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## APPENDICES

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Heritage Asset Audit is one part of the Foyle Landscape Project, a study and celebration of the shared heritage of the Foyle basin, from Magilligan to Newtownstewart.

The audit is the most significant element of the study providing the substance from which a number of further outputs are to be generated. These include: a directory of easily accessible resources from which information about heritage can be found; a series of heritage and tourist routes; pilot conservation projects and a wide range of other heritage projects connected the Foyle basin.

Most of the information in this document is not new, but for the first time, has been selected and presented together in a single resource. This resource is organised to reflect the spatial organisation of the natural landscape allowing direct comparison of visual and written media with the physical experience of passing through the Lough Foyle and river basin. At each section of this metaphorical journey, the various media through which heritage can be experienced are also brought into play, so that the landscape is not simply represented as a container for objects but is interpreted through the factors which shaped it, the plants and animals which it supports and the human activities for which it has provided a stage. This layered approach enables a deeper understanding of the landscape itself and the factors which have shaped objects within the context of their landscape setting.

The range of such a task is potentially as great as the landscape that is being portrayed and a strict framework has been established to provide a structure for this study. Inevitably, this approach must be selective and the heritage features that have been highlighted prompt new questions and new paths for investigation. Like the taster menu, the project is conceived as the start of a longer relationship with the Foyle landscape; one is introduced to what is on offer, allowing informed choices for further investigation to be made in future.

The aim is to make information about heritage accessible and to direct people to the resources to find out more.

Like any audit, the aim has been to provide a methodical investigation that will assist in determining the state of the assets in question; in this case it is the heritage within the area that is being studied. The notion that heritage is comprised of assets is important, reflecting that heritage has a value and is to be protected. It also suggests that the heritage, which determines regional identity as embodied in our shared landscapes and culture, is a tool for

doing business. This is particularly relevant in terms of cultural tourism where heritage is the substance without which there would be no product to promote.

The audit has exposed the wealth of assets that are available to us in this region. It has also revealed some of the threats to this wealth through inadvertent damage either through neglect, lack of resources or lack of recognition. It is hoped that the recommendations that have been made in the study and the follow up activities that it generates will address these revelations to the profit of the region as a whole.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Purpose of Study

The study has been commissioned by the Foyle Civic Trust and is intended to address a number of gaps in our knowledge about the historic built and natural environment. The study is part of a larger project relating to the landscape of the Foyle as a whole. The purpose of this element is to undertake an audit of “significant heritage assets” to assist in the development of an evidence base to inform policy and to promote collaboration and joint working in the Foyle Valley.

The study has collated information available from several sources and brought it together to provide an overview of the heritage assets that survive. Whilst making reference to major features such as the Derry city walls the emphasis on this project has been to identify features which, whilst modest in scale, may be significant to local communities and at the same time have the potential to be strategically important for the development of community participation and visitor enjoyment in the rural districts of the Foyle Basin.

The format of the study, which is broken down into a number of Landscape Character Areas (LCA's), is designed to consider the heritage features which have been identified with the specific context of their landscape setting. This is important as the significance of a site is often to do with an accumulation of small features or the influence that the heritage feature may have in the wider landscape. This influence may not only be physical or visual but may be present in local oral history and local cultural tradition.

Information about these significant heritage features is critical in promoting their future protection and information sources have also been identified as significant assets in their own right.

Many of the physical heritage assets that have been identified in the study are under threat by lack of financial and technical resources to protect and conserve them. There is also a lack of community awareness or reluctance to engage in heritage conservation practices or involvement in policy making because of a perceived difficulty in obtaining information or due to sensitivity in exploring the legacy of the past.

The project is timed to take advantage of an evolving political and social landscape to develop a reference point that will be of use in the development of future policy in the region with the Foyle and its shared heritage at its centre and will also increase the capacity

of the people of the Foyle Valley to participate in the Derry~Londonderry City of Culture 2013.

## 1.2 Objectives of the Audit

The following is a summary of the project brief.

The brief called for the audit to provide an overview of information that is currently available from many different sources. The collation of information relating to the region in a single documentary source is to provide directions for those seeking to find out more; assist in making information more accessible and facilitate coordinated policy making in relation to the Foyle Valley landscape.

From the outset the audit material was also intended to form the basis for the production of a directory or other appropriate means of information dissemination and visitor trail map which is understandable and accessible to a wide range of users including land-owners, rural dwellers, heritage interest groups and public agencies. The recommendation section of the document suggests ways in which this might be achieved as well as providing other suggestions which have arisen in the course of the study suggested by the nature of the material itself or as a result of the public consultation process.

The scope of the audit is required to include significant *built*, *natural* and *cultural* heritage assets that contribute to the landscape character of the study area.

The audit is to be linked to the Northern Ireland Environment Agency landscape character structure but give time-depth to our understanding of the contemporary landscape, not just in relation to sites and monuments but also the historical context of current land uses which are established in the region.

The findings of the study will identify the forces of change that are currently operating in the landscape and influence the effect of these. It will also be a tool of community engagement, awareness, outreach and education to build upon for community heritage audits and further work. It will identify what is at risk and make communities aware of this and therefore make a major statement of the Foyle Valley as a heritage asset in historical, natural environment, social and economic terms.

The audit is also intended to support:

- Implementation of the European landscape Convention at a local and regional level

- Improvement of public awareness, appreciation and understanding of the historic character of areas and places as a key part of local distinctiveness and sense of identity
- Improvement of public awareness and understanding of the environmental importance (at a national and global level) of the River, Lough and wetland areas as another key element of local distinctiveness and sense of identity
- Provision of a robust basis for covering heritage issues in drafting local or regional development plans
- Consideration of suitable locations for large-scale infrastructure projects including roads, bridges, hydropower plants etc. Highlight inappropriate locations for such developments and emphasise relevant ecological considerations
- Assessments of interactions between heritage, wildlife and landscape features in Environmental Assessments of major developments
- Targeting of landscape management initiatives, agri-environment schemes, rural regeneration, farm diversification and woodland expansion
- Assisting development of design guidelines for a wide range of developments from expansion of settlements and one-off rural housing to windfarms, with the focus on environmental sustainability
- Input to heritage strategies, local action plans and tourism strategies
- Preparation of conservation and management plans for various designations
- Historical, environmental and archaeological research into changing landscape at local and regional level

### 1.3 Project Team

A multidisciplinary team, led by Duncan McLaren of Dedalus Architecture, has been appointed to undertake this audit project. The project team comprised the following companies and individuals:

**DEDALUS ARCHITECTURE** is a Grade 1 accredited conservation practice, established by Duncan McLaren in 2001. The practice is based in County Donegal and provides architectural and consultancy services throughout Ireland. In addition to general architectural services, the office specialises in work with existing and historic buildings, including conservation, repair and adaptive reuse. Consultancy services include research, writing for publication and policy development.



Duncan McLaren was author of “*Plantation Architecture and Landscape in Derry and Donegal*” one of a series of three booklets published jointly by the Donegal County Museum and Derry City Council Heritage & Museum Service to commemorate the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Plantation of Ulster. Included in a wide ranging portfolio of conservation projects, Duncan has also been involved in the study and repair of a number of late Medieval ecclesiastical and military structures.

Duncan has been on the panel of conservation advisors to the Heritage Council since 2002 and has lived and worked overlooking Lough Foyle for more than 10 years. Duncan’s role in this project is to act as project manager and editor.

**JOHN CRONIN & ASSOCIATES** provide planning, archaeological, conservation and heritage services to government agencies, local authorities, private developers and the third sector. John Cronin, the Managing Director, has over eighteen years professional experience in both the public and private sectors. John Cronin & Associates has a reputation among its clients for the delivery of innovative, pragmatic and sustainable solutions in the areas of archaeology, urban and building conservation and heritage management. In addition to its core staff and expertise, the firm draws on a nationwide set of offices and highly respected specialists in the areas of archaeology, architecture, ecology and industrial heritage.

**RALPH SHEPPARD** is a former lecturer in ecology at Bristol Polytechnic and an ecological consultant for more than 30 years. His work has included ecological reports on several pipeline, road and powerline projects, and for more than 20 proposed windfarms. Recent work has also included the selection for Coillte Teoranta of 170 areas to be managed for biodiversity. Ralph is author of, what was between 1994 and 2005, the standard reference on Irish wetland birds and bird sites (*Ireland’s Westland Wealth: the birdlife of the estuaries, lakes coasts, rivers, bogs and turloughs of Ireland. 1993. Irish Wildbird Conservancy*), and has established a database of 50,000 Donegal wildlife records. Output from this has included a website mapping the distributions of almost 400 moth species in Donegal, with photos of each ([www.skylark.ie/donegalmoths](http://www.skylark.ie/donegalmoths)). Ralph is also a member of the Designated Areas Appeals Advisory Board and the vice-county recorder for Vice County 35 (west Donegal) for the Botanical Society of the British Isles.

**MIKE WALDVOGEL** is a Landscape Architect who has chosen to focus his working portfolio on landscape planning, cultural landscape heritage and community improvement projects. He finds that this umbrella of work keeps him in touch with the wider community by being able to guide future development while fostering public education in the benefits of landscape analysis. He has been facilitating community training workshops intermittently since 2001.

Forestbird Design opened in 2009 as a sole trading company with the intent that Mike can be selective in his work and provide clients with senior expertise through all phases of a project; resulting in comprehensive, well-designed, realistic projects. Mike has completed training in Landscape Character Assessment with The Heritage Council (September 2010).

Prior to opening his own consultancy, Mike played key design and masterplanning roles in well respected landscape firms (Office of Cheryl Barton, San Francisco, 1999-2004) and (Brady Shipman Martin, Cork, 2004-2009).

### **Collaboration**

In collaboration with one another, Dedalus Architecture and John Cronin & Associates have undertaken several survey projects in County Donegal on behalf of Donegal County Council; these include:

- An Assessment of the Settings of Historic Buildings & Associated Structures & Traditional Landscape Character in Co. Donegal;
- Survey of Clachans, Co. Donegal;
- Survey of Mills & Mill Sites;
- Survey of Booley Huts & Sites.

### **1.4 Study Area**

The overall study area is referred to throughout the document as the Foyle Basin. This description, which implies the entire catchment area of the Foyle, is not strictly correct. Whilst the study could be extended to the entire basin, the term is used in this case to refer to the overall study area to avoid confusion with other terms such as the Foyle Valley which is a separate Landscape Character Area in its own right.

The geographic focus of this project is the Foyle corridor from the mouth of Lough Foyle in the north, along the river Foyle through Derry along the river Mourne and lower part of the

river Strule and finishing south of Strabane at Newtown Stewart where the valley mouth closes at Bessy Bell and Mary Grey Mountains. These are the rural areas of the Derry City Council, Strabane District Council, and Limavady District Council.

## 1.5 Divisions

The project methodology has been informed by the European Landscape Convention. The **European Landscape Convention**, also known as the **Florence Convention**, was initiated by the Congress of Regional and Local Authorities of the Council of Europe. The Convention is aimed at: the protection, management and planning of all landscapes and raising awareness of the value of a living landscape.

Landscapes continue beyond political or administrative boundaries and a collective approach is needed to manage resources over a geographical region. In common with many other parts of Europe, policy within this study area needs to consider several administrative regions, which in this area are four local authority administrative areas and an international boundary

In order to develop this landscape based approach in a coherent way, the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA), has completed a map in which the entire province of Northern Ireland has been systematically divided up into 130 distinct character areas. The study uses the extent and naming of these areas as chapters in the document.

It was an ambition of the brief to consider breaking these areas down further into smaller more manageable areas with distinctive characteristics. We have considered an initial subdivision in relation to each landscape area, however in presenting this document we have deliberately retained the LCA framework provided in order to avoid making too many subdivisions which would risk losing sight of the whole. The LCA areas could be broken down further in the course of future work; where the requirement to retain an overview may be less important.

Whilst the predetermined LCA areas have been retained as a framework for the study, in many places we have stepped outside the boundaries in order to better understand the historic settlement within an area. In the city of Derry~Londonderry itself an additional area has been created which, due to the density of information, whilst not as detailed the outlying rural areas is designed to highlight the influences of the city in the landscape beyond.

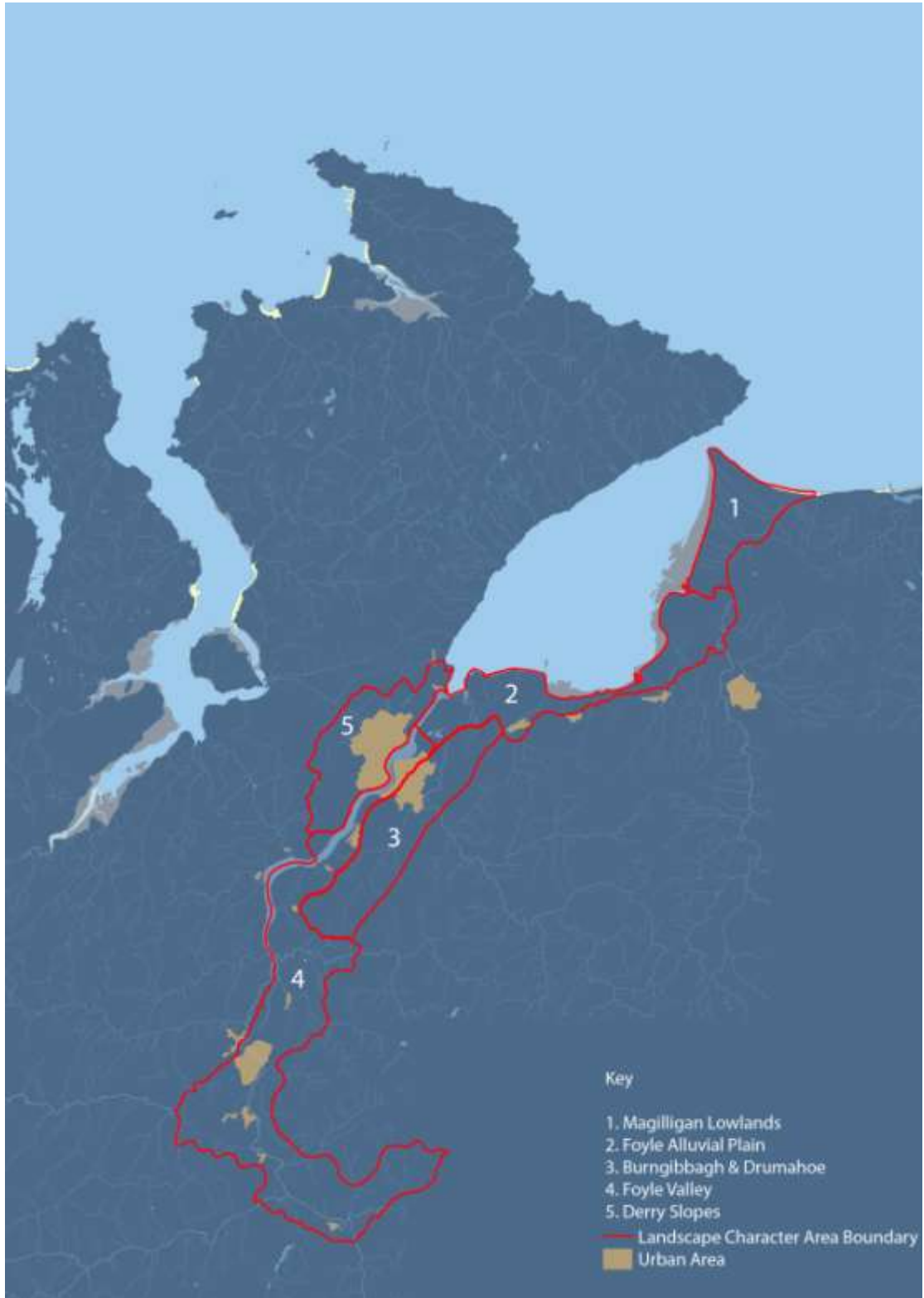


Figure 1: NIEA identified LCAs within the study area: 1 – Magilligan Lowlands; 2 – Foyle Alluvial Plain; 3 – Derry Slopes; 4 – Burngibbagh & Drumahoe; 5 – Foyle Valley

## **2 AUDIT METHODOLOGY**

As with any audit process the findings represent the availability of information at a specific moment in time as well as the concerns of the individuals conducting the review. Whilst no bias is intended, it is inevitable that assets will have been overlooked or their value not recognised. The impact of this on the study has been moderated by the inputs from the membership of The Foyle Civic Trust steering Group who have directed the study and through a process of public consultation. Further responses are likely from users of the document or through additions where more information becomes available in future. Proposals within the recommendations section of the document are intended to ensure that the audit continues to be relevant. An important concern is that elements of the material are made available in digital form so that they may be supplemented in future to address perceived shortfalls and to accommodate new concerns and subject areas and continuing input from users of the document and members of the public.

### **2.1 Identification of Sources**

From the outset we have chosen to focus on sources of information that are easily available, particularly digital references that are increasing almost daily. These resources are already available to anyone with a personal computer or smartphone. Highlighting the principal digital information resources relating to the heritage assets of the Foyle Basin will further increase their accessibility.

We have also made reference the major authoritative texts and archive resources relating to specific heritage assets which can be referred to by those seeking additional information. We have edited the potential list of publications considerably to draw attention to those sources which we have found to be particularly relevant. Undoubtedly this resource may be reviewed as new studies become available or others gain in popularity in the future.

As is the convention, we have provided sources or copyright information relating to materials that we have used in this document. References are for primary source documents wherever possible; references from secondary source documents refer to the primary material where this has been given otherwise the secondary source has been provided. In addition to giving credit to the originators of intellectual material these references should allow those interested to more easily investigate a subject further. Maps are reproduced in accordance with OSI & OSNI copyright licences. It is noted consents may

need to be sought for use of any 3<sup>rd</sup> party materials for publication or use in a public website or other public circulation outside the context of this initial audit document.

## 2.2 Pilot Study Area

In order to determine what information is available and how the information gathered by the project might be represented, our first task was to carry out a pilot study relating to a single relatively manageable area. Magilligan Lowlands was selected as it represented both the start and the finish of the Foyle as well as being a relatively manageable size generating relatively smaller amounts of data.

## 2.3 Selection & Organisation of Data

The investigation of each area has been undertaken by looking at the view point of each Landscape Character Area through a series of separate conventional 'filters'.

These views include existing physical landscape characteristics; historical change; historical cultural divisions, natural, cultural and built landscapes and have been recorded in a variety of means in written and visual forms.

None of these filters on its own can give a full understanding of the nature of the area or the extent and value of its heritage; but the accumulation of these is able to generate a more complete understanding.

A number of specific categories were developed once the material available for the Magilligan Lowlands area had been established. These were reviewed and then applied methodically to sites throughout the entire study area.

The categories that we have developed were initially based on recommendation of Dr Patrick J. Duffy from *Exploring the History and Heritage of Irish Landscapes*. Four Courts Press (2007). These have been developed to suit the specific requirements of the brief to bring together information from the readily available resources as follows:

- **Landscape Character Area** – this is the area established by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) and includes a map and written description taken directly from NIEA documentation. Whilst the limits of the study are based on LCA extents; certain elements of the significant assets identified are located outside these and have been included as they are relevant to historic landscape usage.
- **Historic Landscape Character** – this is our observation based on an overview of documentation accumulated within the study and the factors which have shaped the landscape of the area in the past.

- **Historical natural landscapes; geology** – this includes written description taken directly from NIEA documentation and examples of geological map sources.
- **Historical natural landscapes; ecology** – this includes written description taken directly from NIEA documentation, mapping of protected sites, information on significant species and trees and an analysis of the ecology written by ecologist Ralph Sheppard.
- **Historical cultural landscape; Barony** – a map showing the extent of Baronies to allow comparison with the LCA area and the potential relationship of areas of control established in the Medieval period within the landscape.
- **Historical cultural landscape; Civil Parishes** – a map showing the extent of Civil Parishes to allow comparison with the LCA area and the potential relationship of areas of control established in the Medieval period, within the landscape.
- **Historical cultural landscape; Townlands** – a map showing the extent of Townlands, also largely established in the Medieval period, within the LCA area and the relationship of these with the landscape. This relationship is further examined by a review of the townland names.
- **Historical cultural & built landscape; historical survival** – a review of details from a selection of the most important historical maps and a consideration of the survival of significant features within the landscape today.
- **Administration** – Poor Law Union, Dispensary Districts & District Electoral Divisions – a map showing 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> century administrative divisions to explain the distribution of institutional buildings.
- **Population change** – a consideration of the impact of population change within the study area on the landscape.
- **Historical cultural & built landscape; landed estates** – historical mapping and documentation showing the extent and influence of the significant landed estates in the landscape.
- **Historical built landscape; Urban Settlement** – historical mapping and documentation showing the development of urban landscapes.
- **Historical built landscape; significant sites** – this is a list of the built heritage assets including archaeology which have been identified in the study. The majority of these are collated from separate NIEA databases with a limited number of additional sites identified through the consultation process.
- **Map & Key to significant heritage assets** – map showing the distribution and type of the significant assets identified in the study.
- **Visual Landscape: Spatial Context** – Photography & digital imagery describing the landscape shape and enclosure.

- **Visual Landscape: Painting Maps & Images** – historical and recent visual imagery used to describe the landscape within the study area.
- **Written Landscape: prose, poem & song** – verbal descriptions of the landscape within the study area.
- **Review of findings & recommendations** – a review specific to the individual Landscape Character Area.

It was clear, even prior to commencing this process that it would not be possible to collate and analyse all of the available information in the study area and therefore it would be necessary to be selective. As we have already stated, whilst we have benefited greatly from the inputs from the Foyle Civic Trust steering committee and responses from public consultation, we must take responsibility for the selections that have been made. The benefit of the process adopted is that it is methodical and allows further development through the future addition of information to existing categories and the addition of new categories.

#### **2.4 Asset Data Sheets**

A large proportion of readers are unlikely to be familiar with the significant built heritage assets that are identified through the above process. Some photographs are included to show the nature of the sites in relation to their setting. Further information is also provided in the form of asset data sheets for the most significant sites. As well as providing information about the location and description of the site some analysis is included of its condition, its setting and potential as a resource for tourism.

These sheets are included in an appendix at the end of the document and are designed that additional sheets or information can be added over time. The design of the sheets and the inclusion of map coordinates allows for the future use of the information to be made available online using Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping which allows sites to be selected on a map and the data sheet information to be accessed.

#### **2.5 Consultation & Establishment of Significance**

A recurring theme in any discussion about the project is the definition of “significant”. Our initial response to this has been to determine what the heritage assets are and then to consider their importance. In doing so it is clear that sites may be significant due to their rarity or their size. We have also found that features that are not necessarily important



when considered in isolation become very important when seen as part of a group or a wider network.

Significance also varies in relation to different communities and individuals; hence the importance of the consultations undertaken in the report.

The appendix includes reference to those who have been consulted for purposes of this study. Not all of these have responded to our initial contacts; others who have may wish to make further input into the future. In some cases we have started but not finished conversations due to the time constraints of the project. We are very happy to follow these up in the future and would envisage that further response is likely follow completion of the document.

## **2.6 Public Presentation**

A public presentation of the findings of this study will be made to raise awareness of its existence and its use in relation to the other objectives of the Foyle Landscape Project as whole.

We would envisage that the information resource will be developed further in the future as feedback is received.

### 3 HERITAGE ASSETS – SIGNIFICANT THEMES

A number of significant themes have been identified that are common throughout several of the individual landscape areas. In order to reduce the amount of repetition between descriptions of each landscape area, a brief synopsis has been prepared in relation to each of the identified themes and their impact on the landscape. We have had to make some generalisation for the purposes of illustration; this section of document is intended to provide a useful overview that will assist readers.

The following are the principal themes identified:

- The natural state – Geology & Habitats
- Prehistory
- Medieval: Early Church
- Settlement patterns – Parishes & Townlands
- Viking Raids
- Later Medieval Period – Irish Lordships
- Docwra’s Military Campaign
- Plantation, Rebellion & Suppression
- The Jacobite Wars & the Siege of Derry
- The Development of Towns
- The “established” Church & Dissenters
- Landlords and Agricultural “Improvement”
- Napoleonic Defences
- Administrative Structures & Reforms: Institutions
- Famine & Emigration
- Industry: raw materials to finished products – fishing, agriculture, milling, linen, shirt making
- Transport: railways, roads & canals
- 20<sup>th</sup> Century Development
- Lough Foyle & World War 2
- The “Troubles”
- The Future: Rebuilding; Road Development & Infrastructure; Climate Change and Opportunity

### 3.1 The Natural State – Geology & Habitats

*Overview of the Natural State: written by Ralph Sheppard*

There is huge diversity in the features of interest on the Northern Ireland side of the Foyle Basin. From the cliffs of Binevenagh, with its Arctic/Alpine plant community, to the ancient oak woodlands of the Mourne, Strule and Owenkillew valleys, and from the Atlantic coast and sand dunes of Magilligan, through the vast mud expanses of Lough Foyle, to the sparkling upland waters of the Owenkillew River.

Much of these important semi-natural<sup>1</sup> habitat types are under the protection of various conservation designations. The national designation (Area of Special Scientific Interest) underpins the European Special Area of Conservation (Habitats Directive) and Special Protection Area (Birds Directive), so European sites will almost always have the national designation as well. The international Ramsar designation for wetlands and wetland bird species is independent, but usually overlaps with SPAs.

Areas of Local Conservation Interest and NGO reserves may not hold anything of sufficient importance to justify a national or European designation, but they are stepping stones of species (and gene) flow, helping to maintain the viability of much of the background biodiversity in the bigger sites. They are also, of course, reservoirs of biodiversity in their own right. The Woodland Trust manages Prehen Wood. The Ulster Wildlife Trust manages the Umbra, part of the great Magilligan sand dune complex, and for a time managed the Strabane Glen ASSI, noted for its Red Squirrels. The inter-tidal mudflats on Lough Foyle are a reserve of The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB).

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty are larger, more diluted areas of natural interest. And although these, and the small County Parks, have more of a recreational focus, both help to protect the semi-natural habitats which underpinned their selection in the first place.

However, the qualifying standards which justify all these designations often allow important features to slip through the net. The intensive agricultural flat lands of the Foyle Alluvial Plain should be at least partly designated as an SPA, but are not. The same applies to the similar habitat at Grange, in the Foyle Valley. Both these areas are of importance to swans and geese, and to some other waterfowl species - all of them very vulnerable to human

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<sup>1</sup> As all habitats have at some time in their history been interfered with and modified by human activity, they are usually referred to as semi-natural, rather than natural – even when evidence of human interference is hard to detect.

pressures, and unlikely to persist without some measure of consideration by the farming community and the general public.

These concerns are not nit-picking. Planning tends to pay due heed to official designations only. So while Grange has been saved from destruction by the proposed new A5 route, it is probably only the deflection caused by the need to avoid the much smaller, but ASSI designated McKean's Moss, that has saved it.

Of even greater importance is the need to maintain biodiversity in the general countryside, between the relatively small and isolated conservation sites. These will undoubtedly continue to lose many previously widespread species as their populations become increasingly fragmented by developments. Fragmentation and degradation of the countryside is increasing all the time through urban sprawl, agricultural intensification, new road and power line routes, and more recently through wind-farm construction – done, ironically, in the name of environmental conservation. Wind-farms, although outside our area, hover over it, and are having an increasing impact on the biodiversity of the Foyle watershed. There is a serious debate needed about the needs of the planet, in this case the need to reduce global warming through the burning of fossil fuels, and the need for all regions of the planet to protect their own local environments. The Foyle catchment, like anywhere else, is greatly in need of an over-arching policy which puts environmental conservation at the heart of its planning and development. But in doing so, it will have to resolve these conflicts between local and global needs. Ultimately the two goals should not be in conflict, and if they are, it is indicative of a poorly thought-out strategy for reducing the negative impact of human civilisation on the planet's ability to sustain life in general – including us.

While the imperative of saving the planet needs to underpin everything we do, it should not take away from the enjoyment to be had from experiencing the natural world in our own local area. Indeed, it can be argued that the first step in bringing global and local needs into line, is to experience the beauty and wonder of the natural world, particularly in areas where it is still functioning as it should – our native habitats, and the sites dedicated to conserving them.

### 3.2 The Prehistoric Period

#### *The earliest settlers*

The earliest signs of human activity in Ireland appears to date from the Early Mesolithic (or Early Stone Age) period, some 9000 years ago (7000 – 5500 BC<sup>2</sup>). Indeed, one of the most notable recorded early Mesolithic settlement sites in Ireland is located in Co. Derry at **Mount Sandel**, situated south of Coleraine on a bluff overlooking the valley of the River Bann.

Mesolithic people were Stone Age hunters, fishers and gatherers, living on the coastline and along rivers, but with no knowledge of farming. They used flint and other stones to manufacture sharp tools (Anderson 1993, 35-8) and their settlements can now be identified by locating scatters of discarded stone tools, and the debris from their manufacture, in ploughed fields. No sites of Mesolithic date have so far been discovered in the identified Foyle Valley LCAs study area however this does not negate the possibility that such sites exist at a sub-surface level. In this period hunter-gatherers are thought to have been utilising the resources of both the coastal zone and the rivers and lakes. As such, it is likely that the areas of the lough and river Foyle, river Faughan and river Deele and their surroundings acted as an important marine resource and means of transportation through the terrain during this period.

#### *The first farmers*

There was a decisive change in the economy of prehistoric Ireland shortly after 4000 BC, a change which traditionally has been considered one of the characteristic features of the Neolithic period. The Neolithic (or New Stone Age) period represents the arrival and establishment of agriculture as the principal form of economic subsistence. Over successive generations, farmers either moved slowly across Europe or had influenced local hunter-gathering populations to adopt the new economy (Mallory and McNeill 1991, 29). By c. 4500 BC farming communities existed along the Atlantic coast of Europe and soon afterwards they began to appear in Britain and Ireland (*ibid.*). The nature of the agricultural economy would have allowed for the new farmers to live in permanent settlements all year long (in marked contrast to the nomadic lives of the hunter-gatherers) who preferred sheltered places near quality water sources. As a consequence of the new way of life, new

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<sup>2</sup> The annotation BC refers 'Before Christ' that is, before *Anno Domini* (AD) and the Christian Calendar, of which the present year is 2012 AD. For example, a date of 4000BC means 4000 years before the birth of Christ, or 6012 years ago.

site-types begin to appear in the archaeological record during this period. These include substantial Neolithic, permanent settlement house-types such as those recorded within the Derry Slopes and Foyle Alluvial Plain LCA's at **Thornhill, Caw, Lough Enagh** and **Upper Campsey** townlands. This region of Ireland is notable for the exceptionally high concentration of recorded Neolithic settlements and is likely to have direct association to the landscape within the Foyle Valley, principally the proximity to fertile alluvial plains and access to water sources. Pre-bog field systems are also characteristic of the beginnings of land divisions during this period, for which there is evidence at **Gortmellan** townland in the Burngibbagh and Drumahoe LCA.



Figure 2: Upper Campsey: Neolithic houses found during course of works on A2 Dualling Scheme

### *Death and burial*

A characteristic of Neolithic farming communities on the Atlantic margins of Europe was the practice of burial in communal tombs. The principal component of these tombs is a burial chamber constructed usually of large unhewn stones (megaliths) and covered by a mound of earth or stones. The dead, inhumed or cremated, were placed in the chamber, often accompanied by grave goods such as pottery vessels and flint arrowheads. In Ireland four main types of megalithic tomb have been identified: court-tombs, portal-tombs, passage-tombs and wedge-tombs. The first three types are earlier in date (pre-2000 BC) whilst the

wedge tombs are latest in the series (c. 2000BC – 1000BC). All but the passage tomb type are represented within the **Foyle Valley LCA in exceptionally large numbers**, this dense concentration being a notable area for the distribution of same within Ireland overall.

### *The arrival of metal*

Metalworking arrived in the region about 4000 years ago and the change associated with this development is reflected in a move from large communal tombs to individual burials in small pits or stone cists. A characteristic of the earlier Bronze Age in Ireland is the emergence of a distinctive burial custom, often termed the 'single burial tradition' (Waddell 1990; Waddell 1991) which was part of a wider European milieu. In the initial stages of this tradition both inhumation and cremation were practised. Burial in cairns (stone mounds), barrows and tumuli (earthen mounds) or cists (box-like and slab-built burial compartments) was fairly common. There is a recorded cairn with cist located at **Ballymagroarty** in the Derry Slopes LCA further indicating the human settlement of the region during this period. The results from excavations suggest a long tradition for these classes of monument ranging in date from the Neolithic to Early Bronze Age times.

### *A sacred landscape*

As the Bronze Age progressed (c.3000-1500BC) other stone built monuments were constructed and are numerous in the northern region such as stone circles, stone rows, boulder burials and standing stones. Single upright stones are a common feature of the Irish countryside and are known by various names (*gállan, dállan, leacht*, long stone etc.) (O'Kelly 1989, 228-9). They are not all necessarily of one period or serving the same purpose. Some have been shown to mark prehistoric burials while others may have had a commemorative or ritual function, or served as boundary markers or position posts along ancient routeways (Buckley & Sweetman 1991, 73). The vast majority of standing stones have their long axis north-east/south-west, which suggests a close affinity with stone rows and pairs, which share the same orientation pattern. There are many examples of standing stones located throughout the identified LCAs, most notably that at **Avish** in Burngibbagh and Drumahoe LCA. Circles of stones built for ritualistic or ceremonial purposes form a distinctive group in the megalithic tradition that spread over much of Britain and Ireland in Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age times for which there are also dense concentrations in the northern region of Ireland.

In comparison with the Bronze Age, the evidence for the Iron Age activity in Ireland is somewhat more scant. The later first millennium BC and the early centuries AD are amongst

the most obscure in Irish prehistoric archaeology (Waddell 1998, 279). There is general agreement that the development of an iron technology was a significant factor in the eventual demise of bronze working on a large scale, but how, why and when this came about in Ireland is far from clear (*ibid.*). Waddell states that ‘domestic occupation sites remain virtually unknown and our understanding of settlement, economy and social structure in the period from 600 BC to the early centuries AD is meagre in the extreme’ (1998, 319). The Foyle Alluvial Plain LCA is home to the site of an extraordinary hoard of gold artefacts that date to the early Iron Age known as the **Broighter Hoard**. Now housed in the National Museum of Ireland (Dublin) perhaps one of the most interesting finds of the collection is a miniature boat, with oars and fine detail which is possibly an indication of the regard and importance that the Foyle held in the minds of the prehistoric peoples of the region in a sacred, territorial, social, economic, transportation and political/power sense.

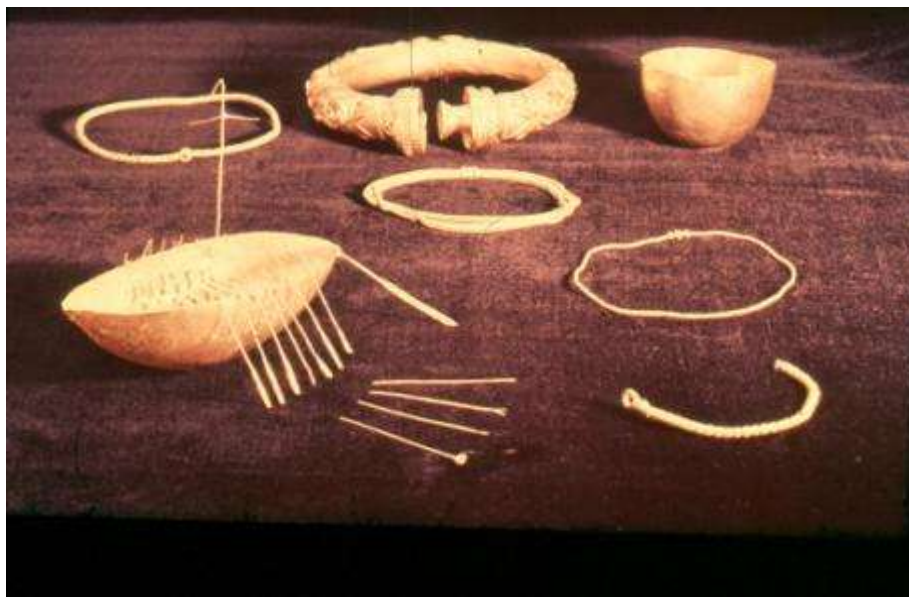


Figure 3: Broighter Hoard: Full collection

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### 3.3 Medieval: Early Church

#### *Early Medieval Settlement: AD400-1169*

The early medieval period was a time of profound internal social and economic change in Ireland. The dominant site types associated with this period include ringforts, souterrains and enclosures. (Generally enclosures are likely to be ringforts but insufficient evidence survives to classify them as such without recourse to archaeological excavation). Ringforts are undoubtedly the most widespread and characteristic archaeological field monument in the Irish countryside. They are usually known by the names *ráth* or *lios*, forming some of the most common place-name elements in the countryside. The ringfort is basically a circular or roughly circular area enclosed by an earthen bank formed of material thrown up from a concentric fosse (or ditch) on its outside. Archaeological excavation has shown that the majority of ringforts were enclosed farmsteads, built in the early medieval period (AD 500 – 1169). Though not forts in the military sense, the earthworks acted as a defence against natural predators like wolves, as well as against the cattle raids that were a characteristic of that period. Souterrains (underground chambers) are often found in association with ringforts. In some areas, dry-stone walls were built to enclose farmsteads in place of the earthen defences of the ringforts. Cashels (Irish *caiseal*) have the same circular or roughly circular plan as ringforts. The walls can be quite massive, sometimes as much as six metres thick and up to three metres high.

Within the study area, there is a large volume of recorded ringforts (raths) and enclosure sites. most notably at **Gortinure** and **Ballynabwee** in Burngibbagh and Drumahoe LCA area; **Rough Fort** just outside the Foyle Alluvial Plain LCA in **Moneyrannel** and **Boile Rath** within the Foyle Alluvial Plain LCA.

### *Church influence*

The early medieval period in Ireland saw the introduction and establishment of Christianity. The process of conversion of the native population would not have been rapid and spectacular but rather one of steady infiltration (Ó Cróinín 1994, 131). Over and above the change in religious outlook that conversion would have meant for the individual, the establishment of the Irish Church was to have profound implications for political, social and economic life, in no small part due to the introduction of writing into the country. In Ireland there was from now on 'in existence an organisation part of whose function was to maintain contacts, both in ideas and through individuals, between Ireland and the rest of Europe' (Mallory and McNeill 1991, 181). The introduction and establishment of Christianity is attested to in the archaeological record by the presence of church sites, associated places for Christian burial and holy wells. Monastic settlements were essentially agrarian in nature, but also were centres for learning and community outside the familial setting of secular communities. These monasteries had a far reaching influence as can be seen through the influence of leaders such as Saint Patrick and Saint Columbcille.

There are a number of important recorded ecclesiastical sites and monasteries located within the study area. At Magilligan Lowlands, there is an early ecclesiastical settlement at **Duncrun**, marked 'abbey in ruins' on the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition OS map (1890-900), said to be founded by St Patrick. Similarly, at **Tamlaght**, there is an early ecclesiastical site (with holy well, multi-period church, graveyard and the grave of St Cadan, it's patron). The church is said to be one of St Patrick's seven foundations in Cianacht. The modern day St Aidan's RC church is sited adjacent and the parish derives its name from this site (Tamlaghtard/Magilligan). At Foyle Alluvial Plain LCA there is an ecclesiastical site at **Enagh** named Templetown, Domnach Dola which includes a church and graveyard and may be the site of the church recorded in the Annals of Ulster as pillaged by Rortsel Fitton in 1197. It possibly was founded by St. Canice and was the medieval church of Clondermot, In addition in this area, there is a medieval church and graveyard at Faughanvale built on the site of a 7<sup>th</sup> century monastery.

In the City Environs LCA, there is an ecclesiastical site at Teampull Mor or **Templemore**, named Daire Calgaich/Daire Columcille/Dubh Regles. The modern RC church is built on the site of a medieval parish church, a pre-Norman church and earlier monastery. The Annals of Ulster gives a foundation date of 546 AD for the monastery. It also records the monastery being attacked by Vikings on various occasions. There are many 12th century references to the site, including it being burned in 1177 and again in 1204. It became an Augustinian monastery in the 13th century and Tempuill Mor was the medieval cathedral, which was

damaged during the Elizabethan wars. The site is on a promontory in a bend of the River Foyle. Also in the **City Environs**, there is the site of a medieval **Augustinian Priory** that can now not be precisely located. It was used by English settlers during the Plantation until the cathedral was built in 1633. According to Doherty, the Augustinians moved here in 1254 after the monastery at Tempuill Mor became a cathedral. Also, a **Dominican Friary** was erected in 1274 "on the N side of the Island" in the medieval settlement at Derry. Tradition locates it at the **junction of Fanan Street and St. Columbs Wells**. The community survived until 1576 when an English garrison held Derry for 2 years. At **Urney Glebe** in the Foyle Valley LCA area, there is a recorded ecclesiastical site with possible pre-Norman origins.

As like today, the church in Ireland was organised under the bishop of Armagh. By the late Medieval period, there had been over 1000 years of Christianity in Ireland and there were a large number of religious structures in the form of churches, monasteries, holy wells and crosses. Like many other aspects of Gaelic society, responsibility for parishes and for church lands was inherited. Monastic practise was held in high regard and several European monastic institutions were established in Ulster during the 16<sup>th</sup> Century. These institutions were sponsored by the Irish feudal chieftains as an outward gesture of their piety, wealth and status. Significant religious sites often coincided with the houses of the ruling classes and followed the same pattern as settlement and defensive structures. There were a very large number of churches constructed from the 5<sup>th</sup> century onwards.

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### 3.4 Settlement Patterns – Parishes & Townlands

Since prehistoric times the demarcation of territories and the enclosure of farm lands has been important. The boundaries were as now, often set by the course of rivers and streams, and the edges of mountains and bogs. Ireland is divided into provinces, counties, dioceses, baronies, parishes and townlands, and the majority of these take the form of much older territorial boundaries. Townlands are probably the oldest unchanged territorial units, dating to the early medieval period and potentially even earlier. Much of the territorial boundaries

that exist today were set out after the 12<sup>th</sup> century, when church reform introduced the diocesan system to Ireland (Byrne 2000, 12). Soon after, the Anglo-Norman influence on agriculture, which included the enclosure of extensive tracts of farmlands would have changed the landscape of Ireland, not just in the areas of Anglo-Norman influence but in other areas through the spread of new ideas. The further enclosure of land throughout the late medieval and post-medieval periods meant that townlands had solid boundaries in stone, sod, fence or often ditch and bank to augment the boundaries formed by river and streams.

Townlands – of which there are over 62,205 in Ireland – are ‘the smallest denomination of land possessing permanent boundaries’ (Locke 1852, 345) , measuring from as small as less than an acre to 1,000 acres in size and averaging at 325 acres (Evans 1967, 12). The Townland Index of Ireland records 1,307 townlands in County Derry compared to 2833 in neighbouring Co. Donegal (<http://www.seanruad.com/cgi-bin/iresrch>). Townlands were important to the British administration in Ireland, as they provided small units of territory in a very dispersed population, from which taxation could be extracted. The townlands of Ireland were mapped by the Ordnance Survey between 1825 and 1841, using much local knowledge to identify the precise boundaries (Fletcher 1999, 135).

Whilst many townland landscapes have almost certainly evolved, their location and their names are often linked to their setting or familial associations. Other related divisions such as quarterlands and ballybetaghs were superseded in the course of the Plantation, but the townlands were generally adopted. The name of a townland may refer to the character of the landscape for example **Drumahoe** (Drum na hNamha) ‘the ridge of the cave’; or **Benone** (Bun Abhann) ‘foot of the river’, named after a stream that runs to the sea at Downhill Strand (McKay 1999, 24; <http://www.logainm.ie>). It may be named after a personal or family name associated with an area for example **Ballykelly**, (Baile Ui Cheallaigh - O’ Ceallaigh (O’Kelly’s Townland) (McKay 1999, 14) or **Clondermot** (Clann Diarmada) ‘Family, dynasty of Diarmaid; Diarmaid, a personal name’ (<http://www.logainm.ie>). Townlands are often named after a feature on the landscape such as a ringfort or church that is situated in the area, for example **Carricklee** (Carraig liath) ‘grey rock’ or **Rathfad** (ráth fada) ‘large rath’. These old names are often anglicised or in some cases directly translated into English, for example Baile an Mhuilinn is often translated directly as **Milltown**, while some townlands have been given new names by their occupiers after the Plantations, such as **Brick Kiln** or **Saltworks** denoting the landuse.

