR (E,N): **252998 , 205534**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Paul's, Emo**
 Dedication: **St. Paul**
 RPS No: **RPS 361**
 RMP No: **N/A**



Modern monuments with table tomb in central portion of graveyard, looking northeast



St Paul's church, Emo with modern remembrance monument in foreground, looking northwest

The graveyard is located just north of the village of Emo immediately west of a local road with flat pasture to the north and west. The site is marked on the 1st edition OS map as "R.C. Chapel" and on the 2nd edition as "St. Paul's R.C. Church" and "Grave Yard".

Access is provided directly from the roadside through the eastern boundary by means of a large wrought iron gate which is recessed and a stone stile, which appears to be original. There is also an arched gateway in the northern boundary which provides access via a track from the parochial house to the north. There is also a second gate in the eastern boundary which is inactive. A tarmac driveway runs from the gate to the door of the church and a gravel path runs around the perimeter of the site

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The site is covered by a lawn with a row of ornate yew trees either side of the driveway. Mature evergreens are also present throughout the site. There is some ivy growth on the boundary walls in the west and south.

The site is bounded on the west, east and south by a stone wall, up to 1.5m high with concrete capping. The northern boundary of the site comprises a post and wire fence. The 1st edition map indicates that the townland of Emo's northern boundary ran along the western and eastern boundary of the graveyard, coming

to a point in the north. On the 2nd edition, the townland boundary has moved to run along the road to the east of the site and the church has acquired additional lands to the north, expanding the site.

The graveyard contains a Catholic church dedicated to St Paul and built c. 1870. It is a detached Gothic Revival Catholic church with bell-tower which replaced an earlier, smaller structure visible on the 1st edition OS map. There is no surface trace of this earlier building on the site. The current church is located toward the north-western portion of the site, the earlier church is marked as being further south. An ornate architectural fragment was found along the northern boundary and may be from the original church building. The 1st edition also indicates a "National School" along the southern boundary of the site. A concrete gable wall remains *in situ*, incorporated in the southern boundary wall with a Celtic cross atop. The footprint of the building is visible as a crop mark.

The graveyard is still in use and contains headstones dating from 19th and 21st centuries - Celtic crosses, pedestals, railed and kerbed monuments, recumbent slabs, table tombs, headstones and iron crosses. The more recent burials appear to be in the south-eastern portion of the burial ground, with older monuments located in the centre of the site, near where the original church would have been located.

The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Church of Ireland.

Burial Ground ID: **L145**
Townland: **Timahoe**
NGR (E,N): **253766 , 189978**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Timahoe**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**

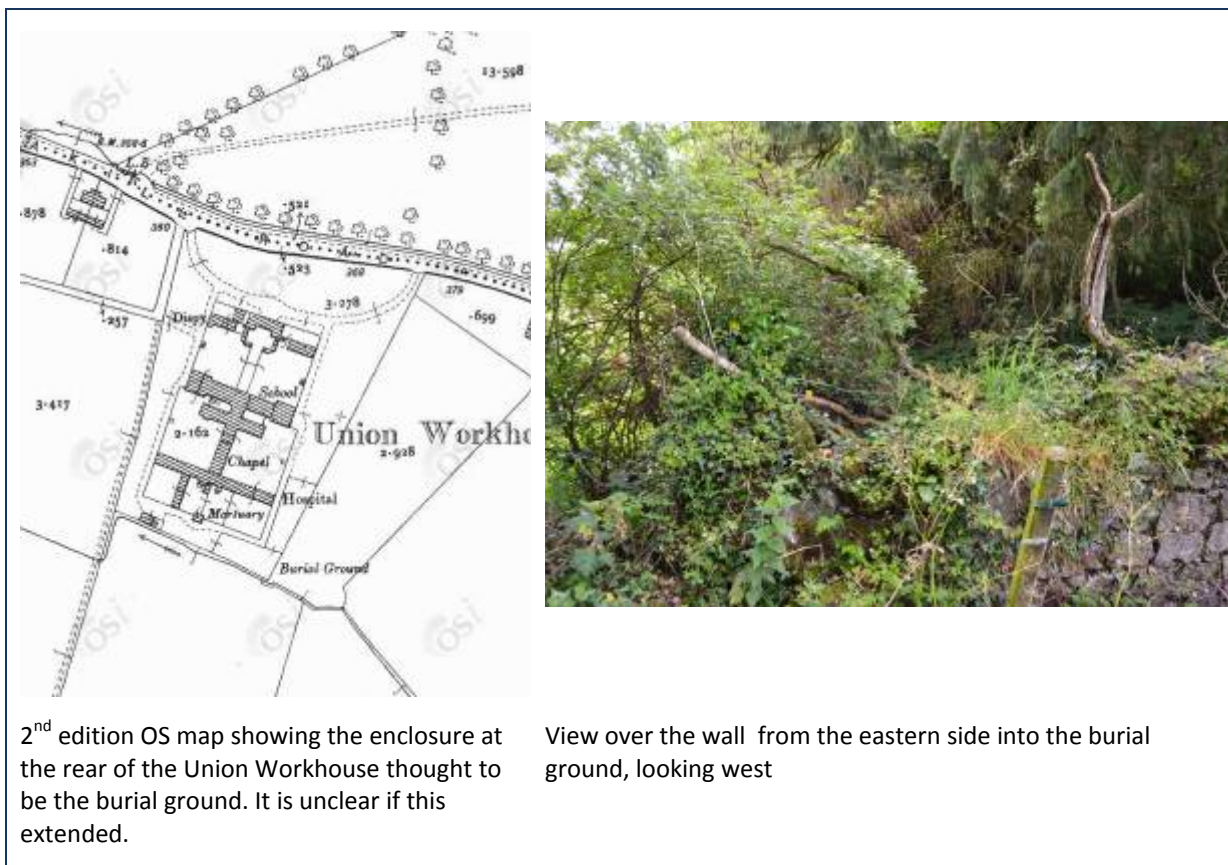


Overview of the burial ground, looking west

This burial ground dates to the 20th century.

Burial Ground ID: **L146**
Townland: **Knocknamoe**
NGR (E,N): **244238 , 184610**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Former Workhouse, Abbeyleix**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



The burial ground is located at the rear of the Abbeyleix District Hospital on the Ballynakill Road in Knocknamoe townland. "Burial Ground" is denoted on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map, and is written over the southern end of the neighbouring property to the east. Later editions have "Burial Ground" written across the stream at the rear of the Union Workhouse. It is generally thought to be located within the copse of trees at the southern end of the hospital grounds.

Access is via the hospital. There are no paths within the area which is overgrown.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

The land at the back of the present hospital is planted with mature coniferous trees. The area is also thickly overgrown with briars, bracken and nettles and is inaccessible. The neighbouring property to the east is a pasture field.

There is a stone wall on the eastern boundary of the hospital grounds and the stream forms a boundary on the southern side. There is no boundary to the north and the western side could not be accessed. It would appear

from mapping that the burial ground was located in the south-eastern corner of the grounds of the Union Workhouse (now occupied by the hospital). However, human remains are reported to have been incidentally encountered by the former owner of the field to the east, and it is possible that the burial ground was at some point in time not large enough for the requirements of the Workhouse. This is supported by the recollection that the “Shankyard” or “Gate to Heaven” burial ground (L147) further west was also reportedly required for the Workhouse.

The remains of the Workhouse, the associated mortuary and other structures no longer survive above the ground.

There are no markers or memorials to those interred at the burial ground.

The religious denomination of those that are buried here is unclear.

Burial Ground ID: **L147**
Townland: **Ballymaddock**
NGR (E,N): **245374 , 184632**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **"Gate to Heaven", Abbeyleix**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



Entrance to the "Gate To Heaven" burial ground, looking southwest



Plaques and memorials to the many people interred here, looking southwest

The burial ground is located about 1.5 km east of Abbeyleix on the north side of the Ballinakill road in Ballymaddock townland. It is marked on the second edition Ordnance Survey mapping as "Grave Yard (Disused)".

Access is via the old track leading north from the Balinakill Road. There is no designated parking.

There is a sign outside the burial ground which reads

"Gate To Heaven
1840 1920".

A stand of evergreen trees lines the southern side. The burial ground is triangular-shaped and bounded on the north-eastern and southern sides by stone walling. The ground slopes down to the northern boundary, which comprises scrub ground and a ditch.

There are no associated structures at the burial ground.

There are two memorial tablets within the burial ground. The first lies just inside the gate and reads:

"'Gateway To Heaven'
In memory of the destitute
1860 - 1920
Erected by Martin Fennelly and Family
Rathmoyle"

On the southern side of the burial ground another memorial, adjacent to a simple cross, reads:

"In memory of Destitute People

Died in the Workhouse

Abbeyleix

1840 - 1920

Interred Here

R.I.P."

The religious denomination of those that are buried here is unclear. The burial ground was known locally as "The Shankyard". Tradition maintains that the burial ground was used for the interment of victims of poverty and starvation from the Workhouse at Abbeyleix. During the sixty years following the opening of the Workhouse, it is said over 2000 people were interred with little ceremony (O'Brien 1998, p86). There was an existing burial ground at the Workhouse (L146), however it is likely that during the Famine of 1845-52 the Workhouse burial ground filled very quickly, with the result that extra space was required. "The Shankyard" burial ground would appear to have been used as a relief burial ground. Little is known locally about the specifics of burial here, but it is possible that the burial ground continued to be used for people who died in the Workhouse until its closure.

Burial Ground ID: **L148**
Townland: **Killeen**
NGR (E,N): **269610 , 184475**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Abban's, Killeen**
Dedication: **St. Abban**
RPS No: **RPS 366**
RMP No: **N/A**



General view of the site, facing southeast



Metal crosses and upstanding Celtic crosses, facing northwest

The site is located in the village of Killeen. It is bordered by the main road to the south, south of which houses have been built in the recent past. A road is also located to the west. Elsewhere, fields border the site.

The site is easily accessed by a gate in the side of the road. There is room for parking along the southern wall of the site.

There is no directional or informative signage.

The site is easily visible from the road. It is well-maintained and the grass is kept short. There are tree-stumps which have been cut down in the recent past and there is minimal ivy and lichen presence on the memorials.

The boundaries are formed by a stone wall in the south and hedgerow elsewhere and they enclose a subrectangular site. A church lies in the eastern side while the burials are situated in the west. The land appears to be relatively flat and the graves are well-ordered.

The 19th century church is listed as an early T-plan barn church and it is still in use and well-maintained.

The memorials comprise upstanding Celtic crosses, recumbent and upstanding headstones, metal crosses, box-tombs, table-tombs, railed and kerbed burial plots. The earliest legible date is 1825. The burials are Roman Catholic.

Apparently, the parishioners own this site. This graveyard replaced Killabban graveyard.

Burial Ground ID: **L149**
 Townland: **Killeshin**
 NGR (E,N): **267588 , 177844**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Church of The Holy Cross, Killeshin**
 Dedication: **Holy Cross**
 RPS No: **RPS 364**
 RMP No: **N/A**



General view of the church and graveyard, facing northeast



19th and 20th century headstones and Celtic crosses, facing west

The site is situated just southwest of the small village of Killeshin. There are fields on all immediate sides of the site, apart from the northern side where the road runs. The town of Killeshin lies predominantly to the northeast. The church is situated on a small hill while the ground drops dramatically from this to the north, east and west. There have been burials along the slopes. There is also a fairly flat area to the west at the bottom of the slope where there are also burials. A pathway runs from the entrance in the north around the church. A modern extension is situated immediately to the south. An area in the north-eastern corner was formerly the site of Killeshin National School, which was demolished in 1977; there are headstones here now.

The site is accessed by two gates in the northern side of the site. One of the gates leads to the steps of the church and a pathway running around the site. The other is a driveway to the south of the site.

There is an information plaque located at the entrance to the church and graveyard. This shows that the first foundation stone was laid in 1819 and the site was consecrated in 1822.

The grass on the site is kept short. There is ivy growth along the walls and many of the older headstones and railings. There is a flowerbed to the north of the church and there are pockets of flowers and small trees scattered throughout the site. A number of large trees grow around the graveyard.

The western boundary appears to consist only of hedgerow; elsewhere it is a low stone wall. The eastern and southern walls are covered in ivy, while the north is of a recent date and clean. The northern wall separates the older graveyard from the modern extension. The graveyard is rectangular in shape.

