

# GALWAY COUNTY 1916 RISING HERITAGE TRAIL

*Go Explore the Historic Sites & Memorials*



*Breathnaigh Thart ar na Suíomhanna & Leachtanna Stairiúla*






## CONAIR OIDHREACHTA 1916 CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE


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
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## Foreword

I am pleased to introduce this guide book, which describes in forensic detail the events and people of County Galway who contributed to the birth of our sovereign republic. I have read the guide from cover to cover and it is an educational gem for both the trail finder and for those seeking renewal. Each trail can be followed in its entirety or elements can be dipped into and out of. During 2016 I had the privilege of meeting several descendants of Éamonn Ceannt during a celebration of the 135th anniversary of his birth, which was hosted by GMIT. In the fullness of time, these trails will become part of the Wild Atlantic Way experience, from Pearse's Cottage to the chapel on Inis Meáin, from Cré Dubh to Éamonn Ceannt's residence in Ballymoe, from the crossroads of the west and fields of Athenry to Mellows' hut in County Clare. The research underpinning this guide is a testimony to the academic excellence and collaborative spirit of Drs Mark McCarthy and Shirley Wrynn of GMIT and Marie Mannion of Galway County Council. In 2016 I had the honour of recognising Dr McCarthy with a GMIT Teaching Excellence Award and conferring Dr Wrynn with her PhD.

***Dr Fergal Barry,***

President, Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology

The people of Galway County have enduring links to the Easter Rising, 1916. Ballymoe was the birthplace of Éamonn Ceannt and Ros Muc was the summer destination of Patrick Pearse – two of the seven signatories of the 1916 Proclamation. From 25–29 April 1916, Athenry resident Liam Mellows led hundreds of Irish Volunteers in revolt in the east of Galway County. They were also joined by women from Cumann na mBan. This guide book is an action of Galway County Council's *Commemorative Strategy for the County of Galway: Decade of Commemorations, 2013–2023*. It is also one of over 150 projects that formed part of the *Galway County Centenary Programme, 1916–2016*. The product of extensive fieldwork and archival research, the pages that follow indicate how memory of 1916 persists to this day in a county-wide heritagescape of historic sites and memorials. All four trails will be of interest to local communities, schools, colleges, relatives of the rebels and visitors to the county. I would like to thank GMIT researchers Dr Mark McCarthy and Dr Shirley Wrynn, and Marie Mannion, Heritage Officer, Galway County Council for the years of collaborative work that led to this publication. I would also like to acknowledge the indispensable assistance provided by other staff of Galway County Council, including: Gráinne Smyth, Marian Donohue and Bridín Feeney. Thanks also to Michael Owens, A/Director of Services, Housing and Corporate Services, Galway County Council for his vital support and assistance with this project.

***Councillor Eileen Mannion,***

The Cathaoirleach of the County of Galway

## Introduction

Dear reader,

We would like to welcome you on a journey of discovery, where you can go and explore the wide-ranging heritages of Galway County's 1916 Rising. The historic sites and memorials identified herein will be of interest to anybody who wishes to find out more about an event that contributed to the birth of the sovereign Irish nation. Whether you are a local or a visitor, we hope that your experience of uncovering the rebel stories along these heritage trails is educational, memorable and enjoyable.

Yours sincerely,

***Dr Mark McCarthy,***

Lecturer & Programme Chair in Heritage Studies,  
Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology

***Marie Mannion,***

Heritage Officer, Galway County Council

***Dr Shirley Wrynn,***

Library, Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology

## How This Guide Works

This guide book offers readers the option of partaking in up to four 1916 Rising heritage trails in County Galway, namely:

- (A) **The Signatories Trail** –  
*Ballymoe, Tuam, Ros Muc & An Spidéal;*
- (B) **The Cradle of the Rising Trail** –  
*Athenry;*
- (C) **The Route of the Rising Trail** –  
*East County Galway;*
- (D) **The Liam Mellows Escape Trail** –  
*South County Galway.*

Join it at any point and discover at your leisure the tangible legacies of those who fought for Irish independence in 1916.

**Travel Information:** Descriptions, photographs and GPS coordinates are included for each point of interest that you will encounter along the trails, as well as easy-to-follow route maps.

**Signage:** Further information will be available at selected sites, as indicated hereafter:

**i INFORMATION POINT:** Signage boards on site.

**Accessibility Issues:** Some of the sites listed in this guide book are private property and are inaccessible to the general public. Although most of the private sites are still visible from the roadside, visibility may be obstructed by trees in a small number of instances. A special 'Private Property' symbol has been used to identify the sites in private ownership, as indicated hereafter:

**👁 PRIVATE PROPERTY:** Although the site is located on private property, it may be visible from the roadside.

## Disclaimer

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

# THE SIGNATORIES TRAIL –

*Ballymoe | Tuam | Ros Muc | An Spidéal*



1916

-  INFORMATION POINT
-  PRIVATE PROPERTY

## THE SIGNATORIES TRAIL

This trail incorporates historic sites and memorials related to two of the seven signatories of the 1916 Proclamation – Éamonn Ceannt and Patrick Pearse. Both were fluent Irish speakers and were founding members of the Irish Volunteers in 1913. Ceannt was born in Ballymoe, County Galway. A renowned uileann piper, an avid gardener and a fluent Irish speaker, he had many friends throughout County Galway. Together with Edward Martyn from Tullira, he founded Cumann na bPíobairí in 1900. He performed for Pope Pius X in 1905 and at the 1906 Oireachtas his musical talent earned him a gold medal. Ceannt frequently returned to the west of Ireland for holidays and spent one month living with the Ó Droighneáin family in An Spidéal in the summer of 1915.

During the 1916 Rising, Ceannt was Commandant of the 4th Battalion Irish Volunteers at the South Dublin Union. As one of the seven signatories of the 1916 Proclamation, he was executed by firing squad at Kilmainham Gaol at 3.45pm on 8 May 1916, aged 34. The night before his execution, he displayed considerable fortitude and made the following statement: 'Ireland has shown she is a Nation ... And in years to come, Ireland will honour those who risked all for her honour at Easter in 1916.'

Pearse, on the other hand, developed a close connection with County Galway from 1903–1915. He visited Ros Muc every summer during these years, weaving the topography of the Connemara Gaeltacht and the western seaboard into the symbolic fabric of many of his short

## THE SIGNATORIES TRAIL

stories. After befriending the local schoolteacher, Pádraig Ó Conghaile, he purchased a plot of land in the locality in 1905. In the summer of 1909, work was completed on Pearse's one-storey lakeside cottage in Ros Muc. He tried hard to change the image of the west of Ireland created by the Congested Districts Board and various ethnographic studies as backward and impoverished. In the words of Pat Sheeran, his visits to the west were akin to an 'inward stroke', with the Gaeltacht representing a 'fountainhead of renewal' and the Irish language playing a 'vital role ... in halting the progress of cultural imperialism'.

The radical newspaper, *Irish Opinion*, characterised Pearse as 'a creature of infinite diversity' and remarked that he spoke 'an acquired Gaelic with such mastery that the ... older native-speakers' could be heard rejoicing 'over the rich new combinations he would suddenly fling out in a speech as his passion caught fire from an idea'. Pearse was also well acquainted with Galway town. On 10 December 1913, he spoke at a recruitment meeting for the Irish Volunteers in the Town Hall, which was chaired by George Nicolls, a local solicitor and Coroner for the West Riding of the County. After being sworn into the Irish Republican Brotherhood in February 1914, Pearse was appointed in the following year to its Military Council – a secret cluster dedicated to the task of plotting the Rising. As one of the seven signatories of the 1916 Proclamation, he was executed by firing squad at Kilmainham Gaol in the afternoon of 3 May 1916, aged 36.





### GO EXPLORE TIPS

***This trail stretches from Ballymoe to Tuam and onwards to Ros Muc and An Spidéal. The driving distance from Ballymoe to An Spidéal (via Tuam and Ros Muc) is approximately 165 kilometres and the driving time between these locations is roughly three hours. Allowing for sufficient time to appreciate each of the 16 key points of interest, with time for breaks factored in as well, it is recommended that you allocate at least a day and a half to explore this trail. Alternatively, you may wish to make two separate trips, to Ballymoe/Tuam and to Ros Muc/An Spidéal.***



**Former Residence  
of Éamonn Ceannt,  
Ballymoe, Co. Galway**

**SAT NAV: 53.696178, -8.459133** 

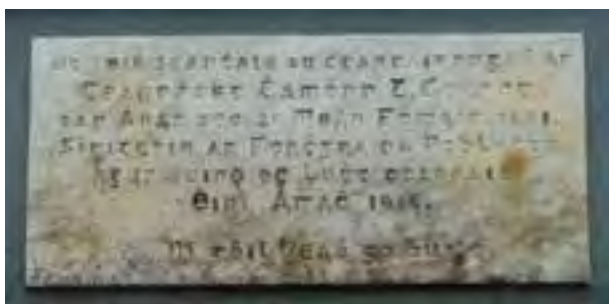
**1**



Éamonn Ceannt was born in the village of Ballymoe, located in the north-east of County Galway, on 21 September 1881. The house where he was born functioned as a Royal Irish Constabulary (RIC) barracks. His father, James Kent, was stationed there as a policeman and Éamonn spent the first two years of his life living there. He was the sixth of seven children born to James Kent and Joanne Galway. Although the family ended up moving to Ardee and Drogheda, before finally settling in Dublin in 1892, Ceannt frequently returned to County Galway in later years. He judged music competitions in places like Killeeneen and spent his vacations in villages like An Spidéal. He also paid visits to Patrick Pearse's summer residence at Ros Muc.

On 8 May 1966, during the Golden Jubilee commemoration of the Rising, the President of

Ireland, Éamon de Valera, visited Ballymoe for the Éamonn Ceannt Festival. Attendees included the relatives of the executed 1916 leader, including his son Rónán and his nephew Éamonn T. Ceannt. After Mass in the local church, there was a parade to the local Garda Station – the former RIC barracks where Éamonn Ceannt was born. To mark the fiftieth anniversary of the 1916 leader’s execution, a white marble plaque (1.1) was unveiled by Colonel Harry W. Byrne, Officer Commanding of the Western Command, above the doorway of the building. The inscription on the plaque, which was erected by the Éamonn Ceannt Commemoration Committee (headed by Joseph P. O’Shaughnessy), reads: ‘Do réir seanchais an cheantair rugadh an Ceannphort Éamonn T. Ceannt, san Áras seo 21 Meán Fómhair 1881. Sínitheoir ar Fhorógra na Poblachta agus duine de lucht ceannais Éirí Amach 1916. Ní géilleadh go bua [Irish for: ‘According to the lore of the area, Commandant Éamonn T. Ceannt was born in this building 21 September 1881. Signatory of the Proclamation of the Republic



*The plaque over the doorway of Éamonn Ceannt’s house*

**1.1.**

and one of the leaders of the 1916 Rising. No surrender until victory’]. At a reception following the unveiling of the plaque, de Valera expressed his wish for ‘the restoration of the Irish language.’

Speaking of Ceannt, he recalled that he had first met him through the Gaelic League's involvement with Coláiste Laighean in New Ross. Many of the Irish Volunteers of 1916, he added, had come to



**1.2.** *The Éamonn Ceannt figurine and the replica of his house*

love their country through the Irish language. De Valera also said that Ceannt deserved 'all the honour the nation could give him'.

To mark the 135th anniversary of the birth of Éamonn Ceannt, a commemoration was held on 21 September 2016 at The Connemara Training Room and Restaurant, Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology. Five of his relatives and 50 other guests assembled for The Éamonn Ceannt Tribute Dinner, which featured a menu inspired by Ireland's gastronomic heritages. A special replica of Ceannt's house in Ballymoe, in the form of an exhibition cake made entirely from pastillage, was showcased at the dinner. So too was a miniature figurine of Ceannt, also made from pastillage. This features a replica of the plaque unveiled at his birthplace in 1966. Both of these replicas (1.2) are set to remain on permanent display at the institute.

2

## Éamonn Ceannt Commemorative Garden, Ballymoe, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.691946, -8.463595 



To mark the 135th anniversary of the birth of Éamonn Ceannt, this commemorative garden was officially unveiled near the playground beside the Father Flanagan Memorial Centre in Ballymoe on 21 September 2016. The official unveiling was conducted by Councillor Michael Connolly, the Cathaoirleach of the County of Galway and Michael Sheehy, the grandnephew of Éamonn Ceannt. Also present at the unveiling were nine other relatives of Éamonn Ceannt, including another grandnephew, David Ceannt, two grandnieces, Mary Gallagher and Nora Sleator, and a great grandniece, Niamh Sleator. Over 30 members of the Family and Friends of the 4th Battalion of the Irish Volunteers were also present at the unveiling. During the course of the ceremony, the Cathaoirleach said that the people of the county were 'very proud of the

accomplishments of Éamonn Ceannt, signatory of the 1916 Proclamation and native son of Ballymoe’.

The Éamonn Ceannt Commemorative Garden was developed by Galway County Council, in partnership with Ballymoe Development Company, Solas and the local community. Designed by Kay Sinnott of Galway Living Gardens, the garden is planted with a variety of native trees and shrubs. It is an inviting space for the local community and visitors to the area, seeking to appeal to people’s five senses. The planting scheme is biodiversity-friendly, attracting birds, bees and butterflies, thus reflecting Ceannt’s interest in gardening and horticultural innovation.

The garden is also full of symbolism. An ‘s’-shaped limestone wall runs through the centre of the garden. There are stone benches on each side of the wall and native trees at each end, with the latter symbolising Ceannt’s birth on 21 September 1881 and his death by execution on 8 May 1916. At the end nearest to the entrance to the garden is a deciduous mountain ash tree. This produces bunches of yellow berries in the autumn, as the green leaves change to red/orange. The tree at the far end of the wall is a May bush, so named because it flowers in May. At the back of the garden are seven individual plots, each of which is planted with native shrubs dedicated to the memory of a particular signatory of the 1916 Proclamation. The sections follow the order in which the Proclamation was signed by each signatory. As a whole, the planting scheme stands for unity and harmony. A deciduous shrub, *genista hispanica* (Spanish gorse or furze) is planted in the Éamonn Ceannt plot. In late spring and early summer, this green-coloured shrub produces bunches of bright yellow flowers.

3

## Print of Éamonn Ceannt, Father Flanagan Memorial Centre, Ballymoe, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.692480, -8.462717



A printed image of Éamonn Ceannt (3.1), produced by the Galway Print Studio, hangs inside the Father Flanagan Memorial Centre. The print was officially presented by Councillor Peter Roche, the Cathaoirleach of the County of Galway to three representatives of the people of Ballymoe (namely John Martin Griffin, Michael Ward and Martin McHugh) at a Raising of the Flags Ceremony held at Galway County Council's headquarters, Áras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway on 1 January 2016. Also in attendance was Mary Gallagher, the grandniece of Éamonn Ceannt. The flag-raising ceremony was held to mark the commencement of Galway County Council's programme of events to mark the centenary anniversary of the 1916 Rising. The print of Éamonn Ceannt is set to remain on display at the Father Flanagan Memorial Centre on a permanent basis.

To commemorate the centenary of Ceannt's execution, the centre played host to the Éamonn Ceannt Symposium on 8 May 2016. This was hosted by Galway County Council, in partnership with Ballymoe Development Company and the local community. Following a series of historical lectures, the symposium continued with the staging of an 'Aeraíocht' – a celebration of the county's cultural traditions by means of music, song, dance and poetry. A small exhibition of local memorabilia was also mounted, including artwork and 1916-themed essays from the pupils of Ballymoe and Ballintubber Primary Schools. On 16 June 2016, the centre hosted a musical tribute to Éamonn Ceannt, called 'The Pipers Return to Ballymoe'. This featured a performance



### 3.1. The presentation of the print of Éamonn Ceannt

by an uilleann pipe group from Scotland, who performed in Ballymoe as part of the Galway Sessions 2016.

On 21 September 2016, prior to the unveiling of



4

**1916 Monument,  
Bishop Street Car Park,  
Tuam, Co. Galway**

**SAT NAV: 53.515690, -8.849633**



This granite memorial, located in the Bishop Street Car Park in Tuam, stands at over nine feet tall. Tuam is the largest town in the north of County Galway and is located around 38 kilometres from Ballymoe. As part of the Golden Jubilee commemoration of the Rising,

the monument was unveiled on 18 December 1966 by Mattie (Martin) Neilan, Galway Brigade Adjutant in 1916. It was blessed by the Very Rev. M. Geraghty, while a guard of honour was provided by the Old IRA and the FCA, with music provided by the Tuam Brass Band. The monument was built and erected by stonemason Willie Kelly and designed by Willie Mannion, who was a member of the Old Tuam Society and an employee of Galway County Council. It included a capstone depicting a sunburst and a Sword of Light placed between the dates '1916' and '1966'. The sunburst was emblematic of the 1916 Rising while the Sword of Light was the official symbol of the Golden Jubilee commemoration. Stones from every county in Ireland were used in the construction of the base.

During the course of the 1970s, somebody removed the brass numerals '1966' from the monument without permission. On 24 April 2016, however, a replacement '1966' was cast by Kelly's Monumental Works and then added to the monument, in work overseen by the Old Tuam Society. A bilingual plaque was also added to the base of the monument to mark the Rising's centenary. Although the Tuam monument does not specifically mention any individuals by name, it can be interpreted as a memorial to all those with connections to the 1916 Rising – including two of the signatories of the Proclamation who had very close connections to the people of County Galway. When the monument was first unveiled by Mattie Neilan in 1966, he gave a speech that mentioned a meeting he had with Patrick Pearse when the Rising was being planned. The Éamonn Ceannt connection was acknowledged during the centenary commemoration ceremony at the monument in 2016, when Dave Swift of *Claíomh* (a living history organisation) read aloud the text

5

### Former Schoolhouse (now Seipéal An Ghoirt Mhóir), An Gort Mór, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.385628, -9.608099 



Seipéal An Ghoirt Mhóir is a Catholic church. It was consecrated on 12 June 1944 by the Bishop of Galway, Dr Micheál de Brún (Michael Brown). The building occupies the former national school that Patrick Pearse visited in 1903 when he travelled to the Ros Muc area for the first time as a Gaelic League examiner for 12 students who were taking evening classes at An Gort Mór. The schoolmaster who invited him was Pádraig Ó Conghaile (Patrick Connolly). Ó Conghaile was a supporter of the Irish-Ireland ethos and infiltrated this into the way he taught Irish history to his pupils. As a committed nationalist, he was an ardent supporter of the Irish Volunteers from

1913 onwards. He also had a deep respect for Patrick Pearse, who trained and drilled Companies of Irish Volunteers in the area.

Although the village of An Gort Mór was not affected by the events of Easter Week 1916, a number of incidents occurred there during the War of Independence. After the Screeb Ambush on 18 April 1921, the Black and Tans went searching for Ó Conghaile and showed up at the national school in An Gort Mór, where he was teaching. Although he managed to escape through a window, the forces left a disparaging comment on the blackboard before they departed. A pupils' strike occurred at the school in 1942, in support of a campaign to establish a new school in the village. This was supported by the pupils' parents and former pupil Colm Ó Gaora, whose request for the new facility was granted a year later by the Department of Education.

To mark the centenary anniversary of the 1916 Rising, a memorial garden was officially opened in the grounds of the church on 3 May 2016 by Councillor Peter Roche, the Cathaoirleach of

**5.1.****The memorial garden at  
Seipéal An Ghoirt Mhóir**

the County of Galway (5.1). This space, which was developed by Galway County Council in partnership with the local community, includes a commemorative seat and plaque. The inscription on the latter, which features a side profile of Pearse's face, reads: 'Pádraig Mac Piarais. Scríbhneoir, Oideachasóir, agus Réabhlóidí. A fuair inspioráid i Ros Muc. A Cuireadh chun báis 3 Bealtaine 1916' [Irish for: 'Patrick Pearse. Writer, Educator, and Rebel. Who found inspiration in Ros Muc. Who died on 3 May 1916]. In addition to holly trees and cherry blossom trees, the garden contains a shrub bed with 16 heathers, representing each of the 16 rebels who were executed in May and August 1916.

6

### Scoil Bhriocáin, An Gort Mór, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.386151, -9.608947



Located beside Seipéal An Ghoirt Mhóir is a national school called Scoil Bhriocáin, which

was first opened in 1943. The writer, Cristóir Mac Aonghasa, used to work there as a teacher. His son, Pronsias, is a former pupil. In later years, he worked in the broadcasting industry. An extension to the school was opened in 2010 by Pádraig Mac Consaidín and Éamon Ó Cuív, TD. The school hosted the inaugural Pearse Summer School on 31 July 2015.

On 15 March 2016, the pupils and staff of Scoil Bhriocáin participated in Proclamation Day, a key event in the ‘Youth and Imagination’ strand of the Ireland 2016 Centenary Programme. A new children’s playground with swings and slides was opened on a hillside inside the school’s grounds on 18 June 2016 (6.1). The playground was named



**6.1.**

### **Pháirc Chuimhneacháin Phádraig Uí Chonghaile**

Pháirc Chuimhneacháin Phádraig Uí Chonghaile, in memory of Pádraig Ó Conghaile – the local schoolmaster who befriended Patrick Pearse in the early twentieth century. Ó Conghaile’s granddaughters, Máire Bernard and Philomena Ní Leathlobhair, were guests of honour at the unveiling.

In the summer of 2016, the school hosted the

7

### Coláiste na bPiarsach, An Gort Mór, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.386820, -9.611048



Coláiste na bPiarsach, which was formerly known as Gairmscoil na bPiarsach, is a post-primary school. It is named after Patrick and Willie Pearse

and contains a small museum dedicated to the former. The collection is housed in the school's library and includes photos of Patrick as well as images of his brother Willie and other family members. Four display cabinets adorn the library wall with important documents and books, including the following: a British Military Pass issued during the 1916 Rising, reproductions of letters pertaining to Patrick's work with the Irish Volunteers and early editions of his literary works. The collection also includes a school bell from St. Enda's in Rathfarnham and a shell casing reputedly salvaged after the fighting in Dublin city.

To mark the centenary of Patrick's death, a new memorial space called Gairdín Cuimhneacháin na bPiarsach [Irish for: Pearse Commemorative Garden], was unveiled inside the school's grounds on 3 May 2016 by former pupil Seán Breathnach, a national indoor and outdoor Shot Put Champion (7.1). As part of the official opening ceremony, a time capsule was buried in the garden. It is planned that it will be dug up and opened on 3 May 2066, when the 150th anniversary of Pearse's death is commemorated.



**7.1. Gairdín Cuimhneacháin na bPiarsach**



8

## Páirc na bPiarsach, An Gort Mór, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.385468, -9.611199



This is the home of Na Phiarsaigh GAA Club, a football team with players from Ros Muc, Camus and An Sraith Salach. In the words of Tim Robinson, this site contains ‘a fine big Gaelic football pitch and stand at the crossroads, which the community owes largely to the efforts of the former national school headmaster ... the late Tomás Ó Conaire of Glinn Chatha’.

The Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) was founded in 1884. Its encouragement of Gaelic games contributed to the cultural revival of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, when nationalists in the Irish-Ireland movement sought to cultivate a Gaelic heritage and identity, in opposition to Anglicisation. In addition to sport, this revival also extended to culture, theatre, literature and language. Many of the rebels who took part in the 1916 Rising were members of GAA clubs.

Site of the Former Residence of  
Pádraig Ó Conghaile (now CLS –  
Complete Laboratory Solutions/  
Saotharlann Chonamara Teo),  
An Gort Mór, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.387150, -9.611580 

9



Pádraig Ó Conghaile was born in Ballinspodaun in the north of County Galway on 17 March 1868. His birthplace is located in the townland of Clooncon East, about 2.5 km to the north-east of Glenamaddy. As a child, he studied at Stonetown National School. He was fluent in both Irish and English and ended up moving to An Gort Mór, where he worked as a national school teacher. His residence was located on the northern side of the main road of An Gort Mór, not far away from the northern shore of Lough Eiliúrach and the local national school. It is listed in the 1911 Census as a seven-roomed house, with a stable, a coach house, a cow house and a turf house. Pádraig's wife, Jane Mary, was also a national school teacher. They had two daughters and one son. Their names were Mary Margaret, Gertrude

and John Joseph.

Patrick Pearse stayed in Ó Conghaile's house on many occasions, prior to the construction of his own cottage. After the 1916 Rising, Ó Conghaile had to go on-the-run for about six months. During this time he stayed with the Ó Catháin family in Oileán Airthach. During the War of Independence, Ó Conghaile was a wanted man once again. After the Screeb Ambush on 18 April 1921, the Black and Tans set fire to his house as a reprisal. Afterwards, Ó Conghaile rebuilt Pearse's cottage and stayed there until he retired and moved to Dublin. Ó Conghaile died in 1949. Although nothing remains of his home, the site is in use today by a company called CLS (Complete Laboratory Solutions/Saotharlann Chonamara Teo). It specialises in chemical and biological testing and is supported by Údarás na Gaeltachta.

10

**Teach an Phiarsaigh  
(Pearse's Cottage),  
Ros Muc, Co. Galway**

**SAT NAV: 53.385838, -9.619903**



In 1905, Patrick Pearse purchased a two-acre site in Ros Muc for £10 from Johnín Mhichín Griallais (Johnnie Michael Grealish). A one-storey lakeside cottage, located at An Aill Mhór, was subsequently built in the Irish vernacular style in 1909 (with a thatched roof and three rooms) to serve as Pearse's summer holiday residence. In the words of Tim Robinson, it was in this residence, with fine views of Lough Eiliúrach, that Pearse 'was to ... write and plot, and to foresee his death'. The cottage also functioned as a Gaeltacht summer centre for pupils from St Enda's, an Irish language boarding school for boys, in the Hermitage in Rathfarnham, Dublin.

In 1913, a branch of Na Fianna Éireann was established at the residence by Pearse, Liam Mellows and Bulmer Hobson. Not long afterwards, Pearse himself was responsible for bringing about an Irish Volunteers' presence in Ros Muc, An Cheathrú Rua and Gorumna Island. Many leading personalities of the Irish revolution, including most of the signatories of the Proclamation, were known to have frequented the residence. In July 1915, Pearse used the cottage to compose his famous oration for the funeral of the old Fenian, Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa.

The cottage, which remained unoccupied after Pearse's execution, was one of a number of buildings burnt by the Black and Tans in 1921, as a reprisal for the Screeb Ambush. However, the building was restored afterwards by Pádraig Ó Conghaile. As a formal deed of the original sale of the property to Pearse was untraceable, ownership of the cottage was vested in Pearse's two sisters, Margaret and Mary Brigid, by an order of the High Court in June 1943. The sisters subsequently made arrangements with a representative committee for the cottage and plot to be taken over by the Commissioners of

the Board of Works. After the transfer, further repair works were conducted by Messrs Cunnane Brothers of Knock. In the same year, furniture for the property was manufactured by woodwork students from the National College of Art. At present, Teach an Phiarsaigh is the main tourist attraction in Ros Muc. It is operated under the auspices of the Office of Public Works, which is responsible for the protection and conservation of Ireland's built heritage. The hillock on which the site is situated is known today as Cnocán an Phiarsaigh.

To mark the centenary of the 1916 Rising, a new visitor centre called Ionad Cultúrtha an Phiarsaigh (10.1) (SAT NAV: 53.388564, -9.617749) was constructed near Teach an Phiarsaigh. The first sod for this €5 million flagship capital




*Ionad Cultúrtha an Phiarsaigh*

**10.1.**

project, which was one of the Irish government's eight permanent reminders of the Ireland 2016 Centenary Programme, was turned by the Taoiseach, Enda Kenny, on 6 July 2015. After sixteen months of construction work, the building was officially opened by the Taoiseach

on 10 November 2016 – the 137th anniversary of Pearse’s birth. Work on this legacy initiative was spearheaded by Údarás na Gaeltachta, in partnership with Galway County Council, the Office of Public Works, Fáilte Ireland and the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs. The cultural centre, which was designed by Simon J. Kelly Architects, is a discovery point along the Wild Atlantic Way. It features digital exhibitions on Pearse’s commitment to Irish culture, the Gaeltacht and the landscapes of Connemara. Ionad Cultúrtha an Phiarsaigh also includes a looped walk to Teach an Phiarsaigh, called Cosán Chonamara.

**Former Residence of  
Colm Ó Gaora,  
An Gort Mór, Co. Galway**

**SAT NAV: 53.389196, -9.631502** 

11



This is the former residence of Colm Ó Gaora, who was born in Ros Muc on 29 January 1887. In later years, he worked as a travelling Irish language teacher in Counties Mayo and Galway. On one occasion in 1906, Patrick Pearse

organised a memorable evening of song, poetry, storytelling and film in the school at An Turlach Beag. According to Tim Robinson, this was staged ‘in opposition to some entertainment of too English a tone mounted by the Viceroy [or Lord Lieutenant], Lord Dudley, who used to come for fishing holidays to Inver Lodge’, located on an island in the middle of a lake to the north of Ros Muc, called Loch an Oileán. Ó Gaora, who was Secretary of a local Gaelic League branch, fell under the spell of Pearse at this event. In his autobiographical account from 1943, *Mise* (translated into English by Micheál Ó hAodha in 2011 as *On the Run: The Story of an Irish Freedom Fighter*), Ó Gaora recalled that some persons ‘had walked ten miles [c.16 kilometres] or more to this celebration of their own culture’. Pearse, he added, ‘was an animated figure that night’ and ‘had struck an important blow for Irish cultural “freedom” ... , one as important as any blow he would later strike as part of the armed struggle’.

Whilst working in Clifden, Ó Gaora was sworn into the local branch of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. However, he ‘was never ... overly enamoured of the organisation’ because of its strict rules, and ended up leaving after a month. At a Gaelic League Oireachtas in Galway’s Town Hall, which ran from late July to early August 1913, Ó Gaora was sworn into the Irish Republican Brotherhood by Seán MacDiarmada. He was also given authorisation to develop the movement in Connemara. That particular Oireachtas, he noted, ‘was a rallying point for many of the nationalists who later led the rebellion of Easter Week 1916’. Towards the end of 1913, Ó Gaora returned to the Town Hall for a meeting to set up the Irish Volunteers in County Galway. ‘I was so fit in those days’, he noted, ‘that I didn’t hesitate in the slightest about cycling fifty miles [c.80 kilometres] to attend this meeting’.

A contingent of Ros Muc Volunteers, led by Ó Gaora, travelled to Dublin to witness Pearse deliver his famous oration at Glasnevin Cemetery on 1 August 1915, at the funeral of Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa. Michael Curran, the Secretary to the Archbishop of Dublin, later noted that the funeral had served as 'the prelude to ... 1916'. During Easter Week 1916, Ó Gaora cycled from Ros Muc to County Mayo. He was arrested by the police at a friend's house in Cong. After being detained in Castlebar RIC barracks, he was imprisoned in the town's jail. Following a trial by military court in Dublin, he was given a 15-year prison sentence (with five suspended) and transferred to Dartmoor prison in England.

During his seven months at Dartmoor, Ó Gaora passed the time by sewing cloth sacks together, but also developed problems with his eyesight. Afterwards, he was transferred to Lewes prison in East Sussex, where the conditions were better and he taught Irish to his fellow inmates. After Lewes, Ó Gaora was moved to Parkhurst prison on the Isle of Wight and then to Pentonville in London. He spent his last day as a prisoner in the latter in 1917, where he visited Roger Casement's grave. After his release, he sailed from Holyhead to Dublin, where he encountered 'a new-found hope and pride and a growing nationalist fervour'. During the subsequent War of Independence, Ó Gaora's house in Ros Muc, like those of Patrick Pearse and Pádraig Ó Conghaile, was burnt in retaliation for the Screeb Ambush, 1921.



12

**Cnocán na Móna,  
Ros Muc,  
Co. Galway****SAT NAV: 53.371915, -9.620637**

After its establishment in November 1913, the Irish Volunteers began to attract recruits from the Ros Muc area. This military organisation aimed to defend Home Rule against those who would resist it by force. Although the 3rd Home Rule Bill was signed into law by King George V on 18 September 1914, it was then postponed for the duration of World War I. A split subsequently occurred in the Volunteers, after John Redmond, MP encouraged them to enlist in the British Army at a speech in Woodenbridge, County Wicklow on 20 September. The majority who followed him were renamed the National Volunteers. About 12,300 of the 170,600 retained the Irish Volunteers title. Under MacNeill's leadership, they refused to support the British war effort and believed that 'England's difficulty' was 'Ireland's opportunity'.

The founding members of the Ros Muc Volunteers included Colm Ó Gaora, George Nicolls, Páraic Ó Máille and Dr Brian Cusack. Shortly after its formation, Patrick Pearse visited Ros Muc and took charge of running of the local Company. In his autobiographical account, *Mise*, Ó Gaora recalled that they ‘had more contact at this time with the main arteries of the Volunteers in Dublin than we did with the Volunteers in Galway’. Consequently, the Connemara men ‘were left to our own devices, for the most part’.

By late 1914 or early 1915, Volunteer activities were being conducted at a couple of sites near Pearse’s cottage. Cnocán na Móna, which translates as ‘Hillock of Turf’, served as the headquarters of the Ros Muc Volunteers. It was one of the sites where Pearse conducted drilling and manoeuvres in the period leading up to 1916. It was from here too that the Volunteers used to set out on marches along the main road of the Ros Muc peninsula, southwards to Cill Bhriocáin. In *Mise*, Ó Gaora noted that ‘the end of each night’s drilling routines’ in the Ros Muc area would see Pearse make ‘a point of speaking to all



**12.1. Former residence of Micheál Ó Máille**

of us before we went home.’ ‘I will never forget,’ he added, ‘the fiery idealism and enthusiasm that was written in his features’.

Located a short distance to the south of Cnocán na Móna is the former residence of Micheál Ó Máille (12.1) (SAT NAV: 53.369947, -9.620914). It is believed that Pearse stayed in this house when he visited Ros Muc for the first time in 1903, after travelling by train to Maam Cross. Ó Máille was a founding member of the Connemara Pony Breeders Society in 1923 and his house has undergone significant alterations since then. Today, the level of the roof is higher and a post office and supermarket are located alongside the original structure.

13

### Coláiste Cuimhneacháin an Phiarsaigh, Ros Muc, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.370568, -9.621028



Coláiste Cuimhneacháin an Phiarsaigh, which was formerly known as ‘Coláiste Tin’ due to the

presence of a galvanised tin roof, was first opened in 1933. After refurbishment works, the college was reopened in 2006 by Éamon Ó Cuív, TD. It is located a short distance away from Cnocán na Móna and has a range of 1916-related artefacts, letters and documents. To mark the reopening of the school, which coincided with the 90th anniversary of Pearse’s death, a wall plaque was unveiled (13.1). Its inscription reads: ‘Coláiste Cuimhneacáin an Piaraisigh. Tógtha 1933. Ath-Thógtha 2006’ [Irish for: ‘Pearse Commemorative College. Opened 1933. Reopened 2006’].



**13.1.**

*Wall plaque at Coláiste Cuimhneacháin an Phiarsaigh*

14

## Patrick Pearse Memorial, Cill Bhriocáin, Ros Muc, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.359856, -9.623634



In the years leading up to the 1916 Rising, Patrick Pearse carried out drilling exercises with the Ros Muc Volunteers in a field near a low hill in the townland of Cill Bhriocáin. This can be found next to the T-junction that joins the main road of the Ros Muc peninsula with a side road leading to the old Church of Naomh Briocán. A memorial stone was unveiled a short distance to the north of the field in August 2015, to commemorate Pearse's close association with the area before the 1916 Rising. It is situated alongside the main road of the Ros Muc peninsula. The inscription on the stone reads; 'Seo é an Áit a mBíodh an Píarsach ag Druileáil Óglaigh an Cheantair' [Irish for: 'This is the Place where Pearse Drilled the Volunteers of the Locality'].

After Pearse's execution in 1916, support for the cause of Irish independence remained strong in

the community of Cill Bhriocáin. After his house was burnt on 18 April 1921, in retaliation for the Screeb Ambush, Pádraig Ó Conghaile's wife Jane Mary and her children were given shelter in Johnny Walsh's shop in Cill Bhriocáin. One of Johnny's sons was Patrick, who was born in 1910. Influenced by his separatist upbringing and the enduring influence of Pearse in the west of Ireland, Patrick devoted much of his life to social justice issues. He was ordained a Jesuit priest in 1943 and moved to Northern Rhodesia in Africa in 1946. After a short spell as the first Irish rector of Chikuni, he moved to Lusaka's Regiment Church in 1952. Following his appointment as secretary to the Archbishop of Lusaka in 1958, Father Walsh became a trusted confidant of Kenneth Kaunda. In the following year he was influential in the foundation of the pro-nationalist newspaper, *The Leader*. Kaunda went on to become the first President of Zambia, after Northern Rhodesia secured independence from Britain in 1964. Today, there is a statue of Father Walsh outside the Zambian parliament.

15

Cé Uí Chonaire,  
Ros Muc,  
Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.332117, -9.637742



Patrick Pearse visited the Aran Islands for the first time in 1898. During the summers that he spent living in the west of Ireland, he took part in further excursions to the islands, setting off from a scenic quay at the southern tip of the Ros Muc peninsula called Cé Uí Chonaire. Pearse's father, James, was also well-acquainted with the Aran Islands. He worked as a monumental sculptor at Great Brunswick Street (now Pearse Street), Dublin and one of his finest creations was the altar that now sits in the Church of the Holy Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Inis Meáin (which was built in 1939). An altar made by Pearse's father can also be found in the Convent of the Sisters of Mercy in Gort. Visitors to Ros Muc should note that Cé Uí Chonaire is located within walking distance from a disused shop called Siopa Chonraí. In the twentieth century, this was run by the Ó Conaire (or Conroy) family, who sold

foodstuffs and hardware at the premises. The family also operated a boat business and Pearse occasionally sailed in one of their vessels, *An Conaire Mór*.

Whilst in Ros Muc, Pearse and his brother Willie also sailed in Colm Ó Gaora's boat, the *Naomh Pádraig* (also known as *Púcán Mór Ros Muc*). According to Ó Gaora, many of their discussions on the boat related 'to nationalist issues' and 'would make their way as themes into Pearse's writings, including his dramas and short stories'. The discussions on the boat were also characterised by "insurrectionist" talk, and frustrations with the Home Rule process.

Ó Gaora was also well-acquainted with the Irish language writer, Pádraic Ó Conaire. Born in Galway town in 1882, Ó Conaire's writing was inspired by the cultural revival of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In 1918, he published a collection of seven short stories inspired by the 1916 Rising, entitled *Seacht mBua an Éirí Amach*. This work was influenced by the ways in which the Rising impacted upon ordinary men and women. In *Mise*, Colm Ó Gaora recollected that Ó Conaire 'was a stocky, short man with twinkling eyes' who 'had the mischievous look of somebody who was about to tell you a good story'. To mark the centenary anniversary of the Rising, a bilingual edition of Ó Conaire's fictional collection was published as *Seacht mBua an Éirí Amach/Seven Virtues of the Rising*.



16

## Former Residence of Seán Ó Droighneáin, Tuar Beag, An Spidéal, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.245638, -9.321581



During their visits to the west of Ireland, both Patrick Pearse and Éamonn Ceannt were known to frequent the village of An Spidéal, along with other areas throughout the Connemara Gaeltacht. They were both friendly with one of An Spidéal's natives, Micheál Ó Droighneáin (Irish for: Michael Thornton), who became a member of the Irish Republican Brotherhood in 1910 when he was working in Dublin. In 1912, Ó Droighneáin obtained a teaching job back in An Spidéal. In January 1913, he began teaching in Na Forbacha. The following December, he joined the Irish Volunteers at a meeting in Galway's Town Hall. In the summer of 1914, Ó Droighneáin established a Company of Irish Volunteers in An Spidéal. He also founded Companies of Irish Volunteers in Barna and Moycullen.

A kilometre to the west of An Spidéal is the former

residence of Seán Ó Droighneáin, the father of Micheál. During the summer of 1915, Éamonn Ceannt, his wife Áine and his son Rónán spent one month of their holidays at this particular residence, which is located in the townland of Tuar Beag. During the course of his stay, Ceannt provided words of encouragement to the local Irish Republican Brotherhood circle. He also spoke to Ó Droighneáin about the forthcoming Rising, as did Pearse, when he visited An Spidéal in August of that year. Following his departure for the capital, Ceannt continued to communicate with Ó Droighneáin by using coded messages.

As part of the plan for the 1916 Rising, it was envisaged that the Companies of Irish Volunteers in An Spidéal and Moycullen would partake in a plan to occupy seven buildings in Galway town, including the General Post Office (GPO) and the RIC barracks on Eglinton Street. During Holy Week 1916, Micheál Ó Droighneáin was staying at his parents' home in Tuar Beag. Around this time, he cycled to Castlegar with his brother Máirtín and Micheál Duignan, in order to collect 12 pike heads from Mick Newell. All three then brought them back to An Spidéal on their bicycles. Although Péig Conlon travelled from Dublin on Good Friday with a mobilisation order from Ceannt for the 24 men of the Company of Irish Volunteers in An Spidéal, the issuing of Eoin MacNeill's countermanding order on Easter Sunday scuppered these plans. Micheál Ó Droighneáin received another dispatch from Dublin early on Easter Monday, confirming that the Rising was cancelled. Another message arrived from Pearse in the afternoon, to say that Dublin had risen. The following day, Ó Droighneáin cycled to Galway town and was arrested at Dominick Street. The authorities in the town declared Martial Law on the same day and secured the GPO and other public buildings.

On his visits to An Spidéal in the years before the 1916 Rising, Éamonn Ceannt was known to play his uilleann pipes at a variety of locations. One such location was a field in the townland of Bohoona West, adjacent to a stretch of coastline known as Cré Dubh. To this day, there is a distinctive granite rock (16.1) (SAT NAV: 53.240142, -9.325713) on the southern end of this field. It was at this particular spot, about one and a half kilometres to the south-west of An Spidéal, that Ceannt used to sit down whilst playing his music. The rock is



**Éamonn Ceannt's rock at Cré Dubh 16.1.**

specifically mentioned in Joe Steve Ó Neachtain's poem, 'Dóchais Éamonn Ceannt'/'A Tribute to Éamonn Ceannt', which was specially composed for the Éamonn Ceannt Symposium in Ballymoe on 8 May 2016 – the centenary anniversary of the leader's execution. A framed photograph of this rock, containing the text of the Irish and English translations of the poem, was presented by the poet to the community of Ballymoe, prior to the opening of the Éamonn Ceannt Commemorative Garden on 21 September 2016.

Éamonn Ceannt also played the pipes at Coláiste Chonnacht, located on the eastern side of An

Spidéal. This Irish college was originally founded by Conradh na Gaeilge (The Gaelic League) in 1906 at a site in Tourmakeady in County Mayo. It moved to An Spidéal in 1910 and commenced operations at Arrandale House (16.2) (SAT NAV: 53.247773, -9.279269), which it rented from the Coleman-Lynch family. Patrick Pearse spoke in Irish there in 1914 as he instructed the Volunteers of An Spidéal in their first foot drill. Afterwards, the Company marched from the grounds of the college to the centre of the village, led by a piper named Colm Ó Lochlainn. Micheál Ó Droighneáin began teaching Irish classes at the college in the summer of 1918. It expanded in 1933, when a



**16.2.** *Coláiste Chonnacht (with the former Arrandale House to the right of picture), Sheeaunroe*

larger two-storey building was constructed next door to Arrandale House, on its western side. The front lawn of this newer building is located on the site of Sheeaunroe House, an older residence that used to exist in the nineteenth century. Coláiste Chonnacht continues to run Irish language summer courses for secondary school students to this day, and is equipped with a range of sporting facilities (including a tennis court and a basketball court).

## Further Information

In addition to the historic sites and memorials mentioned above, those interested in exploring the memory of Éamonn Ceannt, Patrick Pearse and other signatories of the 1916 Proclamation may also be interested in visiting a series of additional sites located to the east of An Spidéal, running through the city and suburbs of Galway, and onto a variety of locations along the reasonably flat limestone terrain in the east of the county.

Those taking the road back from Connemara to Galway city should keep an eye out for the premier GAA stadium in the county, Stáid an Phiarsaigh (Pearse Stadium), which is located in Salthill. This 17-acre site was opened to the public on 16 June 1957 by the GAA's President, Séamus McFerran. After falling into disuse at the start of the early 1990s, the stadium underwent a major renovation and was reopened in May 2003. The stadium currently has a capacity of 34,000 and regularly plays host to the final of the Connacht Senior Football Championship. Also located on the western side of the River Corrib, but closer to Galway city centre, is a colour mosaic of Patrick Pearse transfixed in prayer. This can be found in the Mortuary Chapel of the Cathedral of Our Lady Assumed into Heaven and Saint Nicholas (Galway Cathedral), at University Road. This was unveiled when the cathedral was opened in 1965 and is situated opposite a mosaic of John F. Kennedy, who visited Galway in 1963 when he was President of the United States of America. On the same visit, Kennedy paid tribute to the executed leaders of the Rising during a visit to their burial spot at Arbour Hill, Dublin.

Éamonn Ceannt is commemorated at Galway city's train station, which was renamed Ceannt Station at a ceremony on 22 May 1966, during the Golden Jubilee anniversary of the 1916 Rising. During the course of the ceremony, a memorial plaque was unveiled on the outside wall of the building by Josie O'Keeffe (McNamara), a veteran of Cumann na mBan who was stationed at Marrowbone Lane Distillery during Easter Week 1916. At a later stage, the plaque was moved inside the station and placed on a wall facing the main platform. It was returned to its original location on Easter Monday, 28 March 2016.

Another signatory of the 1916 Proclamation, James Connolly, is commemorated nearby at Connolly Terrace. This residential terrace runs parallel to a stretch of the eastern side of Bohermore, a road that is connected to Eyre Square by Prospect Hill. All of the signatories of the 1916 Proclamation were commemorated in the mid-1950s, when seven residential avenues in Mervue, a suburb on the eastern side of Galway city, were named after them. They include: Ceannt Avenue, Pearse Avenue, Connolly Avenue, Clarke Avenue, McDonagh Avenue, McDermott Avenue and Plunkett Avenue. A limestone road marker for Pearse Avenue, featuring an image of Pearse's head, was also unveiled in 2000 as part of a project sponsored by Thermo King. The inscription on the marker, which was sculpted by F. McCormack, reads: 'Oscal an Píarsaig. Pearse Ave. 1956–2000'. In December 2016, a granite cut-stone monument with four plaques was unveiled between Clarke and McDonagh avenues, to mark the Rising's centenary.

In the parish of Ballymacward in the east of county Galway, there is a GAA team called the Pádraig Pearses. This was established in 1966, following a merger between the junior hurling teams in

Ballymacward and Gurteen. Football teams were established in the club in 2013. The naming of a residential area after Brendan Donelan in the town of Loughrea, following the development of new housing in the early 1970s, also bears a connection to Éamonn Ceannt's role in the Rising. Donelan was a native of Loughrea and was badly wounded at the South Dublin Union (now St James' Hospital) whilst fighting under Ceannt's command. The 18-year-old Volunteer, who had worked in the drapery business in the capital for four years, died from his injuries and was buried afterwards in Glasnevin cemetery. He was the only Galway-born rebel to be killed in action during the Rising.

# THE CRADLE OF THE RISING TRAIL – *Athenry*



1916

-  INFORMATION POINT
-  PRIVATE PROPERTY



## THE CRADLE OF THE RISING TRAIL

This trail incorporates historic sites and memorials related to the people of Athenry's relationship to the story of 1916. The town, which is located on a lengthy ridge of glacial sediment, was founded by the Anglo-Normans in the early thirteenth century. Although its population fell to 1,487 by 1851, the town received a significant economic boost when it became a stop along the Galway–Dublin railway line, which was operated by the Midland Great Western Railway from 1851 onwards. Athenry garnered a reputation as the 'Crossroads of the West' in the mid-1870s, when it became a railway junction between the Galway–Dublin and Limerick–Sligo lines. In the late nineteenth century, the areas around Athenry became a hotbed for Land League agitation, agrarian outrages and escalating nationalist sentiment. From November 1913 onwards, the Irish Volunteers attracted many recruits from the town and surrounds. Access to reduced train fares to the town enabled a gathering of a large number of Volunteers for a drill display in the Sports Field in June 1914. Reflecting the separatist nationalist sentiment that existed locally, no split was recorded in the Athenry Volunteers after September 1914.

Liam Mellows, who was born to an Irish mother in Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire in May 1892, moved from Dublin to Athenry in the spring of 1915. He moved there following his appointment as chief organiser of the Irish Volunteers in County Galway. Larry Lardner, the officer in charge of the local Company of Volunteers, met Mellows off the train. From his new base in Athenry, Mellows worked tirelessly in his new role

## THE CRADLE OF THE RISING TRAIL

and made a strong impression on the locals with his exemplary fitness and endurance levels. His acquisition of a motor-cycle also enabled him to extend the geographical reach of his influence far beyond the town.

Athenry's status as the 'Crossroads of the West' made it a fertile breeding ground for the incubation and diffusion of separatist notions and seditious sentiments. Dispatches from Dublin containing orders, plans and literature were frequently brought to Athenry (or nearby Attymon) by messengers posing as ordinary train passengers. Communications were also sent back in the other direction by Mellows and his associates. In the days leading up to the outbreak of the 1916 Rising, rebel communications continued to pass through Athenry train station.

The memory of the revolutionary spirit that was fostered in Athenry in 1916 lingers strongly in the town to the present day. Clarke Street, for example, is named after the Irish Republican Brotherhood's Tom Clarke, one of the seven signatories of the 1916 Proclamation. A group of Volunteers who were imprisoned in Wormwood Scrubs until 1917 are still known locally as 'The Twelve Apostles'. They included the Grady brothers of Church Street (now Chapel Lane). Various buildings, public spaces and monuments also bear testimony to Athenry's position as the cradle of the 1916 Rising in the west of Ireland.



### **GO EXPLORE TIPS**

*This trail comprises a looped walk of about one and a half kilometres around Athenry town centre and its immediate environs. Allowing for sufficient time to stroll along the streets at a leisurely walking pace and appreciate each of the 10 key points of interest, with time for one break factored in as well, it is recommended that you allocate up to a half a day to explore this trail.*

*For intrepid explorers, an additional point of interest on the outskirts of Athenry is appended at the end of this section. As the crow flies, the total distance between each of the 10 key points of interest and the additional point of interest is approximately two and a quarter kilometres.*



**Former Sports Field  
(now Pairc Uí Chionnaith/Kenny  
Park GAA Grounds),  
Swangate, Athenry, Co. Galway**

**SAT NAV: 53.295934, -8.751738**

**1**



Located just inside the site of the Loro Gate (known as Swangate today) in the south-western corner of the walled medieval town, this site was known as the Sports Field in the early twentieth century. A drill display by around 2,200 Irish Volunteers from County Galway was held there on 29 June 1914. The numbers who gathered represented approximately one quarter of the total number of Volunteers in the county at that time. As a result of the split in the Volunteers in late September, these numbers were not seen in the Sports Field again. Mellows, however, quickly embarked upon an organisational restructuring of the Volunteers in the county. This resulted in the creation of a brigade of four battalions, namely Athenry, Galway, Gort and Loughrea (in contrast to the three brigades and 13 battalions that existed before the split).

In a police report filed in January 1916, concern was expressed about the way in which the Irish Volunteers in County Galway were led ‘by a thoroughly disloyal directorate ... spreading sedition’. The estimated total membership size of the Irish Volunteers in County Galway on the eve of the Rising was 1,615 – representing 10.6% of the estimated 15,200 Irish Volunteers that existed across the whole country at this time. In addition to Larry Lardner and Frank Hynes, other key revolutionary figures living in Athenry included Seán Brodrick, Stephen Jordan and Dick Murphy.

Today, the site of the old Sports Field is one of the premier GAA grounds in County Galway and boasts a fine playing pitch (1.1). The land on which it is located was purchased by the Kenny



*The playing pitch at Pairc Uí Chionnaith* 1.1.

Memorial Committee in the early 1950s, at a cost of £300. Its members included the 1916 veteran, Stephen Jordan. The land was then given to the GAA free of charge. The venue, which is named after Tom Kenny, was officially opened on 3 July 1955 by Dan O’Rourke, Chairman of the Connacht Council, GAA.

Kenny was born in Ardrahan in 1878 and later worked as a blacksmith in Craughwell. He held a senior position in many organisations, including: the Irish Republican Brotherhood, the GAA, the United Irish League and Sinn Féin. Kenny was heavily involved in agrarian agitation for land redistribution and believed that political independence would initiate a social revolution which would benefit the small tenant farmer. He joined the Irish Volunteers when it was formed but failed to secure a senior rank. On Easter Sunday 1916, Kenny travelled to Dublin to attend the GAA Convention. Afterwards, he visited Eoin MacNeill's house and told him that Galway was 'utterly unprepared' for a Rising. While the rebels were camped at Moyode he visited several times on horseback to hold discussions with Mellows. After the Rising, Kenny fled to the United States of America and spent time in Boston and New York. He died in Ireland in 1947.