Ecclesiastical settlements had also been established long before the Plantation and the extent of parishes was also adopted after the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

Buildings were generally constructed from materials that were readily available. Prior to the Plantation, when there was greater availability of forest, houses were constructed from timber on a few courses of stone with earth finished walls and thatched roofs. Early forms of this pattern are visible in ring forts or raths where houses were surrounded by a defensive wall or hedge topped earth embankment which would have allowed animals to be secured at night and also to provide some defence from wild animals.

As natural resources became more exploited and timber more scarce, stone buildings with thatch roof roofs became the norm. Clusters of houses, often occupied by members of extended family, have come to be known as 'clachans'. In parts of Scotland, where there were similar settlements, these groups were known as 'farm towns'. The Scottish name describes the nature of the clachan well as its form was closely related to the type of farming that was practised and also suggests its closely packed buildings, which are often quite urban in nature.

Many townlands contained a single clachan which also gave the townland its name. Where the townland did not change significantly in the course of the Plantation its name can be a link to the earlier Gaelic period indicating earlier inhabitants or the type of land which had been settled. Many townlands also contained a single rath or ringfort which is further evidence of the age and continuity of the townland form.

Farmland in this period was not enclosed except by walls dykes or hedges in close proximity to the clachan. Kitchen gardens or *garraí* were located next to the houses and main crops grown in strips in an adjoining shared open field; also known as the 'Rundale' system of farming. In the summer months, cattle grazed on open land beyond this field, and in the winter, were brought in closer to feed on stalks and to manure the soil. In areas where the soil was relatively poor a much wider area was needed to sustain a family and the size of townlands can also reflect the fertility of the soil. Where land was poor, or where there was high ground that was only accessible for grazing in the summer months, cattle were herded over quite long distances and tended by the young members of the family. The youth stayed with the cattle living in Booley shelters over the summer months; this practise of herding and living with the animals is known as 'transhumance'.

The importance of cattle herding is reflected in culture and mythology from this period. The clachan settlements were closely associated with this culture of transhumance, although the most numerous of the clachan settlements were in areas of greatest soil fertility. The fertile

Foyle Valley region has a relatively large number of small townlands and the practice of transhumance appears not to have been practised to the same degree; although upland areas of Binevenagh above Magilligan named 'Avish' and 'Craigbolie' suggest earlier use for summer grazing.

Even though farming practise has changed, clachan settlements are still visible in the Foyle landscape today and are made visible through field boundaries of building clusters. Clachans are often now in single farm use and have been redeveloped over time. Often vernacular house structures survive and have been reused as sheds and many houses, acceptable a generation or two ago, have now been abandoned leaving wallsteads to crumble. Whilst many of these buildings are not architecturally significant in design terms, they can be centuries old, often in use and relatively unchanged until recently and are becoming increasingly rare.

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## 3.5 Viking Raids

Documentary evidence concerning Viking settlement within the Foyle region is sparse. There are however a number of other clues to a more extensive Viking influence in the Northwest of Ireland through placenames and artefacts of Viking origin found in this region. The name of Donegal (Town) Dun na nGall – fort of the foreigners – suggest a permanent Norse presence there. Tomás O'Canann suggests that Doonan Rocks in south Donegal may have been a Viking assembly mound (O'Canann 2005, 40) and further suggests that the

name Gallagher (Gallchoobar) may mean ‘foreign helper’, associating that family with the Norse of south Donegal (O’Canann 2006, 45). A number of Viking coin hoards dating to the ninth and tenth centuries have been discovered in Inishowen and Derry (Gerriets 1985). This is complemented by a number of Viking silver bracelets found near Clonmany in east Inishowen and the ‘Dalriada’ brooch from Loughan Co. Derry, both dating to the ninth century (Raftery 1969; Graham-Campbell 1972, 115).

“The Annals of the Four Masters” is the primary documentary source on Viking references; a 17<sup>th</sup> century re-writing of earlier documents. The text suggests that the Vikings or foreigners were a cause of conflict over nearly two centuries. Contemporary English accounts from the Nine Years War refer to the feudal lords as being of Viking origin, which may have perhaps intended to legitimize the military campaign.

Ringforts were up until the 20<sup>th</sup> century often inaccurately referred to as “Danish Forts” suggesting that they were constructed as Viking strongholds. This was an antiquarian misnomer, which attributed these monuments to the Vikings rather than the native Irish. The Vikings that invaded Ireland were in fact mostly Norwegian (Danish Vikings invaded England) and the Ringforts were very much a native construction. As noted in sections 3.3 and 3.4 above, the majority of these structures had limited military strength, were constructed throughout the medieval period in Ireland and were best suited to providing security at night.

The Annals of the Four Masters (AFM) and Annals of Ulster (AU) suggest that the Vikings or foreigners were a cause of conflict over nearly two centuries. The Annals of Ulster record that in 833AD Niall Caille (the King of Tara) and his nephew, Murchad routed the Vikings at Derry (Lacey 2006, 309). The following passages are an account of Viking activity in Lough Foyle as recorded in the Annals of the Four Masters.

*Annals of the Kingdom of Ireland from the earliest times to the year 1616 (AFM) Vol. 1 - 6 (Third Edition) Introduction by Kenneth Nicholls. Reprint by Eamonn De Burca 1998.*

*“AD 864 – ‘A complete muster of the north was made by Aedh Finnliath, so that he plundered the fortress of the foreigners, wherever they were in the north, both in Cinel-Eoghan and Dal-Araidhe; and he carried off their cattle and accoutrements, their goods and chattels. The foreigners of the provence came together at Loch Feabhail-mic-Lodain. After Aedh, King of Ireland, had learned that this gathering of strangers was on the borders of his country, he was not negligent in attending to them, for he marched towards them with all his forces; and a battle was gained over the foreigners, and a slaughter was made of them. Their heads*

*were collected to one place, in presence of the King; and twelve score heads were reckoned before him, which was the number slain by him in that battle, besides the number of them who were wounded and carried off by him in the agonies of death, and who died of their wounds some time afterwards’ (AFM Vol. 1, p. 50).*

*AD 893 – ‘The pilgrim departed from Ireland Ard-Macha was plundered by the foreigners of Loch-Feabhail; and cumasach was taken by them’ and his son, Aedh Mac Cellach, so of Cwarbhall, over Osraighe, as far as Gabhran, where Maelnordha, son of Maelmhuidh, and a great number of others along with him were slain’ (AFM Vol. 1, p551).*

*AD 919 – ‘A fleet of foreigners, consisting of thirty-two ships, at loch-Feabhail, under Olbh; and Inis-Eoghan was plundered by them. Fearghal son of Domhnall, lord of the north, was at strife with them, so that he slew the crew of one of their ships, broke the ship itself, and carried off its wealth and goods. Twenty ships more arrived at Ceann-Maghair (Kinaweer in the barony of Kilmacrennan), in the east of Tir-Chonaill, under the conduct of Uathmharan, son of Barith, but they committed no depredation on that occasion (AFM vol. 2, p.606-7).*

*AD 941 – ‘A victory was gained at Trach-Mugha (Strand of Mugh is not identified) by Ruaidhri UaCanannan, over the Cinel-eoghan and the foreigners of Loch-Feabhail, where three hundred of the Cinel-Eoghan and foreigners were slain, together with Maelruanaidh, son of Flann, heir apparent of the North’ (AFM Vol.2, p.649). “*

The audit of heritage assets has revealed no known Viking remains within the study area; the accounts contained in the annals emphasise the strategic importance of the Foyle from a military perspective.

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### 3.6 Later Medieval Period – Irish Lordships

During this period, power in Ulster was shared between several Irish chieftains each with control over a distinct geographic area. The Foyle basin study area includes territories of the O'Cahans in the Foyle Alluvial Plain, Burngibbagh & Drumahoe; O'Doherty in Derry Slopes & Inishowen; O'Donnell in Donegal and O'Neill in the Foyle Valley. The names of these clans and of their allies are reflected in place names and in names of the people from this region, even today. Within the Magilligan Lowlands study area for example, MacGilligan were associated with the O'Cahans.

Relations between the factions were volatile to say the least and the significant family members were housed in fortified buildings throughout the region. Examples include **Duncrun castle site** in Magilligan Lowlands LCA, associated with the O'Kane clan. The area was ceded to the O'Kanes from the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Followers of the O'Kanes included *Mac Giollagain* (MacGilligan) from whom the area has retained its name. A castle and crannog site are sited on an artificial island in **Enagh Lough**, dating to the 12<sup>th</sup> century, built by the O'Kanes (aka the O'Cathans) and was referenced in the 16<sup>th</sup> century as an O'Kane stronghold. The site is known as Templetown, Green Island, 'castle of anagh'. Within the City Environs LCA, are two O'Doherty fortifications, one at **Elaghmore** - a castle probably dating to the 14<sup>th</sup> century which remained a stronghold until 1600 when it was abandoned and partly demolished by the English. O'Doherty reclaimed it in 1608 but lost it to Chicester who then used it as a garrison. Another O'Doherty tower house site is located within the city walls (at the Tower Museum site) and was known as **The Magazine**, located to the southeast of Magazine St. and southwest of Union Hall Place.

Although there is no visible trace of a fortification at **Castletown** in the Foyle Valley LCA, it is known that Manus O'Donnell built a castle in the 1530's which has traditionally been sought

on the Co. Donegal side of the river. However, research has found that it was possibly built on the Co. Tyrone side, fitting in well with the townland name. "Port na tri Namad" could mean the port of the three enemies or the three rivers, possibly the Finn, Mourne & Foyle, all of which converge north of Castletown.

The Foyle at this time served as a line of separation between the clans although fording points of the river that were more easily crossed from Dunnalong southwards became areas of conflict between the O'Donnell and O'Neill; there are several sites of archaeological importance in the Foyle Valley LCA where battles occurred between the clans. Indeed one important crossing point has records of a battle having been fought between the Cenel Eoghain and the Cenel Connaill in 789 AD at **Clady bridge** which was later to be the site of a battle of the fords in 1689 during the Siege of Derry. At **Croshballinree, Glenknock, Grange and Moyle Glebe** the Annals of Ulster record a battle here in 1472 between Henry O'Neill and Art O'Donnell. Indeed this area was much disputed during the medieval period and subject to several skirmishes and battles between the two lords and their kinsmen. Similarly, at **Carricklee**, the annals of the Four Masters record a battle fought here on 1st May 1588 between the Earl of Tyrone and Turlough Luineach O'Neill.

Francis Jobson's map title "The Province of Ulster" dates from 1590 and was intended as a means of describing the significant features of the province with a view to understanding the territory and extending English control over this part of the island. Initially, the approach involved the forging of English alliances with the Irish chieftains and recognition of their status by the British monarch. Eventually however the resistance to the extension of English rule by Hugh O'Neill the Earl of Tyrone led to the '*Nine Years War*' and the colonisation of the province, known as the '*Ulster Plantation*' referred to throughout this document as the "Plantation".

Jobson's map is important as it shows the significant sites immediately before this watershed; these are the military strongholds, churches, coastline, rivers and other natural features which were present immediately prior to the Plantation.

Parts of the map are difficult to read but we can see sites through the study area which are referred to later in the assessments of each LCA area.



Figure 4: Francis Jobson's Map of Ulster 1590

### 3.7 Docwra's Military Campaign

In 1600, Sir Henry Docwra led an English invasion force directly into the Foyle driving a wedge between and cutting off the two sides of the river. Docwra established a fortified base at the island of "the Derry" and gradually took the native Irish fortifications along the Foyle and into the territories on either side. A series of maps dating from that period provide detailed information in relation to the significant defensible sites on the Foyle, and comment on their original features and alterations made, which allowed Docwra access deep into the O'Neill territory in order to bring about an end to the war.

These visual records are some of the earliest that are available at a large scale bringing to life the circumstances of this expedition. According to contemporary accounts, Lough Foyle was associated with dread and the English forces were effectively surrounded and greatly outnumbered. Alliance with the O'Dohertys of Inishowen and, thus, control of the access into Loughs Swilly and Foyle was key to the success of the brutal campaign which ensued.

The map below gives an overview of the region and the most significant sites. Fortifications shown at **Culmore, Elaghmore, Derry, Dunalong, Carrigans, Lifford** and **Strabane** emphasise the importance of these sites, originally as defensive positions of the native Irish, and subsequently to the invaders. The map shows these features in their "improved" state.

In many respects the topography is not strictly accurate however the map is full of information concerning the location and extent of woodlands and the boggy areas that serve as resources, hiding places and defensive ditches. The extent to which the river and lough is navigable is also shown and the type of boat needed. Churches at **Enagh** and **St Breacan's** are visible but appear to be unroofed. The O'Cahan fortified crannog at **Enagh Lough** is also shown but seems to have been deliberately shown as being insignificant in military terms.

More detailed maps relating to individual sites are included in the assessment of individual landscape character areas later in this document

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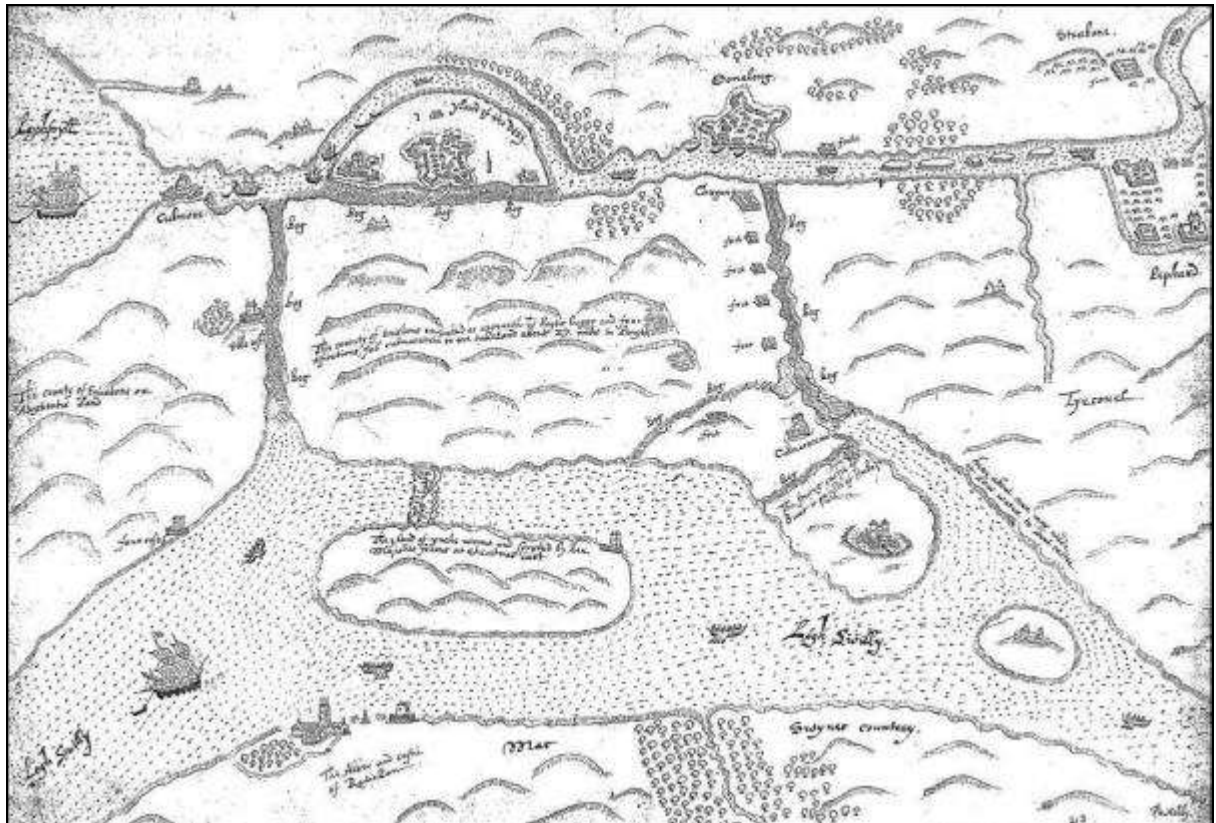


Figure 5: Docwra’s map of the Foyle & Lough Swilly circa 1601. Source: National Archive UK

### 3.8 Plantation, Rebellion & Suppression

Following the nine years war, a formal plan was established for the colonisation of Ulster to secure English rule in the province. This period also coincided with the accession of James I to the English and Scottish thrones and thus, for the first time, **British** rule in Ireland.

In 1607, Hugh O’Neill and a group of rebel earls left Ireland to seek Spanish help for a new rebellion; an event referred to as the “Flight of the Earls”. The flight of the Gaelic leaders left a power vacuum allowing Arthur Chichester, The Lord Deputy of Ireland, to declare the lands of O’Neill, O’Donnell and their followers forfeit.

As well as preventing the native population from further rebellion, the plantation was designed to prevent the Spanish gaining a foothold on the island which they could use as a base from which to attack England.

The Plantation was the lease of the forfeit land by the English crown to settlers in return for payment and the construction of castles, bawns and the provision of a defensive militia. Those taking up these leases were known as “Undertakers”. Whilst the leases were designed to be profitable in the long term, the responsibilities were considerable and

required substantial capital. In order to ensure that the land was fully leased it became necessary to generate a second tier of “Undertaker”, known as the “Servitors”. These men, usually with a military background, could be relied on for defence and were appointed in return for active service during the earlier wars. The Undertakers were to settle their new estates with Englishmen and Scots. Allocation of lands was also made to some of the more ‘useful’ native Irish in return for their cooperation with the new regime.

The Counties that were to be planted under the Ulster Plantation were Armagh, Cavan, Coleraine, Donegal, Fermanagh and Tyrone; these were the last areas of Ireland to be settled in this way.

The uptake of the plantation was initially slow and, in order to ensure its success, private investment was also sought and the City of London was approached as an Undertaker in the project. A new county, County Londonderry, was created taking in all of County Coleraine, and parts of Antrim, Donegal and Tyrone to be settled by a consortium of twelve of the City of London Companies whose interests in Ireland would be managed by *The Honourable The Irish Society*. The lands of the County of Londonderry were divided into twelve, drawn in lots, a deliberate echoing of the biblical story in which the twelve tribes of Israel shared out the Promised Land. The county was secured by two walled citadels at its western and eastern extremities – Derry, formerly part of County Donegal, which was to be renamed as Londonderry; and Coleraine. Both towns were located on the opposite banks of the rivers Foyle and Bann, to retain control of the navigation and the fisheries. These walled towns are also located at key points from which any overseas invasion could be defended and were critical to the overall success of the plantation. The two towns were developed by the Irish Society; the bawns and associated villages left to be developed by the individual London livery companies.

In Donegal and Tyrone, the Plantation was implemented by individual Undertakers. Different regions were assigned to English and Scots, with areas between allocated to the Irish and ex military Servitors.

The attitude of the English towards the native Irish was not consistent and whilst the plantation was intended to segregate the Irish, from the outset, Chichester thought that segregation would be a source of future difficulties for the government of the province. It was also not easy to attract tenants from Britain, many of whom were not able to finance

the initial high costs that were involved. As a result, many Irish tenants were leased land throughout the plantation area.

Several observers have noted that conditions for the lower orders of Irish society may not have been that different from those under the rule of their Gaelic chieftains. It has also been argued that the plantation speeded up a process of change that, in many respects, was already occurring. Whether this is true or not, almost overnight, a massive cultural shift had occurred which could not be reversed. The Irish feudal society was Catholic and Irish speaking. Cultural life was centred on the monasteries and a romantic oral tradition applied to the recording of history, poetry and story telling.

The Earls were aristocracy of European stature and were accepted into European society. They were replaced by English and Scots speaking masters, looking to exploit the land for profit in a ruthless and rational manner. Lands were mapped and measured and records made so that Undertakers knew what they were getting. The Anglican church was to be the official established church; although Catholicism was tolerated to some degree. The settlers, especially in the early years were predominantly male, upwardly mobile from lower social orders. The new society was to be urban centred and constructed, at least in part, with building techniques that were imported. There was plenty of opportunity for friction.

The following poem translated from the Irish, gives some sense of the impact on Irish society:

*“They divide it up amongst themselves,  
this territory of the children of noble Niall,  
without a jot of Flann’s milky plain  
that we don’t find becoming (mere) ‘acres’.*

*Heavy is the shame! We have come to see  
seats of government being made desolate,  
the produce wasting in a stream, dark thickets  
of the chase become thoroughfares.*

*A congregation of rustics in the home of Saints,  
God’s service under the shelter of bright branches;*

*cloaks of clergymen become cattle's bedding,  
the hillside is wrenched into fields.*

*They find no sweetness in devotion to poetry,  
the sound of harps or the music of an organ, nor  
the tales of the kings of Bregia of the turreted walls,  
nor the numbering of the ancient generations of their forefathers.*

*The vengeance of God is the reason for it.  
The men of Scotland, the youths of London  
have settled in their place.  
Where have the Gaels gone?"*

In 1641, there was an uprising against the planters. This rebellion reflected the English civil war and revolution against the crown; King Charles I at one stage having confiscated the London Companies lands and practised direct rule which resulted in additional hardship for tenants. There was also an older undercurrent of hard feeling that surfaced in the violence of the uprising which was equally brutally dealt with by Cromwell. After the rebellion was quelled no native Irish or catholic landlords were allowed to retain their lands.

Richard Bartlett's map shows the Province of Ulster at the end of the nine years war immediately prior to the Flight of the Earls and the Plantation. This map is very clear and referred to in a number of the reviews of landscape character areas where features shown are still visible.





Figure 6: Richard Bartlett's Map of Ulster 1602



Figure 7: Thomas Raven's map of the Londonderry Plantation

The London Company plantation is documented in beautifully drawn maps prepared by Thomas Raven; extracts from the Raven maps are considered later in this document in relation to each of the landscape character areas where features survive. Whilst landholdings remained the majority of the buildings did not survive the 1641 rebellion and only fragments exist today with the notable exception of the walls of “the Derry” itself.

In the Foyle Alluvial Plain LCA area fragments of the Fishmonger’s Company bawn at Ballykelly as well as a church and graveyard, known as ‘Walworth’ are visible; whilst part of the Grocer’s Company church at Muff, now known as Eglinton, survive. IN the case of the latter, Raven’s map of 1622 shows a variety of houses, west of the church and an unfortified house and bawn. The church and bawn can still be placed and the houses can be presumed to have been built along both sides of the street front running west from the church. Much of the significant area has been built on or is under gardens.

The Haberdashers settlements at Ballycastle and Artikelly are located just outside the Foyle Alluvial Plain; these sites are potentially significant as aerial photography shows remarkable similarity with the Raven maps.

Despite the significance of the Londonderry Plantation and the availability of records about it, survival of built heritage and archaeology is fragmentary and thus deserving of particular care.

The study areas outside County Londonderry were treated differently and the area of the Foyle Valley LCA to the south of the Goldsmith’s Company land was planted with Scots settlers on land substantially in the ownership of the Marquis of Abercorn and Hamilton, both Scottish. Further to the south again the lands were divided amongst English settlers.

The Scottish areas have developed in distinctively different ways to the much larger tenancies of the London Company lands; and are much closer to native Irish patterns of occupation. The clachan is the predominant settlement pattern. Even today the region is characterised by Scottish family names, a significant number of Presbyterian churches and its own Ulster Scots dialect.

### **3.9 The Jacobite Wars & the Siege of Derry**

The siege of Derry, which lasted from Dec 1688 to July 1689, is a further example of the strategic military importance of Lough Foyle. The events surrounding this small city was to assume a continental importance as the League of Augsburg, led by Austrian Habsburgs and William III, who fought to set limits to the expanding power of Louis XIV of France.

Meanwhile James II hoped that with French support he could use Ireland to regain the throne he had lately lost. These two protagonists, James II of Catholic dispensation and William III of Protestant faith, were to engage in a military campaign and although William II never saw Derry, his success was in no small part due to the determination of the city's Protestant inhabitants to resist James's army.

If the siege of Derry's significance in European history was brief, if significant, its legacy for Ireland was to be profound as it forged traditions from which subsequent generations of Protestant minorities were to draw inspiration and become a metaphor for their political struggle (Fraser, 1999, 379).

The history of this period has focussed on the city walls and the city's reputation as the "maiden city", the wall never having been breached. Undoubtedly the walls are of enormous significance to both the history and to the future of the city of Derry~Londonderry.

The story of the siege is an integral aspect of this history and there are several significant sites which have been identified in the audit which have archaeological value having been relatively undeveloped in the intervening period so that it is possible to determine the exact position of sites such as those associated with the blockade across the river including the forts at **Boom Hall** and **Gransha**. A wide area of the city including sites such as **Strong's Orchard** battery fort at **Ebrington/St Columb's Park**; the **windmill** at the **former St Columbs College/Lumen Christi site** and **high ground above the Lone Moor Road** are all significant in relation to events which occurred during the siege. These and several others are of archaeological importance and demand great care in terms of impact analysis, even for schemes which appear to have the potential for little impact, such as engineered cycleways or footpaths which involve levelling and breaking the ground.

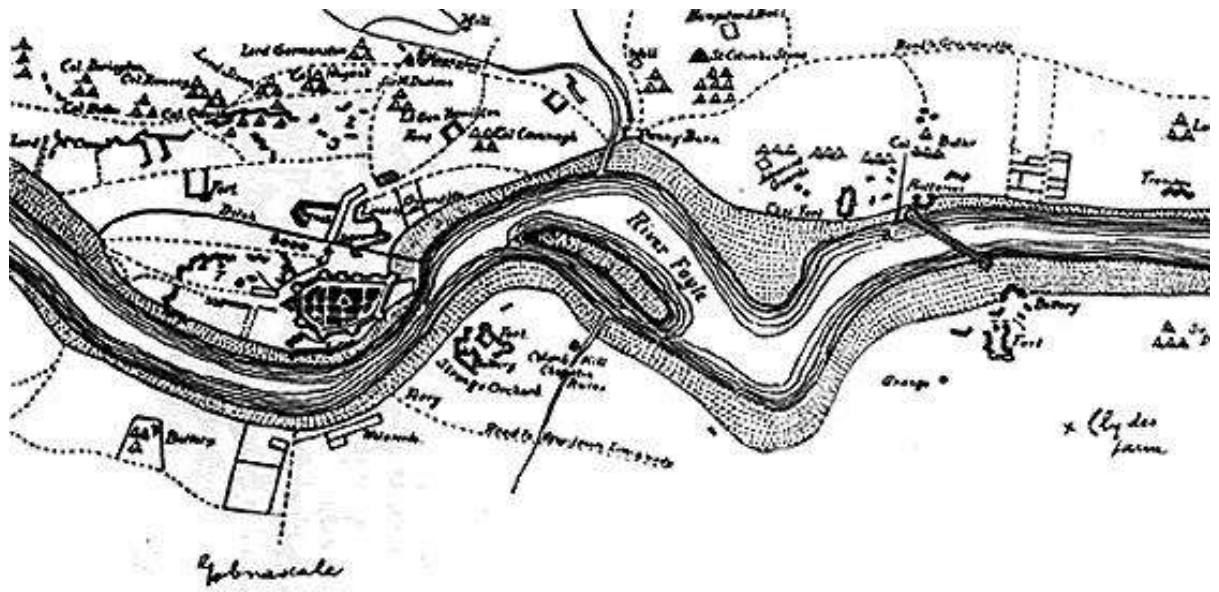


Figure 8: Siege of Londonderry ; Captain Francis Nevill's Map redrawn. Source – [www.derryswalls.com](http://www.derryswalls.com)



Figure 9: Romeyne de Hooghe; engraving of the siege of Londonderry

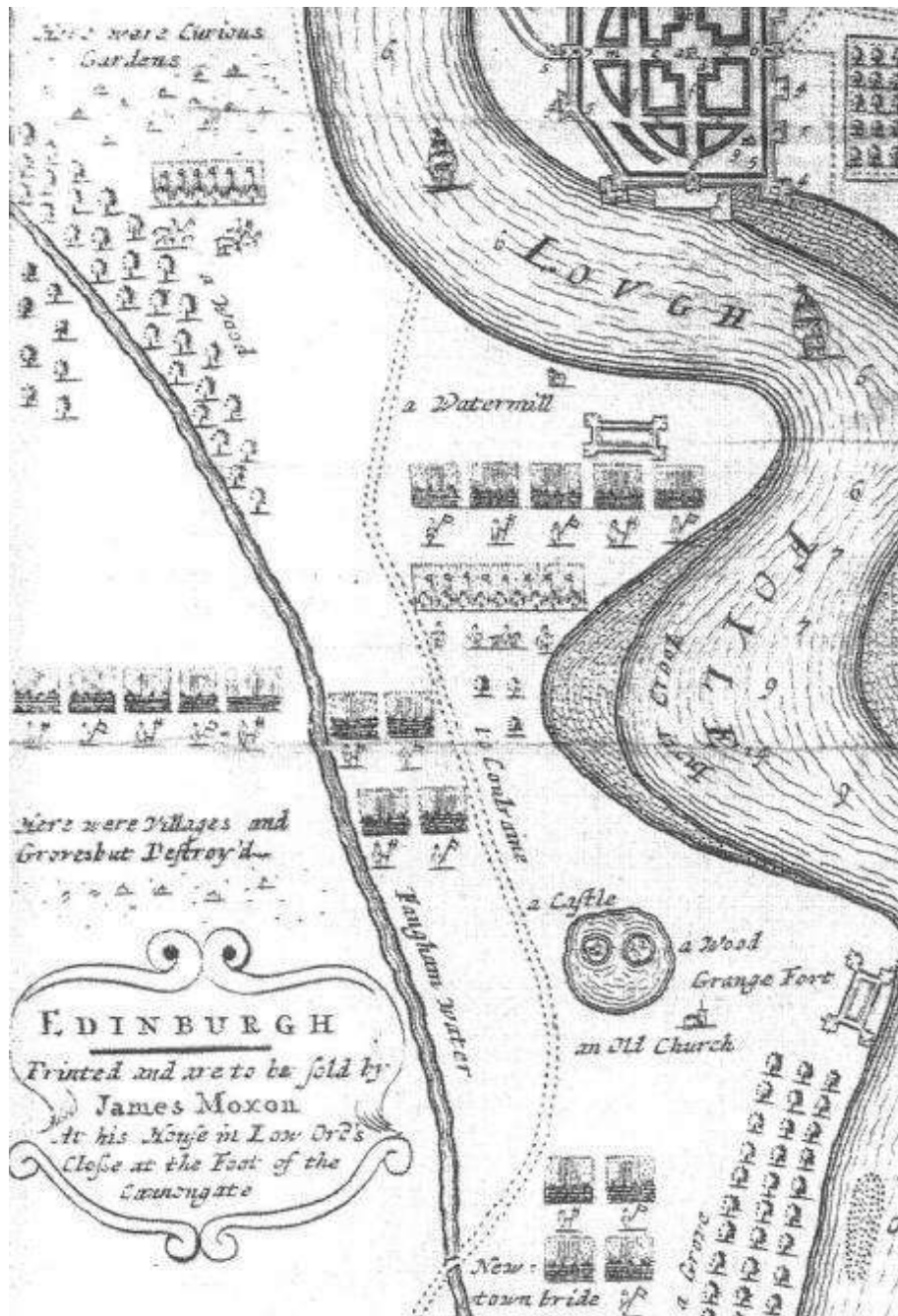


Figure 10: Extract from a stylised engraving showing the military positions during the Siege of Derry

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### 3.10 The Development of Towns

Prior to the Plantation period, the Foyle region, in common with many other parts of Ireland, was essentially rural in character with its dispersed townlands. Denser settlements existed in proximity to monastic sites and to castles. Secondary habitations were often temporary in nature and made from natural organic materials. No known examples of these secondary habitations survive, although there is documentary evidence for them.

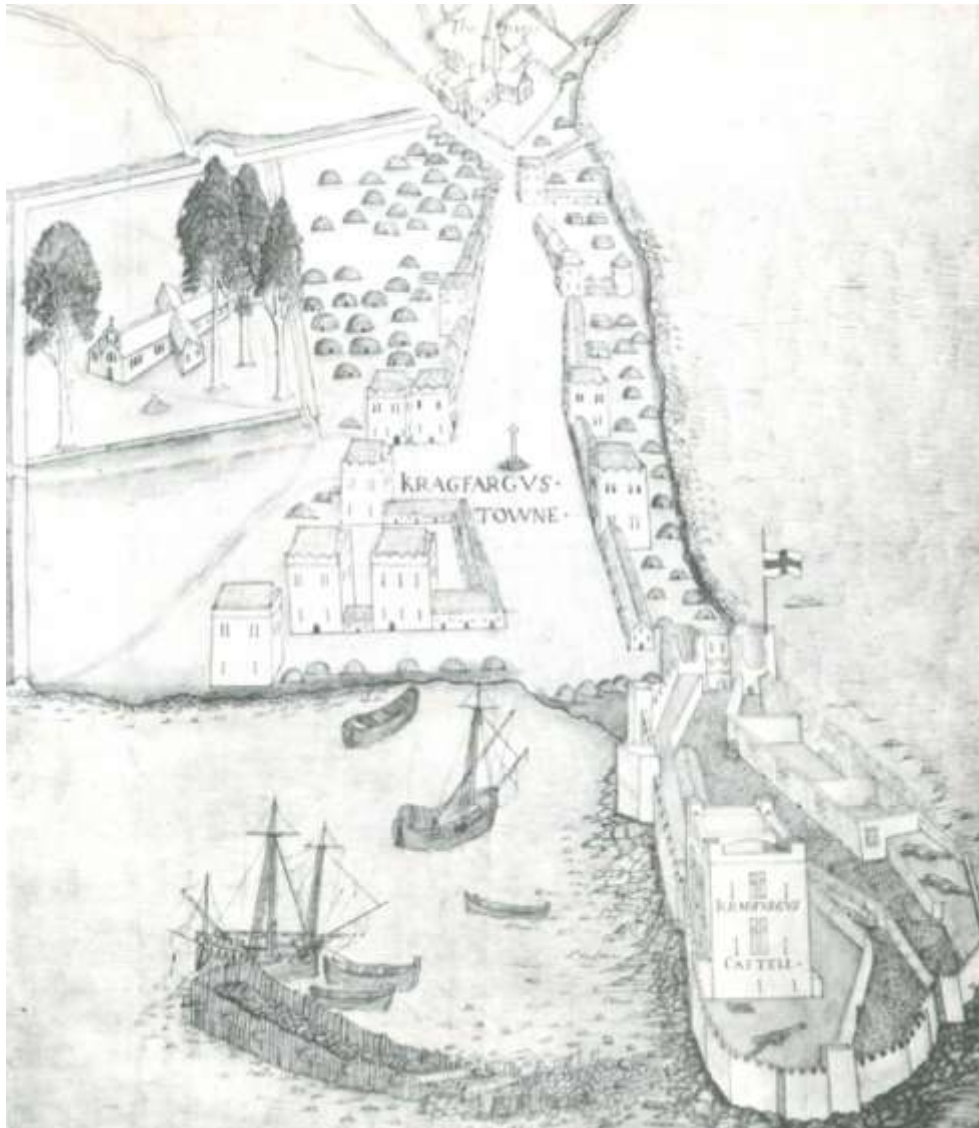


Figure 11: A “Platte of Kragfargus” (Carrickfergus, County Antrim) this late 16<sup>th</sup> Century map shows that in addition to the military and ecclesiastical structures, a comparable area of ground was covered by creats; thatch and timber structures making little lasting impression on the landscape surface.

Areas surrounding these settlements are thus also potentially archaeologically significant.

The Londonderry Plantation saw development of a series of defensive centres around a bawn or fortified house with associated secondary houses as typified in Thomas Raven's maps of the London Company Plantations; **Ballykelly**, **Ballycaslan** and **Clondermott** examples of these located within the heritage audit area.

Whilst the majority of the buildings associated with these sites no longer survive they established an urban framework which is still intact or has developed today. Urban settlements within the study area include: **Ballykelly**, **Eglinton**, **Derry**, **Newbuildings**, **Strabane** and **Newtownstewart**, all of which were initially established in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. Model towns such as that developed at Sion Mills date from the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Where trade and industry were present, certain towns continued to develop in scale throughout the 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries facilitated by improvements in technology and transport. Lewis' Topographical Dictionary (1837) describes his journey throughout Ireland during the nineteenth century and is a valuable resource in terms of documenting the details of daily town operations, including infrastructure, fairs, markets, landed estate houses and occupants.

Much of the urban manufacturing city of Derry owes its development to the latter half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Many of the large buildings that still dominate the city's streetscape date to that period. Development of sanitation services, drainage, public cemeteries and market facilities such as public slaughterhouses came on the back of the Londonderry Town Improvement Act of 1848 (Thomas 2004, 460).

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### 3.11 The "Established" Church & Dissenters

The Ulster Plantation saw the Church of Ireland become the established church, the only church recognised by the state. It was the contention of the Church of Ireland that the reformation re-established the independence that the Irish church enjoyed prior to the Norman invasion which had asserted Papal authority over the church in Ireland. The church

was to assume possession of ecclesiastical sites which had been centres of Roman Catholic worship. The graveyards associated with these sites continued to be used by all denominations until these were gradually superseded by the municipal burial grounds developed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

New churches were built in distinctive style that came to be known as 'Planter's Gothic' the most notable of these within the study area are: **St Cadan's Church**, Duncrun (1784); **St Lagha's**, Aghanloo; **Ballykelly (Walworth) Church (1629)**; **Tamlaght Finlagan Parish Church (COI)** (1760-79), Clooney Rd., Ballykelly; **St Canice**, Eglinton; **St Eugene's**, Ardstraw, Newtownstewart; and the most significant of all, **St Columb's Cathedral**, Derry (1633).

The Penal laws which were implemented by Charles II in the 1660's prevented the majority catholic population in Ireland, and other so called dissenters such as the Presbyterian church, to practice their respective religious services/traditions. In some areas the churches were tolerated; the majority had to worship in secret. The Catholic population worshipped in the open air at mass rocks or parishioner's homes. There are examples of **mass rocks** throughout the study area, such as in **Townparks, Strabane** and **Crosh** townland, Co. Tyrone as well as just outside the study area, particularly on the **Binevenagh slopes** above Magilligan.

The Presbyterians, after the 1730's, could officially build meeting houses although there are examples from the 17<sup>th</sup> century at **Monreagh in County Donegal** and The **First Derry Presbyterian Church** on Magazine St., Derry was first built in 1690 as a reward for the bravery of the Presbyterians during the Siege of the city (1689); and rebuilt in 1780 to accommodate the growing congregation. The majority of Presbyterian churches within the study area date from the nineteenth century.

It was only following emancipation in the 19<sup>th</sup> century that the Catholic Church was free to build its own church buildings. Because of this late development, in common with Presbyterian churches, Roman Catholic churches are usually found in peripheral areas outside of towns in buildings which date from the 19<sup>th</sup> century; the most important of these within the study area are the **Long Tower Church** (1909) and **St Eugene's Cathedral** (1849-1903), Derry and **St Eugene's RC Church**, Plumbridge (1823). Significant 20<sup>th</sup> century examples also exist most notably churches designed by Liam McCormick at **Creggan**, (St Mary's, 1959) and **Steelstown** (Our Lady of Lourdes, 1975).

Further significant Presbyterian church building also took place in the latter 19th century. For example, **Presbyterian Church, Seacoast Rd, Magilligan** was built 1860-1879 on the site



of an earlier church (1803); **Ballykelly Presbyterian Church and gate lodge** (1827); **Presbyterian Church, Carlisle Road, Derry** (1838); **Presbyterian Church Great James's Street, Derry**(1837); and **Claremount Presbyterian Church, Northland Road** (1903-05).

## References

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### 3.12 Landlords and Agricultural "Improvement"

Whilst some estates were allocated during the initial Plantation, much was destroyed in the 1641 rebellion and subsequent Cromwellian campaign and again during the Siege period. Many significant landed estates were developed in the region during the 18<sup>th</sup> century, often in land that had initially been allocated to native Irish and subsequently forfeited.

Irish landed estate were often not primary residences but engines for the generation of wealth through exploitation of natural resources such as forestry, fishing or farming as well as income generated from farming tenancies. These resources were exploited using the most up to date techniques and exploitation of new crops. Irish communal methods of farming were often simply misunderstood and considered by the landlord classes as backward. There was often friction between landlord and tenant and the process of enclosure of the land had to be achieved by persuasion or even by force, although by the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century most land in the study area had been leased and the best land allocated to a class of gentleman farmer who were encouraged by way of education, or, as in the case of Churchill, Ballykelly, a model farm was developed by the Fishmonger's Company.

The Agricultural College at Templemoyle near to Muff/Eglinton and developed by the Grocer's Company, was famous throughout Ireland and in Britain. Thackeray devoted a whole chapter of his visit (1842-44) to Templemoyle in his publication *The Irish Sketch Book*, 1863. Other tenants were encouraged by development of estate cottages and model farm buildings of which there are several notable examples revealed by the audit.

There are a number of significant estates throughout the study area which have an impact over a wide region, including **Bellarena** in the north (Magilligan LCA) and **Baronscourt** (Foyle Valley LCA) in the south.

## References

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### 3.13 Significant Architects of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century

The majority of architects from this period were established in major cities such as London or Dublin. Architecture as a profession hardly existed and, for many, it was an academic pastime. Buildings of quality in areas remote from the major cities were designed from a distance or were built using pattern books, although provincial cities such as Londonderry and its hinterland may have had sufficient demand to keep a small number of local architects and master builders occupied. It is unusual for a regional architect to make an impression and most, even where they are known, are seldom remembered. Within the Foyle region, there is one significant exception: Michael Priestley. Priestley built almost exclusively in the counties of Londonderry, Tyrone and Donegal, although his output is considered to be of national importance. Whilst Priestley's designs owe much to the pattern books of James Gibbs, he developed an elegant but robust style that made best advantage of local materials and are totally unique in their character. With only a few notable exceptions, Priestley's buildings are located in the heritage audit study area and the following have been attributed to him:

- Strabane Town Hall (demolished) & Town Centre (street pattern intact; extent of survival of contemporary buildings to be determined )
- Boom Hall (Protected building; unroofed and at serious risk)
- Lifford Courthouse (Substantially rebuilt internally in 1980's as a visitor centre; gradual programme of conservation and repair started; elements of original stonework at risk)
- Prehen House (in use as private house & visitor attraction)
- Port Hall (in use as a private house & working farm)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Derry Presbyterian Church (original section prior to expansion; side elevations attributable to Priestley)

Whilst these buildings represent an altogether different scale of investment than commissions by eminent architects such as Gibbs or Pearce are; these are our equivalent, unique, irreplaceable, and now, more than ever, at considerable risk.

### 3.14 Napoleonic Defences

The Swilly and the Foyle are of strategic importance to the protection of the northwest of Ireland and this is demonstrated from earliest times. In the 14<sup>th</sup> century, the Anglo-Norman Northburg castle was built at Greencastle at the mouth of Lough Foyle, in order to establish control over this region.

In the later Medieval period castles were established around the coast of Inishowen to and along the opposite sides of the Foyle and the Swilly to secure the lands belonging to the native Irish clans. At the end of 16<sup>th</sup> century these castles were taken by English artillery and the positions supplemented to allow Inishowen and Derry to form a secure footing from which to establish English rule in Ulster.

Subsequent fortifications were established by the British to prevent territorial incursion by the Spanish in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, followed by the French in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries and the Germans in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Lough Foyle has been of strategic importance both for invasion and defence over a period of 600 years. The Martello fort at Greencastle was built (adjacent the earlier castle site) as defence against the French during the Napoleonic period in c. 1801 (Wolfe Tone had been intercepted at Lough Swilly in 1798). As well as forming part of a wider network of forts around the British Isles, the group around Lough Swilly and Lough Foyle are of particular importance.