The site includes round and flat-headed headstones, Celtic crosses, murals, railed and kerbed burials, coped burials, table-tombs, metal crosses, pedestal tombs and wall tablets. They are in a mixed state of repair; many are upstanding, but many are recumbent or covered in ivy or lichen. The earliest legible date is 1833. A chair, surrounded by flowers and cherub statues, has been placed on the site and is dedicated to the children who died before or after birth. Close to the chair is also a plaque displaying the names of two men who maintained this site and aided in the restoration of Old Killeshin. The religious denomination of all people interred is thought to be Roman Catholic.

The graveyard probably replaced that of Old Killeshin and reportedly the site upon which the former stands was known as Gallow's Hill. A memorial enclosed by stone walls is situated to the north of the graveyard and is dedicated to Padraig Mac Gamhna who is buried in Holy Cross graveyard. He was a member of the Killeshin Land Club and died in 1943.

A castle and castle and motte are located to the southwest of the graveyard, while Old Killeshin church and graveyard, round-tower and font are located c. 250m to the northwest.

Burial Ground ID: **L150**
 Townland: **Ballycarroll**
 NGR (E,N): **257151 , 209381**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. John's, Killenard**
 Dedication: **St. John**
 RPS No: **RPS 359**
 RMP No: **N/A**



Northern extent of graveyard, looking northeast



18th century headstones incorporated into modern kerbed monument, looking west

The site is irregularly shaped and is located on the southern edge of the village of Killenard, immediately east of the local road with rolling pasture to the east and south and housing to the north and west. The site commands impressive views over farmland to the east. The site is marked on the 1st edition OS map as "R.C. Chapel" and "Grave Yard" and on the 2nd edition as "R.C. Church" and "Grave Yard".

Access is provided directly from the roadside by means of a large gateway. A tarmac driveway leads from the gate to the church door and around the building. A concrete path runs east from the church, through the middle of the graveyard, to the eastern edge of the site.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The site is covered in a lawn. There is some ivy growth on the northern boundary wall and also growing around monuments in the north-western corner of the site. A line of mature sycamore trees run along what was the original eastern boundary of the site. There are a number of large, mature yews and other evergreens.

The site is bounded on the north and west by a stone wall, up to 2m high. The eastern and southern boundaries comprise iron post and rail fencing. A portion of wall survives at the end of the concrete path. The eastern boundary is planted with mature deciduous trees in places with recently planted evergreens along the southern boundary. The townland of Killenard's western boundary runs along the western boundary of the site. The graveyard has been expanded to the northeast in recent years.

The graveyard contains a Catholic church dedicated to St John which was built in 1835 and renovated in 1907. The 1st edition OS map also indicates a "National School" in the north-eastern corner of the site, there is no surface trace of this building remaining.

The graveyard is still in use and contains burials from the 18th to the 21st century. The monuments are of various types such as Celtic crosses, pedestals, headstones, recumbent slabs, wall monuments, railed and kerbed monuments and timber and iron crosses. Burials are located on both sides and to the rear of the church, with the more recent interments located in the site's eastern extents. There are at least two examples of 18th century headstones being incorporated into 20th century kerbed monuments. It is unclear whether these headstones were moved from within the site, or from another graveyard (perhaps Tirhogar; L118).

Some of the headstone inscriptions have been painted with a black substance (prior to sanding) to aid the visibility of the inscriptions.

The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Roman Catholic.

Burial Ground ID: **L151**Name: **Church of the Assumption, The Heath**Townland: **Greatheath**Dedication: **None**NGR (E,N): **253580 , 201527**RPS No: **RPS 368**National Monument No: **N/A**RMP No: **N/A**

Church and graveyard with iron bell-tower, looking southeast



Overgrown and damaged tomb in northern extent of graveyard, looking west

The graveyard is located on the south-eastern edge of the Heath in gently undulating pasture just south of a junction. The 1st edition OS map indicates the site as "R.C. Chapel" and "Grave Yard" and the 2nd edition as R.C. Church" and "Grave Yard". The remains of a medieval church and graveyard (Killenny) are located c. 100m to the southeast.

Access is provided directly from the roadside through the northern boundary by means of a large wrought iron gate with cut limestone gate piers and an adjacent pedestrian gate. A tarmac driveway runs from the gate to the church and tarmac paths run through and around the graveyard.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The site is covered with lawn grass. There is a row of mature beech trees immediately inside the northern boundary wall. There are some mature yew trees on site also.

The site is bounded by a stone wall, c. 1.5m high, along its northern and western boundary. Mature beech trees are planted immediately inside this wall. The southern and eastern boundary is formed by a drainage ditch and lined with deciduous trees also.

The graveyard surrounds the Church of the Assumption, a detached barn style building constructed in 1836 and renovated in 1863.

The graveyard is still in use with monuments dating from the 19th and 21st centuries. There is a mixture of burial monuments including headstones, Celtic crosses, pedestals, kerbed and railed monuments and

upstanding tombs. One of the upstanding tombs in the northern portion of the site is being renovated. A 'boat-shaped' dressed stone pillar is located immediately inside the pedestrian gate. There are no inscriptions on the stone and its purpose is unclear.

The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Roman Catholic.

Burial Ground ID: **L152**
 Townland: **Graiguenahown**
 NGR (E,N): **251666 , 183545**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Lazerian's, Knock**
 Dedication: **St. Lazerian**
 RPS No: **RPS 374**
 RMP No: **N/A**



General view of the site and St. Lazerian's Church, facing northwest



View of headstones, facing northeast

The site is located in a rural area. A road runs along the eastern side, but beyond this and on all sides there are fields. The site commands a good view of the hills to the east. Elsewhere the landscape appears to be flat. The graveyard is situated to the south of a church and car-park; it is divided off from these by a hedge. The site is accessed through a gate in its northern wall, which leads from the car-park.

There is a directional sign on the L430 and there is a sign at the entrance to the church.

The rectangular site is situated within a larger subrectangular area enclosing the church and car-park. However, it is divided from these by a hedge which forms its northern boundary. There is a wall in the east and elsewhere the boundaries consist of hedgerow and trees. The hedgerow and trees are not maintained; however the wall and hedge are well-looked after. The northern boundary is formed by a hedge and the southern and western are formed by hedgerow and trees. The grass is kept short in the eastern half of the site, but it is longer in the western boggy half. The latter is not used for burial.

The graveyard is associated with St. Lazerian's Church, which stand just north of the graveyard. Apparently, the land for the site was donated by the Doran family and construction on the church commenced in 1846. However, the building stopped as the Famine engulfed the population; it was only finished in 1851/2.

Memorials include upstanding flat and round-headed headstones, Celtic crosses, kerbed and railed burials. One large cross stands facing north. The memorials are predominantly in good condition, although they are covered in lichen. The earliest visible is 1855. There are few burials here as many families are buried in Clogh. The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Roman Catholic.

A grotto has been constructed just east of the graveyard gate in the car-park. This was donated by a local man during the Marian Year of 1954. According to local tradition a local inhabitant saw the statue move one night in 1985. The masses which were held here subsequently raised enough money to lay tarmacadam on the car-park.

Burial Ground ID: **L153**
Townland: **Ballinla**
NGR (E,N): **220574 , 189962**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Ballaghmore**
Dedication: **St. Molua**
RPS No: **RPS 370**
RMP No: **LA015-033**



St. Molua's Trough, facing northwest



General view of the graveyard facing southwest

This site is located in the village of Ballaghmore. Although there was an earlier church on the site in the 19th century, all memorials in the graveyard date to the 20th and 21st centuries. St. Molua's Trough was relocated here from Kyle Abbey (L089).

Burial Ground ID: **L155**
Townland: **Johnstown Glebe**
NGR (E,N): **226849 , 178645**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Rathdowney Local**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



Entrance to the site with a view of the ringfort to the rear, facing north



General view of memorials, facing northwest

The site is located west of Rathdowney town. There is a housing estate to its west and a road to its south. However, the land to its north is rural. A ringfort is situated immediately adjacent to the graveyard wall in the north.

The site is accessed through gate at the side of the road. There is a small concreted area here for a few cars to park.

There are directional signs to the cemetery and there are plaques denoting that this is the 'Local Cemetery'.

There is grass covering the graves, but it is well-maintained. The boundaries are formed by stone walls

Memorials include headstones, Celtic crosses and kerbed plots. Many are very weathered and may date to the late 1800's, although the earliest legible date is 1907. The site comprises mixed burials; however there are more Roman Catholics buried here. While there are Church of Ireland burials in the north-western side, many choose burial in Rath saran/Eglis h and Donaghmore. There was never an extant church on the site.

A large memorial stands in the western side of the graveyard and is dedicated to priests who served in the parish in. Other priests are also buried in this area.

Reportedly, famine burials are located in the eastern side of the site. Unbaptized children were also buried in the graveyard. There are no memorials denoting these burials.

The local inhabitants have built an altar in the eastern side of the site for use in annual masses.

Burial Ground ID: **L156**
 Townland: **Mayo**
 NGR (E,N): **261993 , 177662**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Mary's, Mayo**
 Dedication: **St. Mary**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **N/A**



View of different memorial types, facing northwest



General view of the graveyard, facing northwest

The site is located in the small village of Mayo in rural land. There are a few houses to the north, east and west of the site and St. Abban's Athletic Club and racetrack lies to the south. Roads run along the northern and eastern boundaries.

The site can be accessed by gates in the eastern and western sides of the northern boundary wall. There is also a gate in the eastern wall. There is no designated car-park; however there are spaces to park within the village. There is an information board located at the main entrance to the graveyard, in the north-eastern corner. This displays the name and date of the church (1862) and the times of mass.

The site is well-maintained. The grass is short and the yew and pine-trees and hedgerows are trimmed.

The rectangular site is surrounded on all sides by stone walls, although there is also hedgerow in the southern and western sides. A small metal fence creates the northern boundary. The graveyard is ordered and the terrain is flat.

A church is located in the north-western corner of the site. While the date of the building is noted as 1862, there are headstones which predate this, suggesting an earlier church stood here. A bell-tower stands just south of the church. There is also a small utility shed in the north-eastern corner of the site.

The memorials consist mainly of headstones and Celtic crosses, although there are also a few table-tombs and kerbed plots. The memorials range in date from 1841 to the present. They are generally in a good state of repair, although some are recumbent and have collapsed. There is a small amount of lichen present also. The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Roman Catholic.

Burial Ground ID: **L157**
Townland: **Monavea**
NGR (E,N): **261352 , 177529**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Mayo**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



View of the graveyard and church, facing southeast



Large tomb to east of church, facing northwest

The site is located in the small village of Mayo. It is in a rural area, although there are houses in the vicinity. Road runs to the north of the site, while immediately to the west there are houses. There is also a house to the east, but beyond this in all directions lie fields.

The site is accessed by a gate in the north-western corner of the site. There is only a small area for parking here, but there are other spaces in the village.

There is a plaque at the entrance to the site with the name of the church and a contact number.

Hedgerow surrounds the site and there is short grass all over. There are also yew trees. Some of the graves are overgrown with long grass and trees, although the majority are well-maintained.

The boundaries are formed by stone walls. In the western wall there are doors leading to the houses beyond the graveyard. The walls are covered in hedgerow and ivy and the graveyard is rectangular and fairly level. A 19th century Church of Ireland church is located in the south-eastern side of the site.

The memorials consists of a mix of round and flat-headed headstones, railed and kerbed plots, Celtic crosses and a mausoleum or vault belonging to the Stapletons. The earliest visible burial date was noted on the (1828). There is also a large tomb to the east of the church which may have been a mausoleum. The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Church of Ireland.

It is believed locally that that the church was built by the Carters or Edge families, as a chapel of ease associated with Castletown. The site will soon be 200 years old and there will be celebrations similar to those of Castletown, including a service and dinner with local representatives.

Burial Ground ID: **L158**
 Townland: **Stradbally**
 NGR (E,N): **257361 , 196272**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Sacred Heart, Stradbally**
 Dedication: **Sacred Heart**
 RPS No: **RPS 233**
 RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of the burial ground, looking south-west



Information panel at the burial ground

The burial ground is located in Stradbally village on the east side of the N80, across Church Lane from St. Patrick's Church of Ireland church. It is not marked on the 1st edition, but is marked on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map as "R.C. Church" and "Burial Ground".