**1.2.****Commemorative wall plaque  
at Pairc Uí Chionnaigh**

On Easter Monday, 28 March 2016, a commemorative wall plaque (1.2) was unveiled at Pairc Uí Chionnaigh by Noel Treacy, the Chairman

of Galway GAA County Board. The inscription on the plaque, which was manufactured by Rooney Monumental Works, reads: 'Pairc Uí Chionnaigh. GAA. Kenny Park GAA Grounds. Tom Kenny Memorial Park'. Beyond Athenry, it is worth noting that a Liam Mellows GAA club was established in 1933. In 1984, the club moved from Galway city centre to Ballyloughane, in the suburb of Renmore. A new clubhouse was opened in the same year. The statue of Liam Mellows in Eyre Square is depicted on the left-hand side of the club's crest, which has featured on team jerseys since the 1980s. A framed picture of Liam Mellows takes pride of place over the fireplace in the main function room of the clubhouse.

2

### Gairdín Comórtha 1916, Swangate, Athenry, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.297162, -8.749907 ⓘ



The Gairdín Comórtha 1916 (Irish for: 1916 Commemorative Garden), which was designed

by Anthony Ryan, was officially opened at a ceremony on Easter Monday, 28 March 2016. It was blessed by faith leaders, including Father Brendan Kilcoyne, the Catholic Parish Priest of Athenry. Construction work on the dry stone-walled garden was overseen by volunteers from Athenry Tidy Towns and The Relatives and Friends of Galway, 1916 (formerly The Relatives and Friends of Athenry, 1916). The garden was built with financial support from Galway County Council, The Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and through local fundraising initiatives. It is intended to be ‘a place of peace, reflection and tranquility for visitors’.

A stone bearing the name of the garden can be found near the main entrance. It is surrounded by a series of small plants, which represent the children who lost their lives in the 1916 Rising. Behind the name stone is a dark-coloured water stone and behind this, at the back of the garden, there is a round limestone cairn (a pile of stones). Running along a curved line on the outer edge of the small stream between the water stone and the cairn are sixteen heather plants, representing the 16 men who were executed after the Rising. The twelve heather plants arranged in an arc behind the cairn represent the ‘Twelve Apostles’ of Athenry. Three scenes from Paddy Reilly’s well-known song about the Great Irish Famine, ‘The Fields of Athenry’, are depicted in a stone carving along the western perimeter wall. The scenes shown are based on the following lyrics in the song: ‘a lonely prison wall’, ‘you stole [Charles] Trevelyan’s corn’ and ‘we watched the small free birds fly’.

Located at the back of the garden is a bronze bust of Liam Mellows on a pedestal. This was originally unveiled in April 1966 outside the old primary school in Athenry (now Somers Garage), to mark the Golden Jubilee of the Rising. In 1989,



the bust was relocated to the front lawn of a new primary school for boys at Knockaunglass. It was moved to the Gairdín Comórtha 1916 in advance of the centenary anniversary commemoration on Easter Monday 2016. The inscription on the front of the pedestal reads: ‘Ó Maelíosa’. The inscription on its side reads: ‘An Ceannfort Liam Ó Maelíosa a bhí i gceannas as [sic] óghiaigh [sic] an bhalle [sic] seo agus ar Óghiaigh [sic] Chontae na Gaillimhe in Éirí Amach 1916 [Irish for: ‘Commandant Liam Mellows was in charge of the Volunteers of this town and of the County Galway Volunteers in the 1916 Rising’]’. Running along the length of the wall behind the bust of Mellows are seven holly trees, which represent the seven signatories of the 1916 Proclamation.

3

**Former Residence and Public House of Larry (Lawrence) Lardner (now Declan Rooney Menswear), Old Church Street, Atherny, Co. Galway**

**SAT NAV: 53.299016, -8.747532** 



Larry Lardner lived and worked as a publican at this commercial/residential building (now Declan Rooney Menswear), when its address was 1 Church Street. The front room functioned as a public house (or bar), while the room behind it was used as a 'snug' (where people could sit down with their drinks and chat in private). Lardner's mother and brother also lived in the building. In his spare time, Larry also served as the head of the Irish Republican Brotherhood circle in Athenry. Lardner maintained close ties with Dublin and received 12 rifles for the Athenry Volunteers after the Howth Gun Running on 26 July 1914. When the Volunteers split following the outbreak of World War I, Lardner remained with the minority Irish Volunteers. At a later stage, Lardner was appointed Officer Commanding of the Galway Brigade, effectively making him the most senior Irish Volunteer Officer in County Galway after Mellows.

On Wednesday of Holy Week 1916, Lardner travelled to Dublin in an attempt to clarify the conflicting rumours regarding mobilisation orders for Easter Sunday. The next day, Éamonn Ceannt dispatched Annie Fahy by train from Dublin to Athenry to notify Lardner of the impending Rising. Seán MacDiarmada also dispatched Margaret Brown to Athenry with the same message. Amidst conflicting rumours on Easter Sunday, a decision was made to dispatch John Hosty from Galway town, first to Athenry and then to Dublin to make contact with Patrick Pearse in an effort to clarify orders. Similarly, when Lardner and Stephen Jordan decided to go to Dublin to attend the GAA convention on Easter Sunday in a bid to 'find out the position in Dublin', they saw the Citizen Army mobilise and leave Liberty Hall, and were immediately able to take the return train to Athenry to report the

4

**Former Residence of Seán Brodrick  
(now Kelly's Pharmacy and  
The Fields of Athenry Gift Shop),  
Old Church Street,  
Athenry, Co. Galway**

SAT NAV: 53.299008, -8.747497



When Liam Mellows was first sent to Athenry in early 1915 to train the Irish Volunteers, he boarded at this building, which was owned by the father of Seán (John J.) Brodrick, the Lieutenant of the Athenry Volunteers (and a cousin of his next-door neighbour, Larry Lardner).

Whilst living there, Mellows developed a close friendship with Julia Mary Morrissey, a Cumann na mBan woman who lived nearby. However, his work schedule was hectic and he spent most of his time establishing, organising and training the Irish Volunteers throughout County Galway.

Mellows' presence in Athenry did not escape the attention of the RIC, who regularly stationed an officer outside the Brodricks' house to monitor his movements. At the time, the address of the residence was 2 Church Street. Seán Brodrick's father worked as a building contractor and was also named Seán. Both father and son were present at the first local meeting of the Irish Volunteers held in Athenry in early 1914, at which the father was elected president. An estimated 70 men joined after the first meeting. In later years, the Brodricks' residence was divided into two, with Seán (also a builder) living on the eastern side (now The Fields of Athenry Gift Shop) and his brother Christy working as a chemist on the western side (now Kelly's Pharmacy).

5

**Former Residence of  
Stephen Jordan,  
5 Davis Street,  
Athenry, Co. Galway****SAT NAV: 53.298939, -8.747075**

This property, which is located on the right-hand side of Glynn's Central Bar on Davis Street, was the former residence of Stephen Jordan. Born in 1886, Jordan was a member of both the Irish Republican Brotherhood and the Irish Volunteers in Athenry. In the 1911 Census, he was living in the residence with his sister, Monica, and was employed as a bootmaker. As a committed nationalist, he campaigned against Irish involvement in World War I and was prosecuted under the Defence of the Realm Act (DORA) for 'conduct likely to prejudice recruiting'.

In 1915, Jordan was accused of applauding cinematic pictures of the Turkish advance on the Dardanelles, cheering the Kaiser and hissing at a picture of King George V. As a result, he was sentenced to a month in prison at Galway Gaol

with hard labour. However, his Irish Republican Brotherhood comrade and solicitor, George Nicolls, successfully appealed and had the conviction quashed on a technicality.

Jordan mobilised alongside Liam Mellows during Easter Week 1916. After the Rising, his profile appeared in the police bulletin, the *Hue and Cry*, which offered an award of £500 for his capture. He went on-the-run with Dick Murphy and it was not until early June that their luck ran out and they had to give themselves up due to the latter's ill health. Jordan was deported to Knutsford Jail in England before being transferred to Frongoch in Wales. Jordan was elected to Dáil Éireann as a Fianna Fáil TD for Galway in 1927. He was elected again in 1932 and re-elected the following year, but lost his seat in the 1937 General Election. He died in 1975.

**Machnamh Sculpture,  
Athenry Town Park,  
Athenry, Co. Galway**

**SAT NAV: 53.299713, -8.744261**

6



1916

On Easter Sunday, 27 March 2016, the centenary of the 1916 Rising was commemorated with a parade of 3,722 Defence Forces personnel along a 4.5 kilometres-long parade route in Dublin, watched by over 250,000 spectators. The next day, Athenry was one of four regional locations beyond Dublin (the others were Ashbourne, Cork and Enniscorthy) to partake in state commemoration ceremonies on Easter Monday. That morning, seven native trees were planted in Athenry Town Park, which is bounded by the thirteenth-century Athenry Castle and the River Clarin. These were planted by Councillor Peter Roche, the Cathaoirleach of the County of Galway and members of Galway County Council (including the Chairs of each of the municipal districts).

The ceremonies proceeded with an ‘Aeraíocht’ – a showcase of the county’s cultural heritage through music, song, dance and poetry. This was followed by a parade of the colours of the GAA teams of the county and a synchronised wreath-laying in the public park. Afterwards, a piece of sculpture called *Machnamh* was jointly unveiled by the Cathaoirleach and Jan O’Sullivan, the Minister for Education and Skills. This was created by the Gort-based artist, Jethro Sheen, following a commission by Galway County Council. It depicts the youthful warrior of ancient Irish sagas, Cúchulainn, who was one of Patrick Pearse’s heroes. The inscription on the front of the pedestal reads: ‘1916/2016’. The ceremonial programme continued in the afternoon with two public lectures and a historical exhibition in Athenry Community Centre, followed by a commemorative concert in a local hotel.

The legendary figure of Cúchulainn has also featured in previous commemorations of the Rising. For the 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Rising in 1935, Éamon de Valera unveiled Oliver Sheppard’s

realist-style bronze statue of the warrior at the General Post Office on O'Connell Street. Today, this statue stands inside the front window of the building. An image of Cúchulainn also featured on one side of the bronze 1916 medals (with green/orange ribbons) awarded by the government in 1941 to those 'with recognised military service during Easter Week 1916'. For the Golden Jubilee anniversary in 1966, two million ten shillings silver coins were minted by the government to commemorate the Rising. The souvenir coin, which was designed by British sculptor Thomas Hugh Paget, depicted the head of Patrick Pearse on one side and Sheppard's statue of Cúchulainn on the other.

**Calligraphic Manuscript,  
Athenry Boys National School,  
Knockaunglass,  
Athenry, Co. Galway**

**SAT NAV: 53.298433, -8.742010**

7



1916



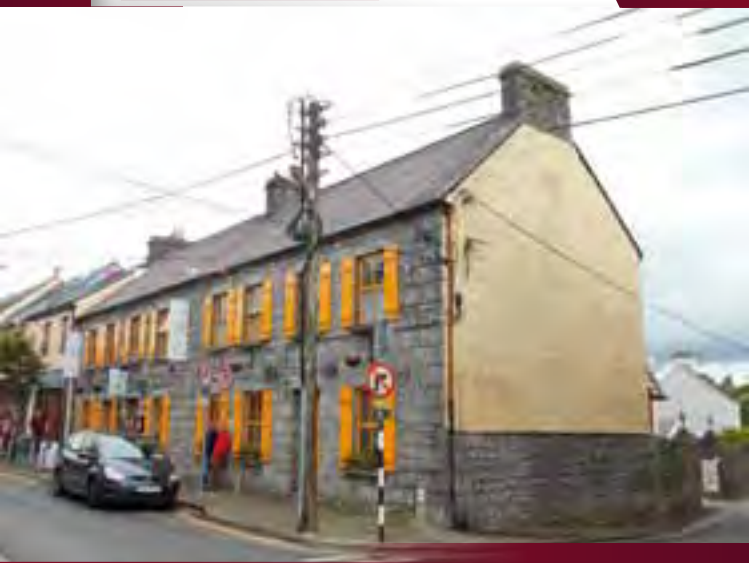
Athenry Boys National School at Knockaunglass was officially opened on 26 February 1990. The year beforehand, a bust of Liam Mellows on a pedestal was placed in the school's front lawn. It went missing in June 1997, but was recovered from the River Clarin in December 1998 and put back on its pedestal. It remained there until 2016, when it was relocated to the Gairdín Comórtha 1916 at Swangate.

This bust was originally unveiled in April 1966, outside the old primary school in Athenry. The names of 'comrades and friends' who contributed to the fund for its erection were written on a calligraphic manuscript. Today, this manuscript is on display inside a wooden and glass cabinet, which is mounted on a wall just inside the front door of the present school at Knockaunglass. Among the 78 entries for the individuals and organisations who made donations are Éamon de Valera, the President of Ireland and Cardinal Richard Cushing, the Archbishop of Boston. Prominent 1916 veterans from Athenry are also listed, including Frank Hynes and Stephen Jordan.

**Former Royal Irish Constabulary Barracks (now The Old Barracks Pantry & Bakery),  
Cross Street,  
Athenry, Co. Galway**

**SAT NAV: 53.298243, -8.746724** 

**8**



When the 1911 Census was conducted, a total of 25 policemen were stationed in a building located at 10 Cross Street, which functioned as the RIC barracks for Athenry. When the Rising broke out in Dublin on Easter Monday 1916, the authorities in Athenry were quick to respond. According to Alf Monaghan, 'the RIC garrison ... at once seized a house facing the barracks and fortified it and the barracks', while reinforcements 'from outlying stations were rushed in'. Due to the heavy police presence in the town, the Athenry Volunteers abandoned their plan to attack the barracks, as both it and the surrounding buildings were swollen with police. The building has been functioning as a pantry and bakery since October 2010, serving a wide variety of hot and cold dishes.

1916

9

**Former Residence of Frank Hynes, Cross Street, Athenry, Co. Galway**SAT NAV: 53.297063, -8.747282 

This is the former home of Frank Hynes, a married carpenter who was also Vice Captain of the Athenry Volunteers. When Liam Mellows moved to Athenry in the spring of 1915, he was introduced to Hynes on the first day. He remembered being ‘introduced to a small fellow with glasses’ and was immediately dubious of the outsider’s ability to organise and train the Volunteers. He further surmised that Mellows, whilst undoubtedly clever, could hardly be any good at fighting, given his apparent youth. The assembled Volunteers were similarly suspicious about the new arrival. Many of them were ‘six-footers’ and they grasped the irony of this small individual warning them about the forthcoming hard graft. Some were even heard joking: ‘Who is this ladeen who talks to us about hard work?’ Despite their initial hesitancy, Hynes noted that Mellows quickly made his mark and ‘before the

first night under his command was over, they laughed no more’.

Although Mellows boarded in the Brodricks’ house at 2 Church Street (now Old Church Street), he sometimes stayed nearby at Hynes’ home on Cross Street – which came under police surveillance. Hynes called the spare room in which Mellows slept ‘Liam’s Room’, because nobody else used to stay there. According to Hynes, Mellows ‘would ramble in, sit by the kitchen fire on a small stool, pull out his pipe, and light it with a coal from the turf fire. That was Liam’s way. He ignored any fuss or preparations made for him’. When the house was under surveillance, Mellows was known to play tricks on the police in an effort to keep them guessing about his whereabouts. When Larry Lardner was promoted to Officer Commanding of the Galway Brigade Irish Volunteers, Hynes was elevated to the position of Captain of the Athenry Volunteers.

After the Rising, Hynes went on-the-run with Mellows and Alf Monaghan. Assuming the alias ‘Patrick Murphy’, he ended up hiding for five months in Kilduff Upper, County Clare. Afterwards, he spent time in a series of safe houses organised by the clergy in Counties Tipperary and Antrim. He eventually secured a job at Maynooth College with the help of Father Tom Fahy, before relocating to Cork. After 14 months on-the-run, Frank Hynes returned to Athenry after the General Amnesty in June 1917, but had to return to Cork when he learned that he was to be arrested. During the War of Independence, Hynes was involved in training the Irish Republican Army (IRA) in Cork and rose to the rank of Captain. As a result of his activities he spent time in Cork, Belfast and Wormwood Scrubs Jail in England, where he went on hunger strike for 11 days.

1917

10

**Former Town Hall  
(now Athenry Community Centre),  
Clarke Street,  
Athenry, Co. Galway**

**SAT NAV: 53.297316, -8.747945**



The town hall in Athenry was first opened in 1907 by Dick Murphy. It was an important social hub for people living in the town and surrounds, who frequented it for film screenings and weekend dances. In his spare time, Murphy acted as the Irish Republican Brotherhood County Centre and was also a member of the Irish Volunteers. On Easter Monday 1916, the Athenry Volunteers gathered in the building and spent the night there making bombs.

The Volunteers were well acquainted with the town hall, as their inaugural meeting had been held there on 8 February 1914. On some occasions, Mellows used the hall to deliver lectures to the Volunteers on military tactics. The venue also contained a back yard where Mellows sought to put theory into practice by establishing

a rifle range and carrying out drilling exercises. Today, the building functions as Athenry Community Centre and plays host to a range of community events. Beyond Athenry, another venue used by Mellows for delivering lectures to the Irish Volunteers was Hynes' Mill in Gort.

## Also of Interest

In addition to the historic sites and memorials mentioned above, those interested in visiting the final resting places of Larry Lardner and other 1916 veterans may also be interested in exploring the following location on the outskirts of Athenry.

**11**

### Grave of Larry (Lawrence) Lardner, New Cemetery, Athenry, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.289789, -8.743524



After the 1916 Rising, Larry Lardner escaped to Belfast and stayed there until the General Amnesty in 1917. He died on 21 April 1936 and was buried in the New Cemetery, Athenry. After his death, a large committee was formed to

ensure that he was suitably remembered. Its members included three Fianna Fáil TDs and one Fine Gael TD. An invitation was issued by the committee for all those who took up arms during the revolutionary period to come forward and support the project.

In 1937, a Celtic cut-stone cross was unveiled at his grave by the Ceann Comhairle of the Dáil, Frank Fahy, at an event attended by thousands of people. The English inscription on the side of the cross reads: 'Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on the soul of Lawrence Lardner of Athenry Commandant Galway Brigade Irish Volunteers Easter Week 1916 and afterwards IRA died April 21st 1936 RIP. Erected by his comrades and friends'. Lardner's wife Brigid, who passed away on 25 August 1966, is also buried in this grave. In addition to Lardner, other 1916 veterans buried in the New Cemetery include Stephen Jordan and Dick Murphy.



# THE ROUTE OF THE RISING TRAIL – *East County Galway*



1916



 INFORMATION POINT

 PRIVATE PROPERTY

## THE ROUTE OF THE RISING TRAIL

This trail incorporates historic sites and memorials related to the route taken by those who rebelled in the east of County Galway during Easter Week 1916. Having been exiled to Leek in England in late March 1916, Liam Mellows got back to Ireland the day before Holy Thursday, after sailing on a cattle boat from Glasgow to Belfast disguised as a priest. After meeting Patrick Pearse at St. Enda's in Dublin, he arrived in Killeeneen, County Galway in the early hours of Good Friday. Despite having to abandon a plan to hold the line of the River Shannon, due to the failure of Roger Casement's mission to import German arms, Mellows led hundreds of Volunteers in a Rising in the east of the county. It lasted from 25–29 April 1916. The clash between Irish republican and British forces took place in a region characterised by farm holdings on fertile and relatively even terrain, bounded by Galway Bay to the west and the Slieve Aughty Mountains and The Burren to the south.

The starting point of the county's Rising on Easter Tuesday, 25 April 1916 was the small village of Killeeneen. The cottage and schoolhouse of the late Hubert Walsh served as Mellows' headquarters. Having mobilised his forces, who were dressed in an assortment of attire, including forage hats and Sam Browne belts, Mellows marched through the Redington estate and led almost 100 Volunteers in an attack on the RIC barracks at Clarinbridge. The confrontation lasted from around 7.20am to 10.38am. Although the rebels failed to take the barracks, it is believed

## THE ROUTE OF THE RISING TRAIL

that a small number of policemen were taken as prisoners. Throughout the incident, assistance was provided by Father Harry Feeney, who acted as Chaplain to the rebels. The siege of the barracks continued until police reinforcements arrived from Kilcolgan.

In another incident sometime between 12pm and 1pm on Tuesday, Joe Howley and Michael Athy led around 106 Volunteers in an attack on the front and rear of the RIC barracks in Oranmore village. After an unsuccessful attempt to take the barracks, they linked up with Mellows' men halfway on the road between Oranmore and Clarinbridge. The combined force of over 200 Volunteers then renewed the attack on Oranmore. Explosives were used by a group of rebels, led by Eamon Corbett of Killeeneen, to blast a hole in the middle of a strategic road bridge at Millplot, on the northern side of Oranmore. To stop the flow of traffic on the southern side of the village, a barricade was erected on the road to Clarinbridge, while another one was set up between Clarinbridge and Kilcolgan. The rebels also cut a stretch of the Galway–Athenry railway line at Derrydonnell. However, in a tactical miscalculation, the railway line from Oranmore to Galway town was left intact. According to one estimate, six policemen were captured at Oranmore.

At around 7.30pm on Tuesday, police reinforcements from Galway town arrived in Oranmore, accompanied by a party of 10

## THE ROUTE OF THE RISING TRAIL

Connaught Rangers from Renmore barracks under the command of Captain Andrew Armstrong. Due to the 'superior fire-power' of the authorities, the rebels were forced 'to retreat out of the town ... along the Athenry road'. After marching for about nine and a half kilometres eastwards along the main Oranmore–Athenry road, the Clarinbridge, Oranmore and Maree Volunteers arrived after 9pm at the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction's model farm, located about one and a half kilometres to the south-west of Athenry town. At this location, situated on land previously owned by the Goodbodys (a Quaker family) in the townland of Ballygarraun West, they met up with additional Companies. Among these were the Athenry Volunteers, who had been forced to abandon Athenry town, which 'was strongly held by 200 well-armed police' after the Rising started.

After getting word of what was going on in the capital, the authorities in Galway town declared Martial Law and quickly secured the main public buildings, including the GPO. According to the *Galway Observer*, other premises closed 'of their own accord, so that the town presented the appearance of a city preparing for a siege'. By around 6pm on Tuesday evening, RIC District Inspector Thomas Neylon arrived into the town 'with about 70 men from the Connemara district'. Members of the National Volunteers also set up patrols in the town. A reserve civilian force was raised too, with backing from a committee chaired by a prominent businessman, Máirtín

## THE ROUTE OF THE RISING TRAIL

Mór McDonogh.

The only fatality of the Rising in County Galway was Patrick Whelan, a 38-year-old policeman who was stationed at Eglinton Street RIC barracks. Constable Whelan was killed by a gunshot to the left side of his head at Carnmore Crossroads between 5am and 5.30am on Wednesday, 26 April, during a shootout between an RIC reconnaissance unit under District Inspector George Bennett Heard (assisted by soldiers commanded by Captain Bodkin) and a group of rebels. The men who gathered at Carnmore belonged to the Castlegar and Claregalway Volunteers, commanded by Brian Molloy and Nicholas Kyne respectively. Panic and fear gripped Galway town after the killing, as did unfounded stories about a possible attack by the rebels. In the end, the ominous presence of British warships in Galway Bay – including the *HMS Guillemot*, *HMS Laburnum*, *HMS Gloucester* and *HMS Snowdrop* – was sufficient to thwart any potential attack on the town centre. The navy established a territorial marker by directing artillery fire towards the townlands of Castlegar, Ballindooly and Lydican – all located in sparsely populated countryside beyond the town's north-eastern boundary. The *HMS Laburnum*, an Acacia-class sloop built by Charles Connell & Company, was responsible for firing 'on Castlegar hill' and the approaches to the town on Wednesday afternoon. As this was happening, 'observers were on the roof of the Railway Hotel to report results'. One of the shells 'burst in Ballinfoyle [Ballinfoile]', located a short

## THE ROUTE OF THE RISING TRAIL

distance inside the municipal boundary. Shells were also fired towards Oranmore on Wednesday, leaving ‘holes ploughed in the earth’.

The total number of rebels who occupied the model farm, from Tuesday night to Wednesday afternoon, has been estimated variously as 500, 600 or 700 Volunteers. Initially, the occupying force on Tuesday night was made up of the Athenry, Cussaun, Derrydonnell, Kilconierin, Newcastle and Rockfield (Craughwell) Volunteers. Not long afterwards, the number of Companies at the model farm rose to nine, after the arrival of the Clarinbridge, Oranmore and Maree Volunteers. At around 11am the following morning, the rebel force grew to 11 identifiable Companies, following the arrival of the Castlegar and Claregalway Volunteers from Carnmore. Most of the rebels were young Catholic men from small farming, labouring and artisan backgrounds. The majority of them were members of Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) clubs and some were Irish-speakers and Gaelic League members. However, they were poorly armed with approximately 25 rifles, 60 revolvers, 60 pikes and 300 shotguns. Their miscellaneous arsenal also included homemade hand-grenades, bayonets, hayforks and a number of improvised weapons. For the short duration of their stay, ‘ample accommodation’ was ‘found in the big lofts’. At about 7am on Wednesday, around seven RIC men from Athenry arrived within around 350 metres of the model farm. However, a group of rebels led by Frank Hynes managed to ward off

## THE ROUTE OF THE RISING TRAIL

the attack. About four hours after this incident, Mellows held a Council of War with Larry Lardner, Dick Murphy, Eamon Corbett, Mattie Neilan, Tom Ruane and Father Feeney. Ruane suggested that the Volunteers should be broken up into small columns to fight against the police, but the meeting decided against this course of action.

On Wednesday afternoon, Mellows abandoned the model farm and led the rebels in a retreat to Moyode Castle in Kilconierin parish – a derelict residence located about five kilometres to the south-east. The ‘castle’, which was owned by Lady Ardilaun, was easily seized when the rebels arrived at around 4pm, as it was only protected by a caretaker, John Shackleton. As Mellows waited in Moyode for news of events in the wider region, his new location beside the Dooyërtha River left ‘the way open alternatively to Gort or to the Shannon’. In the meantime, he established a chain of lookout posts around the outer reaches of Moyode. A railway bridge at Craughwell was damaged, seemingly with the objective of stopping military reinforcements moving in by rail from Limerick. At one stage, police scouts from Athenry tried to make an advance towards Moyode, but they ‘were chased back to their barracks’. However, the rebels’ situation was becoming increasingly hazardous. On Thursday afternoon, ‘a large force of infantry and cavalry, with a battery of artillery and machine guns and armoured cars’ arrived in Athenry, having set out from Loughrea. The rebels ended up staying at Moyode for Wednesday and Thursday nights, and

## THE ROUTE OF THE RISING TRAIL

most of Friday. While there, cooking was done by Cumann na mBan women, who also administered first aid. Father Feeney delivered general absolution to those going on scouting missions. Thomas Davis' song, 'A Nation Once Again', was sung next to the camp fire 'in an atmosphere tense with optimism and excitement'. Such sanguinity was short lived, as around 200 men ended up leaving Moyode early. Some of those who departed were opposed to prolonging the campaign due to the scarcity of arms. Those who remained at Moyode were now faced with the threat of soldiers and policemen advancing from both the west and the east.

On Friday, the rebels retreated south-westwards from Moyode Castle in the direction of County Clare. Whilst acknowledging that they had been 'practically hemmed in at the time', Mellows later defended the abandonment of Moyode on the grounds that 'it was believed that Cork and Kerry were out and that a junction would be effected with them, rousing Clare on the way'. Those who stayed with Mellows made up a depleted column – estimated differently as 150, 300 or 400 Volunteers. Having moved through around 24 kilometres of poor country roads in the evening (past Craughwell and through Monksfield, Ballyglass and Cockstown), the fatigued party reached their final destination in Kiltomas parish in the hours of darkness – an unoccupied residence near Peterswell called Limepark House. The time of their arrival at the big house, which was owned by Harry Perse of Woodville and



## THE ROUTE OF THE RISING TRAIL

was surrounded by thick shrubbery, has been estimated variously as 11pm on Friday, 12am on Saturday or 1am on Saturday. Sometime in the early hours of Saturday morning, a decision was taken to disband and to set the prisoners free, thus ending County Galway's Rising. Most of the Volunteers returned to their homes with immediate effect, by taking to the byways and fields. According to Mattie Neilan, 'it was with the greatest reluctance' that the Volunteers 'began to break up'. Although they 'had to abandon their fight', he felt that 'they had struck their blow' for independence.



## GO EXPLORE TIPS

*This looped trail stretches from Killeeneen, which is about five kilometres to the east of Clarinbridge, all the way to Limepark North, which is about eight kilometres to the north-east of Gort. As the crow flies, the total distance between each of the 16 key points of interest is approximately 54 kilometres. Allowing for sufficient time to appreciate these points of interest, with time for breaks factored in as well, it is recommended that you allocate a full day to explore this trail.*

*For intrepid explorers, an additional point of interest in Kinvara is appended at the end of this section. As the crow flies, the total distance between each of the 16 key points of interest and the additional point of interest is approximately 67 kilometres.*

1

## 1916 Monument, Killeeneen, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.223229, -8.804655



The small rural village of Killeeneen, located between Clarinbridge and Craughwell, served as the starting point of the Rising in east County Galway in the early hours of Tuesday, 25 April 1916. The one-storey house of a 53-year-old teacher, Mary K. Walsh, served as Liam Mellows' headquarters before he set off for Clarinbridge. Tipperary-born Mary was the widow of the late school principal, Hubert Walsh. Up until his death in 1912, Hubert had been a staunch republican sympathiser and an advocate of the Irish language. He was originally from Ros Muc. Both of the Walshs were appointed as teachers in 1885 and their homestead was the location of the first Killeeneen National School, until its closure in 1913.

On Easter Monday 1916, Mellows was joined at Mary Walsh's residence by Eamon Corbett, Mattie

Neilan, Pat 'The Hare' Callinan and Father Harry Feeney. On the same night, the Clarinbridge Volunteers arrived at Killeeneen. To convey the appearance of insurgency and discipline, the men of Killeeneen and Clarinbridge improvised as well as they could when they lined up outside Mary's residence on Easter Tuesday morning. They were dressed in assorted military attire, including forage hats and leather Sam Browne belts.

A stone monument was erected beside the site of the Walshs' residence in October 1954. Today, the inscription at the base of the monument reads: 'In memory of Liam Mellows and his comrades who set out from here to fight for Irish freedom Easter Week 1916'. The contribution of Mary Walsh to the independence struggle was widely acknowledged by Galway's 1916 veterans. In his statement to the Bureau of Military History in 1957, Martin Newell recalled that she 'had an intense love of Ireland and everything Irish' and noted that 'her home was "open house" for the Volunteers' throughout the revolutionary era.

In the late 2000s, the Killeeneen monument



underwent restoration work and the original Celtic Cross was replaced with a black metal one manufactured by Maddens' Forge in Kilcolgan. This work was overseen by Ríona Brown (nee Armstrong), a former principal of the third Killeeneen National School, and her husband, Michael Brown. Ríona's grandmother was Kate Armstrong, the Commanding Officer of the Clarinbridge Cumann na mBan. A private residence is located directly opposite the 1916 monument in Killeeneen. The inscription on the plaque (1.1) in the wall around the perimeter of the house reads: 'Teach Maoilíosa Cillínín' [Irish for 'Mellows' House Killeeneen']. It is not the only private residence named after Mellows. When he lived in Galway city, 1916 veteran Eamon Corbett's house on Father Griffin Road was named 'Mhaoil Íosa'. To mark the centenary anniversary of the Rising, a reenactment of an Irish Volunteers' march and drill took place at the Killeeneen monument on 20 March 2016, featuring members of the Monageer 1916 Commemoration Group from County Wexford.

## Wall Plaque Marking the Site of the Second Killeeneen National School, Killeeneen, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.228117, -8.817688

2



The second Killeeneen National School operated at this site from 1913–1960. In the lead-up to the 1916 Rising, a supply of ammunition was stored in the school. After setting off from Mary K. Walsh's homestead on Easter Tuesday morning, Liam Mellows and the Volunteers marched westwards in the direction of Clarinbridge. Along the way, Martin Newell and Mattie Neilan called into the new school to collect a quantity of the ammunition that was held there. From here, the group marched on through the Redington estate and launched an attack on the RIC barracks in Clarinbridge. The schoolhouse continued to function at this site until it closed down in 1960. It was demolished at a later stage and nothing remains of the structure today.

A wall plaque was unveiled near the site of

the second school in 2010, to mark the 50th anniversary of its closure and to highlight its historical significance. The erection of the plaque was coordinated by Ríona and Michael Brown. The English inscription at the top of this plaque reads: 'Killeeneen N.S. which stood on this site, was erected in 1913. From here Liam Mellows led his army of Irish Volunteers to rebellion during Easter week 1916. This school was replaced by a new school in 1960'. The Irish inscription at the bottom of the plaque reads: 'Tógadh Scoil Náisiúnta Chillínín sa suíomh seo sa bhliain 1913. D'fhág Liam Ó Maoilíosa agus na hÓglaigh an áit seo le troid in Éirí Amach na Cásca 1916. Tógadh scoil nua sa bhliain 1960'.

3

### Former Entrance to the Redington Estate, Kilcornan, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.232058, -8.842554



Having mobilised the Killeeneen and Clarinbridge Volunteers, Mellows marched them to a position

at the northern entrance to the Redington estate in Kilcornan. Near here, Martin Newell and other Volunteers broke into the house of a 63-year-old retired Catholic policeman, Carlow-born William Bourke. Once they gained entry to the residence, which is listed in the 1911 Census as House 4 in the townland of Kilcornan, the rebels forcibly seized two bicycles and an American-made 'Richardson and Harris' shotgun belonging to his sons, Edward and Frank. Today, the residence located at this spot is known as Kilcornan Lodge.

After passing through the gate lodge entrance on Easter Tuesday 1916, the group of almost 100 rebels then marched through the demesne of the Redington estate. They travelled through a forest path to the east of Anne Redington's residence, Kilcornan House (later the headquarters of the Brothers of Charity Services) and exited at the estate's southern entrance, located directly across the road from the Convent of the Sisters of Charity in Clarinbridge (later a hotel and now a derelict building). A barricade was then erected to halt any police reinforcements arriving from Kilcolgan. Afterwards, a group of the rebels proceeded westwards and launched an attack on Clarinbridge's RIC barracks.

While the attack on the barracks was going on, members of the Clarinbridge Volunteers remained on sentry duty at the northern and southern entrances to the Redington estate. A policeman who cycled from Kilcolgan confronted them near the latter outpost but was ordered to surrender by the rebels. As noted in the Bureau of Military History Witness Statements, he refused to put up his hands and attempted to draw his revolver. He was then shot at and injured by Ned Newell, before being taken to the convent and given first aid. Evidence submitted to the Property Losses (Ireland) Committee, which was set up



in June 1916 to judge compensation claims for damage to buildings and property caused by the rebels during Easter Week (and losses arising too), provides an additional insight into events in and around Clarinbridge on Easter Tuesday. Constable Edward Brennan of Kilcolgan RIC barracks lodged a compensation claim for the seizure at 9am of his one-year old 'Hawker – Special Standard' bicycle, which he had loaned to Constable David Manning for 'urgent duty' which necessitated a journey from Kilcolgan to Clarinbridge. The documentation, which described the incident as a 'Highway Robbery', also reveals that the rebels seized Manning's revolver, along with 'one whistle & chain – public property'. In December 1916, County Inspector George Bedell Ruttledge gave evidence that the bicycle was worth £10. This was subsequently passed on to the committee for 'favourable consideration'.

The same records also indicate that Constable Jeremiah J. Donovan of Kilcolgan RIC barracks was captured on Easter Tuesday 'by an armed party of men in the vicinity of Clarinbridge ... numbering about 15 or 20'. On 26 May, he submitted a compensation claim for £12 for the loss of a two-year old 'Special Swift' bicycle, 'in expectation of getting £9 or £10'. Another claim was submitted by the two sons of William Bourke, who were compensated £9 15s for the loss of, and damage to, their possessions at their Kilcornan residence.

An additional point of interest within the vicinity of Clarinbridge is Roveagh Church (3.1) (SAT NAV: 53.223102, -8.839761), which is located near the northern entrance to the former Redington estate. Two days before the attack on the Clarinbridge RIC barracks, the Clarinbridge Volunteers were ordered to attend Easter Sunday morning mass there at 11am. According to

Martin Newell, the men were 'instructed to bring all arms, equipment and a few days' rations' with



3.1.

*St Colman's Church, Roveagh*

them. After the service ended, all of the Company had breakfast in the grounds of the church, which was cooked and served by women from Cumann na mBan. In the words of Michael Kelly, who was a member of the Clarinbridge Volunteers, 'the idea of having breakfast was that there was to be no returning home after Mass'. As the breakfast was finishing, Eoin MacNeill's Countermanding Order arrived.

4

**Former Royal Irish  
Constabulary Barracks,  
4 Barrack Street, Clarinbridge,  
Co. Galway**

SAT NAV: 53.229391, -8.880186



A key component of the plan of campaign for the Rising in Galway was to take over the RIC barracks in the local districts. This building, which is located in the middle of a row of terraced houses, was the first of two barracks to be attacked on Easter Tuesday 1916. Around 100 Irish Volunteers from the Clarinbridge and Killeeneen Companies, led by Liam Mellows, took part in the confrontation. The incident lasted from around 7.20am to 10.38am. As the proceedings commenced, Liam Mellows ordered twelve of the men to advance into the village in front of the main group of Volunteers assembled at the southern entrance to the Redington estate. Armed with shotguns, they fired at the barracks from a range of approximately 50 metres. As this was happening, the policemen sought refuge in the upstairs of the barracks.

The rebels also threw bombs at the barracks during the skirmish, but the homemade devices were so volatile that the rebels later recalled that the thrower and the thrown-at were at equal risk. The parish priest, Father Michael J. Tully, tried in vain to negotiate a ceasefire. In the end, the rebels failed to take the barracks. The siege of the barracks continued until police reinforcements arrived from Kilcolgan. However, Constables David Manning and Jeremiah J. Donovan, who had been captured en route from Kilcolgan to Clarinbridge, were taken away as prisoners.

Evidence submitted to the Property Losses (Ireland) Committee provides a vivid insight into the physical impact of the fighting at Clarinbridge. The owner of the uninsured property, Anne Redington of Kilcornan Castle, lodged a claim in August for damage to glass windows in the barracks. Her total claim, which amounted to £4 15s, comprised of £3 15s for 77 panes of glass



4.1.

*Wall plaque at the former Clarinbridge RIC Barracks*

provided by F. J. Johnston of Kinvara and £1 for ‘several days’ of a ‘workman’s time’. On 10 October

1916, the committee's inspector, R. Ingoldsly, reported 'that the work of restoration has been made good' and recommended a full payment of £4 15s to Redington.

In the early twenty-first century, a limestone wall plaque (4.1) identifying the building's historical significance was erected on the left-hand side of the front door. This was made by local artist Peter Galligan, following a commission by Conradh na Gaeilge. The English inscription at the bottom of the plaque reads: 'This building, formerly the RIC barracks was attacked by Liam Mellows and his comrades during the Easter Rising 1916. Conradh na Gaeilge'. The building is easily distinguishable from the surrounding ones, as the front door is painted red.

5

**Former Residence of Father  
Henry (Harry) Joseph Feeney,  
2 Barrack Street, Clarinbridge,  
Co. Galway**

SAT NAV: 53.229461, -8.880375 



This building, which has a green-coloured door, used to function as the parochial house of the Catholic Church in Clarinbridge. It is located two doors to the left of the former RIC barracks, in the direction of the main road. In the months leading up to the 1916 Rising, Father Michael J. Tully lived in the house with a young priest, Father Henry (Harry) Joseph Feeney. The latter was born in Two-Mile-Ditch on 4 March 1889. He was ordained a priest on 22 June 1914 and was Church Curate at Lisdoonvarna from 1914–1915.

During his time in Clarinbridge, Father Feeney became a very close associate of Liam Mellows. Aged 27 at the time of the 1916 Rising, Feeney mobilised with the Clarinbridge Volunteers during Easter Week. He also acted as a Chaplain to the rebels, hearing Confessions and making efforts to keep up their morale. After the rebels disbanded, he went on-the-run and found shelter



**5.1.** *Wall plaque at the former residence of Father Harry Feeney*

first in the Redemptorist monastery in Esker, Athenry and later at the Cistercian Monastery in Roscrea. A warrant was issued for his arrest but he received a pardon after the Galway Diocese

intervened on his behalf. After spending five years on a mission in California, Father Feeney returned to Ireland and worked as curate in Oranmore and Gort. In 1931, Father Feeney became Parish Priest in Shrule, County Mayo. He died on 15 April 1945 and was buried in the grounds of Shrule Church.

To mark the centenary of the Rising, a wreath was laid at Father Feeney's grave on 1 May 2016 by his niece, Sal Furey. A month beforehand, a wall plaque was erected at Father Feeney's former residence in Clarinbridge by another niece, Una Cannon (5.1). The inscription on the plaque, which was unveiled on 3 April 2016, reads: 'Fr Harry Feeney, CC (1889–1945). Fr Feeney, a leader of the Irish Volunteers in Galway, lived in this house. A native of Castlegar parish, he was Chaplain to the Volunteers during the 1916 Galway Rising'. An Irish version of the same text is inscribed beneath this text.

Located one door to the left of the former parochial house is 1 Barrack Street, which used to be the former residence of a stonemason named Michael Fleming. All of his five sons mobilised with the Irish Volunteers during Easter Week 1916. Their names were Patrick, George, John, Michael and Joseph.

**Grave of Joe Howley,  
Old Cemetery,  
Oranmore, Co. Galway**

**SAT NAV: 53.267616, -8.929528**

**6**



Michael Joseph (Joe) Howley was born in Oranmore in 1895. An only child, he was two-years-old when his father, also named Joseph, died. His mother, Mary, subsequently married a shopkeeper named William Keane and they had four children, namely: Charles, William, Margaret (Madge) Mary and Delia Josephine (Josie). Joe was educated at Oranmore National School and at St Joseph's ('The Bish') in Galway. Aged 18, he joined the Irish Volunteers and later rose to the rank of Captain of the Oranmore Volunteers. On Easter Tuesday 1916, he led an attack on the Oranmore RIC barracks alongside Michael Athy, Captain of the Maree Volunteers.

After the Rising ended, Howley was arrested at Forster Street in Galway and was sentenced afterwards to five years penal servitude. He served time in Dartmoor Prison and Frongoch



Internment camp in Wales, but was released after serving 15 months of his sentence. On 21 August 1920, during the War of Independence, Howley partook in the Merlin Park Ambush. As a reprisal, his family's residence (Keane's pub in Oranmore), was burnt by the Black and Tans. So too was the Sinn Féin premises on the opposite side of the street. Joe spent many weeks on-the-run after the ambush and was killed on 5 December 1920, after being shot during an ambush near Broadstone Station (now the headquarters of Bus Éireann). Afterwards, he was laid to rest behind the Catholic church in Oranmore (now Oranmore Library).

7

### Statue of Joe Howley, Oranmore, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.268675, -8.928988



The first suggestion to honour Joe Howley's memory was made by his former comrades in

1942. After five years of planning, a statue was erected at a corner site at the junction of Barrack Street and the main street by William Keane, the half-brother of Joe. It was formally unveiled by Frank Fahy, TD. The inscription on the plinth reads: ‘Commdt Joseph Howley. He led his Volunteers in Easter Week 1916 & was murdered by English agents at the Broadstone Dublin 1920. Erected in 1947 by his old comrades of 1916–1920’.

To mark the Golden Jubilee of the Rising, a procession took place to the Howley monument on 17 April 1966. The Proclamation was read aloud by Gabrielle Burke, a student at the Presentation Convent secondary school. Joe Howley is also memorialised in two placenames in Oranmore, namely: Howley Court (a block of commercial buildings opposite the statue) and Howley Square (an area above a nearby underground carpark).

The centenary anniversary of the 1916 Rising was marked by the unveiling of a memorial stone in black marble outside the community centre in the nearby village of Maree on 16 April 2016. Featuring the dates ‘1916–2016’, it is dedicated to the men and women of the locality who ‘contributed so much to the Irish republican cause’ during the Rising and the War of Independence. A second memorial stone was unveiled beside it, dedicated to the memory of Michael Athy and Patrick Cloonan. Athy was Captain of the Maree Volunteers during the Rising. Both he and Cloonan lost their lives during the War of Independence. Both memorials were erected under the auspices of the Maree 1916 Commemorative Group.

8

## Site of the Former Royal Irish Constabulary Barracks, Main Street, Oranmore, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.269183, -8.928760



This terrace of commercial buildings in the Howley Court complex is located on the site of a five-roomed house, which functioned as the RIC barracks in 1916. In the 1911 Census, the barracks is listed as House 1.1 in the townland of Innplot. Eleven policemen were stationed there at the time. House 1.2 served as the residence of Sligo-born Sergeant James Healy, while House 1.3 was the residence of Constable Michael Brennan. The census indicates that all three houses were in the ownership of P.J.B. Daly of Galway and that there was a turf house and sheds to the rear.

The Oranmore RIC barracks was the second of two to be attacked in the east of County Galway on Easter Tuesday 1916. Two attempts were made to take the building, which was heavily forfeited with steel shutters. The first of these saw

Joseph Howley and Michael Athy lead an attack by 106 Volunteers from the Oranmore and Maree Volunteers. The rebel force was divided into two, with one attacking the front of the barracks and the other attacking the rear. After the barracks was successfully defended, a second attempt was made to take the barracks with the support of extra Volunteers led by Liam Mellows, who had arrived from Clarinbridge. Despite a combined force of over 200 men, the rebels failed again in their quest to take the barracks, which was held by seven policemen. Their names were as follows: Sergeant James Healy (born in Sligo and aged 48) and Constables P. Heffernan, P. Smith, D. Foley, J. Hannon, A. Barrett and T. McDermott. After many hours, reinforcements led by Captain Sir Andrew Armstrong and County Inspector George Bedell Rutledge arrived on the western side of Oranmore at around 7.30pm, resulting in Mellows and his men retreating to the model farm near Athenry. Before the last of the Volunteers retreated, there was a short exchange of fire with the British forces.

A claim submitted to the Property Losses (Ireland) Committee on 21 October 1916 by Aileen Dillon (of The Square, Listowel, County Kerry), the administrator of the estate of P.J.B. Daly, gives an insight into the physical impact of the fighting at Oranmore. She described the damage as follows: 'the dwelling house used as a Police Barracks at Oranmore ... was fired into by persons taking part in the Rebellion whereby the door windows, window sashes were shattered and broken and the glass in the windows and also the walls were damaged'. Initially, a rough estimate was produced and she filed a claim for £50 to repair the damage. On 6 January 1917, a payment of only £24 12s was recommended by the inspector, R. Ingoldsly. His valuation of the full damage took

into account an estimate furnished by a builder, Michael Kelly, which was endorsed in a police report by Sergeant Healy, dated 9 December 1916. Sergeant Healy's report summarised the precise nature of the damage. Some of the rebels, he noted, were 'armed with shot guns' and 'fired several shots through the windows'. As a result, '17 large panes of glass measuring 2 ft 2 ins [c.66 centimetres] by 1 ft 2 ins [c.35.5 centimetres], and 12 smaller panes ... were broken'. Furthermore, he noted that 'the frames of four windows were damaged by the gun shot, also two wooden shelf brackets in dayroom was [sic] damaged with minor injury to the inside wall of dayroom'.

Following the creation of the Irish Free State in 1922, the former RIC barracks was converted into a Garda station. In the early twenty-first century, An Garda Síochána relocated to a larger building that was built on the outskirts of Oranmore. The Garda station that used to house the former RIC barracks was then demolished to make way for the construction of the units in the above-mentioned commercial building.

**Road Bridge,  
Millplot,  
Oranmore, Co. Galway**

SAT NAV: 53.271721, -8.929529

9



In an effort to keep the British forces at bay during the attacks on the RIC barracks at Oranmore, a series of support operations were conducted by the rebels in the countryside surrounding the village. Telephone lines were sabotaged, road barricades were erected and the railway line was damaged at Derrydonnell. Explosives were used by a group of rebels, led by Eamon Corbett, to blast a hole in the middle of a strategic hump-backed road bridge at Millplot, located beside a corn mill on the northern side of Oranmore. By the evening of Easter Tuesday, the bridge was held by British forces armed with a Vickers machine gun, thus preventing the Castlegar and Claregalway Volunteers from entering Oranmore.

Corbett, who was a native of Killeeneen, served as Captain of the Clarinbridge Volunteers during the Rising and was also Vice Officer Commanding

of the Galway Brigade. After the Rising ended, he escaped to America. Upon his return in 1918, he was arrested and held until 1919. He later served as a TD for Fianna Fáil between 1935–1937 and 1943–1944. He was also the longest serving chairman of Galway County Council, holding the post from 1928–1945. The hump-backed bridge that existed at Millplot in 1916 was replaced by a flat structure in the 1960s.

10

**Site of the Signal Cabin of  
the Midland Great Western  
Railway, Station Road,  
Oranmore, Co. Galway**

SAT NAV: 53.279829, -8.925715 



This is the site of the former signal cabin of the Midland Great Western Railway, located a short distance to the east of the old Oranmore station and Station Road, which leads from Oranmore to Carnmore Crossroads. The structure survived intact for many years, until it was demolished sometime in the late twentieth century. Early in the morning of Easter Tuesday 1916, four armed rebels entered the signal cabin and damaged

various electronic devices, in an operation that was designed to assist with the attack on the RIC barracks in the nearby village.

*The Galway Observer* reported that the rebels ‘had the signalman “covered” with their revolvers’ whilst ‘one of their number took a shovel and broke the signals’. As this was happening, the Superintendent of the railway line, Mr Courtney, ‘was endeavouring to get into communication from Athenry with the Oranmore signal cabin’. After decommissioning the signals, the rebels departed. On the same day, the rebels also cut a section of the Galway–Athenry railway line at Derrydonnell, almost five kilometres east of the Oranmore station. However, in a tactical miscalculation, the railway line from Oranmore to Galway town was left intact.

### Carnmore Crossroads, Carnmore, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.304727, -8.932335 ⓘ

11





Between 5am and 5.30am on Wednesday, 26 April 1916, an exchange of fire took place between the Claregalway and Castlegar Volunteers and the RIC at Carnmore Crossroads. The Volunteer Companies were led by Nicholas Kyne and Brian Molloy respectively, while the RIC were under the command of District Inspector George Bennett Heard. Constable Patrick Whelan was killed during the exchange of fire. In a bid to bring the skirmish to a speedy conclusion, it was reported that Whelan had shouted: 'Surrender boys, I know ye all.' The Volunteers responded with gunshots, one of which struck Whelan in the left side of the head and caused haemorrhaging of vessels, killing him instantly.

Constable Whelan, who was aged 38, was a native of Whiteswall, County Kilkenny. The inscription on the Celtic Cross marking his grave (11.1) (SAT NAV: 53.280802, -9.040307), which



*The grave of Constable Patrick Whelan, 11.1.  
Bohermore Cemetery, Galway*

was refurbished in 2016 and is located in Section G, Row 3 of Bohermore Cemetery in Galway city, reads: 'Sacred to the memory of Constable Patrick Whelan who died on 26th April 1916 from

wounds received whilst gallantly doing his duty as a member of the Royal Irish Constabulary. R.I.P. Erected by the officers and men of RIC and many sympathetic friends in the County of Galway W[est] R[iding]!

In 1951, a limestone Celtic Cross (11.2) (SAT NAV: 53.295365, -9.014626) was unveiled beside the



**11.2.** *Celtic cross, Tuam Road, Castlegar*

Tuam Road, Castlegar, in memory of the men from the parish who partook in the events of 1916–1923. Among those present on the day the memorial was unveiled was a group of veteran rebels, including Brian Molloy. The pedestal of the monument had previously formed part of the memorial to Lord Dunkellin that was unveiled in Eyre Square in 1873. In 1922, however, a rope was used by the Galway Branch of the Town Tenants' League to pull the statue of Dunkellin down from its pedestal. It was then dumped into the River Corrib. Its pedestal remained in Eyre Square throughout the 1920s and early 1930s and it was this same one that was recycled for use in the Castlegar memorial. Restoration work on this memorial was completed in 2016.