Lough Swilly is defended by several forts because of its potential as a natural harbour for a large number of ships. Lough Foyle, whilst it approaches Derry directly, is less suited to large numbers of ships due to the narrow tidal navigation which forces shipping to the Donegal side of the Lough and thus easily defended. The site at **Greencastle**, jointly with the Martello tower fortification at **Magilligan** opposite (built 1817), defends the entrance to Lough Foyle providing artillery covering fire over the entire expanse of water to be defended.

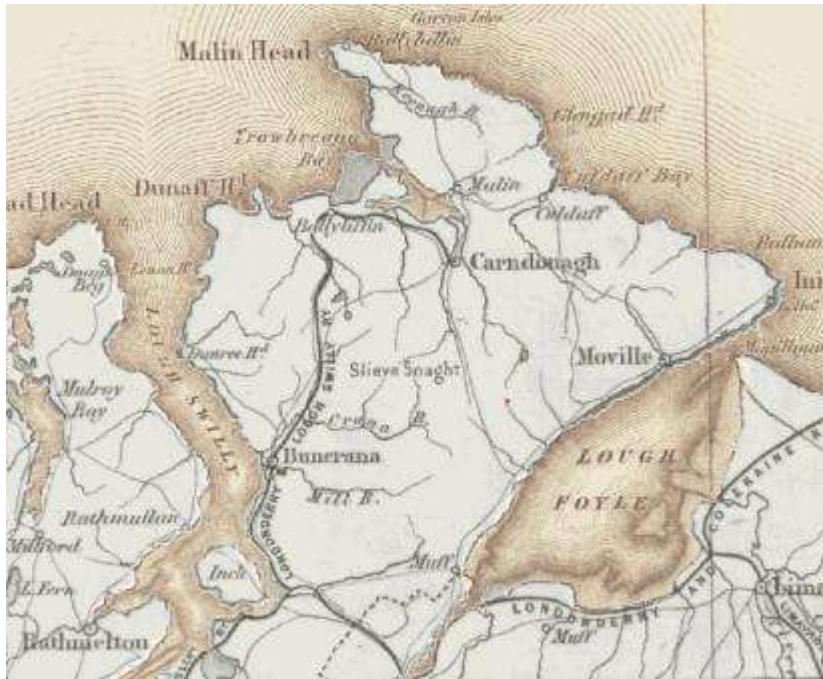


Figure 12: Lough Foyle & Lough Swilly

### 3.15 Administrative Structures & Reforms – Institutions

Prior to social reforms in the 19<sup>th</sup> century the poor were supported by their communities either through extended family ties or through alms distributed by the church. Prior to this, charity was dispensed through the monasteries until the Plantation, when the conversion of the Roman Catholic church to Protestantism was also implemented as part of the process known as the Reformation. Tithes, which facilitated this role, were paid to the church until the church was disestablished from the state in 1869.

Local civil parishes were responsible for looking after the poor, education, graveyards etc. The local authority, responsible for roads, bridges, hospitals and courthouses, was the Grand Jury whose members comprised the most powerful of the local landlords. They proceeded to raise taxes at a local level in order to carry out such administrative reforms .

A number of factors coincided during the 19<sup>th</sup> century that were intended to reduce the risk of social unrest that might lead to a revolution such as that experienced in America in 1783 and in France in 1799. Britain was also at war with both the French and the Americans in the early decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Ireland, as in previous centuries was at risk of a revolution occurring whilst increases in social movement due to development of towns and increases in rural poverty were also risk factors.

The penal laws were removed in the 1820's allowing Catholics and Presbyterians to practise their faith legally for the first time since the 17<sup>th</sup> century. In the 1830's the Poor Law Unions were established which gradually removed power from the church giving responsibility for welfare to the state although services were still provided by the churches.

The poor law unions which were responsible for the study area were associated with towns and were located at Limavady, Londonderry and Strabane. In addition to the legacy of the Poor Law Unions in the form architectural and cultural heritage of Workhouse buildings they are also a valuable source of historical records. There is a **dispensary and cottage** located on the Sea Coast road at Bellarena dating to c. 1840 as well as a **workhouse** on the Glendermott Road, Derry.

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### 3.16 Famine & Emigration

Two major periods of emigration occurred which impacted on the landscape in the study area. These are the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century Ulster Scots 'great migration' and Famine Migration also in the mid-nineteenth century.

The Ulster Scots migration saw almost 250,000, mainly Presbyterian, people emigrate to America from Ireland. This was primarily for economic reasons where land rents were raised excessively at the end of lease periods; income from agriculture was affected due to unfair legislation from the English parliament and finally due to harvest failures affecting both food production and the production of flax for linen.

This may have been one factor driving seasonal migration from west Donegal to "the Laggan" and hiring fairs at Strabane to assist with work in the fields during the summer months during the latter part of the 19th century. The population of Ireland was estimated at about 1 million people in the 17<sup>th</sup> century and reached a peak of more than 8 million people immediately prior to 1850. The population declined to approximately half of this to 4 million by 1930 and has gradually increased since then. The Great Famine of the 1840s coincided with the peak population increase and number declined rapidly due to starvation and emigration. Ulster was less affected by migration than other parts of Ireland with area

with estimated population falls of 10-20% in County Londonderry and 0-10% in the areas of the Laggan and Tyrone. Derry was less affected by the ravages of the Famine than other counties due to a more mixed diet in the county (Crawford 1999, 528). The Impact of the Great Famine on Co. Tyrone was likewise described as light, when compared to other counties in Ireland (Grant 2000, 611). The ability of the land in these areas to better sustain the population may, in part, have been due to the major population adjustment that had occurred due to the Ulster Scots migration a century earlier.

The Londonderry Port was the principle port of emigration for the entire north of Ireland; J&J Cooke and McCorkells were the principal companies at the time of the great famine. Subsequently, the Allan lines, and the Anchor Lines were to take passengers by tenders operated by the Moville Steamship Company from Derry to liners berthed at the lighthouse in Moville on the Donegal side of the Foyle. The outward trade established in the 19<sup>th</sup> century was also reversed as a means of inward tourism during the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

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<http://www.londonderryport.com/images/Derry%20emigration%20overview.pdf>

### 3.17 Industry: Raw Materials to Finished Products – agriculture, milling, linen & shirt making

The Port of Derry was a significant factor in the development of trade from the northwest of Ireland with Northern Europe, Britain and North America.

Efficient use of resources required that trade worked both ways so that ships exporting material returned with materials such as timber for use in large construction work. The legacy of this trade can be seen in the fine quality timber used in buildings throughout the regions, cast iron work, chimney pieces, ironmongery, agricultural machinery, boats etc.

The local economy was an exporter of fish and agricultural products either processed or as raw material.

#### **Salmon**

Salmon from the Foyle was exported from the Medieval period onwards. Bartlett's map of Ulster shows the "The Salmon Fishing" at a stretch of the river with gravel and sand banks

between St. Johnston and Lifford. In 1834 the salmon fishery on Lough Foyle employed 120 men and an equal number of water-keepers (Bailiffs) (Lewis 1837, 301). The salmon were shipped to Liverpool and Glasgow and sometimes were pickled and shipped to markets in London (*ibid*). An oyster fishery was also established on Lough Foyle in 1829 and this seems to have been relatively lucrative (Lewis 1837, 302). Sea fisheries were a lot more haphazard and were described as ‘precarious’ and their yield ‘a scanty supply’ (Lewis 1837, 301). Derry, however was the main market for sea fish landed at the various small ports and havens in east Inishowen.

The culture surrounding salmon fishing has declined significantly in recent years so that buildings and features associated with this trade are beginning to disappear. Like many structures built for the purposes of utility, their importance is not in terms of their architectural design or material quality, but as rare examples of past industry and society. These buildings are now at risk through redundancy although they might easily be reused for some other useful purpose. Many modest structures associated with this trade have already disappeared leaving only a small number of surviving ice houses and processing buildings. One such processing building and ice house at the **Gribben near Bready**, is not protected but is potentially at risk. Others adjacent to the **east side of the Craigavon Bridge** are better known.

### **Linen**

Another significant Ulster industry that has disappeared is the linen trade. This trade developed substantially in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, with a very high proportion of farms growing flax plants. After 1750 linen was the main manufacturing industry in Derry and this led to the development of other industries in the city (Currie 1999, 338). The stalks of the flax plant were cracked and outer husk removed in a process known as scutching allowing the fibres to be taken for use in weaving the linen cloth. Cloth or completed clothing items were bleached outdoors on greens prior to be sold for export. Linen halls were constructed throughout Ireland around the 1780’s. A new linen hall was built in Derry in 1820 and a new linen market in 1839, indicating that the industry was flourishing at that time (Currie 1999, 350-1). Elements of the local linen industry seemed to have been in decline by the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Reference to historic Ordnance survey maps show bleaching green associated with landed estates almost completely gone by the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. Historic mapping reveals a very large number of water mills associated with farms throughout the study area. The majority of these are associated with threshing grain or the processing of the flax stalk at farm level.

Whilst weaving may have largely been carried out manually or on a small scale in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the linen thread was sent for export or for weaving at a small number of locations where this could be carried out. **Herdman's Mill**, at **Sion Mills** is one such site and is possibly the most important in Ulster both for its scale but also for its architecture and as a rare example in Ireland of a "model community" where the business owner has taken responsibility for the entire welfare of the workers in return for their labour.

Other mills including **flour and grain mills** at Strabane and in City and Waterside area of Derry (**Foyle Mills** (flour and corn), **Clooney Flour Mill**, **Victoria Mills** (meal & flour)) are now substantially lost. Whilst numerous, almost no intact examples which include machinery exist.

The majority of rural mill buildings are essentially small vernacular structures and appear little different from other agricultural buildings. Many mills been converted to use as barns or converted to other uses and the machinery removed in the process. If it is to be protected, the mill complex must be considered as a whole, including its weirs, waterworks and machinery; and riparian rights carefully guarded. Mill sites provide some potential opportunity for small power generation and tourism uses. The extent of this opportunity is not known, although past mapping would suggest that the potential resource is substantial. A dedicated field survey will be required to determine the extent of survival and actions that are needed to protect the industrial fragments which survive and a pilot project involving proposals for reuse will also be required if anything of this important record of rural life is to be conserved in the future.

### ***Shirt making***

The industrial development of Derry largely began after the Great Famine and this included the establishment and growth of the most iconic of industries associated with the city - shirt making. Up until about 1850 shirt making was almost exclusively a cottage industry, while William Scott was the owner of the only shirt factories (five) in the city at the time (Coyne 1902, 418; Hume 2002, 111, 112). Soon many of Scott's former employees had established shirt factories in both Derry and elsewhere and by 1857 there were fourteen shirt factories in Derry (Hume 2002, 111, 112). This industry, which was of major economic importance to the whole northwest region continued to expand into the twentieth century. By 1890 one of the most influential manufacturers Tillie & Henderson employed 1500 hands in their five-storey factory on Foyle Road, which was the biggest factory in the world when it opened its doors for production and was deemed important enough for Karl Marx to reference in his



book *Das Kapital* (<http://www.culturenorthernireland.org>). By 1902 there were thirty-eight factories employing 18,000 full-time workers in Derry and another 80,000 privately owned sewing machines throughout the surrounding countryside (Tierney 1978, 65). By 1926 the city had 44 shirt factories employing some 8,000 of the 45,000 population. This was the peak of the industry in Derry, when it supplied much of the UK and its colonies and other parts of Europe. The industry provided predominantly female employment on the sewing machines and this steady, moderately paid employment added greatly to the local economy. The industry fell into decline after the second world war and by the end of the twentieth century was forced out of the market due to cheaper manufacturing in the developing world.

These buildings are extremely robust and relatively easily adapted and examples such as the Star Factory, City Factory, Rosemount Factory show how these buildings can be reused.

Dedalus Architecture, with the assistance of Annesley Malley, made proposals in 2002 to show how the Tillie & Henderson building might be reused as a hotel; before it was eventually demolished following a concerted campaign of vandalism to burn the building down.

The Hamilton factory was demolished earlier this year and other buildings such as the Sinclair & Company factory on Abercorn Road remain at risk and an active campaign is required to prevent further losses of buildings which came to exemplify the city in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

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### 3.18 Transport: Railways, Roads & Canals

#### *Bridges*

Historically, transport by water was the fastest means of export and/or communication, hence the strong links to Scotland and the islands within the study area and the importance of the Foyle to the overall defence of Ireland, particularly during 20<sup>th</sup> century war periods.

Substantial road networks were established after the plantation, including bridges which superseded fording points. Indeed there are significant bridge assets located within the study area including multispan stone structures at **Newtownstewart (Old Bridge)**, **Strabane (Strabane Bridge)** within the town spanning the River Mourne from Bridge Street; and **Glencush Bridge**, formerly Stranabrosney Bridge).

**Clady Bridge** is a nine-span stone structure at Strabane, built c.1700, carrying Urney Road over the River Finn to County Donegal on an east/west axis, located to west of Clady village. There were earlier structures at the site and Clady itself has historical origins with the location having been the scene of a battle between the Cineal Conaill and Cineal Eoghain in the 784AD (Annals of the Four Masters). The absence of bridge crossing points of the river north of Lifford until the 18<sup>th</sup> century meant that ferry crossings such as that at Dunalong were also sources of trade. Indeed, the redundancy of such features were, also in the case of Dunalong, the cause of their demise.

There are two twentieth century significant bridges crossing the Foyle in the City environs, the **Craigavon Bridge** and the **Foyle Bridge**; whilst more recently, the pedestrian **Peace Bridge** (2011) links the City from the Guildhall/Harbour Square to Ebrington Barracks at the Waterside. Craigavon Bridge (constructed 1933) is the most southerly of the three bridges and is a good example of one of only a few double-deck road bridges in Europe. Craigavon Bridge is the third bridge to be built at this location. The first bridge over the River Foyle was a wooden, built in 1790. It was assembled in America and transported to Derry to be positioned in the Bridge Street area about 90 metres north of the present bridge. It was built from 1789-1791 between Bridge Street and Fountain Hill. The structure allowed for a drawbridge as the inhabitants of Strabane had navigational rights to the river. In 1863, a steel bridge (Carlisle Bridge) was erected a little further upstream, almost where Craigavon Bridge is today, to replace the old wooden structure (<http://goireland.com/bridges-in-ireland>). The **Foyle Bridge** (opened 1984), the central cantilever span of which is the longest in Ireland at 234 metres, and the whole suspended bridge structure including the approach spans is also the longest in Ireland at 866 metres. The three main river spans are of steel box

construction and were built by Harland and Wolff shipyard in Belfast in six segments. The bridge crosses the Foyle at Madam's Bank, which is the same site as King James II's army chose to place their boom barrier during the Siege of Derry in 1688-1689.

## References

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## Roads

Communications short-comings throughout the Foyle Valley during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries was one of the major obstacles to trade and development of the region. A lack of roads generally and the non-existence of a bridge crossing the River Bann south of Coleraine (and other water courses) focused trade from Derry towards Coleraine (as opposed to towns to the south of Coleraine) (Currie 1999, 339). Many of the main roads that connected the major towns did so in an inefficient manor. Existing roads were highlighted in the 18<sup>th</sup> century by the Taylor & Skinner maps. The nineteenth century also saw some improvement in the road network, not least through the works associated with famine relief, for example as at '**Bishop's Road**' in Magilligan LCA which provides a direct link as the crow flies between Limavady and the Bishop's residence at Downhill. Many of these routes are still the most direct, intact and useful for local walking and cycling. The development of new dual carriage roadways whilst presenting a potential significant threat also provide an opportunity for reprioritising use of existing roads for pedestrian and cyclists. Many of the routes formerly serviced by the railways were serviced by buses from the 1930's and particularly after the closure of many of the railway lines in the 1950's.

The **A2 Seaview Road** within the Magilligan LCA is an important route within the study area as it forms part of the tourist trail that is the 'Causeway Coastal Route'.

## References

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## **Railways**

There are a number of railways that traversed the study area during the nineteenth and twentieth century; up to present day. These include the **Londonderry & Coleraine Railway** line constructed in 1845 (the **Belfast and North Counties Railway** (BNCR) main line traverses the Magilligan and Foyle Alluvial Plain LCAs); the **Londonderry & Lough Swilly Railway** (L&LSR) traverses the Derry Slopes LCA; whilst the **Great Northern Railway** (GNR) and the **Strabane –Londonderry Narrow Gauge Railway** traverse the Foyle Valley LCA.

The **Londonderry and Lough Swilly Railway Company** (The L&LSR) was incorporated in June 1853. It contained 99 miles of narrow gauge track servicing a route between Derry and eastern and northern County Donegal and later as far west as Burtonport. On the other side of the river Foyle the **Great Northern Railway** (GNR) ran between Derry and Strabane, with connections to the **Donegal County Railway** and to Omagh from Strabane Station. This extensive network of railway lines in the northwest of Ireland contributed to the development of Derry City and Strabane at this time, as they were the destinations of large amounts of agricultural goods transported there by train from the surrounding agricultural areas. Much of the railway embankments and many of the bridges and abutments are still extant as a visible and prominent feature within the study area. Some of the stations too have been preserved, including **Bellarena Station and Level crossing** (IHR 0133902800), which is still in use on the Derry to Belfast main line.

The only surviving section of railway line, along the Lough Foyle coastline has been described as “one of the great railway journeys of the world” indicating the significant tourism potential for the line, in addition to its use as part of a 21st century public transport system. The major part of the track bed of all of the lines in the region remains undeveloped providing opportunities for an extensive network of “greenways” that are already being utilised for walking and cycle routes which have the additional benefit reserving the track space for reuse in the future for public transport purposes.

## **References**

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## **Canals**

Canals featured within the study are during the late eighteenth century and early nineteenth century, largely prior to the arrival of the railways.

The **Strabane Canal** opened in 1796 and connected the market town of Strabane to Derry City and port via the River Foyle. Like the railways that succeeded it, the canal helped develop the town of Strabane by making it a hub for agricultural produce from Counties Tyrone and Donegal and connecting it to markets in Derry. The canal was very successful in the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century but after the opening of the GNR line in 1847 it went into decline, though it didn't close until 1962. The Strabane Canal is a scheduled monument and a prominent feature within the Foyle Valley LCA.

The **Broharris Canal** was constructed in the 1820s when a 2 mile (3.2 km) long cut was made on the south shore of Lough Foyle near Ballykelly in the direction of Limavady. It served both as a drainage channel and for transport with goods being brought from Londonderry Port, as well as shellfish and kelp from the sand banks along the shore.

A further canal was constructed, probably in the 17<sup>th</sup> or early 18<sup>th</sup> century, at Willsborough, Donnybrewer, near Eglinton. The canal was probably designed as part of a drainage scheme, although the layout appears allow the transport of material from the land to barns at the rear of the main house.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, other plans were developed, but never implemented, further inland between Strabane and Bready as part of a proposal create a new shipping link with Enniskillen and Lough Erne

.There was also a scheme to link Lough Foyle & Lough Swilly via the Skeogue River; this like the other proposals was overtaken by the coming of the railway.

### 3.19 Lough Foyle & World War 2

Lough Foyle remains of military strategic importance and so it was in World War 2. The north Atlantic was a crucial supply line for food and munitions during that period and the German U-boat fleet was a threat to this.

Derry was the most westerly of the allied ports, a centre for Atlantic convoys comprising merchant vessels and protective escort. The following is based on a summary of material provided by the Loughs Agency:

*“Four **major airfields** were established to defend the merchant fleet: 1) RAF Coastal Command at **Ballykelly** flew anti-submarine patrols using US Flying Fortresses and Liberators; 2) RAF Coastal Command station operated from **Limavady/Aghanloo** flew anti-*

submarine patrols using Whitleys, Hudsons and Wellington bombers; 3) RAF **Eglinton Fighter Command**, now **City of Derry Airport**, was used to defend Derry and to escort convoys using Hurricanes and Spitfires later under the Royal Navy Fleet Air Arm became a training centre for naval fighter units training in Corsairs, Barracuddas, Hellcats, Seafires, Skuas, Roc and Martinets; 4) **Maydown**, as a satellite airfield for Eglinton was used by the Fleet Air Arm flying Swordfish aircraft that served the Merchant Aircraft Carriers.

Two of these airfields remain in use. Of the two that have been abandoned, there are vestiges of the runway left at Maydown, which is now an industrial site; there are substantial remains of Aghanloo, part of which has been developed for light industry.

There were 109 Canadian, 35 British and 4 US naval ships based in the Foyle. There were also visits by Russian, 'free' Dutch, 'free' Polish and other allied ships, in Derry for repair, refuelling or based there temporarily.

The importance of Londonderry to the Allied war effort is demonstrated by the level of anti-aircraft protection afforded it. There were **Heavy Anti Aircraft Batteries** at **Carmony, Galliagh, Culmore, Campsie, Ballymagroarty and Mabouy**. **Light Anti Aircraft Batteries** were sited at **Lisahally** and at the city centre docks, including the placement of artillery guns on the roof of Bryce and Westons (now Longs Supermarket)."

There are substantial remains of anti-aircraft battery positions and military support structures throughout the Foyle Alluvial Plain LCA. The majority of these features are protected but are at potential risk as they have no contemporary function or proposed use.

Lisahally, at the mouth of the River Foyle near to Culmore was selected as the port where the official, surrender of the fleet of more than 70 U-boats would take place. The jetties where the U-boats were penned before being scuttled off the coast of Donegal, still exist although in a ruined state.

### 3.20 The "Troubles"

From a viewpoint so close to the violent events of the recent past it is difficult to see what heritage assets have resulted.

The stories behind the news media images of human suffering and conflict have been relayed to the wider world through the visual arts, prose, poetry and song and these are, perhaps, the greatest assets from this period.

The medium of wall murals is particularly relevant to the city, occupying sites which in other circumstances might have been used as advertising space. Significant mural paintings can be found in the Bogside area below the city walls around Free Derry Corner. In other parts of the city, former paramilitary murals have been repainted, with the support of the community, to promote positive political messages. Examples of these can be found in the Lincoln Courts estate in the Waterside.

There is an undoubted interest, from those outside the city, in exploring neighbourhoods made famous through the news media and now more easily accessible to the tourist. For the time being at least, these are places which provide a powerful means through which the human stories of human effect of 'the Troubles' can be told.

Whilst built heritage references include a photographic record of fortifications such as 'dragons teeth', sangar towers and observation posts which demonstrate a terrible beauty, the impact of these structures and military society behind them, on the lives of all of the people in the region has been exclusively negative and the systematic removal of these features has been welcomed and is almost complete.

Unlike earlier periods in the city's history such as the Plantation and the Siege, with which there are obvious comparisons to be made, the military structures associated with this period are less durable.

An enduring counterpoint that considers the shared heritage that connect us and the Foyle landscape may be found in John Montague's poem "A New Siege"; the edited version below was selected by Liam McCormick in 1977 for a Radio Ulster Programme - *Remembrance of Things Present*:

*Symbol of Ulster*  
these sloping streets  
blackened walls  
sick at heart and  
seeking a sign  
the flaghung gloom  
of St Columb's  
the brass eagle of  
the lectern bearing  
the Sermon on the Mount  
in its shoulders  
'A city that is  
set on a hill  
cannot be hid.'

*Columba's Derry!*  
ledge of angels  
radiant oakwood  
where the man-dove  
knelt to master  
his fiery temper  
exile chastened  
the bright candle  
of the Uí Néill  
burns from Iona  
lightens Scotland  
with beehive huts  
glittering manuscripts  
but he remembers  
his secret name  
'He who set his  
back on Ireland.'

*Lines of leaving*  
lines of returning  
the long estuary  
of Lough Foyle, a  
ship motionless  
in wet darkness  
mournfully hooting  
as a tender creeps  
to carry passengers  
back to Ireland  
a child of four  
this sad sea city  
my landing place  
the loneliness of  
Lir's white daughter's  
ice-crusting wings  
forever spread  
at the harbour mouth.

*Lines of suffering*  
lines of defeat  
under the walls  
ghetto terraces  
sharp pallor of  
unemployed shades  
slope shouldered  
broken bottles  
pubs and bookies  
red brick walls  
Falls or Shankhill  
Lecky or Fountain  
love's alleyway  
message scrawled  
Popehead : Tague  
my own name  
hatred's synonym

*But will the meek  
inherit the earth?*  
**Religion poisons us**  
**North and South**



*A special force of  
angels we'd need  
to put manners on us.  
If the young were  
honest, they'd admit  
they don't hold  
with the half of it  
The Showbands  
and the borders halls  
that's the stuff  
Said the guardian  
of the empty church  
pale siege windows  
shining behind us*

*Across the border  
a dead man  
drives to school  
past the fort  
at Greencastle  
a fury of love  
for North, South  
eats his heart  
on the far side  
a rocky promontory  
his family name  
O'Cahan, O'Kane  
my uncle watches  
sails upon Foyle  
(a flock of swans)  
drives forward*

### **3.21 20<sup>th</sup> Century Development**

The late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries saw unprecedented advances in technology including in the design and construction of buildings. Developments in the use of materials such as Portland cement, concrete, iron and steel allowed the generation of new forms.

There are important examples of developments in frame building in the city such as Austin's department store in the Diamond.

Use of reinforced concrete allowed construction of unusual shapes associated with airfield and structures in the Foyle Alluvial Plain. Large scale industrial and farm buildings are made possible by developments in steel frame cladding systems.

These developments in new materials also mirrored a decline in knowledge and skill in traditional construction methods. In recent years this has also increased losses due to increases in cost, ineffective repairs, absence of traditional maintenance patterns and use of incorrect materials in the repair of traditionally constructed historic buildings. At the same time, the new construction forms are often not as durable as their traditional counterparts and their maintenance and conservation require additional skill sets to repair.

Population growth within the cities saw the development of new forms of housing. A notable example is the prototype garden suburb at Victoria Park which formed a model for suburban development for the middle classes, if less well located and executed, elsewhere in the city.

Housing projects for the less well off were much less successful and relatively new structures, such as the Rossville Street flats, intended to improve poor housing conditions in the Bogside area of the city, were short lived or have required major modification. Whilst it is difficult to separate the image of these buildings from the social and political events that prevailed during the 1970's, the return to development of more traditional terraced house forms by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive and housing associations appears to have been a more successful approach to the provision of social housing. In general, the 20<sup>th</sup> century housing estates of Derry~Londonderry are remarkable due to their extent rather than for their architectural merit.

Fortunately there were also some positive examples from this period almost exclusively from architects Corr & McCormick and Liam McCormick's later partnerships with Joe Treacy and Tom Mullarkey. Many of the most important Corr & McCormick schools and health authority buildings from the 1950's and 60's have not survived or have suffered from poor quality renovation, although important examples such as Barrack Hill primary school and the former hospital outpatient clinic at Strabane still survive and appear to be well cared for.

Liam McCormick designed suburban churches, St Mary's Creggan and Our Lady of Lourdes at Steelstown, constructed almost 20 years apart; these are, perhaps, the most significant ecclesiastical structures in the city from this period.

The last decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century saw efforts made to mend the city through conservation and repair; new buildings were 'interventions' in the fabric of the city; redundant institutions were treated to 'adaptive reuse'. In addition to significant effect of schemes run by the Walled City Partnership, there are several positive examples of adaptive reuse such as the Verbal Arts Centre and Playhouse Theatre; and examples of intervention such as the Millennium Forum or the, Tuomey & O'Donnell designed, "An Culturlann" on Great James' Street.

### 3.22 Future Developments

Repair of relationships amongst communities will take time but can be assisted through collective efforts to the repair the city centre and the centre of towns in the region.

The Foyle is a natural focus, and the city of Derry a natural centre; this is a position that is likely to be reinforced as normal city activities are allowed to resume.

The process of repair is a civilising influence on the city. The requirement for future economies in the use of energy may also see people return to the city in greater numbers as transport costs rise.

There are likely to be opposing factors such as improvements in communications which also allow development of new cottage industries in rural areas.

New regimes for maintenance and repair are to be established as envisaged by the conservation plan for the city walls. Significant restoration projects such as the Guildhall are to be completed. The former barracks at Ebrington are to be adapted and reused and new interventions such as the Peace Bridge create new connections. These major projects, if a sense of local ownership can be achieved, will be significant generators of investment in the city.

The success of the city's regeneration cannot be guaranteed and a 'top down' approach in repair of the most not(ic)able buildings is also required to be balanced by investment in the 'ordinary'. To some extent the programme of the Walled City Partnership Townscape Heritage Initiative begins to address this, although efforts are still largely focussed on relatively important buildings. The number of buildings at risk is still alarmingly high; with a proportionately greater number than comparable cities in the UK. (Source: Walled City Partnership.)

This audit document demonstrates that heritage, is not only about significant individual features but also features that are made up from the accumulation of many elements; the concept of architectural Conservation Areas are a recognition of this. Within the context of rural heritage the loss of vernacular houses and farm building continues unabated with little in the way of protection or incentive to prevent this.

The use of architectural conservation areas is unlikely to be appropriate in the rural context and there are other, excellent, models such as the Mourne Homesteads Project and the Heritage Council Traditional Farm Buildings schemes which provide examples of way in

which vernacular buildings, which should form the bulk of the historic building stock, can be protected and reused into the future at relatively little cost.

As the city infrastructure is improved into the future there are other threats in the form of development along the riverside and road building, in particular, is a source of concern. Apparently comprehensive impact assessments deal well with aspects that are measurable; however, unprotected and intangible cultural features are less easily determined. One cannot doubt the benefits that better communications will have to the city itself, but there is a corresponding price to be paid in terms of impact on the rural heritage of the region. Similar issues may not have been of concern to the 19<sup>th</sup> century engineers responsible for building the embankment and reclaiming ground from Lough Foyle which resulted in what today has been referred to “as one of the great railway journeys of the world”. Perhaps the proposed plans for the A5 road are the opportunity for this generation to achieve a similar feat and such an ambition would be heartening; however, even a cursory review of the proposals suggest otherwise. It is quite clear to the writer that the impact assessment of the routes within the Foyle Valley, deals with the measurable, but has not understood the profoundly negative effect that the road structure will have on the settings of historic buildings and natural landscapes over a wide area. This may well be a price worth paying, but needs to be recognised before it can be considered.

Road development may also bring about some positive effects, providing relief from existing roads and potentially releasing space for pedestrians and cyclists on the routes that benefit from links with the landscape of the river basin. However, if such a dividend is to be realised, wider ambitions must also be considered at an early stage.

Climate change is a major factor to be considered in the future and the area between Strabane and Bready, in particular is likely to be subject to serious flooding both from rising sea levels and increases in rainfall. The historic patterns of building, established prior to improvements in drainage, indicate the lands that are at risk.

Greater consideration will need to be given to the requirement for building at all and emphasis placed on better use of existing resources. Incentives may be given for programmes of maintenance and repair and credit given for the positive environmental aspects of reuse of existing buildings both in urban and rural context.

The findings of this study and the nature of development already undertaken in the city of Derry~ Londonderry, in the early years of this century suggests that the long term future of the region may also lie in its past.

#### 4 A CIRCUIT OF THE FOYLE BASIN

An analysis of data is provided in relation to each LCA area in turn starting in the North, moving southwards following the east bank of the river and returning to the Derry Slopes and, finally, the city itself.

- Magilligan Lowlands
- Foyle Alluvial Plain
- Burngibbagh & Drumahoe
- Foyle Valley
- Derry Slopes
- The City

## 4.1 Magilligan Lowlands

### MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS – Landscape Character Area

The Landscape Character Area (LCA) forms the extent of the study area defined in the project brief. The following map and text relates to the MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS Landscape Character Area – as described by Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)



Figure 13: 1 to 50,000 scale Discovery map (c) OSNI; the “Magilligan Lowlands” are outlined in red

#### “Key Characteristics

- *completely flat alluvial plain, dominated by the Binevenagh cliffs; rugged sand dune ridges shelter Magilligan Strand*
- *homogeneous landscape of rectangular fields subdivided by a grid of drainage ditches. Isolated farm buildings reached by straight, embanked tracks branching at right angles from the main road*
- *principal settlements form linear development along main road*
- *open, with occasional isolated hedgerows and groups of trees; some small shelterbelts near farm buildings*
- *geometric pattern gives landscape an artificial, engineered character*

#### Landscape Description

*The Magilligan Lowlands are found on the eastern shores of Lough Foyle, at the foot of the basalt escarpment of Binevenagh. The lowland originates from deposits of alluvium and blown sand which accumulated to form a large, flat triangle of land in the lee of the long sand-spit leading to Magilligan Point. The dramatic cliffs of Binevenagh form a striking backdrop to this flat coastal plain and the mountains of Donegal are visible as a distant horizon to the west of Lough Foyle. The rugged outline of the sand dunes along the edge of Magilligan Strand stand out clearly as a contrast to the flat, expansive lowland to the south. The lowlands are artificially drained, by a combination of mechanical pumping and drainage ditches and the resultant sandy soils are some of the most productive farmland in the Province.*

*This is a unique landscape in Northern Ireland. It has an engineered, artificial character, with open fields, ditches and roads forming an abstract pattern of straight lines and right angles. Larger settlements are strung out along the principal roads but the predominantly white farm buildings are focal points in this open, rather uniform landscape and the outlines of their roofs and barns often form the skyline in local views. Farm tracks connect at right-angles to the main road forming an open-ended ladder pattern. Most are on low embankments, bounded on both sides by open ditches. The landscape has an open, windswept character with few trees and hedgerows. Fields are predominantly arable, with smaller pastures concentrated towards the foot of the basalt escarpment.*

*They are generally bounded by wire fences and all are edged with straight, open drainage ditches which have a scrubby character and form a contrast to the smooth textures and muted colours of the arable fields. Shelterbelts near farmsteads stand out clearly in the open landscape. The rugged, natural forms of the sand dunes, which shelter Magilligan Strand, are in strong contrast to the flat, smooth arable fields to the south. The dunes are exposed, with only a few stunted mounds of hawthorn and gorse. There is an extensive rifle range in the dunes, and Benone Caravan Park is close to the road and Binevenagh.*

### **Landscape Condition and Sensitivity to Change**

*The few hedgerows are unmanaged and in poor condition. They form disconnected blocks rather than a network which might shelter wildlife and encourage species migration. The drainage ditches appear to be in good condition although they are rarely associated with uncultivated buffer zones which might increase their nature conservation value. Some derelict and underused farm buildings are highly visible in this open landscape. It is not possible to screen unsightly development such as waste tips and industrial areas since the whole area is overlooked from viewpoints along the basalt escarpment to the east.*

*These panoramic views ensure that the landscape is highly sensitive to change; the impact of potential changes should be carefully assessed in relation to views from the basalt escarpment. The sand dune landscapes are valued for their wild, unstructured character. They form a relatively narrow band and are therefore vulnerable to the visual influence of development and intensive agriculture along their margins.*

### **Principles for Landscape Management**

- *Although hedgerows are not a characteristic feature of this landscape type, some replanting and strengthening of the existing hedgerows near farms to the east of the main road would help to provide a stronger sense of place.*
- *The groups of mature trees near farm buildings in this area tend to be of the same age and there is a need for new planting in small groups to maintain these important local features.*
- *If recreational developments are to be integrated within the dune landscape, it is important that the materials and colours used are sympathetic. For instance, golf courses should not have artificially induced "green" fairways and greens and structures should be constructed from dark wood, perhaps using turf roofs where possible.*

### **Principles for Accommodating New Development**

- *New development, or changes to the landscape pattern, such as the subdivision of farmland into smaller units, may lead to the erosion of its distinctive landscape character.*

*The materials, massing and colour of new farm buildings are visually significant since these elements are so prominent in the wider landscape."*

## MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS – Historic Landscape Characterisation

A review of the historical documentation relating to the landscape study area demonstrates that the landscape characteristics of the site are substantially unchanged since the earliest available records, from 400 years ago. The official LCA, landscape character area, as its name implies is determined somewhat arbitrarily by the location of the 10m Ordnance Survey mapping contour line and reflects the physical topography of the site. The historical setting cannot be understood adequately from a reading of the landscape that is contained within this boundary division and we have used the physical spatial boundaries of the site as the extent of our review with limited reference to features beyond this.

Interestingly, this spatial boundary is also similar to the civil parish boundaries and also includes the western slopes of Binevenagh. Whilst the slopes are part of a separate character area they allow the inclusion of the church and monastic settlements which were deliberately sited at a height overlooking the parish lands. The raised burial site of the Tamlaght church gives the parish its name. This relationship between church and landscape was repeated throughout the history of the area with religious houses established by both St Columba and St Patrick and again with the development of St Cadan's church in the 19<sup>th</sup> century raised high above the levels.

The names of townlands and early mapping also imply the practise of communal rundale farming over an area that extended from the shore line to mountain top with summer pastures located on high ground. The radiating lands at Gortmore and Tircrevan form a sort of natural amphitheatre that seems to have created a unique natural environment in which wild flowers and plants flourished.

Forests to the south were the last known home to wolves in Ireland and eagles lived on the cliff face of the mountainside

Even in the 19<sup>th</sup> century Samuel Lewis' account implies a special place; almost heaven on earth.

Important features such as Downhill, the Mussenden temple or the Norburg Castle or Martello fort at Greencastle, outside the LCA, are also referred to as they overlook and had influence over the study site area.

The Bishop of Derry's residence at Downhill in particular, whilst set at a distance, is of symbolic importance as the lands at Magilligan were a substantial part of his estate. The dunes at



Magilligan were cultivated as a rabbit warren, which during the 19<sup>th</sup> century was thought to be the largest in Ireland and supplied substantial quantities of food and pelts for hats and clothing.

This pastoral scene also reflects, until recently, a significant survival of vernacular, particularly thatched houses throughout the region.

In many respects the area would be almost unchanged were it not for interventions such as the prison, the railway and the Bellarena estate in the south.

The Landscape Character area could be subdivided further based on the topographical characteristics highlighted by the analysis of its history of land use:

- Magilligan Dunes
- Magilligan Levels
- Bellarena Estate
- Umbra Resort
- Tircreven Meadows
- Binevenagh Slopes
- Ardmagilligan Outlook

These preliminary titles have not been adopted for use in this study but may assist the future naming or subdivision of the study area based on historical land use.

## MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS – historical natural landscapes; geology

The geological setting refers to the natural material state landscape as it has formed without the intervention of man. The following map and text relates to the geological setting of MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS Landscape Character Area – as described by Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)

### **“Outline Geomorphology and Landscape Setting**

*The use of a cultural overlay in defining Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) means that they frequently subdivide natural physiographic units. It is common therefore for significant geomorphological features to run across more than one LCA. It is also possible in turn, to group physiographic units into a smaller number of natural regions. These regions invariably reflect underlying geological, topographic and, often, visual continuities between their component physiographic units, and have generally formed the basis for defining landscape areas such as AONBs. It is essential therefore, that in considering the 'Geodiversity' of an individual LCA, regard should be given to adjacent LCAs and to the larger regions within which they sit. In the original Land Utilisation Survey of Northern Ireland, Symons (1962) identified twelve such natural regions.*

*This LCA lies within the region described as the Lough Foyle Lowland. The chief morphological features of this lowland region are a series of postglacial raised beaches, the nineteenth century enclosure of large areas of saltmarsh and slobland beside the Foyle estuary and the sand and shingle ridges and blown sand of the Magilligan foreland. Inland from the coastal zone, the lowland continues along the floodplains of the Roe and Faughan rivers into areas that are underlain by till and glaciofluvial deposits, especially an important moraine complex between Limavady and Ballykelly. The Levees along these rivers testify to their previous tendency to flood.*

*The Magilligan Lowlands are found on the eastern shores of Lough Foyle, at the foot of the basalt escarpment of Binevenagh. The beach ridge plain of Magilligan Foreland is the largest coastal accumulation feature in Ireland, it covers an area of 32km<sup>2</sup> and consists of up to 300 swash-aligned beach ridges. In the depressions between these ridges are later peats that began to accumulate as long ago as ca 2 500 B.P.. Much of the foreland has in turn been overlain by sand dunes. The dramatic cliffs of Binevenagh form a striking backdrop to this flat coastal plain and the mountains of Donegal are visible as a distant horizon to the west of Lough Foyle. The rugged outline of the sand dunes along the edge of Magilligan Strand stand out clearly as a contrast to the flat, expansive lowland to the south. The lowlands are artificially drained, by a combination of mechanical pumping and drainage ditches and the resultant sandy soils are some of the most productive farmland in the Province. The rugged, natural forms of the sand dunes, which shelter Magilligan Strand, are in strong contrast to the flat, smooth arable fields to the south. The dunes are exposed, with only a few stunted mounds of hawthorn and gorse. The landscape can therefore be summarised as one of a flat alluvial plain, dominated by the Binevenagh cliffs and rugged sand dune ridges shelter Magilligan Strand. For further information see section by P. Wilson in Knight, J. (2002).*

### **Pre-Quaternary (Solid) Geology**

*The stratigraphy of this area is made up of the mapped formations in the table, the youngest of which usually overlie the oldest.*

#### **Stratigraphic Table (youngest rocks at the top of the table)**

<b>Tertiary intrusives (dykes &amp; sills) - about 60 million years old</b>
<b>Jurassic Waterloo Mudstone Formation - about 200 million years old</b>
<b>Triassic Mercia Mudstone Group, Penarth Group - from 220 to 205 million years old</b>
<b>Triassic Sherwood Sandstone Group - about 240 million years old</b>

*This LCA extends inland from Magilligan Point and contains igneous and sedimentary rocks of Triassic, Jurassic and Tertiary age. The Jurassic Waterloo Mudstone Formation is intruded by a large, east-west striking dolerite sill.*

### **Quaternary (Drift) Geology**

*Northern Ireland has experienced repeated glaciations during the Pleistocene period that produced vast amounts of debris to form the glacial deposits that cover more than 90% of the landscape. Their present morphology was shaped principally during the last glacial cycle (the Midlandian), with subsequent modification throughout the post-glacial Holocene period. The Late Midlandian, the last main phases of ice sheet flow, occurred between 23 and 13ka B.P. from dispersion centres in the Lough Neagh Basin, the Omagh Basin and Lower Lough Erne/Donegal. The clearest imprint of these ice flows are flow transverse rogen moraines and flow parallel drumlin swarms which developed across thick covers of till, mostly below 150m O.D. during a period that referred to as the Drumlin Readvance. At the very end of the Midlandian, Scottish ice moved southwards and overrode parts of the north coast. Evidence for deglaciation of the landscape is found in features formed between the glacial maximum to the onset of the present warm stage from 17 and 13ka B.P. - a period of gradual climatic improvement. Most commonly these are of glaciofluvial and glaciolacustrine origin and include: eskers, outwash mounds and spreads, proglacial lacustrine deposits, kame terraces, kettle holes and meltwater channels (McCarron et al. 2002). During the Holocene, marine, fluvial, aeolian and mass movement processes, combined with human activities and climate and sea-level fluctuations, have modified the appearance of the landscape. The landforms and associated deposits derived from all of these processes are essentially fossil. Once damaged or destroyed they cannot be replaced since the processes or process combinations that created them no longer exist. They therefore represent a finite scientific and economic resource and are a notable determinant of landscape character.*

*The drift geology map for this LCA emphasises the arcuate structure of interdigitated raised beach deposits and peats that comprise most of the foreland. It also illustrates the extensive accumulation of wind blown sand behind the seaward margin.*

### **Key Elements**

#### **ASSIs**

##### **068 MAGILLIGAN**

*Internationally recognised classical beach-ridge cusped foreland, with active prograding dunes which contain a wide range of plant communities and a number of rare vascular and bryophyte species. The beach ridge complex evolved in response to sea level change and is thought to relate to a fall in relative sea level some time before 5 000 yr B.P. This facilitated the onshore movement of shelf sediment. Growth eventually came to an end, possibly in response to a combination of either a decline or reversal in the sea level fall and the disruption of the inshore wave field by the growth of an ebb shoal at the mouth of Lough Foyle. The foreland, and the beach ridges in particular, therefore present a detailed record of Holocene sea-level changes.*

##### **051 Lough foyle**

*Contemporary coastal processes especially chenier ridge development. Exposure through the southern (earliest) portion of the Magilligan foreland complex.*

**AONB** - *The LCA lies within the North Derry AONB (1966); redesignated as Binevenagh AONB in 2006. This designation is indicative of the scenic quality of the landscape."*



Magilligan historical geological mapping 1889 (c) GSI



Figure 14: Cross section through Binevenagh & Magilligan Lowlands 1889 (c) GSI

## MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS – historical natural landscapes; ecology

Information on the ecology is available from a variety of sources. In addition to NIEA data, current sources include references relating to protected sites included in local authority development plans and publications relating to the Binevenagh Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The following pages offer an overview of these with a synopsis confirming the significant features written by ecologist Ralph Sheppard.