Access is directly from path on Church Lane.

There is a stone information plaque in car-park to southwest of church, which gives the timeline of the various Roman Catholic structures that stood here.

Vegetation across the burial ground comprises well-mowed grass with some shrubbery along the east and south wall.

The burial ground lies to the northeast of the church and is bounded by rendered walls to the northeast, northwest and southeast with the Church itself forming the south-western boundary.

Comerford notes that a previous mass house was built in 1721 and burnt by Orangemen in 1794. The Chapel of St James that succeeded this was then built and replaced by the present church, which is dedicated to the Sacred Heart and was constructed in 1896.

There is a division in the burial ground with the southern area being higher and featuring larger memorials dedicated to the memory of interred priests. A lower rectangular area immediately to the northwest contains memorials to the Sisters of the Presentation Order who resided in a convent set up adjacent to the church. These are smaller metal and stone memorials that note the personal and religious names of the individuals.

The burial ground contains the graves of members of the Roman Catholic Church and Sisters of the Presentation Order.

Burial Ground ID: **L159**
 Townland: **Stradbally**
 NGR (E,N): **257382 , 196235**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Patrick's, Stradbally**
 Dedication: **St. Patrick**
 RPS No: **RPS 235**
 RMP No: **N/A**



The church is itself elevated above the burial ground which is raised above the surrounding ground to the north and west, looking south-west



Overview of the burial ground, looking northwest

The burial ground is located in Stradbally village on the east side of the N80, across Church Lane from the Church of the Sacred Heart. It is marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map as "Church" and "Vault". On the 2nd edition it is marked as "Church" and "Grave Yd".

Access is through the double metal gate fronting onto the corner of Main St. and Church Lane.

There is an information board with the service timetable.

Yew trees line the sides of the church with a footpath in between. Some trees to the immediate southeast of church are impinging upon table tombstone and mortar walls, clear to the east and north but with ivy on south and west walls.

A significant variation in internal and external ground level suggests burial accretion.

The Church of Ireland church stands in an elevated position on the site. It is northeast-southwest orientated and dedicated to St Patrick. It was built in 1764 and renovated c 1880. A square clock/bell-tower is attached to the west end.

The burial ground contains headstones dating from 18th to 20th century in varying conditions. Most of the 18th and 19th century headstones are worn and leaning and account for 10-20% of all memorials.

The burial ground is for members of the Church of Ireland.

Burial Ground ID: **L160**
Townland: **Raheenanisky**
NGR (E,N): **252590 , 195497**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Ratheniska**
Dedication: **The Holy Cross**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of the church and burial ground, looking east



Overview of memorials in the burial ground, looking north-east

The graveyard is located in a rural area on the northern edge of the village of Ratheniska. The site commands impressive views to the west. The 1st edition OS map indicates the site as "R.C. Chapel" and "Grave Yard" and the 2nd edition as R.C. Church" and "Grave Yard".

Access to the site is directly off the roadside through a wrought iron gate in the western corner of the boundary wall. A car-park has recently been built immediately south of the graveyard and a wide iron gate also provides access from here to the graveyard. There is a concrete path running from the gate to the church door and around the perimeter of the church.

There is a memorial plaque inside the gate commemorating the church's bicentenary in 2000. The site is covered with lawn grass and is planted with ornamental shrubbery.

The site is irregularly shaped and is located in the very westernmost point of the townland of Raheenanisky. The northern and western boundaries comprise a low stone wall that has been plastered and capped with concrete. The eastern and southern boundaries are evergreen hedging in front of concrete walls. There are the remnants of an internal division within the graveyard comprising a low kerb running northwest-southeast mostly grown over with grass. This line represents the remains of a line of mature beech trees which were removed from the site in recent decades.

The graveyard contains a Catholic church dedicated to the Holy Cross and built in 1800.

The graveyard is still in use with monuments dating from the 19th and 21st centuries. There is a mixture of burial monuments including headstones, Celtic crosses, pedestals, kerbed monuments and recumbent slabs.

One slab has been incorporated into the concrete path that surrounds the church. There are no simple markers evident on the site, it seems that these were removed during maintenance works. The removal of a number of beech trees reportedly disturbed a number of graves. A number of memorials were moved to the eastern boundary after being disturbed in clearance works. These are hidden by the large evergreen trees. Most of the more recent burials are located in the south-eastern corner of the site.

The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Roman Catholic.

Burial Ground ID: **L161**

Name: **Sleaty**

Townland: **Sleaty**

Dedication: **None**

NGR (E,N): **271341 , 178662**

RPS No: **N/A**

National Monument No: **N/A**

RMP No: **N/A**



Current Edition of the Ordnance Survey mapping showing location of the graveyard

This graveyard is located north of Carlow town. It is a modern graveyard and the earliest burials date from the late 20th century.

Burial Ground ID: **L162**
 Townland: **Aghaboe**
 NGR (E,N): **232767 , 185770**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Canice's, Aghaboe**
 Dedication: **St. St. Canice**
 RPS No: **RPS 385**
 RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of the burial ground at St. Canice's, looking northwest



The medieval font of Aghaboe

The burial ground is located adjacent to Aghaboe Abbey in the townland of Aghaboe. It is marked on both the 1st and 2nd edition mapping as "Church" and "Grave Yard".

Access is via the gated enclosure with a gravel path and car-park.

There are no information panels at the burial ground. There is directional signage to the abbey from the road.

There are a few evergreen trees lining the gravel pathway. There are patches of ivy crowning parts of the enclosure wall. The grass is regularly mowed.

The sub-rectangular burial ground is enclosed by stone walls on each side. There is a small enclosure within the burial ground around the White family burials at the east end (19th century). The east-west orientated parish church is reported by Carrigan to have been built in 1818 after the ruins of the earlier foundation were pulled down (with the exception of the octagonal belfry which was retained and repaired). There is a raised area south and east of the church which presumably represents the foundations of the former 12th-13th century structure (Carrigan Vol. 2 p46). This was described in 1796 by Ledwich to have been the remaining chancel of a former cathedral (1796, p87-8).

Mouldings above both the western and belfry doors terminate in carved human heads and also derive from the earlier structure. Some of the traceried window mouldings were taken from the Abbey church.

The baptismal font is also a medieval remnant and is located in a circle of green lawn west of the entrance.

The burial ground contains many headstones, slabs and box-tombs. Many memorials are kerbed. There are also some simple stone markers present. There are many unmarked graves as evidenced from the many large green spaces.

Subsequent to the reformation the burial ground was used by both denominations until the disestablishment. It has since been a burial ground used by the Church of Ireland.

It is told that a member of the White family is reported, many years ago, to have wanted to remove the font to the White family residence. On attempting to move the font he glanced in the direction of the house and, noticing a plume of smoke, left the font and made a quick dash home. On returning to the house the smoke had vanished and no fire was present. Mr. White returned to Aghaboe and began again the process of loading the heavy font. As he was shifting it, again he saw plumes of smoke pouring into the sky from the direction of his house. He rushed home but on returning there was no fire and no smoke. He then returned to the abbey and started loading the stone font up, when for the third time he again saw plumes of smoke coming from the direction of his house. This time he unhitched the font, returned home, and upon finding his home intact and fearing a prophetic vision, decided not to attempt to remove the font again.

The White family are also buried in Charleville (L129). Descendents of the White family in England were very supportive of the work undertaken during the restoration work at the Abbey.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L163 | Name: | St. John the Baptist, Ballyfin |
| Townland: | Ballyfin Demesne | Dedication: | St. John the Baptist |
| NGR (E,N): | 239143 , 201505 | RPS No: | RPS 587 |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | N/A |



Overview of the burial ground with Ha-Ha in the foreground, looking south



Memorials in the burial ground, looking south

The burial ground is located within the grounds of Ballyfin Demesne. The burial ground and church are marked on the first edition Ordnance Survey map as "Ballyfin Church".

Access is via a gate from the road and thence by a well-maintained gravel track that leads up to a small car-park and the burial ground.

There is a church information board within the gates.

A large number of young trees line the inside of the Ha-Ha with some smaller ornamental bushes lining the gravel path to the church. The grass is regularly mown.

Along the northern edge of the burial ground the vegetation has been allowed to grow higher without being mowed

The burial ground is enclosed by a stone revetted Ha-Ha that is up to 2m in depth and in good condition.

The focus of the burial ground is the Church dedicated to St John the Baptist (built c. 1792, renovated c. 1857 and extended c. 1904). A plaque was erected on the northern wall of the church to Sir Charles Coote baronet in 1896.

Many inscribed headstones, slabs and table tombs dating from the mid 19th century with burial still continuing. The earliest headstone lies on the east side and dates to 1852 and was erected by Sir Charles Coote for his long-serving coachman William Mosse. The northern and eastern sides have large areas with no grave markers, although it is remembered that there have been burials here.

The burial ground is used for Church of Ireland burials.

Burial Ground ID: **L164**
Townland: **Springfield**
NGR (E,N): **239934 , 200348**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Ballyfin**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



Patrician Brothers re-interred from Ballyfin College

This is a 20th century burial ground. In addition it contains the reinterred remains of Patrician Brothers formerly buried in Ballyfin College.

Burial Ground ID: **L165**
 Townland: **Ballycarroll**
 NGR (E,N): **253194 , 198085**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Holy Trinity, Ballycarroll**
 Dedication: **Holy Trinity**
 RPS No: **RPS 379**
 RMP No: **N/A**



Holy Trinity Church and graveyard showing entrance gate and stile, looking northeast



Northern extent of burial ground with Rock of Dunamase in background, looking northwest

The graveyard is located in a rural area at the eastern base of the Rock of Dunamase. The site first appears on the 2nd edition OS map as "Trinity Church", there is no graveyard indicated on the map.

Access is provided directly from the local road through the western boundary by means of a wrought iron gate and stone stile. A gravel path leads to and around the church.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The site is covered in well-mown grass and bounded by mature deciduous trees.

The site is bounded to the west by a cut stone wall and by hedgerows elsewhere.

The graveyard contains a Church of Ireland church dedicated to the Holy Trinity (built 1845).

The graveyard is still in use and contains headstones dating from 19th to 21st century. The memorials are generally in good condition; some to the east of church are slightly overgrown or otherwise damaged. Memorials include table tombs, pedestals, kerbed monuments, crosses and headstones.

The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Church of Ireland.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L166 | Name: | Kilmaleed, Monasreeban |
| Townland: | Monasreeban | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 261659 , 191167 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | N/A |



The low overgrown mound possibly once was enclosed by a circular ditch and embankment. Sited in a corn field, the burial ground is at risk of further damage through ploughing, looking north

The burial ground is located in a cultivated field a short distance northwest of the village of Ballyadams in Monasreeban townland. The burial ground appears on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map as "Kilmaleed Graveyard", with the 2nd edition adding "... (Disused)".

Access is via a farm track along the townland boundary to the east before crossing a short distance through the enlarged field. There are no paths and no parking.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

The burial ground is overgrown by long tufted grass, briars and bracken. A large rectangular area towards the eastern end is overgrown by larger shrubs and is impenetrable.

The burial ground is currently an unenclosed rectangular area which is separated from the rest of the field only by land use type (it is not ploughed and sown with crops). A 7m buffer zone has been respected around the supposed extents of the burial ground as part of the agricultural "Reps Scheme".

Several narrow but deep (0.25m) linear trenches - possibly made by plough or some other machine - appear to define the rectangular area of the burial ground. There are at least two sets of these, with the innermost representing the presumed boundary of the burial ground and the outermost appearing to represent the extents of the Repts buffer zone. The 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map shows a rectangular enclosure measuring approximately 43m NW-SE by 20m NE-SW.

Ordnance Survey orthostatic imagery from 2005 shows a crop mark which appears to be a circular enclosure, the centre of which is the highest point of the burial ground (currently overgrown). This clearly shows that such an enclosure exists outside the supposed boundaries to the north, east and south of the current rectangular area (and beyond the extents of the Repts Scheme).

There are traces of piles of small rubble around the higher areas in the burial ground which might be indicative of a former church.

A number of small boulders may indicate the use of simple stone markers as memorials, but these were hard to identify because of the overgrowth and many of these were loose.

The denominational history at the site is unclear.