The shootout at Carnmore Crossroads was commemorated again in the early 1950s when Irish Republican Brotherhood and Irish Volunteers veteran George Glynn and his son Mattie erected a cut stone cross in the corner of a field on their land, on the western side of the Lydican Road (11.3) (SAT NAV: 53.314703, -8.941885). The inscription on the monument



*George Glynn beside the Irish Republican Brotherhood cross, Lydican Road (Reproduced courtesy of George and Ronan Glynn)* 11.3.

reads: 'I gcuimhne na bhfear do troid [sic] ar son na h-Éireann 1916 IRB. Seirse Mag Fhloinn do thóg an leacht seo. Guidhid [sic] air [Irish for: 'In memory of the men who fought for Ireland 1916 IRB. George Flynn erected this monument. Pray for him']'. During Easter Week 1916, George Glynn mobilised with the Claregalway Volunteers at Carnmore Crossroads. After its foundation

in 1926, he became a prominent member of Fianna Fáil. Outside of politics, Glynn was an avid horticulturalist. On 29 June 2016, the memorial cross was relocated to another corner of the same field, closer to the side of the main road and opposite Glynn’s Fruit & Veg. This work was overseen by George Glynn’s grandson, also named George Glynn. A short film about the memorial’s relocation is available for viewing online.<sup>1</sup>

To mark the centenary of the shootout at Carnmore, a wall plaque was officially unveiled at the western approach road to the crossroads on 26 April 2016 by Councillor Peter Roche, the Cathaoirleach of the County of Galway and Councillor Frank Fahy, the Mayor of the City of



#### 11.4. *Wall plaque at Carnmore Crossroads*

Galway (11.4) (SAT NAV: 53.304642, -8.933156). Three logos are depicted on the plaque, namely those of: Ireland 2016, Galway County Council and the County of Galway Decade of Commemorations 2013–2023. The latter features an image of a Galway hooker boat, with a pattern

of circles within circles emblazoned on its main mast. These represent the multi-dimensional nature of Irish political allegiances in the formative period, 1913–1923. The inscription on the plaque reads: ‘I rith Éirí Amach na Cásca 1916, tharla comhrac idir Óglaigh na hÉireann agus Fórsaí na Breataine ag Crosbhóthar an Chairn Mhóir ar an 26 Aibreán 1916 a raibh bás Constábla den RIC mar thoradh air, an t-aon bhás san Éirí Amach i gContae na Gaillimhe. Nochta ar an 26 Aibreán 2016’ [Irish for: ‘During the 1916 Rising, a clash occurred between the Irish Volunteers and British forces at Carnmore Crossroads on 26 April 1916 which resulted in the death of an RIC Constable, the only fatality of Galway’s Rising. Unveiled on 26 April 2016’]. The plaque was manufactured by Irish Natural Stone Products Ltd. in Tubber, County Clare.

*Please exercise extreme caution at Carnmore Crossroads and surrounding areas, as the historic sites and memorials are located alongside busy roads.*

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<sup>1</sup> This short film is one of eight documentaries that were made for ‘Remembering Galway 1916’, a series which explores County Galway’s 1916 Rising and the ways it was commemorated in 2016. The films were developed as part of a Galway County Council and Heritage Council production, in association with GMIT’s Department of Heritage & Tourism. They were produced by the Galway Film Centre and directed by filmmaker Paul Murphy. The films are available for viewing at the following websites:

[www.galwaydecadeofcommemoration.org](http://www.galwaydecadeofcommemoration.org);

[www.gmit.ie/general/remembering-reflecting-and-reimagining](http://www.gmit.ie/general/remembering-reflecting-and-reimagining)

**Grave of Tom (Thomas) Ruane,  
Claregalway Friary Cemetery,  
Claregalway, Co. Galway**

**SAT NAV: 53.346903, -8.944248**

**12**



Tom Ruane was born in 1883. He captained the Claregalway hurling team in 1911 and was a member of the Claregalway Company of Irish Volunteers during the 1916 Rising. He took part in the shootout at Carnmore Crossroads and had to go on-the-run after Easter Week. He was captured in early June and sentenced to 10 years penal servitude. Tom Ruane died in 1937 and was buried close to the northern boundary wall of the new portion of Claregalway Friary Cemetery, adjacent to the ruins of the chancel of the thirteenth-century Franciscan friary.

A large Celtic Cross was unveiled at Ruane's grave on 8 September 1940, at an event attended by 60 IRA veterans and 180 members of the Local Security Force. During the unveiling ceremony, a speech was given by Gerald Bartley, TD. The limestone Celtic cross marking his grave is

engraved in both Irish and English. The inscription reads: 'Erected by the widow, family and old 1916 comrades of the IRA Claregalway in memory of the Vice Brigadier of the 2nd Western Division Thomas O Ruane Carnmore died August 31 1937 RIP'. The side of the pedestal of the cross has an image of two crossed rifles in false relief (12.1).



*The two crossed rifles depicted on Tom Ruane's grave*

**12.1.**

The date '1916' is inscribed above them and they are framed by rope mouldings on the left-hand and right-hand sides.

**Claregalway Museum and Forge,  
Rooaunmore,  
Claregalway, Co. Galway**

**SAT NAV: 53.359823, -8.928117**

**13**



This museum, which is located at Rooaunmore, first opened to the public on 13 September 2014. It is established under the auspices of the Claregalway Historical & Cultural Society, at a site that was donated for free by two local families, the Smyths and Glynnns. The museum mainly focuses on life in the Irish countryside, with displays of farming equipment, household items and carpenters' tools.

An exhibition on the 1916 Rising was launched at the museum in January 2016 and is expected to run until 2023. This focuses on the role played by the Claregalway Volunteers during Easter Week 1916. The story of the period is retold through text panels on two pull-up stands, which also have reproductions of articles from *The Connacht Tribune* and *The Connacht Telegraph*. A range of



photographs are also on display, including one of the Claregalway hurling team in 1911, which was captained by Tom Ruane.

A picture of a 1916 bayonet can also be viewed at the 1916-themed exhibition. This also features a range of historical artefacts and memorabilia in two glass display cabinets, which were donated by members of the local community. Among the items on display are the following: medals, pins, badges and pamphlets. The exhibition also includes a framed reprint of the 1916 Proclamation and reproductions of handwritten material from Galway County Council Archives relating to the inquest that was held at Eglinton Street Barracks into the killing of Constable Patrick Whelan at Carnmore Crossroads. A short history of Claregalway can also be viewed on a widescreen television screen. Situated alongside the museum is a blacksmith's forge, which was restored in 2007. Although the forge played no role in the 1916 Rising, it is worth noting that some of the pikes carried by the Galway rebels in Easter Week 1916 were manufactured at Mick Newell's forge in Castlegar, which no longer exists today.

**Former Model Farm (now Teagasc,  
Mellows Campus), Ballygarraun West,  
Athenry, Co. Galway**

SAT NAV: 53.288821, -8.777891



14



Mellows Campus (or Campús Uí Mhaoilíosa), which is located about a kilometre and a half to the south-west of Athenry, is the home of the Animal & Grassland Research and Innovation Centre, part of Teagasc's Animal & Grassland Research Programme. At the time of the 1916 Rising, the site was a model farm of around 600 acres, run by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction. The farm was located on land previously owned by a Quaker family, the Goodbodys. As the expansive terrain was at the centre of a land dispute, it housed huts occupied by RIC watchmen.

During the Rising, the model farm was occupied by 500–700 rebels, who camped there from 25–26 April 1916. The occupying force was made up of the Athenry, Cussaun, Derrydonnell, Kilconierin,

Newcastle, Rockfield (Craughwell), Clarinbridge, Oranmore, Maree, Castlegar and Claregalway Volunteers. For the short duration of their stay, plentiful accommodation was found in the big lofts at the bell tower (14.1). Although the RIC hut



*The bell tower (with upstairs lofts)  
at Mellows Campus*

14.1.

near the bell tower was not staffed at the time of the occupation, the location of the latter a short distance to the south of the Galway–Dublin rail line meant that the site was not a suitable choice for a prolonged occupation by the rebels.

A bronze wall plaque (14.2), which is now located at the entrance to the reception at Árus Uí Mhaoilíosa, was unveiled in the grounds of Mellows Campus on 14 April 1966. The ceremony formed part of the Golden Jubilee commemoration of the 1916 Rising and saw the agricultural college renamed in memory of Liam Mellows. Speaking at the unveiling of the plaque, Charles J. Haughey, the Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries, highlighted the significant contribution made by Galway men of ‘farming stock’ who had fought for Irish independence.



**14.2.** *Wall plaque at Uí Árus Mhaoilíosa/  
Mellows Building*

The English inscription on the bottom of this plaque reads: 'On 14th April 1966 this college was renamed Mellows [sic] Agricultural College in memory of Liam Mellows [sic] and his comrades who kept armed vigil here for Irish freedom in Easter Week 1916'.

To mark the centenary of the 1916 Rising, Teagasc, in partnership with Galway County



**14.3.** *Wall plaque at the bell tower*

Council and assisted by numerous other organisations and community groups, staged a major commemorative event at Mellows Campus. This was called ‘Farming and Country Life 1916’ and took place from 10–11 June 2016. On the second day of the event, a bilingual plaque (14.3) was unveiled at the gable end of the bell tower by Dr Noel Cawley, the Chairman of Teagasc. The English inscription on the plaque reads: ‘Liam Mellows and his volunteers billeted the night of Tuesday 25th April in this building’. A refurbishment of the upstairs lofts was also carried out in advance of the two-day event, which was attended by around 55,000 people.

15

### Ruins of Moyode Castle and Remnants of the Stable Yard, Moyode, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.256572, -8.703410



On the afternoon of Wednesday, 26 April 1916, Liam Mellows abandoned the model farm and led the rebels in a retreat to Moyode Castle in

Kilconierin parish – a derelict residence (or ‘big house’) located around five kilometres to the south-east. The so-called ‘castle’, which was the former seat of the Persse estate, was under the ownership of Lady Ardilaun when the rebels arrived. It was easily seized by them at around 4pm, as it was only protected by a caretaker, John Shackleton.

Once camp had been established, missions were undertaken to procure food and intelligence. On Thursday, Liam Mellows and a group of Volunteers travelled to the RIC barracks at New Inn, seeking information on the movement of British forces. On entering the upstairs of the building, Mellows encountered a sergeant who was pretending to be gravely ill. The rebels did not harm the sergeant, but took possession of police documents. At another stage on Thursday, police scouts from Athenry tried to make an advance towards Moyode, but they were driven back by the rebels. By the afternoon, the rebels’ situation was becoming increasingly hazardous as ‘a large force of infantry and cavalry, with a battery of artillery and machine guns and armoured cars’ arrived in Athenry, having set out from Loughrea. Altogether, the rebels ended up staying at Moyode for Wednesday and Thursday nights, and left on Friday afternoon at around 4pm or 5pm. While there, cooking was done by Cumann na mBan women, who also administered first aid. Father Henry (Harry) Joseph Feeney delivered general absolution to those going on scouting missions. Thomas Davis’ song, ‘A Nation Once Again’, was sung next to the camp fire.

At a commemoration ceremony attended by an estimated 1,000 people at Moyode Castle in 1924, the yard where the Volunteers had gathered was described as ‘hallowed ground’ by 1916 veteran, Eamon Corbett. In 1931, however, the stones of

the ruined house were taken away and reused in the construction of the Father Michael Griffin memorial church in Gurteen, Ballinasloe. In 1956, around 200 1916 veterans went back to Moyode for a ceremony to mark the Rising's 40th anniversary. A guard of honour was provided by the Athenry FCA under Lieutenant Frank Kilkelly, while the salute was sounded by Corporal Cassidy of Dún Uí Mhaoilíosa barracks.

Today, the cobblestones of the yard at Moyode are completely hidden under grass and only a few fragments of the big house remain beside a pathway. To mark the centenary of the Rising, a memorial stone (15.1) (SAT NAV: 53.262320, -8.702574) was unveiled at Moyode on 10 April



1916 memorial stone at Moyode

15.1.

2016 by Éamon Ó Cuív, TD, a short distance from the Perse family's graveyard. The memorial,

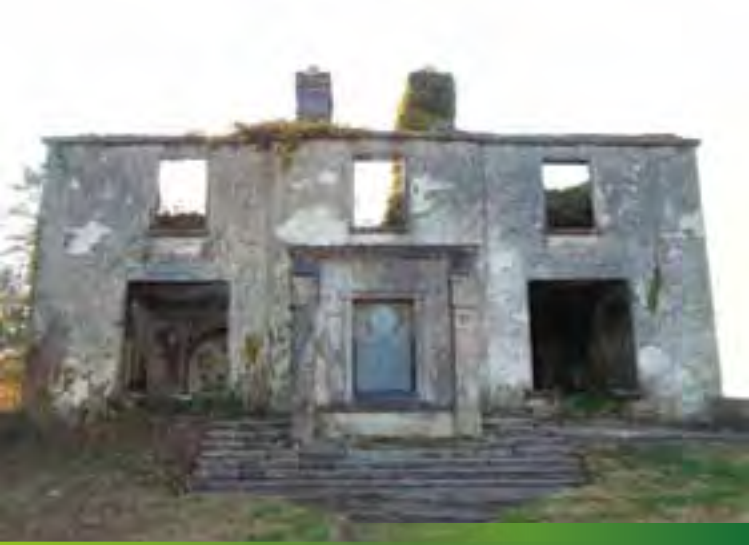
which is located approximately 640 metres from the ruins of Moyode Castle, was erected by The Liam Mellows 1916 Commemoration Group. The top of the stone features the word 'Éire' beneath a sunburst. The inscription at the bottom reads: '1916 Moyode. Commandant Liam Mellows, members of Galway Brigade Irish Volunteers and Cumann na mBan assembled here to fight for Irish freedom during the Easter Rising. Leaving Moyode, they proceeded to Limepark, Peterswell and disbanded on 29 April 1916'. An Irish version of the same text is also included in the memorial.

### Ruins of Limepark House, Limepark North, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.132425, -8.751639



# 16



On Friday, 28 April 1916, the rebels exited through the front gate of Moyode demesne. They then made their way along a boreen running through Ballywinna and continued through around 24 kilometres of poor country roads in



the evening. After passing through Craughwell, Monksfield, Ballyglass and Cockstown, they arrived at Limepark House in Kiltomas parish sometime between 11pm on Friday and 1am on Saturday. As they approached the unoccupied residence, the depleted column of rebels (whose size has been estimated variously as 150, 300 or 400) were met by Father Tom Fahy, who had travelled from Esker.

In the early hours of Saturday morning, a decision was taken in the front room of the house to disband and to set the policemen imprisoned in the basement free, thus ending County Galway's Rising. Most of the Volunteers returned to their homes with immediate effect, by taking to the byways and fields. An armed convoy of British forces finally reached Limepark House on Saturday evening. As a precautionary measure, the authorities advanced towards the big house and a few shots were fired, but it was soon discovered that the rebels had absconded, leaving behind pikes, bandoliers, explosives, caps, bacon and eggs.

During the middle of the nineteenth century, Limepark House had been in the ownership of George Perse. It became derelict around 1906. In 1911, the property was owned by Harry Perse of Woodville, who insured the house for £1,000 and the 'outoffices' for £100 with the Phoenix Assurance Company Ltd. After the Rising, Perse read about the work of the Property Losses (Ireland) Committee in the *Irish Times*. Writing to them on 25 July 1916, he claimed that 'a considerable amount of damage to house and premises' had arisen from the rebels' occupation of Limepark 'during the late disturbances' and from the turning of 'their horses loose within my meadows'. On 1 August, he lodged a compensation claim for £40, itemising the

‘Property Destroyed or Damaged’ as follows: £8 10s for damage to ‘Window sashes[,] doors & frames & interior wood work’; £8 12s for ‘Glass’; £6 15s for ‘Kitchen range & bedroom grates’; £3 10s for ‘pipes cut ... and damaged’; £2 for ‘Damage to Valley’; 13s for ‘Door locks’; £5 for ‘Window glass & woodwork’; £5 for ‘Damage to meadows by horses & ... rebels’.

Persse also commissioned a general contractor to furnish an estimate of the cost of the repairs. The survey work was conducted by John T. Barrett of Loughrea, who furnished a higher estimate of £65 18s on 16 September. However, Sergeant Cunningham of Kilcreest visited Limepark in the following month. He reported that the rebels had taken ‘refuge for part of a night only’ and that the house had ‘not been occupied during past ten years and was not kept in repair during that time’. Although the police had witnessed a lot of broken panes of glass when they visited Limepark at the end of Easter Week, Sergeant Cunningham was of the opinion that this damage was ‘not apparently done by the rebels’. Whilst he determined that some doors had been ‘injured and burnt’, he felt that any damage to the meadows was limited ‘as they were then only commencing to grow’. In the end, he concluded that Persse’s claim was ‘exorbitant [*sic*]’ and advised that a compensation payment of £20 would suffice. This information was then passed on to the Property Losses (Ireland) Committee by Thomas Farrell, the Head Constable of the Loughrea RIC, who emphasised that Sergeant Cunningham ‘was intimately acquainted with the facts’. When he finalised his report on 21 October, the committee’s inspector, R. Ingoldsly, agreed with the police ‘that their estimate of £20 is fair and reasonable as a settlement’.

Peter Howley, who was Captain of the Ardrahan

Volunteers, lived in Limepark House after his own residence was burnt during the War of Independence. Limepark House was abandoned in the middle of the twentieth century and its condition deteriorated further following the removal of the roof. To mark the Golden Jubilee of the Rising, a limestone monument (16.1) was unveiled in the porchway of the house on 17 April 1966. It was manufactured by Messrs Regan



*1916 monument in the porchway  
of Limepark House*

**16.1.**

Brothers of Loughrea and erected on the site by Patrick Clooran, after the design was approved by the Gort IRA Veteran Comrades Organisation the year beforehand. The top of the monument features a sunburst, with the date '1916' beneath. The inscription at the bottom of the monument reads: 'It was here the main body of Galway Brigade Irish Volunteers under Commandant Liam Mellows [sic] was disbanded on 29th April 1916.

Their deeds will live on'. An Irish version of the same text is also inscribed into the monument.

To commemorate the centenary of the Rising, a memorial stone (16.2) (SAT NAV: 53.137677, -8.754179) was unveiled at the original entrance to Limepark demesne on 2 May 2016 by Councillor Peter Roche, the Cathoirleach of the County of



**16.2.** 1916 memorial stone at the original entrance to Limepark House demesne

Galway. The limestone memorial was sculpted by Jethro Sheen, following a commission from members of the local community in Limepark, including Pat and Michael Howley – the son and grandson of Peter Howley. The top of the memorial, which is located approximately 600 metres from the ruins of Limepark House, features an image of Cúchulainn and swirling patterns of La Tené-style decorative knotwork in the corners. There is a bilingual inscription beneath. The English version reads: 'In remembrance of the members of the Galway Brigade of the Irish Volunteers who, under the command of Commandant Liam Mellows, disbanded here at Limepark on April 29<sup>th</sup> 1916. Their deeds will live on. Commemorating 1916 Centenary'. Prior

to the unveiling, there was a performance by local musicians and a reenactment of an Irish Volunteers' march and drill by the Monageer 1916 Commemoration Group from County Wexford. Also in attendance were walkers who had taken part in a commemorative initiative earlier that morning, called 'In Their Footsteps'. Organised by Galway County Council, this reenacted some of the routes travelled by the Irish Volunteers in the east of County Galway during Easter Week 1916.

## Also of Interest

In addition to the historic sites and memorials mentioned above, those interested in exploring the story of County Galway's 1916 Rising may also be interested in visiting the following locations in Kinvara and surrounds.

### Former Residence of Father John William O'Meehan (now Delamain Lodge), Kinvara, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.141816, -8.940333 

# 17



This lodge, which is located beside the pier in Kinvara, is the former residence of Father John William O'Meehan, who actively recruited on behalf of the Irish Volunteers. His enthusiasm for the movement was such that he used his own resources to supply them with green hats as a token uniform. He also purchased nationalist newspapers such as *Scissors and Paste* and *Nationality*, which he distributed freely amongst

the men. He was a frequent visitor to Dublin and was well acquainted with Patrick Pearse. Pádraig Ó Fathaigh was arrested outside O'Meehan's residence on the morning of Easter Tuesday 1916, while attempting to deliver a mobilisation order to Kinvara. The day after his arrest, the Kinvara Volunteers were ordered by O'Meehan to gather all the ammunition and weapons they could locate around the town.

There was ready support for the Volunteers from some members of the local business community, who gave valuable assistance. F. J. Johnston, a general draper, grocer and ironmonger, contributed 12 guns and all the ammunition that he had in his store at Main Street, Kinvara (17.1) (SAT NAV: 53.139076, -8.938955). Johnston, who held a licence for the sale of gunpowder, was also



*Johnstons, Main Street, Kinvara*

17.1.

an emigration agent for the Cunard and White Star lines. The business, which was established in 1879, also sold Guinness stout, Bass ale, Gilbey's wines and whiskeys, Persse's whiskeys, Irish tweeds, suits, dress goods and sporting items.

On Wednesday night of Easter Week, whilst awaiting further orders, Captain John Burke led the Kinvara Volunteers to an unoccupied building

known as Foy's House (17.2) (SAT NAV: 53.145577, -8.920731). This building is located about 1.25



17.2.

*Foy's House, Ballyclery*

kilometres to the north-east of Kinvara, in the townland of Ballyclery. It was previously known as Seapark House. During their stay there, the Volunteers consumed a meal of bread, soup and beef. The bread was provided by two local bakers, Mrs Tyrrell and Mrs O'Dea, and the beef was given by the local butcher, Michael Leech. After proceeding to Ballinderreen, the Kinvara Volunteers were met by a messenger, who gave a dispatch to Burke. They returned to Foy's House and were disbanded on Saturday, 29 April 1916.

To mark the centenary of the Rising, the people of Kinvara erected a memorial stone (17.3) (SAT NAV: 53.139117, -8.941713) at Convent Road, close to the western entrance to St Joseph's Church. This was officially unveiled on Easter Tuesday, 29 March 2016 by Councillor Peter Roche, the Cathaoirleach of the County of Galway. This was erected under the auspices of the Kinvara 1916 Centenary Committee, whose members included: John Conneely, Eddie Forde, Eilish Kavanagh, Cathal McNerney and Thomas Quinn. The English inscription on the stone reads: 'In Remembrance of the Kinvara Company Irish Volunteers 1916–2016'. The Irish inscription reads: 'I gcuimhne ar



Chomplacht Chinn Mhara hÓglaigh na hÉireann 1916–2016'. Beneath these inscriptions there is an image of a Volunteer's slouch hat and a



*1916–2016 memorial stone,  
Convent Road, Kinvara*

**17.3.**

pistol. Following the unveiling of the stone, an exhibition of historical objects was held in Kinvara Community Centre. Among the materials on display were the following: photographs, a rifle, a small ammunition pouch, clothing items, letters, maps, a pike that once belonged to 1916 veteran Thomas McInerney (with the engraving '1916'), medals and Witness Statements.

# THE LIAM MELLOWS ESCAPE TRAIL – *South County Galway*



1916

-  **INFORMATION POINT**
-  **PRIVATE PROPERTY**

## THE LIAM MELLOWS ESCAPE TRAIL

This trail incorporates historic sites and memorials related to the escape route taken by Liam Mellows, following the disbandment of the main rebel group at Limepark House in the early hours of Saturday, 29 April 1916. After leaving the grounds of the house, Mellows went on-the-run with Alf Monaghan and Frank Hynes. Soon afterwards, the trio made their way by foot to the residence of the Howley family in Limepark North, located about a kilometre and a half away. In the days that followed, Mellows resorted to his survival instincts, relying heavily upon an Ordnance Survey map, a compass, a pencil torch and the kindness of locals. The trio navigated southwards through Lurgan, Knockroe, Drumminalough, Cournageeha and Gortacarnaun. After crossing into County Clare and passing through Drumandoora, Loughaun and Derryulk Upper, they ended up hiding in a hut in Kilduff Upper (near Tulla) for five months, with the help of Michael Molony, a member of the Irish Republican Brotherhood in County Clare.

In October 1916, Mellows proceeded to the home of Father Michael Crowe, a Catholic priest at Ruan who had previously raised funds for the cause of Irish independence. From there, Mellows was driven to Cork in a motor car supplied by an Ennis man, Michael Brody. En route, he disguised himself by covering his face with a black gossamer nun's veil. This was provided by Sister Lelia McKenna of the Order of the Sisters of Mercy in Ennis, who delivered it in a parcel to Father Tom Burke in Carmody's Hotel. Mellows was accompanied on the journey by Father Crowe, Pauline Barry from Gort, who was dressed

## THE LIAM MELLOWS ESCAPE TRAIL

in nun's clothes, and Bluebell Powell, who was dressed as a novice.

As a token of appreciation for her help in the escape, a Volunteers' tunic worn by Mellows was presented afterwards to Barry by Seán McNamara. The tunic, which was manufactured by the Irish Tweed Company, had four brass buttons on the front, each depicting a harp between the letters 'I' and 'V' – the initials of the Irish Volunteers. With assistance from the Irish Republican Brotherhood, Mellows escaped in October from Queenstown (now Cobh) to Liverpool on board a schooner named the *Harry Herbert*. He then crossed the Atlantic on a munitions container, using false seaman's papers in the name of 'Edward Moore'. He finally arrived at a boarding house in New York around mid-December 1916.

Others were not so lucky in evading the authorities. Across Ireland, more than 3,100 people were arrested and around 2,500 of them were deported in May 1916. Many of these were Volunteers from County Galway, who were taken away by train to Richmond Barracks or Arbour Hill and then sent abroad to different British prisons. Of the 1,800 or so Irish rebels who were interned at Frongoch camp in Wales in early June, 322 were men from County Galway – a number second only to County Dublin. More than 1,100 prisoners were released from the camp in August, with the rest remaining interned until shortly before Christmas.



### **GO EXPLORE TIPS**

*This trail stretches from Limepark North, which is about eight kilometres to the north-east of Gort, all the way to Gortacarnaun, which is about seven kilometres to the south-east of Gort. As the crow flies, the total distance between each of the six key points of interest is approximately 17 kilometres. Allowing for sufficient time to appreciate these points of interest, with time for a break factored in as well, it is recommended that you allocate at least a half a day to explore this trail.*

*For intrepid explorers, two additional points of interest in the north of County Clare are appended at the end of this section. As the crow flies, the total distance between each of the six key points of interest and the two additional points of interest is approximately 28 kilometres.*



## Ruins of the Howleys' House, Limepark North, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.143526, -8.759366



1



Liam Mellows, who was a wanted man after the 1916 Rising, went on-the-run with Alf Monaghan and Frank Hynes. Following the disbandment of the main rebel group in the early hours of Saturday, 29 April 1916, the trio stepped into a commandeered motor and made their departure along the 'L'-shaped avenue leading out from Limepark House to the road beyond. They then made their way on foot to the farm residence of William Howley, whose son Peter was leader of the Ardrahan Volunteers. This was located less than a kilometre and a half away in the corner of a field, listed in the 1911 Census as House 1 in Limepark North.

The Howley household was a well-known republican stronghold. Peter's father, William, was a member of the Irish Republican Brotherhood and was also the leader of the Peterswell Land

League. Peter's brothers, William, Patrick and Michael, were all members of Irish Volunteers, while his sister, Bridget, was a member of Cumann na mBan. It was not in Mellows' interests, therefore, to stay there for too long as it was an obvious target for the police. After availing of some meat and tea, which was prepared by Bridget, Mellows, Monaghan and Hynes travelled southwards to a series of safehouses beyond Peterswell Cross.

During Easter Week, Peter Howley mobilised the Ardrahan Volunteers and proceeded to Tullira, where they were tasked with delaying any advancing British forces. At the end of the week, the Company departed from this spot and acted as an advance guard for the main band of rebels travelling from Moyode Castle to Limepark House. After the Rising ended, Peter Howley was arrested by the RIC, transported from Richmond Barracks in Dublin to Wandsworth Prison in London, and then sent to Frongoch in Wales. He was released from Frongoch in August 1916. In 1920, during the War of Independence, the Howley household was burnt by the Black and Tans. The walls and roof of the farm residence survived intact until the late 2000s, when they were knocked down.

## Ruins of the Ó Fathaighs' House, Lurgan, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.079030, -8.748515



2



After departing the Howleys' residence early on Saturday morning, 29 April 1916, Liam Mellows, Alf Monaghan and Frank Hynes took to the fields and then walked along a road that took them to a house that Mellows was acquainted with, namely the Ó Fathaighs' residence in Lurgan. One of its residents was Pádraig Ó Fathaigh. He worked as an Irish language teacher and was also an active member of the Gaelic League. Pádraig was also well-known in republican circles, as he was a prominent member of the Irish Republican Brotherhood and served as Secretary to the Irish Volunteers in County Galway. As he had been arrested carrying dispatches on Easter Tuesday morning outside Father John William O'Meehan's residence in Kinvara, it was left to his older brothers, John and Michael, to assist Mellows, Monaghan and Hynes. Almost five



years afterwards, the Ó Fathaighs' residence was burnt by the Black and Tans as a reprisal for the Ballyturin Ambush. This occurred on 15 May 1921, towards the end of the War of Independence.

To mark the Golden Jubilee of the Rising in 1966, a monument (2.1) was erected by Patrick



1916 monument at the Ó Fathaighs' house 2.1.

Cloran in front of the house, which is now in ruins. The inscription on the monument, which is completely surrounded by a low wall, reads: '1916. I ndíl-cuimhne [sic] ar Liam Ó Maoil Íosa, Timthire Oglac na Gaillimhe. Ba annseo is mó a biab sé ag fanacht 1915 agus 1916 [Irish for '1916. In loving memory of Liam Mellows, Organiser of the Galway Volunteers. It was here mostly he used to stay in 1915 and 1916']'. To mark the centenary of the Rising, the walls and railings surrounding the monument were repainted in the colours of the Irish Tricolour – green, white and orange. A wreath-laying ceremony was also held there on 2 May 2016

## Site of Patsy Corless' House, Knockroe, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.088185, -8.742360



3



After departing the Ó Fathaighs' residence, Liam Mellows, Alf Monaghan and Frank Hynes moved on to Patsy Corless' house in the townland of Knockroe. This was located on a hillside near a turlough called Lough Avalla. Patsy lived there with his brother, Martin. After arriving there on the morning of Saturday, 29 April 1916, Mellows, Monaghan and Hynes caught up with some badly-needed sleep, consumed some home-baked bread and left behind documents containing their names. Monaghan hid his wallet during his brief stay in this house, which lasted for approximately 14 hours. This contained a listing of people's addresses and a ticket for the raffle of a Mauser rifle. The wallet was only found when the house was altered in 1937. Nothing remains of Corless' house today, except for a stone and a shallow rectangular impression of

the foundations in the grass.

Another point of interest in Knockroe is Cloran's Field, which was used by the Irish Volunteers for training and drilling exercises in the years leading up to the Rising. When Liam Mellows visited there, he used to pitch his tent nearby at Kynoch's Fort. A memorial stone (3.1) (SAT NAV: 53.085215, -8.745708), bearing an Irish Volunteers' crest,



1916 memorial stone near Cloran's Field 3.1.

was unveiled near Cloran's Field on 2 May 2016 by the Kilbeacanty Community Development Association. The inscription on the plaque reads: 'Irish Volunteers. 1916. Cloran's Field. Training Ground for the Ballycahalane, Kilbeacanty and Peterswell Volunteer Companies of the Irish

Volunteers and branches of Cumann na mBan under the command of Liam Mellows (1892–1922). The top of the stone also contains an Irish inscription.

### Ruins of William Blanche's House, Drumminalough, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.081694, -8.732450



4



After departing from Patsy Corless' house at around 10.30pm on Saturday, 29 April 1916, Liam Mellows, Alf Monaghan and Frank Hynes crossed through fields to the four-roomed home of a 67-year-old farmer named William Blanche, located on the western edge of the Slieve Aughty Mountains and the eastern side of Lough Avalla, in the townland of Drumminalough in Kilbeacanty parish. Blanche lived in this house with his wife, Bridget and kept two sheepdogs outside in an enclosed field or 'haggard'. The rebels were given a warm welcome by the Blanches and they all stayed up talking to each other until late into the

night. On Sunday evening, two locals visited the house. The first of these was a young woman, who informed Mrs Blanche of a rumour that Mellows was on-the-run disguised as a woman. Mellows, who was listening in on this conversation, found it very amusing.

Later on that evening, his mood changed as another local called to the house and spoke ill of him, not knowing that he was listening. This came as a disappointment to Mellows, who had encountered the man before and had got on well with him. On the night of Monday 1 May, Mellows, Monaghan and Hynes departed from the Blanches. The residence of Mr Blanche, who died in the mid-1940s, is now in ruins. The thatched roof caved in during the mid-1970s and although most of the stone walls have since disappeared, a lower portion of the back wall remains upstanding. In the 1911 Census, the listing for the Blanche residence included four out-buildings, namely: a stable, a cow house, a barn and a shed.

**Ruins of William Hoode's  
Outhouse (or Cattle Shelter/  
Barn), Cournageeha,  
Co. Galway**

**SAT NAV: 53.078182, -8.728105**



**5**



With assistance from William Blanche, Liam Mellows, Alf Monaghan and Frank Hynes moved on to an outhouse owned by William Hoode, which was partitioned into a cattle shelter and a barn. This more secluded spot was located further up on the mountainside at Cournageeha, about six and a half kilometres from Gort. Cournageeha, which is a translation of the Irish word, *Corr na Gaoithe* (meaning 'Windy Hill'), proved to be an inhospitable location for the visiting rebels. While staying there from 1–4 May, they had to contend with sleeping on mice-infested beds of straw, wind coming through holes in the walls and rain leaking through the roof of sods. To further compound matters, they were unable to light a fire as the smoke would have been visible to others.

So as to ease their plight, William and Bridget Blanche brought the rebels supplies of food each night, typically hot potatoes and boiled cabbage stored in a jam pot. William Blanche provided further assistance by hiding out in the furze and keeping a lookout for the police. Hoode was initially unaware of the men's presence. Once he discovered them, he was considerate and helped them out by bringing the men pieces of homemade cake on two occasions. However, he also displayed considerable apprehension. On a number of occasions, he warned the trio that they were in danger of being discovered by the police if they outstayed their welcome. Today, only the four walls of the outhouse remain standing. It is located a short distance inside a forestry plantation.

The RIC searched far and wide for Mellows when he was on-the-run. The Convent of the Sisters of Mercy in Kinvara (5.1) (SAT NAV: 53.139387, -8.941401) was one of a number of locations that they raided across the county. Back in Cournageeha, luck was on the side of Mellows,



*The former Convent of the Sisters of Mercy (now St. Joseph's Church/Pastoral Centre), Kinvara*

**5.1.**

as the water level of Lough Avalla rose following heavy rainfall. Whilst hiding there, a large number of policemen called into houses in the locality, but Hoode's outhouse was not searched. Blanche joked to the rebels that the police were 'like cats' who did not wish to 'get their feet wet'.

When they finally departed the outhouse at the break of dawn on Friday, 4 May 1916, Mellows, Monaghan and Hynes made their way back down to the Blanches' house, said their goodbyes and continued with their journey. Equipped with three haversacks full of food supplied by Bridget Blanche, they made their way southwards past O'Shaughnessy's Bridge in Knockouran. After walking across bogland in Gorteenboy, they journeyed onwards to Chevy Chase wood in Lahardaun, which belonged to the Persse estate. Whilst in the woods, they also took the opportunity to bathe for the first time in two weeks, in a section of the Derrywee/Owendalulleagh River. That Friday night, the trio continued on their journey, under the pretence that they were cattle-dealers/drovers. They also adopted aliases. Mellows became 'John Nolan', Monaghan became 'Joe MacSweeney' and Hynes became 'Patrick Murphy'.



6

## Remains of William Cooney's House, Gortacarnaun, Co. Galway

SAT NAV: 53.017353, -8.756736



After leaving Chevy Chase woods, it appears that Liam Mellows, Alf Monaghan and Frank Hynes walked through higher ground in Acres and became somewhat disorientated in the darkness after Mellows' torch malfunctioned. In the end, they emerged from the heather, came back down to lower land and apparently cut through Lannaght in order to reach a flagged boren running parallel to the southern side of Gortacarnaun Wood. From here, they presumably continued walking in a westerly direction. Eventually, they reached an occupied residence in Gortacarnaun, located to the south-east of Lough Cutra and the south-west of Chevy Chase. Monaghan walked up to the front of the house, looked in through the half-door and caught the attention of the two occupants – a woman and champion weightlifter named William Cooney,

who was slightly over two metres tall (about six foot and seven inches). He asked for directions to Derryfada, which he had seen on Mellows' map.

It was not long before William Cooney realised that the visitors had been involved in the Rising. Although the woman of the house invited them in for a cup of tea, Monaghan declined. Cooney, however, decided to accompany them as they left Gortacarnaun and helped them with the navigation of the next leg of their journey. As they were walking, he informed them that they had been lucky that they had not called into his neighbour's house, as this was the residence of a policeman named Leahy, who was at home on leave. This same policeman was married to Lizzy (nee Glynn), who worked as a schoolteacher. After saying goodbye to William 'The Giant' Cooney, the three men continued onwards to County Clare. Today, little remains of William Cooney's house. The western gable end of the residence is still standing and has been incorporated into a cattle crush beside a water tank.

## Also of Interest

In addition to the historic sites and memorials mentioned above, those interested in exploring the escape route taken by Liam Mellows may also be interested in viewing the following locations in the north of County Clare.

7

### Former Residence of Michael Hanrahan, Derryulk Upper, Co. Clare

SAT NAV: 52.934994, -8.777924



After leaving Gortacarnaun, Liam Mellows, Alf Monaghan and Frank Hynes crossed over difficult terrain into the north of County Clare, with the intention of travelling to Scariff, where Mellows' uncle lived. After making their way through Drumandoora, all three of them wandered away from the main road to Scariff. After walking up a mountain road in darkness, the men decided

to rest for the night. By this stage, it was raining. Using their hands and knees, they climbed up to a spot about 25 metres above the road and fell asleep between two big rocks in the uplands. They slept for a number of hours under their overcoats. Upon awakening at sunrise, their clothes were damp and their bones were aching from the hard surface. From their vantage point, they had a good view of Lough Cutra and the countryside between it and Galway Bay. Frank Hynes, who was still drowsy, moved to the entrance of a nearby cave and fell back to sleep in an upright position against the wall.

After Hynes awakened, the trio continued wandering south-westwards. They maintained a strong faith in the power of prayer and frequently knelt down to say the Rosary in Irish. After reaching the roadway at Loughaun early in the morning, they continued southwards to Derryulk Upper, where they saw smoke rising from the chimney of a roadside residence belonging to a middle-aged man, Michael Hanrahan. Hynes called in seeking assistance. Although Hanrahan did not appear to believe the cattle-dealer/drover story, he still invited all three of the men inside. They were subsequently treated to a big breakfast by his wife, who was a native of Lochan. The meal included tea, boiled eggs and a bastible cake (made from apples and other ingredients).

This house, which was first constructed in 1905, became derelict in the early 1980s. It has been lived in again since the middle of the 1990s. Although extensive renovations have taken place since then, a small part of the original stone wall of Michael Hanrahan's residence is still visible in the middle section of the current house.

8

**Mellows' Hut,  
Kilduff Upper,  
Co. Clare**

SAT NAV: 52.917664, -8.763900



After leaving Michael Hanrahan's residence, Liam Mellows, Alf Monaghan and Frank Hynes continued walking in a southerly direction and then veered left onto a bog road which brought them to a desolate spot in a valley of the Annagapple River. All three fell asleep there, but when Hynes awoke he saw a man approaching, holding a white handkerchief in his hand. There was a greyhound at his heels. Another dog, a pointer, ran over to where the men were sleeping. The man's name was Michael 'Miko' Molony and it soon transpired that he was an Irish Republican Brotherhood and Irish Volunteers member in his early thirties from Ballyoughtra, near Tulla. Molony told the men that he was out searching for a missing horse. Molony, who had lived in Dublin for a decade, was well acquainted with some of Mellows' friends in the capital.

In the end, Molony persuaded Mellows, Monaghan and Hynes not to go to Scariff. From May onwards, he put them up for almost five months in a two-roomed hut, containing a fireplace and a rough ground surface. This stone-made cattle shelter, also known as a 'bothy' or 'bothán', was built into the mountainside on an out-farm that his family owned in the nearby townland of Kilduff Upper. The structure proved to be an ideal hiding spot for rebels on-the-run, as it was surrounded by dense furze and hawthorn, while a gap by the door afforded its occupants a commanding view of the Vale of Tulla. The fireplace on the gable end allowed the men to heat the place at night, while beds of straw were used for the sleeping arrangements.

On a number of occasions, Mellows entertained some of the locals by playing the fiddle in the hut. Food (principally poultry) was supplied to the hut by the Molonys and by Irish Republican Brotherhood men such as Seán McNamara and Con Fogarty, who were also members of the Crusheen Volunteers. Another Irish Volunteer, Tom Hogan, was given lessons by Mellows in how to play the fiddle. At one stage, Michael Molony attempted to carry a message from Mellows to Dublin but he had to destroy it when he was searched. Mellows departed from the hideout at Kilduff Upper in October 1916. Today, the structure is located in a Coillte forestry plantation near Knockjames Church. Visitors to the area may also wish to visit Tulla Cemetery, where Michael Molony is buried.

## Further Information

The War of Independence (or Anglo-Irish War), which lasted from 21 January 1919–11 July 1921, was fought by the flying columns of the IRA against the British Army, the RIC, the Auxiliaries and the Black and Tans. Reprisals and counter-reprisals characterised the fighting, in which nearly 2,000 people died. During the course of the conflict, Liam Mellows and Éamon de Valera visited Sister Lelia McKenna at the Convent of the Sisters of Mercy in Ennis. As a token of gratitude for helping him to escape after the 1916 Rising, Mellows presented the nun with two white lovebirds in a cage which he had taken back from the United States of America. As the conflict reached a stalemate, a truce came into effect and subsequent negotiations resulted in the signing of the Anglo-Irish Treaty in December, 1921. This led to the legal enactment of the 26-county Irish Free State in December, 1922, which became a self-governing dominion in the Commonwealth, with the king remaining as head of state.

The Civil War, which lasted from 27 June 1922–24 May 1923, saw the Free State forces defeat the anti-Treaty republicans. Mellows took the anti-Treaty side and at the start of the conflict, he occupied the Four Courts in Dublin with Rory O'Connor. Mellows was one of four republicans executed at Mountjoy Jail by the Free State forces on 8 December 1922, as a reprisal for the political killing of Seán Hales, a pro-Treaty TD. Mellows was buried afterwards in the cemetery adjoining St Patrick's Church in Castletown, County Wexford.

Today, the memory of Mellows persists in placenames and memorials in the cultural landscapes of the city and county of Galway,

and beyond. Liam Mellows Terrace, which runs perpendicular to the western side of Bohermore in Galway city, was named after him in the 1930s. So too was Liam Mellows Terrace in the town of Loughrea. The 1916 veteran, Martin Newell, resided there for a period of time. In 1954, Renmore Barracks in the suburbs of Galway city was renamed Dún Uí Mhaoilíosa [Irish for: 'Mellows' Barracks'], at a ceremony attended by the Taoiseach, Éamon de Valera and Lieutenant General Sean McKeon. Three years later, a



**9.1.**

*Statue of Liam Mellows,  
Eyre Square, Galway*



statue of Mellows (9.1) (SAT NAV: 53.275206, -9.049365) was erected in Eyre Square, Galway city. The quest to create this began in 1946, when the Clarinbridge Old IRA first suggested the idea. The statue, which was sculpted by Domhnall Ó Murchadha, was finally unveiled on 18 August 1957. A pipe band in the city, the Liam Mellows Pipe Band, was also named after Mellows. In Dublin, his life was memorialised by the naming of ‘Mellows [*sic*] Quay’. Located on the south bank of the River Liffey (directly opposite the Four Courts), this uses an alternative spelling of his surname. A nearby bridge is also named after Mellows.

A memorial pillar (9.2) was unveiled in the grounds of Dún Uí Mhaoilíosa on Easter Sunday,



**1916 pillar at Dún Uí Mhaoilíosa, Renmore, Galway**

**9.2.**

10 April 1966, at a ceremony attended by the President, Éamon de Valera. The inscription at the top of the monument reads: ‘1916’. Today, the barracks also has a museum which contains a range of exhibits associated with the revolutionary life and death of Liam Mellows,

including: a brace of his pistols, a copy of a letter that he wrote to John Hearn and his wife three and a half hours before he was executed at Mountjoy Jail, his own personal copy of a book entitled *The Lives of Irish Saints*, Mass Cards that were produced following his death and a framed portrait of him. Also on display at the museum is Mellows' motor-cycle (9.3). Having been salvaged



**9.3.** *Liam Mellows' motor-cycle at Dún Uí Mhaoilíosa Museum, Renmore, Galway*

from an RIC barracks, the motor-cycle was taken care of for many years by Peter Howley, who led the Ardrahan Volunteers during the 1916 Rising. In 1959, he presented it to the National Museum of Ireland. Following restoration work by Eddie Carpenter, it was in turn presented to Dún Uí Mhaoilíosa Museum on 16 March 1996. Further objects associated with Mellows' life, including his Volunteers' uniform and glasses, are on display in Galway City Museum's exhibition, 'Revolution in Galway, 1913–1923'.

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## Acknowledgements

This guide book was developed by the Department of Heritage and Tourism at Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology, in partnership with Galway County Council. It seeks to enhance awareness, knowledge and understanding of the built and cultural heritages of County Galway's 1916 Rising. Special thanks are due to the following: Dr Fergal Barry, Helen Bermingham, Marie Boran, Sister Eileen Callinan, Michael Carmody, Mary Coen, Dr John Crowley, Kay Davies, Marian Donohue, Brídín Feeney, Gerard Fahy, Sister Mary de Lourdes Fahy, Jim Fennell, Breda Finn, Dr Des Foley, Alan Fox, Mary Gallagher, Kevin Gavin, Eamon Gilligan, George Glynn, Ronan Glynn, Paul Gosling, Gary Harty, Brendan Heneghan, Con Hogan, Clare Horgan, Pat Howley, Michael Howley, Frank Hynes, Eilish Kavanagh, Aoife Kerans, Paddy Kerans, Kevin Kelly, Ronan Killeen, Jimmy Laffey, Kurt Lydon, John Martin Griffin, Edna Lalor, Thomas Ligtvoet, Anne McCarthy, Brendan McGowan, Martin McHugh, Mick McMahan, Patria McWalter, Congella Maguire, Cian Marnell, Mike Murphy, Paul Murphy, Cáit Noone, Seosamh Ó Cuaig, Dónal Ó Droighneáin, Tomás Ó Droighneáin, Saili Ní Dhroighneáin, Dr Rick Officer, Jane O'Halloran Ryan, Peadar Ó Loideáin, Frank O'Malley, Nicky O'Malley, Micheál Ó Maille, Joe Steve Ó Neachtain, Páid Ó Neachtain, Gerry O'Neill, Finbarr O'Regan, Susanne O'Reilly, Michael Owens, Jim Reidy, John Reilly, Brian Quinn, Margaret Quinn, Tom Quinn, Eamon Ryan, Noel Skehill, John Tierney, John Tunney, Gráinne Smyth and Rodger Waters.

**Text:** Dr Mark McCarthy, Marie Mannion and Dr Shirley Wrynn (*The Signatories Trail*), Dr Mark McCarthy and Dr Shirley Wrynn (*The Cradle of the Rising Trail*), Dr Mark McCarthy and Dr Shirley Wrynn (*The Route of the Rising Trail*), Dr Mark McCarthy and Dr Shirley Wrynn (*The Liam Mellows Escape Trail*).

**Project Team and Editors:** Dr Mark McCarthy, Marie Mannion and Dr Shirley Wrynn.

**Colour Photographs:** Dr Mark McCarthy.

**GPS Coordinates:** Dr Mark McCarthy.

**Cartography:** Bridín Feeney

**Translation:** Europus.

**Back Cover Image:** 'Guth an Eirí Amach: The Voice of the Rising' – the County of Galway 1916 Memorial, Renville Park, Oranmore.