The following map and text relate to the Biodiversity Profile of MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS Landscape Character Area – as described by Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)

*“In the following account of this LCA it should be noted that for consistency, the biodiversity section follows the standard order for all LCAs even though some of the communities discussed later may have more importance for biodiversity than those discussed earlier*

### Key Characteristics

- woodlands occupy about 2% of the land cover, almost all is broadleaved or mixed and the Bellarena estate accounts for most
- improved pastures, of generally low biodiversity, account for three-quarters of the grassland
- remainder in the dune system no heaths, bogs, wetlands or lakes
- Maagilligan sand dune system is of UK importance as one of the largest examples of calcareous dunes with dune slacks of several stages of development and vegetation
- Lough Foyle of international importance for wetland birds and for Atlantic salmon

### Woodlands

Woodlands occupy about 2% of the land cover, almost all is broadleaved or mixed and the Bellarena estate (**lowland woodland pasture and parkland**) accounts for most. The character trees are beech, oak, sycamore and elm, but there is a wide range of other planted species present, both conifers and broadleaves. Where present, the understorey is dominated by planted shrubs including rhododendron, snowberry and cherry and Portugal laurels. The herb layer is varied, but not species-rich, and includes bluebell and ransoms. In the Racecourse Plantation the herb layer is grass dominated.

A small hillside ashwood (**upland mixed ashwoods**) is located near Tircreven Bridge. Developed on base-rich soils, there is a species-rich herb layer beneath the ash-willow canopy; hazel and alder are also present. The wood is adjacent to other small patches in LCA 36; several were present in the 1830s and are at least 'long-established' and could be ancient woodlands.

There are small coniferous plantations within the LCA, but



these are of little interest to biodiversity.

### **Grassland and Arable**

Grassland is around 71% of the land cover, the same as the average for Northern Ireland, and arable c.3% (about half the average) although this satellite-based estimate may be low. Improved pastures account for three-quarters of the grassland. These have generally low biodiversity as a result of relatively intensive management. Some of the pastures are sown grasslands dominated by ryegrass and few other species - low biodiversity is in-built. High levels of grazing or repeated cutting for silage, high inputs of fertilizers and slurry, and selective herbicides also serve to reduce diversity of both flora and fauna. Although the alternate parallel bands of organic and sandy soils that are a feature of the lowland, together with peat on the innermost part beneath Binevenagh, give variation in the improved pastures - there are some fields of damp pastures - this has not increased the recorded biodiversity.

There are few hedges to improve the biodiversity of the farmland as most field boundaries are drains or post and wire. Nevertheless, there are some Priority Species of birds - **bullfinch, skylark, song-thrush, linnets and spotted flycatcher.**

### **Heaths and Bogs**

There are no heaths or bogs in the LCA.

### **Wetlands and Lakes**

There are no wetlands in the LCA and although there are numerous drainage ditches there are no records of Priority Species apart from the **otter.**

### **Coastal**

The Magilligan spit and **coastal sand dunes** system is not only the major landscape feature of this LCA, but is also of most biodiversity interest. The system has been designated as **Magilligan SAC**, and several other designations are included - **Magilligan ASSI, Magilligan Point NNR and Ballymaclary NNR.**



Magilligan is one of the largest calcareous dune systems in the UK, with a well-developed and largely undisturbed system of ridges and slacks. Fixed dune vegetation with red fescue and lady's bedstraw dominates most of the site. Much of the grassland is tall, with downy oat-grass prominent, but more open areas have wild thyme and are notable for an abundance of the moss *Rhytidium rugosum*. Dune slacks are extensive and well-developed, indeed they contain virtually all of the dune slack

vegetation in Northern Ireland. Most of the slack vegetation is dominated by creeping willow although more open humid slacks and older hollows filled with mire vegetation also occur. The rare marsh helleborine is

abundant in some slacks. The hydrology of the site is little modified and the structure and function of the site are therefore well-conserved.

Although the sand shores are barren, there are mudflats, particularly at the **Roe Estuary NNR**, that conceal vast numbers of small seashore animals such as lugworms, shrimps, ragworms and periwinkles. There are also large mussel beds and extensive areas covered in eel-grass (**seagrass beds**). Inside the railway bridge is an area of **coastal saltmarsh** - a habitat not common in Northern Ireland.

Lough Foyle is internationally important for birds. The **Lough Foyle SPA** (also the **Lough Foyle Ramsar site**) supports internationally important numbers of the whooper swan, light-bellied Brent goose and bar-tailed godwit. It also supports large numbers of nationally important species, that is, in an all-Ireland context. These include Priority Species - **golden plover** and **curlew** - among many others.

The lough also has importance in Ireland for a number of Irish Red Data Book fish species and is internationally important for Atlantic salmon.

### **Key Issues**

General actions for UK and NI **Priority Habitats** and **Priority Species** are detailed in the [Habitat Action Plans](#) and [Species Action Plans](#).

### **WOODLANDS**

**Issue:** low woodland cover of variable biodiversity value

#### **Actions:**

- enhance the biodiversity value of demesne/parkland woodland by discouraging grazing and felling; by encouraging planting of saplings of the standard trees; by preventing loss of parkland; by retention of fallen and veteran trees (particularly for bryophytes, ferns, fungi and fauna)
- further study of the history of demesne and other broadleaved woodlands particularly any ancient and long-established, as a key to future management
- encourage broadleaved plantations rather than the small conifer plantations and shelterbelts that are of poor biodiversity and landscape value.

### **GRASSLAND AND ARABLE**

**Issue:** poor biodiversity of farmland

#### **Actions:**

- maintain and improve field boundaries especially hedgerows - in those limited areas where they are traditional in the landscape. This may be achieved through adoption of correct cutting cycles; hedge laying and replanting where necessary; leaving saplings uncut to develop into hedgerow trees; avoidance of spraying with fertilizers, slurry, herbicides; provision of wildlife strips and conservation headlands around fields; and limitation of field amalgamation
- encourage (through participation in Environmental Schemes) adoption of less intensive management of pastures to allow reversion to more species-rich grassland
- maintain and enhance damp grassland by, where possible, restricting field or arterial drainage
- leave stubble over winter, rather than autumn ploughing, to increase food resources for farmland birds; spring sown cereals are beneficial to breeding farmland birds.

### **COASTAL**

**Issue:** nationally important sand dune system that requires conservation in its entirety

**Actions:**

- ensure that recreational activities, including caravan parks, golf etc., do not lead to damage and loss of dunes and dune species
- assess any increase in vehicles and human pressures resulting from opening of ferry service

**Issue:** Lough Foyle of international importance for wetland birds; international importance for Atlantic salmon

**Actions:**

- ensure that recreational (including shooting) and other activities do not damage bird populations
- continued monitoring and control of activities both in the lough and in the river catchments that might affect salmon population.”

The following maps, available on the NIEA website indicate the protected areas that are located within the LCA study region. There are significant areas of protection along the Foyle shoreline, below the peak of Binevenagh and areas of dune habitat along the northern edge of the site. Potential areas of interest also exist at Ballycarton and along the Binevenagh slopes which may contain areas of ancient/ long established woodland and are worthy of further investigation.

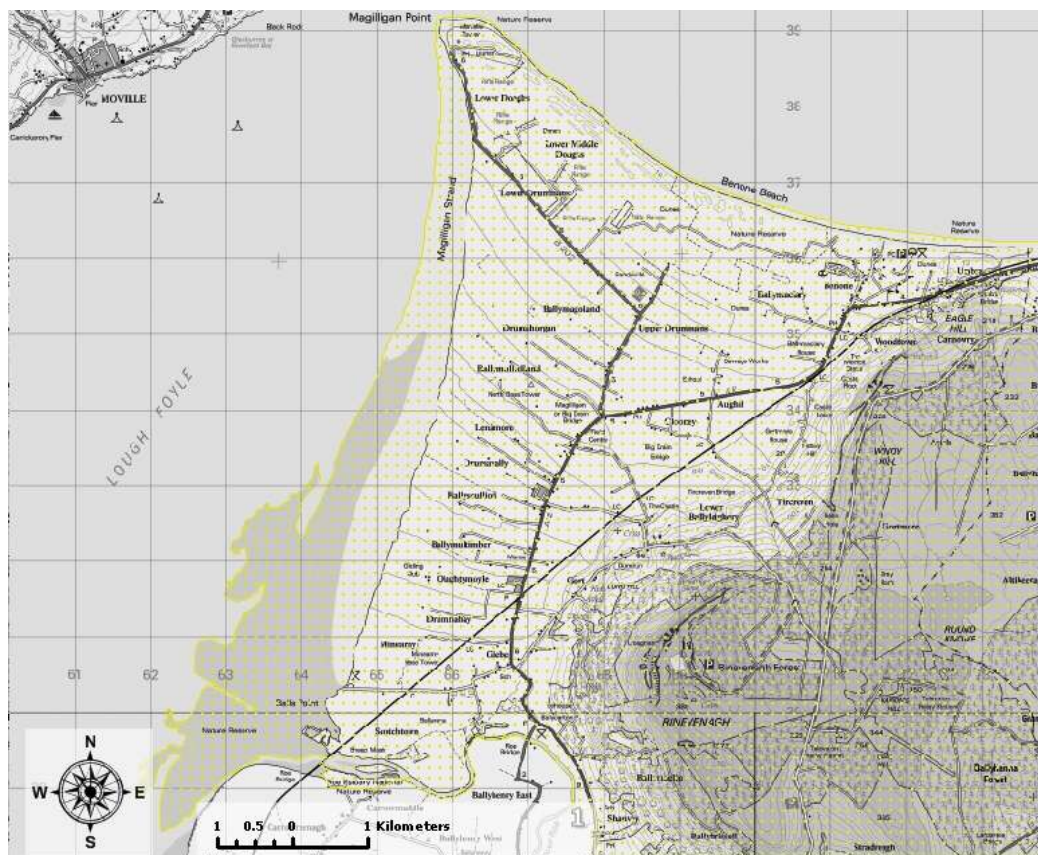


Figure 15: Binevenagh Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) outlined in yellow (c) Crown copyright



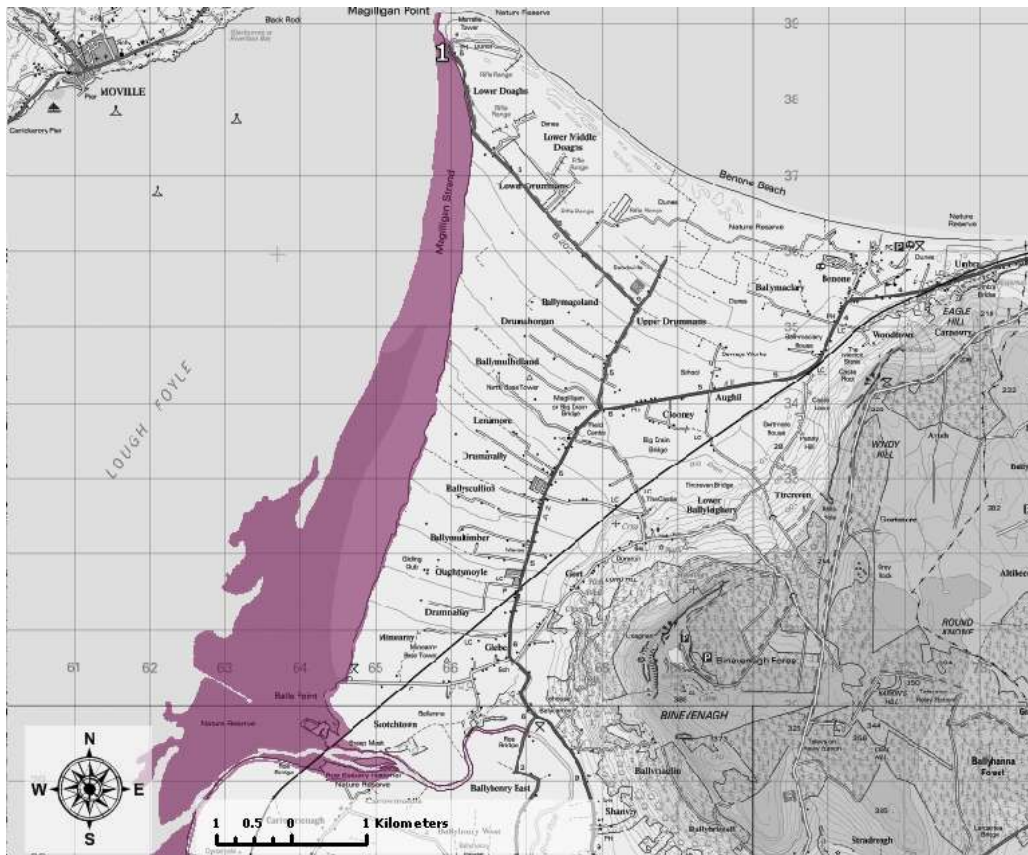


Figure 16: Magilligan Ramsar site

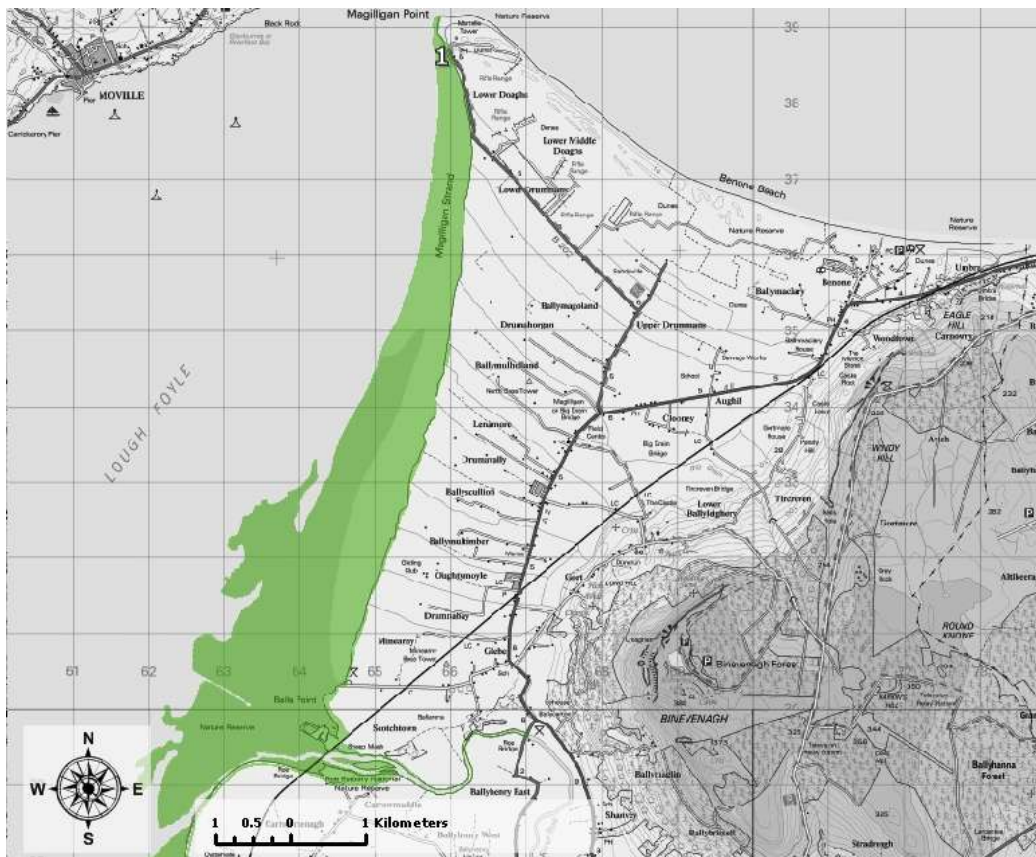


Figure 17: Magilligan Special Protection Area (SPA)

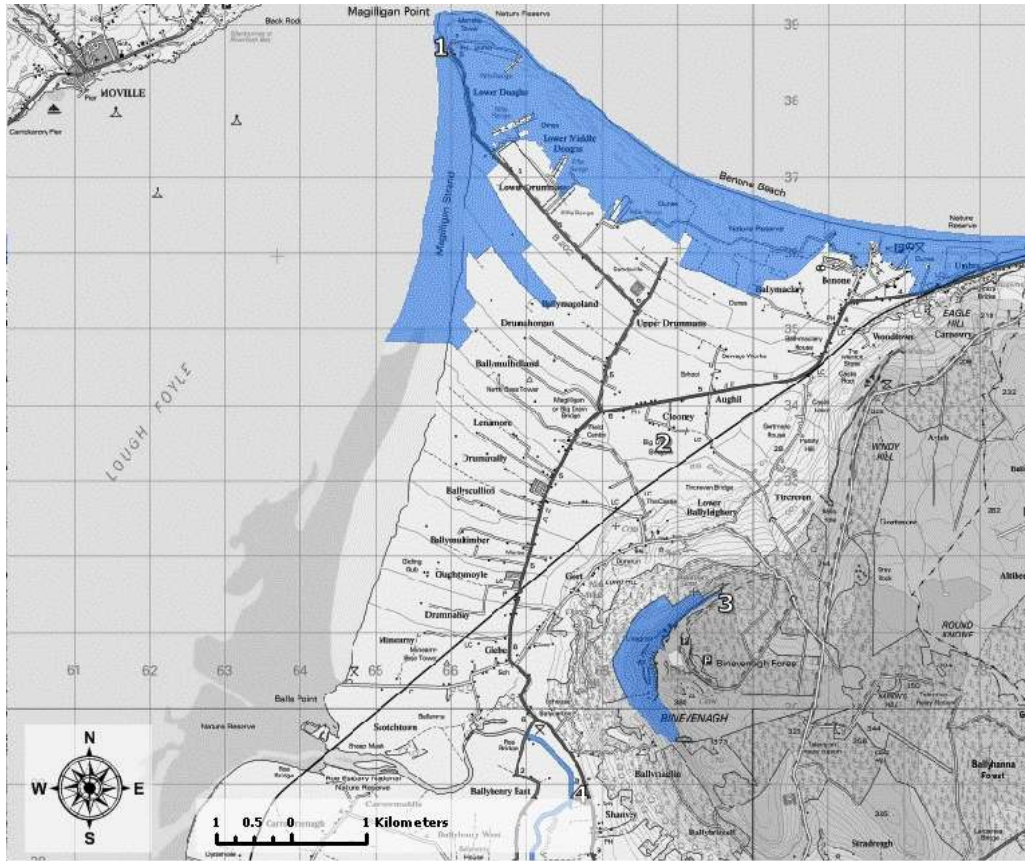


Figure 18: Magilligan & Binevenagh Special Area of conservation (SAC)/ Natura 2000 Site

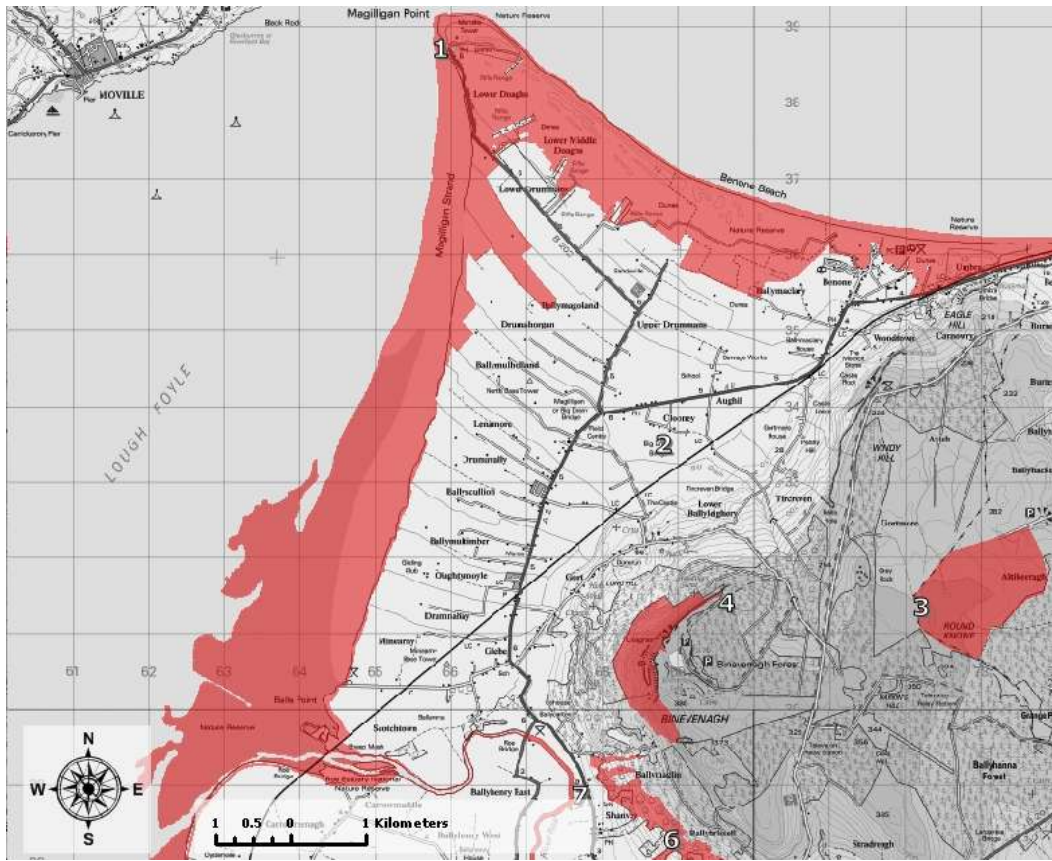


Figure 19: Magilligan, Binevenagh & Aghanloo Wood Areas of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI's)

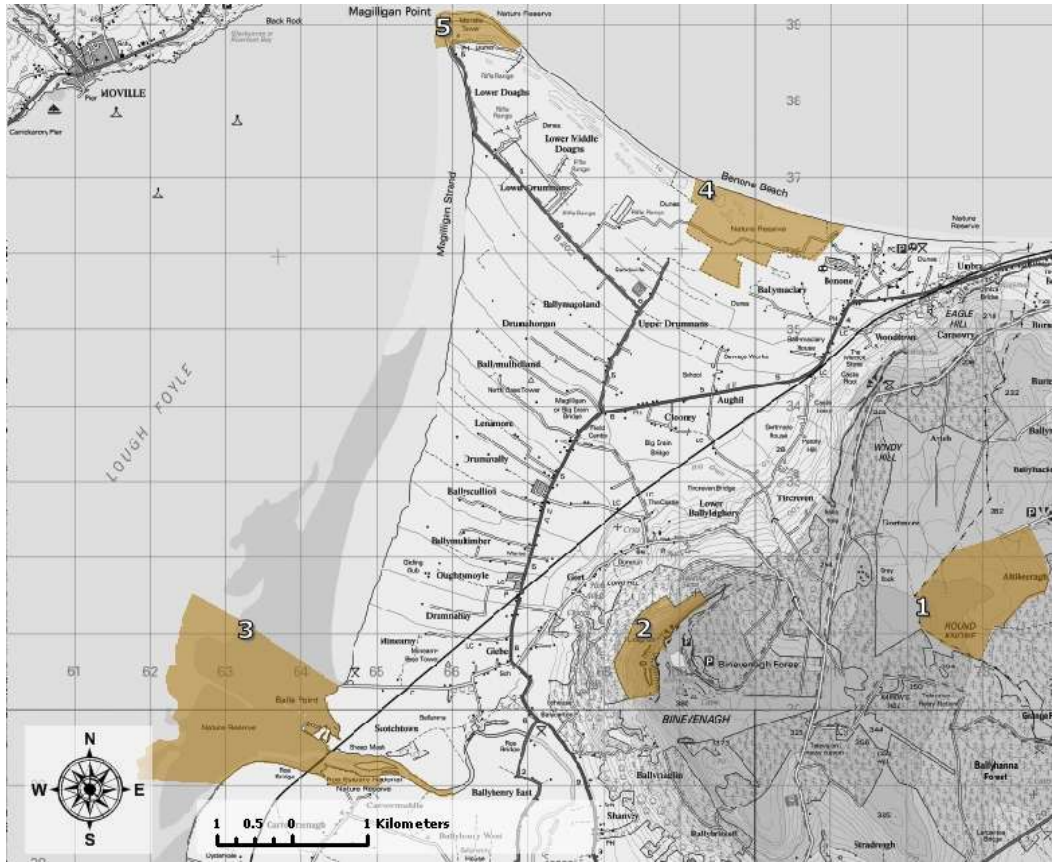
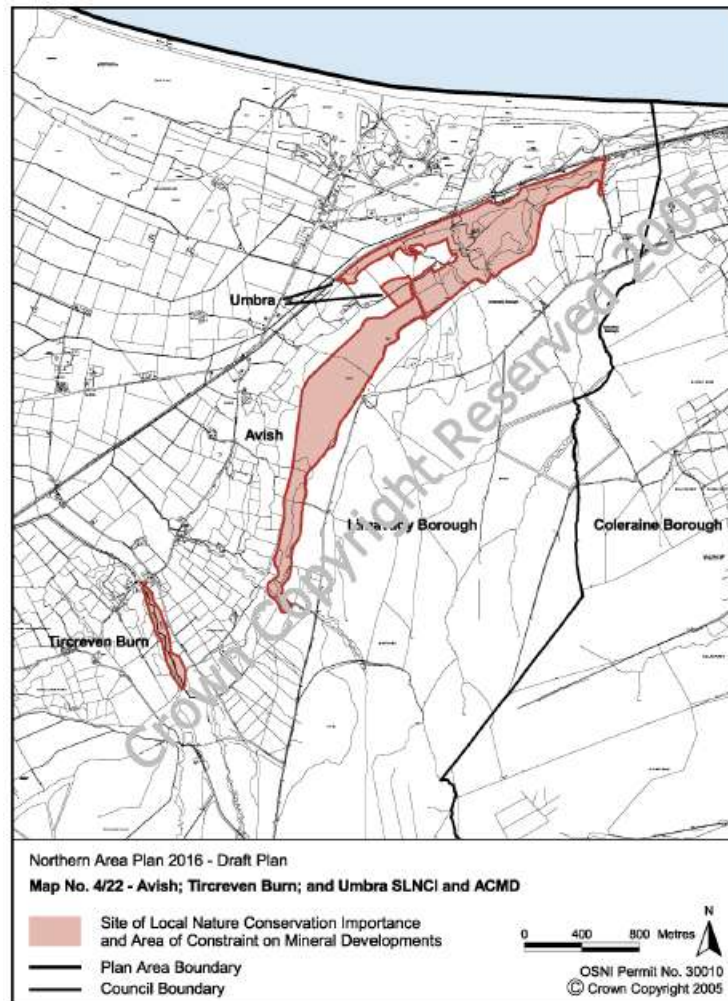
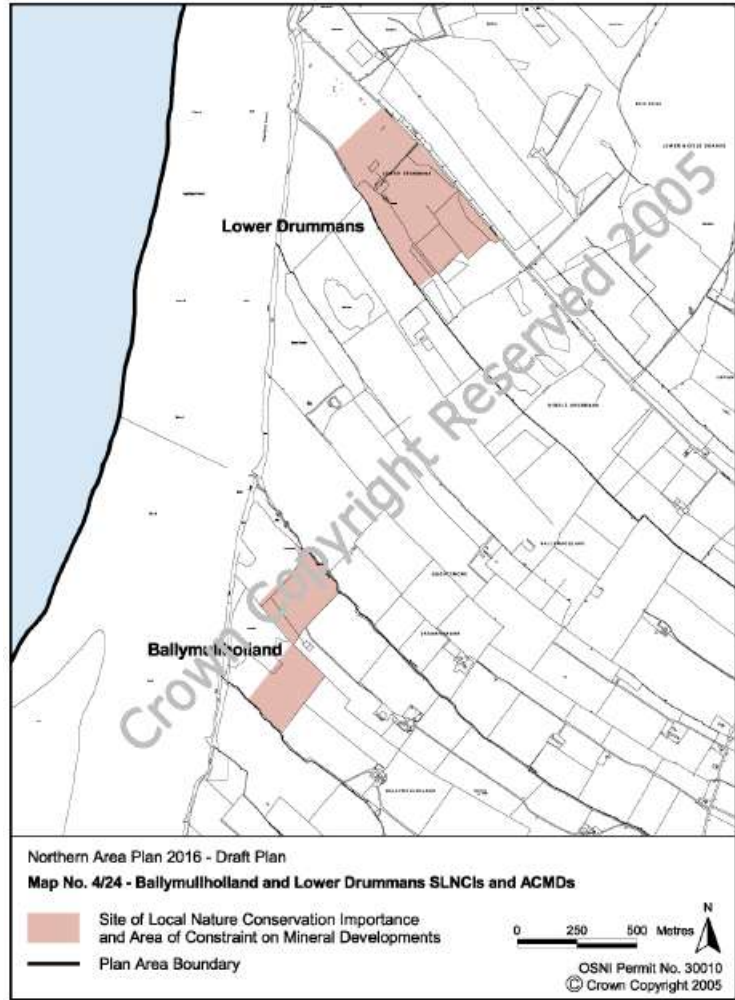


Figure 20: Magilligan, Binevenagh, Benone, Ballyvaughan & Roe Estuary Nature Reserves

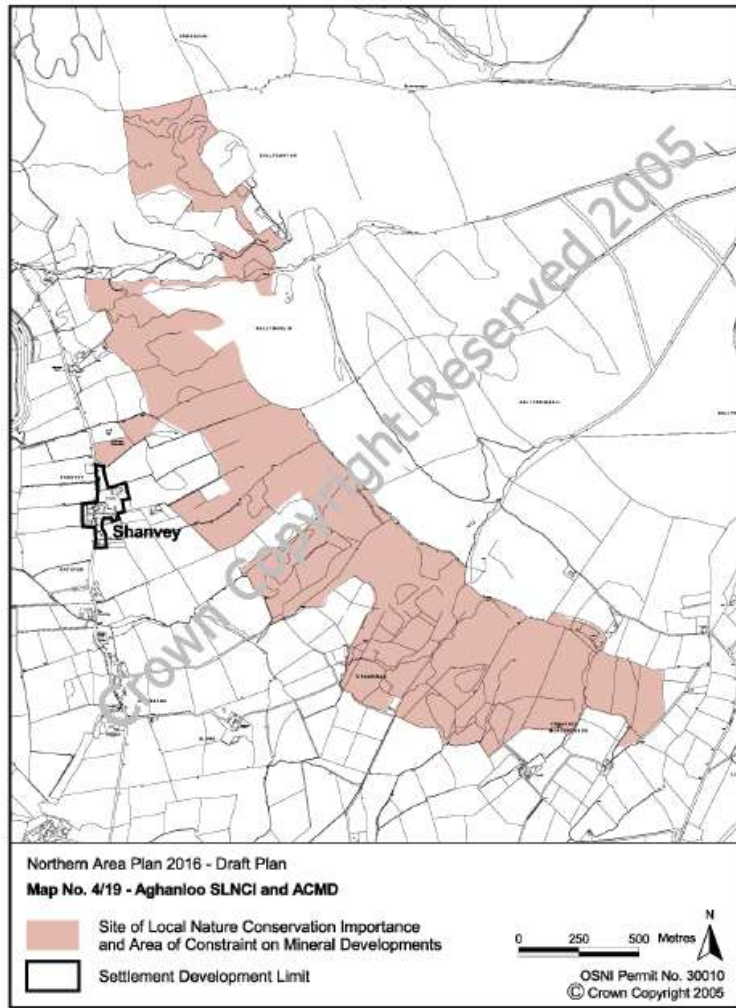
The following map extracts and tables, which highlight local nature conservation areas, are sourced from the proposed Northern Area Development Plan 2016.



LSLN05	Avish	Grassland	Diverse flora growing on a cliff face, with much scree and on lower slopes grazed heath and Hazel dominated broadleaved woodland. Notable species on the cliff face include Black Spleenwort, Devils-bit Scabious and Kidney Vetch. The heath vegetation includes Tormentil, Heather and Burnet Rose.	IC712338
LSLN49	Tircreven Burn	Earth Science	Mesozoic Palaeontology. of type section of Torcreven Sandstone Member of Waterloo Mudstone Formation. Also exposures of Cretaceous strata and outcrop of Lias – abundant reworked Jurassic fossils, especially vertebrate ones. Exposures	IC701326
LSLN 51	Umbra	Woodland	Most of this site is dominated by Hazel woodland with scattered Ash. A diverse ground flora was present with quality woodland species such as Bluebell, Pignut, Great Wood-rush, Early Purple Orchid, Sanicle, Wild Garlic and Wood Anemone. Parts of the woodland had extensive carpets of Ramsons. Flushed slopes are common throughout the site with Remote Sedge, Enchanters Nightshade, Bugle and Trifid Burmarigold.	IC715349



LSLN 40	Lower Drummans	Grassland	Good quality grazed dune grassland adjacent to Magilligan ASSI. Largely unmodified, with a wide range of plants including a number of uncommon vascular and bryophyte species.	IC667369
LSLN 08	Ballymullholland	Dune Grassland Species	Important site for Smooth Cat's-ear.	IC662349



LSLN 02	Aghanloo	Woodland	<p>An exceptionally diverse Hazel dominated woodland. The rich ground flora has notable carpets of Bluebell. The site grades into a mosaic of dense scrub, wet grassland and unimproved acid grassland with many species of sedge present. Woodland flora includes Greater Stitchwort, Bluebell, Wood Anemone, Lady's-mantle, Wood Sedge, Barren Strawberry, Herb Robert and Wild Garlic. Two fields South and East of Roe school have been included as they contain high quality unimproved grassland. Notable species within the grassland sward include Meadow Vetchling, Cuckooflower, Greater Birds-foot-trefoil, Field Woodrush, and Black Knapweed. Pockets of heathy grassland contain Heath Milkwort, Tormentil, Mouse-ear-hawkweed and Barren Strawberry.</p>	IC692279
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Figure 21: Benone Strand



Figure 22: Benone Strand



Figure 23: Umbra



*An analysis of Magilligan Lowlands Ecology – by Ralph Sheppard*

The Magilligan area, including both the lowlands and the cliff face of Binevenagh which forms its natural limit, is one of the most diverse and important ecological complexes, not only in the Foyle Basin, but in the whole of Northern Ireland.

- 1) The cliffs and slopes of the Binevenagh scarp hold the finest community of arctic/alpine plants in the province, equalled only by three sites in the republic. The northern aspect and the chemistry of the soil derived from the basalt rock both contribute to the quality of the site. Most notable among these plants is the Mossy Campion, which grows in considerable quantity, the superficially similar Purple Saxifrage, Mossy Saxifrage, Limestone Bedstraw, and the rare moss *Bartramia ithyphylla*.
- 2) On the rocky slopes there is an extensive hazel wood, which is a generally undervalued habitat, supporting beautiful displays of the common spring woodland flowers – bluebells and wood anemones among many others.
- 3) The sand dunes of the Magilligan foreland are the most extensive in Ireland, and home to many scarce wildflowers and insects. Magilligan Strand was the site of the last breeding colony of Little Terns in Northern Ireland, which faded away in the 1970s. Here also is the only Irish site (apart from a small offshoot population on the nearby Binevenagh) for the moss *Rhytidium rugosum*.
- 4) The Lough Foyle shore of the Magilligan Lowlands provides its share of the vast flocks of wintering wildfowl which make this the third site in Northern Ireland after Lough Neagh and Strangford Lough. Northern Ireland has relatively few important large wetlands, but these three rate among the top ten in all Ireland for the number of birds present in winter.
- 5) The Lough Foyle shore here is shallow, and but for the demands of agriculture would grade gently through salt marsh into the flat marshy grasslands which occupy most of Magilligan. But agriculture has long since confined the salt marsh to a modest fringe, and the grasslands have been largely kept dry through a systems of drainage channels. Fragments of flower-rich native grasslands remain, and the ditches themselves provide a haven for aquatic wildlife long since banished from most of the countryside.

Protection mechanisms are in place for most of these species and habitats, and the entire area is incorporated into the Binevenagh Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Only the agricultural grassland core of the lowlands, and those parts of the Binevenagh slopes which would be mostly under commercial conifer forestry, are unprotected by more specific conservation designations.

These designations generally are effective at holding the line on further declines in the area of habitat being protected, or the range of a species. But declines in the health of sites and habitats is another matter. Particularly where these are small, or where there is legitimate human activity on the site, e.g. agriculture, there is slow deterioration in biodiversity. Active management is generally needed to avoid this. For example, Little Terns now generally fail to breed successfully in Ireland or Britain unless the colony is actively guarded against nest predators like hedgehogs, and against disturbance from human walkers.

## MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS – historical cultural landscape; Barony



Figure 24: Magilligan Lowlands are the northernmost part of the Barony of Keenaght marked in yellow on this Philip's Atlas Map 1897

The barony divisions in Ireland often relate to areas of government that were established in the medieval period.

The barony of Keenaght is named after the *Cianachta Glenn Geimin* ("race of Cain of Glengiven") and was associated with the O'Connors, one of this clan, from the 5th century. The area was ceded to the O'Kanes from the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Followers of the O'Kanes included *Mac Giollagain* (MacGilligan) from whom the study area has retained its name.

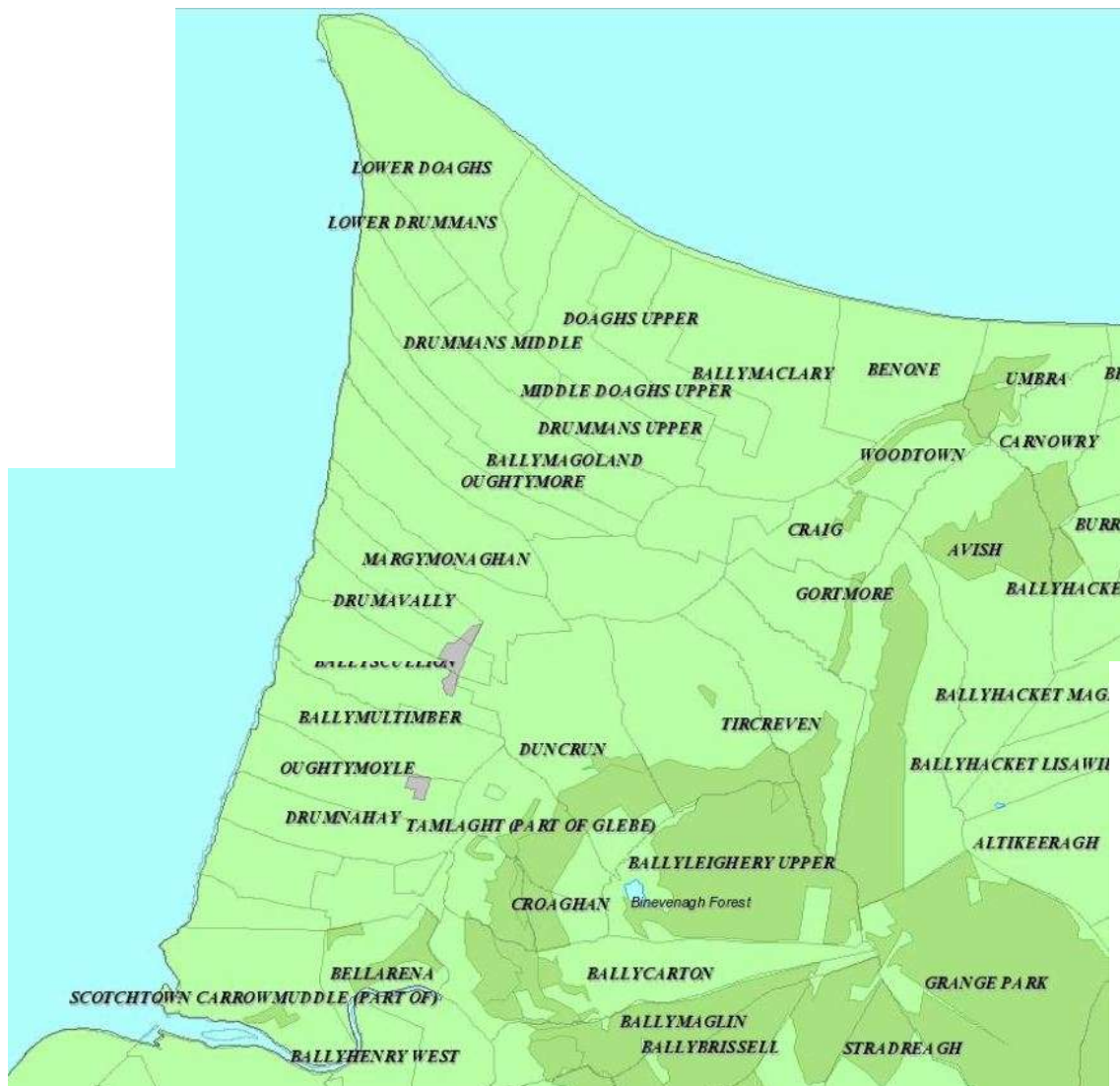
## MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS – historical cultural landscape; Civil Parishes



Figure 25: County Londonderry Parishes

The Parish of Tamlaghtard/Magilligan is the area marked 44 on the above map. This area is similar to the Landscape Character Area of Magilligan Lowlands but also includes the escarpment and plateau overlooking the lowlands area. The Parish boundary therefore also corresponds closely with the enclosing spatial boundary of the study area.

## MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS – historical cultural landscape; Townlands



Key  
to

### Townlands (c) Placenames NI

The following is a list of townlands within the Magilligan Lowlands LCA and areas adjoining. Where there are entries in the Northern Ireland Place Names Project or similar resources we have listed these alongside the town land name. Townlands marked \*\* are outside the LCA but are included within the Parish; these are located in upland areas

**Aughil** - Eochail "The yew wood" - Munn's Notes, 231, 1925

**Avish\*\*** - No entry - Ref Inishowen "effish" meaning lush grassy place

**Ballyleighery Upper\*\*** No entry

**Ballymaclary** – 'McLary's town' (farm still there in 1834) - OSM, xi 126, 1834 ; Baile-mic-Leaeghaire "The town of Maclaery" - Munn's Notes, 232, 1925

**Ballymagoland – No entry**

**Ballymulholland – No entry**

**Ballymultimber – No entry**

**Ballyscullion - No entry**

**Bellarena**

Placenames database of Ireland give possible translations which include “the beautiful strand” or “the queen’s ford”. The townland is at the crossing place of the River Roe. The townland also absorbed an earlier townland known as Ballymargy translated as “market town”. Bellarena is the only population centre listed for the parish of Tamlaghtard.