Burial Ground ID: **L167**
Townland: **Ballyadams**
NGR (E,N): **262011 , 190887**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Joseph's, Ballyadams**
Dedication: **St. Joseph**
RPS No: **RPS 365**
RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of the memorials to deceased clergy, looking east

This 19th century church contains burials of clergy only, dating from the 20th century.

Burial Ground ID: **L168**
 Townland: **Clonaghadoo**
 NGR (E,N): **241972 , 214478**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Mary's, Clonaghadoo**
 Dedication: **St. Mary**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **N/A**



The nearest memorial is a re-used remnant of the destroyed 19th century church , looking northwest



Box-tombs in the burial ground, looking west

The burial ground is located in the village of Clonaghadoo. It is marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey mapping as "R.C. Chapel" and "Grave Yard" on the 2nd edition as "R.C. Church" and "Grave Yard".

Access is directly from the road via the gated enclosure.

There is a dedication to the church and another to the School which no longer exist.

There are some large conifers and yew trees and the grass is regularly mowed.

The rectangular enclosure is bounded by four stone walls in good condition.

The north-south-orientated church, which was built in 1826, was pulled down in 1970 when a new church was built a short distance to the north. The southern wall of the schoolhouse constructed at the same time and ceasing to be used in 1912) is partially preserved in the stone boundary on the south side of the enclosure.

All burials face east. There are many inscribed headstones which date from the mid 18th century, but most are from the 20th century. Many of the memorials are kerbed. There are in addition many table-tombs in various conditions. Some box tombs are present and enclosed with railings. There are some Celtic crosses and a few wrought iron crosses. There are many unmarked graves. It is remembered even within the last few decades the majority of people did not have memorials. One memorial complete with cross was confirmed to be made from the ridge piece of the eastern gable end of the destroyed church. Another ridge piece appears to have been used as a memorial nearby.

The church is Roman Catholic and it is thought that all burials within the burial ground are of members of the Roman Catholic Church.

Burial Ground ID: **L169**
Townland: **Acragar**
NGR (E,N): **246500 , 206191**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Joseph's , Mountmellick**
Dedication: **St. Joseph's**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



General view of graveyard, looking southwest



Mixture of monument types in western extent of graveyard, looking west

The graveyard is in a rural location on the southern outskirts of Mountmellick, immediately west of a regional road. The site first appears on the 2nd edition OS map as "Mountmellick Cemetery".

Access is provided directly from the roadside through the eastern boundary by means of two large wrought iron gates. A car-park has been added to the north of the site, from which there is a wheelchair accessible gate. There are tarmac paths throughout.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The site is covered in well-mown grass and planted with mature yew.

The site is bounded to the east by a cement wall and on all other sides by a timber post and rail fence. The site contains a modern toilet block and a small modern concrete shelter with altar is located on site for masses.

The graveyard is still in use and contains memorials from the 19th to the 21st century. Memorials include Celtic crosses, headstones, metal crosses and simple and ornate kerbed monuments. Towards the centre of the graveyard are a number of very ornate marble kerbed monuments. There is a small plot set aside for the Sisters of the Presentation Convent. Along the southern extent of the burial ground and separated from the main extent by a row of yew trees is a plot which is used for burials of members of the Church of Ireland.

The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be mixed.

Burial Ground ID: **L170**
 Townland: **Graigue**
 NGR (E,N): **244544 , 208337**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Graigue, Mountmellick**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **N/A**



Ground plan of church in northern extent of graveyard, looking northeast



Damaged tombs to southwest of church site, looking northwest

The site is located in a rural area on the western outskirts of Mountmellick, immediately south of the N80. The site is marked on the 1st edition OS map as "R.C. Chapel" and "Grave Yd" and on the 2nd edition as "School" and "Grave Yard".

Access is directly from the roadside via two wrought iron gates, one in the northern boundary and the other in the south-western corner. A concrete path leads from the northern gate to the church.

There is an information panel immediately inside the northern gate entitled "Mountmellick Heritage Trail" which details historic burial places in the Mountmellick area. The site is covered in well-mown grass.

The site is bounded to the north by a low stone wall topped with railings. The western and southern boundaries comprise a stone wall c. 1.5m high. The eastern boundary comprises hedgerow.

St Peter's church was situated on the site and is now preserved in plan as a low T-shaped kerb which has been concreted over. The church dates to the 18th century and was replaced by St Josephs in 1878. The building then housed a boys' school until 1910.

The graveyard contains memorials dating from 18th to the 20th century; the oldest dating to 1755. Monuments include recumbent slabs (three in the floor plan of the church), railed and kerbed monuments, table tombs, Celtic crosses and headstones. Some of the headstone inscriptions have been painted with a black substance to aid their reading. There appears to be a heavily overgrown damaged tomb, or collection of damaged headstones, in the south-eastern corner of the site.

The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Roman Catholic.

Burial Ground ID: **L171**
Townland: **Cappakeel**
NGR (E,N): **254377 , 205041**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Emo, Cappakeel**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



Entrance gates in north-western boundary of graveyard, looking southeast



Graveyard, looking west

The burial ground dates to the 20th century.

Burial Ground ID: **L172**
 Townland: **Rathmiles**
 NGR (E,N): **256606 , 208889**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Lea, Rathmiles**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **RPS 575**
 RMP No: **N/A**



Church, looking northeast



Overgrown railed monuments in north-western corner of graveyard, looking west

The site is located in a rural area, surrounded by gently undulating pasture and tillage, southwest of the town of Killenard. The site is marked on the 1st edition OS map as "Church" - there is no graveyard indicated. It then appears on the 2nd edition OS map as "Church" and "Grave Yard".

Access is provided directly from the roadside by means of two wrought iron gates in the southern boundary wall. A gravel driveway leads from one gate to the other, curving in front of the church door.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The site is covered in well-mown grass with a stand of mature trees in the north-western corner. The grounds and monuments under these trees are heavily overgrown with ivy.

The site is bounded on all sides by a stone wall, c. 2m high.

The graveyard contains a Church of Ireland church built c. 1810.

The graveyard is currently in use and contains 19th to 21st century monuments. Memorials are kerbed, railed, headstones and crosses. The more recent burials are located to the northwest of the church in the middle of the graveyard. The oldest monuments appear to be in the north-western corner of the site and are heavily overgrown.

The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Church of Ireland.

Burial Ground ID: **L173**
Townland: **Rosskelton**
NGR (E,N): **239727 , 191369**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Mathew's, Rosskelton**
Dedication: **St. Mathew**
RPS No: **RPS 381**
RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of memorials in the burial ground, looking northwest

This burial ground is located adjacent to the old crossroads in the townland of Rosskelton. It is marked on both the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey mapping as "Rosskelton Church" and (2nd edition only) "Graveyard".

Access is via the roadside gate. There are gravel paths, a driveway and parking for several cars.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

Large mature trees surround all but the eastern side of the burial ground.

A square stone-walled enclosure surrounds the burial ground, which is generally level ground but appears to rise above the road (this itself appears to have been quarried).

The east-west orientated church dates from the 1820's when it was built as a chapel of ease for Mountrath. There is a utility building in the northwest corner, possibly an old stable or shed.

Burials date from the mid 19th century, with the majority dating to after the late 19th century and mostly comprise inscribed headstones. Many plots are kerbed, some of these with rails. There are a small number of table- and box-tombs. A large pedestalled memorial is topped with an urn.

There are memorials to the wives (both with the family name Mowbray) of soldiers who died in the First World War.

There are a number of green spaces around the burial ground where there are no memorials. It is possible that there are unmarked graves in the burial ground, though a plan of the known burials does exist.

The burial ground is used for Church of Ireland burials.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L174 | Name: | St. Peter's, Mountrath |
| Townland: | Mountrath (Maryborough West By) | Dedication: | St. Peter |
| NGR (E,N): | 235358 , 194846 | RPS No: | RPS 255 |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | N/A |



Overview of the burial ground, looking west



Two more unusual memorials with urn and anchor motifs, looking northwest

The burial ground is located in the town of Mountrath. It is located on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey mapping as "(St. Peter's) Church" and "Graveyard".

Access is via the roadside gate from the corner of Church St and Portlaoise Rd, or the eastern gate accessed from Portlaoise Rd. There are gravel paths but no designated parking (available in town).

There is a church information board inside the main gate.

A number of trimmed yew bushes are dotted around the burial ground.

The burial ground is an L-shaped enclosure with St. Peter's church occupying the western leg. The greater part of the burial ground lies to the east and has been extended to the north.

The burial ground is surrounded on all sides by high stone walls except the northern extension which has block-work walls.

St. Peter's Church of Ireland church is an east-west orientated structure built in 1815 and renovated in 1832.

Memorials generally comprise inscribed headstones with many kerbs, especially around more recent burials. Some more ornate plots of late 19th century date have kerbed plots with high and low railings or chains. A number of box-tombs are also present, some of which are leaning through subsidence. Two more unusual memorials occur together and include a scroll with large anchor and a pedastalled urn.

A small kerbed burial with headstone is in memorial of a 3-month old baby. There is a large green area for further burial in the extension.

The burial ground is used for Church of Ireland burials

Burial Ground ID: **L175**
 Townland: **Townparks**
 NGR (E,N): **245533 , 207368**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Joseph's, Mountmellick**
 Dedication: **St. Joseph**
 RPS No: **RPS 002**
 RMP No: **N/A**



St Joseph's church, Mountmellick, looking northeast



Burial monuments inside the eastern boundary of the church grounds, looking east

The site is located in an urban area in the town of Mountmellick. It first appears on the 2nd edition OS map as "R.C. Church".

Access is via a large wrought iron gate in the southern site boundary.

There is a blue Mountmellick Heritage Trail plaque on the railings near the gate which outlines the history of the site.

The surface of the burial ground is covered in concrete slabs and brick.

The site is bounded on to the south by a low ashlar wall topped with railings. All other boundaries are ashlar block walls c. 2-3m high. The site comprises the church yard of St Joseph's in which 5 parish priests have been interred since the 19th century

The site contains St Joseph's Church (built c. 1878).

There are 5 memorials in the church yard; headstones, and tombs.

The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Roman Catholic.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L176 | Name: | Society of Friends, Mountrath |
| Townland: | Mountrath (Maryborough West By) | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 235265 , 194826 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | N/A |



The burial ground has no memorials and is now used as peaceful access to the river, looking northwest

The burial ground is located in the town of Mountrath across from St. Peter's church and burial ground (L174) and opposite Portlaoise St. It is located adjacent to the Mountrath River and is marked on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey mapping as respectively "Quakers' Graveyard" and "'Quakers' Burial Ground".

Access is via the roadside entranceway from the junction of Church St and Main St. Gravel paths runs around the burial ground and through to the river-side walk to the west. There is no designated parking (available in town). There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

There is a large number of randomly distributed mature birch trees planted within the burial ground.

The burial ground is enclosed on the eastern and western sides by stone walls with open entrances. Neighbouring properties form the northern and southern boundaries of the burial ground.

There are no associated structures at the burial ground.

There are no memorials at the burial ground.

The burial ground has been traditionally used for members of the Society of Friends (Quakers). Prior to the early 19th century, the Quakers did not erect memorials over burials. It is thought that the burial ground never had memorials and possibly dates after the Quakers' arrival in the area (mid 17th century) to the 18th century.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L177 | Name: | Brigidine Sisters, Mountrath |
| Townland: | Dysartbeagh | Dedication: | St. Brigid |
| NGR (E,N): | 235248 , 194308 | RPS No: | RPS 253 |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | N/A |



Overview of the burial ground located behind St. Fintan's Roman Catholic Church, looking northeast

The burial ground is located to the south of St. Fintan's Church, Mountrath, in the grounds of the Brigidine Sisters Convent School. The burial ground is not shown on the first edition Ordnance Survey map but "Burial Grounds" are misleadingly shown immediately south in the area which is now covered by the school sports ground. There is, however, a possibility that burials may have taken place at some time in this area.

Access is via the St. Fintan's church car-park and the gated convent grounds.

There is directional signage to the convent from the road. There are no information panels.

Vegetation comprises some ivy and shrubs which are creeping over the wall in the south and a single tree is planted in a small area in the east of the burial ground where there are no grave markers. The burial ground is covered with gravel.

The burial ground is within an enclosure formed by St. Fintan's Roman Catholic Church on the northern side, with brick and concrete walls forming the other boundaries.