**Design and Layout:** KPW, Ballinasloe.

**Printer:** KPW, Ballinasloe.



*Published by Galway County Council,  
in partnership with the  
Department of Heritage and Tourism,  
Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology,  
2017*



## THE SIGNATORIES TRAIL –

Ballymoe | Tuam | Ros Muc | An Spidéal

**i** INFORMATION POINT **<>** PRIVATE PROPERTY

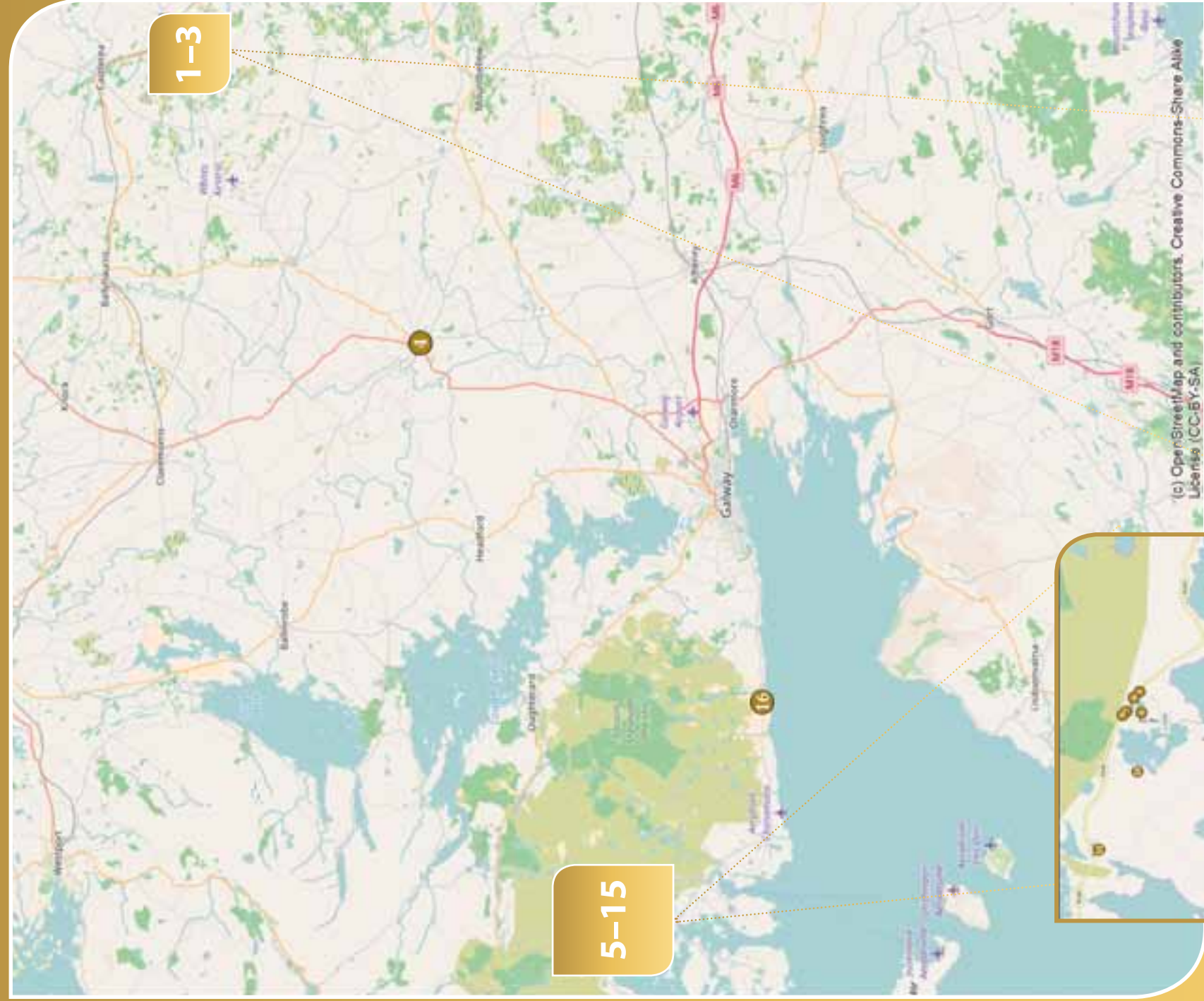
1	Former Residence of Éamonn Ceannt, Ballymoe <b>&lt;&gt;</b>
2	Éamonn Ceannt Commemorative Garden, Ballymoe <b>i</b>
3	Print of Éamonn Ceannt, Father Flanagan Memorial Centre, Ballymoe
4	1916 Monument, Bishop Street Car Park, Tuam
5	Former Schoolhouse (now Seipéal An Choir Mhóir), An Gort Mór <b>i</b>
6	Scoil Bhriocáin, An Gort Mór
7	Coláiste na bPíarsach, An Gort Mór
8	Páirc na bPíarsach, An Gort Mór
9	Site of the Former Residence of Pádraig Ó Conghaile (now CLS), An Gort Mór <b>&lt;&gt;</b>
10	Teach an Phiarsaigh (Pearse's Cottage), Ros Muc
11	Former Residence of Colm Ó Gaora, An Gort Mór <b>&lt;&gt;</b>
12	Cnocán na Móna, Ros Muc
13	Coláiste Cuimhneacháin an Phiarsaigh, Ros Muc
14	Patrick Pearse Memorial, Cill Bhriocáin, Ros Muc
15	Cé Uí Chonaire, Ros Muc
16	Former Residence of Seán Ó Droighneáin, Tuar Beag, An Spidéal <b>&lt;&gt;</b>

## CONAIR NA SÍNITHEOIRÍ –

Baile An Mhóta | Tuaim | Ros Muc | An Spidéal

**i** ÁIT EOLAIS **<>** TALAMH PRÍOBHÁIDEACH

1	Seanteach Cónaithe Éamonn Ceannt, Baile an Mhóta <b>&lt;&gt;</b>
2	Gairdín Comórtha Éamonn Ceannt, Baile an Mhóta <b>i</b>
3	Prionta d'Éamonn Ceannt, Ionad Cuimhneacháin an Athar Uí Fhlannagáin, Baile an Mhóta
4	Séadchomhartha 1916, Carrchlós Shráid an Easpaig, Tuaim
5	Seanteach na Scoile (Seipéal An Ghoirt Mhóir anois), An Gort Mór <b>i</b>
6	Scoil Bhriocáin, An Gort Mór
7	Coláiste na bPíarsach, An Gort Mór
8	Páirc na bPíarsach, An Gort Mór
9	Suíomh Sheanteach Phádraig Uí Chonghaile (CLS anois), An Gort Mór <b>&lt;&gt;</b>
10	Teach an Phiarsaigh, Ros Muc
11	Seanteach Choilm Uí Ghaora, An Gort Mór <b>&lt;&gt;</b>
12	Cnocán na Móna, Ros Muc
13	Coláiste Cuimhneacháin an Phiarsaigh, Ros Muc
14	Leacht Cuimhneacháin Phádraig Mhic Phiarais, Cill Bhriocáin, Ros Muc
15	Cé Uí Chonaire, Ros Muc
16	Seanteach Sheáin Uí Dhoighneáin, Tuar Beag, An Spidéal <b>&lt;&gt;</b>





**THE SIGNATORIES TRAIL –**  
*Ballymoe | Tuam | Ros Muc | An Spidéal*

**CONAIR NA SÍNITHEOIRÍ –**  
*Baile An Mhóta | Tuaim | Ros Muc | An Spidéal*

**THE SIGNATORIES TRAIL –**  
*Ballymoe | Tuam | Ros Muc | An Spidéal*

**CONAIR NA SÍNITHEOIRÍ –**  
*Baile An Mhóta | Tuaim | Ros Muc | An Spidéal*

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## THE CRADLE OF THE RISING TRAIL –

Athenry

**i** INFORMATION POINT **👁** PRIVATE PROPERTY

- 1 Former Sports Field (now Pairc Uí Chionnaith/Kenny Park GAA Grounds), Swangate
- 2 Gairdín Comórtha 1916, Swangate **i**
- 3 Former Residence and Public House of Larry (Lawrence) Lardner (now Declan Rooney Menswear), Old Church Street **👁**
- 4 Former Residence of Seán Brodrick (now Kelly's Pharmacy and The Fields of Athenry Gift Shop), Old Church Street **👁**
- 5 Former Residence of Stephen Jordan, 5 Davis Street **👁**
- 6 Machnamh Sculpture, Athenry Town Park
- 7 Calligraphic Manuscript, Athenry Boys National School, Knockaunglass
- 8 Former Royal Irish Constabulary Barracks (now The Old Barracks Pantry & Bakery), Cross Street **👁**
- 9 Former Residence of Frank Hynes, Cross Street **👁**
- 10 Former Town Hall (now Athenry Community Centre), Clarke Street
- 11 Grave of Larry (Lawrence) Lardner, New Cemetery

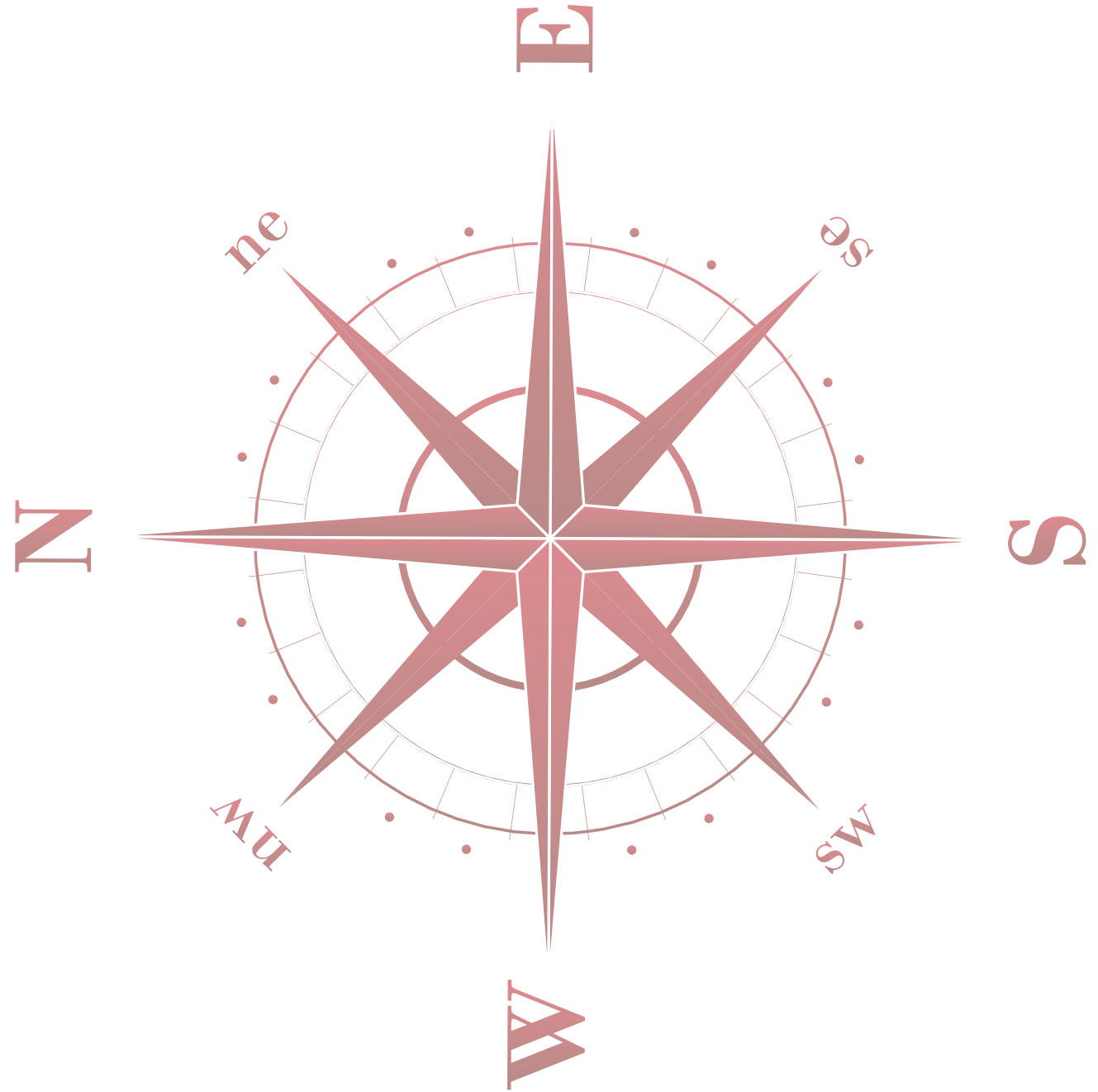
## FOINSE CHONAIR AN ÉIRÍ AMACH –

Baile Átha An Rí

**i** ÁIT EOLAIS **👁** TALAMH PRÍOBHÁIDEACH

- 1 An tSeanpháirc Imeartha (Páirc Uí Chionnaith anois), Geata na hEala
- 2 Gairdín Comórtha 1916, Geata na hEala **i**
- 3 Seanteach Cónaithe agus Teach Tábhairne Larry (Lawrence) Lardner (Declan Rooney Menswear anois), Seansráid an Teampaill **👁**
- 4 Seanteach Sheáin Brodrick (Kelly's Pharmacy agus The Fields of Athenry Gift Shop anois), Seansráid an Teampaill **👁**
- 5 Seanteach Stephen Jordan, 5 Sráid an Dáibhisigh **👁**
- 6 Dealbh Machnamh, Páirc Baile Átha an Rí
- 7 Lámhscríbhinn Challagrafach, Scoil Náisiúnta na mBuachaillí, An Cnocán Glas
- 8 Seanbheairic Chonstáblacht Ríoga na hÉireann (The Old Barracks Pantry & Bakery anois), Cross Street **👁**
- 9 Seanteach Frank Hynes, Cross Street **👁**
- 10 Seanhalla an Bhaile (Ionad Pobail Bhaile Átha an Rí anois), Sráid Uí Chléirigh
- 11 Uaigh Larry (Lawrence) Lardner, An Reilig Nua





**THE CRADLE OF THE RISING TRAIL –**  
*Athenry*

**FOINSE CHONAIR AN ÉIRÍ AMACH –**  
*Baile Átha An Rí*

**THE CRADLE OF THE RISING TRAIL –**  
*Athenry*

**FOINSE CHONAIR AN ÉIRÍ AMACH –**  
*Baile Átha An Rí*

A series of horizontal lines for writing, with a small compass rose graphic in the bottom right corner of the writing area.

## THE ROUTE OF THE RISING TRAIL – East County Galway

**i** INFORMATION POINT **👁** PRIVATE PROPERTY

- 1 1916 Monument, Killeeneen **i**
- 2 Wall Plaque Marking the Site of the Second Killeeneen National School, Killeeneen
- 3 Former Entrance to the Redington estate, Kilcornan **👁**
- 4 Former Royal Irish Constabulary Barracks, 4 Barrack Street, Clarinbridge **👁**
- 5 Former Residence of Father Henry (Harry) Joseph Feeney, 2 Barrack Street, Clarinbridge **👁**
- 6 Grave of Joe Howley, Old Cemetery, Oranmore
- 7 Statue of Joe Howley, Oranmore **i**
- 8 Site of the Former Royal Irish Constabulary Barracks, Main Street, Oranmore **👁**
- 9 Road Bridge, Millplot, Oranmore
- 10 Site of the Signal Cabin of the Midland Great Western Railway, Station Road, Oranmore **👁**
- 11 Carnmore Crossroads, Carnmore **i**
- 12 Grave of Tom (Thomas) Ruane, Claregalway Friary Cemetery, Claregalway
- 13 Claregalway Museum and Forge, Roanunmore, Claregalway
- 14 Former Model Farm (now Teagasc, Mellows Campus), Ballygarraun West, Athenry **i** **👁**
- 15 Ruins of Moyode Castle and Remnants of the Stable Yard, Moyode **i** **👁**
- 16 Ruins of Limepark House, Limepark North **i** **👁**
- 17 Former Residence of Father John William O'Meehan (now Delamain Lodge), Kinvara **👁**

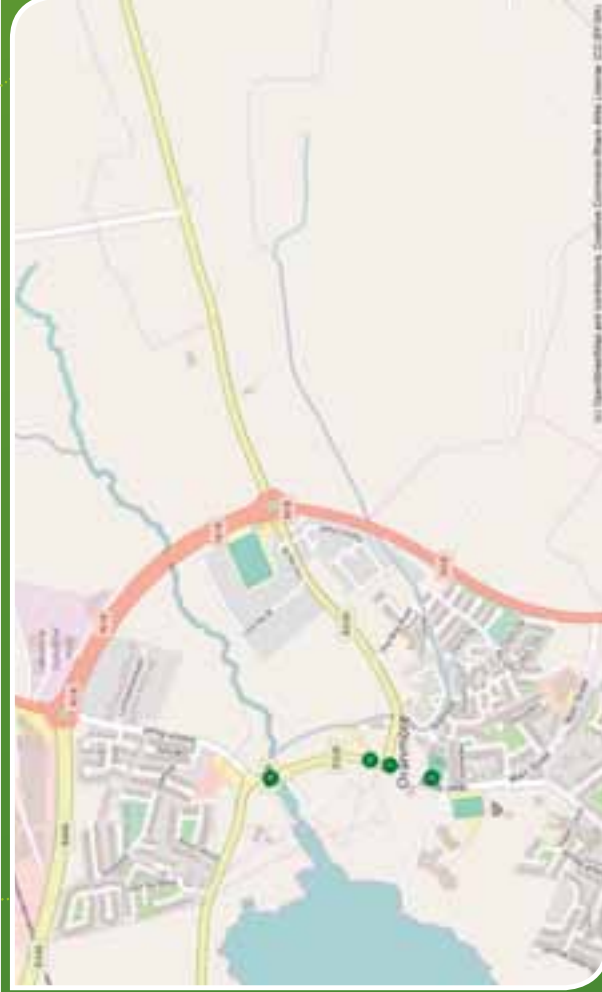
## BEALACH CHONAIR AN ÉIRÍ AMACH – Oirthear Chontae Na Gaillimhe

**i** ÁIT EOLAIS **👁** TALAMH PRÍOBHÁIDEACH

- 1 Leacht 1916, Cill Fhínnín **i**
- 2 Plaic Bhalla ag Marcáil Shuíomh an Dara Bunscoili gCill Fhínnín, Cill Fhínnín
- 3 An Seabhhealach Isteach chuig Eastát Redington, Cill Chornáin **👁**
- 4 Seanbheairic Chonstáblacht Ríoga na hÉireann, 4 Sraid na Beairce, Droichead an Chláirín **👁**
- 5 Seanteach an Athar Henry (Harry) Joseph Feeney, 2 Sraid na Beairce, Droichead an Chláirín **👁**
- 6 Uaigh Joe Howley, An tSeanreilig, Órán Mór
- 7 Dealbh Joe Howley, Órán Mór **i**
- 8 Seanbheairic Chonstáblacht Ríoga na hÉireann, An Phríomhshráid, Órán Mór **👁**
- 9 Droichead Bóthair, Preabán an Mhuilinn, Órán Mór
- 10 Suíomh Chabháin Chomharthaíochta an Midland Great Western Railway, Bóthar an Stáisiúin, Órán Mór **👁**
- 11 Crosaire an Chairn Mhoir, An Carn Mór **i**
- 12 Uaigh Tom (Thomas) Ruane, Reilig Mhainistir Bhaile Chláir, Baile Chláir
- 13 Músaem agus Céarta Bhaile Chláir, An Ruán Mór, Baile Chláir
- 14 Seanmhodhfeirm (Teagasc, Campas Uí Mhaoiliosa anois), Baile an Gharráin Thiar, Baile Atha an Rí **i** **👁**
- 15 Fothrach Chaisleán Mhaigh Fhód agus Iarsmaí de Chlós na Stáblaí, Maigh Fhód **i** **👁**
- 16 Fothrach Theach Bhaile na Creige, Baile na Creige Thuaidh **i** **👁**
- 17 Seanteach an Athar John William O'Meehan (Delamain Lodge anois), Cinn Mhara **👁**



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**THE ROUTE OF THE RISING TRAIL –**  
*East County Galway*

**BEALACH CHONAIR AN ÉIRÍ AMACH –**  
*Oirthear Chontae Na Gaillimhe*

**THE ROUTE OF THE RISING TRAIL –**  
*East County Galway*

**BEALACH CHONAIR AN ÉIRÍ AMACH –**  
*Oirthear Chontae Na Gaillimhe*

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## THE LIAM MELLOWS ESCAPE TRAIL – South County Galway

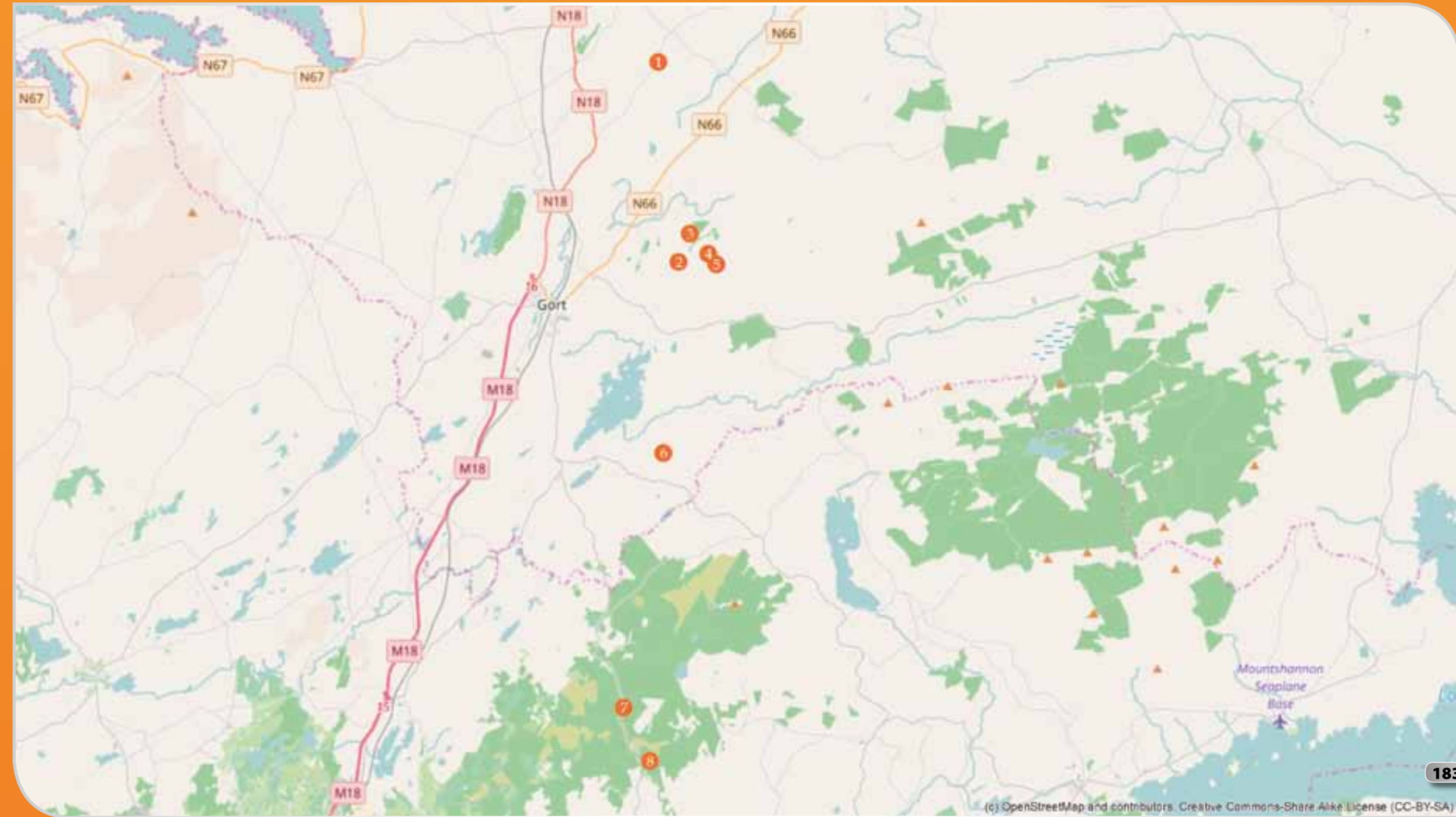
**i** INFORMATION POINT **👁** PRIVATE PROPERTY

- 1 Ruins of the Howleys' House, Limepark North **👁**
- 2 Ruins of the Ó Fathaighs' House, Lurgan **i** **👁**
- 3 Site of Patsy Corless' House, Knockroe **👁**
- 4 Ruins of William Blanche's House, Druminalough **👁**
- 5 Ruins of William Hoode's Outhouse (or Cattle Shelter/Barn), Cournageeha **👁**
- 6 Remains of William Cooney's House, Gortacarnaun **👁**
- 7 Former Residence of Michael Hanrahan, Derryulk Upper (Co. Clare) **👁**
- 8 Mellows' Hut, Kilduff Upper (Co. Clare) **👁**

## CONAIR ÉALAITHE LIAM UÍ MHAOILÍOSA – Deisceart Chontae Na Gaillimhe

**i** ÁIT EOLAIS **👁** TALAMH PRÍOBHÁIDEACH

- 1 Fothrach Theach Mhuintir Howley, Baile na Creige Thuaidh **👁**
- 2 Fothrach Theach Mhuintir Uí Fhathaigh, An Lorgain **i** **👁**
- 3 Suíomh Theach Patsy Corless, An Cnoc Rua **👁**
- 4 Fothrach Theach William Blanche, Droiminn an Locha **👁**
- 5 Fothrach Chró (nó Scioból Beithíoch) William Hoode, Corr na Gaoithe **👁**
- 6 Fothrach Theach William Cooney, Gort an Charnáin **👁**
- 7 Seanteach Michael Hanrahan, Doire Olc Uachtarach (Co. an Chláir) **👁**
- 8 Bothán Uí Mhaoilíosa, An Choill Dubh Uachtarach (Co. an Chláir) **👁**





THE LIAM MELLOWS ESCAPE TRAIL –  
South County Galway

CONAIR ÉALAITHE LIAM UÍ MHAOILÍOSA –  
Deisceart Chontae Na Gaillimhe

**THE LIAM MELLOWS ESCAPE TRAIL –**  
*South County Galway*

**CONAIR ÉALAITHE  
LIAM UÍ MHAOILÍOSA –**  
*Deisceart Chontae Na Gaillimhe*

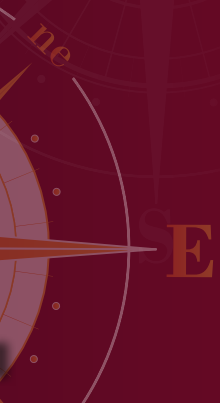
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1916



**As Gaeilge**





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## CONAIR NA SÍNITHEOIRÍ –

*Baile An Mhóta, Tuaim, Ros Muc & An Spidéal*

- Seanteach Cónaithe Éamoinn Ceannt,  
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SAT NAV: 53.696178, -8.459133  TALAMH PRÍOBHÁIDEACH .....203
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- Prionta d'Éamonn Ceannt,  
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- Séadchomhartha 1916,  
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- Seanteach na Scoile (Séipéal An Ghoirt Mhóir anois),  
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- Coláiste na bPiarsach,  
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8. Páirc na bPiarsach,  
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9. Suíomh Sheanteach Phádraig Uí Chonghaile  
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10. Teach an Phiarsaigh,  
Ros Muc, Co. na Gaillimhe  
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11. Seanteach Choilm Uí Ghaora,  
An Gort Mór, Co. na Gaillimhe  
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12. Cnocán na Móna,  
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13. Coláiste Cuimhneacháin an Phiarsaigh,  
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15. Cé Uí Chonaire,  
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16. Seanteach Sheáin Uí Dhroighneáin,  
Tuar Beag, An Spidéal, Co. na Gaillimhe  
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2. Gairdín Comórtha 1916,  
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3. Seanteach Cónaithe agus Teach Tábhairne Larry  
(Lawrence) Lardner (Declan Rooney Menswear anois),  
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4. Seanteach Sheáin Brodrick (Kelly's Pharmacy agus  
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5. Seanteach Stephen Jordan,  
5 Sráid an Dáibhisigh,  
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6. Dealbh Machnamh,  
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Baile Átha an Rí, Co. na Gaillimhe  
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7. Lámhscríbhinn Challagrafach,  
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8. Seanbheairic Chonstáblacht Ríoga na hÉireann  
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11. Uaigh Larry (Lawrence) Lardner,  
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## BEALACH CHONAIR AN ÉIRÍ AMACH – Oirthear Chontae Na Gaillimhe

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SAT NAV: 53.232058, -8.842554 👁 TALAMH PRÍOBHÁIDEACH.....283
4. Seanbheairic Chonstáblacht Ríoga na hÉireann,  
4 Sráid na Bearice,  
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6. Uaigh Joe Howley,  
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9. Droichead Bóthair,  
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11. Crosaire an Chairn Mhóir,  
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12. Uaigh Tom (Thomas) Ruane,  
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SAT NAV: 53.256572, -8.703410  
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16. Fothrach Theach Bhaile na Creige,  
Baile na Creige Thuaidh, Co. na Gaillimhe  
SAT NAV: 53.132425, -8.751639  
 ÁIT EOLAIS  TALAMH PRÍOBHÁIDEACH .....317








## Nithe Suimiúla Eile

17. Seanteach an Athar John William O'Meehan  
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SAT NAV: 53.141816, -8.940333  TALAMH PRÍOBHÁIDEACH ..... 323





## CONAIR ÉALAITHE LIAM UÍ MHAOILÍOSA –

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1. Fothrach Theach Mhuintir Howley,  
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SAT NAV: 53.143526, -8.759366  TALAMH PRÍOBHÁIDEACH .....332
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3. Suíomh Theach Patsy Corless,  
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4. Fothrach Theach William Blanche,  
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5. Fothrach Chró (nó Scioból Beithíoch)  
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### Nithe Suimiúla Eile

7. Seanteach Michael Hanrahan,  
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*Buíochas*..... 357

## Brollach

Cuireann sé áthas orm an treoirleabhar seo a chur i láthair, leabhar ina bhfuil mionsonraí faoi imeachtaí agus daoine as Contae na Gaillimhe a chuidigh le breith ár bpoblacht ardcheannasach. Tá an treoirleabhar leite agam ó chlúdach go clúdach agus seoid oideachais atá ann, dóibh sin atá ar thóir na gconairí agus dóibh sin atá ag iarraidh athnuachan a dhéanamh araon. Is féidir gach conair a leanúint ina iomláine nó tabhairt fúthu ina gcoda éagsúla de réir do thola. I rith 2016, bhí se de phribhléid agam bualadh le roinnt de shliocht Éamoinn Cheannt i rith cheiliúradh 135 bliain a lae breithe, a d'óstáil Institiúid Teicneolaíochta na Gaillimhe-Maigh Eo. In imeacht ama, beidh na conairí seo ina gcuid de thaithí Shlí an Atlantaigh Fhiáin, ó Theach an Phiarsaigh go dtí an séipéal in Inis Meáin, ón gCré Dhubh go dtí áit chónaithe Éamoinn Cheannt i mBaile an Mhóta, ó chrosairí an iarthair agus ghoirt Bhaile Átha an Rí go dtí bothán an Mhaoilíosaigh i gContae an Chláir. Tá an taighde is bunús leis an treoirleabhar seo ina theastas do chumas acadúil agus do spiorad comhoibríoch na nDochtúirí Mark McCarthy agus Shirley Wrynn as Institiúid Teicneolaíochta na Gaillimhe-Maigh Eo agus Marie Mannion ó Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe. In 2016, bhí sé d'onóir agam aitheantas a thabhairt don Dr McCarthy le Gradam Barr Feabhais Teagaisc agus don Dr Wynn trína PhD a bhronnadh uirthi.

### ***An Dr Fergal Barry,***

Uachtarán, Institiúid Teicneolaíochta na Gaillimhe-Maigh Eo

Tá ceangal nach beag ag muintir Chontae na Gaillimhe le hÉirí Amach, 1916 agus beidh go brách. Ba i mBéal Átha Mó a rugadh Éamonn Ceannt agus is iomaí samhradh a chaith Pádraig Mac Piarais i Ros Muc – beirt den seachtar a raibh a n-ainm le Forógra 1916. Ón 25–29 Aibreán, i gceannas ar na céadta Óglach in oirthear Chontae na Gaillimhe i 1916 bhí Liam Mellows. Ina dteannta bhí mná ó Chumann na mBan. Treoirleabhar é seo atá á fhoilsiú mar chuid de *Straitéis Cuimhneacháin Chontae na Gaillimhe: Deich mBliana na gCuimhneachán, 2013–2023*. Tá sé ar cheann de bhreis is 150 tionscadal i *gClár Comórtha Céad Bliain Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe, 1916–2016* Léiríonn na leathanaigh ina dhiaidh seo, lenar bhain obair mhór allamuigh agus taighde cartlainne, go maireann cuimhne fós ar 1916 ar fud an chontae i bhfoirm suíomhanna agus cuimhneacháin stairiúla. Beidh suim ag pobail áitiúla, scoileanna, coláistí agus muintir na reibiliúnach agus cuairteoirí chun an chontae sna ceithre chosán. Ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghlacadh le taighdeoirí GMIT an Dr Mark McCarthy agus an Dr Shirley Wrynn agus Marie Mannion, Oifigeach Oidhreacht, Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe as an obair mhór i gcomhar atá déanta acu le blianta agus a bhfuil an foilseachán seo anois mar thoradh uirthi. Is mór agam freisin an cúnamh mór a thug baill foirne eile Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe, ina measc: Gráinne Smyth, Marian Donohue agus Brídín Feeney. Tá buíochas ag dul freisin do Michael Owens, Stiúrthóir Gníomhach Seirbhísí, Seirbhísí Tithíochta agus Corparáide, Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe dá chúnamh agus dá thacaíocht ar fad don tionscadal seo.

***An Comhairleoir Eileen Mannion,***

Cathaoirleach Chontae na Gaillimhe

## Réamhrá

A chara,

Cuirimid fáilte romhat ar thuras fionnachtana, áit ar féidir leat dul agus breathnú ar réimse leathan oidhreachtaí d'Éirí Amach 1916 i gContae na Gaillimhe. Na suíomhanna agus na comharthaí cuimhneacháin atá aitheanta anseo beidh siad suimiúil d'aon duine atá ag iarraidh tuilleadh eolais a fháil faoi ócáid a chuidigh le náisiún ardcheannas na hÉireann a theacht ar an saol. Is cuma ar duine áitiúil nó cuairteoir tú, tá súil againn, agus tú ag fiosrú scéalta an Éirí Amach feadh na gconairí oidhreachta seo, go mbeidh an t-eolas a bhaileoidh tú oideachasúil, speisialta agus taitneamhach.

Mise le meas,

***An Dr. Mark McCarthy,***

Léachtóir & Cathaoirleach na gClár sna Staidéir Cheilteacha,  
Institiúid Teicneolaíochta na Gaillimhe-Mhaigh Eo

***Marie Mannion,***

Oifigeach Oidhreachta, Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe

***An Dr. Shirley Wrynn,***

An Leabharlann,

Institiúid Teicneolaíochta na Gaillimhe-Mhaigh Eo

## Mar a Oibríonn an Treoirleabhar Seo

Tugann an treoirleabhar seo deis do na léitheoirí páirt a ghlacadh in suas go dtí ceithre chonair oidhreachta d'Éirí Amach 1916 i gContae na Gaillimhe, mar atá:

- (A) **Conair na Sínitheoirí** –  
*Baile an Mhóta, Tuaim, Ros Muc & An Spidéal;*
- (B) **Foinse Chonair an Éirí Amach** –  
*Baile Átha an Rí;*
- (C) **Bealach Chonair an Éirí Amach** –  
*Oirthear Chontae na Gaillimhe;*
- (D) **Conair Éalaithe Liam Uí Mhaoilíosa** –  
*Deisceart Chontae Na Gaillimhe.*

Tar isteach ag aon pointe agus faigh eolas ar do shuaimhneas faoi oidhreachtaí inlámhsithe na ndaoine sin a throid ar son Shaoirse na hÉireann in 1916.

**Eolas Taistil:** Tá cur síos, grianghraif agus comhordanáidí GPS curtha ar fáil do gach áit inspéise a bhainfidh tú amach ar do bhealach, mar aon le mapaí bealaigh atá éasca a leanúint.

**Comharthaíocht:** Beidh tuilleadh eolais ar fáil in áiteanna roghnaithe, mar a thugtar le fios anseo ina dhiaidh seo:

**i ÁIT EOLAIS:** Cláir eolais ar an láthair.

**Cúinsí Inrochtana:** Maoin phríobháideach is ea cuid de na suíomhanna atá liostaithe sa treoirleabhar seo agus níl siad ar fáil don phobal i gcoitinne. Cé go bhfuil a lán de na hionaid phríobháideacha fós le feiceáil ón mbóthar, d'fhéadfadh crainn a bheith ag cur bac ar an radharc i líon beag cásanna Tá comhartha speisialta 'Maoin Phríobháideach' úsáidte chun na suíomhanna atá in úinéireacht phríobháideach a aithint, mar atá léirithe anseo:

**👁️ TALAMH PRÍOBHÁIDEACH:** Cé go bhfuil an suíomh lonnaithe ar mhaoin phríobháideach, d'fhéadfadh go mbeadh amharc air ón mbóthar.

## Séanadh

*Níl sa treoirleabhar seo ach eolas ginearálta agus ní thugann sé cuireadh ar aon bhealach d'aon duine dul isteach ar aon cheann de na sealúchais atá luaite. Cé go ndearnadh gach iarracht a bheith cruinn i gcur le chéile an leabhair seo, ní féidir leis na scríbhneoirí, an fhoireann thionscadail, na heagarthóirí ná úinéirí na sealúchas atá liostaithe sa leabhar a bheith freagrach as aon earráidí, easnaimh ná míchruinneas. Fuarthas agus foilsíodh gach eolas de dheoin macánta. Leis seo, cuirtear as an áireamh gach dliteanas as cailteanas, díomá, faillí nó aon damáiste eile a thagann de thoradh a bheith ag brath ar an eolas atá sa leabhar seo, nó i gcás féimheachta nó leachtaithe ar aon eagraíocht, cuideachta, duine aonair nó gnólacht atá luaite, nó i gcás aon eagraíocht, cuideachta, duine aonair nó gnólacht a scoireann ó thrádáil.*

# CONAIR NA SÍNITHEOIRÍ –

*Baile An Mhóta | Tuaim | Ros Muc | An Spidéal*



**i** ÁIT EOLAIS

**👁** TALAMH PRÍOBHÁIDEACH

## CONAIR NA SÍNITHEOIRÍ

Áirithe sa chonair seo tá suíomhanna agus cuimhneacháin stairiúla a bhaineann le beirt de sheachtar sínitheoirí Fhorógra 1916 - Éamonn Ceannt agus Pádraig Mac Piarais. Gaeilgeoirí líofa ab ea an bheirt acu agus bhí siad araon ina mbunaitheoirí d’Óglaigh na hÉireann in 1913. Rugadh Ceannt i mBaile an Mhóta, Contae na Gaillimhe. Píobaire den scoth ab ea é, bhí an-suim sa gharraíodóireacht aige, bhí an Ghaeilge ar a thoil aige agus bhí a lán cairde aige ar fud Chontae na Gaillimhe. In éineacht le hEdward Martyn as Tul Aighre, bhunaigh sé Cumann na bPíobairí in 1900. Cas sé don Phápa Pius X in 1905 agus bhain sé bonn óir amach ag Oireachtas 1906 as a chuid ceoil. Thagadh Ceannt ar ais go hiarthar na hÉireann go minic ar saoire agus chaith sé mí ina chónaí le muintir Uí Dhroighneáin sa Spidéal i samhradh 1915.

I rith Éirí Amach 1916, bhí Ceannt ina Cheannfort ar an 4ú Cathlán d’Óglaigh na hÉireann agus Aontas Bhaile Átha Cliath Theas. Mar dhuine den seachtar sínitheoirí ar Fhorógra 1916, cuireadh chun báis é le scud lámhaigh i bPríosún Chill Mhaighneann ag 3.45pm ar an 8 Bealtaine 1916 in aois 34 bliain. An oíche sular cuireadh chun báis é, léirigh sé a chuid misnigh agus rinne sé an ráiteas seo a leanas: *‘Ireland has shown she is a Nation ... And in years to come, Ireland will honour those who risked all for her honour at Easter in 1916.’*

Ar an lámh eile, dhaingnigh an Píarsach a cheangal le Contae na Gaillimhe ó 1903–1915. Thug sé cuairt ar Ros Muc gach samhradh i rith na mblianta sin, áit ar fhí sé topagrafaíocht Ghaeltacht Chonamara agus chósta an iarthair isteach i ggreatlach shiombalach fhormhór



## CONAIR NA SÍNITHEOIRÍ

a ghearrscéalta. Tar éis cairdeas a dhéanamh leis an múinteoir áitiúil, Pádraig Ó Conghaile, cheannaigh sé píosa talún sa chomharsanacht in 1905. I samhraidh na bliana 1909, críochnaíodh an obair ar theach aon stóir an Phiarsaigh le hais an locha i Ros Muc. Rinne sé an-iarracht athrú a chur ar an íomhá d'iarthar na hÉireann a bhí cruthaithe ag Bord na gCeantar Cúng agus ag staidéir éagsúla eitneagrafacha mar áit a bhí cúlanta agus bocht. I bhfocail Pat Sheeran, bhí a chuirteanna ar an iarthar ar aon dul le 'buille isteach', an Ghaeltacht mar 'fhoirse athnuachana' agus ról lárnach ag an nGaeilge chun stop a chur le dul chun cinn an impiriúlachais chultúrtha.

Léirigh an nuachtán radacach, *Irish Opinion*, an Píarsach mar dhuine nach raibh aon teorainn lena chuid éagsúlachta agus dúradh go raibh an oiread máistreacht aige ar an Ghaeilge a bhí foghlamtha aige go mbíodh na seanchainteoirí Gaeilge ag déanamh ríméid as na leaganacha nua a dtagadh sé amach leo ina chuid cainte nuair a bhíodh sé ar bís ag smaoineamh nua. Bhí eolas maith ag an bPíarsach ar bhaile na Gaillimhe. Ar an 10 Nollaig 1913, labhair sé ag cruinniú earcaíochta d'Óglaigh na hÉireann i Halla na Cathrach a bhí faoi chathaoirleacht George Nicolls, dlíodóir áitiúil a bhí ina Chróinéir do Thrian Thiar an Chontae. Tar éis dó móid a ghlacadh i mBráithreachas Phoblacht na hÉireann i mí Feabhra 1914, ceapadh an Píarsach ar a Chomhairle Míleata an bhliain dár gcionn - grúpa rúnda a bhí tiomnaithe don tasc an tÉirí Amach a phleanáil. Mar dhuine den seachtar sínitheoirí ar Fhorógra 1916, cuireadh chun báis é le scuid lámhaigh i bPríosún Chill Mhaighneann tráthnóna an 3 Bealtaine 1916 in aois 36 bliain.



## **MOLTAÍ TAISCÉALAÍOCHTA**

**Síneann an chonair ó Bhaile an Mhóta i dTuaim go Ros Muc agus an Spidéal. Thart ar 165 ciliméadar an t-achar tiomána ó Bhaile an Mhóta go dtí an Spidéal (trí Thuaim agus Ros Muc) agus thart ar thrí uair an chloig a thógann sé tiomáint idir na hionaid sin. Chun dóthain ama a thabhairt leis an sásamh ceart a bhaint as gach ceann de na 16 ionad spéise, ag cur uaireanta sosa san áireamh, moltar go gcuirfí lá go leith ar a laghad ar fáil chun an chonair seo a thaiscéaladh. Ina áit sin, b'fhéidir gurbh fhearr leat dhá thuras éagsúla a dhéanamh, go Baile an Mhóta/Tuaim agus go Ros Muc/An Spidéal.**



## Seanteach Cónaithe Éamonn Ceannt, Baile an Mhóta, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.696178, -8.459133

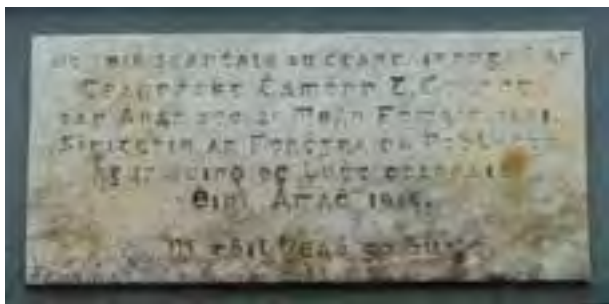


# 1



Rugadh Éamonn Ceannt i mBaile an Mhóta, atá lonnaithe in oirthuaisceart Chontae na Gaillimhe, ar an 21 Meán Fómhair 1881. Bhí an teach inar rugadh é ag feidhmiú mar bheairic de chuid Chonstáblacht Ríoga na hÉireann (RIC). Bhí a athair, James Kent, lonnaithe ann mar phóilín agus chaith Éamonn an chéad dá bhliain dá shaol ina chónaí ann. Ba é an séú duine de sheachtar clainne é a bhí ag James Kent agus Joanne Galway. Cé gur aistrigh an teaghlach go dtí Baile Átha Fhirdhia agus Droichead Átha sular chuir siad fúthu go buan i mBaile Átha Cliath in 1892, ba mhinic le Ceannt filleadh ar Chontae na Gaillimhe blianta ina dhiaidh sin. Bhíodh sé ina mholtóir ar chomórtais ceoil in áiteanna mar Chill Fhínín agus chaitheadh sé a shaoirí i mbailte ar nós an Spidéil. Thugadh sé cuairt freisin ar theach an Phiarsaigh i Ros Muc.

Ar an 8 Bealtaine 1966, le linn chomóradh lubhaile Órga 1916, thug Uachtarán na hÉireann, Éamon de Valera, cuairt ar Bhaile an Mhóta d’Fhéile Éamonn Ceannt. Ar na daoine eile a bhí i láthair bhí gaolta an cheannaire 1916 seo a cuireadh chun báis, a mhac Rónán agus a nia, Éamonn T. Ceannt ina measc. Tar éis an aifrinn sa séipéal áitiúil, chuaigh paráid chuig Stáisiún áitiúil na nGardaí - seanbhairic an RIC inar rugadh Éamonn Ceannt. Mar chomhartha ar chomóradh caoga bliain bású an cheannaire 1916, rinne an Coirnéal Harry W. Byrne, Oifigeach i gCeannas Cheannasaíocht an Iarthair, plaic bhán mharmair (1.1) a nochtadh, os cionn dhoras an fhoirgnimh. Seo an inscríbhinn atá ar an bplaic a chuir Coiste



*An leac os cionn an dorais  
i dteach Éamonn Ceannt*

**1.1.**

Comórtha Éamonn Ceannt (faoi cheannas Joseph P. O’Shaughnessy) in airde: ‘Do réir seanchais an cheantair rugadh an Ceanphort Éamonn T. Ceannt, san Áras seo 21 Meán Fómhair 1881. Sínitheoir ar Fhorógra na Poblachta agus duine de lucht ceannais Éirí Amach 1916. Ní géilleadh go bua.’ Ag an bhfáiltiú a lean nochtadh na plaice, léirigh de Valera a mhian go dtabharfaí ar ais an Ghaeilge. Ag labhairt dó faoi Cheannt, dúirt sé gur chas sé leis den chéad uair trí obair Chonradh na Gaeilge le Coláiste Laighean i Ros Mhic Triúin. Fuair a lán d’Ógláigh na hÉireann in 1916 gear ar

a dtír, a dúirt sé, trí mheán na Gaeilge. Dúirt de Valera freisin go raibh gach onóir a d'fheadfadh an náisiún a thabhairt dó dlite do Cheannt.

In ómós don 135ú bliain ó rugadh Éamonn Ceannt, réachtáladh comóradh ar an 21 Meán Fómhair 2016 ag Seomra Oiliúna agus Bialann Chonamara, Institiúid Teicneolaíochta na Gaillimhe-Mhaigh Eo. Tháinig cúigear dá ghaolta agus 50 aoi eile le chéile do Dhinnéar Ómóis Éamoinn Ceannt ag a raibh biachlár a bhí bunaithe ar oidhreachtaí bia na hÉireann. Cuireadh macasamhail speisialta de theach Cheannt i mBaile an Mhóta ar fáil ag an dinnéar, i bhfoirm ciste taispeántais a bhí déanta go hiomlán as pastillage. Lena chois sin, cuireadh deilbhín beag de Cheannt ar fáil a bhí déanta as pastillage freisin. Mar chuid de sin tá macasamhail den phlaic a nochtadh



**1.2.**

*Deilbhín Éamonn Ceannt  
agus macasamhail a thí*

ag áit a bhreithe in 1966. Tá sé i gceist an dá mhacasamhail sin (1.2) a choinneáil ar taispeántas go buan ag an institiúid.

## Gairdín Comórtha Éamonn Ceannt, Baile an Mhóta, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.691946, -8.463595 



Mar chomhartha ar chomóradh 135ú bliain de bhreith Éamonn Ceannt, rinneadh an oscailt oifigiúil ar an ngairdín cuimhneacháin seo atá gar don chlós súgartha le hais Ionad Cuimhneacháin an Athar Uí Fhlannagáin i mBaile an Mhóta ar an 21 Meán Fómhair 2016. Ba é an Comhairleoir Michael Connolly, Cathaoirleach Chontae na Gaillimhe, agus Michael Sheehy, garnia Éamonn Ceannt, a rinne an oscailte oifigiúil. Orthu sin eile a bhí ag an oscailt bhí naonúr gaolta eile le hÉamonn Ceannt, lena n-áirítear garnia eile, David Ceannt, beirt gharneachtanna, Mary Gallagher agus Nora Sleator, agus sin-gharneacht, Niamh Sleator. Lena chois sin, bhí breis agus 30 ball de Theaghlaigh agus Cairde an 4ú Cathláin d’Óglaigh na hÉireann i láthair don oscailt. Le linn an tsearmanais, dúirt an Cathaoirleach go raibh muintir an chontae iontach bródúil as a raibh bainte amach ag Éamonn Ceannt, sínitheoir ar

Fhorógra 1916 agus duine de mhuintir Bhaile an Mhóta.

Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe a rinne an fhorbairt ar Ghairdín Cuimhneacháin Éamonn Ceannt i gcomhpháirtíocht le Cumann Forbartha Bhaile an Mhóta, Solas agus an pobal áitiúil. Kay Sinnott as *Galway Living Gardens* a rinne an dearadh agus tá réimse de chrainn agus de thoir dhúchasacha plandaithe sa ghairdín. Áit tharraingteach atá ann don phobal áitiúil agus do chuirteoirí a thagann chuig an gceantar, agus déanann sé iarracht cúig chéadfaí an duine a mhealladh. Tá an scéim phlandála cairdiúil ó thaobh na bithéagsúlachta de, ag mealladh na n-éan, na mbeach agus na bhféileacán, léiriú ar an tsuim a bhí ag Ceannt féin sa ghairneoireacht agus sa nuálaíocht ghortóireachta.

Tá an gairdín lán de shiombalachas chomh maith. Tá balla aolchloiche i bhfoirm 's' ag dul trí lár an ghairdín. Tá binsí cloiche ar dhá thaobh an bhalla agus crainn dhúchasacha ag gach foirceann, iad sin mar chomhartha ar bhreith Cheannt ar an 21 Meán Fómhair 1881 agus ar a bhású ar an 8 Bealtaine 1916. Tá crann caorthainn duillsilteach ag an bhfoirceann is gaire don bhealach isteach sa ghairdín. Bíonn caora buí air sin i ndeireadh an fhómhair, tráth a mbíonn dath dearg / oráiste ag teacht ar na duilleoga. Seach gheal is ea an crann ar an taobh thall den bhalla, agus tagann bláthanna air sin sa Bhealtaine. Tá seacht gceapach aonair ag cúl an ghairdín, agus toir dhúchasacha curtha i ngach ceann acu i gcuimhne na sínitheoirí ar leith ar Fhorógra 1916. Tá na ranna ag dul san ord inar shínigh gach sínitheoir an Forógra. San iomlán, seasann an scéim phlandála don aontas agus don tsíocháin. Tá tor duillsilteach, *genista hispanica*, (aiteann Spáinneach) plandáil i gceapach Éamonn Ceannt. I ndeireadh an earraigh agus i dtús an tsamhraidh, tagann bláth buí ar an tor glas seo.

## 3

## Prionta d'Éamonn Ceannt, Ionad Cuimhneacháin an Athar Uí Fhlannagáin, Baile an Mhóta, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.692480, -8.462717



Tá íomhá priontáilte d'Éamonn Ceannt (3.1), a rinne an *Galway Print Studio*, ar crochadh istigh in Ionad Cuimhneacháin an Athar Uí Fhlannagáin. Ba é an Comhairleoir Peter Roche, Cathaoirleach Chontae na Gaillimhe, a bhronn an prionta ar thriúr ionadaithe de mhuintir Bhaile an Mhóta (mar atá John Martin Griffin, Michael Ward agus Martin McHugh) ag Searmanas Ardaithe na Brataí a reáchtáladh ag ceanncheathrú Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe, Áras an Chontae, Cnoc na Radharc, Gaillimh ar an 1 Eanáir 2016. I láthair freisin bhí Mary Gallagher, garneacht Éamoinn Cheannt. Reáchtáladh searmanas ardaithe na brataí mar chomhartha ar thús a bheith curtha le clár imeachtaí Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe do chomóradh céad bliain Éirí Amach 1916. Tá sé i gceist an prionta d'Éamonn Ceannt a choinneáil ar taispeáint go buan ag Ionad Cuimhneacháin



an Athar Uí Fhlannagáin.

Mar chomóradh céad bliain ar bhású Éamonn Ceannt, rinne an t-ionad óstáil ar Shiompóisiam Éamonn Ceannt ar an 8 Bealtaine 2016. Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe a rinne an óstáil air sin, i gcomhpháirtíocht le Cumann Forbartha Bhaile an Mhóta agus an pobal áitiúil. Tar éis sraithe de léachtaí stairiúla, lean an siompóisiam ar aghaidh le léiriú d'Aeraíocht - ceiliúradh ar thraidisiúin chultúrtha an chontae le ceol, amhránaíocht, damhsa agus filíocht. Lena chois sin, reáchtáladh taispeántas beag d'earraí cuimhneacháin lena n-áirítear obair ealaíne agus aistí a bhain le 1916 ó dhaltaí Bhunscoileanna Bhaile an Mhóta agus Bhaile an Tobair. Ar an



### 3.1. Bronnadh phrionta d'Éamonn Ceannt

16 Meitheamh 2016, rinne an t-ionad óstáil ar ócáid ómóis d'Éamonn Ceannt dar teideal 'The Pipers Return to Ballymoe'. Mar chuid de sin bhí taispeántas ó ghrúpa píobairí as Alba a thug taispeántas i mBaile an Mhóta mar chuid de

Sheisiúin na Gaillimhe 2016.

Ar an 21 Meán Fómhair 2016, sular osclaíodh Gairdín Cuimhneacháin Éamonn Cheannt, eagraíodh sraith de ghearrléachtaí agus taispeántas de dhéantáin agus d'earraí cuimhneacháin 1916 in Ionad Cuimhneacháin an Athar Uí Fhlannagáin. Labhair an tAthair Pat O'Toole faoin ról speisialta a bhí ag an reiligiún le linn Éirí Amach 1916 agus labhair John Martin Griffin faoin tábhacht a bhaineann le Ceannt a choinneáil i gcuimhne i measc an phobail áitiúil. Labhair Mary Gallagher faoin réimse leathan suime a bhí ag a sean-uncail, lena n-áirítear tógáil éanlaith chlóis agus ag scríobh alt faoi ghairneoireacht agus faoi mhodhanna le hithir a chothú.

4

### Séadchomhartha 1916, Carrchlós Shráid an Easpaig, Tuaim, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.515690, -8.849633



Tá an cuimhneachán eibhir seo, atá lonnaithe i gCarrchlós Shráid an Easpaig i dTuaim, os cionn

naoi dtroigh ar airde. Is á Tuaim an baile is mó i dtuaisceart Chontae na Gaillimhe agus tá sé suite thart ar 38 ciliméadar ó Bhaile an Mhóta. Mar chuid de chomóradh lubhaile Órga an Éirí Amach, rinne Mattie (Martin) Neilan, Aidiúnach i mBriogáid na Gaillimhe in 1916, an leacht a nochtadh ar an 18 Nollaig 1966. An tOir. M. Geraghty a bheannaigh é, chuir an Sean-IRA agus an FCA garda onóra ar fáil agus chuir Banna Práis Thuama an ceol ar fáil. Ba é an saor cloiche Willie Kelly a thóg agus a d'ardaigh an leacht agus ba é Willie Mannion a rinne an dearadh - fear a bhí ina bhall den *Old Tuam Society* agus ina fhostaí ag Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe. Mar chuid de, bhí leac mullaigh ag taispeáint scal ghréine agus bhí Claíomh Solais socraithe idir na dátaí '1916' agus '1966'. Bhí an scal ghréine mar shamhail d'Éirí Amach 1916 agus ba é an Claíomh Solais a bhí mar shiombail oifigiúil den chomóradh lubhaile Órga. Baineadh úsáid as clocha a tháinig ó gach contae in Éirinn chun an bonn a thógáil.