**Benone – No entry**

**Carnowry\*\*** - Carnouvy 'Nouvy's leap' (a family name) - OSM, xi 126, 1834; Carn-Abhra "The cairn of Abhra" - Munn's Notes, 233, 1925

**Carrowreagh – No entry**

**Clagan - No entry**

**Clooney – Cluain - a lawn meadow or bog island**

**Craig – 'the rock' - OSM, xi 126, 1834 ; Craig "The rock" - Munn's Notes, 233, 1925**

**Croaghan – No entry**

**Doaghs Upper - No entry**

**Drumahorgan - No entry**

**Drumavalley - No entry**

**Drummans Middle – No entry**

**Drumnahay – No entry**

**Duncrun – Duncruthen "fort of the Crutheni", Colgan - OSM, xi 143, 1831**

Glebe (Exclusive of Gort) - Rev John Graham's house; blt c 1774 by Rev Skipton - OSM, xi 85, 1835

**Gort part of Glebe – Gort "a tilled field" - Joyce, i 230, 1869 ; Gort "The tilled field" - Munn's Notes, 235, 1925**

**Gortmore – 'the great fort or glebe common' - OSM, xi 126, 1834 ; "great field" - Joyce, i 559 (ind.), 1869**

**Lenamore** – "great wet meadow" - Joyce, ii 401, 1875; Leana-mor "The great meadow" - Munn's Notes, 236, 1925

**Margymonaghan** – "boggy field market" - OSM, xi 126, 1835 ; "O'Monaghan's market" - Joyce, iii 498, 1913

**Milltown\*\*** - No entry

**Minearny** – "the middle urenagh or bard's town, else west midd - OSM, xi 126, 1835 ; one of two sand-hills called the Bony hills - OSM, xi 92, 1835; Muine-Airneadh "The brake of the sloes" - Munn's Notes, 236, 1925

**Oughtymore** – Historical/Postulated Forms – "the great breastlike place" - OSM, xi 126, 1835; Ochtach-mor "The great breast" - Munn's Notes, 236, 1925

**Oughtymoyle** – "bare breast - the "y" being a corruption" - Joyce, ii 428, 1875; Ochtach-mael "The bare, or bald, breast - Munn's Notes, 236, 1925

**Scotchtown** – No entry

**Tamlaght**– "the burying place" - OSM, xi 126, 1835; a fort of earth and stones - OSM, xi 127, 1835; Taimhleacht "a plague monument" - Joyce, i 162, 1869

**Tircreven** – No entry

**Woodtown** – No entry/excluded from NIEA townland index for parish of Magilligan or Tamlaghtard

## **MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS – historical cultural landscape; Administration – Poor Law Union, Dispensary Districts & District Electoral Divisions**

The map shows administrative boundaries in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The study site is located in the Limavady Poor Law Union; Limavady was the location of the nearest workhouse.

The dispensary district was Bellarena; the dispensary is located in a cottage to the south of the main gate to Bellarena House.

District electoral divisions within the study area were Benone & Bellarena.

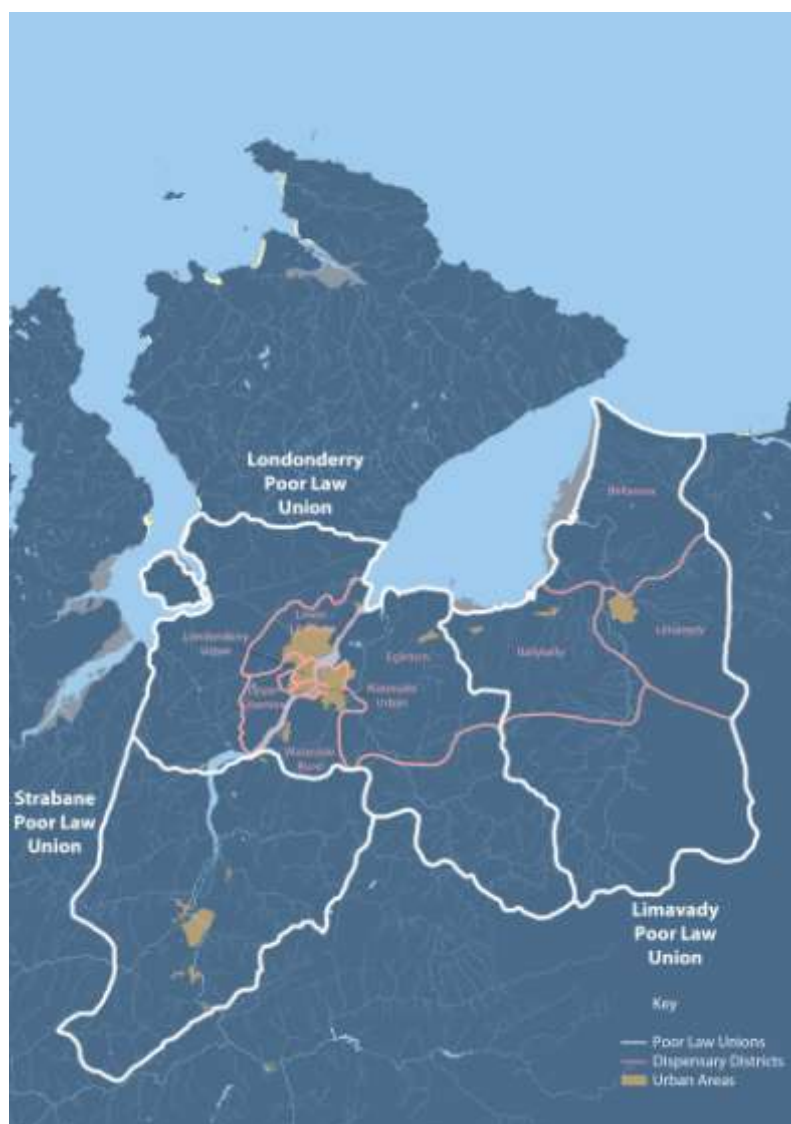


Figure 26: Poor Law Unions & Dispensary Districts



**MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS – historical cultural & built landscape; historical survival**



Figure 27: Map of Ireland 1580 TCD MS1209/1 (c) Trinity College Dublin

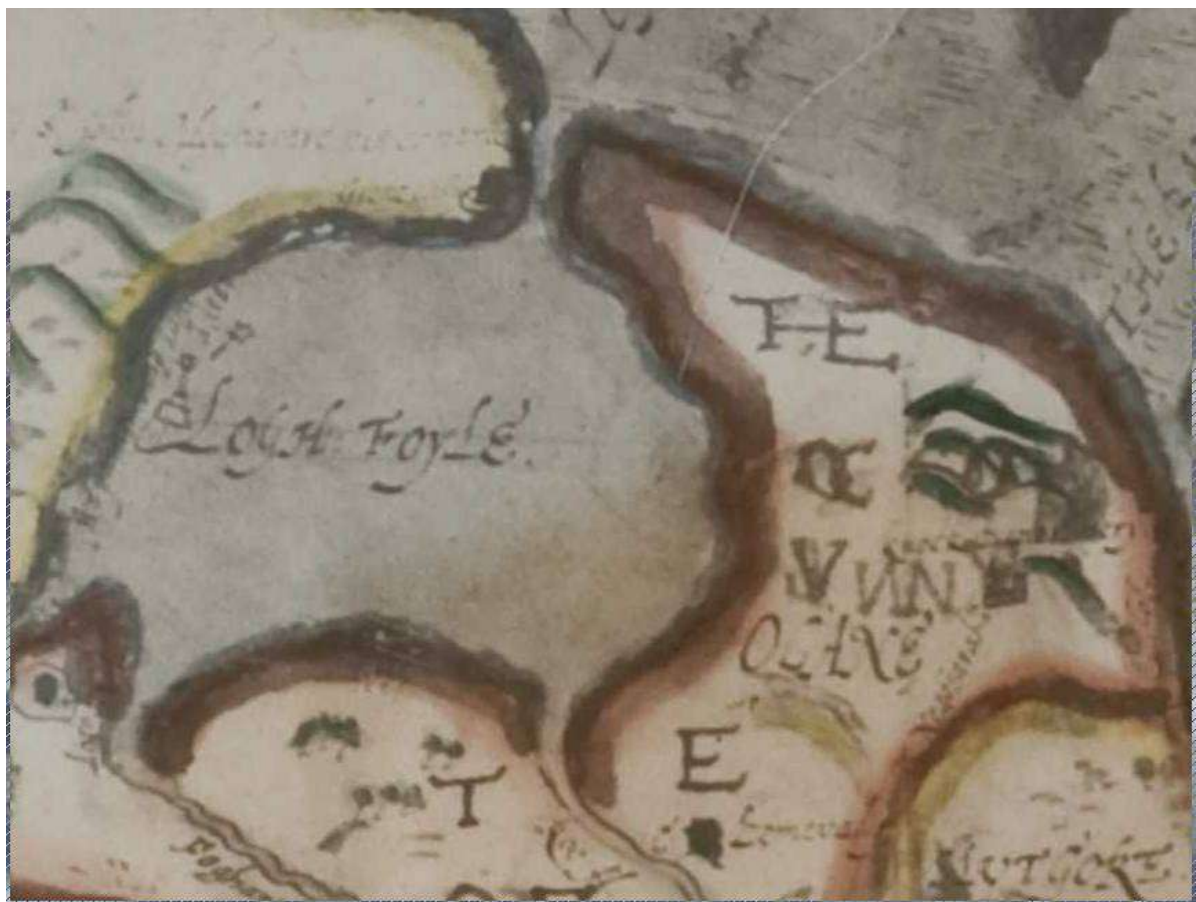


Figure 28: Francis Jobson's "The Province of Ulster" 1590 TCD MS 1209/15 (c) Trinity College Dublin

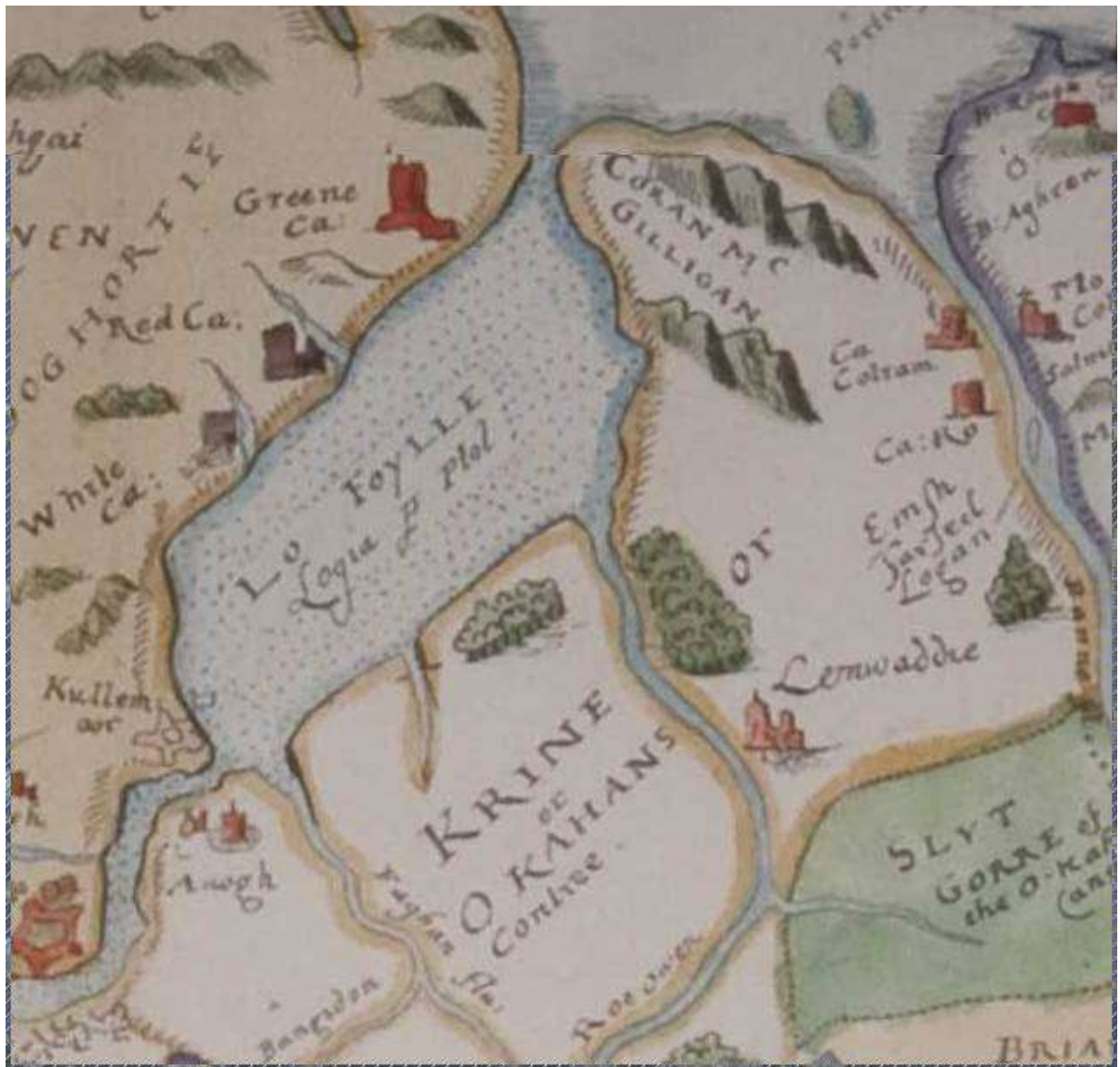


Figure 29: Richard Bartlett's "A General Description of Ulster" 1602-3 (c) Trinity College Dublin

Of the available late c16/ early c17 mapping, Richard Bartlett's map contains the most detail. Whilst the area around Magilligan is not completely accurate, the large area of woodland to the north east of mouth of the River Roe at its meeting with the Foyle reflects the significant area of woodland that is present today in the area of Bellarena and Ballycarton



Figure 30: Extract from Petty's Down Survey map c1655 showing the parish of Magilligan ©PRONI

Petty's mid 17<sup>th</sup> century map shows the townland structure virtually unchanged from that today with linear townlands connecting shore with the interior which is referred to as "*bog in common*".

Surface water from the radiating townlands of Craig, Gortmore, Tircrevan, Duncrun channel water to the same bog area. The bog, which is drained today, coincides with the townlands of Aughil and Clooney. Clooney may be the meadow island located within the bog area on Petty's map.

A building is also visible on this map, in the modern townland of Ballymagoland; it is difficult to decipher the text but appears to be longer than the modern name; is this the "BallyMcGilligan"? A structure is also shown in a similar position on Thomas Raven's Londonderry plantation map suggesting a site of some significance worthy of further investigation.



Figure 31: Ordnance survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition mapping shows linear townlands supporting dispersed settlement comprising single farm houses and a network of drains and ditches (c)OSi



Figure 32: Ordnance survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition mapping showing Aughil and Clooney, areas of dispersed settlement located within the former bog and older settlements on slightly raised ground at Craig with the site of Skreen church to the east (c)OSi



**Figure 33: Ordnance survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition mapping showing Duncrun and Lower Ballyleigh with typically clustered clachan settlements with enclosed infield areas and course pasture beyond. (c)OSI**

The first edition Ordnance Survey, completed from c1835 onwards, is the earliest comprehensive accurately scaled mapping undertaken in the country. The process was started at Magilligan.

These maps provide an insight into land use almost 200 years ago. Maps above, show detail of farm settlements on the levels that are virtually unchanged today.

The layout of Aughil & Clooney townlands confirms the shape and spatial accuracy of earlier survey maps which in turn demonstrate the underlying natural state of the land.

The clachan settlements are also clearly shown as is the extent of enclosed land for growing of crops and unenclosed land for grazing, uses which are further reinforced by the townland names themselves.

## MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS – historical cultural & built landscape; landed estates



Figure 34: Ordnance survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition mapping showing Bellarena and surrounding estate lands (c)OSI

First edition Ordnance Survey maps show the extent of demesne lands associated with landed estates. Houses and planted landscapes are shown as are associated outbuildings. Irish estates had to earn their keep and many estates constructed in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century incorporated buildings to accommodate industrial uses. At Bellarena the proximity to the river Roe was exploited and industrial features included a salmon factory, water mill and kiln.



Figure 35: Courtyard Buildings Bellarena Estate. Source: NIEA Natural Stone Database



Figure 36: Estate outbuildings Bellarena Estate. Source: NIEA Natural Stone Database



Figure 37: East Gate Lodge Bellarena Estate. Source: NIEA Natural Stone Database

## MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS – historical built landscape; Urban Settlement

Whilst there is no significant urban settlement at the study site, in recent years the area around Bellarena Station has been developed as a suburban centre with public and private multiple housing development, roadside footpaths, street lighting etc. The area within 30mph road markers is named “Bellarena” but crosses approximately 7 no. townlands in addition to Bellarena townland.

This area is designated for further residential development into the future and whilst this clearly makes best use of infrastructure, the impact of this type of development should be explored to ensure the existing dispersed settlement pattern is not adversely affected. The roadside features already change the perception as to the extent of the ‘village’; it is not known what consideration has been given to the impact of these in the preparation of the plan.

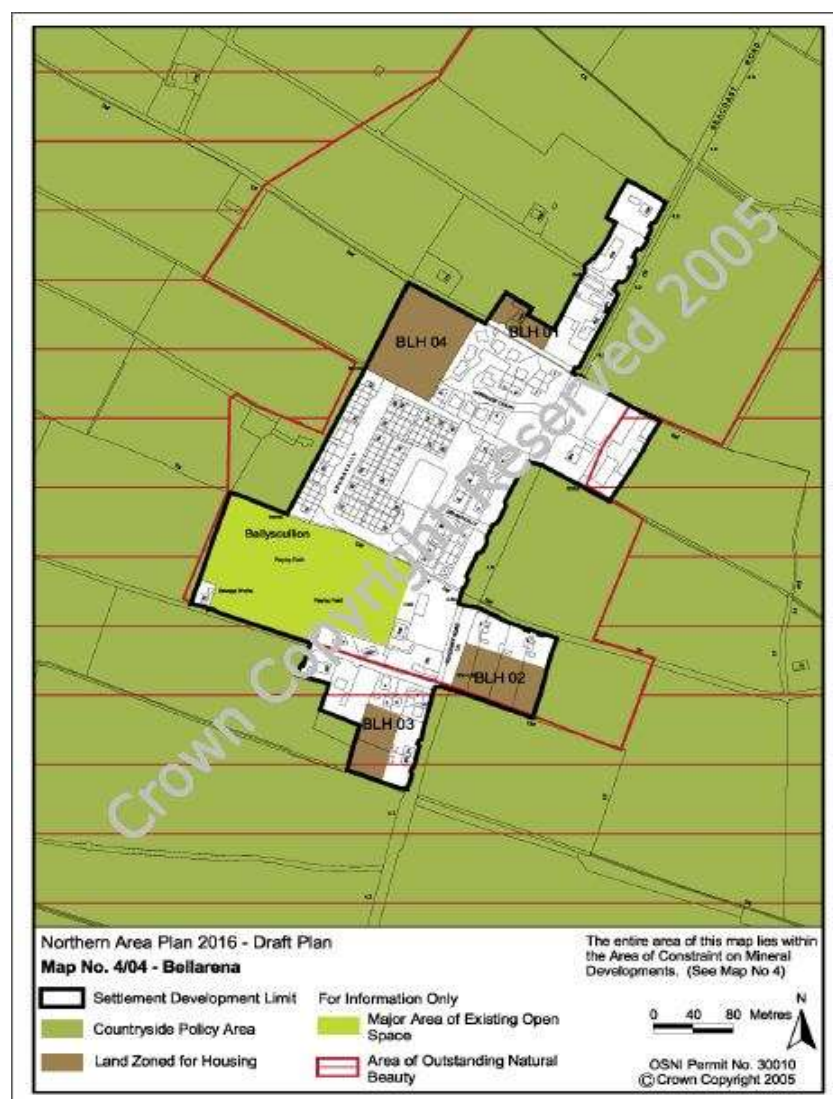


Figure 38: Extract from the Northern Area Development Plan 2016



## MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS – historical built landscape; significant sites

### Medieval Buildings

- LDY005:016 Castle site, Duncrun (near Duncrun Early Christian Ecclesiastical site)
- LDY005:006 Enclosure, Duncrun (near Duncrun Early Christian Ecclesiastical site)
- LDY005:014 Enclosure/Defensive Earthwork, Tamlaght (Craigbolie Castle or Dun Crutheni)
- Potential site at Ballymagoland; ref. Raven's Map & Down Survey

### Ecclesiastical Buildings & Sites

- HB02/09/013 Presbyterian church, Sea Coast Road
- HB02/09/031 Tamlaghtard Rectory
- HB02/09/029 St Aidan's RC Church, Tamlaght
- HB02/09/024 St Cadan's Col Church, Duncrun
- LDY002:002 Skreen Church Site, Craig
- LDY005:002 Duncrun Ecclesiastical Site (church site and cross-carved stone)
- LDY006:001 Toberdoney Holy Well, Gortmore
- LDY005:003 Clerk's Well, Mill Town
- LDY005:004 Bishop Aidan's Holy Well, Tamlaght
- LDY005:005 Tamlaght ecclesiastical site (multi-period church, graveyard, saint's grave and holy well)



Figure 39: Presbyterian Church, Sea Coast Road



Figure 40: Tamlaghtard Rectory



Figure 41: St Cadan's Church of Ireland church



Figure 42: St Cadan's church hall



Figure 43: Tamlaght old church

## Vernacular Buildings

- HB02/09/012 Thatched House Sea Coast Road
- HB02/09/045 Thatched House Sea Coast Road
- HB02/09/036 Thatched House Sea Coast Road



Figure 44: Sod House Magilligan c1900 UM W07/48/1



Figure 45: 326 Seacoast Road (c) Ulster Architectural Heritage Society (UAHS)



Figure 46: Thatched House Duncrun



Figure 47: Thatched House Duncrun



Figure 48: Typical vernacular building setting in lowlands

#### **Gentleman's Houses**

- HB02/09/020 Ballymaclary House – former gentleman's summer residence in use as public house
- HB02/09/022 Umbra – Gentleman's Seaside Residence/ bathing lodge & Landscape Gardens
- HB02/09/032 Ferns – Gentleman's Seaside Residence/ bathing lodge & Landscape Gardens

#### **Mansion Houses & Estate Buildings**

- HB02/09/009A House Seacoast Road built by the Bellarena Estate as a general store, builders suppliers and post office
- HB02/09/010A charming example of basalt built estate cottage of late Georgian period carefully adapted to new use
- HB02/09/030 House built as a Bellarena Estate cottage used at one time as Police Barracks
- L-002 Bellarena registered garden
- HB02/09/002A Bellarena House & Estate Grounds
- HB02/09/002B Bellarena House Courtyard Buildings
- HB02/09/002C Former Salmon Factory Bellarena Estate
- HB02/09/002D Ice House Bellarena Estate
- HB02/09/002E Main entrance Gatelodge to Bellarena estate
- HB02/09/004 Former Gatelodge to Bellarena estate

#### *Significant overlooking sites outside the LCA study area:*

- L-005 Downhill registered garden
- HB03/12/016 Mussenden Temple, Downhill
- HB03/12/012 Bishop's Gate (includes wing walls and gate lodge)

- HB03/12/013 The Keeper's Lodge, Downhill
- HB03/12/014 Mausoleum, Downhill
- HB03/12/015 Downhill Palace, Downhill (rectories, manses etc)

#### **Schools**

- HB02/09/006 Bellarena School

#### **Institutional Buildings: Prisons, Workhouses & Hospitals**

- Magilligan Prison
- HB0209003 Dispensary & Cottage, Bellarena

#### **Commercial Buildings**

- None highlighted

#### **Military Structures**

- HB02/09/016 & LDY001:001 Martello Tower
- HB02/09/008 Ordnance Survey Minearny Base Tower
- HB02/09/014 Ordnance Survey North Base Tower
- DH84 & LDY001:011 WW2 Pill box, Lower Doaghs
- Coastal battery, Lower Doaghs
- Coastal gun positions, Lower Doaghs
- LDY001:012 WW2 Pill box, Clooney
- DH163 & LDY001:013 WW2 Anti-aircraft Battery, Lower Drummans
- LDY006:065 WW2 Pill box, Tircrevan
- Radio/ Radar Station, Avish

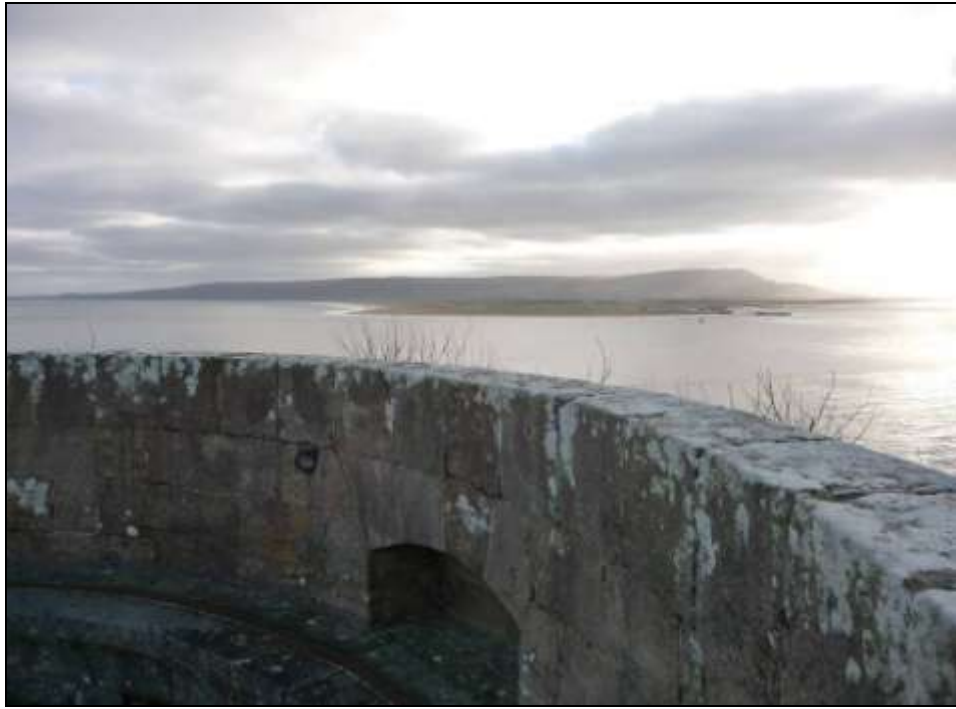


Figure 49: Martello Tower at Magilligan viewed from Greencastle Fort



Figure 50: Martello Tower, Magilligan



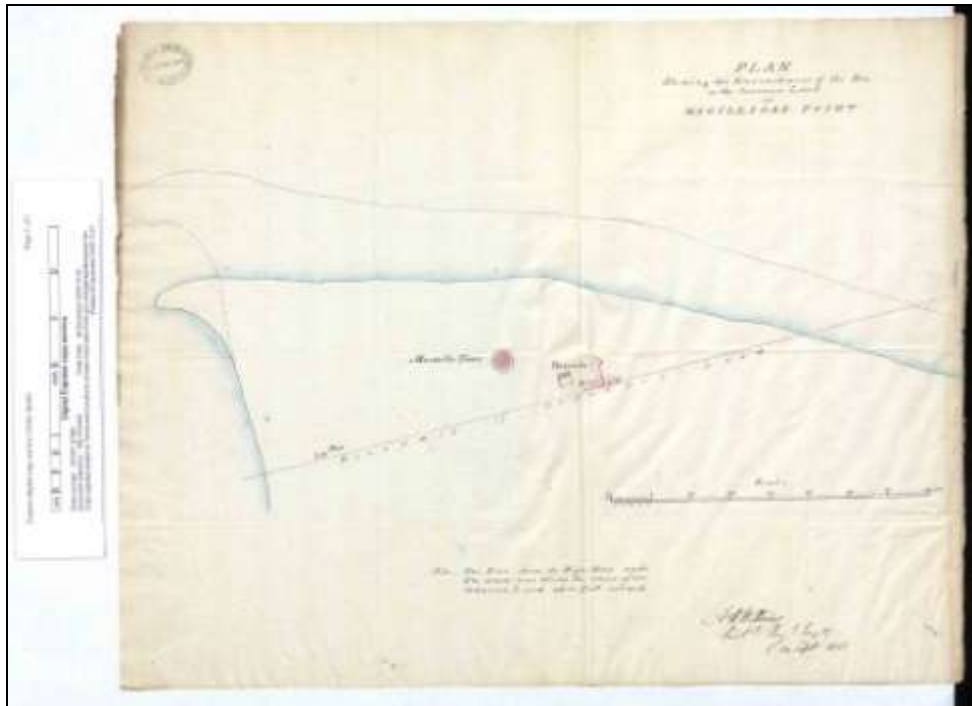


Figure 51: Magilligan Martello Tower Map 1821

### Industrial Landscapes

- None highlighted

### Infrastructure – Roads, Canals & Railways

*Significant infrastructure affecting the study area is:*

- The “Londonderry & Coleraine Railway” line constructed 1845 (Belfast and North Counties Railway main line traverses study area)
- The A2 Seaview Road which forms part of a tourism the “Causeway Coastal Route”
- The “Bishop’s Road” a mid C19 famine relief project providing a direct link as the crow flies between Limavady and the Bishop’s residence at Downhill. This route runs approximately north/south parallel to the ridge of Binevenagh to the east of the study area.
- The Magilligan-Greencastle ferry

*Significant assets relating to these features include:*

- HB02/09/018 & IHR01339:002:00 Former Magilligan station building for the “Londonderry & Coleraine Railway” adapted to reuse as house
- IHR01339:028:00 Former Bellarena station building for the “Londonderry & Coleraine Railway” adapted to reuse as house, Oughtymoyle
- IHR01339:001:00 2 mileposts/level crossing, Craig
- IHR01339:003:00 Milepost/level crossing, Woodtown
- IHR01339:005:00 Level Crossing, Craig
- IHR01339:006:00 Level Crossing, Benone/Umbra
- IHR01339:007:00 Level Crossings, Umbra
- IHR01339:008:00 Bridge & Milepost, Umbra
- IHR01339:025:00 Level Crossing, Duncrun

- IHR01339:026:00 Level Crossing, Duncrun
- IHR01339:030:00 Level Crossing, Carrowreagh
- IHR01339:032:00 Roe Bridge, Myroe Level/Scotchtown/Carrowmuddle
- IHR01339:035:00 Level Crossing, Clooney
- IHR01339:036:00 Bridge, Lower Ballyleighery/Clooney
- IHR01339:012:00 Downhill Station & Bridge (outside study area)

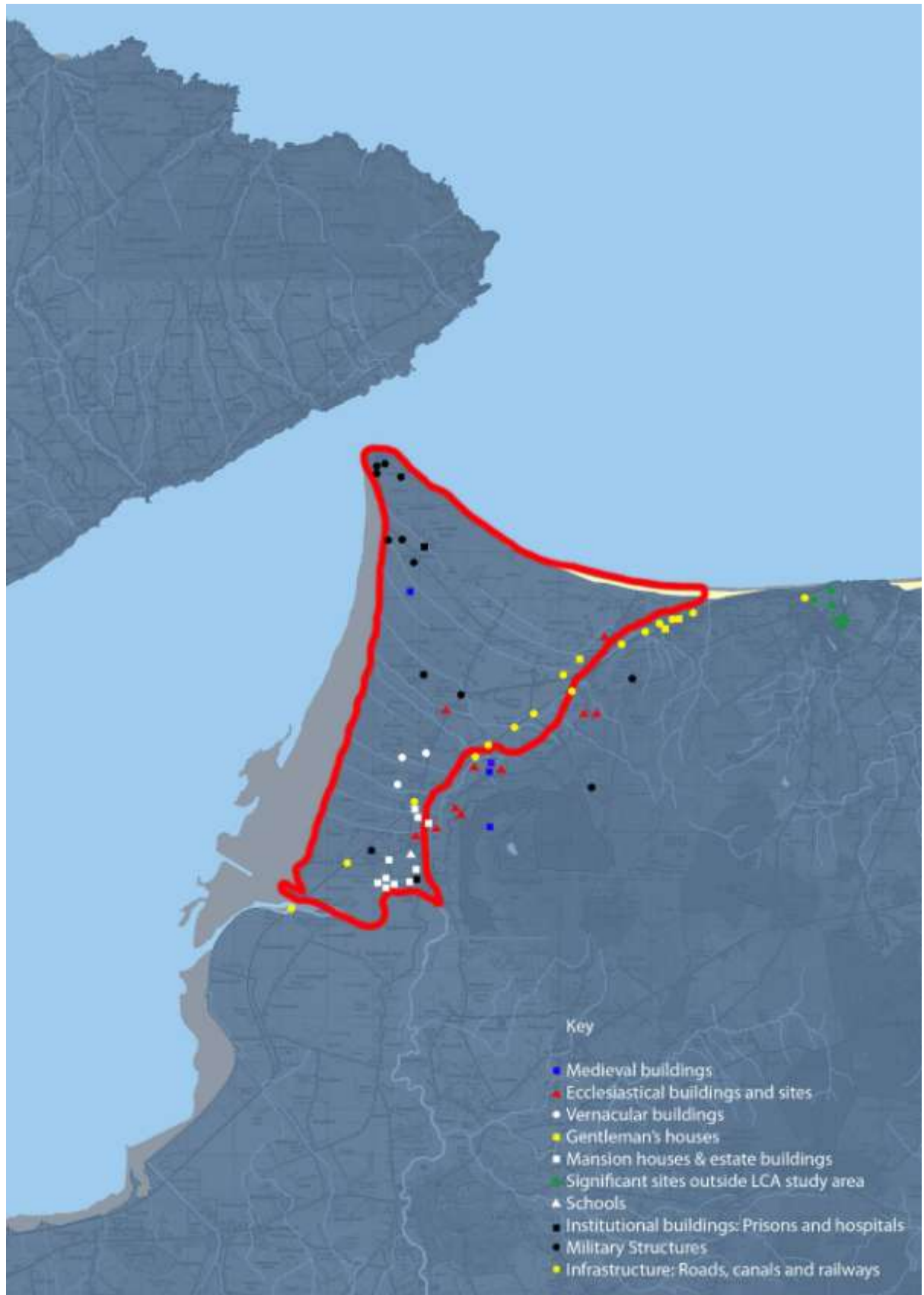


Figure 52: Roe Bridge



Figure 53: Level crossing at Scotchtown

## MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS – Key to significant heritage assets



## MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS – Visual Landscape: Spatial Context

### Photography



Figure 54: Magilligan viewed from Inishowen

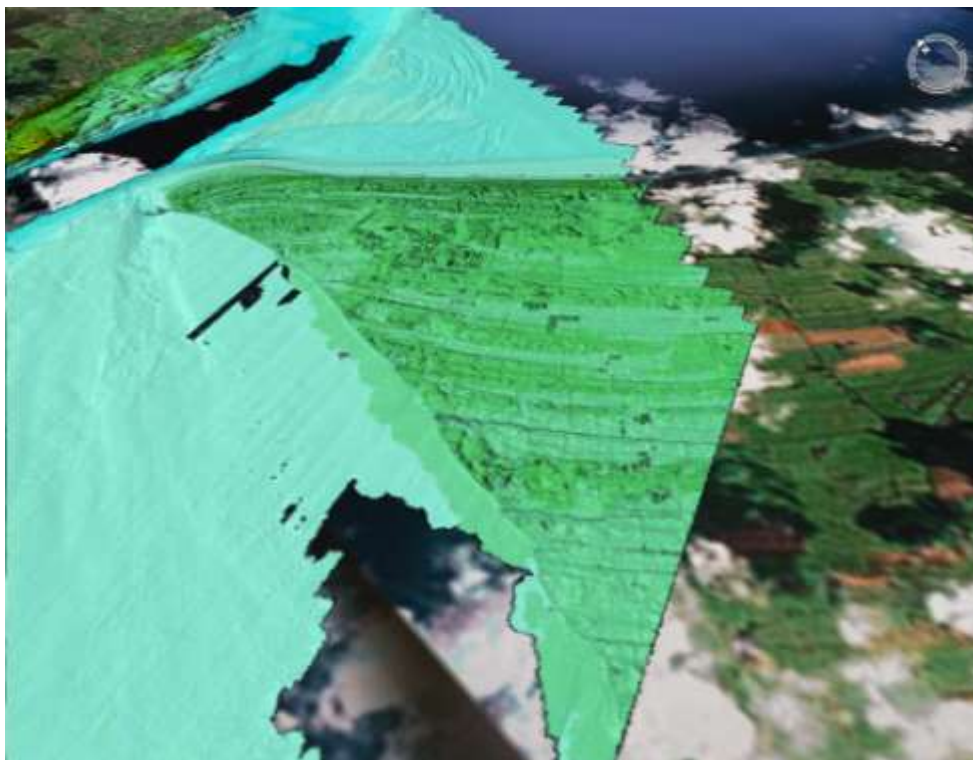


Figure 55: LIDAR scan of Lough Foyle at Magilligan Lowlands. Source: INFOMAR

## MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS – Visual Landscape: Painting Maps & Images

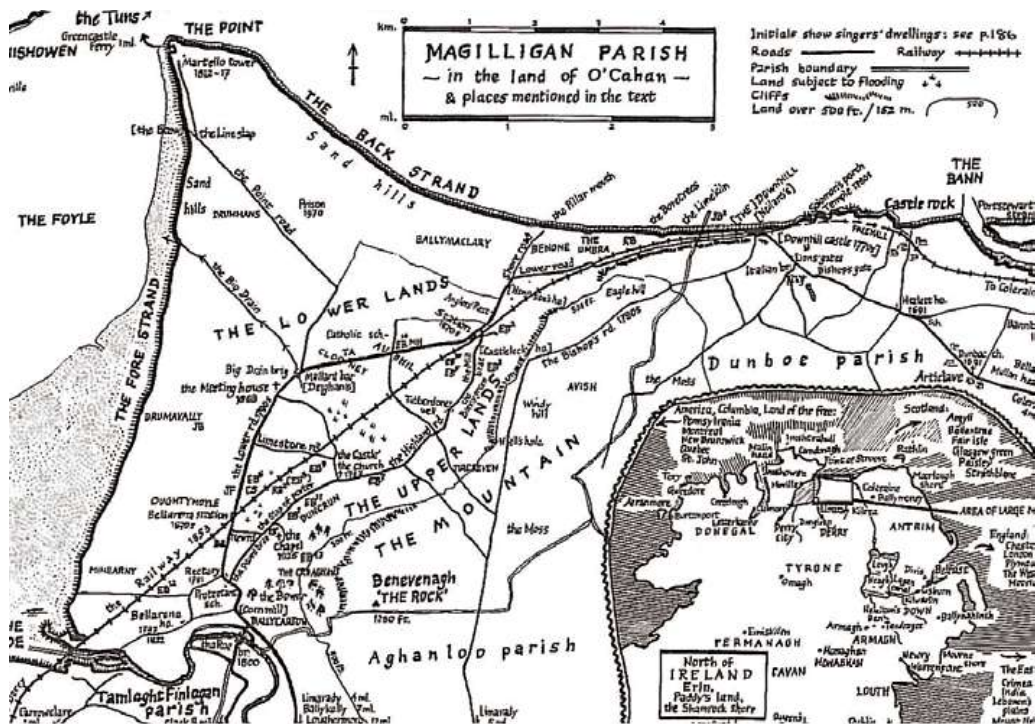


Figure 56: (c) Source: Shamrock, Rose & Thistle: Folk Singing in North Derry. Hugh Shields, 1981

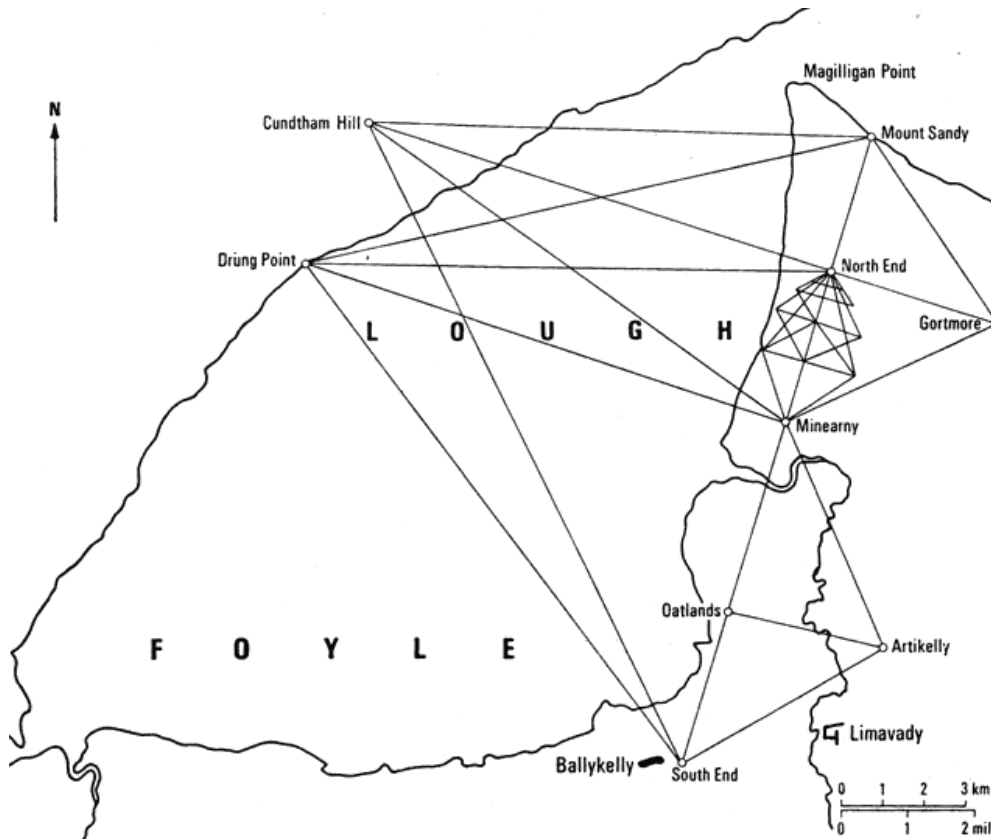


Figure 57: Lough Foyle baseline; source – Trig Point Ireland

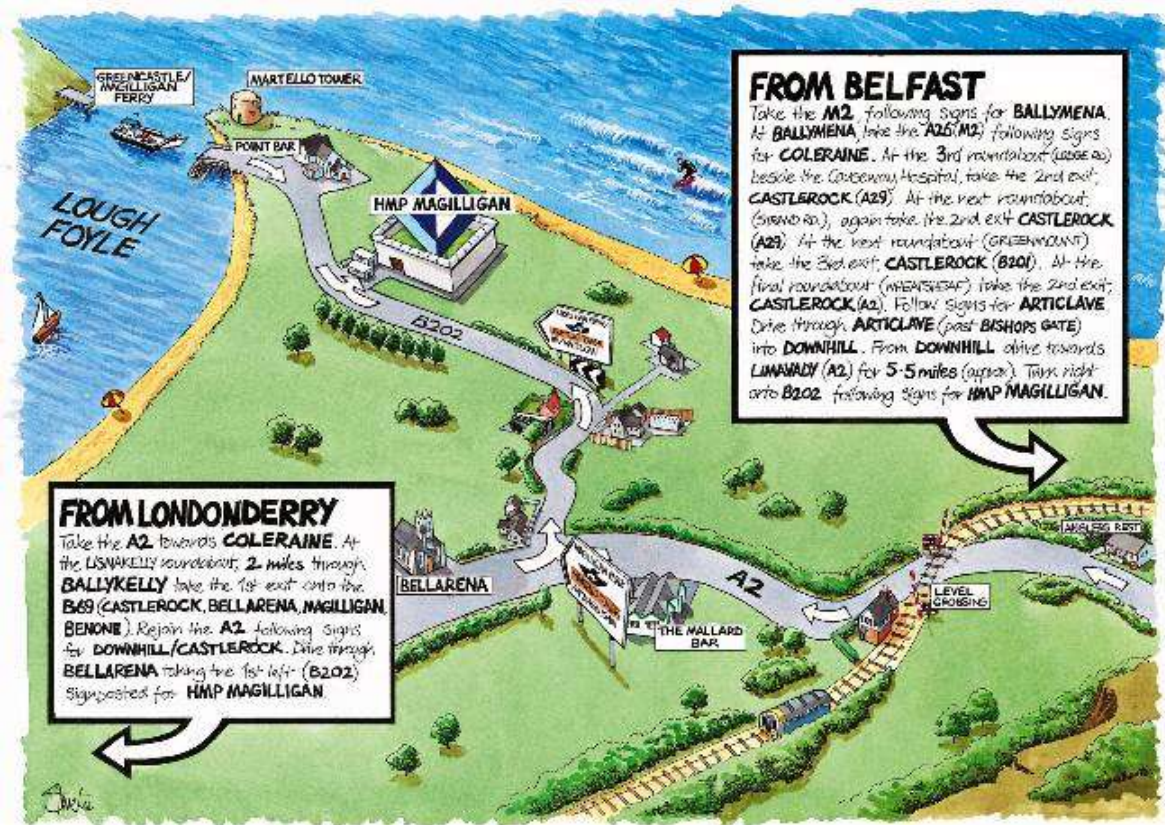


Figure 58: (c) NI Prison Service

## MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS – Written Landscape: prose, poem & song

### Folklore & Oral Narratives

*“Lough Foyle has another myth attached to it - that of a Storm God who lies buried in the Tonns sandbanks which stretch along Magilligan Strand for three miles. He was originally believed to have been a Tuatha dé Danann chief who fell in battle fighting for the Milesians. After his death he was defined as a sea sprite - Mac Lir or Mac Lear signifying 'Son of the Ocean.' Inis Manannan (the Isle of Man) is believed to have got its name from the Lough Foyle Mac Lear. Manannan Mac Lear is regarded as the Irish Neptune and it is said that his spirits freed during fierce storms off the coast of Inishowen Head.*

*In Celtic mythology it was believed that when Cuchuain hit his shield with his sword the three waves of Ireland would rise up and answer him. They were located at Dundrum Bay (The Wave of Rury), at Cape Clear (The Wave of Cliona) and at the Tonns bank (The Wave of the North).” – from Movice Inishowen*

### “The Strands of Magilligan” – (c) Sam Henry

#### The Strands of Magilligan

[H520: 18 Nov 1933]

o: (m) "Farewell Enniskillen"; g: "Faithful Emma," "Green Mountain," "Nellie," "The Streams of Lovely Nancy (Nant-si-an)"; cf. H780 "The Ploughboy." Other titles: "Come All You Little Streamers," "(O) the Sweet Dreams (Streams) of Nancy," "On Yonder Green Mountain," "The Sailor Boy"; cf. "Gragalmachree," "Newry Mountain," "The Soldier's Farewell to Manchester."