St. Fintan's church was built from 1857-1867 succeeded an earlier church built from 1795 locally known as "Delaney's Folly" after the foundations of the latter were deemed unsound. The former burial places of several priests were marked by their headstones being set into the wall of the new church.

The Brigidine Convent was founded at the site in 1809, with a monastery of the Patrician Brothers founded at that time (no longer surviving). The main convent building was constructed in 1885.

The memorials all face west-southwest. The neat, uniform, inscribed short and flat-topped headstones were erected in 2007 upon the bicentenary of the founding of the Brigidine Order. The memorials mark the graves of Brigidine Sisters, Patrician Brothers and a small number of lay people associated with the convent. The graves of the Brigidine Sisters are the most numerous, whilst a group of about a dozen Patrician Brothers are also located in the burial ground. The Brigidine Sisters' memorials are limestone, whilst the Patrician Brothers' memorials are made of light grey granite. The newer memorials replaced the earlier wrought iron crosses that had disintegrated.

Three grave markers with white marble crosses are in memorial of three lay-people associated with the convent, including one young girl of 12 years. Three other headstones are propped against the southern boundary wall and in memorial of a number of Brigidine Sisters whose graves could not be precisely located.

The burial ground is primarily for the Brigidine Sisters and Patrician Brothers orders, though a small number of lay people have also been buried here.

Burial Ground ID: **L178**
 Townland: **Beladd**
 NGR (E,N): **248860 , 198257**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Peter & Paul's, Beladd**
 Dedication: **SS. Peter & Paul**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of the burial ground, looking south-west



Memorial to I.R.A. prisoners who died on hunger strike, looking east

The burial ground is located immediately north of the Stradbally road, just east of the town of Portlaoise. The site first appears on the 2nd edition OS map as "Cemetery".

Access is via a large wrought iron gate in the southern site boundary. A second, inactive gate is located further west. Tarmac, concrete and gravel paths lead from the gate and throughout the graveyard.

Just inside the gate is an information panel showing the layout of the graveyard.

The site is planted with well mown grass and mature yew and deciduous trees.

The site is bounded to the south by a plastered wall topped with railings. The other boundaries comprise post and rail fencing and mature hedgerow. The site has expanded to the northeast in recent years.

The site contains a modern toilet block.

The site is in use as the main local authority graveyard for Portlaoise and is the largest burial ground in the midlands. Memorials date from the 19th to the 21st centuries and comprise kerbed and railed monuments, headstones and Celtic crosses. There is a Celtic cross memorial to Christian Brothers. There is a burial plot for the Presentation Sisters and a memorial to republican prisoners who died on hunger strike in Long Kesh in

1981. In the north-western corner of the site is an area set aside for 'pauper's graves' and immediately south of this is a memorial plot to the patients of the former lunatic asylum at St Fintan's.

There are mixed religious denominations interred in the burial ground. Along the western extent of the burial ground and separated from the main extent by a low wall is a plot devoted to Church of Ireland burials, this section of the graveyard is no longer in use.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L179 | Name: | Former Lunatic Asylum, Beladd |
| Townland: | Beladd | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 248211 , 198387 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | N/A |



General view of the burial ground, looking east



The memorial, looking east

The burial ground is located immediately north of the Stradbally road, just east of Portlaoise. The site lies within the grounds of St. Fintan's Hospital. This is an area of mixed land use including landscaped gardens, derelict buildings and yards and pasture. The burial ground is located just north of the hospital's original high boundary wall. While there is no indication of this site on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map, a roughly square area is marked on the 2nd edition map as 'Grave Yard', with an associated 'Mortuary' located in the northwest corner. The site itself rises slightly from the surrounding land.

The burial ground is accessed through the grounds of the hospital, the nearest entrance being off the Stradbally Road southwest of the site. There is a pedestrian entrance in the western boundary of the site via a wrought iron gate.

There is no directional signage.

The site is planted with grass seed.

The boundary comprises a stone wall which curves from the west to the south. A timber fence forms the eastern and northern boundaries. There is no surface indication of the burials extending beyond the current boundaries, but it is likely that they do.

There are no extant associated structures.

A stone monument erected by Portlaoise Mental Health Association has the following inscription:

"In memory of
the men and women
from
Laois, Offaly, Longford and Westmeath
who died at Maryborough
Mental Hospital
and lay resting in this area
from 1832 to 1898"

The memorial includes four pillars carved with the County Arms of Longford, Westmeath, Laois and Offaly.

The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey.

Breda Cooley from the Portlaoise Mental Health Association has been involved with researching and erecting the current memorial. This burial ground ceased to be used in 1898, from whence remains were interred in "The Blanket Graves" - a designated area in the north-western corner of St Peter & Paul's Cemetery (L178). Her research indicated that people were buried here since 1832. Ms Cooley also indicated that there was a possibility that patients were also buried in the gardens, to the west of the main building.

Archaeological test excavations in the area located the floor level of a concrete structure identified as a mortuary and a gravel path but did not locate individual graves and an unidentified larger mass grave was speculated (Stevens 2006).

Burial Ground ID: **L180**
 Townland: **Maryborough**
 NGR (E,N): **247300 , 198598**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Presentation Convent, Portlaoise**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **N/A**



Gated entrance to the Presentation Convent, looking north-west



Overview of the location of the former burial ground, looking south

The site is located in an urban area in the town of Portlaoise, just south of the Ridge Road, in an unused piece of land. The site first appears on the 2nd edition OS map as a square plot marked "Cemetery". The ground is much lower than the adjacent road surface.

Access appears to be via the entrance to the Presentation Convent to the southwest.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The site is overgrown with high grass.

The site is bounded to the north and east by a high stone wall. No other boundaries are apparent apart from a small portion of railing and what seems to be a pillar up against the northern boundary wall.

There are no associated structures.

There are no apparent grave markers.

The remains were removed from this site and reinterred in St Peter and Paul's cemetery in Beladd in 2008. It is unclear whether any burials may yet remain.

The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Roman Catholic and of the Sisters of the Presentation Order.

Burial Ground ID: **L181**
Townland: **Maryborough**
NGR (E,N): **246774 , 198327**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Peter's, Portlaoise**
Dedication: **St. Peter**
RPS No: **RPS 186_B**
RMP No: **N/A**



View through pedestrian gate, looking west



View through main gate in southern boundary, looking north

The site is located in an urban area in Portlaoise town, on the western side of the Market Square. The site is marked on the 1st edition OS map as "Church" and "Grave Yard" and on the 2nd edition as "St. Peter's Church" and "Grave Yard".

Access is provided by means of a large wrought iron gate in the southern boundary wall and by a pedestrian gate in the eastern boundary wall. On the date in inspection both gates were locked. Gravel paths lead from both gates and around the church.

An information panel is located inside the gate that identifies the site as "Church of Ireland St Peter's, Georgian Style Church Consecrated 1804" and details times of service.

The site is covered in well-mown grass and planted with mature yew. Some of the memorials are overgrown with ivy.

The site is bounded on the southern and eastern sides by a high stone wall and by trees to the west and hedgerow to the north.

The graveyard contains a Georgian style Church of Ireland church built dating to 1804.

The graveyard is still in use and contains headstones dating mostly from 19th to 20th century with a few from 21st century. The headstones are in varying conditions; many upright and in good condition; others leaning and damaged; contains some table tombs, many overgrown and badly damaged.

The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Church of Ireland.

Burial Ground ID: **L183**

Name: **Sothorn Family Cemetery**

Townland: **Grogan**

Dedication: **None**

NGR (E,N): **224791 , 178901**

RPS No: **N/A**

National Monument No: **N/A**

RMP No: **N/A**



View of the private graveyard, facing south

This graveyard is a private family cemetery constructed and used by the Sothorn family. Reportedly, the first burial dates to the 20th century.

Burial Ground ID: **L185**
Townland: **Raheenabrogue**
NGR (E,N): **245278 , 186580**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Abbeyleix**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of the burial ground, looking west

This is a 20th century burial ground.

Burial Ground ID: **L186**
 Townland: **Killadooley**
 NGR (E,N): **223883 , 182335**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Killasmeestia**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **RPS 362**
 RMP No: **N/A**



Reused spire at entrance to graveyard, facing northeast



General view of the graveyard, facing west

The site is located in a small village. A road is located to the north and an unused priest's house is located to the west. There are farm buildings to the northeast, while immediately to the southeast and south are fields; fields also lie in all directions beyond the small village. There is a gate in the north-western corner of the site which is loosely locked and there are parking spaces along the northern boundary wall. This site is owned by the parishioners.

Information panels include the plaque at the entrance to the site, which incorporated a cross from the church after it fell off the roof during a lightning storm in 2008. A grotto in the south-eastern corner displays additional information.

The site is well maintained; the grass is short. It is bounded by stone walls on all sides, apart from the south-western corner; this is formed by a wooden fence and delineates the priest's land from the site. Some of the southern part of the graveyard was taken from the priest's land to extend the graveyard southwards. The northern wall is newer than the 19th church; the others are probably the original walls of the church. The land within the graveyard is relatively flat. There are a few small trees along the northern wall. There is minimal ivy growth on the eastern walls, while the south-eastern wall is covered in hedgerow.

The present church at Killadooley was built in 1850. It was closed briefly in 2008 after lightning struck it; it reopened in 2009. Two previous churches stood on the site on land donated by the White family; one was constructed in 1770; this was replaced in 1798. The present church replaced the latter in 1858. Reportedly,

remains of the 1798 church remain in the south-western corner of the site, while other sections were removed in 1950 during a site clean-up.

Memorials include Celtic crosses, headstones, kerbed burials and box-tombs on the site. The earliest visible date is 1830, but 18th century burials are either unmarked or are no longer present. The site is still open, as is the church. The plaque at the entrance also commemorates those in unmarked graves. Local tradition suggests that a cillín is located along one side of the graveyard.

The site contains a bell-tower, which was made in Dublin in 1932. The parishioners have recently constructed the grotto in the south-eastern corner with a pathway leading to it along the south-western wall. A priest's house is situated to the immediate west of the site. Its shed was the site of the old schoolhouse, visible on the 1st Edition O.S.

The church and graveyard are called Killasmeestia in retention of the townland name where a 17th century mud-walled chapel stood. The area was also called Prattsorchard (Pratt's old church). When the site of this church moved to the present plot in Killadooley townland in 1770, the name Killasmeestia was retained. The mud-walled chapel had been the replacement for a mass-pit which was in use in Ballyquaid townland in the 1740's. This site had originally been open, but after a period of time a small altar with wattle walls and a straw roof was constructed.

A mass-path was located to the northwest; it is marked by the Garron stile which links it to Yew Tree cemetery. Another path linked the site to Garryduff.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L187 | Name: | Killermogh, Ballycolla |
| Townland: | Rathmakelly Glebe | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 236424 , 180197 | RPS No: | RPS 497 |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | N/A |



General view of church and graveyard, facing west



Burial of John Fitpatrick; last Lord of Castletown, facing west

The site is located in a rural area and is surrounded on all sides but the west by fields; pasture and tillage. The road runs to the west and the Rectory lies just adjacent to the road. The land is fairly even in this area and the boundaries are formed by hedgerows. The site is accessed by a gate in the side of the road and there is some space here for parking.

There is both directional signage and an information sign with the name of the church at the site.

The site is well maintained; the grass is short. There are a few mature trees and saplings in the western end.

The boundaries are formed by stone walls. The eastern wall is collapsing in places, while the wall in the northwest has recently been rebuilt. The area below the wall in the east, west and north rises and the base of the wall is therefore higher than the level of the graveyard. There is some ivy growth on the walls.

A 19th century church stands on the site. It is open but is in some disrepair. The steeple needs to be fixed, but the parishioners are currently raising funds for the repairs.

Memorials include headstones, pedestal-tombs, box-tombs, railed-tombs, kerbed plots and coped stones/sarcophagi. The earliest legible marker is 1869 (pedestal tomb).

The site is called Killermogh in retention of the name of the old Church of Ireland church in Killermogh townland, which it replaced. The oldest graves are located to the northwest of the church; they are 19th century. The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Church of Ireland.

The Roe and White families appear on many of the headstones. Burials include that of two young men (Richard Henry Pearson and Abraham Pratt Pearson) who were the subject of a book and a 2009 documentary produced by RTE. The men were originally from the area and were shot in front of their house in Carrstown, Offaly in 1921 during the Civil War.