Le linn na 1970í, bhain duine éigean anuas na huimhreacha práis '1966' den leacht gan cead. Ar an 24 Aibreán 2016, áfach, rinne Kelly's Monumental Works '1966' eile le cur ina áit agus cuireadh ar an leacht é le linn oibre a ndearna an Old Tuam Society maoirseacht air. Lena chois sin cuireadh plaic dátheangach ar bhonn an leachta mar chomhartha ar chéad bliain an Éirí Amach. Cé nach n-ainmníonn leacht Thuama aon duine ar leith, is féidir breathnú air mar chuimhneachán orthu sin go léir a bhí bainteach le hÉirí Amach 1916 - lena n-áirítear an bheirt shínitheoirí leis an bhForógra a raibh an-bhaint acu le muintir Chontae na Gaillimhe. Nuair a rinne Mattie Neilan an leacht a nochtadh in 1966, thug sé óráid a luaigh an cruinniú a bhí aige le Pádraig Mac Piarais nuair a bhí an tÉirí Amach á phleanáil. Tugadh aitheantas don cheangal a bhí

5

## Seanteach na Scoile (Séipéal An Ghoirt Mhóir anois), An Gort Mór, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.385628, -9.608099 ⓘ



Séipéal Caitliceach is ea Séipéal an Ghoirt Mhóir. Easpag na Gaillimhe, an Dr Micheál de Brún, a choisric é ar an 12 Meitheamh 1944. Tá an foirgneamh san áit a mbíodh an seanbhunscoil ar thug Pádraig Mac Piarais cuairt uirthi nuair a thaistil sé go ceantar Ros Muc den chéad uair mar scrúdaitheoir Chonradh na Gaeilge do 12 mac léinn a bhí ag freastal ar ranganna tráthnóna ag an Ghoirt Mhóir. Ba é Pádraig Ó Conghaile an múinteoir a thug cuireadh dó a theacht. Bhí Ó

Conghaile ag tacú leis an gcultúr Éire Ghaelach agus nasc sé é sin leis an mbealach ar mhúin sé stair na hÉireann dá chuid daltaí. Mar náisiúnaí tiomanta, thug sé tacaíocht láidir d’Óglaigh na hÉireann ó 1913 ar aghaidh. Bhí an-mheas freisin aige ar Phádraig Mac Piarais, a bhíodh ag traenáil agus ag druileáil Complachtaí de na hÓglaigh sa cheantar.

Cé nár tháinig baile an Ghoirt Mhóir féin faoi thionchar na n-imeachtaí a tharla Seachtain na Cásca 1916, tharla roinnt eachtraí ann i rith Chogadh na Saoirse. Tar éis an luíocháin i Scríob ar an 18 Aibreán 1921, chuaigh na Dúchrónaigh sa tóir ar an gConghaileach agus tháinig siad go dtí an scoil sa Ghort Mór, áit a raibh sé ag múineadh. Cé gur éirigh leis éalú amach tríd an bhfuinneog, d’fhág na trúpaí nóta dímheasúil ar an gclár dubh sular imigh siad. Cuireadh tús le stailc daltaí sa scoil in 1942, chun tacú leis an bhfeachtas le scoil nua a bhunú ar an mbaile. Thug tuismitheoirí na ndaltaí agus iarscoláire, Colm Ó Gaora, tacaíocht dó seo, agus bliain ina dhiaidh sin ghlac An Roinn Oideachais leis an iarratas ar shaoráid nua.

**5.1.****An gairdín cuimhneacháin ag Séipéal An Ghoirt Mhóir**

Mar chomhartha ar chomóradh céad bliain Éirí Amach 1916, rinne an Comhairleoir Peter Roche, Cathaoirleach Chontae na Gaillimhe (5.1), an oscailt oifigiúil ar ghairdín cuimhneacháin ar thailte an tséipéil ar an 3 Bealtaine 2016. Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe, i gcomhpháirtíocht leis an bpobal áitiúil a rinne an fhorbairt ar an spás ina bhfuil suíochán agus plaic chomórtha. Seo an inscríbhinn atá ar an bplaic ina bhfuil próifil de thaobh éadain an Phiarsaigh: ‘Pádraig Mac Piarais. Scríbhneoir, Oideachasóir, agus Réabhlóidí. A fuair inspioráid i Ros Muc. A Cuireadh chun báis 3 Bealtaine 1916.’ De bhreis ar na crainn chuilinn agus na crainn silíní, tá leaba tor sa ghairdín ina bhfuil 16 chineál fraoigh i gcuimhne na 16 reibiliúnach a cuireadh chun báis i mBealtaine agus i Lúnasa 1916.

6

**Scoil Bhriocáin,  
An Gort Mór,  
Co. na Gaillimhe**

**SAT NAV: 53.386151, -9.608947**



ar a dtugtar Scoil Bhriocáin, a osclaíodh den chéad uair in 1943. Bhíodh an scríbhneoir Criostóir Mac Aonghasa ag obair inti mar mhúinteoir. Iarscoláire is ea a mhac, Proinsias. Blianta ina dhiaidh sin, d'oibrigh sé i dtionscal na craoltóireachta. Rinne Pádraig Mac Consaidín agus Éamon Ó Cuív, TD, an oscailt oifigiúil ar shíneadh a cuireadh leis an scoil in 2010. Rinne an scoil óstáil ar an gcéad Scoil Samhraidh an Phiarsaigh ar an 31 Iúil 2015.

Ar an 15 Márta 2016, ghlac daltaí agus foireann Scoil Bhriocáin páirt i Lá an Fhorógra, príomhimeacht sa snáithe 'An Óige agus an tSamhlaíocht' de Chlár Comórtha Céad Bliain na hÉireann 2016. Osclaíodh clós súgartha nua ina bhfuil luascáin agus sleamhnáin ar thaobh cnocáin laistigh de thailte na scoile ar an 18 Meitheamh 2016 (6.1). Tugadh Pháirc Chuimhneacháin Phádraig Uí Chonghaile air i



**6.1.**

### **Páirc Chuimhneacháin Phádraig Uí Chonghaile**

gcuimhne Phádraig Uí Chonghaile - an múinteoir scoile áitiúil a rinne cairdeas le Pádraig Mac Piarais i dtús an fhichiú céid. Bhí garíníonacha Uí Chonghaile, Máire Bernard agus Philomena Ní Leathlobhair, ina n-aíonna speisialta ag an oscailt.

I samhradh na bliana 2016, d'óstáil an scoil an dara Scoil Samhraidh an Phiarsaigh. Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe a reáchtáil an clár méadaithe ócáidí a bhí ar siúl ón 28-30 Iúil. Áirithe ann, bhí léachtaí, ceol agus taispeántas grianghraf dar teideal 'An Piarsach i bPictiúir'. Níor mhiste do dhaoine a thugann cuairt ar an scoil a bheith san airdeall ar thrí shaothar aitheanta ealaíne atá crochta sa halla - portráid daite de Cholm Ó Gaora leis an ealaíontóir Danny de Bhailís as an gCeathrú Rua, portráid daite de Phádraig Ó Conghaile leis an ealaíontóir Eoin Mac Lochlainn atá lonnaithe i mBaile Átha Cliath agus prionta mór daite de Phádraig Mac Piarais a rinne ealaíontóir anaithnid. Lena chois sin, tá rogha de leabhair faoi Phádraig Mac Piarais agus Éirí Amach 1916 ar taispeáint sa halla.

7

**Coláiste na bPiarsach,  
An Gort Mór,  
Co. na Gaillimhe**

**SAT NAV: 53.386820, -9.611048**





bPiamsach, nó Gairmscoil na bPiamsach mar a thugtaí air tráth. Tá sí ainmnithe i gcuimhne ar Phádraig agus Liam Mac Piarais agus sa scoil féin tá músaem beag atá tiomnaithe do Phádraig. Tá an bailiúchán lonnaithe i leabharlann na scoile agus áirithe ann tá grianghraif de Phádraig mar aon le híomhánna dá dheartháir Liam agus baill eile den teaghlach. Tá ceithre chaibinéad taispeántais crochta ar bhalla na leabharlainne agus iontu sin tá doiciméid agus leabhair thábhachtacha ar a n-áirítear iad seo a leanas: Pas Míleata Briotanach a eisíodh i rith Éirí Amach 1916, macasamhla de litreacha a bhaineann le hobair Phádraig le hÓglaigh na hÉireann agus eagráin luatha dá shaothair liteartha. Mar chuid de bhailiúchán freisin tá clog scoile as Scoil Éanna i Ráth Fearnáin mar aon le cásáil sliogáin a deirtear a tarrtháladh tar éis na trodaíochta i gcathair Bhaile Átha Cliath.

Mar chomhartha ar an gcéad bliain ó bhásaigh Pádraig, osclaíodh spás cuimhneacháin nua, darbh ainm Gairdín Cuimhneacháin na bPiamsach, laistigh de thailte na scoile ar an 3 Bealtaine



**7.1. Gairdín Cuimhneacháin na bPiamsach**

8

**Páirc na bPiarsach,  
An Gort Mór,  
Co. na Gaillimhe**

**SAT NAV: 53.385468, -9.611199**



Seo é ionad baile Chumann CLG na bPiarsach, foireann peile ar a bhfuil imreoirí as Ros Muc, Camas agus Sraith Salach. I bhfocail Tim Robinson, ar an láthair seo tá ‘a fine big Gaelic football pitch and stand at the crossroads, which the community owes largely to the efforts of the former national school headmaster ... the late Tomás Ó Conaire of Glinn Chatha’.

Bunaíodh Cumann Lúthchleas Gael in 1884. Chuidigh an spreagadh a thug sé do chluichí Gaelacha leis an athbheochan chultúrtha i

ndeireadh an naoú céad agus i dtús an fhichiú céad, nuair a rinne náisiúnaithe sa ghluaiseacht Éire Ghaelach iarracht oidhreacht agus féiniúlacht Gaelach a chothú le cur in aghaidh an ghalldaithe. De bhreis ar an spórt, bhain an athbheochan seo freisin le cultúr, amharclannaíocht, litríocht agus an Ghaeilge. Bhí a lán de na reibiliúnaithe a ghlac páirt in Éirí Amach 1916 ina mbaill de chumann CLG.

**Suíomh Sheanteach Phádraig Uí Chonghaile (CLS – Complete Laboratory Solutions/Saotharlann Chonamara Teo anois), An Gort Mór, Co. na Gaillimhe**

SAT NAV: 53.387150, -9.611580



9



Rugadh Pádraig Ó Conghaile i mBaile an Spodáin i dTuaisceart Chontae na Gaillimhe ar an 17 Márta 1868. Tá an áit a rugadh é lonnaithe i mbaile fearainn Chluain Con Thoir, thart ar 2.5 km soir ó thuaidh ó Ghleann na Madadh. Agus é ina ghasúr, d'fhreastail sé ar Scoil Náisiúnta Bhaile

na Cloiche. Bhí sé líofa i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla agus le himeacht ama d'aistrigh sé go dtí an Gort Mór, áit ar oibrigh sé mar mhúinteoir bunscoile. Bhí a theach cónaithe lonnaithe ar an taobh ó thuaidh de phríomhbhóthar an Ghoirt Mhóir, gar go maith do bhruach thuaidh Loch Oiriúlach agus don scoil náisiúnta áitiúil. Tá sé liostaithe i nDaonáireamh 1911 mar theach ina raibh seacht seomra, mar aon le stábla, teach cóiste, cró na mbó agus teach na móna. Múinteoir bunscoile freisin ab ea bean chéile Phádraig, Jane Mary. Bhí beirt iníonacha agus aon mhac amháin acu. Mary Margaret, Gertrude agus John Joseph ab ainm dóibh siúd.

D'fhan Pádraig Mac Piarais i dteach mhuintir Uí Chonghaile go minic, sular tógadh a theach féin. Tar éis Éirí Amach 1916, b'éigean don Chonghaileach dul ar a theitheadh ar feadh sé mhí nó mar sin. I rith an ama sin d'fhan sé le muintir Uí Chatháin san Oileán Iarthach. Le linn Chogadh na Saoirse bhíothas sa tóir ar an gConghaileach chomh maith. Tar éis Luíochán Scríbe ar an 18 Aibreán 1921, las na Dúchrónaigh a theach mar dhíoltas. Ina dhiaidh sin, thóg an Conghaileach teach an Phiarsaigh in athuair agus d'fhan sé ansin go ndeachaigh sé ar scor, tráth ar aistrigh sé go Baile Átha Cliath. Bhásaigh an Conghaileach in 1949. Cé nach bhfuil aon rian dá theach fanta, tá an suíomh in úsáid anois ag cuideachta darbh ainm CLS (Complete Laboratory Solutions/Saotharlann Chonamara Teo). Díríonn siad go speisialta ar thástálacha ceimiceacha agus bitheolaíochta le tacaíocht ó Údarás na Gaeltachta.

Teach an Phiarsaigh,  
Ros Muc,  
Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.385838, -9.619903

10



Sa bhliain 1905, cheannaigh Pádraig Mac Piarais suíomh dhá acra ar £10 ó Jeainín Mhaidhcín Ghriallais. Ina dhiaidh sin, in 1909, tógadh teach beag aon stóir le hais an locha ag an Aill Mhór ar mhúnla dúchais na hÉireann (díon ceann tuí agus trí sheomra) a bheadh mar theach samhraidh ag an bPiarasach. I bhfocail Tim Robinson, ba sa teach seo lena radharcanna breátha ar Loch Oiriúlach, a dhéanadh an Piarasach '*...write and plot, and to foresee his death*'. Bhíodh an teach beag ag feidhmiú mar ionad samhraidh Gaeltachta freisin do dhaltaí as Scoil Éanna, scoil chónaithe Gaeilge do bhuachaillí, sa 'Hermitage' i Ráth Fearnáin, Baile Átha Cliath.

In 1913, bhunaigh an Piarasach, Liam Ó Maoilíosa agus Bulmer Hobson brainse d'Fhianna Éireann ag an teach. Ní fada ina dhiaidh sin go raibh an Piarasach féin freagrach as gné Óglaigh na

hÉireann a thabhairt go Ros Muc, An Cheathrú Rua agus Garmna. Tá a fhios go mbíodh a lán de na pearsantachtaí ba mhó i réabhlóid na hÉireann, formhór de shínitheoirí an Fhorógra ina measc, ag teach ar cuairt chuig an teach. I mí Iúil 1915, bhain an Píarsach úsáid as an teach chun a óráid cháiliúil a chumadh do shochraid an tsean-Fhínín, Diarmaid Ó Donnabháin Rosa.

Cé nach raibh aon chónaí sa teach tar éis bhású an Phiarsaigh, bhí sé ar cheann de roinnt foirgneamh a las na Dúchrónaigh in 1921 mar dhíoltas ar Luíochán Scribe. Ach sin ráite, rinne Pádraig Ó Conghaile athchóiriú air ina dhiaidh sin. Mar gheall nach raibh fáil ar an ngníomhas foirmiúil don chéad díolacháin ar an maoin a rinneadh leis an bPíarsach, dílsíodh úinéireacht



*Ionad Cultúrtha an Phiarsaigh*

**10.1.**

an tí i mbeirt deirfiúracha an Phiarsaigh, Margaret agus Mary Brigid, faoi ordú Ard-Chúirte i Meitheamh 1943. Ina dhiaidh sin, tháinig na deirfiúracha ar shocrú le coiste ionadaíoch chun an teach agus an geadán talún a thabhairt ar lámh do Choimisinéirí Bhord na nOibreacha Poiblí. Tar éis an aistrithe, rinne na Deartháireacha

Cunnane as Cnoc Mhuire tuilleadh oibreacha deisiúcháin. An bhliain chéanna, rinne mic léinn adhmaadóireachta ón gColáiste Náisiúnta Ealaíne baill troscáin don sealúchas. Faoi láthair, is é Teach an Phiarsaigh an príomhionad turasóireachta atá i Ros Muc. Tá sé á reáchtáil faoi choimirce Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí, ar a bhfuil an fhreagracht as cosaint agus caomhnú oidhreacht thógtha na hÉireann. Cnocán an Phiarsaigh a thugtar anois ar an mullán ar a bhfuil an suíomh suite.

Mar chomhartha ar chéad bliain Éirí Amach 1916, tógadh ionad cuairteoirí nua, dar teideal Ionad Cultúrtha an Phiarsaigh (10.1) (SAT NAV: 53.388564, -9.617749) gar do Theach an Phiarsaigh. Ar an 6 Iúil 2015, d'iompaigh an Taoiseach, Enda Kenny, an chéad fhód ar an tionscadal mór caipitil seo a chosain €5 mhilliún agus atá ar cheann de na hocht gcuimhneachán bhuna de Chlár Comórtha Céad Bliain na hÉireann 2016. Tar éis sé mhí dhéag d'obair thógála, rinne an Taoiseach an oscailt oifigiúil ar an bhfoirgneamh ar an 10 Samhain 2016 - 137 bliain tar éis bhreith an Phiarsaigh. Údarás na Gaeltachta a rinne an cheannródaíocht ar an tionscnamh oidhreachta seo, i gcomhpháirtíocht le Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe, Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí, Fáilte Éireann agus An Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreachta, Gnóthaí Réigiúnacha, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta. Simon J. Kelly Architects a rinne an dearadh ar an ionad cultúrtha atá ina phointe radhairc ar Shlí an Atlantaigh Fhiáin. Tá léirithe digiteacha ann de thiomantas an Phiarsaigh don chultúr Gaelach, don Ghaeltacht agus do thírdhreacha Chonamara. Mar chuid d'Ionad Cultúrtha an Phiarsaigh freisin tá timbhealach siúil chuig Teach an Phiarsaigh ar a dtugtar Cosán Chonamara.

11

## Seanteach Choilm Uí Ghaora, An Gort Mór, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.389196, -9.631502



Seo é seanteach cónaithe Choilm Uí Ghaora a rugadh i Ros Muc ar an 29 Eanáir 1887. Blianta ina dhiaidh sin, d'oibrigh sé mar mhúinteoir taistil Gaeilge i gContaetha Mhaigh Eo agus na Gaillimhe. Ag tráth amháin sa bhliain 1906, reáchtáil Pádraig Mac Piarais tráthnóna speisialta amhránaíochta, filíochta, scéalaíochta agus scannánaíochta sa scoil ar an Turlach Beag. Dar le Tim Robinson, reáchtáladh an ócáid sin *'in opposition to some entertainment of too English a tone mounted by the Viceroy [or Lord Lieutenant], Lord Dudley, who used to come for fishing holidays to Inver Lodge'* a bhí lonnaithe ar oileán i lár locha atá ó thuaidh de Ros Muc darbh ainm Loch an Oileáin. Bhí an Gaorach ina Rúnaí ar bhrairse áitiúil Chonradh na Gaeilge ag an am agus chuir an Piarasach faoi dhraíocht é ag an ócáid úd. Ina chuntas dírbheathaisnéise ó 1943, *Mise*, (a d'aistrigh Micheál Ó hAodha go Béarla in 2011



faoin teideal *On the Run: The Story of an Irish Freedom Fighter*), deir Ó Gaora gur tháinig roinnt daoine deich míle (c.16 chiliméadar] de shiúl a gcos chuig an gceiliúradh seo ar a gcultúr féin. Dúirt sé go raibh an Píarsach an-fhuinniúil an oíche sin agus gur bhuail sé buille tábhachtach ar son “shaoirse” chultúrtha na hÉireann, buille a bhí chomh tábhachtach le haon bhuille a bhuaifeadh sé ina dhiaidh sin mar chuid den ghleic armtha.

Le linn dó a bheith ag obair ar an gClochán, thóg an Gaorach móid sa bhrainse áitiúil d’Ord Ársa na nIbeirneach. Ach sin ráite, ní raibh sé róthógtha riamh leis an eagraíocht mar gheall ar na rialacha diana a bhí acu agus d’fhág sé an eagraíocht tar éis míosa. Ag Oireachtas Chonradh na Gaeilge i Halla Cathrach na Gaillimhe a bhí ar siúl ó dheireadh mhí Iúil go dtí tús Lúnasa 1913, chuir Seán Mac Diarmada an Gaorach faoi mhóid i mBráithreachas Phoblacht na hÉireann. Lena chois sin, tugadh mar údarás dó an ghluaiseacht a fhorbairt i gConamara. Dúirt sé go raibh an tOireachtas áirithe sin ina shlógphointe aontais ag cuid mhór de na náisiúnaithe a ghlac ceannas ina dhiaidh sin ar réabhlóid Sheachtain na Cásca 1916. Ag tarraingt le deireadh 1913, d’fhill Ó Gaora ar Halla na Cathrach le haghaidh cruinnithe chun Óglaigh na hÉireann a bhunú i nGaillimh. Dúirt sé go raibh sé chomh haclaí na laethanta úd nach raibh drogall dá laghad air an turas leathchéad míle [c.80 ciliméadar] a dhéanamh ar rothar.

Thaistil buíon d’Óglaigh Ros Muc, faoi cheannas Uí Ghaora, go Baile Átha Cliath le bheith i láthair d’óráid cháiliúil an Phiarsaigh ag Reilig Ghlas Naíon ar an 1 Lúnasa 1915, ar shochraid Dhiarmaid Uí Dhonabháin Rossa. Ina dhiaidh sin, dúirt Michael Curran, Rúnaí Ardeaspag Bhaile Átha Cliath, go raibh an tsochraid ina deis ullmhaithe do 1916. I rith Sheachtain na

Cásca 1916, thaistil an Gaorach ó Ros Muc go Contae Mhaigh Eo ar rothar. Ghabh na póilíní é i dteach cara leis i gConga. Tar éis é a choinneáil i mbeairic an RIC i gCaisleán an Bharraigh, cuireadh i bpríosún an bhaile é. Tar éis dul faoi thriail mhíleata i mBaile Átha Cliath, gearradh 15 bliana príosún air (agus cúig cinn ar fionraí) agus aistríodh é go dtí príosún Dartmoor i Sasana.

I rith a sheacht mí i Dartmoor, chaith an Gaorach an t-am ag fuáil málaí éadaigh le chéile, ach thosaigh na súile ag cur as dó freisin. Ina dhiaidh sin, aistríodh é go dtí príosún Lewis in East Sussex, áit a raibh coinníollacha níos fearr agus mhúin sé Gaeilge dá chomhphríosúnaigh. Tar éis Lewis, aistríodh Ó Gaora go dtí príosún Parkhurst ar Inis locht agus as sin go Pentonville i Londain. Chaith sé an lá deiridh mar phríosúnach san áit sin in 1917, áit ar thug sé cuairt ar uaigh Ruairí Mhic Easmainn. Tar éis a shaoradh, sheol sé as Holyhead go Baile Átha Cliath, áit a bhfaca sé dóchas agus bród nua agus borradh ag teacht faoin náisiúnachas. I rith Chogadh na Saoirse ina dhiaidh sin, lasadh teach Uí Ghaora i Ros Muc, ar aon dul le tithe Phádraig Mhic Phiarais agus Phádraig Uí Chonghaile, mar dhíoltas as Luíochán Scribe, 1921.

Cnocán na Móna,  
Ros Muc,  
Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.371915, -9.620637

12



Tar éis a bhunaithe i mí na Samhna 1913, thosaigh Óglaigh na hÉireann ag mealladh earcach as ceantar Ros Muc. Bhí sé mar aidhm ag an eagraíocht mhíleata seo cosaint a thabhairt don Rialtas Dúchais i gcoinne aon dream a chuirfeadh ina aghaidh le fórsa. Cé gur shínigh an Rí Seoirse V an 3ú *Home Rule Bill* ina dhlí ar an 18 Meán Fómhair 1914, cuireadh siar é fad a bhí an Chéad Chogadh Domhanda ar siúl. Tharla scoilt sna hÓglaigh ina dhiaidh sin, tar éis do Sheán Mac Réamainn MP, iad a spreagadh chun liostáil in arm na Breataine san óráid a thug sé ag an Droichead Adhmaid i gCo. Chill Mhantáin ar an 20 Meán Fómhair. Na hÓglaigh Náisiúnta a tugadh ar an tromlach a lean é. Thart ar 12,300 den 170,600 a choinnigh an teideal Óglaigh na hÉireann. Faoi cheannas Mhic Néill, d'éitigh siad tacú le hiarracht chogaidh na Breataine agus

chreid siad gurbh é ‘deacracht Shasana’ a bheadh mar ‘dheis na hÉireann’.

Ina measc sin a bhunaigh Óglaigh Ros Muc bhí Colm Ó Gaora, Seirse Mac Niocaill, Páraic Ó Máille agus an Dr Brian Cusack. Go gairid tar éis a bhunaithe, thug Pádraig Mac Piarais cuairt ar Ros Muc agus ghlac sé ceannas ar réachtáil an Chomplachta áitiúil. Ina chuntas dírbheathaisnéise, Mise, deir Ó Gaora go raibh níos mó teagmhála acu ag an am sin le príomhbhairsín na nÓglach i mBaile Átha Cliath ná mar a bhí acu leis na hÓglaigh i nGaillimh. Dá thoradh sin, bhí fir Chonamara fágtha astu féin den chuid ba mhó.

Faoi dheireadh 1914 nó tús 1915, bhí gníomhaíochtaí na nÓglach á réachtáil ar roinnt suíomhanna in aice le teach an Phiarsaigh. Bhí Cnocán na Móna ag feidhmiú mar cheanncheathrú ag Óglaigh Ros Muc. Ba ar cheann de na suíomhanna sin a bhíodh an Piarasach i mbun druileála agus inlíochtaí sa tréimhse suas go dtí 1916. B’as seo freisin a théadh na hÓglaigh amach ar mháirseálacha ar phríomhbhóthar leithinis Ros Muc, ó dheas go Cill Bhriocáin. Ina leabhar, Mise, deir Ó Gaora go mbíodh an Piarasach ansin le labhairt le gach duine díobh sula ngabhaidís abhaile tar éis oíche druileála. Deir sé nach ndéanfadh sé dearmad go deo ar an idéalachas lasánta agus an díograis a bhíodh deartha ar a éadan.

Achar beag ó dheas de Chnocán na Móna atá seanteach cónaithe Mhichíl Uí Mháille (12.1) (SAT NAV: 53.369947, -9.620914). Creidtear gur fhan an Piarasach sa teach sin nuair a thug sé cuairt ar Ros Muc den chéad uair in 1903 tar éis a theacht ar thraein go dtí an Teach Dóite. Bhí Ó Máille ar dhuine de bhunaitheoirí Chumann Lucht Capaillíní Chonamara in 1923 agus tá



**12.1.**

*Seanteach Mhichíl Uí Mháille*

athruithe suntasacha déanta ar a theach ó shin. Faoi láthair, tá leibhéal an dín níos airde agus tá postóifig agus ollmhargadh lonnaithe le hais an bhunstruchtúir.

**Coláiste Cuimhneacháin  
an Phiarsaigh,  
Ros Muc, Co. na Gaillimhe**

**SAT NAV: 53.370568, -9.621028**

**13**



Osclaíodh Coláiste Cuimhneacháin an Phiarsaigh, nó an ‘Coláiste Tin’ mar a thugtaí air roimhe sin mar gheall ar an díon de stán galbhánaithe a bhí air, den chéad uair in 1933. Tar éis obair athchóirithe, rinne Éamon Ó Cuív, TD, an athoscailt oifigiúil air in 2006. Tá sé achar beag ó Chnocán na Móna agus istigh ann tá réimse de dhéantáin, litreacha agus doiciméid a bhaineann le 1916. Mar chomhartha ar athoscailt na scoile, a tharla ar an 90ú bliain tar éis bhású an Phiarsaigh, nochtadh plaic balla (13.1). Seo í an inscríbhinn: ‘Coláiste Cuimhneacháin an Phiarsaigh. Tógtha 1933. Ath-Thógtha 2006.’



**Leac bhalla ag Coláiste Cuimhneacháin an Phiarsaigh**

**13.1.**

## Leacht Cuimhneacháin Phádraig Mhic Phiarais, Cill Bhriocáin, Ros Muc, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.359856, -9.623634

# 14



Sna blianta suas go dtí Éirí Amach 1916, bhíodh Pádraig Mac Piarais i bhfeighil cleachtaí druileála le hÓglaigh Ros Muc i ngarraí atá in aice le cnocán i mbaile fearainn Chill Bhriocáin. Tá an áit lonnaithe le hais ag T-acomhail a nascann príomhbhóthar leithinis Ros Muc le taobh-bhóthar a théann go dtí seanséipéal Naomh Briocán. Nochtadh cloch chuimhneacháin achar gearr ó thuaidh den gharraí i Lúnasa na bliana 2015, le comóradh a dhéanamh ar an dlúthbhaint a bhí ag an bPiarasach leis an gceantar roimh Éirí Amach 1916. Tá sé lonnaithe le hais phríomhbhóthar leithinis Ros Muc. Seo an inscríbhinn atá ar an gcloch: 'Seo é an Áit a mBíodh an Piarasach ag Druileáil Óglaigh an Cheantair'.

Tar éis bhású an Phiarsaigh in 1916 d'fhan tacaíocht láidir i bpobal Chill Bhriocáin do chúis shaoirse na hÉireann. Nuair a lasadh a theach ar

an 18 Aibreán 1921, mar dhíoltas ar Luíochán Scríbe, tugadh dídean do bhean chéile Phádraig Uí Chonghaile, Jane Mary, agus dá leanaí i siopa Sheáin Bhreathnaigh i gCill Bhriocáin. Duine de chlann mhac Sheáin ab ea Pádraig a rugadh in 1910. Faoi thionchar na tógála a fuair sé mar scarúnaíoch agus faoi thionchar buan an Phiarsaigh in iarthar na hÉireann, thug Pádraig formhór a shaoil do chúinsí a bhain le ceartas sóisialta. Ornaíodh ina shagart d'ord na nIosánach é in 1943 agus d'aistrigh sé go dtí an Róidéis Thuaidh san Afraic in 1946. Tar éis tamaill ghairid mar chéad reachtaire Éireannach ar Chikuni, d'aistrigh sé go dtí an Séipéal na Reisiminte i Lusaka i 1952. Tar éis a cheapacháin mar rúnaí d'Ardeaspag Lusaka, tharla dlúthchairdeas idir an Athair Breathnach agus Kenneth Kaunda. An bhliain dar gcionn, bhí tionchar aige ar bhunú an chéad nuachtáin náisiúnaigh, *The Leader*. Ina dhiaidh sin chuaigh Kaunda ar aghaidh le bheith ina chéad Uachtar ar an tSaimbia. San am i láthair, tá dealbh den Athair Breathnach taobh amuigh de pharlaimint na Saimbia.



Cé Uí Chonaire,  
Ros Muc,  
Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.332117, -9.637742

15




Thug Pádraig Mac Piarais cuairt ar Oileáin Árann den chéad uair in 1898. I rith na samhraid a chaith sé ina chónaí in iarthar na hÉireann, thug sé tuilleadh cuairteanna ar na hoileáin, ag imeacht as cé álainn atá ar ghob theas leithinis Ros Muc ar a dtugtar Cé Uí Chonaire. Bhí aithne mhaith ag athair an Phiarsaigh, James, ar Oileáin Árann chomh maith. Bhíodh seisean ag obair mar dhealbhóir leachtanna ar Shráid Brunswick (Sráid an Phiarsaigh anois) i mBaile Átha Cliath agus ar cheann de na chéad saothair a rinne sé bhí an altóir atá socraithe anois i Séipéal na Maighdine Muire gan Smál in Inis Meáin (a tógadh in 1939). Tá altóir a rinne athair an Phiarsaigh le fáil freisin i gClochar Shiúracha na Trócaire sa Ghort. Mar eolas do chuirteoirí, tá Cé Uí Chonaire lonnaithe gar go maith de shiúl cos ó shiopa atá as úsáid anois ar a dtugtaí Siopa Chonraí. Sa bhfichiú céad,

bhíodh an áit sin á rith ag muintir Uí Chonaire agus iad ag díol earraí bia agus crua-earraí ar an láthair. Bhíodh gnó bád acu chomh maith agus sheoladh an Píarsach ar cheann dá gcuid soitheach ó am go chéile, *An Conaire Mór*.

Le linn dóibh a bheith i Ros Muc, sheol an Píarsach agus a dheartháir Willie ar bhád Choilm Uí Ghaora, an *Naomh Pádraig* (ar a dtugtaí *Púcán Mór Ros Muc* freisin). Deir Ó Gaora go mbíodh cuid mhór den ábhar a bhíodh á phlé acu ag baint le ‘cúrsaí náisiúnachais’ agus go rachaidís sin ar aghaidh mar théamaí i scríbhinní an Phiarsaigh, a dhrámaí agus a ghearrscéalta san áireamh. Bhíodh caint mhór ar an mbád freisin faoi “éirí amach” agus faoin bhfrustrachas a bhain le próiseas an Rialtais Dhúchais.

Bhí aithne mhaith ag an nGaorach freisin ar an scríbhneoir Gaeilge, Pádraic Ó Conaire. Rugadh Ó Conaire i gcathair na Gaillimhe in 1882 agus fuair a chuid scríbhinní inspioráid ó athbheochan chultúrtha dheireadh an naoú céad agus thús an fhichiú céid. In 1918, d’fhoilsigh sé bailiúchán de sheacht ngearrscéal le hinspioráid ó Éirí Amach 1916 dar teideal *Seacht mBua an Éirí Amach*. Bhí an saothar seo spreagtha ag na mbealaí ar imir an tÉirí Amach tionchar ar an ngnáthmhuintir. Sa saothar *Mise*, deir an Gaorach gur staic d’fhear beag a bhí in Ó Conaire, go raibh gliondar ina shúile agus cuma ábhailleach air ar nós duine a bheadh ar tí scéal maith a insint duit. Mar chomóradh ar chéad bliain an Éirí Amach, foilsíodh eagrán dátheangach de bhailiúchán ficsin Uí Chonaire faoin teideal *Seacht mBua an Éirí Amach/Seven Virtues of the Rising*.

Seanteach Sheáin Uí Dhroighneáin,  
Tuar Beag, An Spidéal,  
Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.245638, -9.321581 

16



Le linn a gcuartheanna ar iarthar na hÉireann, théadh Pádraig Mac Piarais agus Éamonn Ceannt go rialta go dtí baile an Spidéil mar aon le ceantair eile ar fud Ghaeltacht Chonamara. Bhí an bheirt acu cairdiúil de duine de bhunaidh an Spidéil, Micheál Ó Droighneáin a ghlac ballraíocht i mBráithreachas Phoblacht na hÉireann in 1910 le linn dó a bheith ag obair i mBaile Áthas Cliath. In 1912, fuair Ó Droighneáin post múinteoireachta sa Spidéal. In Eanáir 1913 thosaigh sé ag múineadh sna Forbacha. I mí na Nollag na bliana sin chuaigh sé isteach in Óglaigh na hÉireann ag cruinniú a bhí i Halla an Bhaile i nGaillimh. I samhradh na bliana 1914, bhunaigh Ó Droighneáin Complacht d'Óglaigh na hÉireann sa Spidéal. Lena chois sin, bhunaigh sé Complachtaí d'Óglaigh na hÉireann i mBearna agus i Maigh Cuilinn.

Ciliméadar siar ón Spidéal atá seanteach cónaithe Sheáin Uí Dhroighneáin, athair Mhichíl. I rith shamhradh na bliana 1915, chaith Éamonn Ceannt, a bhean chéile Áine agus a mac Rónán mí dá saoire sa teach cónaithe áirithe seo atá lonnaithe i mbaile fearainn an Tuair Bhig. Le linn a chuarite, thug Ceannt focail spreagtha do chiorcal áitiúil Bhráithreachas Phoblacht na hÉireann. Labhair sé freisin le Ó Droighneáin faoin Éirí Amach a bhí le theacht, mar a rinne an Píarsach nuair a thug seisean cuairt ar an Spidéal i Lúnasa na bliana céanna. Tar éis dó dul go dtí an phríomhchathair, lean Ceannt dá chuid caidrimh leis an Droighneánach le teachtaireachtaí códaithe.

Mar chuid den phlean d'Éirí Amach 1916, bhí sé beartaithe go mbeadh Complachtaí na nÓglach sa Spidéal agus i Maigh Cuilinn páirteach i bplean chun seilbh a ghlacadh ar sheacht bhfoirgneamh i mbaile na Gaillimhe, Príomhoifig an Phoist agus beairic an RIC ar Shráid Eglinton san áireamh. I rith na Seachtaine Beannaithe 1916, bhí Micheál Ó Droighneáin ag cur faoi i dteach a mhuintire ar an Tuar Beag. Thart faoin am sin, chuaigh sé ar rothar go dtí an Caisleán Gearr in éineacht lena dheartháir Máirtín agus Micheál Duignan, chun 12 chloigeann píce a fháil ó Mick Newell. Thug an triúr acu iad sin ar ais go dtí an Spidéal ar a gcuid rothar. Cé gur thaistil Peig Conlon ó Bhaile Átha Cliath ar Aoine an Chéasta le hordú slógaidh ó Cheannt don 24 fear a bhí i gComplacht Óglaigh na hÉireann ar an Spidéal, chuir eisiúint fhreasordú Eoin Mhic Néill ar Dhomhnach Cásca na pleannanna ar neamhní. Fuair Micheál Ó Droighneáin teachtaireacht eile as Baile Átha Cliath go moch ar maidin Luan Cásca, ag dearbhú go raibh an tÉirí Amach curtha ar ceal. Tháinig teachtaireacht eile ón bPíarsach an tráthnóna céanna ag rá go raibh Baile Átha Cliath éirithe amach. An lá dar gcionn chuaigh Ó Droighneáin go Gaillimh ar rothar agus gabhadh

é ar Shráid Dhoiminic. D'fhógair údaráis an bhaile go raibh Dlí Míleata i bhfeidhm an lá céanna agus dhaingnigh siad Ard-Oifig an Phoist mar aon le foirgnimh phoiblí eile.

Le linn a chuirteanna ar an Spidéal sna blianta roimh Éirí Amach 1916, bhíodh Éamonn Ceannt ag casadh a chuid píopaí i roinnt áiteanna ar leith. Ceann acu sin ab ea garraí i mbaile fearainn Bhoth Chuana Thiar, le hais réimse cladaigh ar a dtugtar an Chré Dhubh. Go dtí an lá atá inniu ann, tá cloch shuntasach eibhir (16.1) (SAT NAV: 53.240142, -9.325713) ar an taobh ó dheas den gharraí seo. Ag an spota áirithe sin, thart ar chiliméadar go leith siar ó dheas ón Spidéal, a bhíodh Ceannt ina shuí agus é ag casadh a chuid ceoil. Tá an



**16.1.** *Carraig Éamonn Ceannt ag Cré Dhubh*

charraig sin luaite go sonrath i ndán Joe Steve Ó Neachtain, ‘Dóchais Éamonn Ceannt’, a cumadh go speisialta do Shíompóisiam Éamonn Ceannt i mBaile an Mhóta ar an 8 Bealtaine 2016 - comóradh céad bliain bhású an cheannaire úd. Bhronn an file grianghraf frámaidhe den charraig, mar aon leis an téacs den leagan Gaeilge agus Béarla den dán, ar phobal Bhaile an Mhóta, sular osclaíodh Gairdín Cuimhneacháin Éamonn

Ceannt ar an 21 Meán Fómhair 2016.

Chas Éamonn Ceannt na píopaí freisin ag Coláiste Connacht atá lonnaithe soir ón Spidéal. I dTuar Mhic Éadaigh a bhunaigh Conradh na Gaeilge an coláiste Gaeilge seo ar dtús in 1906. Aistríodh go dtí an Spidéal é in 1910 agus thosaigh an obair i dTeach Arrandale (16.2) (SAT NAV: 53.247773, -9.279269), a fuair sé ar cíos ó theaghlach Coleman-Lynch . Labhair Pádraig Mac Piarais i nGaeilge ann in 1914 agus é ag treorú Óglaigh an Spidéil ina gcéad dhruil coise. Ina dhiaidh sin, mháirseáil an Chomhlacht ó thailte an choláiste go dtí lár an bhaile agus píobaire darbh ainm



**Coláiste Chonnacht (agus Seanteach 16.2. Arrandale ar dheis an phictiúir), An Sián Rua**

Colm Ó Lochlainn ag ceann an tslua. Thosaigh Micheál Ó Droighneáin ag múineadh ranganna Gaeilge ag an gcoláiste i samhradh na bliana 1918. Cuireadh méadú air in 1933, tráth ar tógadh foirgneamh dhá stóir níos mó le hais Theach Arrandale, ar an taobh thiar. Tá an phlásóg thosaigh den fhoirgneamh nua seo lonnaithe ar shuíomh Theach an tSiáin Rua, teach cónaithe níba shine a bhíodh san áit sa naoú céad déag. Tá Coláiste Chonnacht fós ag réachtáil cúrsa Gaeilge samhraidh do dhaltaí meánscoile agus tá sé feistithe amach le réimse de shaoráidí spóirt (lena n-áirítear cúirt leadóige agus cúirt chispheile).

## Breis Eolais

De bhreis ar na láithreach agus na cuimhneacháin stairiúla thuasluaite, b'fhéidir go mbeadh suim ag daoine atá ag fiosrú faoi chuimhne Éamonn Cheannt, Phádraig Mhic Phiarais agus shínitheoirí eile Fhorógra 1916, cuairt a thabhairt ar shraith de láithreacha breise atá lonnaithe ar an taobh thoir den Spidéal, ag dul trí chathair agus bhruachbhailte na Gaillimhe agus ar aghaidh as sin go dtí réimse de láithreacha atá feadh thír-raon cothrom aolchloiche in oirthear an chontae.

I gcás na ndaoine a rachaidh ar na cúlbhóithre ó Chonamara go cathair na Gaillimhe, níor mhiste dóibh súil a chaitheamh ar phríomhstaid CLG an chontae, Staid an Phiarsaigh, atá lonnaithe i mBóthar na Trá. D'oscail Uachtarán CLG, Séamas Mac Fearáin, an suíomh 17 n-acra seo don phobal ar an 16 Meitheamh 1957. Tar éis dul i léig i dtús na 1990í, rinneadh athchóirithe mhór ar an staid agus athosclaíodh í i mBealtaine na bliana 2003. Faoi láthair, tá an staid in ann 34,000 duine a thógáil agus imrítear cluiche ceannais Chraobhchomórtas Peile Sinsir Chonnacht inti go rialta. Ar an taobh thiar d'Abhainn na Gaillimhe freisin, ach níos gaire do lár chathair na Gaillimhe, tá mósáic dhaite de Phádraig Mac Piarais faoi gheasa na paidreoireachta. Tá sé sin le fáil i Séipéal na Marbh in Ard-Eaglais Mhaighdean na Deastógála agus San Nioclás (Ardeaglais na Gaillimhe), ar Bhóthar na hOllscoile. Nochtadh é sin nuair a osclaíodh an ardeaglais in 1965 agus tá sé lonnaithe trasna ó mhósáic de John F. Kennedy, a thug cuairt ar Ghailimhe in 1963 le linn dó a bheith in Uachtarán ar Stáit Aontaithe Mheiriceá. I rith na cuairte sin, le linn dó a bheith ag a n-ionad adhlactha ag Cnoc an Arbhair, Baile Átha Cliath, thug Kennedy moladh do cheannairí

an Éirí Amach a cuireadh chun báis.

Tá comóradh déanta ar Éamonn Ceannt ag stáisiún traenach na Gaillimhe, a athainmníodh mar Stáisiún Ceannt ar an 22 Bealtaine 1966, i rith chomóradh Iubhaile Órga Éirí Amach 1916. Le linn an tsearmanais, rinne Josie O’Keeffe (McNamara), seanbhall de Chumann na mBan a bhí ar dualgas ag Drioglan Lána Mhuire Mhaith i rith Sheachtain na Cásca 1916, leacht cuimhneacháin a nochtadh ar an taobh amuigh de bhalla an fhoirgneamh. Tamall ina dhiaidh sin, aistríodh an leacht go dtí an taobh istigh den stáisiún agus cuireadh ar bhalla é os comhair an phríomh-ardáin. Cuireadh ar ais ina bhunáit é ar Luan Cásca, 28 Márta 2016.

Tá comóradh déanta ar dhuine eile de shínitheoirí Fhorógra 1916, Séamas Ó Conghaile, in aice láimhe ag Ardán Uí Chonghaile. Tá an t-ardán cónaithe seo ag rith le píosa den taobh thoir den Bhóthar Mór, bóthar atá nasctha leis an bhFaiche Mhór ag Cnoc na Radharc. I lár na 1950í, rinneadh comóradh ar gach duine de shínitheoirí Fhorógra 1916 nuair a hainmníodh seacht n-ascaill chónaithe ina gcuimhne ar an mBaile Bán, bruachbhaile atá taobh thoir de chathair na Gaillimhe. Áirithe leo sin tá: Ascaill an Ceanntaigh, Ascaill an Phiarsaigh, Ascaill Uí Chonghaile, Ascaill Uí Chléirigh, Ascaill Mhic Dhonncha, Ascaill Mhic Dhiarmada agus Ascaill an Phluincéadaigh. Lena chois sin, in 2000, nochtadh comhartha aolchloiche bóthair d’Ascaill an Phiarsaigh ar a bhfuil íomhá de chloigeann an Phiarsaigh mar chuid de thionscadal a ndearna *Thermo King* urraíocht air. Seo an inscríbhinn atá ar an gcomhartha a dhealbhaigh F. McCormack: ‘Oscal an Píarsaig. Pearse Ave. 1956–2000’. I mí na Nollag 2016, nochtadh leacht de chloch ghearrtha eibhir ar a bhfuil ceithre phlaic idir Ascaill Uí Chléirigh agus Ascaill Mhic Dhonncha



mar chomóradh ar an Éirí Amach.

I bparóiste Bhaile Mhic an Bhaird in oirthear chontae na Gaillimhe, tá foireann CLG darbh ainm na Pádraig Pearses. Bunaíodh é in 1966, tar éis cumasc a dhéanamh idir na foirne iománaíochta sóisear i mBaile Mhic an Bhaird agus sa Ghoirtín. Bunaíodh foirne peile sa chumann in 2013. Tá baint freisin le ról Éamonn Cheannt san Éirí Amach ag ainmniú an cheantair chónaithe nua i gcuimhne Brendan Donelan i mBaile Locha Riach tar éis na forbartha ar thithíocht nua ansin i dtús na 1970í. De bhunaidh Bhaile Locha Riach ab ea Donelan a gortaíodh go dona in Aontas Bhaile Átha Cliath Theas (Ospidéal San Séamas anois) le linn dó a bheith ag troid faoi cheannas Cheannt. Bhásaigh an tÓglach óg 18 mbliana, a bhí ag obair i ngnó na héadaitheoireachta ar feadh ceithre bliana, de bharr a ghortuithe agus cuireadh ina dhiaidh sin é i Reilig Ghlas Naíon. Ba é siúd an t-aon reibiliúnach de bhunaidh na Gaillimhe a maraíodh i mbun comhraic le linn an Éirí Amach.

# FOINSE CHONAIR AN ÉIRÍ AMACH – *Baile Átha An Rí*



ÁIT EOLAIS



TALAMH PRÍOBHÁIDEACH

Mar chuid den chonair seo tá láithreacha agus cuimhneacháin stairiúla a bhaineann leis an mbaint a bhí ag muintir Bhaile Átha an Rí le scéal 1916. Tá an baile suite ar mhullach fada de dhríodair oighir agus b'iad na Normannaigh a bhunaigh é i dtús an tríú céad déag. Cé go raibh daonra an bhaile tite go dtí 1,487 faoi 1851, cuireadh borradh mór eacnamaíochta faoin mbaile nuair a déanadh stad de ar an líne iarnróid idir Gaillimh agus Baile Átha Cliath a bhí á oibriú ag an *Midland Great Western Railway* ó 1851 ar aghaidh. Fuair Baile Átha an Rí an clú mar 'Chrosaire an Iarthair' i lár na 1870í, nuair a rinneadh acomhal iarnróid de idir línte ó Ghailimh–Baile Átha Cliath agus ó Luimneach–Sligeach. I ndeireadh an naoú céad déag, d'éirigh na ceantair thart ar Bhaile Átha an Rí iontach teasaí ó thaobh chorraíl Chonradh na Talún de. Ó mhí na Samhna 1913 ar aghaidh, mheall Óglaigh na hÉireann cuid mhór earcach ón mbaile agus ón gceantar máguaird. Mar gheall ar tháilí laghdaithe traenach a bheith ar fáil chuig an mbaile, bhailigh lear mór Óglach le haghaidh taispeántas druileála ar an bPáirc Imeartha i Meitheamh 1914. Mar léiriú ar an meon scarúnachais phoblachtach a bhí sa cheantar, ní léir gur tharla aon scoilt in Óglaigh Bhaile Átha an Rí tar éis Mheán Fómhair 1914.

Rugadh Liam Ó Maoilíosa do mháthair Éireannach in Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire i mBealtaine 1892 agus d'aistrigh sé as Baile Átha Cliath go Baile Átha an Rí in earrach na bliana 1915. D'aistrigh sé tar éis a cheaptha mar phríomheagraí d'Óglaigh na hÉireann i gContae na Gaillimhe. Bhí Larry Lardner, an t-oifigeach i gceannas an Chomplachta áitiúil de na hÓglaigh roimh an Maoilíosa nuair a tháinig sé den

## FOINSE CHONAIR AN ÉIRÍ AMACH

traein. As a bhunáit nua i mBaile Átha an Rí, d'oibrigh an Maoilíosach go díograiseach ina ról nua agus chuaigh sé i gcion go mór ar mhuintir na háite mar gheall ar a chuid aclaíochta agus an tseasmhacht a bhí ann. Nuair a fuair sé gluaisrothar bhí sé in ann a chuid tionchair a leathadh i bhfad taobh amuigh den bhaile féin.

De thoradh stádais Bhaile Átha an Rí mar 'Chrosaire an Iarthair' bhí an áit ina gorlann thorthúil le smaointe náisiúnachais agus tuairimí ceannairceacha a chothú agus a scaipeadh. Ba mhinic teachtairí, a lig orthu féin gur gnáth-phaisinéirí a bhí iontu, a bheith ag tabhairt pacáistí as Baile Átha Cliath go Baile Átha Cliath go Baile Átha an Rí (nó Áth Tíomáin in aice láimhe) le horduithe, pleananna agus litríocht. Bhíodh an Maoilíosach agus a chomhghleacaithe ag cur teachtaireachtaí cumarsáide ar ais sa treo chomh maith. Sna laethanta suas go dtí thús Éirí Amach 1916, leanadh de na teachtaireachtaí cumarsáide trí stáisiún traenach Bhaile Átha an Rí.

Go dtí an lá atá inniu ann, tá rian láidir fós ar an mbaile de chuimhne spiorad na réabhlóide a cothaíodh i mBaile Átha an Rí in 1916. Mar shampla tá Sráid Uí Chléirigh ainmnithe i gcuimhne Thomáis Uí Chléirigh a bhí i mBráithreachas Phoblacht na hÉireann, duine de sheachtar sínitheoirí Fhorógra 1916. An grúpa Óglach a cuireadh i bpríosún Wormwood Scrubs go dtí 1917, tá aithne fós orthu go háitiúil mar 'an Dá Aspal Déag'. Áirithe orthu sin tá na deartháracha Grady as Sráid an tSéipéil (Lána an tSéipéil anois). Tá foirgnimh éagsúla, spáis phoiblí agus leachtanna ina bhfianaise freisin den pháirt a bhí ag Baile Átha an Rí mar chliabhán d'Éirí Amach 1916 in iarthar na hÉireann.



## **MOLTAÍ TAISCÉALAÍOCHTA**

*Mar chuid den chonair seo tá timbhealach siúil de thart ar chiliméadar go leith thart ar lár Bhaile Átha an Rí agus na purláin áitiúla. Chun dóthain ama a thabhairt le dul ag spaisteoireacht thart ar do shuaimhneas, sásamh ceart a bhaint as gach ceann de na 10 n-ionad spéise, agus sos amháin a chur san áireamh, moltar thart ar leath lae a chur i leataobh chun an chonair seo a thaiscéaladh.*

*Do na taiscéalaithe cróga, tá láthair inspéise taobh amuigh de Baile Átha an Rí curtha isteach ag deireadh na ranna seo. Díreach trasna na tíre, is é an fad iomlán atá idir gach ceann de na 10 láthair inspéise, agus an láthair inspéise breise curtha san áireamh, ná trí chiliméadar agus ceathrú.*

1

## An tSeanpháirc Imeartha (Páirc Uí Chionnaith anois), Geata na hEala, Baile Átha an Rí, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.295934, -8.751738



Lonnaithe díreach taobh istigh de láthair Gheata Loro (ar a dtugtar Geata na hEala anois) sa chúinne thiar theas den bhaile múrtha meánaoiseach, bhí eolas ar an suíomh mar An Pháirc Imeartha i dtús an fhichiú céid. Thug thart ar 2,200 d’Óglach na hÉireann as Contae na Gaillimhe taispeántas druileála ansin ar an 29 Meitheamh 1914. B’ionann agus aon cheathrú de líon iomlán na nÓglach sa chontae ag an am an méid a tháinig le chéile. Mar thoradh ar an scoilt sna hÓglaigh i ndeireadh Mheán Fómhair, níor facthas an méid ar an bPáirc Imeartha riamh ina dhiaidh sin. Ach sin ráite, níorbh fhada gur thug Ó Maoilíosa faoi athstruchtúrú eagraíochtúil ar na hÓglaigh sa chontae. Dá thoradh sin cruthaíodh briogáid de cheithre chathlán mar a bhí, Baile Átha an Rí, Gaillimh, An Gort agus Baile Locha Riach ( níorbh ionann agus na trí bhriogáid agus

13 chathlán a bhí ann roimh an scoilt).