Source not given.

g: Versions of this song vary greatly; there are almost as many titles as versions.

Key D.





I'm a stranger in this country, from America I  
came,  
There's few in it knows me or can tell my name,  
And here among strangers I will stay for a while,  
For the sake of my darling I'll go many a long  
mile.

The strands of Magilligan divide in two parts  
Where young men and maidens they meet their  
sweethearts,  
They will take no denial, we must frolic and sing,  
And the sound of the fiddle, oh, it makes my  
heart ring.

On the top of a cliff where her castle does stand,  
It is well built, with ivy down to the back strand,  
It is well built, with ivy and diamonds so bright,  
It's a pilot for sailors on a dark stormy night.

On Magilligan top where the wild birds do fly,  
There is one amongst them that flies very high,  
On eagle's wings soaring, I'll speed as the wind,  
The wild deep exploring, my true love I'll find.

The strands of Magilligan divide in two parts  
And rejoin, as in dancing do lads their  
sweethearts,  
So the strands, bright and shining, tho' parted  
in twain,  
Reunite like two lovers where the Foyie meets  
the Main.



Figure 59: Donnchadh Ó Hámsaigh (1695-1807), known in English as Denis O'Hampsey, Hampson or Hempson, was a contemporary of Irish harper Carolan, and by seventeen years the oldest harper to attend the 1792 Belfast Harp Festival. At ninety-two years of age, he was the only harper there who still employed the traditional fingernail techniques that give the Gaelic wire-strung harp its full range of expression.. Source: Ann Heymann; harpspectrum.org

*“Eddie Butcher (1900-80) lived a tough but simple life as a farm labourer and road worker at Aughtill town land. He and his three brothers were all singers – “from a singing family in a singing locality” as Portrush song collector John Moulden describes it. Eddie had a hundred odd songs, some of them composed by himself, others partly constructed by him. He was a robust singer, accented in the almost Scottish way of North Derry, with a subtle dramatic delivery. Well documented in his life-time by Hugh Shields of Trinity College Dublin, he became popular during the 1960s through radio broadcasts, an iconic album and the early traditional music revival scene. Andy Irvine of the group Planxty, Paul Brady, Len Graham and Dubliner Frank Harte were among those who learned some of their most iconic pieces at Eddie Butcher’s fireside at Aughtill in Magilligan.”*

**Source: Roe Valley Arts & Cultural Centre/ Limavady Borough Council – Eddie Butcher Festival**



**Figure 60: Eddie Butcher**

## 19<sup>th</sup> Century Gazetteers

### Account from Lewis' Topographical Dictionary of Ireland - 1837

"TAMLAGHTARD, or MAGILLIGAN, a parish, in the barony of KENAUGHT, county of LONDONDERRY, and province of ULSTER, 4½ miles (N. E.) from Newtown-Limavady; containing 3607 inhabitants. The former of these names, which signifies "the cemetery on the height," is derived from the situation of the ancient burial ground, which is still used for that purpose; and the latter from a family of that name who were proprietors of a native freehold in it, until it was forfeited to the Crown after the war of 1641. In the year 584, St. Columbkille founded a monastery here, which afterwards acquired great wealth and celebrity, and became so preeminent among the other monastic foundations of this saint, that it obtained the title of the "Throne or shrine of St. Columba;" kings, princes, prelates, and other men of eminence, repaired thither to close their days in its recesses, and the remains of many others were brought hither for interment: the most remarkable of the latter were those of St. Aidan, Bishop of Lindisfarne, which were raised by Colman, one of his successors, and buried here in a tomb of hewn stone that still exists near the eastern window of the old parish church; near which is also a fine well, called Tubberaspug-Aidan, "the Well of Bishop Aidan." The monastery was plundered, in 1203, by Diarmid Hua Lochluin, at the head of a party of foreigners, who were afterwards met by the chiefs of the country, and routed in a battle in which their leader was slain. On the dissolution of monasteries, the buildings and lands of this were granted to the see of Derry.

The parish, which contains, according to the Ordnance survey, 13,137 statute acres, of which 28 are under water, is situated at the northern extremity of the county, having Lough Foyle on the west and the Northern ocean on the north; the river Roe forms part of its southern boundary. The soil of the upland portion consists of clay and bog, and in the lowlands a mixture of sand and bog: three-fourths of the surface consist of mountain and barren land. Its border to the sea is a fine strand, extending in its entire length from west to east upwards of 10 miles in an unbroken line, and backed in many parts by a range of basaltic cliffs, or by the sandy tract forming the great rabbit warren of Magilligan. In the south the land rises into the lofty mountain of Benyevenagh, whose summit, 1260 feet above the level of the sea, and on the southern boundary of the parish, commands a most extended range of prospect, embracing the celebrated island of Iona and others of the western isles of Scotland: on the side towards Lough Foyle it rises with a bold and almost precipitous elevation. The vicinity of the ocean gives the air a mild and genial temperature, which is increased by the shelter afforded by this mountain against the eastern blasts. The vegetable productions of the parish are of great variety. Innes, in his natural history of it, published by the Royal Society of London in 1725, states that "the herb-doctors, who then were in high repute in Ireland, esteemed the breast of Benyevenagh mountain a kind of physic garden, which supplied them with medicines to be found in no other place; adding that "the abundance and great variety of flowers rendered Magilligan honey so delicious, that the produce of the townland of Tircreevan commanded a higher price than any other brought to the Dublin market." There are few trees except in the demesnes, where they are protected from cattle; although the side of the mountain of Benyevenagh affords excellent sites for their cultivation, which have been taken advantage of only in one tract that is finely planted. Alders and osiers succeed well in the low lands, and the growth of trees in general, when properly protected and attended to, is very rapid. The insect tribe is very prolific and often extremely troublesome: the grub worm abounds in boggy lands to the great injury of the corn crops; early sowing is the only protection against the ravages of this insect. Fleas often multiply in a wonderful manner on the low lands; no house in which sand is admitted can be kept free from them. Earwigs, which are great enemies to the few stocks of bees now reared here, are very numerous and troublesome in summer: the minnow worm, used for bait in flounder-fishing, is to be had in abundance on the strand. The fishes most frequently taken are flounders and cockles in the shallows and sands; farther out, herrings and oysters; and in the deep sea, cod, haddock, and turbot. Salmon are sometimes taken off the north shore and in the river Roe, where also trout and mullet are caught: eels are scarce. Some eagles breed in the heights of Benyevenagh; kites and hawks abound there. The barnacle frequents the lough strand in countless numbers, forming an article of considerable profit to the residents in the neighbourhood, who send them in quantities to Londonderry and the inland towns. The widgeon, heron, curlew, and seagull also frequent these shores; pigeons are so abundant as to cause much annoyance to the farmers. This parish is remarkable for one of the largest rabbit-warrens, and, until lately, the most profitable in Ireland. In 1786, it was worth £1500 per annum: the number of skins then sold there annually amounted to three or four thousand dozen; they were purchased by the hatters. The price has now fallen from 15s. to 3s. per dozen; the discovery of cheaper materials for the manufacture has occasioned this depression, and a diminution in

quantity has also been caused partly by the havoc committed on the rabbits by rats of the Norway breed, which have increased here to a most pernicious degree, not only as regards the warren, but in the corn fields and about the haggards, and partly by the increased culture of rye on the sandy lands, which by the judicious exertions of the proprietor, Conolly Gage, Esq., are gradually being converted from their previously unproductive state into arable land. The process adopted to produce this beneficial effect is by covering the surface with soil, mud, and shells brought up in boats from the banks of Lough Foyle, near the mouth of the Roe. About 50 years since, foxes were so abundant that the parish vestry gave a reward of 2s. for every skin brought in they are now extirpated. The last wolf known to exist in Ulster was started about 90 years since upon Benyevenagh, and hunted into the woods near Dungiven, where it was killed. The population is chiefly engaged in agricultural pursuits; most of the low lands produce abundant crops of wheat, oats, flax, and potatoes: the first-named of these, introduced by Mr. Gage in 1830, now forms part of the rotation of most of the more wealthy farmers; but the old and less profitable systems of agriculture are still adhered to by many with much pertinacity: the burning of soil in the lowlands has been in some parts carried to such excess as to threaten the total extinction of the productive qualities of the soil: the quantities of white limestone raised in the mountain districts have tended much to aid the exertions of the landholders in the improvement of their farms. The high lands also afford excellent pasturage for sheep and young cattle, and many tracts heretofore unproductive have been brought into a state of profitable cultivation. In the year 1831, no less than 1131 persons were engaged here in trades, manufactures, and handicraft arts, with whom agriculture was only an occasional occupation. Little flax has been at any time raised, the soil not being well adapted to it, and still less latterly, in consequence of the low prices of yarn: wool is manufactured into a substantial and well-looking cloth worn by the farmers. A kind of matting is manufactured from the bent grass, or basque, planted on the sandy tracts to prevent the drifting of the sands: a ready sale is found for it in the inland parts of the country. The trade of the parish is mostly confined to the disposal of this article and to the sale of wild fowl, rabbits, poultry, and eggs in Londonderry. The principal seats are Belarena, the residence of Conolly Gage, Esq., whose highly embellished demesne, on the banks of the Roe and the side of Benyevenagh, contributes much to the beauty of the scenery of this secluded district; Castlelecky, the romantic seat of the late Averell Lecky, Esq., and still occupied by some of his family; Ballycarton, of B. Lane, Esq.; Ballymaclary, of T. Church, Esq.; Doaghs, of Mr. Jas. Reynolds; and Magilligan Glebe, of the Rev. John Graham, rector of the parish.

The living is a rectory, in the diocese of Derry, and in the patronage of the Bishop: the tithes amount to £425: the glebe-house stands on a glebe of 23 acres, valued together at £36. 15. 4. per annum: the gross value of the benefice, tithe and glebe included, is £450 per annum. The church, situated near the ancient monastery of Duncrun, is a large and handsome edifice, in the early English style of architecture, built in 1778; it has a steeple, which has been lately furnished with a bell: the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have recently granted £229 towards its repair. The old church, being in a decayed state and in an inconvenient situation, was relinquished as a Protestant place of worship, and was given to the R. C. congregation, with the consent of the late Earl of Bristol, then Bishop of Derry; but being after some time found unsuited to its purpose, a large and commodious chapel was built in the neighbourhood, towards the erection of which Dr. Knox, the late Bishop of Derry, and other Protestant gentlemen, contributed. The churchyard, being the burial-place of most of the old families of every religious persuasion, has been enclosed with a wall and iron-gate by parish assessment. In the R. C. Divisions the parish is the head of a union or district, comprising also parts of those of Dunboe and Aghanloo. There is at Margymonaghan a meeting-house for Presbyterians in connection with the Synod of Ulster, of the third class. There are four schools in the parish; three are in connection with the Kildare-place Society, and one under the Board of National Education: the rector pays the teacher's salary in one of these, and Sir Hervey Bruce, Bart., and Conolly Gage, Esq., patronise two of the others. In these schools are about 200 boys and 90 girls: there are also a private school of 13 girls and a Sunday school. Hodgson Gage, Esq., bequeathed £200 and the Rev. John Leathes, rector of the parish, in 1703, £100 to the poor; the interest is paid annually through the Rev. Mr. Graham by Sir Hervey Bruce and Conolly Gage, Esq., two of the seven proprietors of the soil. The remains of an ancient encampment and the foundations of a castle were lately discovered in a strong position about half - way up the mountain; it is supposed to have been one of the fastnesses in which the Irish secured themselves and their property during the wars of Elizabeth and Chas. I. and II. The foundations of the ancient abbey of Duncrun, and near them those of the old church, are the only traces of their former existence: the surrounding scenery is peculiarly grand and romantic. The ruins of Screen abbey, noticed by Colgan in his *Trias Thaumaturga*, may still be traced on the townland of Craig. The Rev. John Graham is author of the *Siege of Derry*, *Derriana*, *Annals of Ireland*, and various historical, statistical, and poetical publications. Dennis Hampson, the

celebrated Irish harper, resided in this parish.”

## MAGILLIGAN LOWLANDS – Review of findings & recommendations

The significant surviving heritage assets within the Magilligan Lowlands LCA can be grouped under the following headings:

- Churchlands
- Military & WW2
- Railway
- Demesne: Bellarena
- Natural: birdlife and flora; dune habitats and woodlands

A number of possible risk areas have also been identified:

- Vernacular buildings – significant attrition to buildings & settings
- Woodland – absence of protection to potential areas of ancient woodland
- Development of suburban centre at Bellarena in contrast to historic settlement patterns
- Building structures at: Tamlacht old church, St Cadan’s church & St Cadan’s church hall are situated in exposed locations and in need of conservation and repair.

Existing tourism uses & Opportunities

- Railway
- Investigation of potential Plantation period structure at Ballymagoland
- Reuse of St Cadan’s church hall for tourism
- Integration with Ulster Way, Causeway Coastal Route & Themed Trails being developed by Limavady Borough Council

## 4.2 Foyle Alluvial Plain

### FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN – Landscape Character Area

The Landscape Character Area (LCA) forms the extent of the study area defined in the project brief. The following map and text relates to the FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN Landscape Character Area – as described by Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)



Figure 61 – 1 to 50,000 scale Discovery map (c) OSNI

#### **“Key Characteristics**

- flat, alluvial plain backed by a low bench of more resistant rocks
- parts of coastal plain are reclaimed land, drained by straight drainage channels and enclosed by coastal embankments
- farmland patchwork with geometric, structured character
- large arable fields on coastal margins of reclaimed land; elsewhere smaller pastures enclosed by low hedgerows
- few scattered hedgerow trees; most mature trees are clustered around farms for shelter
- narrow straight roads on alluvial plain; principal routes are on the elevated bench backing the alluvial plain
- evenly spaced farms and linear suburban development; extensive industrial development on the eastern fringes of Londonderry

#### **Landscape Description**

The Lough Foyle Alluvial Plain stretches along the shores of Lough Foyle from Enagh, on the eastern fringes of Londonderry, to the mouth of the River Roe. The sands and gravels of the alluvial plain originated as glacial outwash from the melting glaciers inland. As the land rose following the ice melt, earlier platforms cut by the waves were exposed as raised beaches and the alluvial plain is therefore backed by a steep, low bench of more resistant rock. Parts of the coastal plain are reclaimed land, protected by steep embankments.

*The pattern of the landscape on the alluvial plains varies from a geometric, large-scale arable mosaic to a small-scale patchwork of rough pastures. Large arable fields are found on areas of reclaimed land, to the north of Eglinton and towards the mouth of the River Roe. The fields are bordered with straight drainage ditches and often have no hedgerows or trees. Farms in these areas are large, with groups of trees and shelterbelts protecting the farm buildings from the prevailing wind.*

*Elsewhere, there is a relatively small-scale patchwork of pastures. Fields are enclosed by low, scruffy hedgerows with scattered hedgerow trees. Gorse is the dominant hedgerow species on the coastal plain. There are a few blocks of broadleaved woodlands, but generally the area has an open character, particularly when overlooked from higher terrain. The coastal plain is backed by a low ridge the A2 and a railway runs along the coastline, raised on a steep embankment. The area is therefore extremely accessible and has been under considerable pressure for industrial and residential development.*

*The coastal wartime airport bases have become major industrial sites and the vast plant at Maydown, near Londonderry, is visible for miles around. The City of Derry Airport at Longfield, is also a major local land use. Development pressures are most intense on the edges of Londonderry, but much of the road along the edge of the coastal plain is fringed with strip development. The alluvial plain itself has narrow, fairly straight lanes, leading to farms and their isolated barns. Parts of the coastal plain have linear suburban development along the lanes. There are typically many dead-end lanes, leading out onto the farmland beside the water.*

#### ***Landscape Condition and Sensitivity to Change***

*The condition of the landscape varies, depending on the extent to which it has been drained and improved as farmland. Areas which are farmed intensively often have had hedgerows removed and watercourses diverted or artificially controlled, while those with poorer quality farmland have a more natural character, but a less intensively maintained landscape. The coastal plain in particular is under intense pressure for built development and is visually sensitive as it is overlooked from the coastal road. At present, this does not extend right along the coast and it will be important to conserve the remaining area of tranquillity to the west of Limavady.*

#### ***Principles for Landscape Management***

- *Management of hedgerows will conserve the distinctive landscape pattern and provide an attractive margin to Lough Foyle.*
- *Provision of formal picnic areas and viewpoints across Lough Foyle from the A2 will enhance perceptions of the area.*

#### ***Principles for Accommodating New Development***

- *industrial development which is designed to be relatively low, with horizontal forms, is best accommodated in the open plain*
- *the Lough shores should remain open and free from development to allow views to the water's edge*
- *there is a risk that continued ribbon development along the A2 might form a continuous band, linking the separate settlements of Eglinton, Greysteel and Ballykelly and blurring their distinctive identities."*



## FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN – Historic Landscape Characterisation

A review of the historical documentation relating to the landscape study area shows a landscape which has been host to human habitation since prehistoric times.

The relationship with Lough Foyle has changed so that natural blurred edges became fixed as the development of the railway and associated land reclamation were implemented in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. These modern polders can clearly be seen with regular large open fields in contrast to smaller irregular subdivisions of the older landscape.

Natural woodland features at Camman Wood, Ballykelly were present in the 16<sup>th</sup> century and old woodland is also present at Enagh and Gransha.

This is also a rich agricultural landscape with model farms and a 19<sup>th</sup> century agricultural seminary, an institution noted both by Thackeray and in Ordnance Survey memoirs.

Big skies seem to have encouraged development in this landscape area. Initial development included the establishment of towns; this area was part of the “promised land” planted by the City of London Companies and protected by walled fortresses at Derry and Coleraine.

The Grocers and Fishmongers towns were constructed at Ballykelly and Eglinton. Just outside the LCA, the Haberdashers constructed their settlement at Ballycastle and Artikelly.

In addition to land reclamation and railways, this terrain has been exploited for canals and airfields. The landscape here is bristling with 20<sup>th</sup> century military artefacts.

More recently the land at the west of the area has seen the development of industry, including power station and chemical plants. The area also accommodates the modern port at Lisahally and and the airport at Longfield near Eglinton.

The official LCA, landscape character area, as its name implies is determined by the location of the 10m Ordnance Survey mapping contour line. The resulting area is very large and could be broken down further into three historic character areas which have differing spatial characteristics and which also correspond to parts of the civil parishes of Tamlacht Finlagan, Faughanvale & Clondermott:

- Brighter Roe Delta
- Donnybrewer to Ballykelly Bank
- Enagh Suburb

These preliminary titles have not been adopted for use in this study but may assist the future naming or subdivision of the study area based on historical land use.

## FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN – historical natural landscapes; geology

The geological setting refers to the natural material state landscape as it has formed without the intervention of man. The following map and text relates to the geological setting of FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN Landscape Character Area – as described by Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)

### ***“Outline Geomorphology and Landscape Setting***

*The use of a cultural overlay in defining Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) means that they frequently subdivide natural physiographic units. It is common therefore for significant geomorphological features to run across more than one LCA. It is also possible in turn, to group physiographic units into a smaller number of natural regions. These regions invariably reflect underlying geological, topographic and, often, visual continuities between their component physiographic units, and have generally formed the basis for defining landscape areas such as AONBs. It is essential therefore, that in considering the 'Geodiversity' of an individual LCA, regard should be given to adjacent LCAs and to the larger regions within which they sit. In the original Land Utilisation Survey of Northern Ireland, Symons (1962) identified twelve such natural regions.*

*This LCA lies within the region described as the Lough Foyle Lowland. The chief morphological features of this lowland region are a series of postglacial raised beaches, the nineteenth century enclosure of large areas of saltmarsh and slobland beside the Foyle estuary and the sand and shingle ridges and blown sand of the Magilligan foreland. Inland from the coastal zone, the lowland continues along the floodplains of the Roe and Faughan rivers into areas that are underlain by till and glaciofluvial deposits, especially an important moraine complex between Limavady and Ballykelly. The Levees along these rivers testify to their previous tendency to flood.*

*The Lough Foyle Alluvial Plain stretches along the shores of Lough Foyle from Enagh, on the eastern fringes of Londonderry, to the mouth of the River Roe. The sands and gravels of the alluvial plain originated primarily as glacial outwash along the lower course of the River Faughan. Postglacial isostatic uplift has created raised beaches and the alluvial plain is backed by a steep, low bench. Parts of the coastal plain are reclaimed land, protected by steep embankments. Large arable fields are found on these areas of reclaimed land, to the north of Eglinton and towards the mouth of the River Roe. The fields are bordered with straight drainage ditches and often have no hedgerows or trees. The landscape in the west of the LCA is influenced by glaciofluvial deposits of the Faughan and Dungiven basins complex that is of high scientific interest due to the presence of extensive glaciolacustrine and glaciofluvial deposits consisting of deltas, moraines, eskers and outwash plains occurring in close field associations. In terms of coastal development, Orford (in Whalley et al. 1985) has described Lough Foyle as a zone of low wave environment, the entrance to which has been progressively narrowed during the Holocene by the growth of Magilligan Foreland. Extensive coastal terracing, reflecting late-glacial shoreline positions, occurs on the eastern shore of the lough. As do shell*

ridges that are driven onshore and over the coastal marsh by storm surges that impinge into the lough. Much of the southeastern shoreline has, however, been reclaimed from the intertidal flats. More detail of this section of coastline can be found in Knight (2002).

### **Pre-Quaternary (Solid) Geology**

The stratigraphy of this area is made up of the mapped formations in the table, the youngest of which usually overlie the oldest. The older formations can be upside down (tectonically inverted).

#### **Stratigraphic Table (youngest rocks at the top of the table)**

<b>Triassic - from 240 to 210 million years old</b>
<b>Mercia Mudstone Group</b>
<b>Sherwood Sandstone Group</b>
<b>Carboniferous - about 350 million years old</b>
<b>Barony Glen</b>
<b>Dalradian (Neoproterozoic) - about 550 million years old</b>
<b>Londonderry</b>
<b>Ballykelly - Southern Highland Group (undivided)</b>

This LCA comprises a mix of Dalradian, Carboniferous and Triassic rocks. The southwest is dominated by Dalradian (Neoproterozoic) metamorphosed sedimentary, igneous and volcanic rocks. Carboniferous overlies unconformably; Triassic in northwest.

Two major tectonic phases have affected the area: the Caledonian (Ordovician - Silurian) and Variscan (end Carboniferous). Caledonian deformation is very apparent throughout the Dalradian succession. Minor structures are evident in the Triassic.

### **Quaternary (Drift) Geology**

Northern Ireland has experienced repeated glaciations during the Pleistocene period that produced vast amounts of debris to form the glacial deposits that cover more than 90% of the landscape. Their present morphology was shaped principally during the last glacial cycle (the Midlandian), with subsequent modification throughout the post-glacial Holocene period. The Late Midlandian, the last main phases of ice sheet flow, occurred between 23 and 13ka B.P. from dispersion centres in the Lough Neagh Basin, the Omagh Basin and Lower Lough Erne/Donegal. The clearest imprint of these ice flows are flow transverse rogen moraines and flow parallel drumlin swarms which developed across thick covers of till, mostly below 150m O.D. during a period that referred to as the Drumlin Readvance. At the very end of the Midlandian,

*Scottish ice moved southwards and overrode parts of the north coast. Evidence for deglaciation of the landscape is found in features formed between the glacial maximum to the onset of the present warm stage from 17 and 13ka B.P. - a period of gradual climatic improvement. Most commonly these are of glaciofluvial and glaciolacustrine origin and include: eskers, outwash mounds and spreads, proglacial lacustrine deposits, kame terraces, kettle holes and meltwater channels (McCarron et al. 2002). During the Holocene, marine, fluvial, aeolian and mass movement processes, combined with human activities and climate and sea-level fluctuations, have modified the appearance of the landscape. The landforms and associated deposits derived from all of these processes are essentially fossil. Once damaged or destroyed they cannot be replaced since the processes or process combinations that created them no longer exist. They therefore represent a finite scientific and economic resource and are a notable determinant of landscape character.*

*The drift geology map for this LCA illustrates the importance of this late- and postglacial environmental change as well as human actions in shaping the landscape. The margins of Lough Foyle are fronted by a coastal zone comprising reclaimed marine deposits. These are found in front of raised beach deposits that are indicative of a Holocene high sea level. Behind these are elements of two significant deglacial complexes that are of considerable scientific importance.*

*The Faughan/Dungiven Basins Complex consists of glaciofluvial deposits that are primarily deltaic in origin and are situated along structural lows in the upper Faughan and upper Roe river's drainage basins. The area is of high scientific interest due to the presence of extensive glaciolacustrine and glaciofluvial deposits consisting of deltas, moraines, eskers and outwash plains occurring in close field associations. The complex occupies 4.2km<sup>2</sup> in the southwest of the LCA. Most of this Complex lies in LCA 30, smaller areas occur in LCAs 27, 29, 31, 34 and 37.*

*The Ballykelly Moraine Complex occupies a small area of 1.2km<sup>2</sup> in the northeast of the LCA. Most of the Complex is in LCA 37, with a very minor element in LCA 34. Ridges and spreads of morainic sand and gravel extend as a broad arc to the south and west of Limavady, immediately to the north of the lower slopes of the Sperrins covering an area of about 20 km<sup>2</sup>. Landforms and sediments record the extent of a surge of Scottish ice onto the Lough Foyle lowlands late in the last deglacial cycle. A prominent ridge marks much of the furthest extent of this ice readvance and fronts an area of discontinuous lower ridges and sediment spreads. Exposures within the stratified deposits show folded ice-push structures typical of a dynamic ice front environment.*

*In the southwest corner of the LCA is a small area of Late Midlandian till resulting from ice that moved northeastwards down the Foyle Valley. The direction of ice flow is recorded by a limited number of streamlined drumlins that are mapped by McCabe (in Knight 2002) along the lower course of the river.*

## **Key Elements**

### **ASSIs**

## 051 Lough foyle

Contemporary coastal processes especially chenier ridge development. Exposure through the southern (earliest) portion of the Magilligan foreland complex.

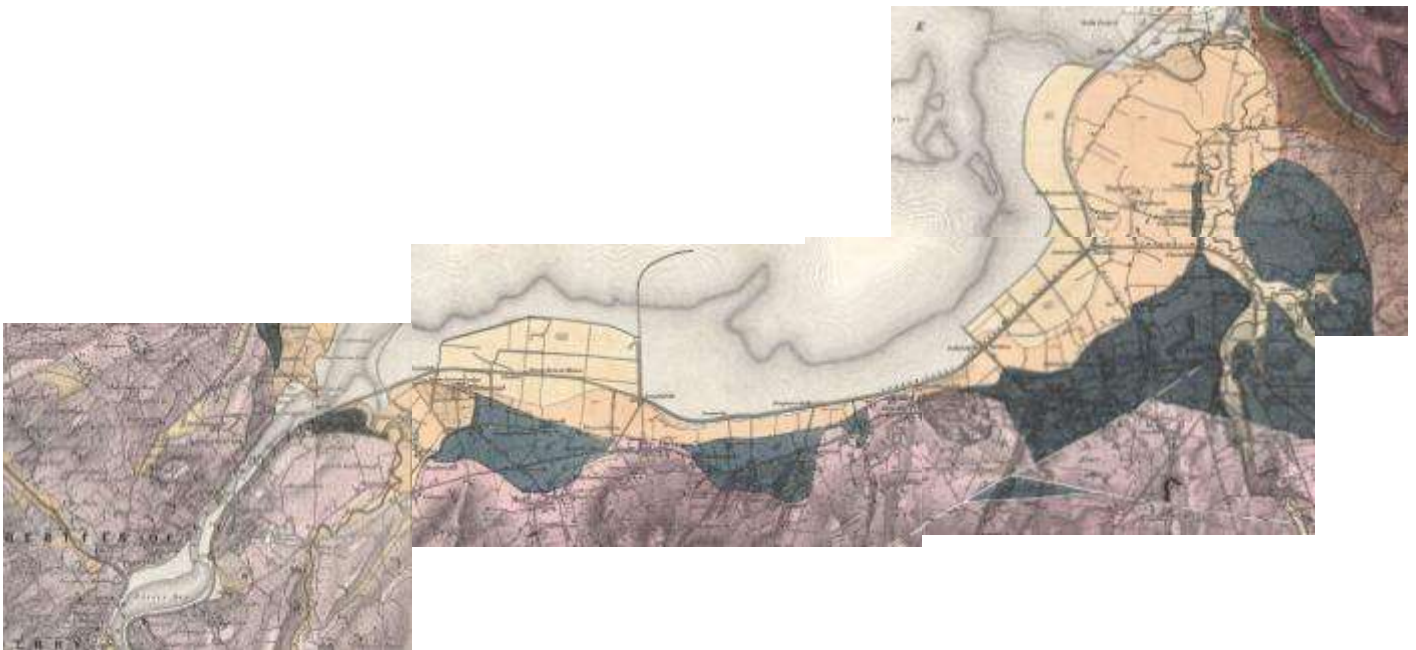
### **Deglacial Complexes**

#### *The Faughan/Dungiven Basins Complex*

*Deltaic deposits are preserved at seven principal locations and are grouped within three main altitudinal levels, representing the control of former ice-dammed lake levels on their formation. They are of special scientific interest, as their widespread extent and relationship to proglacial water levels implies that substantial, deep lakes were impounded along the Faughan and upper Roe valleys as Irish ice masses retreated southwards and Scottish ice advanced southwestwards into the lower Roe valley. The upper Roe (Dungiven) and middle to upper Faughan valley basins have been used for mineral aggregate production in the northwest of the province for approximately twenty years.*

#### **BALLYKELLY MORAINIC COMPLEX**

*The Ballykelly morainic complex is considered to be of national and international importance in understanding the complexity of deglacial processes. The relationship of the moraine to the mid-Ulster drumlin field, to the Fruitfield deltaic deposits to the north, and to late glacial raised beaches permits the construction of a relative framework of events towards the end of the last glaciation. The identification of surge conditions is important for a reconstruction of climatic change in the North Atlantic and suggests correlation with similar events elsewhere in the British Isles.”*



**Figure 62 – Foyle Alluvial Plain historical geological mapping 1889 (c) Geological Survey of Ireland**

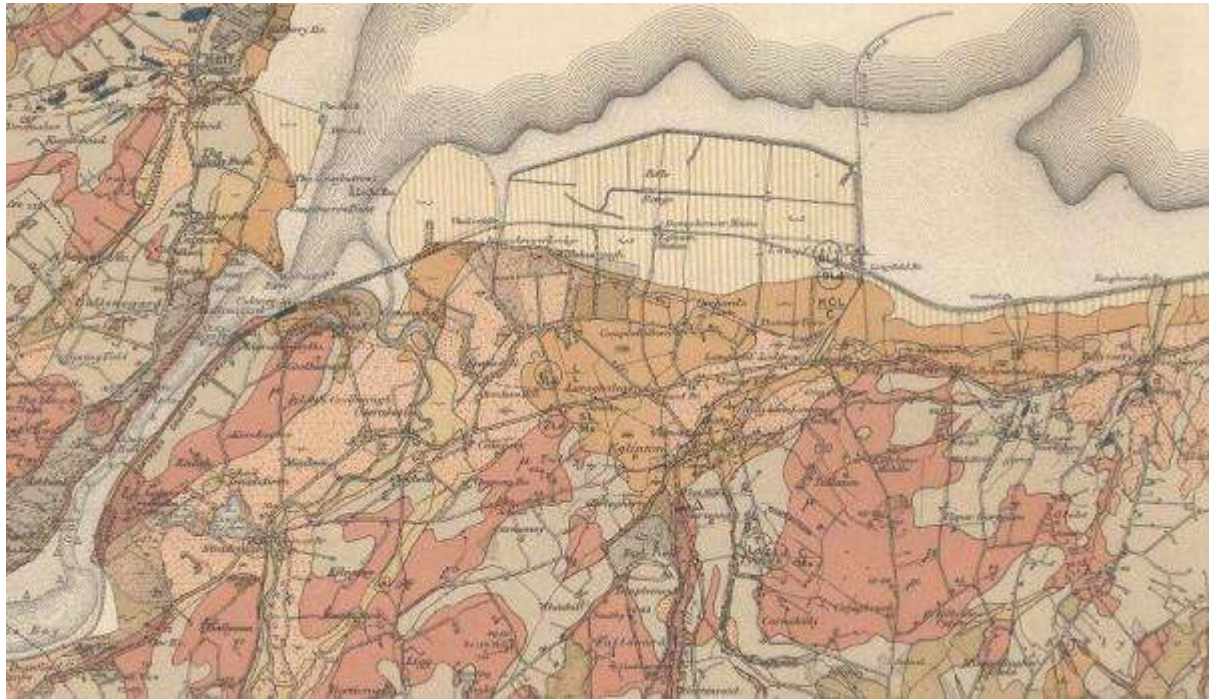


Figure 63 – Foyle Alluvial Plain historical geological mapping; soils map 1889 (c) Geological Survey of Ireland

## FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN – historical natural landscapes; ecology

Information on the ecology is available from a variety of sources. In addition to NIEA data, current sources include references relating to protected sites included in local authority development plans. The following pages offer an overview of these with a synopsis confirming the significant features written by ecologist Ralph Sheppard.

The following map and text relate to the Biodiversity Profile of FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN Landscape Character Area – as described by Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)

*“In the following account it should be noted that for consistency, the biodiversity section follows the standard order for all LCAs even though some of the communities discussed later may have more importance for biodiversity than those discussed earlier*

### **Key Characteristics**

- woodlands occupy an insignificant area of the LCA
- arable and improved pastures dominate the land cover, generally of low biodiversity but farmland birds are recorded
- damp coastal pastures of importance to breeding waders, especially lapwing
- rivers of importance to salmon and trout
- Lough Foyle of international and national importance for wetland birds and Atlantic salmon

### **Woodlands**

Woodlands occupy an insignificant area of this LCA. A portion of Ballykelly Forest has been clipped by the boundary; this contains some oak, Sitka spruce and western hemlock with several small compartments of other species. Other conifer plantations in the LCA are generally small and of little biodiversity interest. Broadleaved woodland is scarce; only scattered patches of trees remain around Willsborough estate and most of the other broadleaves form part of modern planting around the industrial estates.

### **Grassland and Arable**

Arable land dominates the reclaimed polders whereas on the slightly higher ground of the southern border of the LCA arable fields are mixed with improved pasture. Rough grasslands are associated with the airfields and abandoned farmland around the industrial estates, but there are also damp grasslands along the coast. These are important for breeding waders; breeding lapwing are particularly noteworthy in this LCA. Hedgerows are infrequent, but more common on the slightly higher ground. Despite the intensive agriculture, a number of Priority Species of birds are recorded; these include **bullfinch, linnet, song thrush, yellowhammer, reed bunting, spotted flycatcher and skylark**.

### **Heaths and Bogs**

There are no heaths or bogs in the LCA.

### **Wetlands and Lakes**

Several lakes were surveyed by the Northern Ireland Lake Survey, but none are listed as of biodiversity interest. The Faughan and Roe rivers are important for salmon and trout.



## **Coastal**

The coast has been modified for much of its length by the construction of sea defences for the reclaimed agricultural land. Nevertheless, there are extensive **mudflats** and some small areas of **coastal saltmarsh**, notably at the **Roe Estuary NNR**.

Lough Foyle is internationally important for birds. The **Lough Foyle SPA** (also the **Lough Foyle Ramsar site**) supports internationally important numbers of the whooper swan, light-bellied Brent goose and bar-tailed godwit. It also supports large numbers of nationally important species, that is, in an all-Ireland context. These include Priority Species - **golden plover** and **curlew** - among many others.

The lough also has importance in Ireland for a number of Irish Red Data Book fish species and is internationally important for Atlantic salmon.

## **Key Issues**

General actions for UK and NI **Priority Habitats** and **Priority Species** are detailed in the **Habitat Action Plans** and **Species Action Plans**.

## **GRASSLAND AND ARABLE**

**Issue:** poor biodiversity of farmland

### **Actions:**

- *maintain and improve field boundaries especially hedgerows (where they are traditional in the landscape). This may be achieved through adoption of correct cutting cycles; hedge laying and replanting where necessary; leaving saplings uncut to develop into hedgerow trees; avoidance of spraying with fertilizers, slurry, herbicides; provision of wildlife strips and conservation headlands around fields; and limitation of field amalgamation*
- *encourage (through participation in Environmental Schemes) adoption of less intensive management of pastures to allow reversion to more species-rich grassland and protect unsown areas of damp grassland*
- *leave stubble over winter, rather than autumn ploughing, to increase food resources for farmland birds; spring sown cereals are beneficial to breeding farmland birds*
- *maintain and enhance damp coastal grassland by restricting field or arterial drainage*
- *encourage farmers to join schemes to promote maintenance and enhancement of populations of breeding waders*

## **WETLANDS**

**Issue:** important rivers for salmonid fish, particularly Atlantic salmon numbers of which are declining

### **Actions:**

- *protect water quality of rivers through nutrient management, thus*
- *promote and encourage existing good farming practices so that streams are not polluted by run-off from agricultural land or seepage from silage pits*
- *continued monitoring of streams below industrial plants*
- *monitor streams in relation to expansion of rural/urban housing and associated septic tanks/sewage treatment plants*
- *support work of Agencies in promoting the maintenance and enhancement of Atlantic salmon*

## COASTAL

**Issue:** Lough Foyle of international importance for wetland birds; international importance for Atlantic salmon

**Actions:**

- ensure that recreational (including shooting) and other activities do not damage bird populations
- continued monitoring and control of activities both in the lough and in the river catchments that might affect salmon population.”

The following maps, available on the NIEA website indicate the protected areas that are located within the LCA study region. There are significant areas of protection along the Foyle shoreline, and into the river Faughan. The Lough along this shore is shallow with large areas of marsh exposed at low tide.