The last Lord Castletown is buried in the graveyard. His grave has 5 blocks stacked with the letters KWBAB at the foot of the plot. These are associated with his Celtic Association and represent Wales, Ireland, Scotland, Isle of Man and Brittany; he was made a Knight of St. Patrick by King Edward. The stones were erected to symbolise the occasion and were subsequently erected during meetings to signify peaceful proceedings. His will contained the wish that they be removed from Grantstown Manor and be placed at the foot of his grave.

Burial Ground ID: **L188**
Townland: **Dysartbeagh**
NGR (E,N): **234780 , 194055**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St Fintan's, Mountrath**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of the burial ground, looking west

This is a 20th century burial ground.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L189 | Name: | Knockaroe |
| Townland: | Knockaroe | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 228843 , 186744 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | N/A |



Overview of the burial ground, looking northwest



Memorial to Bernard McEvoy, 15th King's Huzzars, who died a few weeks before the signing of the Armistice in 1918

The burial ground is located on the crest of a hill in the townland of Knoackaroe, with extensive views to the south, east and west. It is marked on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps as "R.C. Chapel" and "Graveyard".

Access is via the gated enclosure from the road. There is a path to and around the church and there is designated parking.

There is no informative signage and there are no directional signs.

There are many mature trees surrounding the peripheries of the burial ground. Ornamental privet bushes line the path to the church. Some ivy is present on the eastern boundary walls.

The burial ground is enclosed by a rectangular stone enclosure in good condition.

The east-west orientated church is currently being refurbished. It was built in 1821 and replaces the earlier chapel which was built around 1796 (Carrigan 1905, Vol. 2 p142). There is a stone utility building located in the northwest corner of the burial ground.

Memorials comprise mostly headstones with a few Celtic crosses. Many of the memorials are kerbed. There are many areas, however, where there are no visible markers and there are no simple stone markers. The

earliest memorial dates to 1829. There is also a military headstone dedicated to Bernard McEvoy, 15th the Kings Huzzars, died 1918 (a few weeks prior to the signing of the Armistice ending the Great War 1914-1918).

The religious denomination of those that are buried here is unclear but it is likely that the majority were Roman Catholic.

Burial Ground ID: **L190**
Townland: **Rathdowney**
NGR (E,N): **227914 , 178385**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Rathdowney, Old**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



Site in background with County Council car-park in foreground, facing northeast



Tombstones and trees in north-eastern quadrant of site, facing northeast

The site is located in the town of Rathdowney. It consists of a green area bounded by a Laois County Council car-park on the south, shops to the east and west and a building to the north.

The site is accessed through the car-park at the side of the road.

There is no directional or informative signage.

The site was originally larger and burials lie below the car-park in the south. Boundary walls on all sides but the south consist of a stone wall. The central part of the northern half is well-maintained and here there is short grass and a few trees. However, the borders are overgrown with bushes and weeds grow, especially in the northern end. The site is fairly flat and the graves are located within the centre of the site, rather than along the woody and weedy margins.

The graveyard was associated with a church which is visible on the 1st and 2nd Edition of the OS maps in the north of the site. This was knocked due to disrepair and worship was moved in the 1950's to the Church of the Holy Trinity church in the western end of Rathdowney town. Rubble and foundations are visible to the north of the northern wall which is suggestive of the remains of the original church.

The memorials consist of 19th and 20th century headstones and Celtic crosses. The burials appear to predominantly those of priests. The headstones face in different directions and some have collapsed. Others

are buried below the tarmac car-park situated just east of the green area. The religious denominations of people interred are thought to be Roman Catholic.

Burial Ground ID: **L191**
Townland: **Ballynevin**
NGR (E,N): **234976 , 174703**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Cullahill**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



Modern lawn cemetery, facing east



Entrance to Millennium, facing east

This graveyard is located close to the town of Cullahill. It is a modern graveyard and the earliest burials date to the late 20th century. A millennium garden has been constructed adjacent to the graveyard which lists the names of all local inhabitants in 2000.

Burial Ground ID: **L192**
 Townland: **Rahandrick Lower**
 NGR (E,N): **232798 , 181671**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Canice's, Clogh**
 Dedication: **St. Canice**
 RPS No: **RPS 494**
 RMP No: **N/A**



Burials of priest to east of church, facing east



Q9th century grave of Very Rev. Matt Canon Keefe, facing north

The site is located in the village of Clogh. It is bordered on the east side by a road. There is a house to the immediate south and north, while there are fields to the north. The site lies in the western edge of the town in a rural landscape. The graveyard consists of the graves of four priests located to the north of the church and a single burial at the eastern entrance to the church.

The site is accessed by a gate in the north-eastern side of the site. There is also a gate in the southeast which runs from the church pathway. The site can also be accessed from the south, where the church car-park is located.

There is no directional or informative signage.

The grass is kept short, while there is some ivy growth along the northern and western walls. There is a large tree growing over the four graves and small trees and bushes in the grassy areas of the site.

The footprint of the church and graveyard is enclosed by a stone wall; it is collapsing in places along the western side. Four of the graves are situated in the grassy area to the north of the church, while grass and a car-park are located to the south. The ground slopes from the church north and westwards. St. Canice's church is located to the south of the graves.

There are five graves in total and they are all in good condition. They belong to Roman Catholic priests who served the new church of Clogh. Four are situated to the north of the church and consist of Celtic crosses with kerbing; they date from 1901-1981. The graveslabs to the east of the church is that of Very Rev. Matt Canon Keefe who built the church. He was a prominent Land League campaigner and he adopted the Tenant Right cause. He was buried on the site in 1887.

Apparently, the bell associated with the church hung between two trees; it is now fixed in the belfry of St. Canice's.

Burial Ground ID: **L193**
Townland: **Ballacolla**
NGR (E,N): **237007 , 181392**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Fergal's, Ballacolla**
Dedication: **St. Fergal**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



General view of the site, facing northwest

This graveyard is located in Ballacolla village was opened in 1988. It replaced that of Ballacolla graveyard; the church remains in use however.

Burial Ground ID: **L195**
Townland: **Ballinakill**
NGR (E,N): **246888 , 180146**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Brigid's, Ballinakill**
Dedication: **St. Brigid**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



Current Edition of Ordnance Survey mapping showing location of graveyard

The graveyard is located south of Ballinakill town. It is a modern site and dates to the 20th century.

Burial Ground ID: **L196**
Townland: **Monaferriack**
NGR (E,N): **260665 , 197486**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Peter's, Monaferriack**
Dedication: **St. Peter**
RPS No: **RPS 380**
RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of the burial ground which is being managed to promote biodiversity, looking north

The burial ground is located towards the bottom of the southern side of the forested hill known as "Bawn Hill". It is marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map as "Church" and on the 2nd edition as "St. Peter's Church" and "Graveyard".

Access is via the gated enclosure from the roadside. There is no designated parking.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

The majority of the enclosure is forest, with many large beech and other trees (east and north of the church). The peripheries of the burial ground have significant vegetation in the form of young trees, holly and other shrubs this is especially thick in places on the western wall. The area around the burials is allowed to develop as meadow, and thus does not have the appearance of a lawn, as there are orchids and other species present. Pesticide is restricted to small amounts along the paths.

The burial ground is enclosed by rectangular stone-walled enclosure which is gated in the western corner and has an additional, though unused, gate in the southwest. The enclosure has been breached in places due to fallen trees.

St. Peter's Church of Ireland church is a northeast-southwest-orientated structure built in 1804. It is reported to have been built to replace the old church in Curraclone which fell into disrepair. Lewis probably describes St. Peter's when he reports a "The church is a neat small edifice in good repair." (1837, p401). A small stone-built stable in the western corner is contemporary with the church.

There are only a small number of memorials, some of which are kerbed. The group mostly comprises headstones and Celtic crosses with some undulations that appear to be unmarked graves.

The burial ground has traditionally been used for local members of the Church of Ireland.

Burial Ground ID: **L197**

Name: **St. Joseph's, Raheenbarnagh**

Townland: **Raheenbarnagh**

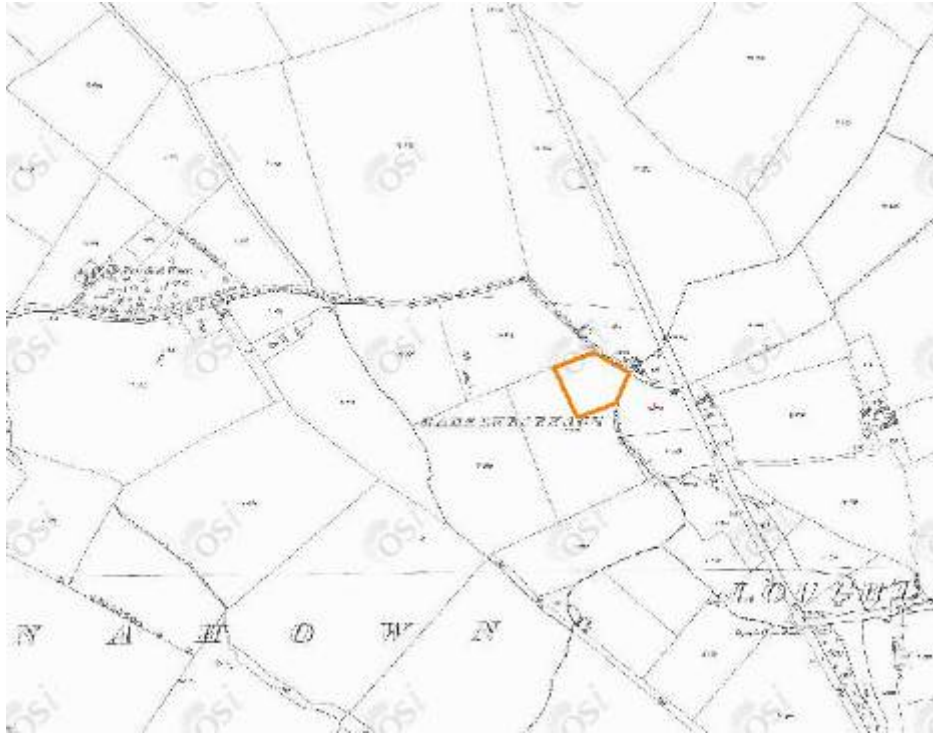
Dedication: **St. Joseph**

NGR (E,N): **260897 , 190241**

RPS No: **N/A**

National Monument No: **N/A**

RMP No: **N/A**



Second edition OS map showing the location of the cemetery.

This is a 20th century burial ground.

Burial Ground ID: **L198**
Townland: **Knockbrack**
NGR (E,N): **229917 , 189513**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Pike of Rush Hall**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **RPS 369**
RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of the burial ground, looking northeast



A variety of memorials, looking southwest

The burial ground is located on a west-facing slope adjacent to a minor road a short distance from the N8 "Pike of Rush Hall" in Knockbrack townland. It is marked on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey mapping as "R.C. Chapel" and "Grave Yard" ("Burial Ground" on the 2nd ed.). A school is located adjacent to the burial ground and is marked on the 2nd edition OS map.

Access is via the gated roadside enclosure. There is a gravel path to the church and designated parking adjacent to the burial ground. There are also toilet facilities.

There are no information panels at the burial ground. There is directional signage from the main road.

There are a few small trees planted along the north-western boundary. The grass is regularly mown with pesticide appearing to be used around the edges of burials.

There is some ivy growing thickly over a memorial (possible box-tomb?) with a little over the boundary walls.

The burial ground is bounded by a rectangular stone-walled enclosure which is rendered on the south-western (road front) side where it is also gated.

The northwest-southeast orientated church was constructed around 1817-19 (Carrigan Vol. 2, p184) subsequent to open-air masses being said during Penal Times. The church is located close to the north-eastern boundary.

The inscribed memorials mostly comprise headstones with a few Celtic crosses and date from the mid 19th century. Reportedly, the burial ground had a depth of about 1m to the bedrock. Sods were reportedly brought in to raise the level of some burials.

Traditionally, mental maps were all that existed of the graves within the burial ground. Small concrete crosses were erected to replace simple stone markers and for some known but unmarked graves in the 1960s. These were in socketed concrete bases which could be removed to mow the ground, some of these can still be seen but they are quite denuded. One simple stone marker, a small slab of limestone, still remains.

Burial reportedly will only continue within existing plots. The burial ground has been traditionally used for Roman Catholic community but it is not clear if other denominations are present. According to tradition there have been many people buried here from the wider area including Clough, Camross and Borris, but it is not understood why that might be the case.