I dtuairisc póilíneachta a comhdaíodh in Eanáir 1916, léiríodh imní faoin mbealach ina raibh Óglaigh na hÉireann i gContae na Gaillimhe á dtreorú ag *'a thoroughly disloyal directorate ... spreading sedition'*. Meastar gur 1,615 an bhallraíocht iomlán a bhí in Óglaigh na hÉireann i gContae na Gaillimhe díreach roimh an Éirí Amach - b'shin 10.6% den 15,200 d'Óglaigh na hÉireann a bhí ar fud na tíre go léir ag an am de réir meastacháin. Mar aon le Larry Lardner agus Frank Hynes, ar na réabhlóidithe móra le rá eile a bhí ina gcónaí i mBaile Átha an Rí ag an am bhí Seán Brodrick, Stephen Jordan agus Dick Murphy.

San am i láthair, tá láthair na Seanpháirce Imealtha ar cheann de na páirceanna lúthchleasaíochta CLG is fearr i gContae na



1.1.

*An láthair imeartha ag  
Páirc Uí Chionnaith*

Gaillimhe agus páirc imeartha den scoth ansin (1.1). Coiste Cuimhneacháin Uí Chionnaith a cheannaigh an talamh ar a bhfuil sí suite i dtús na 1950í ar chostas £300. I measc na mball bhí an seansaighdiúir 1916, Stephen Jordan. Tugadh

an talamh in aisce don CLG. Ar an 3 Iúil 1955, rinne Dan O'Rourke, Cathaoirleach Chomhairle Chonnacht CLG, an oscailt oifigiúil ar an ionad atá ainmnithe i gcuimhne ar Tom Kenny.

Rugadh Kenny in Ard Raithin in 1878 agus níos deireanaí ina shaol d'oibrigh sé mar ghabha dubh i gCreachmhaoil. Bhí post sinsearach aige i gcuid mhaith eagraíochtaí lena n-áirítear Bráithreachas Phoblacht na hÉireann, CLG, Léig na nÉireannach Aontaithe agus Sinn Féin. Bhí baint mhór ag Kenny leis an gcorraíl faoi chúrsaí talún maidir le athdháileadh na talún agus chreid sé go gcuirfeadh neamhspleáchas polaitiúil tús le réabhlóid shóisialta a bheadh ina buntáiste don fheirmeoir beag tionóntach. Chuaigh sé isteach in Óglaigh na hÉireann nuair a bunaíodh iad ach chinn air céim shinsearach a bhaint amach. Domhnach Cásca 1916, thaistil Kenny go Baile Átha Cliath chun freastal ar Chomhdháil CLG. Ina dhiaidh sin, thug sé cuairt ar theach Eoin Mhic Néill agus dúirt sé leis nach raibh ullmhúchán dá laghad déanta ag Gaillimh don Éirí Amach. Fad a bhí na reibiliúnaithe campáilte ag Maigh Fhód,



**Leac comórtha balla ag  
Páirc Uí Chionnaith**

**1.2.**



thug sé cuairt orthu roinnt uaireanta ar mhuintir capaill chun plé a dhéanamh leis an Maoilíosa Tar éis an Éirí Amach, theith Kenny go dtí Stáit Aontaithe Mheiriceá agus chaith sé roinnt ama i mBostún agus i Nia Eabhrac. Bhásaigh sé in Éirinn in 1947.

Luan Cásca, 28 Márta 2016, nocht Nollaig Ó Treasaigh, Cathaoirleach Bhord CLG an Chontae, plaic chuimhneacháin bhalla ag Páirc Uí Chionnaith (1.2). Seo an inscríbhinn atá ar an bplaic a rinne *Rooney Monumental Works*: 'Páirc Uí Chionnaigh GAA. Kenny Park GAA Grounds. Tom Kenny Memorial Park'. Taobh amuigh de Bhaile Átha an Rí, is fiú a nótáil gur bunaíodh cumann CLG Liam Uí Mhaoilíosa in 1933. In 1984, d'aistrigh an cumann ó chathair na Gaillimhe go dtí Baile an Locháin, i mbruachbhaile na Rinne Móire. Osclaíodh an clubtheach nua an bhliain chéanna. Tá dealbh Liam Uí Mhaoilíosa ar an bhFaiche Mhór léirithe ar an taobh clé de shuaitheantas an chumainn atá ar na geansaithe foirne ó na 1980í. Tá pictiúr frámaidhe de Liam Ó Maoilíosa crochta go buacach os cionn an tinteáin i bpríomhsheomra ócáidí an chlubthí.

## Gairdín Comórtha 1916, Geata na hEala, Baile Átha an Rí, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.297162, -8.749907



Rinneadh an Gairdín Comórtha 1916, a dhear Anthony Ryan, a oscailt go hoifigiúil ag searmanas a bhí ar siúl ar Luan Cásca, 28 Márta 2016. Bheannaigh ceannairí eaglasta an áit agus orthu sin bhí an tAthair Brendan Kilcoyne, Sagart Paróiste Caitliceach Bhaile Átha an Rí. Oibríthe deonacha ó Bhaile Slachtmhara Bhaile Átha an Rí mar aon le Gaolta agus Cairde na Gaillimhe, 1916 (Gaolta agus Cairde Bhaile Átha an Rí mar a bhí orthu roimhe sin) a rinne an mhaoirseacht ar obair thógála an ghairdín a bhfuil balla cloch thart air. Tógadh an gairdín le tacaíocht airgeadais ó Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe, An Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta agus trí thionscnaimh áitiúla le hairgead a bhailiú. Tá sé i gceist go mbeadh sé ina áit síochána, machnaimh agus suaimhnis do chuartheoirí.

Tá cloch a bhfuil ainm an ghairdín greanta uirthi

le fáil in aice leis an bpríomhbhealach isteach. Tá sí timpeallaithe le sraith de phlandaí beaga mar léiriú ar na leanaí a maraíodh in Éirí Amach 1916. Taobh thiar den chloch ainm tá cloch dhorcha uisce agus taobh thiar di sin, ag cúl an ghairdí, tá carn cruinn aolchloiche. Ag dul thart ina líne chuartha ar fhorimeall an tsrutháin bhig atá idir an chloch uisce agus an carn tá sé cinn déag de phlandaí fraoigh, ag seasamh don 16 fhear a cuireadh chun báis tar éis an Éirí Amach. Tá an dáréag planda fraoigh atá cóirithe ina stua taobh thiar den char ag seasamh don ‘Dáréag Aspal’ as Baile Átha an Rí. Tá trí radharc as amhrán cáiliúil Paddy Reilly faoin nGorta Mór, *‘The Fields of Athenry’*, léirithe i snoíodóireacht chloiche atá feadh bhalla thiar an bhalla teorann. Tá na radharcanna atá léirithe bunaithe ar na liricí seo a leanas san amhrán: *‘a lonely prison wall, ‘you stole [Charles] Trevelyan’s corn’ agus ‘we watched the small free birds fly’.*

Lonnaithe ar chúl an ghairdín tá busta cré-umha de Liam Ó Maoilíosa ar sheastán. Nochtadh den chéad uair é in Aibreán 1966 taobh amuigh den seanbhunscoil i mBaile Átha an Rí (Garáiste Somers anois), mar chomóradh ar lubhaile Órga an Éirí Amach. In 1989, aistríodh an busta go dtí plásóg tosaigh bhunscoil nua na mbuachaillí ar an gCnocán Glas. Aistríodh é go dtí Gairdín Cuimhneacháin 1916 sular tosaigh an comóradh céad bliain ar Luan Cásca 2016. Seo an inscríbhinn atá ar thosach an tseastáin: ‘Ó Maelíosa’. Seo an inscríbhinn atá ar an taobh: ‘An Ceannfort Liam Ó Maelíosa [sic] a bhí i gceannas as [sic] óghiaigh [sic] an bhalle [sic] seo agus ar Óghiaigh [sic] Chontae na Gaillimhe in Éirí Amach 1916’. Tá seacht gcrann cuilinn ag fás feadh fhad an bhalla taobh thiar de bhusta Uí Mhaoilíosa, ag seasamh do sheachtar sínitheoirí Fhorógra 1916.

3

Seanteach Cónaithe agus Teach  
Tábhairne Larry (Lawrence) Lardner  
(Declan Rooney Menswear anois),  
Seansráid an Teampaill,  
Baile Átha an Rí, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.299016, -8.747532



Bhí cónaí ar Larry Lardner agus d'oibrigh sé mar óstóir ag an bhfoirgneamh tráchtála / cónaithe seo (Declan Rooney Menswear anois), tráth ar 1 Sráid an Teampaill a bhí mar sheoladh aige. Bhíodh an seomra tosaigh ag feidhmiú mar theach ósta (nó beár) agus bhaintí úsáid as an seomra cúil mar sheomra seascair (áit a bhfeadfadh daoine suí síos lena ndeochanna agus comhrá a bheith acu go príobháideach). Bhí cónaí ar mháthair agus ar dheartháir san fhoirgneamh freisin. Ina chuid ama saor, d'fhreastail Larry freisin mar cheannasaí ar chiorcal Bhráithreachas Phoblacht na hÉireann i mBaile Átha an Rí. Choinnigh Lardner dlúthchaidreamh le Baile Átha Cliath agus fuair sé 12 raidhfil d'Óglaigh Bhaile Átha an Rí tar éis thabhairt i dtír na ngunnaí i mBinn Éadair ar an

26 Iúil 1914. Nuair a tharla an scoilt sna hÓglaigh tar éis thús an Chéad Chogaidh Dhomhanda, d'fhan Lardner le hÓglaigh na hÉireann a bhí ina mionlach. Tamall ina dhiaidh sin, ceapadh Lardner ina Oifigeach i gCeannas ar Bhriogáid na Gaillimhe, rud a d'fhág gurbh é an tOifigeach ba shinsearaí d'Óglaigh na hÉireann é i gContae na Gaillimhe i ndiaidh Uí Mhaoilíosa.

Ar Chéadaoin Sheachtain na Cásca 1916, thaistil Lardner go Baile Átha Cliath in iarracht le soiléiriú a fháil ar na ráflaí a bhí ag teacht salach ar a chéile maidir le horduithe slógaidh don Dhomhnach Cásca. An lá dar gcionn, chuir Éamonn Ceannt Annie Fahy ar an traein as Baile Átha Cliath go Baile Átha an Rí chun a insint do Lardner go raibh an tÉirí Amach ag dul ar aghaidh, Chuir Seán MacDiarmada Margaret Brown go Baile Átha an Rí freisin leis an teachtaireacht chéanna. Cé go raibh na ráflaí ag dul in adharca chéile Domhnach Cásca, rinneadh cinneadh John Hosty a chur as baile na Gaillimhe, go Baile Átha an Rí ar dtús agus ansin go Baile Átha Cliath chun teagmháil a dhéanamh le Pádraig Mac Piarais leis na horduithe a dhearbhu. Ar an dul céanna, nuair a shocraigh Lardner agus Stephen Jordan dul go Baile Átha Cliath Domhnach Cásca chuig comhdháil CLG lena fháil amach cén riocht ina raibh rudaí i mBaile Átha Cliath, chonaic siad an tArm Cathartha ag fágáil Halla na Saoirse agus bhí siad in ann an traein a fháil ar ais láithreach go Baile Átha an Rí chun a raibh ag tarlú a thuairisciú.

Nuair a thosaigh an tÉirí Amach an lá dar gcionn, thaistil Michael Staines as Baile Átha Cliath go Baile Átha an Rí le teachtaireacht do Lardner, ag dearbhu go raibh an phríomhchathair chun buille a bhualadh ag meán lae. D'éirigh le Lardner a Chomplacht a shlógadh agus bhí in éineacht leis an Maoilíosa ag an modhfheirm, Maigh Fhód agus Baile na Creige i rith Sheachtain na Cásca.

D'éalaigh sé go Béal Feirste tar éis an Éirí Amach agus d'fhan sé ansin gur tháinig an Pardún Ginearálta i bhfeidhm in 1917.

4

**Seanteach Sheáin Brodrick (Kelly's Pharmacy agus The Fields of Athenry Gift Shop anois), Seansráid an Teampaill, Baile Átha an Rí, Co. na Gaillimhe**

SAT NAV: 53.299008, -8.747497



Nuair a cuireadh Liam Ó Maoilíosa go Baile Átha an Rí ar dtús in 1915 chun Óglaigh na hÉireann a thraenáil, chuir sé faoi san fhoirgneamh seo a bhí in úinéireacht Sheáin (John J.) Brodrick, Leifteanant Óglaigh na hÉireann (agus col ceathrar lena chomharsa béal dorais, Larry Lardner). Le linn dó a bheith ag cur faoi ansin, rinne an Maoilíosa dlúthchairdeas le Julia Mary Morrissey, ball de Chumann na mBan a bhí ina cónaí in aice láimhe. Ach sin ráite, bhí sceideal trom oibre aige agus chaith formhór a chuid ama ag bunú, ag eagrú agus ag traenáil Óglaigh na

hÉireann ar fud Chontae na Gaillimhe.

Ní raibh an Maoilíosach i mBaile Átha an Rí i ngan fhios don RIC a mbíodh oifigeach ar dualgas acu go rialta taobh amuigh de theach Brodrick chun súil a choinneáil ar a chuid imeachtaí. Ag an am sin, ba 2 Sráid an Teampaill an seoladh a bhí aige. Bhí athair Sheáin Brodrick ag obair mar chonraitheoir tógála agus Seán ab ainm dósan freisin. Bhí an t-athair agus an mac araon i láthair don chéad chruinniú áitiúil a bhí ag Óglaigh na hÉireann i mBaile Átha an Rí i dtús 1914 agus toghadh an t-athair ina uachtarán. Meastar go ndeachaigh 70 fear sna hÓglaigh tar éis an chéad chruinnithe. Blianta ina dhiaidh sin, roinneadh áit cónaithe mhuintir Brodrick ina dhá chuid, bhí cónaí ar Sheán (tógálaí freisin) ar an taobh thoir (The Fields of Athenry Gift Shop anois) agus bhí a dheartháir Christy ar an taobh thiar ag obair mar phoitigéir (Kelly's Pharmacy anois).

5

Seanteach Stephen Jordan,  
5 Sráid an Dáibhisigh,  
Baile Átha an Rí,  
Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.298939, -8.747075



Ba é an réadmhaoin seo an teach cónaithe a bhí ag Stephen Jordan tráth agus tá sé lonnaithe ar thaobh na láimhe deise de Glynn's Central Bar ar Shráid an Dáibhisigh. Rugadh Jordan in 1886, agus bhí sé ina bhall de Bhráithreachas Phoblacht na hÉireann agus d'Óglaigh na hÉireann araon i mBaile Átha an Rí. I nDaonáireamh 1911, bhí sé ina chónaí sa teach lena dheirfiúr, Monica, agus bhí sé fostaithe mar ghréasaí bróg. Mar náisiúnach go smior rinne sé agóidíocht in aghaidh pháirt na hÉireann sa Chéad Chogadh Domhanda agus ionchúisíodh é faoin *Defence of the Realm Act (DORA) maidir le 'conduct likely to prejudice recruiting'*.

In 1915, cúisíodh Jordan as a bheith ag bualadh bos nuair a taispeánadh scannán d'fhórsaí na Tuirce ag déanamh ar na Dardanelles, as a bheith



ag tabhairt gártha molta don Kaiser agus as a bheith ag sioscadh faoi phictiúr den Rí Seoirse V. Dá thoradh, gearradh mí príosúin le daorobair air i bPríosún na Gaillimhe. Ach d'éirigh lena chomrádaí i mBráithreachas Phoblacht na hÉireann, an dlíodóir George Nicolls, achomharc a dhéanamh go rathúil agus cuireadh an ciontú ar ceal ar chúis theicniúil.

Shlóg Jordan in éineacht le Liam Ó Maoilíosa i rith Sheachtain na Cásca 1916. Tar éis an Éirí Amach, cuireadh a phróifil san fheasachán póilíneachta *Hue and Cry*, a thairg £500 as é a ghabháil. Chuaigh sé ar a theitheadh in éineacht le Dick Murphy agus bhí sé ina Mheitheamh faoi am ar theip orthu agus b'éigean dóibh géilleadh mar go raibh an tsláinte ag teip ar Murphy. Cuireadh Jordan thar sáile go dtí príosún Knutsford i Sasana sular aistríodh é go dtí Frongoch sa Bhreatain Bheag. Toghadh Jordan chuig Dáil Éireann mar TD Fhianna Fáil do Ghailimh in 1927. Toghadh arís é in 1932 agus atoghadh é an bhliain dar gcionn, ach chaill sé a shuíochán in Olltoghchán 1937. Bhásaigh sé in 1975.

## Dealbh Machnamh, Páirc Baile Átha an Rí, Baile Átha an Rí, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.299713, -8.744261



Domhnach Cásca, 27 Márta 2016, rinneadh comóradh ar chéad bliain Éirí Amach 1916 le paráid de 3,722 d’Óglaigh na hÉireann feadh bealach paráide 4.5 ciliméadar i mBaile Átha Cliath agus níos mó ná 250,000 duine ag breathnú orthu. An lá dar gcionn, bhí Baile Átha an Rí ar cheann de na cheithre ionad réigiúnacha taobh amuigh de Bhaile Átha Cliath (Cill Dhéagláin, Corcaigh agus Inis Córthaidh na cinn eile) a ghlac páirt i searmanais chomórtha stáit ar Luan Cásca. An mhaidin úd, plandáladh seacht gcrann dhúchasacha i bPáirce Bhaile Átha an Rí atá teorannaithe ag Caisleán Bhaile Átha an Rí ón trí céad déag agus ag Abhainn an Chláirín. An Comhairleoir Peter Roche, Cathaoirleach Chontae na Gaillimhe agus baill de Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe (Cathaoirligh gach ceann de na ceantair bhardasacha san áireamh) a rinne

an phlandáil.

Cuireadh tús leis na searmanais le hAeraíocht, taispeántas d’oidhreacht chultúrtha an chontae trí cheol, amhránaíocht, damhsa agus filíocht. Ansin bhí paráid ann de dhathanna fhoirne CLG an chontae agus leagan sioncrónaithe bláthfhleascanna sa pháirc phoiblí. Ina dhiaidh sin, rinne an Cathaoirleach agus Jan O’Sullivan, an tAire Oideachais agus Scileanna an nochtadh le chéile ar pháosa dealbhadóireachta dar teideal Machnamh. An t-ealaíontóir as an nGort, Jethro Sheen, a rinne an saothar tar éis coimisiún a fháil ó Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe. Léirithe ansin tá an laoch óg seanscéalaíochta, Cú Chulainn, duine de laochra Phádraig Mhic Phiarais. Seo an inscríbhinn atá ar thosach an tseastáin: ‘1916/2016’. Leanadh leis an gclár searmanas san iarnóin le dhá léacht phoiblí agus taispeántas stairiúil in Ionad Pobail Bhaile Átha an Rí, agus ina dhiaidh sin bhí ceolchoirm chuimhneacháin in óstán áitiúil.

Bhí an laoch cáiliúil Cú Chulainn i gceist freisin in imeachtaí comórtha a rinneadh ar an Éirí Amach roimhe sin. Don 19ú bliain comórtha den Éirí Amach in 1935, nocht Éamon de Valera an dealbh cré-umha sa stíl réadúil a rinne Oliver Sheppard den laoch ag Ard-Oifig an Phoist ar Shráid Uí Chonaill. San am i láthair, tá an dealbh sin ina sheasamh taobh istigh d’fhuinneog thosaigh an fhoirgnimh. Tá íomhá de Chú Chulainn léirithe freisin ar thaobh amháin de na boinn chré-umha 1916 (le ribíní glasa / oráiste) a bhronn an rialtas in 1941 orthu sin a thug seirbhís aitheanta mhíleata i rith Sheachtain na Cásca 1916. Don chomóradh lubhaile Órga in 1966, rinne an rialtas dhá mhilliún píosa airgid deich scilling a bhualadh chun comóradh a dhéanamh ar an Éirí Amach. Ba é an dealbhóir Briotanach, Thomas Hugh Paget, a dhear an bonn cuimhneacháin ar a

raibh cloigeann Phádraig Mhic Phiarais ar thaobh amháin agus dealbh Sheppard de Chú Chulainn ar an taobh eile.

**Lámhscríbhinn Challagrafaíochta,  
Scoil Náisiúnta na mBuachaillí,  
An Cnocán Glas, Baile Átha an Rí,  
Co. na Gaillimhe**

**SAT NAV: 53.298433, -8.742010**



Osclaíodh Scoil Náisiúnta na mBuachaillí ar an gCnocán Glas go hoifigiúil ar an 26 Feabhra 1990. An bhliain roimhe sin, cuireadh busta de Liam Ó Maoilíosa ar sheastán i bplásóg thosaigh na scoile. Chuaigh sé ar iarradh i Meitheamh 1997 agus tarrtháladh as Abhainn an Chláirín é i mí na Nollag 1998 agus cuireadh ar ais ar an seastán é. D’fhan sé ansin go dtí 2016 nuair a athlonnaíodh é i nGairdín Cuimhneacháin 1916 ag Geata na hEala.

Nochtadh an busta den chéad uair in Aibreán

1966, taobh amuigh den tseanbhunscoil i mBaile Átha an Rí. Rinneadh ainmneacha na 'gcomrádaithe agus na gcairde' a chuidigh leis an gciste chun é a chur in airde a chur ar lámhscríbhinn challagrafaíochta. Faoi láthair, tá sé ar taispeáint laistigh de chaibinéad adhmaid agus gloine atá crochta ar bhalla díreach taobh istigh den doras tosaigh den scoil reatha ar an gCnocán Glas. I measc na 78 iontráil do dhaoine aonaracha agus eagraíochtaí a thug tabhartais bhí Uachtarán na hÉireann, Éamon de Valera, agus an Cairdinéal Richard Cushing, Ardeaspag Bhostúin. Tá seansaighdiúirí móra 1916 as Baile Átha an Rí liostaithe freisin, lena n-áirítear Frank Hynes agus Stephen Jordan.

**Seanbheairic Chonstáblacht  
Ríoga na hÉireann (The Old Barracks  
Pantry & Bakery anois),  
Cross Street, Baile Átha an Rí,  
Co. na Gaillimhe**

**SAT NAV: 53.298243, -8.746724** 

8



Nuair a rinneadh Daonáireamh 1911, bhí 25

póilín san iomlán ar dualgas i bhfoirgneamh a bhí ag 10 Cross Street a bhí ag feidhmiú mar bheairic RIC do Bhaile Átha an Rí. Nuair a thosaigh an tÉirí Amach i mBaile Átha Cliath Luan Cásca 1816, d'fheidhmigh na húdaráis i mBaile Átha an Rí go tapa. Dar le Alf Monaghan, *'the RIC garrison ... at once seized a house facing the barracks and fortified it and the barracks'*, while reinforcements *'from outlying stations were rushed in'*. Mar gheall ar an lear mór póilíní a bhí ar an mbaile, d'éirigh Óglaigh Bhaile Átha an Rí as an bplean a bhí acu chun an bheairic a ionsaí, mar go raibh an foirgneamh sin agus na foirgnimh mórthimpeall air lán de phóilíní. Tá an foirgneamh ag feidhmiú mar bhialann agus mar bháicéireacht ó Dheireadh Fómhair 2010, ag cur réimse leathan de bhéilí te agus fuara ar fáil.

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### Seanteach Frank Hynes, Cross Street, Baile Átha an Rí, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.297063, -8.747282



pósta a bhí freisin ina Leaschaptaen ar Óglaigh Bhaile Átha an Rí. Nuair a d'aistrigh Liam Ó Maoilíosa go Baile Átha an Rí in earrach na bliana 1915, cuireadh Hynes in aithne dó an chéad lá. Is cuimhneach leis gur cuireadh in aithne é d'fhear beag a raibh spéaclaí air agus bhí amhras láithreach air faoi chumas an strainséara seo na hÓglaigh a thraenáil. Cheap sé freisin gur beag maitheasa a bheadh sa Maoilíosach i mbun troda mar gheall ar chomh hóg agus a bhreathnaigh sé, cé gur cinnte go raibh sé cliste. Bhí amhras den chineál céanna faoin bhfear nua ar na hÓglaigh a bhí tagtha le chéile. Bhí a bhformhór sé troigh ar airde agus b'íoróineach leo an fear beag seo a bheith ag tabhairt foláirimh dóibh faoin obair chrua a bhí amach rompu. Chualathas cuid acu ag rá go magúil: *'Who is this ladeen who talks to us about hard work?'* Ach in ainneoin na héiginnteachta a bhí orthu ar dtús, thug Hynes faoi deara nárbh fhada go raibh an Maoilíosach á chur féin in iúl agus sula raibh an chéad oíche caite acu faoina cheannas ní raibh aon duine ag gáire a thuilleadh.

Cé go raibh an Maoilíosach ag fanacht i dteach mhuintir Brodrick ag 2 Sráid an Teampaill (Seansráid an Teampaill anois), d'fhan sé in amanna ag teach mhuintir Hynes in aice láimhe ar Cross Street - a tháinig faoi fhaireachas na bpóilíní. 'Seomra Liam' a thug Hynes ar an seomra spártha ina mbíodh an Maoilíosach ag codladh, mar nach mbíodh aon duine eile ag fanacht ann. De réir thuairiscí Hynes, thagadh an Maoilíosach isteach as a shiúlóid, shuíodh sé le hais na tine sa chistin ar stól beag, tharraingíodh sé amach a pháipéar agus lasadh sé é le splanc ón tine mhóna. Sin é an bealach a bhí le Liam. Ní thabharfadh sé aon aird ar fhuadar ná ar aon ullmhúcháin a bheadh déanta dó. Nuair a bhíodh na póilíní ag déanamh faireachais ar an teach bhíodh an

Maoilfósach ag imirt cleas ar na póilíní in amanna in iarracht le hiad a choinneáil ar an aineolas faoin áit a raibh sé. Nuair a fuair Larry Lardner ardú céim mar Oifigeach i gCeannas ar Bhriogáid na Gaillimhe d'Óglaigh na hÉireann, fuair Hynes ardú céime mar Chaptaen ar Óglaigh Bhaile Átha an Rí.

Tar éis an Éirí Amach, chuaigh Hynes ar a theitheadh in éineacht leis an Maoilfósach agus Alf Monaghan. Ghlac sé chuige an t-ailias 'Patrick Murphy', agus chaith sé cúig mhí i bhfolach sa Choill Dubh Uachtarach, Co. an Chláir. Ina dhiaidh sin, chaith sé roinnt ama i sraith de thithe sábháilte a d'éagraigh an chléir i gContaetha Thiobraid Árann agus Aontroma. Ar deireadh, fuair sé post i gColáiste Mhaigh Nuad le cabhair ón Athair Tom Fahy, sular aistrigh sé go Corcaigh. Tar éis 14 mhí ar a theitheadh, d'fhill Frank Hynes ar Bhaile Átha an Rí tar éis an Phardúin Ghinearálta i Meitheamh 1917, ach b'éigean dó filleadh ar Chorcaigh nuair a chuala sé go raibh sé le gabháil. I rith Chogadh na Saoirse, bhí Hynes gafa le traenáil Óglaigh na hÉireann (an tIRA) i gCorcaigh agus fuair sé ardú go dtí céim Captaen. Mar thoradh ar a chuid gníomhaíochtaí chaith sé roinnt ama i bPríosún i gCorcaigh, i mBéal Feirste agus i bPríosún Wormwood Scrubs i Sasana, áit a ndeachaigh sé ar stail ocrais ar feadh 11 lá.



**Seanhalla an Bhaile  
(Ionad Pobail Bhaile Átha an Rí anois),  
Sráid Uí Chléirigh,  
Baile Átha an Rí, Co. na Gaillimhe**

**SAT NAV: 53.297316, -8.747945**

**10**



Ba é Dick Murphy a d'oscail halla an bhaile i mBaile Átha an Rí den chéad uair in 1907. Ionad tábhachtach sóisialta a bhí ann do na daoine a bhí ina gcónaí ar an mbaile agus sa cheantar máguaird agus bhídís ag dul ann go minic le haghaidh scannán agus damhsaí deireadh seachtaine. Ina chuid ama saor, bhíodh Murphy ag feidhmiú mar Lár an Chontae do Bhráithreachas Phoblacht na hÉireann agus lena chois sin bhí sé ina bhall d'Óglaigh na hÉireann. Luan Cásca 1916, bhailigh Óglaigh Bhaile Átha an Rí san fhoirgneamh agus chaith siad an oíche ansin ag déanamh buamaí.

Bhí eolas maith ag na hÓglaigh ar halla an bhaile mar go raibh a gcéad chruinniú acu ansin ar an 8 Feabhra 1914. Ar roinnt ócáidí, bhain an Maoilíósach úsáid as an halla chun léachtaí a

thabhairt do na hÓglaigh faoi oirbheartaíochtaí míleata. Bhí clós ar chúl an ionaid freisin ina mbíodh an Maoilíosach ag iarraidh na teoirice a chur ina chleachtadh trí raon raidhfíli a bhunú ann agus cleachtaí druileála a dhéanamh. San am i láthair, tá an foirgneamh ag feidhmiú mar Ionad Pobail Bhaile Átha an Rí agus déanann sé óstáil ar réimse d'imeachtaí pobail. Taobh amuigh de Bhaile Átha an Rí, ionad eile ar bhain an Maoilíosach úsáid as chun léachtaí a thabhairt d'Óglaigh na hÉireann ab ea Muileann Uí Eidhin sa Ghort.

De bhreis ar na láithreach agus na cuimhneacháin stairiúla thuasluaite, b'fhéidir nár mhiste do dhaoine atá ag fiosrú faoi na háiteanna ina bhfuil Larry Lardner agus seansaighdiúirí eile 1916 curtha, fiosrú a dhéanamh sna láithreacha seo a leanas ar bhruach Bhaile Átha an Rí.

### Uaigh Larry (Lawrence) Lardner, An Reilig Nua, Baile Átha an Rí, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.289789, -8.743524

11



Tar éis Éirí Amach 1916, d'éalaigh Larry Lardner go Béal Feirste agus d'fhan sé ansin gur tháinig an Pardún Ginearálta i bhfeidhm in 1917. Bhásaigh sé ar an 21 Aibreán 1936 agus cuireadh é sa Reilig Nua i mBaile Átha an Rí. Tar éis a bháis, bunaíodh

coiste mór chun a chinntiú go gcuimhneofaí air mar ba chóir. Áirithe ar an gcoiste sin tá triúr TD ó Fhianna Fáil agus TD amháin ó Fhine Gael. D'éisigh an coiste cuireadh do gach duine a chuaigh i bhfeighil arm i rith thréimhse na réabhlóide a thacht chun cinn agus tacú leis an tionscnamh.

In 1937, rinne Ceann Comhairle na Dála, Frank Fahy, cros Cheilteach de cloch ghearrtha a nochtadh ag ócáid a raibh na mílte daoine i láthair. Seo an inscríbhinn Bhéarla atá ar thaobh na croise: *'Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on the soul of Lawrence Lardner of Athenry Commandant Galway Brigade Irish Volunteers Easter Week 1916 and afterwards IRA died April 21st 1936 RIP. Erected by his comrades and friends'*. Bhásaigh bean chéile Lardner, Brigid, ar an 25 Lúnasa 1966 agus tá sise curtha san uaigh seo freisin. Mar aon le Lardner, ar na seansaighdiúirí 1916 eile atá curtha sa Reilig Nua tá Stephen Jordan agus Dick Murphy.

# BEALACH CHONAIR AN ÉIRÍ AMACH – *Oirthear Chontae Na Gaillimhe*

 **ÁIT EOLAIS**  
 **TALAMH PRÍOBHÁIDEACH**

1916

## BEALACH CHONAIR AN ÉIRÍ AMACH

Mar chuid den chonair seo tá láithreacha agus cuimhneacháin stairiúla a bhaineann leis an tslí a thóg an dream a d'éirigh amach in oirthear Chontae na Gaillimhe i rith Sheachtain na Cásca. Tar éis é a dhíbirt go Leek i Sasana i ndeireadh na Márta 1916, d'fhill Liam Ó Maoilíosa ar Éirinn an lá roimh Dhéardaoin Naofa, tar éis seoladh ar bhád eallach as Glaschú go Béal Feirste agus é gléasta in éide sagart. Tar éis bualadh le Pádraig Mac Piarais ag Scoil Éanna i mBaile Átha Cliath, bhain sé amach Cill Fhínín i gContae na Gaillimhe go moch maidin Aoine an Chéasta. In ainneoin go raibh air dearmad a dhéanamh ar an bplean chun líne Abhainn na Sionainne a choinneáil mar gheall gur theip ar mhisean Ruairí Mhic Easmainn airm a thabhairt isteach as an nGearmáin, chuaigh an Maoilíosa i gceannas na gcéadta Óglach in eirí amach in oirthear an chontae. Mhair sé sin ó 25-29 Aibreán 1916. Tharla an chaismirt idir fhórsaí Phoblacht na hÉireann agus na Briotáine i réigiún ina bhfuil gabháltais fheirme ar thalamh méith atá réasúnta cothrom, teorannaithe ag Cuan na Gaillimhe san iarthar agus ag Sliabh Eachtaí agus ceantar Bhoirne sa deisceart.

Cuireadh tús le hÉirí Amach an chontae Máirt Cásca, 25 Aibreán 1916 i mbaile beag Chill Fhínín. Ba é teach cónaithe agus teach scoile Hubert Breathnach, a bhí éaga, a bhí ina cheanncheathrú ag an Maoilíosa. Tar éis a chuid fórsaí a shlógadh, iad gléasta i réimsí éide lena n-áirítear hataí foráiste agus beilteanna Sam Browne, mháirseáil an Maoilíosa trí eastát Redington agus bhí sé i gceannas ar 100 Óglach geall leis a d'ionsaigh beairic an RIC i nDroichead an Chláirín. Mhair an chaismirt ó thart ar 7.20am go

## BEALACH CHONAIR AN ÉIRÍ AMACH

dtí 10.38am. Cé gur theip ar na reibiliúnaithe an bheairic a thógáil, tuigtear gur tógadh líon beag póilíní ina bpríosúnaigh. I rith na heachtra, chuir an tAthair Harry Feeney cabhair ar fáil agus é ag feidhmiú mar shéiplíneach do na reibiliúnaithe. Lean an léigear ar an mbeairic nó gur tháinig póilíní breise as Cill Cholgáin.

In eachtra eile a tharla am éigean idir 12pm agus 1pm ar an Máirt, bhí Joe Howley agus Michael Athy i gceannas thart ar 106 Óglach a rinne ionsaí ar thosach agus ar chúl bheairic an RIC i mbaile an Óráin Mhóir. Nuair a theip ar an iarracht leis an mbeairic a thógáil, rinne siad cónascadh le fir Uí Mhaoilíosa leath bealaigh ar an mbóthar idir Órán Mór agus Droichead an Chláirín. Ansin rinne an fórsa cónasctha de bhreis agus 200 Óglach ionsaí in athuair ar Órán Mór. Bhain grúpa reibiliúnach, faoi cheannas Eamon Corbett as Cill Fhínín, úsáid as pléascáin chun poll a dhéanamh i lár droichid straitéisigh bóthair ag Preabán an Mhuilinn, ar an taobh ó thuaidh d'Órán Mór. Chun stop a chur leis an trácht ar an taobh ó dheas den bhaile cuireadh bacainn in airde ar an mbóthar go Droichead an Chláirín, agus cuireadh ceann eile i bhfearas idir Droichead an Chláirín agus Cill Cholgáin. Lena chois sin, ghearr na reibiliúnaigh sciar den ráille ar an iarnród idir Gaillimh agus Baile Átha an Rí ag Doire Uí Dhónaill. Ach sin ráite, rinneadh botún oirbheartaíochta nuair a fágadh slán an t-iarnród as Órán Mór go dtí baile na Gaillimhe. De réir meastacháin amháin, gabhadh seisear póilíní ag Órán Mór.

Thart ar 7.30pm ar an Máirt, tháinig póilíní breise as baile na Gaillimhe go hÓrán Mór, in éineacht le grúpa de 10 Connaught Rangers as beairic na

## BEALACH CHONAIR AN ÉIRÍ AMACH

Rinne Móire faoi cheannas an Chaptaen Andrew Armstrong. Mar gheall ar bhris arm a bheith ag na húdaráis, b'éigean do na reibiliúnaigh cúlú amach as an mbaile ... amach bóthar Bhaile Átha an Rí. Tar éis máirseáil suas le naoi gciliméadar go leith soir an príomhbhóthar as Órán Mór go dtí Baile Átha an Rí, tar éis 9pm tháinig na hÓglaigh, arbh as Droichead an Chláirín, Órán Mór agus Meáraí dóibh, chomh fada leis an modhfheirm a bhí ag an Roinn Talmhaíochta agus Ceardoideachais a bhí lonnaithe thart ar chiliméadar go leith siar ó dheas ó Bhaile Átha an Rí. Ar an láthair sin, lonnaithe ar thalamh a bhí i seilbh mhuintir Goodbody (teaghlach de chuid Chumann na gCarad) i mbaile fearainn Bhaile an Gharráin Thiar, bhuail siad le tuilleadh Complachtaí. Áirithe orthu sin bhí Óglaigh Bhaile Átha an Rí arbh éigean dóibh imeacht as Baile Átha an Rí a bhí faoi cheannas láidir 200 póilín a bhí armtha go maith tar éis don Éirí Amach tosú.

Tar éis eolas a fháil faoina raibh ar siúl sa phríomhchathair, d'fhógair údaráis bhaile na Gaillimhe go raibh Dlí Míleata i bhfeidhm agus ghabh siad ceannas gasta ar na príomhfhoirgnimh phoiblí, Ard-Oifig an Phoist san áireamh. Dar leis an *Galway Observer*, dhún ionaid eile dá ndeoin féin, rud a d'fhág go raibh an chuma ar an mbaile go rabhthas ag ullmhú le haghaidh léigir. Thart faoi 6pm tráthnóna Dé Máirt, tháinig Cigire Dúiche an RUC, Thomas Neylon, isteach ar an mbaile agus thart ar 70 fear as ceantar Chonamara ina chuideachta. De bhreis air sin, d'éagraigh baill na hÓglaigh Náisiúnta patróil ar an mbaile. Cuireadh fórsa cúltaca sibhialtach i dtoll a chéile freisin le tacaíocht ó choiste a bhí



faoi chathaoirleacht fhear gnó mór le rá, Máirtín Mór Mac Donncha.

Ba é Patrick Whelan, póilín 38 bliain d’aois a bhí ar dualgas ag beairic an RIC ar Shráid Eglinton, an t-aon duine a maraíodh san Éirí Amach i gContae na Gaillimhe. Maraíodh an Constábla Whelan le hurchar a bhuaíl é i dtaobh clé a chloiginn ag Crosaire an Chairn Mhóir le linn babhta lámhaigh a tharla idir aonad taiscéalaíochta de chuid an RIC faoi cheannas an Chigire Dúiche George Bennett Heard (le cabhair ó shaighdiúirí a bhí faoi cheannas an Chaptaen ), agus grúpa reibiliúnach. Na fir úd a bhailigh le chéile ar an gCarn Mhór, bhain siad le hÓglaigh an Chaisleáin Ghearr agus Bhaile Chláir faoi cheannas Brian Molloy agus Nicholas Kyne faoi seach. Tháinig scanradh agus uafás ar bhaile na Gaillimhe tar éis an mharaithe agus de bharr scéalta gan aon bhunús go bhféadfadh na reibiliúnaithe ionsaí a dhéanamh. Ar deireadh thiar, ba leor na longa cabhlaigh Briotanacha a bhí le feiceáil i gCuan na Gaillimhe – an *HMS Guillemot*, *HMS Laburnum*, *HMS Gloucester* agus *HMS Snowdrop* san áireamh – chun cosc a chur le haon ionsaí a dhéanfaí ar lár an bhaile. Bhunaigh an cabhlach marcóir teorann trí lámhach airtléire a dhíriú ar bhailte fearainn an Chaisleáin Ghearr, Bhaile an Dúlaigh agus An Laighdeacán – iad ar fad lonnaithe i gceantair tuaithe nach raibh mórán daonra iontu, taobh amuigh de theorainn thoir thuaidh an bhaile. Ba í an *HMS Laburnum*, slúpa den aicme Acáise a thóg *Charles Connell & Company*, a bhí freagrach as an lámhach ar ‘chnoc an Chaisleáin Ghearr’ agus na bealaí isteach go dtí an baile sin in iarnóin na Céadaoin. Nuair a bhí sé sin ag tarlú

## BEALACH CHONAIR AN ÉIRÍ AMACH

bhí breathnóirí ar dhíon an Railway Hotel chun na torthaí a thuairisciú. Phléasc ceann de na sliogáin i mBaile an Phoill, achar beag taobh istigh den teorainn bhardasach. Scaoileadh sliogáin freisin i dtreo Óráin Mhoir ar an gCéadaoin agus fágadh poill treafa sa talamh.

De réir meastacháin éagsúla, bhí 500, 600 nó 700 Óglach san iomlán a seilbh na modhfheirme ó oíche Dé Máirt go dtí iarnóin na Céadaoin. Ar dtús, bhí fórsa forghabhála oíche na Máirt comhdhéanta d'Óglaigh as Baile Átha an Rí, An Cosán, Doire Uí Dhónaill, Cill Chonlarainn, An Caisleán Nua agus Gort na Carraige (Creachmhaoil). Ní fada ina dhiaidh sin gur ardaigh líon na gComplachtaí ag an modhfheirm go dtí naoi nuair a tháinig Óglaigh as Droichead an Chláirín, Órán Mór agus Meáraí. Thart ar 11am an mhaidin dar gcionn mhéadaigh fórsa na reibiliúnach go dtí 11 Chomplacht aitheanta, nuair a tháinig Óglaigh an Chaisleáin Ghearr agus Bhaile Chláir as an gCarn Mór. Fir óga Chaitliceacha ab ea formhór na reibiliúnach a tháinig ó chúlráí feirmeacha beag, sclábhaíochta agus ceardaíochta. Baill de chlubanna Chumann Lúthchleas Gael (CLG) ab ea a dtromlach agus bhí cuid acu ina gcainteoirí Gaeilge agus ina mbaill de Chonradh na Gaeilge. Ach sin ráite, bhí siad armtha go dona, gan acu ach timpeall 25 raidhfil, 60 gunnán, 60 píce agus 300 gránghunna. Áirithe ina n-armlann ilghnéitheach freisin bhí gránáidí láimhe baile, beagnití, pící féir agus lear d'armáin sheiftithe. San achar gearr ama a raibh siad san áit bhí dóthain cóiríochta le fáil acu sna lochtaí móra. Thart ar 7am ar an gCéadaoin, tháinig suas le seachtar ball den RIC as Baile Átha an Rí

## BEALACH CHONAIR AN ÉIRÍ AMACH

i bhfoisceacht 350 méadar don mhodhfheirm. Ach d'éirigh le grúpa reibiliúnach, faoi cheannas Frank Hynes, an t-ionsaí a stop. Thart ar cheithre huaire an chloig tar éis an eachtra sin, reáchtáil an Maoilíosach Comhairle Cogaidh le Larry Lardner, Dick Murphy, Eamon Corbett, Mattie Neilan, Tom Ruane agus an tAthair Feeney. Mhol Ruane gur cheart na hÓglaigh a bhriseadh suas ina gcolúin bheaga chun dul i gcoinne na bpóilíní, ach chuaigh an cruinniú i gcoinne an chuir chuige sin.

San iarnóin ar an gCéadaoin, thréig an Maoilíosach an mhodhfheirm agus chúlaigh sé na reibiliúnaigh go dtí Caisleán Mhaigh Fhód i bparóiste Chill Chon Iarainn - áit chónaithe thréigthe a bhí lonnaithe thart ar chúig chiliméadar soir ó dheas. Bhí 'an caisleán' faoi úinéireacht Lady Ardilaun, agus b'fhurasta é a ghabháil nuair a tháinig na reibiliúnaigh chuig an áit ag thart ar 4pm, mar nach raibh de chosaint ann ach an t-airíoch, John Shackleton. Fad a bhí an Maoilíosach ag fanacht i Maigh Fhód le scéala a fháil faoi na himeachtaí sa réigiún mórthimpeall, d'fhág a ionad nua le hais na Dúghiortaí go raibh malairt bealaí le fáil, chuig an nGort nó go dtí Sionainn. Idir an dá linn, bhunaigh sé sraith d'ionaid fhaire sna ceantair le himeall Mhaigh Fhód. Rinneadh damáiste do dhroichead iarnróid ag Creachmhaoil, d'fhonn stop a chur le trúpaí athneartaithe a theacht isteach ar ráille as Luimneach is cosúil. Ag tráth amháin, rinne scabhtaí póilíní iarracht déanamh ar Mhaigh Fhód ach 'díbríodh ar ais chun a gcuid beairicí iad'. Ach sin ráite, bhí cás na reibiliúnach ag éirí ní ba contúirtí de réir a chéile. In iarnóin an Déardaoin, tháinig '*a large force of infantry and cavalry, with a battery of artillery and machine*

## BEALACH CHONAIR AN ÉIRÍ AMACH

*guns and armoured cars'* go dtí Baile Átha an Rí tar éis imeacht as Baile Locha Riach. D'fhág sin go raibh ar na reibiliúnaigh fanacht i Maigh Fhód san oíche Dé Céadaoin agus Déardaoin agus ar feadh fhormhór na hAoine. Fad a bhí siad ansin, mná as Cumann na mBan a bhí i bhfeighil na cócaireachta agus b'iad a chuir cóir leighis ar dhaoine freisin. Thug an tAthair Feeney aspalóid ghinearálta dóibh sin a bhí ag dul amach ar mhisin scabhtála. Canadh amhrán Thomáis Dháibhís, '*A Nation Once Again*', le hais tine an champa '*in an atmosphere tense with optimism and excitement*'. Ach níorbh fhada a mhair an dóchas mar gur imigh suas le 200 fear as Maigh Fhód go luath. Cuid acu sin a d'imigh bhí siad i gcoinne fad a chur leis an bhfeachtas mar gheall ar an easpa arm. Bhí an dream a bhí fanta faoi bhaol anois ag saighdiúirí agus póilíní a bhí ag déanamh orthu ón iarthar agus ón oirthear.

Ar an Aoine, chúlaigh na reibiliúnaigh siar ó dheas ó Chaisleán Mhaigh Fhód i dtreo Chontae an Chláir. Cé gur aithin sé go raibh siad sáinnithe go maith ag an am, chosain an Maoilíosach tréigeadh Mhaigh Fhóid ar an mbonn gur creideadh go raibh Corcaigh agus Ciarraí amuigh agus go bhfeadfaí dul i gcomhar leo agus an Clár a mhúscailt ar an mbealach. Ní raibh ach colún ídithe sa mhéid a bhí fanta in éineacht leis an Maoilíosach - 150, 300 nó 400 Óglach de réir meastacháin éagsúla. Tar éis taisteal thart ar 24 ciliméadar de dhrochbhóithre tuaithe sa tráthnóna (thar Chreachmhaoil agus trí Fhearann na Manach, An Baile Glas agus Baile na gCoileach), bhain an drong thraochta amach ceann scríbe sa dorchadas i bparóiste

## BEALACH CHONAIR AN ÉIRÍ AMACH

Chill Tomás - áit chónaithe a bhí folamh darbh ainm Teach Bhaile na Creige in aice le Tobar Pheadair. De réir meastachán éagsúil, ba ag an 11pm ar an Aoine, 12am ar an Satharn nó 1am ar an Domhnach a bhain siad amach an teach mór a bhí timpeallaithe le rosáin throma agus é in úinéireacht Harry Persse as Woodville. Am éigean go moch maidin Dé Sathairn, rinneadh an cinneadh scaradh óna chéile agus na príosúnaigh a shaoradh, agus b'shin deireadh le hÉirí Amach Chontae na Gaillimhe. D'fhill formhór na nÓglach abhaile láithreach, ag dul trí bhóithríní agus páirceanna. Dar le Mattie Neilan, ba go drogallach a thosaigh na hÓglaigh ag scaradh óna chéile. Cé go raibh an cath tréigthe acu mheas siad go raibh a mbuille tugtha acu ar son an neamhspleáchais.



## **MOLTAÍ TAISCEALAÍOCHTA**

*Tá an chonair lúbach seo ag síneadh ó Chill Fhínín, atá thart ar cúig chiliméadar soir ó Dhroichead an Chláirín, an bealach ar fad go dtí Baile na Creige Thuaidh, atá thart ar ocht gciliméadar soir ó thuaidh den Ghort. Díreach trasna na tíre, is é an fad iomlán atá idir gach ceann de na 16 láthair inspéise ná 54 ciliméadar. Chun dóthain ama a thabhairt le sásamh ceart a bhaint as na hionad inspéise sin, ag cur uaireanta sosa san áireamh, moltar lá iomlán a chur ar fáil chun an chonair seo a thaiscéaladh.*

*Do na taiscéalaithe cróga, tá láthair inspéise eile i gCinn Mhara curtha isteach ag deireadh na ranna seo. Díreach trasna na tíre, is é an fad iomlán atá idir gach ceann de na 16 láthair inspéise, agus an láthair inspéise breise curtha san áireamh, ná 67 ciliméadar.*

**Leacht 1916,  
Cill Fhínín,  
Co. na Gaillimhe**

**SAT NAV: 53.223229, -8.804655** ⓘ

**1**



Ba é baile beag Chill Fhínín atá lonnaithe idir Droichead an Chláirín agus Creachmhaoil a bhí mar thúsphointe ag an Éirí Amach in oirthear Chontae na Gaillimhe go moch maidin Dé Máirt, 25 Aibreán 1916. Ba é teach aon stóir an mhúinteora 53 bliain d’aois, Mary K. Breathnach, a bhí mar cheanncheathrú ag Liam Ó Maoilíosa sular thug sé aghaidh ar Dhroichead an Chláirín. B’as Tiobraid Árann í Mary, baintreach an ardmháistir scoile, Hubert Breathnach, a bhí éaga. Nó gur bhásaigh sé in 1912, thacaigh Hubert go láidir leis an bpoblachtachas agus bhí sé go mór ar son na Gaeilge. B’as Ros Muc ó dhúchas dó. Ceapadh an bheirt Breathnach ina múinteoirí in 1885 agus bhí a n-áit chónaithe mar láthair don chéad Bhunscoil i gCill Fhínín nó gur dhún sí in 1913.

Luan Cásca 1916, tháinig Eamon Corbett, Mattie

Neilan, Pat ‘The Hare’ Callinan agus an tAthair Harry Feeney go dtí teach Mary Breathnach chun bualadh leis an Maoilíosach. An oíche chéanna, tháinig Óglaigh Dhroichead an Chláirín go Cill Fhínín. Chun cuma na ceannairce agus na haraíonachta a léiriú, d’eagraigh fir Chill Fhínín agus Dhroichead an Chláirín iad féin chomh maith agus ab fhéidir nuair a sheas siad ina líne taobh amuigh de theach Mary maidin Mháirt Cásca. Bhí éidí éagsúla míleata orthu lena n-áirítear hataí foráiste agus beilteanna leathair Sam Browne.

Tógadh leacht chloiche le hais shuíomh theach na mBreathnach i nDeireadh Fómhair 1954. Seo a leanas an inscríbhinn atá ar bhonn na leachta anois: *‘In memory of Liam Mellows and his comrades who set out from here to fight for Irish freedom Easter Week 1916’*. Thug seansaighdiúirí 1916 na Gaillimhe aitheantas mór don mhéid a rinne Mary Breathnach do chomhrac na saoirse. Ina ráiteas do Bhiúró na Staire Míleata in 1957, dúirt Martin Newell: *‘she had an intense love of Ireland and everything Irish’* agus dúirt sé freisin go raibh a teach oscailte do na hÓglaigh ar feadh thréimhse an éirí amach.



Cloch ghreanta ag Teach Maoilíosa



I ndeireadh na 2000í, rinneadh obair athchóirithe ar leacht Chill Fhínín agus in ionad na Croise Ceiltigh bunaidh cuireadh cros dhubh miotail in airde, déanta i gCeárta Madden i gCill Cholgáin. Ba í Ríona Brown (Armstrong roimh phósadh di) a rinne an mhaoirseacht ar an obair, iar-phríomhoide ar an tríú Scoil Náisiúnta i gCill Fhínín, mar aon lena fear céile, Michael Brown. Ba í Kate Armstrong seanmháthair Ríona - bean a bhí ina hOifigeach i gCeannas ar Chumann na mBan Dhroichead an Chláirín. Tá teach cónaithe príobháideach lonnaithe díreach trasna ón leacht 1916 i gCill Fhínín. Seo an inscríbhinn atá ar an leacht (1.1) sa bhalla atá thart ar an teach: 'Teach Maoilíosa Cillínín'. Ní hé sin an t-aon teach cónaithe príobháideach atá ainmnithe i gcuimhne an Mhaoilíosaigh. Nuair a bhí sé ina chónaí i nGaillimh, 'Mhaoil Íosa' an t-ainm a bhí ar theach an tseansaighdiúra 1916, Eamon Corbett, ar Bhóthar an Athar Uí Ghríofa. Mar chomóradh céad bliain an Éirí Amach, reáchtáladh athléiriú ar mhórshiúl agus druileáil de chuid Óglaigh na hÉireann ag leacht Chill Fhínín ar an 20 Márta 2016 ina raibh baill de Ghrúpa Comórtha 1916 Mhóin na gCaor as Co. Loch Garman.

## Plaic Bhalla ag Marcáil Shuíomh an Dara Bunscoil i gCill Fhínín, Cill Fhínín, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.228117, -8.817688



Bhí an dara Scoil Náisiúnta i gCill Fhínín ag feidhmiú as an láthair seo ó 1913-1960. Suas go dtí Éirí Amach 1916, bhí soláthar armlóin stóráilte sa scoil. Tar éis imeacht ó áit chónaithe Mary K. Breathnach maidin Mháirt Cásca, mháirseáil Liam Ó Maoilfosa agus na hÓglaigh siar i dtreo Dhroichead an Chláirín. Ar an mbealach, chuaigh Martin Newell agus Mattie Neilan isteach sa scoil nua chun lastas armlóin a bhí ansin a bhailiú. As sin, mháirseáil an grúpa trí eastát Redington agus thug siad ruathar faoi bheairic an RIC i nDroichead an Chláirín. Lean an teach scoile ag feidhmiú ar an láthair sin gur dúnadh é in 1960. Leagadh go talamh é tamall ina dhiaidh sin agus níl aon chuid den struchtúr fanta anois.

Nochtadh plaic balla in aice le suíomh an dara scoil in 2010, i gcomóradh 50 bliain a dhúnta agus

chun aird a thabhairt ar an tábhacht stairiúil a bhaineann leis. Ba iad Ríona agus Michael Brown a rinne an comhordú ar shocrú na plaice. Seo é an inscríbhinn Bhéarla atá ar bharr na plaice: *'Killeeneen N.S. which stood on this site, was erected in 1913. From here Liam Mellows led his army of Irish Volunteers to rebellion during Easter week 1916. This school was replaced by a new school in 1960'*. Seo é an inscríbhinn Ghaeilge atá ag bun na leice: *'Tógadh Scoil Náisiúnta Chillínín sa suíomh seo sa bhliain 1913. D'fhág Liam Ó Maoilíosa agus na hÓglaigh an áit seo le troid in Éirí Amach na Cásca 1916. Tógadh scoil nua sa bhliain 1960'*.

### An Seanbhealach Isteach chuig Eastát Redington, Cill Chornáin, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.232058, -8.842554



3



Tar éis Óglaigh Chill Fhínín agus Dhroichead an Chláirín a shlógadh, mháirseáil an Maoilíosaigh iad go dtí ionad atá ag an mbealach isteach go dtí eastát Redington i gCill Chornáin. In aice leis

an áit seo, bhris Martin Newell agus Óglaigh eile isteach i dteach póilín 63 bliain d’aois a bhí ar scor, Caitliceach a rugadh i gCeatharlach darbh ainm William Rourke. Tar éis a mbealach a dhéanamh isteach sa teach, a bhí liostaithe i nDaonáireamh 1911 mar theach 4 i mbaile fearainn Chill Chornáin, ghabh na reibiliúnaigh seilbh le lámh láidir ar dhá rothar agus gránghunna ‘*Richardson and Harris*’ de dhéanamh Meiriceánach a bhí ag a bheirt mhac, Edward agus Frank. *Kilcornan Lodge* a thugtar ar an teach cónaithe atá lonnaithe ag an spota sin sa lá atá inniu ann.

Tar éis dul tríd an mbealach isteach ag an teach geata Dé Máirt na Cásca 1916, mháirseáil an grúpa de 100 reibiliúnach, geall leis, trí dhiméin eastát Redington. Thaistil siad trí chosán foraoise ar an taobh thoir de theach cónaithe Anne Redington, Teach Chill Chornáin, (a bhí ina cheanncheathrú ag Seirbhísí Bhráithre na Carthanachta ina dhiaidh sin) agus chuaigh siad amach tríd an mbealach isteach ó dheas an eastáit a bhí díreach trasna an bhóthair ó Chlochar Shiúracha na Trócaire i nDroichead an Chláirín (óstán ina dhiaidh sin agus foirgneamh tréigthe atá ann anois). Ansin cuireadh bacainn in airde chun cosc a chur ar aon phóilíní breise a bheadh ag teacht ó Chill Cholgáin. Ina dhiaidh sin, rinne grúpa reibiliúnach a mbealach siar agus d’ionsaigh siad beairic an RIC i nDroichead an Chláirín.

Fad a bhí an t-ionsaí á dhéanamh ar an mbeairic, d’fhan baill d’Óglaigh Dhroichead an Chláirín ar dhualgas fairtheora ag na bealaí isteach ó thuaidh agus ó dheas d’eastát Redington. Thug póilín a tháinig ar rothar as Cill Cholgáin aghaidh orthu ag an urphost ó dheas ach d’ordaigh na reibiliúnaigh dó géilleadh. Mar a nótáladh i Ráitis Finnéithe Bhiúró na Staire Míleata, dhiúltaigh sé a lámha a chur in airde agus rinne sé iarracht a

ghunnán a tharraingt. Ansin rinne Ned Newell é a lámhach agus a ghoineadh sular tugadh chuig an gclochar é agus cuireadh cóir leighis air. San fhianaise a cuireadh ar fáil don *Property Losses (Ireland) Committee*, a bunaíodh i Meitheamh 1916 chun breith a thabhairt ar éilimh cúitimh as damáiste a rinne na reibiliúnaigh d'fhoirgnimh agus do réadmhaoin le linn Sheachtain na Cásca (mar aon le cailteanais dá bharr sin), tugtar breis léargais ar na himeachtaí a tharla i nDroichead an Chláirín agus mórthimpeall air ar Mháirt Cásca. Chuir an Constábla Edward Brennan éileamh cúitimh isteach faoin rothar '*Hawker – Special Standard*' nach raibh ach bliain d'aois a tógadh air ag 9am, tar éis é a thabhairt ar iasacht don Chonstábla David Manning do 'dhualgas éigeandála' a raibh gá turas a dhéanamh ina leith as Cill Cholgáin go Droichead an Chláirín. Sa doiciméad a thug '*Highway Robbery*' ar an eachtra, léirítear freisin gur ghabh na reibiliúnaigh gunnán Manning mar aon le '*one whistle & chain – public property*'. I mí na Nollag 1916, thug an Cigire Contae George Bedell Rutledge fianaise gurbh fhiú £10 an rothar. Cuireadh an t-eolas ar aghaidh ina dhiaidh sin ón gcoiste le haghaidh '*favourable consideration*'.

Léiríonn na taifid chéanna gur ghabh buíon armtha de 15 nó 20 fear an Constábla Jeremiah J. Donovan as beairic an RIC i gCill Cholgáin Máirt na Cásca i gcomharsanacht Dhroichead an Chláirín. Ar an 26 Bealtaine, chuir sé isteach éileamh cúitimh ar £12 as cailteanas a rothar '*Special Swift*', ag súil go bhfaigheadh sé £9 nó £10. Chuir beirt mhac le William Burke éileamh eile isteach agus fuair siad cúiteamh £9 15s as cailteanas, agus damáiste, ar a n-iarmhais ag a dteach cónaithe i gCill Chornáin.

Láthair inspéise eile i gcomharsanacht Dhroichead an Chláirín is ea Séipéal Roveagh (3.1)

(SAT NAV: 53.223102, -8.839761), atá suite in aice leis an mbealach isteach ó thuaidh chuig an áit a



Séipéal Naomh Colmán, Roveagh

3.1.

mbíodh eastát Redington. Dhá lá sula ndearnadh an t-ionsaí ar bheairic an RIC i nDroichead an Chláirín, ordaíodh d'Óglaigh Dhroichead an Chláirín dul chuig aifreann 11am ansin ar maidin Domhnach Cásca. Dar le Martin Newell, tugadh treoir do na fir gach arm agus trealamh a bhí acu mar aon le díol cúpla lá de chiondálacha a thabhairt leo. Nuair a bhí an tseirbhís thart, bhí bricfeasta ag lucht na Complachta go léir ar thailte an tséipéil agus ba mhná as Cumann na mBan a chócaráil agus a dháil an bia. I bhfocail Michael Kelly, a bhí ina bhall d'Óglaigh Dhroichead an Chláirín, *'the idea of having breakfast was that there was to be no returning home after Mass'*. Nuair a bhí an bricfeasta á chríochnú a tháinig Freasordú Eoin Mhic Néill.

**Seanbheairic Chonstáblacht  
Ríoga na hÉireann,  
4 Sráid na Bearice,  
Droichead an Chláirín,  
Co. na Gaillimhe**

SAT NAV: 53.229391, -8.880186



4



Príomhghné den phlean feachtais don Éirí Amach i nGaillimh ab ea seilbh a ghlacadh ar bheairicí an RIC sna ceantair áitiúla. Ba é an foirgneamh seo, atá suite i lár líne de thithe sraithe, an chéad cheann de dhá bheairic a ionsaíodh ar Mháirt Cásca 1916. Bhí thart ar 100 ball d’Óglaigh na hÉireann as Complachtaí Dhroichead an Chláirín agus Chill Fhínín, faoi cheannas Liam Uí Mhaoilíosa, páirteach sa chaismirt. Mhair an teagmhas ó thart ar 7.20am go dtí 10.38am. Agus tús á chur leis an ionsaí, d’ordaigh Liam Ó Maoilíosa do dháréag dá chuid fear dul isteach sa bhaile chun tosaigh ar an bpríomhghrúpa Óglach a bhí bailithe le chéile ag an mbealach isteach ó dheas chuig eastát Redington. Armtha le gránghunnaí, scaoil siad faoin mbeairic ó réimse 50 méadar nó mar sin. Nuair a bhí sé sin

ag tarlú, rinne na póilíní iarracht dídean a fháil thuas staighre sa bheairic.

Chaith na reibiliúnaigh buamaí leis an mbeairic freisin i rith na caismirte, ach bhí na gairis de dhéantús baile agus dúirt na reibiliúnaigh ina dhiaidh sin go raibh an té a bhí á gcaitheamh sa bhaol céanna uathu leis an té a rabhthas á gcaitheamh leo. Rinne an sagart paróiste, an tAthair Michael J. Tully, iarracht in aisce chun sos lámhaigh a shocrú. I ndeireadh na dála, theip ar na reibiliúnaigh an bheairic a ghabháil. Lean an léigear ar an mbeairic nó gur tháinig póilíní breise as Cill Cholgáin. Ach tugadh chun bealaigh mar phríosúnaigh na Constáblaí David Manning agus Jeremiah J. Donovan a gabhadh ar a mbealach as Cill Cholgáin go Droichead an Chláirín.

San fhianaise a cuireadh ar fáil don *Property Losses (Ireland) Committee*, tugtar léargas soiléir ar an tionchar fisiciúil a bhí ag an trodaíocht ag Droichead an Chláirín. Chuir úinéir réadmhaoine nach raibh faoi árachas, Anne Redington as



*Leac bhalla ag Seanbheairic an RIC,  
Droichead an Chláirín*

4.1.

Caisleán Chill Chornáin, iarratas ar éileamh isteach i mí Lúnasa i dtaca le damáiste a rinneadh



d'fhuinneoga gloine sa bheairic. £4 15s san iomlán a d'éiligh sí ina raibh £3 15s as 77 pána gloine a chuir F. J. Johnston as Cinn Mhara ar fáil agus £1 as 'cúpla lá' d'am fear oibre. Ar an 10 Deireadh Fómhair 1916, thuairisc cigire an choiste, R. Ingoldsly, go raibh an obair athchóirithe déanta agus mhol sé an íocaíocht iomlán de £4 15s do Redington.

I dtús an aonú céad agus fiche, tógadh plaic aolchloiche bhalla (4.1) ar thaobh na láimhe clé den doras tosaigh ag léiriú thábhacht stairiúil an fhoirgnimh. Ealaíontóir áitiúil, Peter Galligan, a rinne é tar éis coimisiún a fháil ó Chonradh na Gaeilge. Seo é an inscríbhinn Bhéarla atá ag bun na plaice: *'This building, formerly the RIC barracks was attacked by Liam Mellows and his comrades during the Easter Rising 1916. Conradh na Gaeilge'*. Is furasta an foirgneamh a aithint ó na cinn atá thart air, mar go bhfuil péint dhearg ar an doras tosaigh.

5

**Seanteach an Athar Henry (Harry) Joseph Feeney, 2 Sráid na Bearice, Droichead an Chláirín, Co. na Gaillimhe**

SAT NAV: 53.229461, -8.880375



Tá dath uaine ar dhoras an fhoirgnimh seo a bhíodh ag feidhmiú mar theach an pharóiste ag an Eaglais Chaitliceach i nDroichead an Chláirín. Tá sé suite dhá dhoras ó chlé na hiarbhairice RIC, i dtreo an phríomhbhóthair. Sa mhí suas go dtí Éirí Amach 1916, bhí an tAthair Michael J. Tully ina chónaí sa teach in éineacht le sagart óg, an tAthair Henry (Harry) Joseph Feeney. Rugadh an tAthair Feeney i gCláí an Dá Mhíle ar an 4 Márta 1889. Ornaíodh ina shagart é ar an 22 Meitheamh 1914 agus bhí sé ina Shéiplíneach i Lios Dúin Bhearna ó 1914-1915.

Le linn a chuid ama i nDroichead an Chláirín, rinne an tAthair Feeney dlúthchairdeas le Liam Ó Maoilíosa. Bhí Feeney 27 bliain d’aois nuair a tharla Éirí Amach 1916 agus shléigh sé in

éineacht le hÓglaigh Dhroichead an Chláirín i rith Sheachtain na Cásca. D'fheidhmigh sé freisin mar Shéiplíneach do na reibiliúnaigh, ag éisteacht faoistine agus ag déanamh iarrachta a meanma a ardú. Nuair a díscaoileadh na hÓglaigh, chuaigh sé ar a theitheadh agus fuair sé dídean i mainistir Ord an tSlánaitheora san Eiscir, Baile Átha an Rí, agus ina dhiaidh sin i Mainistir na gCistéirseach i Ros Cré. Eisíodh barántas chun é a ghabháil ach tugadh pardún dó nuair a rinne Deoise na Gaillimhe idirghabháil ar a shon. Tar éis cúig bliana a chaitheamh ar mhisean i California, d'fhill an tAthair Feeney ar Éirinn agus d'oibrigh sé mar shagart cúnta in Órán Mór agus sa Ghort. In 1931, ceapadh an tAthair Feeney in Shagart Paróiste i Sruthair, Contae Mhaigh Eo. Bhásaigh sé ar an 15 Aibreán 1945 agus cuireadh é i dtailte Shéipéal Shruthair.

Mar chomóradh ar chéad bliain an Éirí Amach, leag a neacht, Sal Furey, bláthfhleasc ar uaigh an Athar Feeney ar an 1 Bealtaine 2016. Mí roimhe sin, chuir neach eile, Una Cannon (5.1), plaic balla ar an teach ina mbíodh cónaí ar an Athair Feeney



## 5.1.

*Leac bhalla ag seanteach  
na Athar Harry Feeney*

6

**Uaigh Joe Howley,  
An tSeanreilig,  
Órán Mór, Co. na Gaillimhe**

**SAT NAV: 53.267616, -8.929528**



Rugadh Michael Joseph (Joe) Howley in Órán Mór in 1895. Ba é an t-aon duine clainne é agus

ní raibh sé ach dhá bhliain d'aois nuair a bhásaigh a athair, Joseph a bhí air siúd freisin. In imeacht ama, phós a mháthair Mary siopadóir darbh ainm William Keane agus bhí ceathrar clainne orthu darbh ainm: Charles, William, Margaret (Madge) Mary agus Delia Josephine (Josie). Fuair Joseph a chuid oideachais i Scoil Náisiúnta an Óráin Mhóir agus i gColáiste Sheosaimh ('An Bish') i nGaillimh. In aois a 18 mbliana, chuaigh sé le hÓglaigh na hÉireann agus ina dhiaidh sin fuair sé ardú céime mar Chaptaen ar Óglaigh an Óráin Mhóir. Ar Mháirt Cásca 1916, bhí sé i gceannas ionsaithe a rinneadh ar bheairic an RIC in Órán Mór in éineacht le Michael Athy, Captaen Óglaigh Mheáraí.

Nuair a tháinig deireadh leis an Éirí Amach, gabhadh Howley ar Shráid Forster i nGaillimh agus ina dhiaidh sin gearradh cúig bliana pianseirbhíse air. Chaith sé am i bPríosún Dartmoor agus i gcampa géibhinn Frongoch sa Bhreatain Bheag, ach ligeadh saor é tar éis 15 mhí dá théarma a bheith déanta aige. Ar an 21 Lúnasa 1920, i rith Chogadh na Saoirse, bhí Howley páirteach i Luíochán Pháirc Mheirlinne. Mar dhíoltas, las na Dúchrónaigh teach cónaithe a mhuintire (teach ósta Keane in Órán Mór). Freisin, lasadh áitreabh Shinn Féin a bhí ar an taobh eile den tsráid. Chaith Joe cuid mhaith seachtainí ar a theitheadh tar éis an luíocháin agus maraíodh é ar an 5 Nollaig 1920, tar éis é a lámhach le linn luíocháin in aice le Stáisiún na Cloiche Leithne (ceanncheathrú Bhus Éireann anois). Ina dhiaidh sin, cuireadh é taobh thiar den séipéal Caitliceach in Órán Mór (Leabharlann Órán Mór anois).

## Dealbh Joe Howley, Órán Mór, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.268675, -8.928988



B'iad a sheanchomrádaithe a rinne an chéad mholadh in 1942 go dtabharfaí onóir do Joe Howley. Tar éis cúig bliana pleanála, chuir William Keane, leasdeartháir le Joe, dealbh in airde ar láthair chúinne ag aomhal Shráid na Beairice agus an phríomhshráid. Ba é Frank Fahy, TD, a rinneadh an sochtadh oifigiúil. Seo an inscibhinn atá ar an bplionta: *'Commdt Joseph Howley. He led his Volunteers in Easter Week 1916 & was murdered by English agents at the Broadstone Dublin 1920. Erected in 1947 by his old comrades of 1916–1920'*.

Mar chomórath ar Iubhaile Órga an Éirí Amach, rinneadh mórshiúl go dtí leacht Howley ar an 17 Aibreán 1966. Léigh Gabrielle Burke, dalta i meánscoil Chlochár an Toirbhirte, an Forógra os ard. Tá comórath déanta ar Joe Howley freisin in dhá logainm in Órán Mór, mar atá: Howley Court (bloc d'fhoirgnimh thráchtála atá os comhair an

deilbh) agus Howley Square (áit in aice láimhe atá os cionn carrchlóis faoi thalamh).

Rinneadh comóradh ar chéad bliain an Éirí Amach 1916 le nochtadh cloiche cuimhneacháin de mharmaid dubh taobh amuigh den ionad pobail i mbaile Mheáraí in aice láimhe ar an 16 Aibreán 2016. Leis na dátaí ‘1916–2016’, tá sé tiomnaithe d’fhir agus do mhná an cheantair a rinne an oiread sin ar son chúis an phoblachtachais in Éirinn i rith an Éirí Amach agus Chogadh na Saoirse. Nochtadh an dara cloch chuimhneacháin lena hais, tiomnaithe do Michael Athy agus Patrick Cloonan. Bhí Athy ina Chaptaen ar Óglaigh Mheáraí i rith an Éirí Amach. Maraíodh é féin agus Cloonan i rith Chogadh na Saoirse. Tógadh an dá chuimhneacháin faoi choimirce Ghrúpa Comórtha 1916 Mheáraí.

**Seanbheairic Chonstáblacht  
Ríoga na hÉireann,  
An Phríomhshráid, Órán Mór,  
Co. na Gaillimhe**

SAT NAV: 53.269183, -8.928760 

8



Tá an léibheann seo d'fhoirgnimh thráchtála in ionad Howley Court lonnaithe ar shuíomh tí cúig sheomra a bhí ag feidhmiú mar bheairic an RIC in 1916. I nDaonáireamh 1911, tá an bheairic liostaithe mar Teach 1.1 i mbaile fearainn Phreabán an Ósta. Bhí aon phóilín déag lonnaithe ann ag an am. Bhí Teach 1.2 ina áit chónaithe ag an Sáirsint James Howley a rugadh i Sligeach, agus bhí Teach 1.3 ina áit chónaithe ag an gConstábla Michael Brennan. Léiríonn an daonáireamh go raibh na trí theach faoi úinéireacht P.J.B. Daly as Gaillimh agus go raibh teach móna agus seideanna ar a gcúl.

Ba é beairic an RIC in Órán Mór an dara ceann a ionsaíodh in oirthear Chontae na Gaillimhe ar Mháirt Cásca 1916. Rinneadh dhá iarracht seilbh a fháil ar an bhfoirgneamh a bhí cosanta go daingean le comhlaí cruach. Sa chéad iarracht bhí Joseph Howley agus Michael Athy i gceannas ionsaí a rinne 106 Óglach as Órán Mór agus Meáraí. Roinneadh an fórsa reibiliúnach ina dhá chuid, ceann acu ag ionsaí thosach na beairice agus an ceann eile ag ionsaí an chúil. Nuair cosnaíodh an bheairic go daingean, rinneadh an dara hiarracht í a thógáil le cabhair ó bhreis Óglach faoi cheannas Liam Uí Mhaoilíosa a bhí tagtha as Droichead an Chláirín. In ainneoin fórsa iomlán de bhreis agus 200 fear, chinn ar na reibiliúnaigh arís ina n-iarracht an bheairic, ina raibh seachtar póilíní, a thógáil. Seo a leanas ainmneacha na bpóilíní: An Sáirsint James Healy (a rugadh i Sligeach agus a bhí 48 bliain) mar aon leis na gConstáblaí P. Heffernan, P. Smith, D. Foley, J. Hannon, A. Barrett agus T. McDermott. Tar éis roinnt mhaith uaireanta an chloig, tháinig trúpaí breise faoi cheannas an Chaptaein Sir Andrew Armstrong agus an Chigire Contae George Bedell Ruttledge chuig an taobh thiar d'Órán Mór ag thart ar 7.30pm, agus dá thoradh



chúlaigh an Maoilíósach agus a chuid fear go dtí an mhodhfheirm in aice le Baile Átha an Rí. Sula raibh an chuid deiridh de na hÓglaigh cúlaithe tharla babhta beag lámhaigh leis na fórsaí Briotanacha.

In éileamh a cuireadh ar fáil don *Property Losses (Ireland) Committee* ar an 21 Deireadh Fómhair 1916 ó Aileen Dillon (as an gCearnóg, Lios Tuathail, Contae Chiarraí), riarthóir eastáit P.J.B. Daly, faightear léargas ar an ar an tionchar fisiciúil a bhí ag an trodaíocht ag Órán Mór. Seo a leanas an cur síos a rinne sí ar an damáiste: *'the dwelling house used as a Police Barracks at Oranmore ... was fired into by persons taking part in the Rebellion whereby the door windows, window sashes were shattered and broken and the glass in the windows and also the walls were damaged'*. Cuireadh meastachán garbh ar fáil i dtús ama agus rinne sí éileamh ar £50 chun an damáiste a dheisiú. Ar an 6 Eanáir 1917, níor mhol an cigire, R. Ingoldsly, ach íocaíocht £24 12s. Ina luacháil ar an damáiste iomlán chuir sé san áireamh an meastachán a chuir tógálaí, Michael Kelly, ar fáil agus a bhí formhuinthe ag an Sáirsint Healy, dar dáta 9 Nollaig 1916. Thug tuairisc an tSáirsint Healy achoimre ar nádúr cruinn an damáiste. Dúirt sé go raibh cuid de na reibiliúnaigh armtha le gránghunnaí agus scaoil siad roinnt urchar tríd na fuinneoga. Dá thoradh *'17 large panes of glass measuring 2 ft 2 ins [c.66 ceintiméadar] by 1 ft 2 ins [c.35.5 ceintiméadar], and 12 smaller panes ... were broken'*. Lena chois sin, dúirt sé go raibh *'the frames of four windows were damaged by the gun shot, also two wooden shelf brackets in dayroom was [sic] damaged with minor injury to the inside wall of dayroom'*.

Tar éis bhunú Shaorstát Éireann in 1922, athchóiríodh an seanbheairic RIC ina stáisiún Gardaí. I dtús an fhichiú céid, d'aistrigh An Garda

9

## Droichead Bóthair, Preabán an Mhuilinn, Órán Mór, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.271721, -8.929529



In iarracht le fórsaí na Briotáine a choinneáil ó dhoras i rith na n-ionsaithe ar bheairicí an RIC ag Órán Mór, reáchtáil na reibiliúnaigh sraith d'oibríochtaí tacaíochta sa taobh tíre mórthimpeall an bhaile. Rinneadh sabaitéireacht ar línte teileafóin, ardaíodh bacainní bóthair agus rinneadh damáiste don iarnród ag Doire Uí Dhónaill. Bhain grúpa reibiliúnach, faoi cheannas Eamon Corbett, úsáid as pléascáin chun poll a dhéanamh i lár droichid dhronnaigh bóthair a bhí straitéiseach ag Preabán an Mhuilinn, suite le hais muilinn arbhair ar an taobh ó thuaidh d'Órán Mór.

Tráthnóna Máirt Cásca, bhí fórsaí na Briotáine i gceannas an droichid le meaisínghunna Vickers, rud a chuir cosc ar Óglaigh an Chaisleáin Ghearr agus Bhaile Chláir ó dhul isteach go hÓrán Mór.

B'as Cill Fhínín é Corbett, sheirbheáil sé mar Chaptaen ar Óglaigh Dhroichead an Chláirín i rith an Éirí Amach, agus freisin bhí sé ina Leasoifigeach i gCeannas ar Bhriogáid na Gaillimhe. Nuair a cuireadh deireadh leis an Éirí Amach, d'éalaigh sé go Meiriceá. Nuair a d'fhill sé in 1918, gabhadh é agus bhí sé faoi choinneáil go dtí 1919. Bhí sé in TD ag Fianna Fáil ina dhiaidh sin, idir 1935-1937 agus ó 1943-1944. Lena chois sin, ba é an cathaoirleach ab fhaide é ar Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe agus é sa phost ó 1928-1945. An droichead dronnach a bhí ag Preabán an Mhuilinn in 1916, cuireadh struchtúr cothrom ina áit sna 1960í.

**Suíomh Chábáin Chomharthaíochta  
an Midland Great Western Railway,  
Bóthar an Stáisiúin, Órán Mór,  
Co. na Gaillimhe**

SAT NAV: 53.279829, -8.925715



10



Seo é suíomh an tseanchábáin chomharthaíochta a bhí ag an *Midland Great Western Railway*, suite achar taobh thoir de shean-stáisiún Óráin Mhóir agus Bóthar an Stáisiún a théann ó Órán Mór go dtí Crosaire an Chairn Mhóir. D’fhan an struchtúr ina sheasamh go slán cuid mhaith blianta, nó gur scriosadh é am éigean i ndeireadh an fhichiú céad. Go moch maidin Máirt Cásca 1916, chuaigh ceathrar reibiliúnach armtha isteach sa chábán comharthaíochta agus rinne siad damáiste d’fhearais éagsúla leictreonacha in oibríocht a bhí socraithe chun cuidiú leis an ionsaí ar bheairicí an RIC sa bhaile in aice láimhe.

Thuairisc *The Galway Observer* go raibh a ngunnáin dírithe ar an bhfear comharthaíochta ag na reibiliúnaigh fad a bhí duine eile acu ag fáil sluaiste agus ag briseadh na gcomharthaí. Fad a bhí an méid sin ag tarlú, bhí Ceannfort an iarnróid, Mr Courtney, ag iarraidh dul i dteagmháil as Baile Átha an Rí le cábán comharthaíochta Óráin Mhóir. Tar éis na comharthaí a chur ó mhaith, d’imigh na reibiliúnaigh. An lá céanna, ghearr na reibiliúnaigh píosa den iarnród idir Gaillimh agus Baile Átha an Rí ag Doire Uí Dhónaill, beagnach cúig chiliméadar soir ó stáisiún Óráin Mhóir. Ach sin ráite, rinneadh botún oirbheartaíochta nuair a fágadh a lán an t-iarnród as Órán Mór go dtí baile na Gaillimhe.

Crosaire an Chairn Mhóir,  
An Carn Mór,  
Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.304727, -8.932335 ⓘ

11



Idir 5am agus 5.30am ar an gCéadaoin, 26 Aibreán 1916, tharla eachtra lámhaigh idir Óglaigh as Baile Chláir agus an Caisleán Gearr agus an RIC ag Crosaire an Chairn Mhóir. Bhí na Complachtaí Óglach faoi cheannas Nicholas Kyne agus Brian Molloy, agus bhí an RIC faoi cheannas an Chigire Dhúiche George Bennett Heard. Maraíodh an Constábla Patrick Whelan san eachtra lámhaigh. In iarracht le deireadh tapa a chur leis an gcaismirt, tuairiscítear gur bhéic Whelan: *'Surrender boys, I know ye all!'* D'fhreagair na hÓglaigh le rois urchar, bhuaile ceann acu Whelan ar an taobh clé dá chloigeann, tháinig a chuid fola agus maraíodh ar an toirt é.

38 bliain d'aois a bhí an Constábla Whelan agus b'as Baile an Fhaoitigh, Contae Chill Chainnigh dó. Seo an inscríbhinn atá ar an gCros

Cheilteach ar a uaigh (11.1) (SAT NAV: 53.280802, -9.040307), a ndearnadh athchóiriú uirthi in



*Uaigh an Chonstábla Patrick Whelan, Reilig an Bhóthair Mhóir, Gaillimh* **11.1.**

2016 agus atá i gCuid G, Sraith 3 de Reilig an Bhóthair Mhóir i gcathair na Gaillimhe: *'Sacred to the memory of Constable Patrick Whelan who died on 26th April 1916 from wounds received whilst gallantly doing his duty as a member of the Royal Irish Constabulary. R.I.P. Erected by the officers and men of RIC and many sympathetic friends in the County of Galway W[est] R[iding]'*.

In 1951, nochtadh Cros Cheilteach aolchloiche (11.2) (SAT NAV: 53.295365, -9.014626) le hais Bhóthar Thuama, An Caisleán Gearr, i gcuimhne na bhfear as an bparóiste a bhí páirteach in imeachtaí 1916–1923. Ina measc sin a bhí i láthair an lá ar nochtadh an cuimhneachán bhí grúpa de sheanreibiliúnaigh, Brian Molloy san áireamh. Roimhe sin, bhí seastán na croise ina chuid den chuimhneachán don Tiarna Dunkellin a nochtadh ar an bhFaiche Mhór in 1873. In 1922, áfach, bhain baill de Bhrainse na Gaillimhe den *Town Tenants' League* úsáid as rópa chun dealbh Dunkellin



11.2.

*Cros Cheilteach, Bóthar Thuama,  
An Caisleán Gearr*

a tharraingt anuas den seastán. Caitheadh in Abhainn na Gaillimhe ansin é. D’fhan an seastán ar an bhFaiche Mhór i rith na 1920í agus i dtús na 1930í agus b’shin an seastán céanna a ndearnadh athchóiriú air agus a úsáideadh i gcuimhneachán an Chaisleáin Ghearr. Cuireadh bailchríoch ar an obair athchóirithe ar an gcuimhneachán in 2016.

Rinneadh comóradh arís i dtús na 1950í ar an lámhach ag Crosaire an Chairn Mhóir, tráth a ndearna an seansaighdiúir Bhráithreachas Phoblacht na hÉireann agus Óglaigh na hÉireann, George Glynn, agus a mhac Mattie, cros de chloch ghearrtha a thógáil i gcúinne páirce ar a gcuid talún, ar an taobh thiar de Bhóthar an Laighdeacáin (11.3) (SAT NAV: 53.314703, -8.941885). Seo an inscríbhinn atá ar an leacht: ‘I gcuimhne na bhfear do troid [sic] ar son na h-Éireann 1916 IRB. Seoirse Mag Fhloinn do thóg an leacht seo. Guidhid [sic] air! I rith Sheachtain na Cásca 1916, shlóg George Glynn le hÓglaigh Bhaile Chláir ag Crosaire an Chairn Mhóir. Tar éis a bhunaithe in 1926, chuaigh sé go láidir le Fianna Fáil. De bhreis ar an bpolaitíocht bhí an-suim ag



**George Glynn le hais chros Bráithreachas 11.3.**  
**Phoblacht na hÉireann, Bóthar an Laighdeacáin**  
**(Tugtha le cead ó George agus Ronan Glynn)**

Glynn sa ghairneoireacht. Ar an 29 Meitheamh 2016, athlonnaíodh an chros chuimhneacháin go dtí cúinne eile den pháirc chéanna, níos gaire do cholbha an phríomhbhóthair agus trasna ó *Glynn's Fruit & Veg*. Ba é garmhac George Glynn, George Glynn atá air féin, a rinne maoirseacht ar an obair. Is féidir breathnú ar líne ar ghearrscannán d'athlonnú an chuimhneacháin.<sup>1</sup>

Mar chomóradh ar an eachtra lámhaigh ar an gCarn Mór, rinne an Comhairleoir Peter Roche, Cathaoirleach Chontae na Gaillimhe, agus an Comhairleoir Frank Fahy, Méara Chathair na Gaillimhe, an nochtadh oifigiúil ar phlaic bhalla ag an mbóthar aniar chuig an gcroisre ar an 26 Aibreán 2016 (11.4) (SAT NAV: 53.304642, -8.933156). Tá trí lógó léirithe ar an bplaic, mar





#### 11.4. Leac bhalla ag Crosaire an Chairn Mhóir

atá: Éire 2016, Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe agus Gaillimh: Deich mBliana na gCuimhneachán 2013–2023. Sa cheann deiridh acu sin tá íomhá de húicéir na Gaillimhe agus patrún de chiorcail laistigh de chiorcail deartha ar an gcrann mór. Léiríonn siad sin nádúr ilghnéitheach na gcomhghuaillíochtaí polaitiúla Éireannacha sa tréimhse mhúnlaitheach, 1913–1923. Seo an inscríbhinn atá ar an bplaic: ‘I rith Éirí Amach na Cásca 1916, tharla comhrac idir Óglaigh na hÉireann agus Fórsaí na Breataine ag Crosbhóthar an Chairn Mhóir ar an 26 Aibreán 1916 a raibh bás Constábla den RIC mar thoradh air, an t-aon bhás san Éirí Amach i gContae na Gaillimhe. Nochta ar an 26 Aibreán 2016.’ I rith Éirí Amach na Cásca 1916, tharla comhrac idir Óglaigh na hÉireann agus Fórsaí na Breataine ag Crosbhóthar an Chairn Mhóir ar an 26 Aibreán 1916 a raibh bás Constábla den RIC mar thoradh air, an t-aon bhás san Éirí Amach i gContae na Gaillimhe. Nochta ar an 26 Aibreán 2016. *Irish Natural Stone Products Ltd.* a rinne an chloch sa Tobar, Contae an Chláir.

*Bígí fíorchúramach ag Crosaire an Chairn Mhóir*

*agus sna ceantair mháguaird, le bhur dtoil, mar go bhfuil na suíomhanna agus na leachtanna stairiúla suite le hais bóithre atá gnóthach.*

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<sup>1</sup> Tá an gearrscannán seo ar cheann d’ocht gclár faisnéise a rinneadh do ‘Remembering Galway 1916’, sraith a bhreathnaíonn ar Éirí Amach 1916 i gContae na Gaillimhe agus an bealach ar comóradh é in 2016. Rinneadh na scannáin a fhorbairt mar chuid de léiriúchán a rinne Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe agus an Chomhairle Oidhreachta, i gcomhar leis an Rannóg Oidhreachta & Turasóireachta in GMIT. Ionad Scannánaíochta na Gaillimhe a léirigh iad agus ba é an scannánaí Paul Murphy a stiúraigh iad. Is féidir breathnú ar na scannáin ar na suíomhanna idirlín seo a leanas:

[www.galwaydecadeofcommemoration.org](http://www.galwaydecadeofcommemoration.org);

[www.gmit.ie/general/remembering-reflecting-and-reimagining](http://www.gmit.ie/general/remembering-reflecting-and-reimagining)

**Uaigh Tom (Thomas) Ruane,  
Reilig Mhainistir Bhaile Chláir,  
Baile Chláir, Co. na Gaillimhe**

SAT NAV: 53.346903, -8.944248

12



Rugadh Tom Ruane in 1883. Bhí sé ina chaptaen ar fhoireann iománaíochta Bhaile Chláir in 1911 agus bhí sé ina bhall de Chomplacht Bhaile Chláir d'Óglaigh na hÉireann i rith Éirí Amach 1916. Bhí sé páirteach sa lámhach a tharla ag Crosaire an Chairn Mhóir agus b'éigean dó dul ar a theitheadh tar éis Sheachtain na Cásca. Gabhadh é i dtús mhí Mheithimh agus gearradh 10 mbliana pianseirbhíse air. Bhásaigh Tom Ruane in 1937 agus cuireadh é gar don bhalla teorann ó thuaidh ar an gcuid nua de Reilig Mhainistreach Bhaile Chláir, gar d'fhothracha shaingeal na mainistreach Proinsiasach ón tríú céad déag.

Nochtadh Cros Cheilteach mhór ar uaigh Ruane ar an 8 Meán Fómhair 1940, ag ócáid ina raibh 60 seansaighdiúir IRA i láthair agus 180 ball den Fhórsa Cosanta Áitiúil. Le linn an tsearmanais

nochta, thug an TD Gerald Bartley óráid. Tá inscríbhinn i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla ar an gcros Cheilteach atá ar uaigh Ruane. Seo atá ar an inscríbhinn: *'Erected by the widow, family and old 1916 comrades of the IRA Claregalway in memory of the Vice Brigadier of the 2nd Western Division Thomas O Ruane Carnmore died August 31 1937 RIP'*. Tá íomhá de dhá raidhfil crosáilte i mbréagreilíf (12.1) ar thaobh an tseastáin. Tá an dáta '1916' inscríofa os a gcionn agus tá siad frámaidhe le múnlálacha rópacha ar chlé agus ar dheis.



An dá raidhfil trasnaithe atá léirithe ar uaigh Tom Ruane

12.1.

Músaem agus Ceárta Bhaile Chláir,  
An Ruán Mór,  
Baile Chláir, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.359823, -8.928117

13



Tá an músaem seo suite ag an Ruán Mór, agus osclaíodh don phobal é den chéad uair ar an 13 Meán Fómhair 2014. Bunaíodh é faoi choimirce Chumann Staire & Cultúrtha Bhaile Chláir ar shuíomh a fuarthas in aisce ó dhá theaghlach áitiúla, muintir Smyth agus muintir Glynn. Díríonn an músaem go príomha ar shaol na tuaithe in Éirinn le taispeántais de threalamh feirme, earraí tí agus uirlisí siúinéireachta.

Seoladh taispeántas a bhain le hÉirí Amach 1916 ar an 1 Eanáir 2016 agus meastar go mbeidh sé sin ar siúl go dtí 2023. Tá sé sin ag díriú ar an ról a bhí ag Óglaigh Bhaile Chláir i rith Sheachtain na Cásca 1916. Déantar athinsint ar scéal na tréimhse trí phainéil théacs atá ar dhá sheastán is féidir a tharraing aníos, agus freisin tá macasamhla d'ailt as *The Connacht Tribune* agus *The Connacht*

*Telegraph* le fáil ann. Tá réimse de ghrianghraif ar taispeáint ann chomh maith lena n-áirítear ceann d'fhoireann iománaíochta 1911 a raibh Tom Ruane ina chaptaen orthu.

Is féidir pictiúr de bheaignit a fheiceáil chomh maith ag an taispeántas a bhfuil 1916 mar théama aige. Tá réimse de dhéantáin stairiúla agus d'earraí cuimhneacháin ar taispeáint in dhá chaibinéad taispeántais ghloine a bhronn baill den phobal áitiúil. Áirithe sna hearraí atá ar taispeáint ansin tá: boinn, pionnaí, suaitheantais agus paimfléid. Sa taispeántas freisin tá macasamhail frámaithe d'Fhorógra 1916 agus macasamhla d'ábhar lámhscríofa ó Chartlanna Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe a bhaineann leis an ionchoisne a rinneadh ag Beairic Shráid Eglinton faoi mharú an Chonstábla Patrick Whelan ag Crosaire an Chairn Mhóir. Is féidir breathnú freisin ar ghearrchuntas stairiúil faoi Bhaile Chláir ar theilifís mhór. Suite le hais an mhúsaem tá ceárta a ndearnadh athchóiriú air in 2007. Cé nach raibh aon ról ag an gceárta in Éirí Amach 1916, is fiú a nótáil gur i gceárta Mick Newell ar an gCaisleán Gearr, nach bhfuil ann a thuilleadh, a rinneadh cuid de na píicí a bhí ag reibiliúnaigh na Gaillimhe in Éirí Amach 1916.

**An tSeanmhodhfheirm (Teagasc,  
Campas Uí Mhaoilíosa anois),  
Baile an Gharráin Thiar,  
Baile Átha an Rí,  
Co. na Gaillimhe**

SAT NAV: 53.288821, -8.777891



14



Tá Campas Uí Mhaoilíosa lonnaithe thart ar chiliméadar go leith siar ó dheas ó Bhaile Átha an Rí agus is ann atá an tlonad Taighde agus Nuálaíochta Ainmhithe & Féaraigh, atá ina chuid den Chlár Taighde Ainmhithe & Féaraigh atá ag Teagasc. Nuair a tharla Éirí Amach 1916, bhí an láthair ina mhodhfheirm de 600 acra nó mar sin, á reáchtáil ag an Roinn Talmhaíochta agus Ceardoideachais. Bhí an fheirm lonnaithe ar thalamh a bhí ag muintir Goodbody roimhe sin, teaghlach de chuid Chumann na gCarad. Mar gheall go raibh an tír-raon ollmhór seo i gceartlár aighnis talún, bhí botháin ann ina raibh lucht faire de chuid an RIC.

I rith an Éirí Amach, ghlac 500-700 reibiliúnach seilbh ar an modhfheirm agus champáil siad ansin

ón 25–26 Aibreán 1916. Bhí an fórsa forghabhála comhdhéanta d’Óglaigh as Baile Átha an Rí, An Cosán, Doire Uí Dhónaill, Cill Chon Iarainn, An Caisleán Nua, Gort na Carraige (Creachmhaoil), Droichead an Chláirín, Órán Mór, Meáraí, An Caisleán Gearr agus Baile Chláir. San achar gearr ama a raibh siad ann, bhí neart cóiríochta le fáil acu sna lochtaí móra ag an gcloigtheach (14.1). Cé nach raibh aon duine ar dualgas i mbothán an RIC



*An cloigtheach (lena lochtaí thuas staighre) ag Campas Uí Mhaoilíosa*

14.1.

in aice leis an gcloigtheach ag an am ar gabhadh an áit, ní raibh an suíomh ach achar beag ó dheas d’iarnród na Gaillimhe–Bhaile Átha Cliath, rud a chiallaigh nach raibh an áit oiriúnach le haghaidh forghabhála fhada ag na reibiliúnaigh.

Nochtadh plaic cré-umha bhalla (14.2), atá lonnaithe anois ag an mbealach isteach chuig ionad fáilte in Áras Uí Mhaoilíosa, i dtailte Champas Uí Mhaoilíosa ar an 14 Aibreán 1966. Bhí an searmanas mar chuid den chomóradh lubhaile Órga ar Éirí Amach 1916, tráth ar athainmníodh an coláiste talmhaíochta i gcuimhne ar Liam Uí Mhaoilíosa. Ag labhairt dó ag nochtadh na plaice, chuir Cathal Ó hEochaidh, an tAire Talmhaíochta





#### 14.2. *Leacht bhalla ag Áras Uí Mhaoilíosa*

agus lascaigh, béim ar an iarracht shuntasach a rinne fir na Gaillimhe, ‘de bhunaidh feirmeoirí’ a throid ar son neamhspleáchas na hÉireann Seo í an inscríbhinn Bhéarla atá ag bun na plaice: ‘*On 14th April 1966 this college was renamed Mellows [sic] Agricultural College in memory of Liam Mellows [sic] and his comrades who kept armed vigil here for Irish freedom in Easter Week 1916.*’



#### 14.3. *Leacht bhalla ag an gcloigtheach*

Mar chomóradh ar chéad bliain Éirí Amach 1916, rinne Teagasc, i gcomhpháirtíocht le Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe agus le cabhair ó chuid mhaith eagraíochtaí agus grúpaí pobail eile, ócáid mhór chuimhneacháin a reáchtáil ag Campas Uí Mhaoilíosa. *'Farming and Country Life 1916'* an teideal a bhí air agus bhí sé ar siúl ón 10-11 Meitheamh 2016. An dara le den ócáid, rinne an Dr Noel Cawley, Cathaoirleach Theagasc, plaic dátheangach (14.3) a nochtadh ag binn an túrthí. Seo í an inscríbhinn Bhéarla atá ar an bplaic: *'Liam Mellows and his volunteers billeted the night of Tuesday 25th April in this building'*. Rinneadh athchóiriú thuas staighre sna lochtaí roimh an ócáid dhá lá ag ar tháinig suas le 55,000 duine.

15

### Fothrach Chaisleán Mhaigh Fhód agus Iarsmaí de Chlós na Stáblaí, Maigh Fhód, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.256572, -8.703410



San iarnóin ar an gCéadaoin, 26 Aibreán 1916, thréig an Maoilíosa an mhodhfheirm agus

chúlaigh sé na reibiliúnaigh go dtí Caisleán Mhaigh Fhód i bparóiste Chill Chon Iarainn - áit chónaithe thréigthe (nó ‘teach mór’) a bhí lonnaithe thart ar chúig chiliméadar soir ó dheas. Bhí an ‘caisleán, sean-ionad eastát Persse, in úinéireacht Lady Ardilaun ag an am ar tháinig na reibiliúnaigh. B’fhurasta dóibh é a ghabháil ag thart ar 4pm, mar nach raibh de chosaint ann ach an t-airíoch, John Shackleton.

Nuair a bhí an campa bunaithe, chuathas i mbun misin chun bia a fháil agus eolas a bhailiú. Ar an Déardaoin, thaistil Liam Ó Maoilíosa agus grúpa de na hÓglaigh go dtí beairic an RIC ag an gCnoc Breac chun eolas a fháil faoi ghluaiseachtaí na bhfórsaí Briotánach. Ar dhul suas an staighre dó san fhoirgneamh, bhuail an Maoilíosa le sáirsint a bhí ag ligean air go raibh sé an-bhreoite. Ní dhearna na reibiliúnaigh aon díobháil don sáirsint ach ghlac siad seilbh ar dhoiciméid de chuid na bpóilíní. Ag tráth eile ar an Déardaoin, rinne scabhtaí póilíní iarracht déanamh ar Mhaigh Fhód ach dhíbir na reibiliúnaigh ar ais iad. Faoin iarnóin, bhí cás na reibiliúnach ag éirí níba contúirtí nuair a tháinig *‘a large force of infantry and cavalry, with a battery of artillery and machine guns and armoured cars’* go dtí Baile Átha an Rí tar éis imeacht as Baile Locha Riach. San iomlán, d’fhan na reibiliúnaigh i Maigh Fhód san oíche Dé Céadaoin agus Déardaoin agus d’imigh siad san iarnóin ar an Aoine ag thart ar 4pm nó 5pm. Fad a bhí siad ansin, mná as Cumann na mBan a bhí i bhfeighil na cócaireachta agus b’iad a chuir cóir leighis ar dhaoine freisin. Thug an tAthair Henry (Harry) Joseph Feeney aspalóid ghinearálta dóibh sin a bhí ag dul amach ar mhisin scabhtála. Canadh amhrán Thomáis Dháibhís, *‘A Nation Once Again’*, le hais tine an champa.

Ag searmanas comórtha ina raibh suas le 1,000 i láthair ag Caisleán Mhaigh Fhód in 1924, dúirt

an seansaighdiúir 1916, Eamon Corbett, gur ‘talamh beannaithe’ a bhí sa chlós inar bhailigh na hÓglaigh. In 1931, áfach, tógadh clocha fhothrach an tí chun bealaigh agus baineadh úsáid astu in athuair chun séipéal cuimhneacháin an Athar Michael Griffin a thógáil sa Ghoirtín, Béal Átha na Sluaighe. In 1956, d’fhill thart ar 200 seansaighdiúir 1916 ar Mhaigh Fhód do shearmanas i gcuimhne an 40ú bliain den Éirí Amach. Chuir FCA Baile Átha an Rí, faoin Leifteanant Frank Kilkelly, garda onóra ar fáil agus rinne an Ceannaire Cassidy as Dún Uí Mhaoilíosa an chúirtéis a sheinm.

Sa am i láthair, tá na doirneoga i gclós Mhaigh Fhóid clúdaithe go hiomlán le féar agus níl fágtha ach cúpla iarsma den teach mór le hais cosáin. Ar an 10 Aibreán 2016, mar chomóradh ar



Cloch chuimhneacháin 1916 ag Maigh Fhód

chéad bliain an Éirí Amach, nochtaigh Éamon Ó Cuív, TD, cloch chuimhneacháin (15.1) (SAT NAV: 53.262320, -8.702574) ag Maigh Fhód, achar beag ó reilig mhuintir Persse. Grúpa Comórtha Liam Uí Mhaoilíosa 1916 a thóg an cuimhneachán atá suite thart ar 600 méadar ó fhothrach Chaisleán Mhaigh Fhód. Ar bharr na cloiche tá an focal ‘Éire’ agus scal ghréine faoina bhun. Seo an inscríbhinn atá ar an íochtar: *‘1916 Moyode. Commandant Liam Mellows, members of Galway Brigade Irish Volunteers and Cumann na mBan assembled here to fight for Irish freedom during the Easter Rising. Leaving Moyode, they proceeded to Limepark, Peterswell and disbanded on 29 April 1916.’ Tá leagan Gaeilge den téacs céanna inscríofa ar an gcuimhneachán.*

### Fothrach Theach Bhaile na Creige, Baile na Creige Thuaidh, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.132425, -8.751639  

# 16



Ar an Aoine, 28 Aibreán 1916, d’imigh na reibiliúnaigh amach an geata tosaigh ar dhiméin

Mhaigh Fhód. Ansin rinne siad a mbealach ar bhóithrín a théann trí Bhaile an Mhuine agus lean siad orthu trí 24 ciliméadar de dhrochbhóithre tuaithe sa tráthnóna. Tar éis dul trí Chreachmhaoil, Fearann na Manach, an Baile Glas agus Baile na gCoileach, tháinig siad go dtí Teach Bhaile na Creige i bparóiste Chill Tomáis am éigean idir 11pm ar an Aoine agus 1am ar an Satharn. Agus iad ag déanamh ar an áit chónaithe a bhí folamh, an colún reibiliúnach laghdaithe (de réir meastachán éagsúil bhí 150, 300 nó 400 ann tráth) bhí an tAthair rompu tar éis dó taisteal as Eiscir.

Go moch maidin Dé Sathairn, rinneadh an cinneadh i seomra tosaigh an tí scaradh óna chéile agus na príosúnaigh a bhí san íoslach a shaoradh, agus b'shin deireadh le hÉirí Amach Chontae na Gaillimhe. D'fhill formhór na nÓglach abhaile láithreach, ag dul trí bhóithríní agus páirceanna. Faoi dheireadh, d'éirigh le conbhua d'fhórsaí Briotanacha a theacht chomh fada le Teach Bhaile na Creige tráthnóna Dé Sathairn. Mar bheart réamhchúraim, rinne na húdaráis ar an teach mór agus scaoileadh cúpla urchar, ach níor fhada go bhfuair siad amach go raibh na reibiliúnaigh bailithe leo agus pící, creasa gualainne, pléascáin, caipíní, bagún agus uibheacha fágtha ina ndiaidh acu.