Burial Ground ID: **L199**
Townland: **Camross**
NGR (E,N): **227236 , 194923**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **St. Kevin's, Camross**
Dedication: **St. Kevin**
RPS No: **RPS 372**
RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of the ruins and burial ground, looking northwest



This sculpture memorial is beginning to lean, looking west

The burial ground is located within the village of Camross. On the first edition Ordnance Survey map the burial ground ("cemetery") is suggested to be located to the west of the present burial ground. On the second edition the burial ground is shown to be in the current location.

The older part of the burial ground is accessed by a gate within the southern wall. A laneway to the east of the burial ground provides access to the later sections of the burial ground to the north. The interior of the church has been subject to resurfacing and some minor restoration under the Millennium Park Project.

There are plaques within the interior of the church commemorating the Millennium Park Project and its contributors.

Mature fir trees line the western boundary of the burial ground. The eastern boundary is lined with mature evergreens. The rest of the burial ground vegetation comprises well-maintained grass.

The burial ground may have begun to the west of the present site in two small enclosures marked on the first edition OS map, but this may be simply a misplacement of the word "Cemetery". The westernmost of these has been built upon. The easternmost small enclosure is now the northern part of a larger paddock.

North of the church, the burial ground is owned by Laois County Council and burial within existing plots still takes place. Beyond a low concrete wall, a modern lawn cemetery serves as an extension to the burial ground.

The ruins of the Roman Catholic church (constructed in 1813) are the focus of the burial ground and are T-shaped.

The earliest surviving headstones within the existing burial grounds are found immediately west, east and south of the church, where there are no longer any burials.

The existing burial grounds contain a large variety of memorials. Burials in the oldest (southern) part of the burial ground faced east, and memorials are dominated by headstones with the earliest identified dating from 1818. One particular headstone, originally dedicated to a family named Phelan, is in memoriam of a five grandchildren (Higgins) aged between 2 months and 2 and 1/2 years that died between 1918 and 1925. A very tall pedestalled memorial topped with an angel is leaning.

Immediately north of the church is an apparently later burial ground in which in the majority of the burials are 20th century Celtic crosses with kerbed plots and face south, with only the north-western corner having a number which face east.

A modern lawn cemetery adjoins to the north of this area.

The ruins here are of a Roman Catholic church, wherein the original burial grounds surrounding the church have been used for Roman Catholic burial. The first extension of the burial ground to the north has also predominantly been used for the burial of Roman Catholics, with the exception of the north-western corner which was reserved for Church of Ireland burials. However, due to pressures on the burial ground there have been Roman Catholic burials within this area also prior to the second extension of the burial ground. The recent lawn cemetery extension is non-denominational.

Burial Ground ID: **L200**
Townland: **Corbally**
NGR (E,N): **239191 , 209766**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Rosenallis Local**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of the burial ground looking north-west



Overview of the burial ground looking south-west

This is a 20th century burial ground.

Burial Ground ID: **L201**
 Townland: **Timahoe**
 NGR (E,N): **253702 , 190149**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Timahoe**
 Dedication: **St. Michael**
 RPS No: **RPS 354**
 RMP No: **N/A**



The burial ground around the St Michael's Church (OS 25" map)



Overview of the burial ground, looking northwest

The burial ground is marked on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map as "Graveyard" in the enclosure around the Roman Catholic church.

Access is via the church grounds. Parking is available to the west of the church.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

A grass lawn is the only vegetation within the burial ground.

The extents of the burial ground cannot be assessed as there are no visible traces, but from the Ordnance Survey maps it surrounds the existing church built in 1831.

No memorials of any kind survive in the burial ground and there is no evidence of graves or suggestion that this was once (and possibly is?) a place of interment.

There is no information regarding the denomination of people interred here but it is assumed that this was reserved for members of the Roman Catholic Church, though whether only for priests is unclear.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L202 | Name: | Durrow Local |
| Townland: | Durrow Townparks | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 241035 , 177217 | RPS No: | RPS 162 |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | N/A |



Satellite imagery showing Durrow Local as an extension to Holy Trinity Catholic Church graveyard, (from Google Earth)

This graveyard is located immediately to the rear of Holy Trinity Catholic Church and graveyard in Durrow. It is a modern extension and dates to the 21st century.

Burial Ground ID: **L203**
Townland: **Killeshin**
NGR (E,N): **267602 , 177809**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Killeshin Local**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **RPS 364**
RMP No: **N/A**



Satellite imagery showing Killeshin Local as an extension to Holy Cross Catholic Church graveyard, (from Google Earth)

This graveyard is located immediately to the rear of Holy Cross Catholic Church and graveyard in Killeshin. It is a modern extension and dates to the 20th century.

Burial Ground ID: **L204**
Townland: **Glebe**
NGR (E,N): **229578 , 192116**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Anatrim/Coolrain Local**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of the burial ground, looking southeast

This 20th century burial ground is located at the rear of St. Jude's Church of Ireland church and burial ground.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L205 | Name: | Thomas Family Cemetery |
| Townland: | Olderrig | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 268801 , 177085 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | N/A |



Three Celtic crosses situated in the middle of the graveyard, facing northeast



One of the memorial is accompanied by a stone cherub, facing north

This site is located in the middle of a pasture field; all surrounding fields are also under pasture. The northern side of the field is formed by a hedgerow, which is located close to the northern boundary of the burial ground. There is a small village situated to the north of this site.

Access is through a field and a gate in the eastern wall of the site.

There is no directional or informative signage.

The vegetation consists of mature trees, grasses and smaller trees.

The boundaries consist of stone walls with a cement capping. The walls have been consolidated in places in the recent past, especially in the western wall.

There are no associated structures and there is no recorded history of any.

There are three identical Celtic crosses located in the western portion of the graveyard. They are surrounded by a low kerb and they date from 1894. Stones located along the northern wall may be the remains of earlier headstones. The undergrowth appears to have covered additional memorials.

This was a private family graveyard belonging to the Thomas family, Carlow, who lived in Belmont House prior to its demolition and subsequent construction of the Dolmen Hotel, Carlow. Local tradition suggests that

burials took place on the site during the night-time; this includes that of Captain Jocelyn-Davidson, Esq., in 1788. The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey but the majority are thought to be Roman Catholic.

Burial Ground ID: **L206**
 Townland: **Crissard**
 NGR (E,N): **258649 , 183983**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Wolfhill**
 Dedication: **St. Mary**
 RPS No: **RPS 668**
 RMP No: **N/A**



Overview of the burial ground, looking northwest



Locally carved wooden crucifix memorial, looking west

The burial ground is located high up in the Slievemargy range of hills in an area formerly rich in coal mining. The earlier cruciform church is marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey mapping as "Wolfhill R.C. Chapel". On the 2nd edition this area is marked "Grave Yard" with the large later church sited adjacent and marked "St. Mary's R.C. Church".

Access to the burial ground is via the gated enclosure or through the grounds of St. Mary's Church.

An information panel "Slieve Margy Way & The Swan Loop" gives some historical information about the local area. There are directional signs from the cross roads to the south.

There are pine and evergreen trees around the peripheries of the burial ground. A young ash tree grows between rows of closely set table-tombs. The grass is mown.

The burial ground is enclosed by stone walls on the west, east and south (capped in concrete) sides. The northern boundary is an earthen embankment with a stone stile. Only one wall survives of the earlier chapel. This would appear to be the southern wall of the western transept.

All of the memorials face east. There are many Celtic crosses and headstones. There are a number of simple stone markers, appearing as locally quarried flags, set in rows alongside inscribed memorials. There are also

many table-tombs. Many memorials have kerbs or railed kerbs. There are also many areas which appear to have unmarked graves. One wooden cross bears a locally carved figure of Christ.

There is also a memorial erected in the north-eastern side of the burial ground which is dedicated to "...those Wexford men who gave their lives for Irish freedom having died in this area during the 1798 rebellion."The burial ground is traditionally used for Roman Catholic burial.

In the 1798 rebellion, Fr. Murphy's army of 5000 camped a mile and a half from Wolfhill in the Slatt area subsequent to the burning of Castlecomer. Some of the army that died from wounds received in Castlecomer are reportedly buried in Wolfhill burial ground prior to the army going on to campaign elsewhere. There is also a tradition that local men from Slatt Lower, after joining the rebellion but being unwilling to leave their area, decided to come back. These men, fearing reprisal for being deserters, wet the gunpowder of the rebels before departing.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L207 | Name: | Heywood Family Mausoleum |
| Townland: | Haywood Demesne | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 247422 , 181422 | RPS No: | RPS 513 |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | N/A |



General view of the 'Black Church', facing northwest



Detailed view of the exterior of the mausoleum, facing northwest

The site is located in Heywood Demesne. It is surrounded on all sides by woodland and it is situated at the base of a slope. It consists of a mausoleum, two piers and a number of broken slabs and pieces of metal.

The site must be accessed through a small road traversing the demesne; then over a stone stile, through a field and through a wood.

There is no directional or informative signage and the site is difficult to find.

It is completely overgrown with grasses, moss, ivy, trees and bushes.

Two red-brick piers are situated to the east but all other boundaries have disappeared. The extant mausoleum is in good condition although it is covered in ivy. Plaques on its exterior show that it was consecrated in 1792 by Eusebius Cleaver (Bishop of Leighlin and Ferns) and that it is dedicated to the memory of Michael F. Trench and his wife Anna Helena. The inner chamber of the mausoleum reportedly could be accessed in the past.

The site was built in 1786 by Michael Frederick Trench for his family within the grounds of his house, which was named after his mother-in-law. The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey but the majority are thought to be Roman Catholic.

A Salesian School student recorded the inscriptions the recent past and they noted one small 19th/20th century headstone in the south, which was apparently dedicated to a dog belonging to a daughter of the family.

Burial Ground ID: **L208**

Name: **Clashawalla**

Townland: **Clonard or Cappaloughlin**

Dedication: **None**

NGR (E,N): **237460 , 190861**

RPS No: **N/A**

National Monument No: **N/A**

RMP No: **N/A**



The possible northern side of the burial ground, occupied by the grounds of a 19th century schoolhouse, looking east



The southern side of the road known as Clashawalla, truncated by the road, looking east

The burial ground is situated in the townland of Clonard or Cappaloughlin. The road through the townland reportedly bisects the burial ground. The more evident side lies on the south side of the road in the northeast corner of a field and is raised approximately 2m above the road, and surrounding land. This appears on the OS Historical 1st edition as a "Graveyard" in the same location with unchanged extents. On the second edition the same area is named "Clashawalla".

On the northern side of the road, the land within the extents of school grounds is also raised and is likely to be a continuation of the burial ground.

The burial ground is accessed on the south side of the road by a farm gate.

There are no information panels or directional signage.

The part of the burial ground which lies on the south side of the road "Clashawalla" has a number of mature trees growing over it. Boundary hedges cross this area. Large yew trees grow on the northeast side of the school and appear to be in the area respected by the track-way.

A hedgerow field boundary which appears to bound the eastern side has partly been removed at the burial ground and a post-and-wire fence has been erected. The extents of the burial ground possibly originally lay outwith the eastern side of the field boundary, into the next field which has been subject to agricultural reclamation. There is no southern or western boundary and these sides are not defined from the adjacent field which is currently in pasture.

The road which reportedly bisects the burial ground has a stone revetment on the north side and a steep scarp capped with a small earthen bank on the south side.

The school grounds which are situated on the northern side of the road possibly represent earlier extents of the burial ground. These are defined by a sub-triangular shaped area which was defined on the north and east sides by a track-way marked on the earlier 6" map. This suggests that the later school was built on an area which was previously respected by the track-way prior to the school's construction.

Kilbrickan School has been built opposite the graveyard on the north side of the road which apparently bisected the graveyard.

A pump was installed on the south side of the road and probably within the area of the burial ground by the council many years ago. It is fully functional, and has been drawn from for many decades.

There are no evident grave markers, although in the preserved part of the southern side there are a few simple mostly buried rocks that may mark the locations of graves.

The burial ground has been traditionally used for the deceased who have not been allowed to be buried in consecrated ground (including at least one victim of suicide and unbaptized children).

A local resident, Martin Dunne, remembers a local boy finding a human skull in the bank on the side of the road - taking it home, his mother made him put it back.