I rith lár an naoú céad, bhí Teach Bhaile na Creige faoi úinéireacht George Persse. Tréigeadh é thart ar 1906. In 1911, bhí an réadmhaoin i seilbh Harry Persse as Woodville, a chuir an teach faoi árachas £1,000 agus na 'hoifigí amuigh' £10 leis an *Phoenix Assurance Company Ltd*. Tar éis an Éirí Amach, léigh Persse faoin obair a bhí ar siúl ag an *Property Losses (Ireland) Committee* san *Irish Times*. Scríobh sé chucu ar an 25 Iúil 1916 agus mhaigh sé go raibh roinnt mhaith damáiste déanta dá theach agus dá áitreabh mar gheall gur ghlac na

reibiliúnaigh seilbh ar Theach Bhaile na Creige ‘*during the late disturbances*’ agus mar gheall gur lig siad ‘*their horses loose within my meadows*’. Ar an 1 Lúnasa, chuir sé isteach éileamh ar chúiteamh de £40, ag liostáil na réadmhaoine a ndearnadh damáiste de mar a leanas: £8 10s as an damáiste do ‘*Window sashes[,] doors & frames & interior wood work*’; £8 12s do ‘*Glass*’; £6 15s do ‘*Kitchen range & bedroom grates*’, £3 10s do ‘*pipes cut ... and damaged*’; £2 do ‘*Damage to Valley*’; 13s do ‘*Door locks*’; £5 do ‘*Window glass & woodwork*’; £5 do ‘*Damage to meadows by horses & ... rebels*’.

Lena chois sin, choimisiúnaigh Persse conraitheoir ginearálta chun meastachán a chur ar fáil do chostas na ndeisiúchán. Ba é John T. Barrett as Baile Locha Riach a rinne an obair shuirbhéireachta agus chuir sé meastachán níos airde, £65 18s, ar fáil ar an 16 Meán Fómhair. Ansin, thug an Sáirsint Cunningham as Cill Chríost buairt ar Theach Bhaile na Creige an mhí dar gcionn. Thuairisc seisean nach bhfuair na reibiliúnaigh dídean ann ach ar fead cuid d’óiche, nach raibh aon chónaí sa teach le deich mbliana anuas agus nár coinníodh i gcaoi é i rith an ama sin. Cé go bhfaca na póilíní a lán pánaí gloine bhriste nuair a thug siad cuairt ar Theach Bhaile na Creige ag deireadh Sheachtain na Cásca, bhí an Sáirsint Cunningham den tuairim go mba léir nárbh iad na reibiliúnaigh a rinne an damáiste sin. Cé gur chinn sé go raibh cuid de na doirse ‘*injured and burnt*’, mheas sé gur beag damáiste a bhí déanta do na móinéir mar ‘*they were then only commencing to grow*’. Sa deireadh, mheas sé go raibh éileamh Persse ‘*exorbitant [sic]*’ agus mhol sé go mba leor íocaíocht de £20 mar chúiteamh. Ansin chuir Thomas Farrell, Príomh-Chonstábla RIC Bhaile Locha Riach, an t-eolas úd ar aghaidh chuig an *Property Losses (Ireland) Committee*, agus

dúirt sé go láidir go raibh an Sáirsint Cunningham *'intimately acquainted with the facts'*. Nuair a chríochnaigh sé a thuairisc ar an 21 Deireadh Fómhair, 'aontaigh an cigire, R. Ingoldsly, leis na póilíní *'that their estimate of £20 is fair and reasonable as a settlement'*.

Chuaigh Peter Howley, a bhí ina Chaptaen ar Óglaigh Ard Raithin, chun cónaí i dTeach Bhaile na Creige nuair a lasadh a theach féin i rith Chogadh na Saoirse. Tréigeadh Teach Bhaile na Creige i lár an fhichiú céad agus chuaigh sé i léig níba mheasa nuair a baineadh an díon de. Mar chomóradh ar Iubhaile Órga an Éirí Amach, nochtadh cuimhneachán aolchloiche (16.1) i bpóirse an tí ar an 17 Aibreán 1966. Messrs Regan



*Leacht 1916 i bpóirse Theach Bhaile na Creige*

**16.1.**

Brothers as Baile Locha Riach a rinne é agus chuir Patrick Clooran in airde ar an suíomh é tar éis d'Eagraíocht Sheanchomráidithe IRA an Ghoirt



an dearadh a cheadú an bhliain roimhe sin. Tá scal ghréine ag barr an chuimhneacháin agus an dáta ‘1916’ thíos faoi. Seo é an inscríbhinn atá ag bun an chuimhneacháin: *‘It was here the main body of Galway Brigade Irish Volunteers under Commandant Liam Mellows [sic] was disbanded on 29th April 1916. Their deeds will live on!’* Tá leagan Gaeilge den téacs céanna inscríofa ar an gcuimhneachán freisin.

Mar chomóradh ar chéad bliain an Éirí Amach, rinne an Comhairleoir Peter Roche, Cathaoirleach Chontae na Gaillimhe, cloch chuimhneacháin (16.2) (SAT NAV: 53.137677, -8.754179) a nochtadh ar an 2 Bealtaine 2016 ag an seanbhealach



16.2.

*Cloch chuimhneacháin 1916 ag an seanbhealach isteach chuig diméin Theach Bhaile na Creige*

isteach chuig diméin Theach Bhaile na Creige. Ba é Jethro Sheen a dhealbhaigh an cuimhneachán tar éis coimisiún a fháil ó bhail an phobail áitiúil i mBaile na Creige, lena n-áirítear Pat agus Michael Howley – mac agus garmhac le Peter Howley. Ar bharr an chuimhneacháin, atá lonnaithe thart ar 600 méadar ó fhothrach Theach Bhaile na Creige, tá íomhá de Chú Chulainn agus patrúin

ghuairneánacha d'obair mhaisithe snaidhme sa stíl La Tené. Tá inscríbhinn dátheangach ag a bhun. Seo é an leagan Béarla: *'In remembrance of the members of the Galway Brigade of the Irish Volunteers who, under the command of Commandant Liam Mellows, disbanded here at Limepark on April 29th 1916. Their deeds will live on. Commemorating 1916 Centenary'*. Sula ndearnadh an nochtadh, thug ceoltóirí áitiúla taispeántas agus rinne Grúpa Comórtha 1916 Mhóin na gCaor as Co. Loch Garman athléiriú ar mhórshiúl agus druileáil de chuid Óglaigh na hÉireann. I láthair freisin bhí siúlóirí, *'In Their Footsteps'*, a raibh páirt glactha acu i dtionscnamh comórtha níos luaithe an mhaidin sin. Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe a d'éagraigh an tionscnamh ina ndearnadh athléiriú ar chuid de na conairí a thóg Óglaigh na hÉireann in oirthear Chontae na Gaillimhe i rith Éirí Amach 1916.

## Nithe Suimiúla Eile

De bhreis ar na láithreach agus na cuimhneacháin stairiúla thuasluaite, b'fhéidir go mbeadh suim ag daoine atá ag fiosrú scéal Éirí Amach 1916 i gContae na Gaillimhe cuairt a thabhairt ar na láithreacha seo a leanas i gCinn Mhara agus sa cheantar mháguaird.

**Seanteach an Athar John William O'Meehan (Delamain Lodge anois), Cinn Mhara, Co. na Gaillimhe**

SAT NAV: 53.141816, -8.940333



17



Ba é an lóiste seo, atá suite le hais na cé i gCinn Mhara, a bhí ina theach cónaithe tráth ag an Athair John William O'Meehan, a bhíodh go gníomhach i mbun earcaíochta thar cheann Óglaigh na hÉireann. Bhí an oireadh suime aige sa ghluaiseacht gur bhain sé úsáid as a chuid acmhainní féin chun soláthar de hata uaine a

thabhairt dóibh mar éide chomharthach. Bhíodh sé ag ceannach nuachtán náisiúnach freisin, leithéidí *Scissors and Paste* agus *Nationality*, agus thugadh sé in aisce do na fir iad. Thugadh sé cuairt ar Bhaile Átha Cliath go minic agus bhí aithne mhaith aige ar Phádraig Mac Piarais Gabhadh Pádraig Ó Fathaigh taobh amuigh d’áit chónaithe Meehan maidin Mháirt Cásca 1916 agus é ag déanamh iarrachta ordú slógaidh a sheachadadh go Cinn Mhara. An lá tar éis é a ghabháil, d’ordaigh Meehan d’Óglaigh Chinn Mhara gach a bhféadfaidís a fháil d’armlón agus d’armáin ar fud an bhaile a bhailiú leo.

Bhí tacaíocht ar fáil go réidh ag na hÓglaigh ó chuid den phobal gnó áitiúil a thug cabhair mhaith dóibh. Éadaitheoir ginearálta, grósaeir agus iarnóir ab ea F. J. Johnston a thug 12 ghunna dóibh agus gach a raibh d’armlón sa stór aig ar an bPríomhshráid, Cinn Mhara (17.1) (SAT NAV: 53.139076, -8.938955). Bhí ceadúnas ag Johnston chun púdar gunna a dhíol, agus lena chois sin



*Johnstons, An Phríomhshráid,  
Cinn Mhara*

17.1.

bhí sé ina ghníomhaire imirce do chuideachtaí Cunard agus White Star. Lena chois sin, bhíodh

an gnó, a bunaíodh in 1879, ag díol leann dubh Guinness, leann Bass, fíonta agus fuiscí, fíonta Persee, bréidín Éireannach, cultacha, earraí feistis agus earraí spóirt.

Oíche Chéadaoin na Cásca, agus ag fanacht le breis orduithe, thug an Captaen John Burke Óglaigh Chinn Mhara go dtí foirgneamh folamh ar a dtugtaí Teach Foy (17.2) (SAT NAV: 53.145577, -8.920731). Tá an foirgneamh suite thart ar 1.25 ciliméadar soir ó thuaidh de Chinn Mhara,



**17.2.** Teach Mhuintir Foy, Baile Uí Chléirigh

i mbaile fearainn Bhaile Uí Chléirigh. *Seapark House* a thugtaí air roimhe sin. Le linn dóibh a bheith ansin, bhí béile d'aráin, anraith agus mairteoil ag na hÓglaigh. Beirt bháicéirí áitiúla a chuir an t-arán ar fáil, Mrs Tyrrell agus Mrs O'Dea, agus ba é an búistéir áitiúil, Michael Leech, a thug an mhairteoil dóibh. Tar éis dul ar aghaidh go dtí Baile an Doirín, chas na hÓglaigh le teachtaire a thug teachtaireacht don Bhúrcach. D'fhill siad ar Theach Foy agus díscáoileadh iad ar an Satharn, 29 Aibreán 1916.

Mar chomóradh ar chéad bliain an Éirí Amach, chuir muintir Chinn Mhara cloch chuimhneacháin in airde (17.3) (SAT NAV: 53.139117, -8.941713) ag Bóthar an Chlochair, gar don bhealach isteach

thiar chuig Séipéal Naomh Seosamh. Rinne an Comhairleoir Peter Roche, Cathaoirleach Chontae na Gaillimhe, í seo a nochtadh go hoifigiúil Máirt na Cásca, 29 Márta 2016. Cuireadh í seo in airde faoi choimirce Choiste Céid 1916 Chinn Mhara a raibh na daoine seo a leanas áirithe i measc na mball: John Conneely, Eddie Forde, Eilish Kavanagh, Cathal McInerney agus Thomas Quinn. Seo í an inscríbhinn Bhéarla atá ar an gcloch: *'In Remembrance of the Kinvara Company Irish Volunteers 1916-2016'*. Seo í an inscríbhinn Ghaeilge: *'I gcuimhne ar Chomplacht Chinn Mhara hÓglaigh na hÉireann 1916-2016'*. Faoi bhun na n-inscríbhinní tá íomhá de hata cromdhuilleach Óglaigh agus piostal. Tar éis an chloch a nochtadh, réachtáladh taispeántas d'earraí stairiúla in Ionad Pobail Chinn Mhara. Ar



*Cloch chuimhneacháin 1916,  
Bóthar an Chlochair, Cinn Mhara*

17.3.

na hearraí a bhí ar taispeáint bhí na cinn seo a leanas: grianghraif, raidhfil, pocóid lón lámhaigh, earraí éadaigh, litreacha, mapaí, píce a bhí tráth ag an seansaighdiúir 1916 Thomas McInerney (agus '1916' greanta air), boinn agus Ráitis Fhinnéithe.

**CONAIR ÉALAITHE**  
**LIAM UÍ MHAOILÍOSA –**  
*Deisceart Chontae Na Gaillimhe*

1916



ÁIT EOLAIS



TALAMH PRÍOBHÁIDEACH



Mar chuid den chonair seo tá láithreacha agus cuimhneacháin stairiúla a bhaineann leis an tsli a thóg Liam Ó Maoilíosa, tar éis dhíscaoileadh an phríomhghrúpa reibiliúnach ag Teach Bhaile na Creige go moch maidin Dé Sathairn, 29 Aibreán 1916. Tar éis an teach a fhágáil, chuaigh an Maoilíosa ar a theitheadh in éineacht hAlf Monaghan agus Frank Hynes. Go gairid ina dhiaidh sin, rinne an triúr a mbealach de shiúl cos go dtí áit chónaithe mhuintir Howley i mBaile na Creige Thuaidh a bhí thart ar chiliméadar go leith uathu. Sna laethanta ina dhiaidh sin, bhain an Maoilíosa úsáid as a mhodhanna sábháilteachta féin, ag brath go mór ar mhapa de chuid na Suirbhéireachta Ordanáis, compás, tóirse beag agus cineáltas mhuintir na háite. Rinne an triúr a mbealach ó dheas tríd An Lorgain, An Cnoc Rua, Droimín an Locha, Corr na Gaoithe agus Gort an Charnáin. Tar éis dul trasna go Contae an Chláir agus dul trí Dhrom an Dúdhoire, an Lochán agus Doire Olc Uachtarach, chaith siad cúig mhí i bhfolach i mbothán sa Choill Dubh Uachtarach (in aice leis an Tulach), le cabhair ó Michael Molony, ball de Bráithreachas Phoblacht na hÉireann i gContae an Chláir.

I nDeireadh Fómhair 1916, chuaigh an Maoilíosa go dtí teach an Athar Michael Crowe, sagart Caitliceach a bhailigh airgead roimhe sin do chúis neamhspleáchais na hÉireann. As sin, tiomáineadh an Maoilíosa go Corcaigh a chuir fear as Inis, Michael Brody, ar fáil. Ar a bhealach, chuir sé i mbréagriocht é féin trína éadan a chlúdach le caille shíodúil dhubh mná rialta. Ba í an tSiúr Lelia McKenna as Ord Shiúracha na Trócaire in Inis a chuir an chaille ar fáil dó i mbeartán a seoladh chuig an Athair Tom Burke in Óstán Carmody. In éineacht leis an Maoilíosa

## CONAIR ÉALAITHE LIAM UÍ MHAOILÍOSA

ar a thuras bhí an tAthair Crowe, Pauline Barry as an nGort a bhí gléasta in éadaí mná rialta, agus Bluebell Powell a bhí gléasta mar nóibhíseach

Mar chomhartha buíochais as an gcabhair a thug sí lena éalú, bhronn Seán McNamara ionar Óglach ar Barry ina dhiaidh sin, ceann a bhíodh á chaitheamh ag an Maoilíosach. An *Irish Tweed Company* a rinne an t-ionar a raibh ceithre chnaipe práis ar a thosach agus cruit léirithe ar gach cnaipe acu idir na litreacha 'I' agus 'V' - ceannlitreach na '*Irish Volunteers*'. Le cabhair ó Bhráithreachas Phoblacht na hÉireann, d'éalaigh an Maoilíosach as Queenstown (Cóbh anois) go Learpholl ar bord scúnair darbh ainm *Harry Herbert*. Ansin chuaigh sé trasna an Atlantaigh ar choimeádán muinisean trí úsáid a bhaint as páipéir bhréige mhairnéalaigh in ainm 'Edward Moore'. Faoi dheireadh, bhain sé teach lóistín amach i Nua Eabhrac thart ar lár mhí na Nollag 1916.

Bhí daoine eile nach raibh chomh hádhmhar céanna ag éalú ó na húdaráis. Ar fud na hÉireann, gabhadh breis agus 3,100 duine agus díbríodh thart ar 2,500 acu sin thar sáile i mBealtaine 1916. Óglaigh as Contae na Gaillimhe ab ea chuid mhór acu sin, a tógadh chun bealaigh ar thraein go dtí Beairic Richmond nó Cnoc an Arbhair agus ansin cuireadh thar lear iad go dtí príosúin éagsúla Bhriotanacha. As an 1,800 reibiliúnach Éireannach a imtheorannaíodh i gcampa Frongoch sa Bhreatain Bheag i dtús Mheithimh, b'as Contae na Gaillimhe 322 acu an dara líon ba mhó tar éis Bhaile Átha Cliath. Scaoileadh saor beagnach 1,100 príosúnach as an gcampa i mí Lúnasa, agus d'fhan an chuid eile imtheorannaithe go dtí gairid roimh an Nollaig.



## **MOLTAÍ TAISCÉALAÍOCHTA**

**Tá an chonair ag síneadh ó Bhaile na Creige Thuaidh, atá thart ar ocht gciliméadar soir ó thuaidh den Ghort, an bealach ar fad go dtí Gort an Charnáin, atá thart ar sheacht gciliméadar soir ón nGort. Díreach trasna na tíre, is é an fad iomlán atá idir gach ceann de na sé láthair inspéise ná 17 ciliméadar, geall leis. Chun dóthain ama a thabhairt le sásamh ceart a bhaint as na hionad inspéise sin, ag cur uaireanta sosa san áireamh, moltar leath lae ar a laghad a chur ar fáil chun an chonair seo a thaiscéaladh.**

**Do na taiscéalaithe cróga, tá dhá láthair inspéise bhreise i dtuaisceart Chontae an Chláir atá curtha isteach ag deireadh na ranna seo. Díreach trasna na tíre, is é an fad iomlán atá idir gach ceann de na sé láthair inspéise, agus an dá láthair inspéise breise curtha san áireamh, ná 28 ciliméadar geall leis.**



1

## Fothrach Theach Mhuintir Howley, Baile na Creige Thuaidh, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.143526, -8.759366



Bhíothas sa tóir ar Liam Ó Maoilíosa tar éis Éirí Amach 1916 agus chuaigh sé ar a theitheadh in éineacht le hAlf Monaghan agus Frank Hynes. Tar éis an phríomhghrúpa reibiliúnach a dhíscaoileadh go moch maidin Dé Sathairn, 29 Aibreán 1916, chuaigh an triúr acu isteach i gcarr a bhí gafa acu agus rinne siad a mbealach amach trí ascaill ar chruth 'L' a bhí ag dul ó Theach Bhaile na Creige go dtí an bóthar amuigh. Ansin rinne siad a mbealach de shiúl cos go dtí teach feirme William Howley, a raibh a mhac Peter ina cheannasaí ar Óglaigh Ard Raithin. Bhí an áit sin lonnaithe níos lú ná ciliméadar go leith uathu i gcúinne páirce atá liostaithe i nDaonáireamh 1911 mar Theach 1 i mBaile na Creige Thuaidh.

Bhí aithne ar theaghlach Howley mar dhream mór poblachtach. Bhí athair Peter, William, ina bhall de Bráithreachas Phoblacht na hÉireann agus lena

chois sin bhí sé ina cheannaire ar Chonradh na Talún Thobar Pheadair. Bhí deartháireacha Peter, William, Patrick agus Michael, ina mbaill d’Óglaigh na hÉireann, agus bhí a dheirfiúr, Bridget, ina ball de Chumann na mBan. Dá réir sin, ní bheadh aon chiall don Mhaoilíosach fanacht leo rófhada mar nárbh fhada go mbeadh na póilíní á bhfiosrú. Tar éis roinnt tae agus feola a fháil, a d’ullmhaigh Bridget, thaistil an Maoilíosach, Monaghan agus Hynes ó dheas chuig sraithe de tithe sábháilte ó dheas de Chrosaire Thobar Pheadair.

I rith Sheachtain na Cásca, shlóg Peter Howley Óglaigh Ard Raithin agus chuaigh siad ar aghaidh go Tul Aighre, áit ar cuireadh de dhualgas orthu moill a chur ar aon trúpaí Briotanacha a bheadh ag teacht. Ag deireadh na seachtaine, d’imigh an Complacht ón áit sin agus d’fheidhmigh siad mar tulgharda don phríomhghrúpa reibiliúnach a bhí ag taisteal ó Chaisleán Mhaigh Fhód go dtí Teach Bhaile na Creige. Nuair a cuireadh deireadh leis an Éirí Amach, ghabh an RIC Peter Howley, tugadh ó Bheairic Richmond é go dtí Príosún Wandsworth i Londain, agus ansin cuireadh go Frongoch sa Bhreatain Bheag é. Scaoileadh amach as Frongoch é i mí Lúnasa 1916. In 1920, rith Chogadh na Saoirse, las na Dúchrónaigh áit chónaithe Howley. D’fhan ballaí agus díon an tí feirme slán go dtí deireadh na 2000í, tráth ar leagadh iad.

## Fothrach Theach Mhuintir Uí Fhathaigh, An Lorgain, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.079030, -8.748515



Tar éis imeacht as áit chónaithe Howley go moch maidin Dé Sathairn, 29 Aibreán 1916, chuaigh Liam Ó Maoilíosa, Alf Monaghan agus Frank Hynes trasna páirceanna agus ansin siúl siad le bóthar a thug go dtí teach iad a raibh aithne ag an Maoilíosa air, áit chónaithe mhuintir Fhathaigh sa Lorgain. Pádraig Ó Fathaigh ab ea duine de na daoine a bhí ina chónaí ansin. D'oibrigh sé mar mhúinteoir Gaeilge agus bhí sé ina bhall gníomhach freisin de Chonradh na Gaeilge. Bhí aithne mhaith ar Phádraig freisin i measc lucht poblachtachais mar go raibh sé ina bhall gníomhach i mBráithreachas Phoblacht na hÉireann agus sheirbheáil se mar Rúnaí d'Óglaigh na hÉireann i gContae na Gaillimhe. Mar gheall gur gabhadh é ag teachtaireachtaí á n-iompar aige ar maidin Mháirt Cásca taobh amuigh de teach cónaithe an Athar John William O'Meehan i

gCinn Mhara, thit sé ar na deartháireacha ba shine ná é, John agus Michael, cabhair a thabhairt don Mhaoilíosach, Monaghan agus Hynes. Beagnach cúig bliana ina dhiaidh sin, las na Dúchrónaigh teach cónaithe Uí Fhathaigh mar dhíoltas ar Luíochán Bhéal Átha Toirinn. Tharla sé sin ar an 15 Bealtaine 1921, gar do dheireadh Chogadh na Saoirse.

Mar chomóradh ar Iubhaile Órga Éirí Amach 1916, chuir Patrick Cloran cuimhneachán (2.1) suas os comhair an tí atá tite go hiomlán anois.



### 2.1. Leacht 1916 ag teach mhuintir Uí Fhathaigh

Seo an inscríbhinn atá ar an gcuimhneachán, atá timpeallaithe go hiomlán le balla íseal: ‘1916. I ndil-cuimhne [sic] ar Liam Ó Maoil Íosa, Timthire Oglac na Gaillimhe. Ba anseo is mó a biab sé ag fanacht 1915 agus 1916.’ Mar chomóradh ar chéad bliain an Éirí Amach, cuireadh péint in athuair ar na ballaí agus na ráillí atá timpeall an chuimhneacháin i ndathanna Bhratach Trí Dhath na hÉireann – uaine, bán agus oráiste. Reáchtáladh searmanas fleascleagain ansin freisin ar an 2 Bealtaine 2016.

## Suíomh Theach Patsy Corless, An Cnoc Rua, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.088185, -8.742360



Tar éis imeacht as teach Uí Fhathaigh, d'aistrigh Liam Ó Maoilíosa, Alf Monaghan agus Frank Hynes go dtí teach Patsy Corless i mbaile fearainn an Chnoc Rua. Bhí sé sin suite ar thaobh cnoic in aice le turlach darbh ainm Loch an Bhaile. Bhí Patsy ina chónaí ansin in éineacht lena dheartháir, Martin. Tar éis an áit a bhaint amach ansin maidin Dé Sathairn, 20 Aibreán 1916, fuair an Maoilíosach, Monaghan agus Hynes dreas chodlata a bhí ag teastáil go géar uathu, d'ith siad arán baile agus d'fhág siad doiciméid ina ndiaidh a raibh a n-ainmneacha orthu. Chuir Monaghan a thiachóg féin i bhfolach i rith an ama a raibh sé sa teach, thart ar 14 huaire an chloig. Inti sin bhí liosta de sheoltaí daoine agus ticéad crannchuir do raidhfil Mauser. Níor thángthas ar an tiachóg nó gur dearnadh athchóiriú ar an teach in 1937. Níl aon rian de theach Corless fanta anois,



seachas cloch agus lorg éadrom dronuilleogach den bhunsraith atá san fhéar.

Láthair inspéise eile atá sa Chnoc Rua is ea Gort Cloran, a bhíodh in úsáid ag Óglaigh na hÉireann le haghaidh cleachtaí traenála agus druileála sna blianta suas go dtí an tÉirí Amach. Nuair a thagadh Liam Ó Maoilíosa ar cuairt chuig an áit, d’fheistíodh sé a phuball in aice láimhe ag



3.1.

*Cloch chuimhneacháin 1916  
in aice le Cloran's Field*

Kynoch's Fort. Rinne Cumann Forbartha Pobail Chill Bheaganta cloch chuimhneacháin (3.1) (SAT NAV: 53.085215, -8.745708), ar a bhfuil suaitheantas de chuid Óglaigh na hÉireann, a nochtadh in aice le Gort Cloran ar an 2 Bealtaine 2016. Seo an inscríbhinn atá ar an bplaic: *'Irish*

*Volunteers. 1916. Gort Cloran. Training Ground for the Ballycahalane, Kilbeacanty and Peterswell Volunteer Companies of the Irish Volunteers and branches of Cumann na mBan under the command of Liam Mellows (1892–1922)'. Tá inscribhinn Ghaeilge ar bharr na cloiche freisin.*

4

**Fothrach Theach William Blanche,  
Droiminn an Locha,  
Co. na Gaillimhe**

SAT NAV: 53.081694, -8.732450 



Tar éis imeacht as teach Patsy Corless thart ar 10.30pm ar an Satharn, 29 Aibreán 1916, chuaigh Liam Ó Maoilíosa, Alf Monaghan agus Frank Hynes trí roinnt páirceanna chuig teach ceithre sheomra a bhí ag feirmeoir 67 bliain d’aois darbh ainm William Blanche,, ar an gcolbha thiar de Shliabh Eachtaí agus ar an taobh thoir de Loch an Bhaile, i mbaile fearainn Dhroiminn an Locha atá i bparóiste Chill Bheaganta. Bhí cónaí ar Blance sa teach seo in éineacht lena bhean chéile, Bridget, a raibh dhá mhadra caorach acu taobh amuigh

san iothlann. Chuir muintir Blanche fíorchaoin fáilte roimh na reibiliúnaigh agus d’fhan siad ina suí deireanach san oíche ag caint lena chéile. Tráthnóna Dé Domhnaigh, thug beirt de mhuintir na háite cuairt ar an teach. Bean óg ab ea an chéad duine acu sin a chuir in iúl do Blanche go raibh ráfla ag dul thart go raibh an Maoilíosach ar a theitheadh agus é gléasta mar bhean. Bhí an Maoilíosach ag éisteacht leis an gcomhrá seo agus cheap sé go raibh an scéal an-ghreannmhar.

Níos deireanaí an tráthnóna céanna, tháinig athrú meoin air nuair a tháinig duine áitiúil eile chuig an teach agus labhair sé go gránna faoi, gan a fhios aige go raibh an Maoilíosach ag éisteacht leis. Chuir sé seo díomá ar an Maoilíosach, mar gur chas sé leis an bhfear roimhe sin agus tharraing sé go maith leis. Oíche Dé Luain, 1 Bealtaine, d’fhág an Maoilíosach, Monaghan agus Hynes muintir Blanche. Bhásaigh an tUas Blanche i lár na 1940í agus tá an teach ina fhothrach anois. Thit an díon ceann tuí isteach i lár na 1970í agus cé go bhfuil formhór an bhalla cloiche imithe anois, tá an píosa íochtarach den bhalla cúil fós ina sheasamh. I nDaonáireamh 1911, áirithe sa liostú d’áit chónaithe Blanche bhí ceithre teach amuigh mar a bhí: stábla, cró na mbó, scioból agus seid.

5

## Fothrach Chró (nó Scioból Beithíoch) William Hoode, Corr na Gaoithe, Co. na Gaillimhe

SAT NAV: 53.078182, -8.728105



Le cúnamh ó William Blanche, d'aistrigh Liam Ó Maoilíosa, Alf Monaghan agus Frank Hynes go dtí cró le William Hoode a bhí roinnte ina bhóitheach agus ina sheid. Bhí an áit seo níba cúlraídí agus é suite níos faide suas an cnoc ag Corr na Gaoithe atá thart ar shé chiliméadar go leith ó Ghort. Mar is léir ón ainm, bhí an áit seo sceirdiúil do na reibiliúnaigh a bhí tagtha ann. Fad a bhí siad san áit seo, ó 1-4 Bealtaine, bhí orthu cur suas le codladh ar leapacha tuí a raibh lucht iontu, gaoth ag teacht isteach trí phoill sna ballaí agus báisteach ag sileadh anuas tríd an díon fód. Leis an scéal a dhéanamh níba mheasa ní raibh siad in ann tine a lasadh mar go mbeadh an deatach le feiceáil ag daoine eile.

Lena gcás a mhaolú de bheagán, thugadh William agus Bridget Blanche soláthairtí bia chuig na

reibiliúnaigh gach oíche, prátaí te agus cabáiste bruite stóráilte i gcrúsca suibhe go hiondúil. Thug William Blanche tuilleadh cabhrach dóibh trína bheith i bhfolach amuigh san aiteann agus é san airdeall ar phóilíní. Ní raibh a fhios ag Hoode go raibh na fir anseo i dtús ama. Nuair a fuair sé ann iad, bhí sé tuisceanach agus chuidigh sé leis trí phásaí cáca baile a thabhairt chucu dhá uair éagsúla. Ach sin ráite, léirigh sé an-imní freisin. Roinnt uaireanta, thug sé foláireamh don triúr go raibh siad i mbaol ó na póilíní dá bhfanfaidís ann rófhada, San am i láthair, níl fágtha ina seasamh ach ceithre bhalla an chró. Tá sé suite achar beag taobh istigh d'fháschoill.

Chuardaigh an RIC i bhfad agus i ngearr ar thóir an Mhaoilíosach nuair a bhí sé ar a theitheadh. Bhí Clochar Shiúracha na Trócaire i gCinn Mhara (5.1) (SAT NAV: 53.139387, -8.941401) ar cheann de roinnt áiteanna ar thug siad ruathar fúthu ar fud na tíre. Ar ais i gCorr na Gaoithe, bhí an t-ádh leis an Maoilíosach mar gur ardaigh leibhéal Loch an Bhaile tar éis titim mhór báistí. Fad a bhí sé ann, tháinig buíon mór póilíní chuig tithe sa



**5.1.** *Seanchlochar Shiúracha na Trócaire (Séipéal Naomh Seosamh/Ionad Tréadaí Chinn Mhara anois), Cinn Mhara*

chomharsanacht, ach níor cuardaíodh cró Hoode. Dúirt Blanche go magúil leis na reibiliúnaigh go raibh na póilíní ‘ar nós cait’ agus nár theastaigh uathu a gcosa a fhliuchadh.

Nuair a d’imigh siad as an gcró faoi dheireadh, le breacadh an lae ar an Aoine, 4 Bealtaine 1916, rinne an Maoilíosach, Monaghan agus Hynes a mbealach ar ais go dtí teach Blanche, d’fhág siad slán acu agus lean siad dá n-aistear. Agus iad feistithe le lán trí mhála droma de bhia a chuir Bridget Blanche ar fáil dóibh, rinne siad a mbealach ó dheas thar Dhroichead Uí Sheachnasaigh i gCnoc Obhráin. Tar éis siúl trasna an phortaigh sa Ghoirtín Buí, thaistil siad leo go dtí coill Chevy Chase sa Leathardán, a bhí faoi úinéireacht eastát Persse. Fad a bhí siad sa choill, thapaigh siad an deis iad féin a níochán den chéad uair le coicís, i gcuid d’Abhainn Dá Loilíoch. San oíche Dé hAoine, lean an triúr dá n-aistear agus é mar leithscéal acu gur ceannaitheoirí eallach / seoltóirí bó a bhí iontu. Thóg siad ailiasanna freisin. ‘John Nolan’ a tugadh ar an Maoilíosach, ‘Joe MacSweeney’ a tugadh ar Monaghan agus ‘Patrick Murphy’ a tugadh ar Hynes.

**Fothrach Theach William Cooney,  
Gort an Charnáin,  
Co. na Gaillimhe**

SAT NAV: 53.017353, -8.756736 

6



Tar éis imeacht as coill Chevy Chase, is cosúil gur shíúil Liam Ó Maoilíosa, Alf Monaghan agus Frank Hynes trí thalamh níos airde sna hAcráí agus gur tháinig roinnt seachráin orthu sa dorchadas nuair a chlis ar thóirse an Mhaoilíosaigh. Ar deireadh thiar, tháinig siad amach as an bhfraoch, tháinig siad ar ais anuas go dtí talamh níos ísle agus is cosúil gur ghearr siad trí Leathnacht chun a theacht ar bhóithrín leacach a bhí ag síneadh comhthreomhar leis an taobh ó dheas de Choill Ghort an Charnáin. As sin, is cosúil gur lean siad orthu ag siúl i dtreo an iarthair. Ar deireadh thiar, tháinig siad ar theach a raibh cónaí ann i nGort an Charnáin, suite soir ó dheas de Loch Cútra agus siar ó dheas ó Chevy Chase. Shiúil Monaghan suas go dtí an teach, bhreathnaigh sé isteach tríd an leathdhoras agus tharraing sé aird na beirte a bhí taobh istigh – bean agus seaimpín

tógála meáchain darbh ainm William Cooney a bhí beagán os cionn dhá mhéadar ar airde (thart ar shé troigh agus seacht n-orlaí). D'iarr sé an bealach go Doire Fada, a bhí feicthe aige ar mhapa an Mhaoilíosaigh.

Níorbh fhada gur thuig William Cooney go raibh na cuairteoirí páirteach san Éirí Amach. Cé gur thug bean an tí cuireadh isteach dóibh le haghaidh cupáin tae, níor ghlac Monaghan leis. Ach shocraigh Cooney dul in éineacht leo agus iad ag fágáil Ghort an Charnáin agus chuidigh sé leo an bealach a dhéanamh amach don chéad chéim eile dá n-aistear. Agus iad ag siúl, dúirt sé leo go raibh an t-ádh orthu nár ghlaigh siad isteach go dtí teach na comharsan, mar gurbh áit chónaithe póilín darbh ainm Leahy a bhí ann agus bhí sé sa bhaile ar shaoire. Bhí an póilín céanna pósta le Lizzy (Glynn roimh phósadh di), a bhí ag obair mar mhúinteoir scoile. Tar éis slán a fhágáil ag William (An Fathach) Cooney, lean an triúr orthu go Contae an Chláir. Is beag atá fágtha anois de theach William Cooney. Tá binn thiar an tí fós ina sheasamh agus tá sé corpraithe i ngabhlach atá le hais umair uisce.



## Nithe Suimiúla Eile

De bhreis ar na láithreach agus na cuimhneacháin stairiúla thuasluaite, b'fhéidir go mbeadh suim ag daoine atá ag fiosrú an bhealaigh éalaithe a thóg Liam Ó Maoilíosa súil a chaitheamh ar na láithreacha seo a leanas i dtuaisceart an Chláir.

**Seanteach Michael Hanrahan,  
Doire Olc Uachtarach,  
Co. an Chláir**

SAT NAV: 52.934994, -8.777924



7



Tar éis imeacht as Gort an Charnáin, chuaigh Liam Ó Maoilíosa, Alf Monaghan agus Frank Hynes trasna trí thír-raon deacair i dtuaisceart Chontae an Chláir agus é ar intinn acu dul go dtí an Scairbh, áit a raibh uncail Liam ina chónaí. Tar éis a mbealach a dhéanamh trí Dhrom an Dúdhóire, chuaigh an triúr acu ar seachrán ón

bpríomhbhóthar go dtí an Scairbh. Tar éis siúl suas bóthar sléibhe sa dorchadas, shocraigh na fir go ligfidís a scíth le haghaidh na hoíche. Faoin am seo, bhí sé ag báisteach. AR a lámha agus a nglúine, dhreap siad go dtí spota a bhí thart ar 25 méadar os cionn an bhóthair agus thit siad ina gcodladh idir dhá charraig mhóra sa sliabh. Chodail siad roinnt uaireanta an chloig faoina gcótaí móra. Tar éis dúiseacht le héirí na gréine, bhí a n-éadaí tais agus bhí cráphian ina gcnámha ón dromchla crua. Ón ardán a bhí acu, bhí léargas maith acu ar Loch Cútra agus ar an taobh tíre idir é sin agus Cuan na Gaillimhe. Bhí codladh go fóill ar Frank Hynes agus nuair a d'aistrigh sé go dtí béal pluaise a bhí in aice láimhe thit sé ina chodladh arís agus é ina sheasamh in aghaidh an bhalla.

Nuair a dhúisigh Hynes, lean an triúr orthu ag déanamh a mbealaigh siar ó dheas. Choinnigh siad creidimh láidir i gcumhacht na paidreoireachta agus chuaigh siad ar a nglúine go minic chun an Paidrín a rá i nGaeilge. Tar éis dóibh an bóthar a shroicheadh ag an Lochán le moch maidine, lean siad orthu ó dheas go dtí Doire Olc Uachtarach, áit a bhfaca siad deatach ag teacht as áit chónaithe le fear meánaosta, Michael Hanrahan, a bhí le hais an bhóthair. Chuaigh Hynes isteach ag lorg cúnaimh. Cé gur chosúil nár chreid Hanrahan an scéal gur ceannaitheoirí eallach / seoltóirí bó a bhí iontu, fós féin thug sé cuireadh isteach don triúr fear. Ina dhiaidh sin chuir a bhean chéile, arbh as an Lochán di ó dhúchas, bricfeasta breá ar fáil. Áirithe ansin bhí uibheacha bruite agus cáca bÁCúis (déanta as úlla agus comhábhair eile).

Tógadh an teach seo den chéad uair in 1905 ach bhí sé tréigthe faoi thús na 1980í. Tá cónaí ann arís ó lár na 1990í. Cé go ndearnadh athchóiriú go forleathan air ó shin, tá cuid bheag de bhalla cloiche an tí bhunaidh a bhí ag Michael Hanrahan fós le feiceáil sa chuid lár den teach reatha.

**Bothán Uí Mhaoilíosa,  
An Choill Dubh Uachtarach,  
Co. an Chláir**

SAT NAV: 52.917664, -8.763900



8



Tar éis imeacht as áit chónaithe Michael Hanrahan, lean Liam Ó Maoilíosa, Alf Monaghan agus Frank Hynes orthu ag siúl i dtreo an deiscirt agus ansin chas siad faoi chlé isteach i mbóthar portaigh a thug go dtí spota sceirdiúil iad a ngleann Annagapple. Chuaigh an triúr acu a chodladh ansin, ach nuair a dhúisigh Hynes, chonaic sé fear ag déanamh orthu agus naipcín bán ina lámh aige. Bhí cú lena shála. Bhí madra eile ann, pointéir, a rith anall go dtí an áit a raibh na fir ina gcodladh. Michael 'Miko' Molony ab ainm don fhear, agus níor fhada gur tháinig se chun solais go mba ball de Bhráithreachas Phoblacht na hÉireann agus d'Óglaigh na hÉireann a bhí ann, fear a bhí go luath ina thríochaidí as an mBaile Uachtarach, gar don Tulach. Dúirt Molony leis na fir go raibh sé amuigh ag cuardach capaill a bhí ar iarraidh. Bhí deich mbliana caite ag Molony

i mBaile Átha Cliath, agus bhí aithne mhaith aige ar chuid de chairde an Mhaoilíosaigh sa phríomhchathair.

Ar deireadh thiar, chuir Molony ina luí ar an Maoilíosaigh, Monaghan agus Hynes gan dul go dtí an Scairbh. Ó mhí na Bealtaine ar aghaidh, thug se dídean dóibh ar feadh cúig mhí, geall leis, i mbothán dhá sheomra ina raibh tinteán agus dromchla garbh urláir. Bhí an bothán (áit foscaidh d'eallach) tógtha isteach i dtaobh an tsléibhe ar athfheirm lena mhuintir i mbaile fearainn na Coille Duibhe Uachtaraí. Bhí an struchtúr ina áit folaigh iontach do na reibiliúnaigh a bhí ar a dteitheadh mar go raibh sé timpeallaithe le haiteann trom agus sceach gheal, agus bhí bearna le hais an dorais a thug amharc breá don dream istigh ar Ghleann na Tulaí. Thug an tinteán ag binn an tí deis do na fir an áit a théamh san oíche agus baineadh úsáid as leapacha tuí le haghaidh codlata.

Roinnt uaireanta, rinne an Maoilíosaigh siamsaíocht do chuid de mhuintir na háite ag casadh na fidle sa bhothán. Fuair lucht an tí bia (éineoil go príomha) ó mhuintir Molony agus ó bhaill de Bhráithreachas Phoblacht na hÉireann ar nós Seán McNamara agus Con Fogarty, a bhí ina mbaill d'Óglaigh Chroisín freisin. Fuair ball eile de na hÓglaigh, Tom Hogan, ceachtanna ón Maoilíosaigh faoin mbealach leis an bhfidil a chasadh. Uair amháin, rinne Michael Molony iarracht teachtaireacht a thabhairt ón Maoilíosaigh go Baile Átha Cliath ach bhí air é a scrios nuair a cuardaíodh é. D'fhág an Maoilíosaigh an áit folaigh ag an gCoill Dubh Uachtarach i nDeireadh Fómhair 1916. Sa lá atá inniu ann, ta an struchtúr suite i bhfáschoill de chuid Coillte in aice le Séipéal Knockjames. B'fhéidir go mbeadh suim ag cuairteoirí chuig an gceantar dul go dtí Reilig na Tulaí, áit a bhfuil Michael Molony curtha.

## Breis Eolais

Mhair Cogadh na Saoirse (nó an Cogadh Angla-Éireannach) ón 21 Eanáir 1911 go dtí 11 Iúil 1921 agus troideadh é idir colúin reatha an IRA a bhí i gcoinne Arm na Breataine, an RIC, na Póilíní Cúnta agus na Dúchrónaigh. Bhí díoltas in aghaidh díoltais ina chuid de trodaíocht inar bhásaigh beagnach 2,000 duine. Le linn na coimhlinte, thug Liam Ó Maoilíosa agus Éamon de Valera cuairt ar an tSiúr Lelia McKenna ag Clochar Shiúracha na Trócaire in Inis. Mar chomhartha buíochais as an gcabhair a fuair sé chun éalú tar éis Éirí Amach 1916, bhronn Ó Maoilíosa dhá éan suirí bhána i gciseán ar an tsiúr, bronntanais a bhí tugtha ar ais aige as Stáit Aontaithe Mheiriceá. Nuair a tháinig an chaismirt chuig sáinn gan réiteach, cuireadh sos lámhaigh i bhfeidhm agus mar thoradh ar na hidirbheartaíochtaí a lean é síníodh an Conradh Angla-Éireannach i mí na Nollag, 1921. As sin, i mí na Nollag, 1922, tháinig achtachán dlí Shaorstát 26-contae na hÉireann a ndearnadh tiarnas féinrialaithe di sa Chomhlathas, agus an rí fós ina cheann stáit.

Sa Chogadh Cathartha, a mhair ón 27 Meitheamh 1922 go dtí an 24 Bealtaine 1923, fuair fórsaí an tSaorstáit an ceann is fearr ar na poblachtaigh frithchonartha. Chuaigh an Maoilíosa ar an taobh frithchonartha agus ag tús na coimhlinte, ghabh sé seilbh ar na Ceithre Chúirt i mBaile Átha Cliath in éineacht le Ruairí Ó Conchubhair. Bhí an Maoilíosa ar dhuine de cheathrar poblachtach a chuir fórsaí an tSaorstáit chun báis i bPríosún Mhuinseo ar an 8 Nollaig 1922, mar dhíoltas ar mharú Seán Hales, TD a bhí ar son an Chonartha. Ina dhiaidh sin, cuireadh an Maoilíosa sa reilig atá le hais Shéipéal Naomh Pádraig i mBaile an Chaisleáin, Contae Loch Garman.

Sa lá atá inniu ann, leanann cuimhne an Mhaoilíosaigh i logainmneacha agus i gcuimhneacháin i dtírdhreach cultúrtha chathair agus chontae na Gaillimhe agus taobh amuigh de. Tá Ardán Liam Uí Mhaoilíosa ag rith comhthreomhar leis an taobh thiar den Bhóthar Mór i gcathair na Gaillimhe agus ainmníodh an áit i gcuimhne air sna 1930í. Is é an scéal céanna é le hArdán Liam Uí Mhaoilíosa i mBaile Locha Riach. Bhí cónaí ar an seansaighdiúir 1916, Martin Newell, ansin ar feadh tamaill. In 1954, tugadh Dún Uí Mhaoilíosa ar Bheairic na Rinne



*Dealbh Liam Uí Mhaoilíosa,  
An Fhaiche Mhór, Gaillimh*

**9.1.**

Móire ag searmanas ina raibh an Taoiseach, Éamon de Valera agus an Leifteanantghinearál Seán Mac Eoin i láthair. Trí bliana ina dhiaidh sin, cuireadh dealbh den Mhaoilíosach (9.1) (SAT NAV: 53.275206, -9.049365) in airde ar an bhFaiche Mhór i gcathair na Gaillimhe.. Cuireadh tús leis an bpleanáil dó sin in 1946, nuair a mhol Sean-IRA Dhroichead an Chláirín an smaoineamh den chéad uair. Domhnall Ó Murchadha a rinne an dealbh agus nochtadh faoi dheireadh thiar é ar an 18 Lúnasa 1957. Bhí banna píob sa chathair, Banna Píob Liam Uí Mhaoilíosa, ainmnithe i gcuimhne an Mhaoilíosaigh freisin. I mBaile Átha Cliath, coinníodh a ainm i gcuimhne le Cé Uí Mhaoilíosa. Tá sé sin lonnaithe ar bhruach theas na Life (díreach trasna ó na Ceithre Chúirt), agus tá leagan eile dá shloinne Béarla ar an ainm Béarla. Tá droichead in aice lámhe ainmnithe i gcuimhne an Mhaoilíosaigh freisin.

Nochtadh colún cuimhneacháin (9.2) i dtailte Dhún Uí Mhaoilíosa ar Dhomhnach Cásca, 10 Aibreán 1966, ag searmanas a raibh an tUachtarán, Éamon de Valera i láthair. Seo é an inscríbhinn atá ar bharr an chuimhneacháin:



**9.2.**

*Colún 1916 ag Dún Uí Mhaoilíosa,  
An Rinn Mhór, Gaillimh*

'1916'. San am i láthair, tá mhúsaem sa dún ina bhfuil réimse d'earraí taispeántais a bhaineann le saol agus bás réabhlóideach Liam Uí Mhaoilíosa, lena n-áirítear: péire dá chuid piostail, cóip de litir a scríobh sé chuig John Hearn agus a bhean cheile trí huair go leith an chloig sular cuireadh chun báis é i bPríosún Mhuinseo, a chóip phearsanta féin den leabhar *The Lives of Irish Saints*, Cártaí Aifrinn a cuireadh ar fáil tar éis a bháis agus portráid frámaidhe dó féin. Tá gluaisrothar an Mhaoilíosaigh (9.3) ar taispeáint sa mhúsaem freisin. Tar éis é a tharrtháil ó



**Gluaisrothar Liam Uí Mhaoilíosa agus Músaem 9.3.**  
**Dhún Uí Mhaoilíosa An Rinn Mhór, Gaillimh**

bheairic de chuid an RIC, bhí an gluaisrothar faoi chúram Peter Howley ar feadh roinnt mhaith blianta, fear a bhí i gceannas Óglaigh Ard Raithin i rith Éirí Amach 1916. In 1959, bhronn sé é ar Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann. Tar éis do Eddie Carpenter obair athchóirithe a dhéanamh air, bronnadh an gluaisrothar ar Mhúsaem Dhún Uí Mhaoilíosa ar an 16 Márta 1996. Tá earraí eile a bhaineann le saol an Mhaoilíosaigh, a éide Óglach agus a spéaclaí san áireamh, le feiceáil i dtaispeántas Mhúsaem Chathair na Gaillimhe, *'Revolution in Galway, 1913–1923'*.



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An Roinn Oidhreachta agus Turasóireachta ag Institiúid Teicneolaíochta na Gaillimhe - Maigh Eo a rinne an fhorbairt ar an treoirleabhar seo i gcomhar le Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe Tá sé mar aidhm leis feabhas a chur ar fheasacht, eolas agus tuiscint maidir le hoidhreachtaí tógtha agus cultúrtha Éirí Amach 1916 i gContae na Gaillimhe. Tá buíochas speisialta dlite dóibh seo a leanas: Dr Fergal Barry, Helen Bermingham, Marie Boran, An tSiúr Eileen Callinan, Michael Carmody, Mary Coen, Dr John Crowley, Kay Davies, Marian Donohue, Brídín Feeney, Gerard Fahy, An tSiúr Mary de Lourdes Fahy, Jim Fennell, Breda Finn, Dr Des Foley, Alan Fox, Mary Gallagher, Kevin Gavin, Eamon Gilligan, George Glynn, Ronan Glynn, Paul Gosling, Gary Harty, Brendan Heneghan, Con Hogan, Clare Horgan, Pat Howley, Michael Howley, Frank Hynes, Eilish Kavanagh, Aoife Kerans, Paddy Kerans, Kevin Kelly, Ronan Killeen, Jimmy Laffey, Kurt Lydon, John Martin Griffin, Edna Lalor, Thomas Ligtvoet, Anne McCarthy, Brendan McGowan, Martin McHugh, Mick McMahan, Patria McWalter, Congella Maguire, Cian Marnell, Mike Murphy, Paul Murphy, Cáit Noone, Seosamh Ó Cuaig, Dónal Ó Droighneáin, Tomás Ó Droighneáin, Sailí Ní Dhroighneáin, Dr Rick Officer, Jane O'Halloran Ryan, Peadar Ó Loideáin, Frank O'Malley, Nicky O'Malley, Micheál Ó Maille, Joe Steve Ó Neachtain, Páid Ó Neachtain, Gerry O'Neill, Finbarr O'Regan, Susanne O'Reilly, Michael Owens, Jim Reidy, John Reilly, Brian Quinn, Margaret Quinn, Tom Quinn, Eamon Ryan, Noel Skehill, John Tierney, John Tunney, Gráinne Smyth agus Rodger Waters.

**Téacs:** Dr Mark McCarthy, Marie Mannion agus Dr Shirley Wrynn (*The Signatories Trail*), Dr Mark McCarthy agus Dr Shirley Wrynn (*The Cradle of the Rising Trail*), Dr Mark McCarthy agus Dr Shirley Wrynn (*The Route of the Rising Trail*), Dr Mark McCarthy agus Dr Shirley Wrynn (*The Liam Mellows Escape Trail*).

**An Fhoireann Thionscadail agus Eagarthóirí:** Dr Mark McCarthy, Marie Mannion agus Dr Shirley Wrynn.

**Grianghraif Dhaite:** Dr Mark McCarthy.

**Comhordanáidí GPS:** Dr Mark McCarthy.

**Cartagrafaíocht:** Bridín Feeney

**Aistriúchán:** Europus.

**Íomhá ar an gClúdach Cúil:** 'Guth an Eirí Amach: The Voice of the Rising' – Cuimhneachán Chontae na Gaillimhe 1916, Páirc Rinn Mhíl, Órán Mór.

**Dearadh agus Leagan Amach:** KPW, Béal Átha na Sluaighe.

**Priontáil:** KPW, Béal Átha na Sluaighe.



*Foilsithe ag Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe  
i gcomhpháirtíocht leis an  
Roinn Oidhreachta agus Turasóireachta,  
Institiúid Teicneolaíochta na Gaillimhe-Mhaigh Eo,  
2017*



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe  
Galway County Council



**GMIT**

INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA NA GAILLIMHE-MAIGH EÓ  
GALWAY-MAYO INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

comhionannas  
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FREEDOM

sonas  
HAPPINESS

rathúnas  
PROSPERITY

náisiúntacht  
NATIONHOOD



2013-2023

20th National Commemorative Charter for Galway  
The County of Galway Republic of Ireland

19  
2016