He has also related the story of a carved stone head found to the northeast of and in close proximity to the school grounds. This may well have been associated with a nearby or associated ecclesiastical building. It is told that Fr. Fenlon, then the priest of Mountrath, asked the finder to rebury the stone head where he found it, with the finder obliging the priest.

A schoolteacher in the local school told the story that when the armies of Red Hugh O'Donnell and Hugh O'Neill were returning from the battle of Kinsale in 1601, they followed an ancient road through Ireland known as Slí Dála which led them through this area. The Fitzpatricks of Ossory, who had a nearby castle at Gorthnaclea, ambushed them in Clonard or Cappaloughlin at the area known as Bounahoun or *Bun na habhainn* (bottom of the river) a short distance to the south. O'Donnell and O'Neill are supposed to have buried their dead in the burial ground at Clashawalla.

Tradition holds that the 1847 Great Famine resulted in people being buried in the burial ground at Clashawalla.

Daniel Dooley lived in and taught at Kilbrickan School and lived there with his wife Mrs Anne Dooley in the early 1900's. The couple are reported to have buried deceased unbaptized children in the burial ground at Clashawalla as these could not be buried elsewhere. Mrs Dooley died as a result of suicide around 1911-13, and was herself the last known burial in the graveyard.

Clashawalla appears as the name of the burial ground itself.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L209 | Name: | Raheen |
| Townland: | Tinakill | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 242278 , 190841 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | N/A |



Sheep graze some of the vegetation at the burial ground, looking southeast



Overview of the overgrown burial ground, looking southwest

This burial ground is located in the south of Tinakill townland on the edge of the village of Raheen.

Access to the burial ground is via the gate and stile from the roadside. The width of the former path, now grassed over, is detectable as slightly recessed firmer ground. A footpath is marked on the 2nd edition OS map and runs from the stile, through the eastern side of the burial ground and to the north (where the modern GAA grounds have been constructed).None.

The sheep keep the grass and most weeds down but nettles dominate the field, which the sheep do not grazing on.

The burial ground is enclosed by stone walls on the southwest, northwest and northeast sides and a large earthen embankment and hedgerow on the southeast side. The stone walls are broken in places and are patched up with temporary fencing. A square projection measuring approximately 5m by 5m in the short north-eastern wall is reputedly all that is left of the former church.

The church appears on the 1st edition OS map as a large T-shaped building. It is not, however, on the second edition OS map, when the new church first appears. It is possible that the church was pulled down to build the newer church in Raheen. A low mound in the centre of the graveyard might attest to material from the earlier church. A schoolhouse, which appears on the first edition OS map, was built just within the southwest corner of the burial ground.

There are many memorials the earliest of which can be seen to date from 1796. Most of the memorials date from the 19th century and include inscribed headstones, box tombs, large pedestalled memorials and wrought iron crosses. Many uninscribed simple markers are also found throughout the burial ground. Some of the

memorials have tumbled and one fine stone cross (1904) appears to be gradually being pushed over by the resident sheep which use it as a scratching post.

The religious denominations of people interred are not clear from the current survey but the majority are thought to be Roman Catholic

A large pit in the field to the west of the burial ground is said to have been dug to ambush government forces in the civil war.

Burial Ground ID: **L210**
Townland: **Killeen**
NGR (E,N): **227955 , 196750**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Killeen**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA001-001002**



Overview of the overgrown children's burial ground, looking south-west



Bullaun stone located in the mass pit to the north

This burial ground occupies a low mound in scrub pasture in the townland of Killeen near Camross. The burial ground is located at the southern end of a field at the confluence of a stream and the small Killeen River. It is marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey mapping as a small rectangular enclosure or raised area. It is not marked on the 2nd edition.

The Mass Pit is marked (not labelled) on the 1st and second edition OS mapping and is located two field north of the burial ground (not one as Carrigan reports). The burial ground itself appears only on the 1st edition as a small rectangular enclosure orientated northwest-southeast.

An old farm road leaves the local road near the Cardtown Bridge. At the southern end of this, access to the burial ground is via a farm gate to a field at the eastern end of which lies the Mass Pit (at NGR 227679, 197165). The burial ground is located two fields further south (c.600m). There are no tracks or paths.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

The burial ground is thick with overgrowth including hawthorn, bracken, nettles and briars. Several shrub trees are located around the burial ground. The lower slopes of the mound are grazed by cattle.

The burial ground is not enclosed and livestock have access. Slight earthworks on the northern side of the mound suggest the denuded remains of a possible earthen embankment.

There are no structures associated with the site. The mass pit, within which lies a Bullaun stone (NGR 227692, 197165) and reputedly used as a font, lies approximately 600m to the northwest of the burial ground.

There are a large number of small rounded rocks averaging 30cm in size underfoot at the site, though vegetation makes assessment difficult. Some of these appear to be in rows and the occasional example is more slab-like and set on edge.

There is a tradition of Roman Catholic worship in the vicinity at the Mass Pit during the suppression of Catholicism in the 17th-18th centuries. The tradition of exclusion of unbaptized infants from consecrated ground extends to Roman Catholic and Church of Ireland denominations and it is not clear if this children's burial ground was for exclusive use of any denomination.

Traditionally used for the burial of deceased unbaptized children.

Burial Ground ID: **L211**
Townland: **Tullomoy**
NGR (E,N): **260173 , 190829**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Tullomoy**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **LA019-026**



Overview of the raised burial ground, looking north

This burial ground is located in the northwest corner of the "Churchfield" in Tullomoy townland. It appears on the first edition OS map as a sub-rectangular enclosure.

Access is via the farmyard to the west, and through a little gate into the "Churchfield".

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

Several mature Horse Chestnut trees are located along the eastern edge of the burial ground, while latterly planted fir trees occupy the western side.

The burial ground is not enclosed on the southern and eastern sides and livestock have access. The burial ground survives as a raised rectangular area approximately 1m above the surrounding land and measuring c.30m east-west by c.25m north-south. The southern side of this earthwork appears to have been once revetted with a number of small boulders.

The location of the church is suggested by a slightly embanked sub-circular feature with a depression in the middle. The embankment contains a significant amount of small rubble, especially around the eastern side.

There are no obvious memorials or grave markers. Some surface depressions within the burial ground are likely to be tree throws, though some surface features could be graves. A number of large boulders around the burial ground might be simple grave markers but the site appears to have been robbed of the majority of stone.

The church is known to have been in use during the 17th century and was therefore at that time part of the Established Church. It is not clear when it fell out of use.

Lewis notes the presence of a neat chapel at "Tullowmoy" in 1837 (p656). Comerford notes that the "old church" is situated "in a graveyard which is no longer used" (p127).

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Burial Ground ID: | L212 | Name: | Clonenagh |
| Townland: | Clonenagh | Dedication: | None |
| NGR (E,N): | 239304 , 196033 | RPS No: | N/A |
| National Monument No: | N/A | RMP No: | LA017-004001 |



Overview of the site of one of the seven churches of Clonenagh, which traditionally was also a burial ground, looking west

The burial ground is located in pasture north of the cross roads in Clonenagh. It is located on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map as a dashed circular area. It is labelled "Site of Church" and "Thorn". On the 2nd edition the demarcated area is not visible but it is labelled "Church (Site of)".

Access is via a field gate located on the east side of the road heading north from the crossroads.

There are no information panels at the burial ground and there is no directional signage.

The burial ground is currently in pasture.

There are no existing boundaries to the burial ground. It exists only as a large mound measuring approximately 100m in diameter and several metres in height.

There are no surviving structures at the burial ground nor are there any surviving memorials.

The denominational history of the burial ground is unclear.

The burial ground is traditionally said to be one of the seven churches and burial grounds of Clonenagh.

Burial Ground ID: **L213**
 Townland: **Mountoliver**
 NGR (E,N): **225090 , 178797**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Grogan**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **N/A**
 RMP No: **N/A**



Inscription on the eastern wall, facing east



General view of Grogan Church, facing southwest

Grogan Church is located in pasture land to northeast of Rathdowney town. It is adjacent to a house.

The church is accessed by a gate in the northern side. The keys are held by Fr. Foley to protect from vandalism.

There is no directional signage to this site. A plaque on the eastern wall reads;

Sacred to the memory of the Rev. Philip Purcell, late indefatigable Pastor of this Parish, who, from the liberal donations of its union, built and ornamented this chapel, in the year 1791, on ground cheerfully bestowed by John Burke O'Flaherty Esq. May the Lord have mercy on his soul. Amen.

The northern wall of the site consists of a stone wall and railing, while elsewhere there are high walls. The north-eastern corner incorporates the house. Within its boundaries there is a stone shed in the south-eastern corner and the base of a monument to the west of this.

All vegetation has been removed by Fr. Foley and volunteers.

The present church is in good condition structurally, but there is no roof, windows or interior decoration. It dates to 1826. Two previous churches stood on the site; the earliest was built on land donated by Mr. John Burke O'Flaherty in 1775. It replaced the "Chapel Pit" in Graigueavallagh. The subsequent church was built in 1791.

There are no visible memorials on the site; however, there are at least two priests buried beneath the structure. Father Tracey lies at the intersection of the nave and north transept, while Father William Butler is buried at the altar.

Local tradition reports that the roof of the first church in Grogan was lifted from the "Chapel Pit" and carried to the site.

Burial Ground ID: **L214**
 Townland: **Dunacleggan**
 NGR (E,N): **225967 , 180661**
 National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Donaghmore Workhouse**
 Dedication: **None**
 RPS No: **RPS 337**
 RMP No: **N/A**



General view of the site, facing northwest



View of the plaque erected in 1996, facing north

This is located in the south-western corner of the old Workhouse, which is now a Glanbia Creamery. It is surrounded by walls on its west and southern sides and by a gravel yard elsewhere. The site is visible on the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey as a disused burial ground. The buildings nearest to the entrance are now the Donaghmore Workhouse and Agricultural Museum.

It is located to the rear of the Creamery, which is on the western side of the road and therefore access must be made through the yard to the rear of the extant buildings. There is plenty of parking to the front of the buildings.

There are no signs suggesting that the burial is located within this building complex. However, there is a memorial at the burial ground which was placed there in 1996.

There is low stone kerbing and railing on the southern and eastern sides. The northern and western sides are formed by a higher stone wall. The grass is kept short and there are no trees or bushes. The enclosed area is square in plan and the ground appears relatively flat.

There are no memorials on the site; however the plaque is dedicated to those who died in the Workhouse from 1852-1884. It is probable that the burials were mixed.

Burial Ground ID: **L215**
Townland: **Clonpierce**
NGR (E,N): **266969 , 187397**
National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Clonpierce**
Dedication: **None**
RPS No: **N/A**
RMP No: **N/A**



View of scarp in south-eastern side of site, facing west

The site is located in a rural area in pasture land. A minor road is located to the north, while the field is bounded by hedgerow. The rectangular field has recently been divided lengthways. The owner's house is located to the west of the site, while there are a few houses located to the east. The site is accessed by a gate in the north-western corner of the northern field and one at the southern end of this field. There are livestock grazing here.

There are no directional or information signs.

The vegetation consists of thistles, scrub and grass.

The site appears in the landscape as a roughly circular flat-topped mound, measuring c.29m (north-south) and 25m wide. The edges are clearer along the south-eastern and eastern side, where there seems to be a noticeable scarp. The north-western and western side is covered in thistles and overgrowth and is not clearly visible.

There are no memorials present and no recorded history of a graveyard. However, local traditions maintain that one existed on this site. In the past, cattle digging into the soft soil on the surface of the mound have disturbed bones.

The date is not known, with some suggesting it was a medieval site and others believing that it was associated with the Famine.

There is a spring located close to the supposed site of the graveyard which is locally known as the *Guilach*; it rises at Clonpierce, flows through Killabban and Grange and then the Barrow at Grange Castle.

Burial Ground ID: **L216**

Townland: **Rathdowney**

NGR (E,N): **227417 , 178415**

National Monument No: **N/A**

Name: **Church of the Holy Trinity,
Rathdowney**

Dedication: **Holy Trinity**

RPS No: **RPS 297**

RMP No: **N/A**



View of the church and priests' graves, facing southwest

The site is located in the town of Rathdowney. The church was built in 1950 and replaced Old Rathdowney. Four priests are buried here; their graves date from 1964-2005.

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