Figure 64 – Foyle Alluvial Plain RAMSAR sites

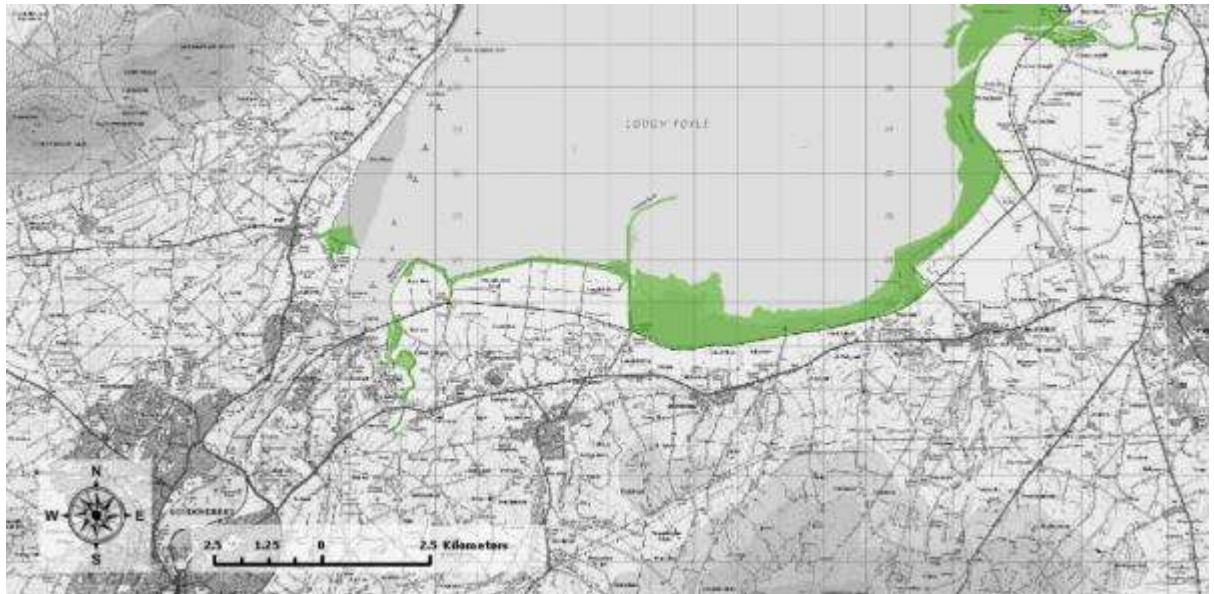


Figure 65 –Foyle Alluvial Plain Special Protection Area (SPA)

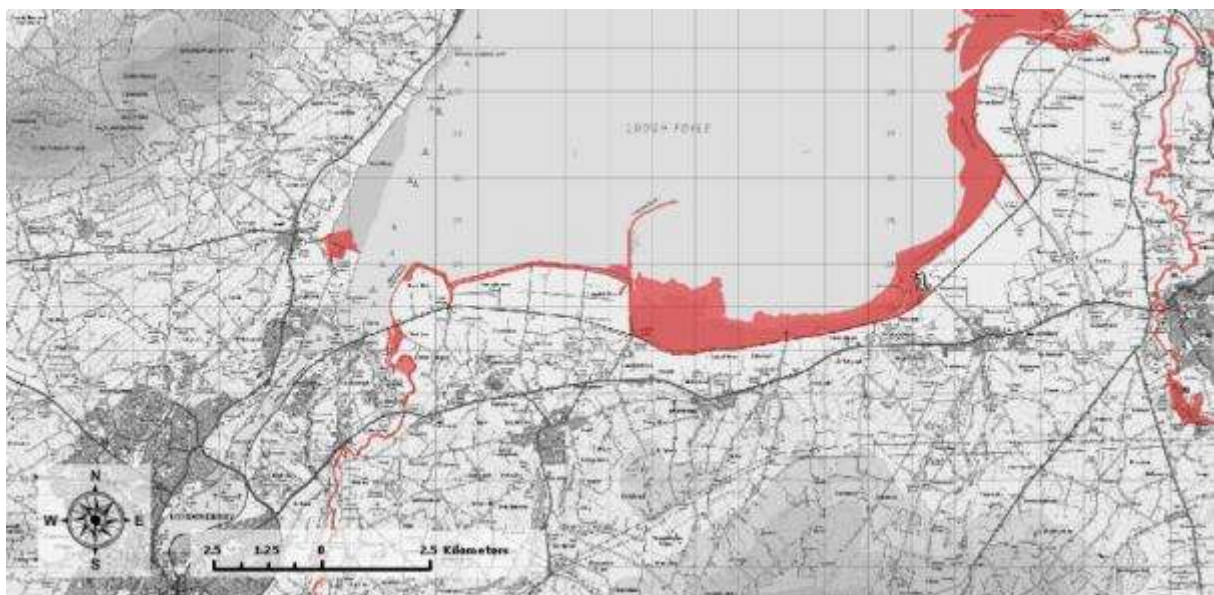
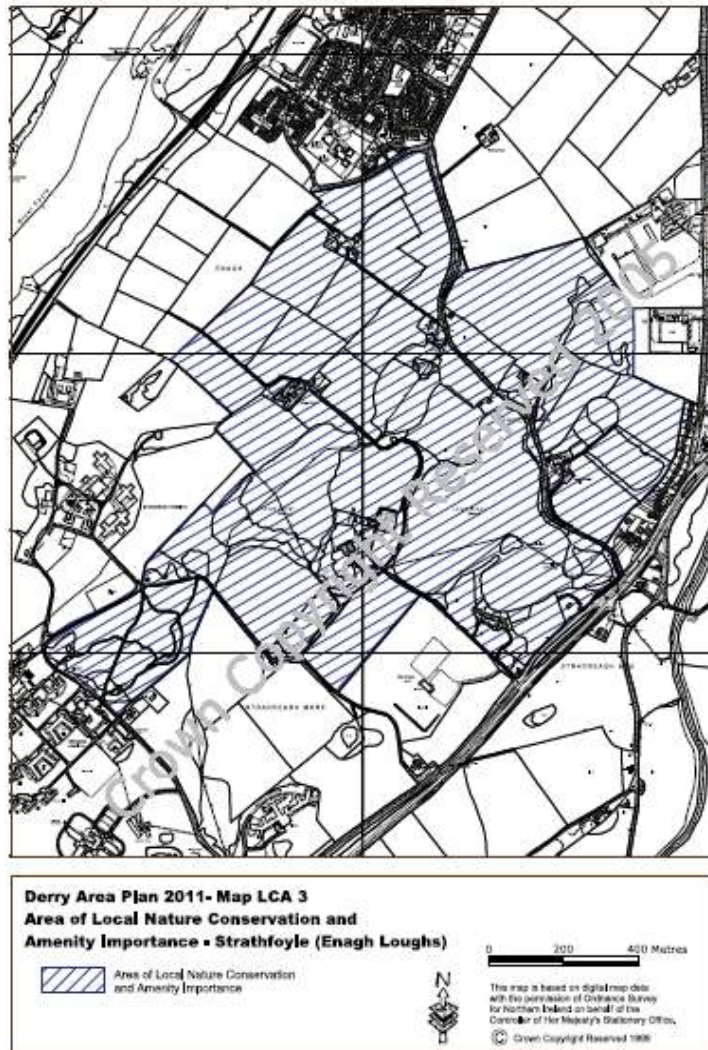
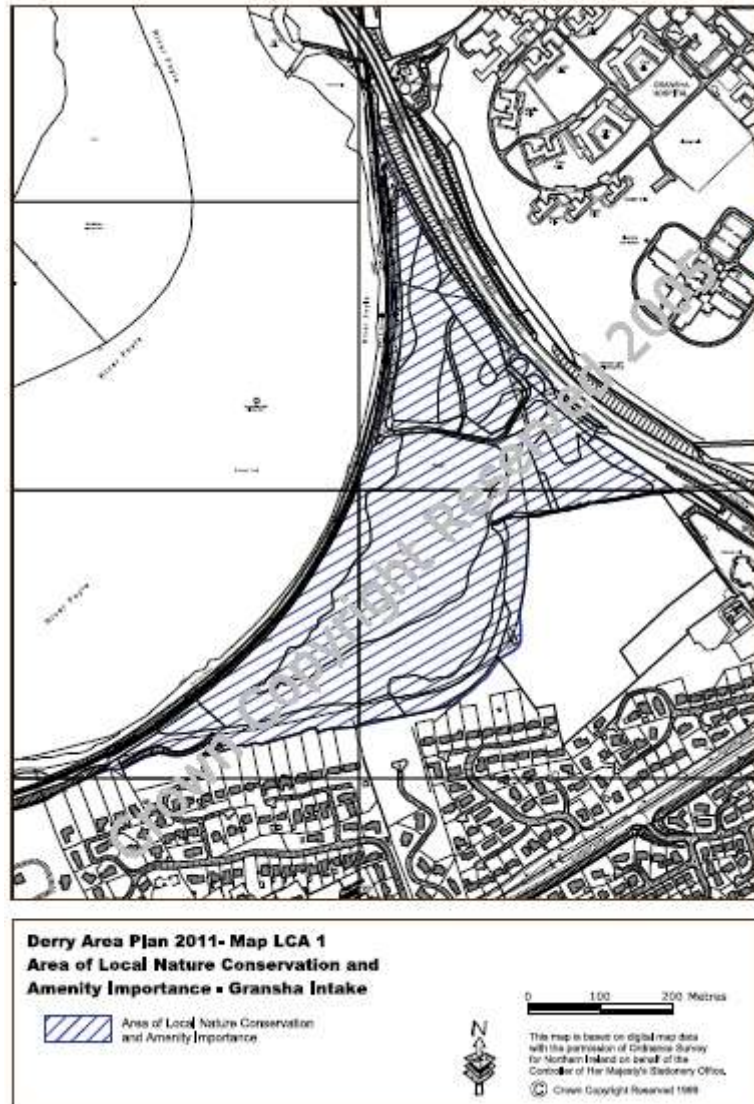


Figure 66 –Foyle Alluvial Plain Areas of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI's)

The following map extracts, which highlight local nature conservation areas, are sourced from the Derry Area Development Plan 2011.





Enagh Lough is at the western extremity of the Foyle Alluvial Plain. The Gransha intake is technically outside the Landscape Character Area, however, for the purposes of this study the LCA has been extended to include the Foyle Bridge and the land immediately adjoining the edge of the urban, City area.

The Gransha ‘intake’ is new land formed by reclamation of part of the river to construct an embankment for the railway during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The embankment has created a marsh between the river and the natural shoreline.

The Enagh Loughs area designated for protection in the Derry Area Plan includes Loughs and long established woodlands at Enagh and at Gransha.



Figure 67 – Gransha Woods and concrete water tower.



Figure 68 – Gransha Woods



Figure 69 – Common Oak, Enagh House. Described as an exceptional specimen tree with habitat value. Perfect in form and symmetry. (c) Tree Council of Ireland; Heritage Tree Database



**Figure 70 –Common Oak, Eglinton.** Described as a landmark tree with habitat value and association with an historic event. Commemorative and junction tree planted from a Windsor Park acorn for coronation of King Edward the 7th. (c) Tree Council of Ireland; Heritage Tree Database



*An analysis of Foyle Alluvial Plain Ecology – by Ralph Sheppard*

The Foyle Alluvial Plain is a landscape type one associates more with Holland – flat fields, big skies, straight lines. Superficially similar to the Magilligan Lowlands, it differs in that much of it is man-made. The shallow, sheltered waters of Lough Foyle were claimed from the sea to create polders - usually called slob in Ireland, but here the name is levels, as in Donnybrewer, Longfield or Myroe Level. So rather than fields being carved from native habitats, here the wall-to-wall fields came first, with the few unplanted corners and settlements imposed on the landscape. One might assume from such a history that there is no place here for nature. This would be wrong.

- 1) The flat open spaces adjacent to the lough are ideal for swans and geese – big, vulnerable birds that gather in flocks for vigilance, and which need huge empty spaces to feel secure. Whooper Swans and Greylag Geese which migrate here from Iceland in winter, are the main species. Also of considerable interest are flocks of mainly seed-eating songbirds. Skylarks, Tree Sparrows and many other common species roam the area, mainly in winter. They are joined by small flocks of Twite, a rare and extremely threatened species, and Snow Buntings, both species being reliably found at very few places in Northern Ireland or Donegal, and nowhere else in the Foyle Basin.
- 2) The swans and geese which feed on farmland, roost for safety at night on Lough Foyle, where they join vast flocks of other wetland birds. But most of them follow a tidal rather than a diurnal rhythm, feeding on the immense biomass of small invertebrates living in the soft mud which is exposed at low tides. Lough Foyle is the third most important site for waterfowl in Northern Ireland, after Lough Neagh and Strangford Lough, and fifth in all-Ireland. Of particular importance among the many species are the Bar-tailed Godwit and the Pale-bellied Brent Goose. Unlike other goose species, and the invertebrate feeding waterfowl, Brent Geese feed on aquatic plants, and their numbers were much greater in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries before a disease decimated the Eelgrass beds on which they largely depended. In those days, a good living was had by professional wildflower growers supplying the city markets.

Lough Foyle is fully designated as a RAMSAR site for the protection of waterfowl and wetlands, a Special Protection Area for birds, and an Area of Special Scientific Interest. All these designations covering the same area – the entire coastline and tidal zone of this landscape unit, from the Roe Estuary in the east to the Faughan Estuary in the west, including the small area of Lough Foyle on the west bank which is within Northern Ireland (but see also the parallel designations for Co. Donegal).

Both the Faughan and Roe estuaries function as sub-divisions of Lough Foyle – as far as the birds are concerned. However, there is no designation of any kind covering the large areas of agricultural polders. The habitat or vegetation-based designations would be inappropriate, but there is a case for the Special Protection Area designation under the EU Birds Directive, which covers the tidal zone of Lough Foyle, being extended to the polders, on which the geese and swans are so dependant.

- 3) One habitat which is now gone is freshwater marsh. Up to the 1970s, the core of Donnybrewer Level was a small lake, surrounded by marshland. Similar habitat was nearby, at Black Braes, but with less open water. These habitats contained smaller numbers of waterfowl than those described above, but it was a distinctive community of species. Donnybrewer held a special appeal for migrant birds in Spring and Autumn, and also for breeding colonies of gulls and terns, and for some duck and wader species. But all this was drained, and added to the acreage of arable farmland. Species like the Spotted Redshank were at the western limit of their north-south flyway from northern Scandinavia, but with the loss of Donnybrewer Lake, the small numbers that were regular here on passage have now shifted their migration route further east, and the species is rarely seen. Black-tailed Godwits were establishing their only breeding colony in Ireland on the site, and although still migrating through Lough Foyle in small numbers, they have since shown no interest in breeding.

It is of course quite possible to re-create a habitat like this, as it was man-made in the first place. But the price of agricultural land at the moment precludes it.

- 4) Inland of the levels there is a more normal lowland landscape. It holds nothing to justify any conservation designations, but it still has points of interest. Ballykelly Forest occupies the site of an ancient woodland, and elements of that heritage can still emerge in clearings.
- 5) Just beyond the southern boundary of the LCA are a series of wooded glens which lose their character as they reach the lowlands. The relatively modest Muff River has cut a long and fairly deep glen above Eglinton. Like Ballykelly Wood, this was once deciduous, and is also now largely replaced with conifers. It was one of the last locations in the north-west where Nightjars were known to breed, in the 1960s.

The wooded Castle River runs parallel to Muff Glen, and is an Area of Local Nature Conservation and Amenity Importance in the Derry Area Plan 2011.

- 6) At the extreme western end of this LCA is the Enagh Loughs area. The landscape here is pock-marked with many small wet hollows and a few larger ones, culminating in two sizeable lakes. All these wetlands owe their origin to the melting of large blocks of ice within the glacial deposits of the immediate post-glacial environment, and share the generic name of kettle-holes. The two lakes are well-known for their coarse fishing, and support small numbers of diving waterbirds, like Great Crested Grebe, Tufted Duck, and in winter, Pochard. Their wooded margins, and patches of marsh and boggy habitat are all of considerable local interest. But probably of most significance is the surviving population of the native Red Squirrel. With the advance of the alien Grey Squirrels into NW Ireland, the future prospect for these Reds is not good – unless there is some effort put into their conservation – as has been happening at Prehen Wood a few miles to the south.

Enagh Loughs is designated as an Area of Local Nature Conservation and Amenity Importance in the Derry Area Plan 2011.

## FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN – historical cultural landscape; Barony



Figure 71 – the eastern part of the Foyle Alluvial Plain is located in the Barony of Keenaght marked in yellow the map; the western part in the Barony of Tirkeeran, marked pink on this extract from the Philip's Atlas 1897

The barony of Keenaght is named after the Cianachta Glenn Geimin (“race of Cain of Glengiven”) and was associated with the O’Connors, one of this clan, from the 5th century. The area was ceded to the O’Kanes from the 12<sup>th</sup> century.

Tirkeeran derives its name from the territory of the Airgiallan clan; Ui Mhic Carthainn (MacCartin), one of the earliest tribes in the area based to the south-east of Lough Foyle. During the implementation of the Plantation baronies were rationalised; renaming of the barony of Tirkeeran was considered. It was proposed to rename the area “Annagh” after the O’Cahan stronghold at Enagh Lough; the established name was eventually retained

## FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN – historical cultural landscape; Civil Parishes



Figure 72 – County Londonderry Parishes

The Foyle Alluvial Plain spans part of three parishes: Parish of Clondermot, marked 17 on the above map; Faughanvale, marked 29; and Tamlaght Finlagan, marked 42. These parish areas also reflect three distinct character areas and could form the basis for subdivision of the Landscape Area into smaller more manageable units.

## FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN – historical cultural landscape; Townlands



### Key to Townlands (c) Placenames NI

The following is a selective list of townlands within the Foyle Alluvial Plain LCA and areas adjoining. Where there are entries in the Northern Ireland Place Names Project or similar resources we have listed these alongside the town land name:

Carrowmuddle

Carrowmenagh

Carrowreagh

Carrowclare

Crindle – **Chruinnill**

Ballyhenry East

Shanvey – **Sean-bheith "The old Birch tree"** – Joyce (Munn) 1925

Rathfad

Drumbane

Ballycastle

Carbullion

Ballymacran

Back

Lomond

Broighter – **Bhrú Íochtair**

Brolasco

Broharris

Farlow – **For-loch "The outlying lake"** - Munn's Notes, 245, 1925

Glebe

Ballyspallan

Drummond

Ballykelly – **Bhaile Uí Cheallaigh**

Walworth

Tullymain – **Tulaig-Maighin "The hill of the little plain"** - Munn's Notes, 178, 1925

Coolkeenaght – **Cuaille-cian-achta "bare tree/pole of Keenaght"** - Munn's Notes, 172, 1925

Coolagh – **Cul-ach "The back place, or land at the back of t"** - Munn's Notes, 172, 1925

Faughanvale

Gresteel More

Tullybrisland – **Tulaig-ui-Breislain "O'Breslans Hill"** - Munn's Notes, 178, 1925

Cregan – **Creagan "The little rock"** - Munn's Notes, 173, 1925

Longfield Beg – **Leamhchoill...meaning "elm-wood"** - Joyce, i 39, 1869 (?)

Drummaneny

Donnybrewer – **Dun-na-brughaidhe "The fort of the farmer"** - Munn's Notes, 173, 1925

McLean & Partners Division

Laraghleas – **Lathrach-a-leasa "The site of the ancient fort"** - Munn's Notes, 176, 1925

Coolafinny – **Cul-ait-Fionnai "bright/pleasant back/recess"** - Munn's Notes, 172, 19

Muff – **Magh "The plain"** - Munn's Notes, 177, 1925

Donnybrewer Level (Intake)

Longfield Level (Intake)

Lower Gortagherly – **Gort-ui-Eacharthaig "The field of the O'Agerties/** - Munn's Notes, 174, 1925

Carmoney

Campsey Upper – **Camasach "The holms formed by the curving river"** - Munn's Notes, 171, 1925

Lower Campsey

Cloghole

Coolkeeragh – **Cúil-caorach "corner of sheep"** - Joyce, iii 245, 1913

Carrakeel

Maydown – **"plain of the dún or fort"** - Joyce, iii 500, 1913

Lisnahawley – **Lios-atha-saile "The fort of the ford of the sea"** - Munn's Notes, 97, 1

Enagh - **Eanach "The Marsh"** - Joyce (Munn), 93,1.205, 1925

Templetown

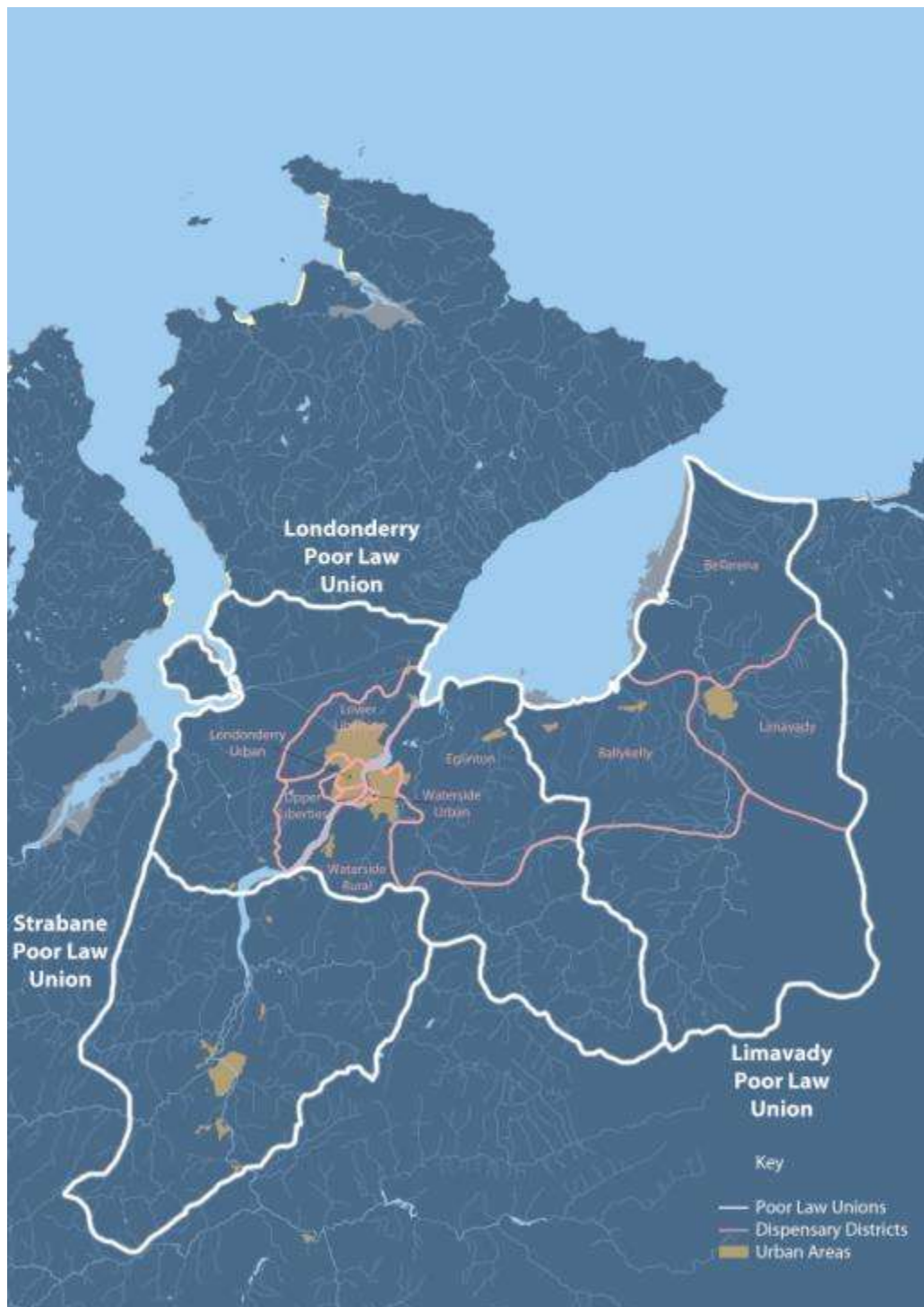
Gransha – **Grainseach, a place for grain, generally a monastery** - Joyce, iii 388, 1913

Stradreagh More – **Srath Riach "grey strath or holm" (Big)** - J O'D (OSNB), 93 C1, 1830

Stradreagh Beg – **Srath Riach "grey strath or holm" (Little)** - J O'D (OSNB), 93 C1, 1830



**FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN – historical cultural landscape; Administration –  
Poor Law Union, Dispensary Districts & District Electoral Divisions**



**Figure 73 – Poor Law Unions & Dispensary Districts**

Lough Foyle Alluvial Plain extends across Lough Enagh, Eglinton, Faughanvale, Ballykelly and Myroe district electoral divisions; Eglinton, Ballykelly and Bellarena Dispensary Districts. The area also crosses part of the Londonderry and Limavady Poor Law Unions. Whilst the boundaries are

quite different, the divisions reinforce the influence of the mediaeval parishes and their relationship with the landscape as well as establishing modern health service divisions.

The northern dispensary district was Bellarena. Ballykelly dispensary is located next to Tamlacht Finlagan church.

District electoral divisions within the study area were Lough Enagh, Eglinton, Faughanvale, Ballykelly Myroe & Aghanloo

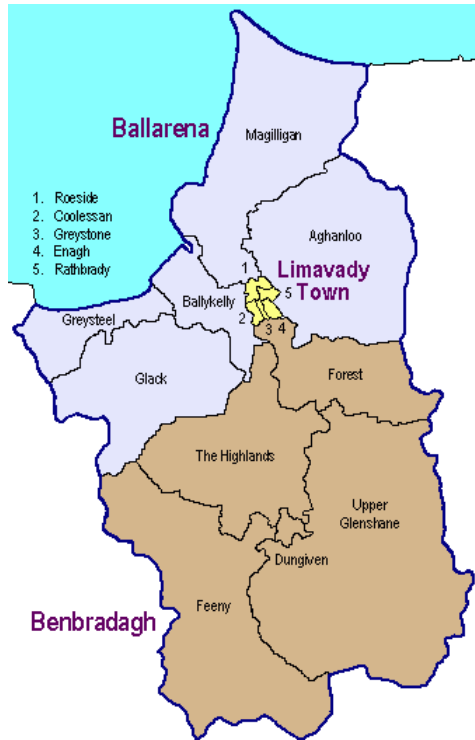


Figure 74 – Limavady Borough Council area: Source ESRC

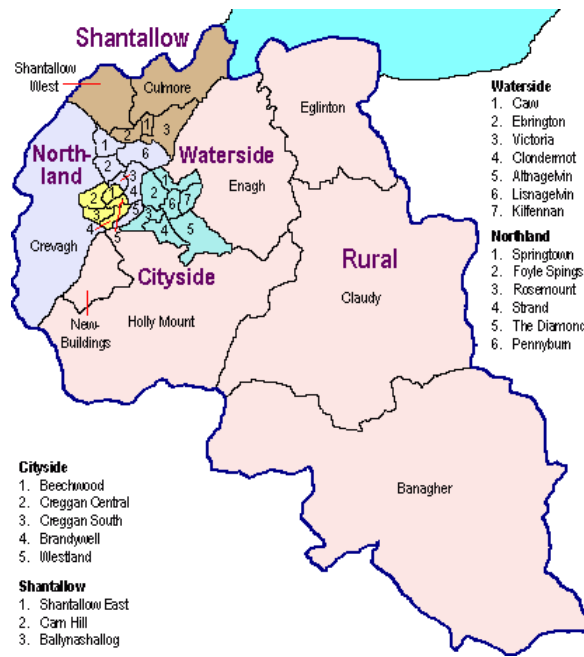


Figure 75 – Derry City Council area: Source ESRC

**FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN – historical cultural & built landscape; historical survival**



Figure 76 – Map of Ireland TCD MS1209/1(c) Trinity College Dublin

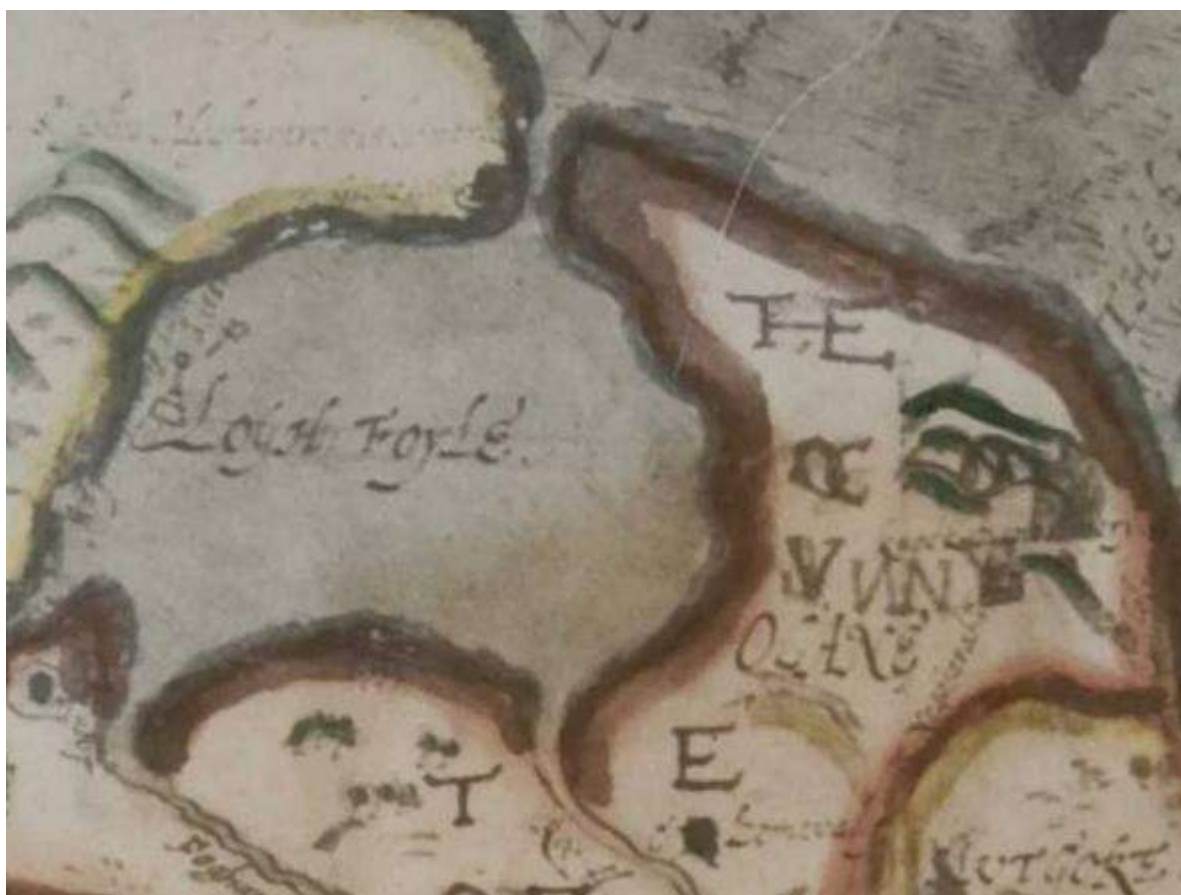


Figure 77 – Francis Jobson's "The Province of Ulster" 1590 TCD MS 1209/15 shows O'Cahan's castle at Enagh Lough and areas of woodland between the Faughan and Roe rivers

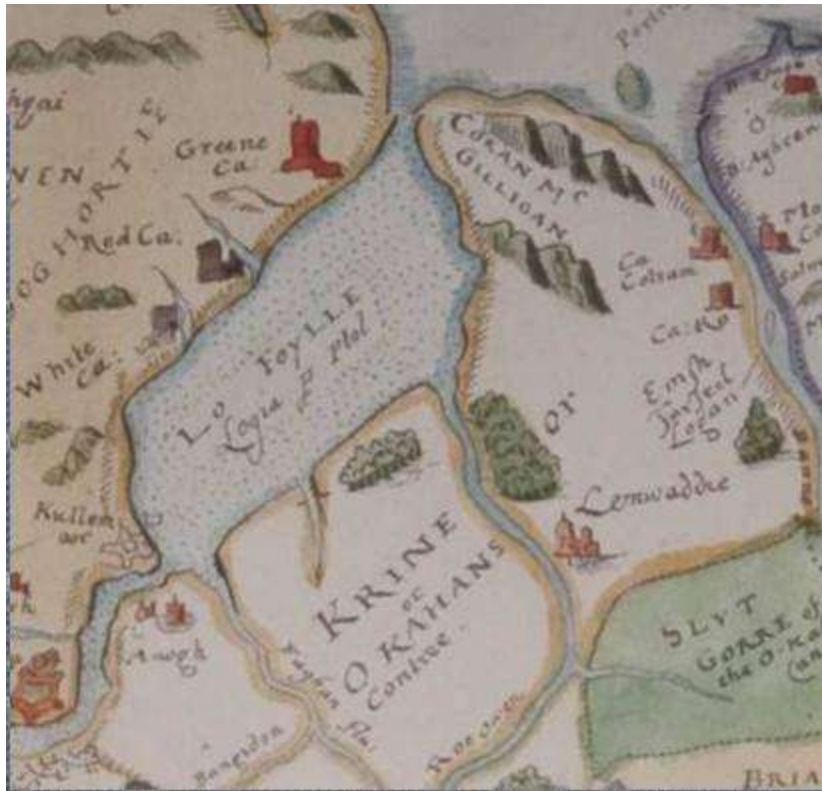


Figure 78 – Richard Bartlett’s “A General Description of Ulster” 1602-3

Richard Bartlett’s map shows the O’Kane’s castel and adjacent church at “Anogh” and woodland between the Faughan and Roe rivers in the area around Ballykelly to the east of the Faughanvale River. Lough Foyle is given the subtitle “Logia of Ptol(emy)” referring to the Ptolemy’s 1490 map of Ireland. The woodland is almost certainly intended to be Camman Woods or Ballykelly Forest and emphasises the age and importance of this site.

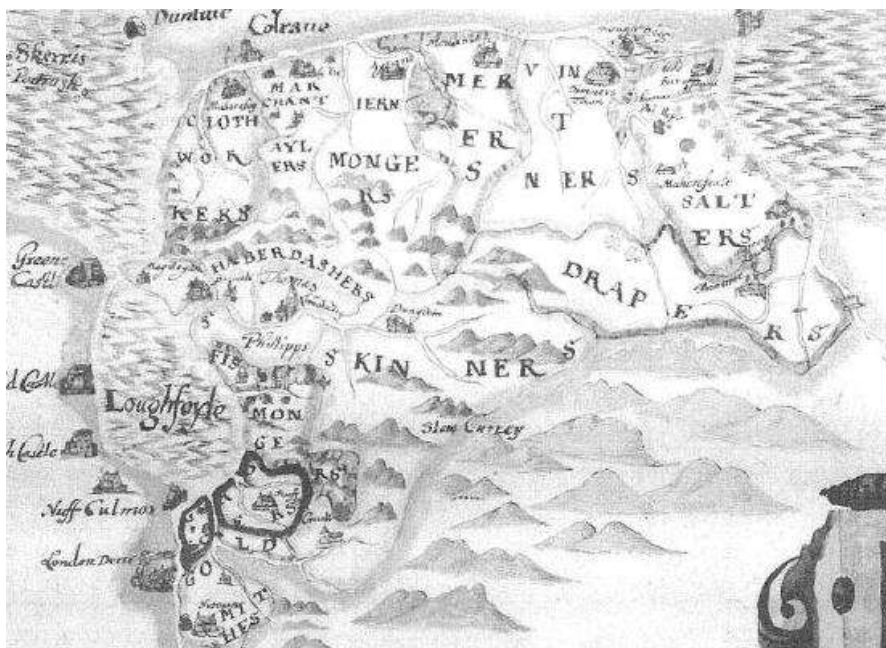


Figure 79 – Thomas Raven’s map of the Londonderry plantation of 1613. The map shows land allocated from west to east as follows: church, Grocers Company, native freehold, Grocers, church, Fishmongers Company, church, Fishmonger’s Company and Sir Thomas Phillips

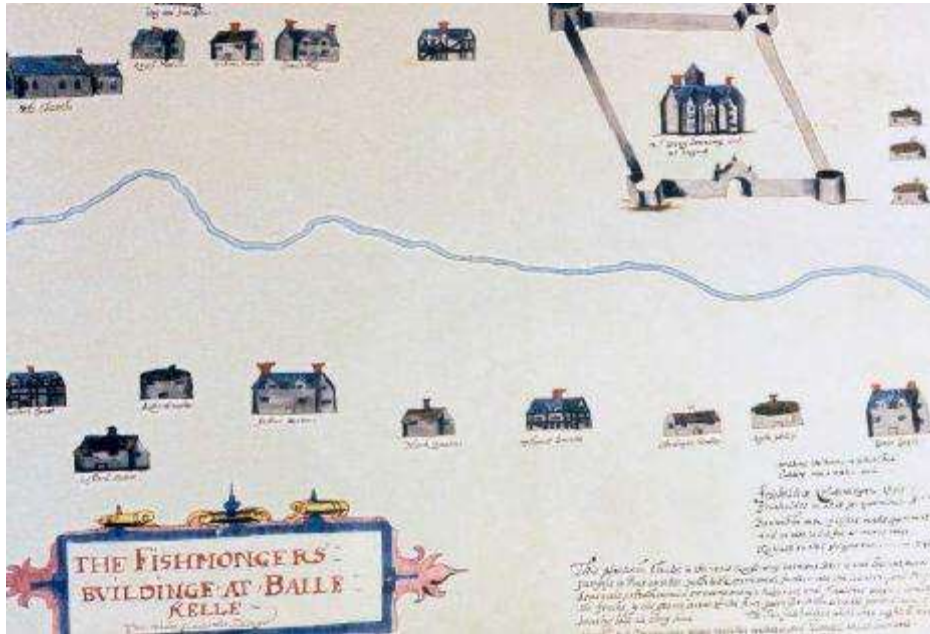


Figure 80 – Extract from Thomas Raven’s map of the Fishmonger’s Company at Ballykelly

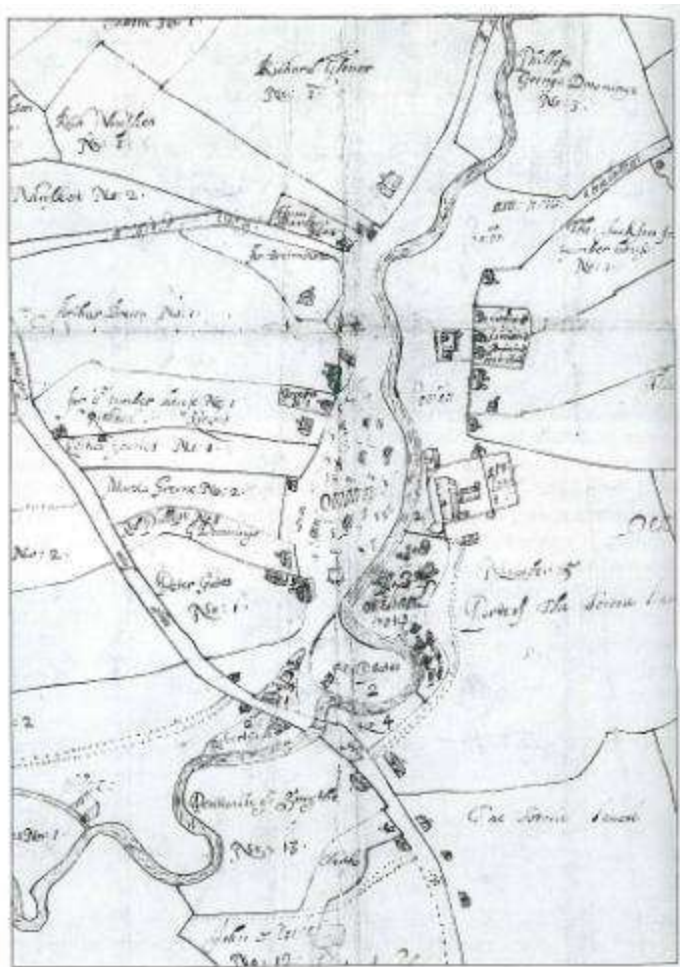


Figure 81 – Thomas Croddin’s Map of Ballykelly 1623 (c)Guildhall Library



**Figure 82 – Fishmonger’s Bawn at Ballykelly; corner flanker is visible beyond glasshouse. The grass area is shown as an orchard on Croddin’s map.**

Significant portions of the Fishmonger’s company bawn at Ballykelly still survive. Raven’s map is oriented with the river leading off to Lough Foyle to the left. The church & bawn are visible as are several houses; some constructed with stone, some with timber and several oval native Irish style houses.

Croddin’s map is oriented with the river leading off the Lough at the top of the page. Even more detail is shown here with the Derry to Coleraine road shown and house plot allocations. The combined evidence of the maps is sufficient to identify the extent of archaeological potential relating to this settlement. The extent of this is shown in the Local Area Plan map. Surprisingly, the orchard area, which is the only place where there is public view of the bawn, is currently zoned for housing.

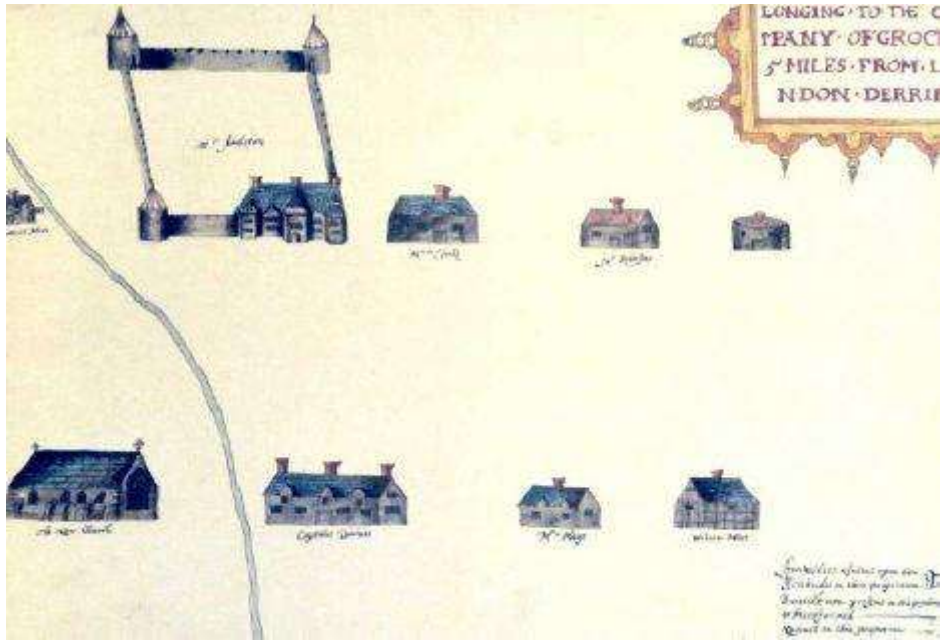


Figure 83 – Thomas Raven’s map of the Grocer’s Company settlement at Muff (now Eglinton)



Figure 84 – Eglinton churchyard showing ruin of “New Church” shown on Raven’s map.





Figure 85 – Extract from Petty's Down Survey map c1655 showing the parish of "Temple- Finlagan", Ballykelly & Aghanloo Parish/ "Habidashers" ©PRONI

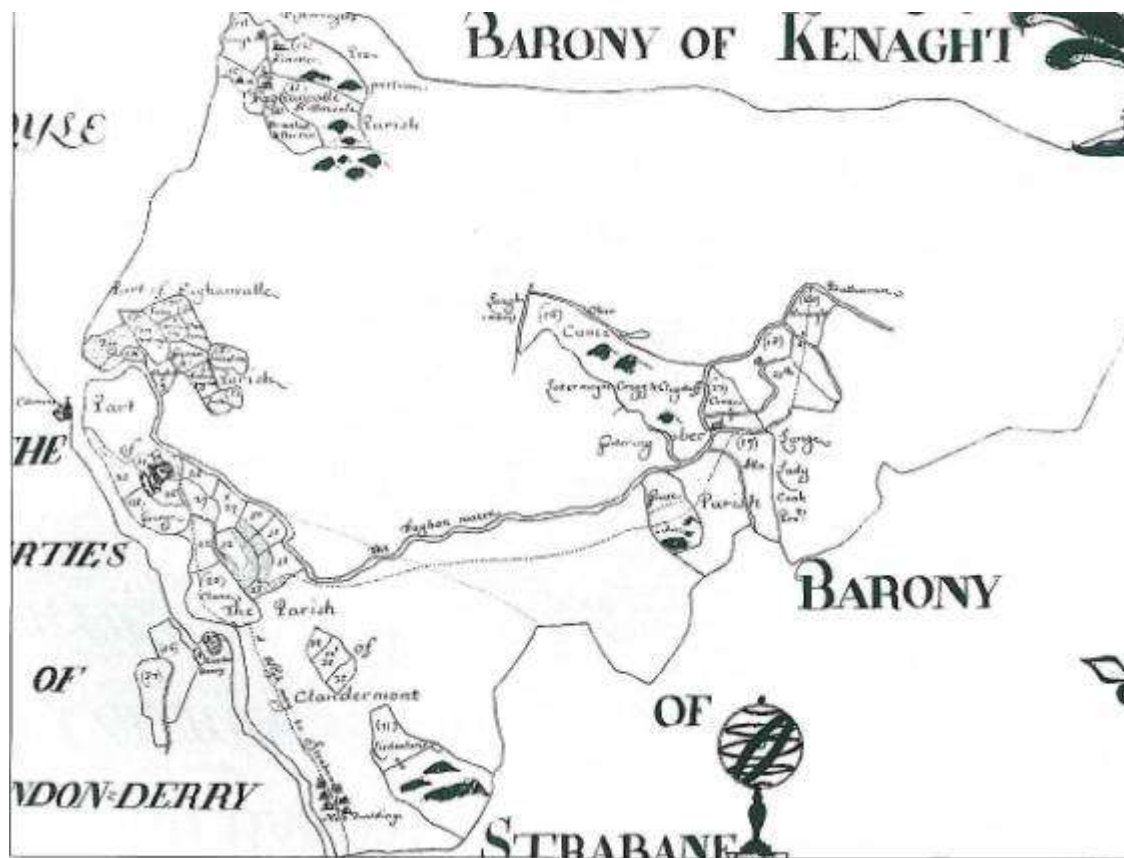


Figure 86 – Extract from Petty's Down Survey map c1655 showing Faughanvale & Clondermot Parishes ©PRONI



Figure 87 - Ballycastle (Ballycaslan) Haberdasher's Company aerial (c) 2012 Google

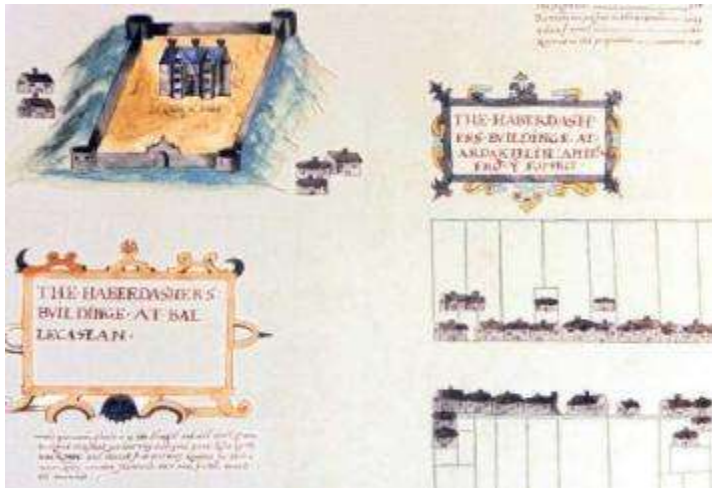


Figure 88 – Thomas Raven’s map of the Haberdasher’s at Ballycaslan and at Artikelly



Figure 89 – Possible surviving fragment of Haberdasher’s settlement layout at Artikelly (c) 2012 Google



Figure 90 - Aghanloo Airfield 1942; source Roe Valley.com



Figure 91 - Aghanloo/Limavady Airfield; aerial view (c) Google

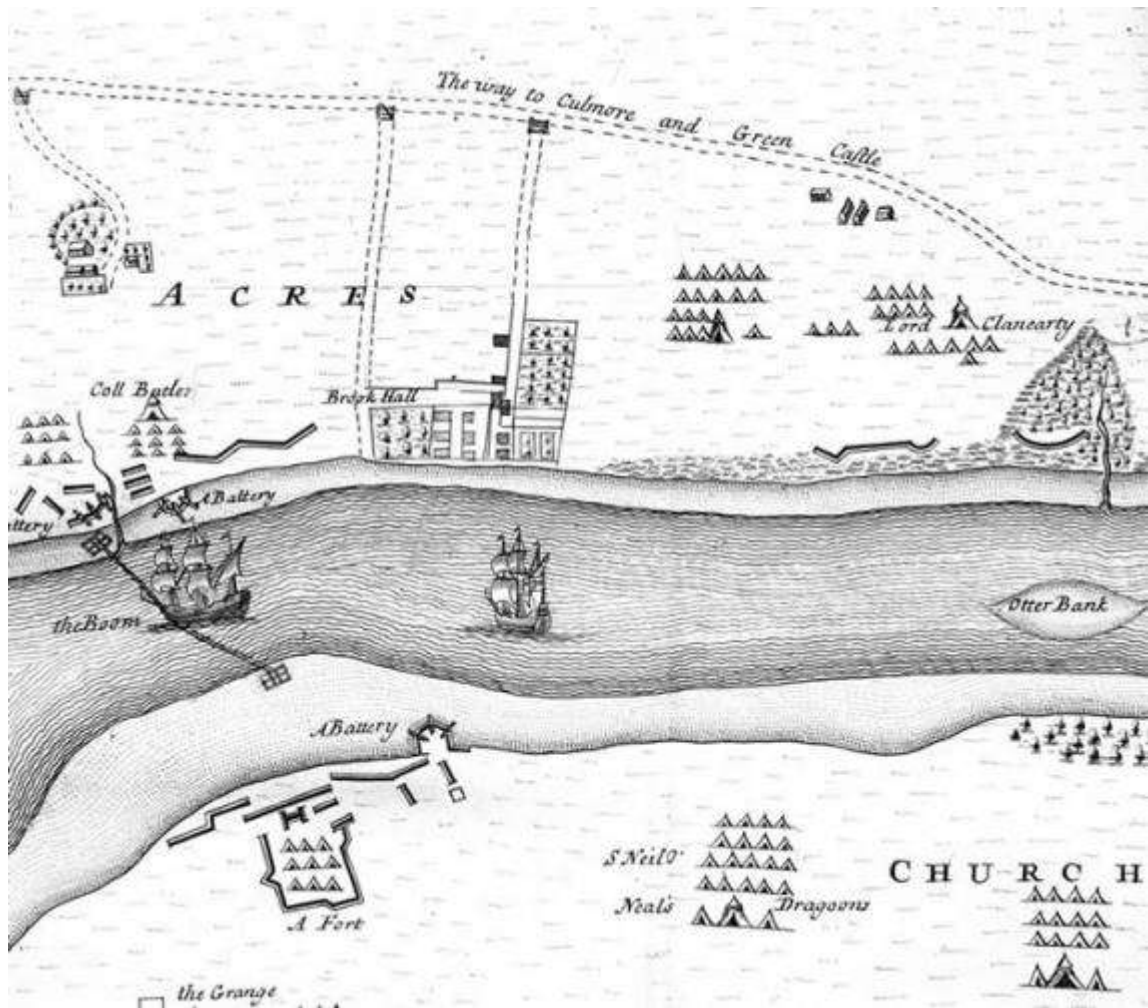


Figure 92 – Captain Francis Nevill’s map of the Siege of Derry; extract show the batteries and boom across the river between “the Grange” and



Figure 93– Aerial view of Enagh & Gransha also showing narrow section of the river to the north of the Foyle Bridge (c) 2012 Google

Boom Hall and Gransha are significant sites worthy of further investigation. Relatively undeveloped, the sites preserve several features that resemble those recorded in Nevill’s and other siege maps.

**FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN – historical cultural & built landscape; landed estates**

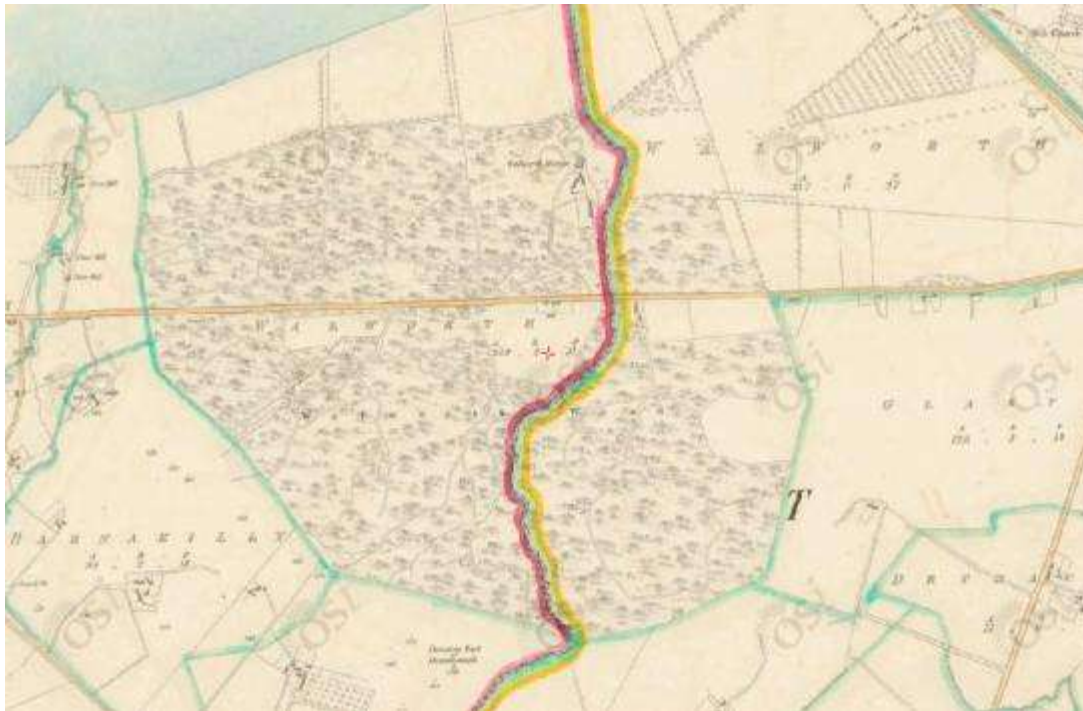


Figure 94 – Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition mapping showing Walworth (c)OSI



Figure 95 – Walworth aerial view showing impact of development (c) 2012 Google

Ballykelly Forest also referred to as “Camman Wood” with reference to its original growth of ash trees. The forest was the first state forest in Northern Ireland, purchased in 1910 and was enlarged by plantation of Douglas Fir trees.

## FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN – historical built landscape; Urban Settlement

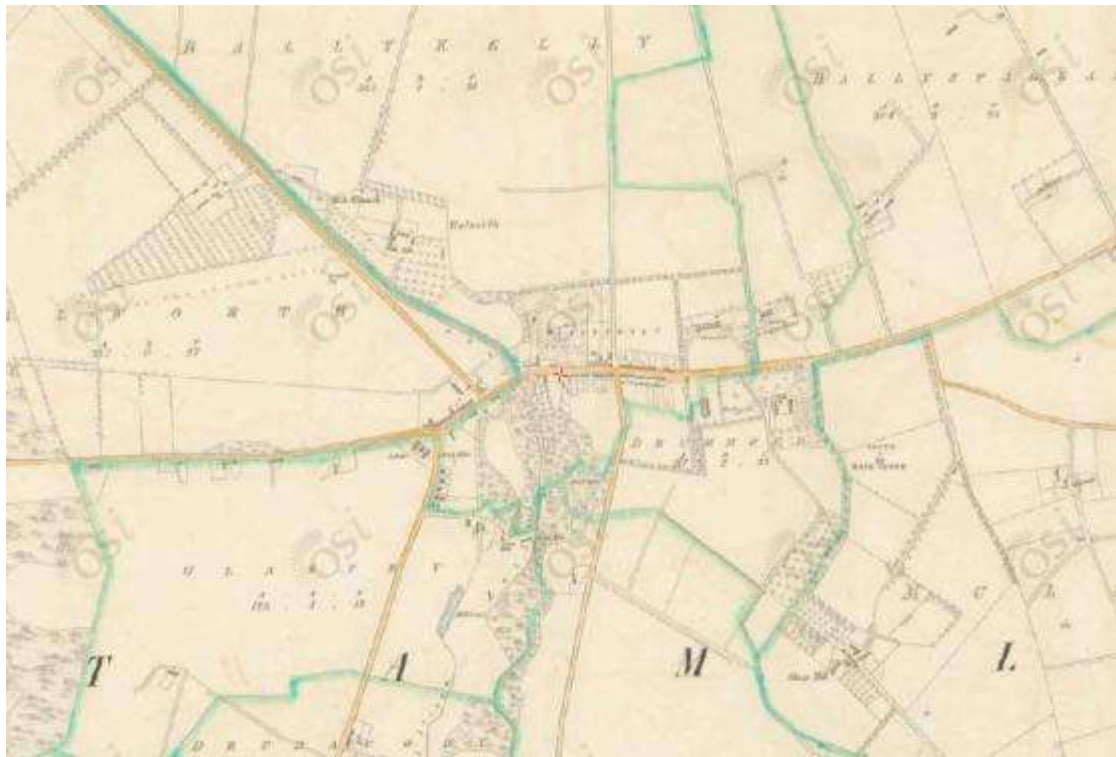


Figure 96 – Ordnance survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition mapping showing Ballykelly (c)OSI

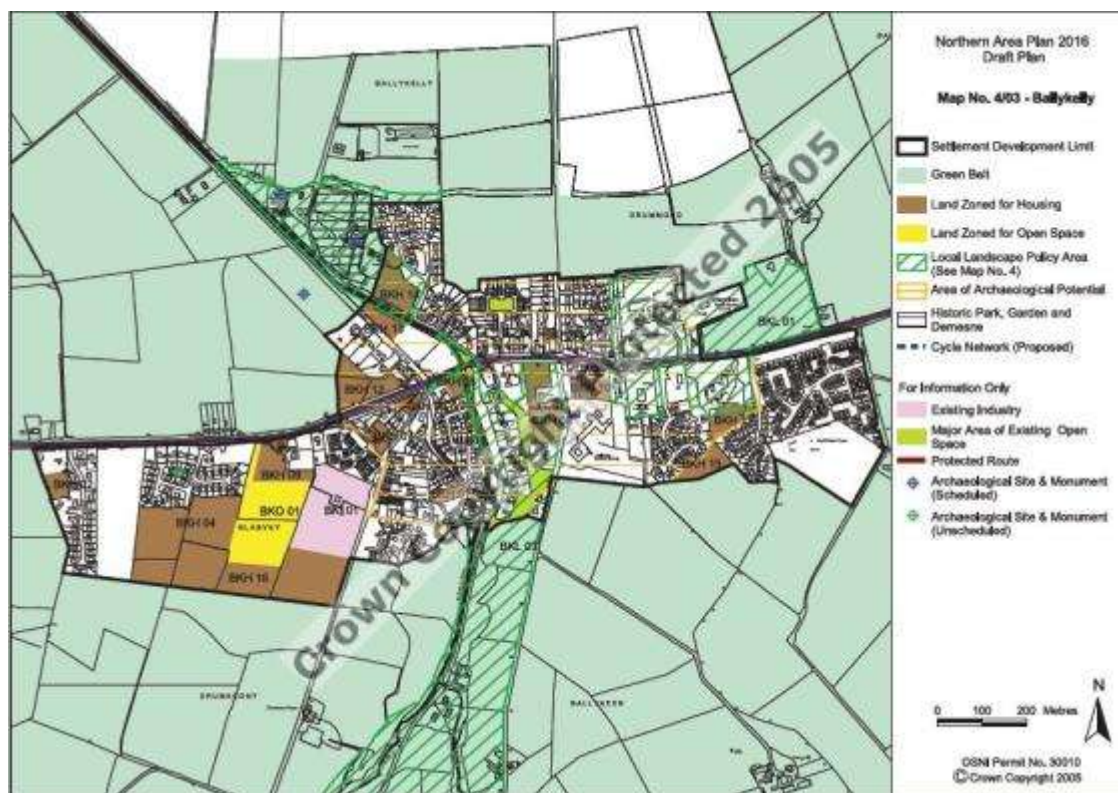


Figure 97 – Ballykelly; Northern Area Draft Plan 2016



Figure 98 – Ordnance survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition mapping showing Eglington/Muff. (c)OSI

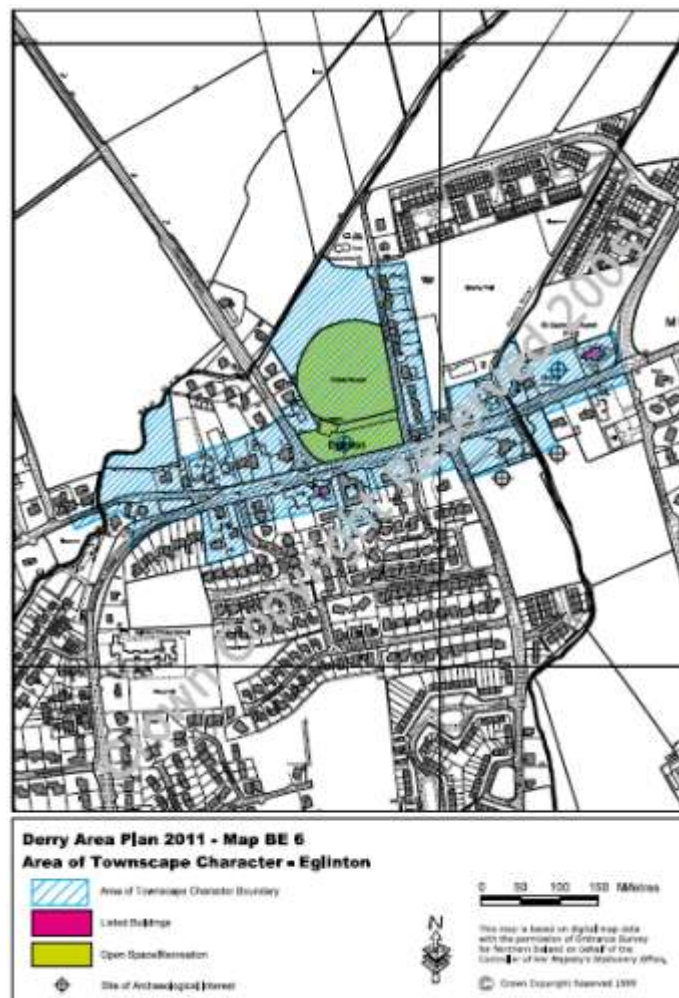


Figure 99 – Derry City Development Plan; Eglington “Area of Townscape Character”

## FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN – historical built landscape; significant sites

### Prehistoric

- LDY009:008, Broighter, Findspot, Broighter Hoard (Early Iron Age)
- LDY014:011, Stradreagh Beg, Neolithic and Bronze Age occupation site & crannog: Rough island or O’Cahan’s Garden (Scheduled)
- Excavations 2009: A2 Maydown to City of Derry Airport, Upper Campsey, (Cloghole Rd), Neolithic houses



Figure 100 – Broighter Hoard: Broigher Collar

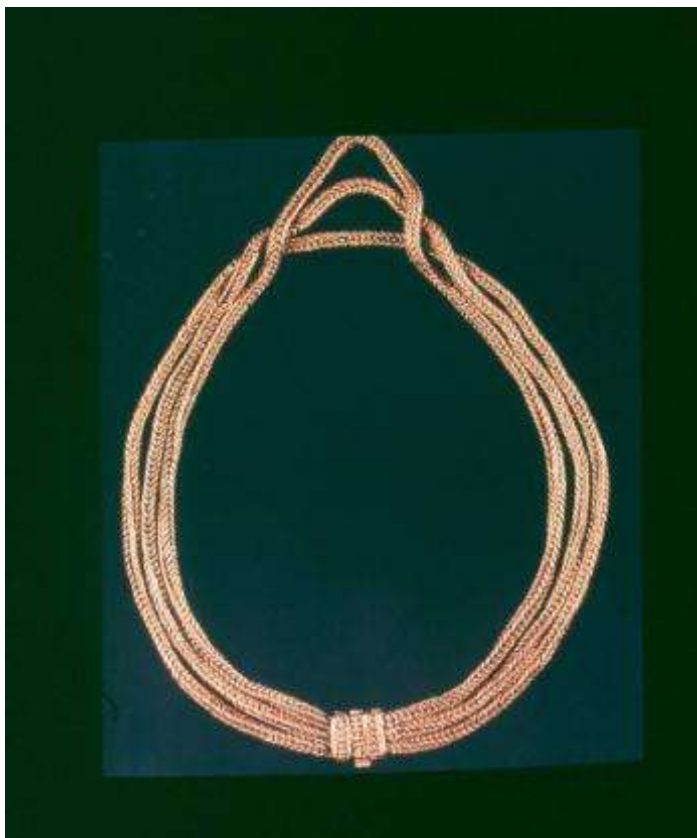


Figure 101- Broighter Hoard: Necklace



### Medieval Sites

- LDY009:005, Moneyrannel (outside study area) Rath: Rough Fort (National Trust)
- LDY009:007, Ballykelly, Walworth C17th Bawn
- LDY009:017, Ballycastle, C17th House, Bawn and 5 cottages built by Haberdasher Co.
- LDY009:019, Ballykelly, Walworth Plantation Village – Ballekelle Plantation (Scheduled)
- LDY014:009 & LDY014:010, Templetown, Crannog & Tower House, Green Island: Castle of Anagh (O’Kane/O’Cahan stronghold) (Scheduled)
- LDY015:004, Bolie, Rath
- LDY015:008, Muff, C17th House and Bawn
- LDY015:033, Eglinton, Muff, Plantation Village Site: Eglinton Grocer’s Co. Buildings (Scheduled)
- LDY015A:003, Carrickhugh, Coolagh, Faughanvale, Battle Site: 1197AD



Figure 102 – Templetown Crannog, Enagh Lough

### **Ecclesiastical Buildings & Sites**

- LDY009:002, Ballykelly, Walworth Old Church, Plantation Church & Graveyard (Scheduled)
- LDY014:013, Gransha, Dergbruagh, Church, graveyard and possible enclosure
- LDY014:015, Templetown, Domnach Dola, Church & graveyard: Enagh (Scheduled)
- LDY015:009, Muff, Church gable, Eglinton (Scheduled)
- LDY015:024, Faughanvale, Medieval Church & Modern Graveyard possibly on site of C7th monastery (Scheduled); nearby stone cross
- LDY015A:001, Loughermore & Tullybrisland, Tullybrisland Cross (Scheduled)
- HB/02/03/002 St Finloch's RC Church, Ballykelly
- HB/02/10/006 Ballykelly Presbyterian Church (incl. boundary wall)
- HB/02/10/007 Ballykelly Presbyterian Church, Gate Lodge
- HB/02/10/009 Tamlaght Finlagan Parish Church (and boundary wall)
- HB/02/10/017 St John's Church (COI), Lomand Rd, Limavady



Figure 103 – Templetown, Enagh Church



Figure 104 - Aghanloo, Walworth & Faughanvale churches. Source: Natural Stone Database



Figure 105 – Ballykelly Presbyterian church

### **Gentleman's Houses**

- HB/01/03/014, Templemoyle House, Eglinton & Registered Historic Gardens L-046
- HB/01/03/010 The Manor House incl. gates and walling, Eglinton
- HB/02/01/006 Gresteel House, Eglinton
- HB/02/02/001 Carrichue House, Ballykelly
- HB/02/10/016 Clover Hill House, Burnally, Limavady
- HB/02/10/021 Culmore House, Lower Culmore, Limavady

### **Manses/Rectories**

- HB/01/03/011 Rectory and outbuildings, Eglinton
- HB/02/10/022 Tamlaght Finlagan Rectory, Ballykelly

### **Country Houses & Estate Buildings**

- HB/01/05/001 Enagh House, Campsie
- HB/02/10/002 Walworth House (house, bawn, bawn wall, flankers, walls to garden)

### **Military Structures**

#### *Air defence heritage*

- DH30, Ballyspallan; Ballykelly, Airfield
- DH93, Longfield Level (Intake), Pillbox
- DH120, Tully Lower, Command Post
- DH123, Lissahawley; Coolkeeragh, Naval Base
- DH136, Donnybrewer Level, Small Arms Range

- DH148, Donnybrewer; Drummaneny; Longfield More, Airfield
- DH153, Carrakeel, Airfield
- DH166, Ballynashallog, Observation post
- DH170, Drumaneny, Strongpoint
- DH171, Drumaneny, Pillbox
- DH172, Drumaneny, Dispersal Pen
- DH173, Drumaneny, Air Force Building
- DH174, Drumaneny, Air Force Building
- DH175, Drumaneny, Air Force Building
- DH176, Drumaneny, Air Force Building
- DH177, Drumaneny, Air Force Building
- DH178, Drumaneny, Air Force Building
- DH179, Coolafinny, Air Force Building
- DH180, Coolafinny, Air Force Building
- DH181, Longfield More, Loopholed wall
- DH182, Muff, Military Camp
- DH203, Drumaneny, Hangar
- DH204, Muff, Military Camp
- DH205, Donnybrewer, Air Force Building
- DH206, Donnybrewer, Air Force Building
- DH208, Gun operations room/local HQ AA defences
- DH210, Laraghaleas, Heavy anti-aircraft battery
- LDY014A:034 & DH273 Ballynagard, WWII Light Anti-Aircraft Battery (Scheduled)
- DH334, Faughanvale, Bombing decoy (Q site)
- DH335, Crindle, Bombing decoy (Q site)
- DH383, Donnybrewer, Hangar
- DH384, Donnybrewer, Hangar
- DH385, Donnybrewer Level, Hangar
- DH386, Donnybrewer Level, Hangar
- DH397, Drumaneny, Pillbox
- DH398, Drumaneny, Pillbox
- DH406 – 12 , Longfield Beg, Hangars
- DH413, Drumaneny, Strongpoint
- DH414, Longfield More, Operations Block
- DH415, Artikelly, Operations Block
- DH698, Muff, Dispersed living site

- DH699, Muff, Dispersed living site
- DH700, Coolafinny, Dispersed living site
- DH701, Drumaneny, Dispersed living site
- DH722, Campsey Upper, Heavy anti-aircraft battery
- DH731, Tullanee, Dispersed living site
- DH732, Muff, Dispersed living site

## **Maritime structures**

### ***Lighthouses***

- IHR01555:000:00, Ballynagard, in River Foyle, Lighthouse
- IHR01556:000:00, in River Foyle, Lighthouse
- IHR01558:000:00, Culmore, Lighthouse
- IHR01561:000:00, at sea, to E of Connyburrow Point, Lighthouse
- IHR01617:000:00, Ballynashallog, Lighthouse
- IHR01618:000:00, Ballynashallog, Boomhall Lighthouse
- IHR01619:000:00, in River Foyle between Gransha & Ballynashallog
- IHR01620:000:00, in River Foyle between Gransha and Ballynashallog
- IHR 01621:000:00 , in River Foyle between Gransha & Ballynashallog
- IHR01622:000:00, Gransha (Intake) in River Foyle, Rosses Bay Lighthouse

## **Historic Parks & Gardens**

- Enagh House (HB01/05/001) & Church & Graveyard LDY014:015
- L-013 Walworth; HB 02/010/002 - House; SMR LDY009:007 - Plantation Bawn; LDY009:0019 - Plantation Village
- L-046 Templemoyle House, Muff Glen
- HB02/10/14A Sampson's Memorial Tower

## **Institutional Buildings**

- Gransha/ Stradreagh Hospital site



Figure 106 – Stradreagh Hospital site, Gransha

### Infrastructure – Roads, Canals & Railways

#### *BNCR Main Line Belfast-Londonderry:*

- IHR01339:048:00 Myroe Level (Intake), Level crossing
- IHR01339:052:00 Ballykelly Level (Intake), Level Crossing
- IHR01339:054:00 Ballykelly/Walworth, Ballykelly Station; Level Crossing & Bridge
- IHR01339:056:00 Carrickhugh, Bridge
- IHR01339:057:00 Carrickhugh, Station
- IHR01339:061:00 Coolkeeragh, Level Crossing
- IHR01339:063:00 Coolkeeragh, Bridge
- IHR01339:064:00 Lower Campsey, Level Crossing
- IHR01339:066:00 Clanterkee Saltworks, Level Crossing & Bridge
- IHR01339:068:00 Donnybrewer Level (Intake) Eglinton Station & Level Crossing

- IHR01339:070:00 Donnybrwer Level / Drummaneny, Level Crossing
- IHR01339:072:00 Longfield More/Beg, Bridge
- IHR01339:074:00 Gresteel Beg, Bridge
- IHR01339:076:00 Faughanvale/Tullyverry, Bridge
- IHR01339:077:00 Coolagh, Bridge
- IHR01433:001:00 BNCR Branch Line Limavady Junction – Dungiven, Ballykelly Level, Limavady Junction
- IHR01433:003:00, BNCR Branch Line Limavady Junction – Dungiven, Broighter, Station at Level Crossing
- IHR01433:004:00, BNCR Branch Line Limavady Junction – Dungiven, Burnally, Bridge

***Broharris Canal:***

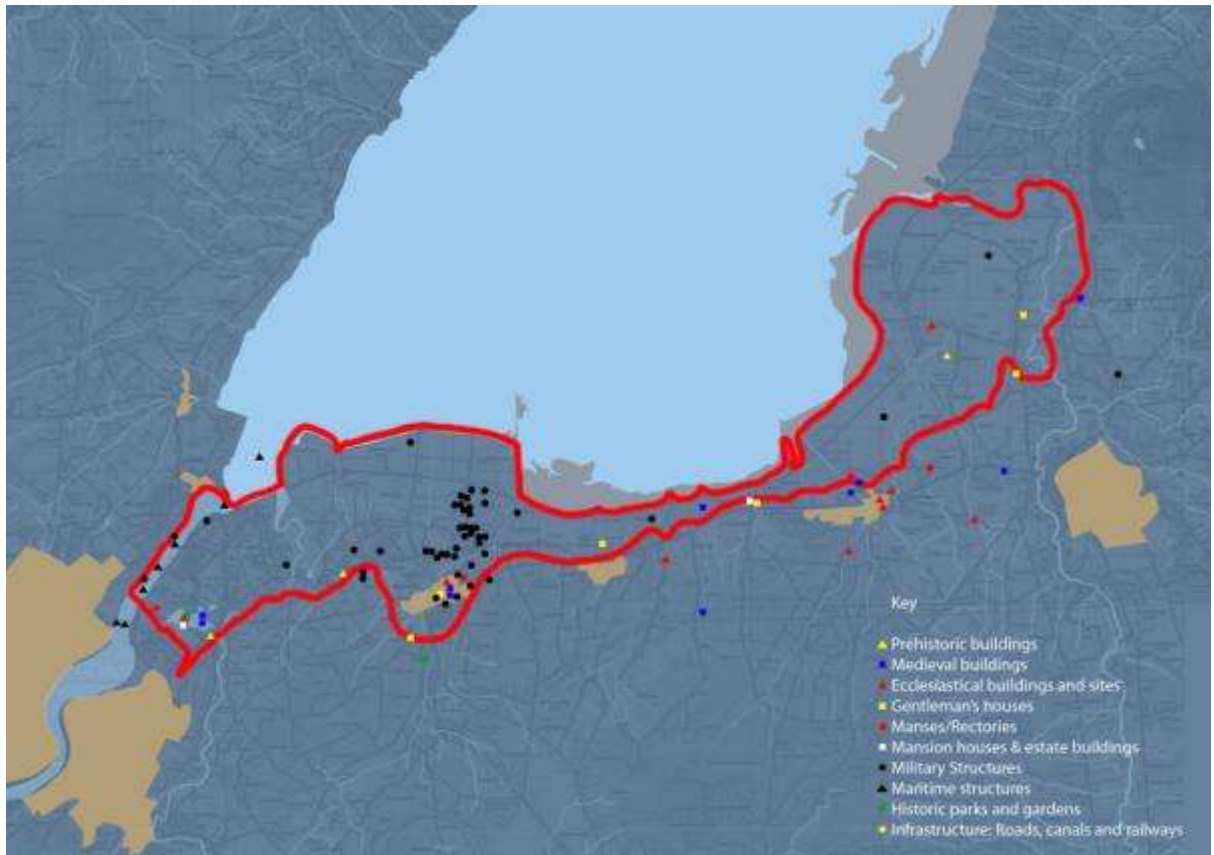
- IHR01436:000:00, Ballykelly, Ballykelly Canal
- IHR01565:000:00, Donnybrewer, Canal

The Broharris Canal was constructed in the 1820s when a 2 mile (3.2 km) long cut was made on the south shore of Lough Foyle near Ballykelly in the direction of Limavady. It served both as a drainage channel and for transport with goods being brought from Londonderry Port, as well as shellfish and kelp from the sand banks along the shore.



Figure 107 – Ballynagard Lighthouse (c) listoflights.org

## FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN – Key to significant heritage assets



Historic landscape character areas –mark up



## FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN – Visual Landscape: Spatial Context

### Photography



Figure 108 – setting of Tamlacht Finlagan church, Ballykelly



Figure 109 – Broharris Canal/ Ballykelly river



Figure 110 – Ballykelly Forest from the south looking towards Bineven



Figure 111 – Maydown and Campsie from the east with Lough Foyle in the distance



Figure 112 – typical alluvial plain farm, Lower Campsie



Figure 113 – Lodge & driveway to Willsborough House, Donnybrewer



Figure 114 – Eglinton from the northeast



Figure 115 – Maydown & Enagh from the north



Figure 116 – railway and Culmore point at the narrows into the lough



Figure 117 – WW2 moorings at Lisahally and view to Thornhill & Brooke Hall



Figure 118 – Gransha view to the Foyle Bridge and city to the south



Figure 119 – Derry City Development Plan 2011; red hatch denotes “area of high scenic value”; blue hatch indicates “area of local nature conservation and amenity importance”

## FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN – Visual Landscape: Painting Maps & Images

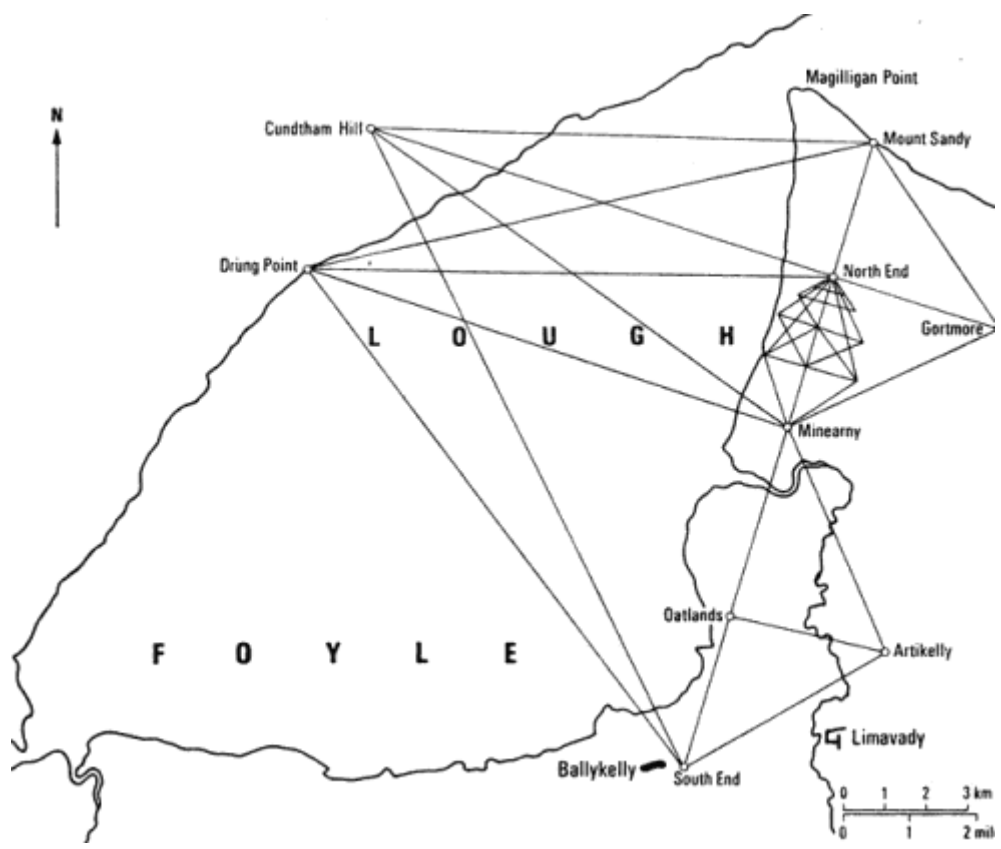


Figure 120 – Lough Foyle baseline; source – Trig Point Ireland



Figure 121 – Walworth; Henry Brocas c1800

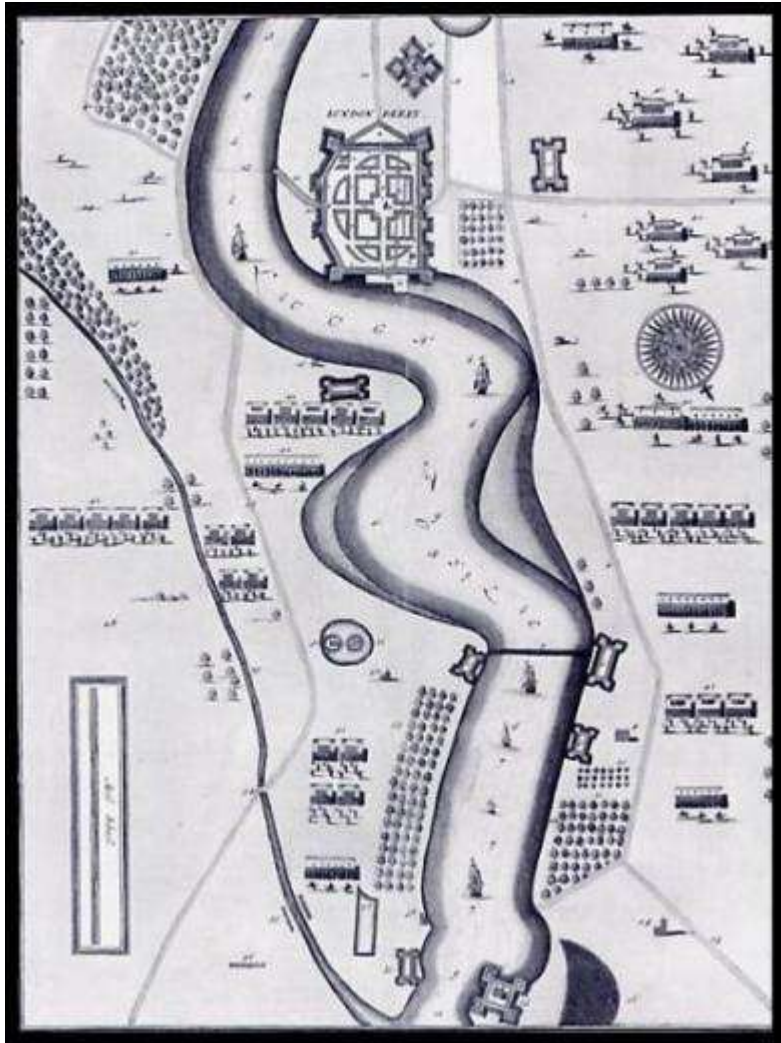


Figure 122 – Siege of Derry 1689

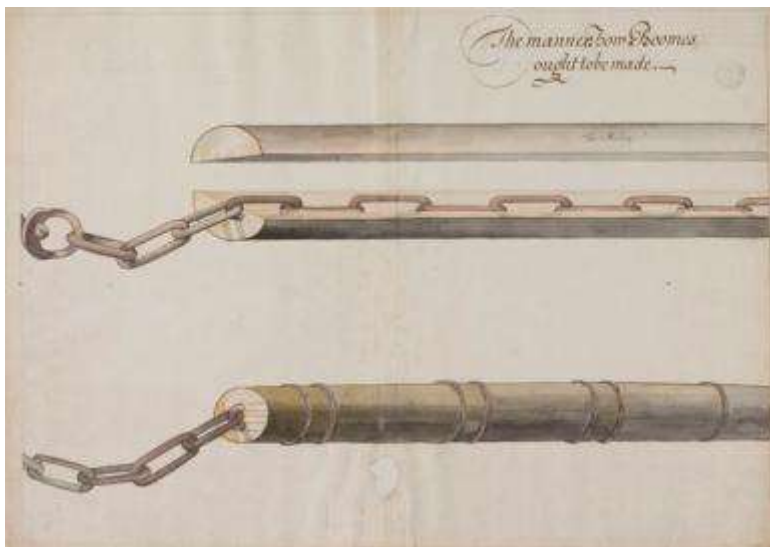


Figure 123 - Sir Thomas Philips; " the manner how boomes ought to be made". Source NLI.





Figure 124 – U-boats at Lisahally (c) Imperial War Museum (A 28895)



Figure 125 – U-boats at Lisahally (c) Imperial War Museum (A 29241)



Figure 126 – Kilnappy Royal Naval Armament Depot (c) ww2ni.webs.com



Figure 127 – Aghnaloo airfield tower (c) ww2ni.webs.com



Figure 128– Aghnaloo airfield dome (c) ww2ni.webs.com

## FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN – Written Landscape: prose, poem & song

### Folklore & Oral Narratives:

"....In Ballikelly, besides numerous simple, stout, brick-built dwellings for the peasantry, with their shining windows and trim garden-plots, is a Presbyterian meeting-house, so well-built, substantial, and handsome, so different from the lean, pretentious, sham-Gothic ecclesiastical edifices which have been erected in late years in Ireland, that it can't fail to strike the tourist who has made architecture his study or his pleasure. The gentleman's seats in the district are numerous and handsome; and the whole movement along the road betokened cheerfulness and prosperous activity..." W.M. Thackeray from The Irish Sketch Book 1843

### In Derry Vale

W. G. Rothery, a British lyricist who wrote the English lyrics for songs such as Handel's "Art Thou Troubled," wrote the following lyrics to the tune of "The Londonderry Air":

In Derry Vale, beside the singing river,  
so oft' I strayed, ah, many years ago,  
and culled at morn the golden daffodillies  
that came with spring to set the world aglow.  
Oh, Derry Vale, my thoughts are ever turning  
to your broad stream and fairy-circled lee.  
For your green isles my exiled heart is yearning,  
so far away across the sea.  
In Derry Vale, amid the Foyle's dark waters,  
the salmon leap, beside the surging weir.  
The seabirds call, I still can hear them calling  
in night's long dreams of those so dear.  
Oh, tarrying years, fly faster, ever faster,  
I long to see that vale belov'd so well,  
I long to know that I am not forgotten,  
And there in home in peace to dwell.

### 19<sup>th</sup> Century Gazetteers

#### Account from Lewis' Topographical Dictionary of Ireland - 1837

*"BALLYKELLY, a village, in the parish of TAMLAGHT-FINLAGAN, barony of KENAUGHT, county of LONDONDERRY, and province of ULSTER, 3 miles (W.by S.) from Newtownlimavady; containing 290 inhabitants. This place, with the lands around it, was granted by Jas. I., on the plantation of Ulster, to the Fishmongers' Company of London, who, in 1619, erected a large and handsome castle, the custody of which was entrusted to James Higgins, Esq., who had a garrison of 40 able men, with arms for its defence. The estate was held under lease from the company, by the Hamiltons and Beresfords, from the year 1628 till the death of Geo. III., when it reverted to the company, who immediately commenced improvements on an extensive scale. The village issituated on the road from Londonderry to Coleraine, and contains 67 houses, of which the greater number are handsomely built. The proprietors have built in it several very neat cottages; a large and handsome meeting-house, in the Grecian style of architecture, for Presbyterians in connection with the Synod of Ulster; an excellent dispensary, with a very good house for a resident surgeon; and large and substantial school rooms, with residences for the master and mistress; and various other improvements are*

*in progress in and around the village. Nearly adjoining are several large and handsome houses, the principal of which are Walworth, the residence of the Rev. G. V. Sampson; Walworth Cottage, of Major Stirling; Drummond, of A. Sampson, Esq.; and Finlagan, of the Rev. O. McCausland. Walworth was built by the Beresfords in 1705, and occupied by that family till the death of Geo. III.; the woods around it contain some of the finest timber in the county, and are among the most extensive in the north of Ireland. Corn stores have been built; and a market for grain is occasionally held. A penny post from Londonderry to this place has been established. Close to the village is the parish church of Tamlaght-Finlagan, a small but handsome edifice, with a large square tower surmounted by a lofty octagonal spire; and here is a Presbyterian meeting-house, a spacious and handsome edifice, of the first class. Near the church are the ruins of Walworth castle, erected by the company in 1619; and adjoining are the ruins of a church, built by the Hamilton family in 1629.—See TAMLAGHT-FINLAGAN.*

*TAMLAGHTFINLAGAN, a parish, in the barony of KENAUGHT, county of LONDONDERRY, and province of Ulster, 2¼ miles (W. by S.) from Newtown-Limavady, on the mail coach road to Londonderry; containing 7356 inhabitants. The parish, which comprises, according to the Ordnance Survey, 17,402 statute acres, of which 81½ are under water, and one-sixth consists of mountain, derived its name from an abbey founded by St. Columbkille, in 585, in the townland of Tamlaght, over which he placed Fion Lugain, as its first abbot: at what time it ceased to be a monastic institution is now unknown, but it is classed as a parochial church in Pope Nicholas's Taxation in 1291. The lands belong to three proprietors, in the proportions of three-fifths to the freehold estate of Newtown, as granted to Sir Thos. Phillips; two-fifths to the Fishmongers' Company, and one-fifth to the see of Derry; and are in three distinct manors, but no courts are held in any of them. Lough Foyle forms about one-half of the western boundary. In the vale of Myroe, which exhibits some of the most beautiful and romantic scenery in the North of Ireland, and throughout all the northern districts, is some of the very finest and most productive land, bearing heavy crops of all kinds of grain: in the southern portion the land rises into considerable ranges of mountain and bog, by much the greater part of which is capable of cultivation, and from which spring the sources of the numerous streams and rivulets that irrigate and fertilise the lower grounds. In the same portion, near the sources of the Rush and Ballykelly waters, are large deposits of excellent blue limestone, and in several places throughout the parish are indications of calcareous sandstone; but the prevailing rock is of schistose formation. The vicinity of the shores of Lough Foyle affords great facilities for water-carriage, of which full advantage has not yet been taken, though a large sum has been expended, somewhat injudiciously, towards the construction of a landing-place at the mouth of the Ballykelly water. The inhabitants unite to their agricultural employment, which is the chief source of their incomes, the weaving of linen cloth: at the Dog-leap are extensive and very complete mills for bleaching linen, which are at present unemployed: there are several tanyards, in which a considerable quantity of leather is manufactured; three four-mills, three corn-mills, and a plating mill or forge for the manufacture of spades, shovels, and other agricultural implements. By much the greater number of the farms in the northern or lowland portion of the parish are well fenced, drained, and cultivated: green crops have latterly been attended to. The old oak woods at Walworth, Roe Park, and the Dog-leap, and the modern plantations in various parts, add much to the richness of aspect that characterises the greater portion of the parish. The same effect is still farther heightened by the numerous seats with which it is studded. The principal are Roe Park, the residence of Edm. C. McNaghten, Esq.; Walworth, of the Rev. G. V. Sampson; Drummond, of A. Sampson, Esq.; Walworth Lodge, of Major Stirling; Finlagan, of the Rev. O. McCausland; Farloe, of John Given, Esq.; Bessbrook, of F. McCausland, Esq.; Rush Hall, of Hugh Boyle, Esq.; Oatlands, of John Church, Esq.; Culmore, of J. Martin, Esq.; and Ardnargle, of Jas. Ogilby, Esq. The living is a rectory, in the diocese of Derry, and in the patronage of the Bishop: the tithes amount to £1000. The glebe-house is situated half a mile east of the church, upon a glebe of 188 Cunningham acres, which is valued at £235 per annum. The church was built in 1795, near the village of Ballykelly, at the joint expense of the Earl of Bristol, then Bishop of Derry, and of John Beresford, Esq.: it is a small but very handsome edifice, in the early English style, with a large square tower and lofty octagonal spire: the windows are embellished with the armorial bearings of the Irish Society, the Fishmongers' Company, and the Beresford family, in stained glass. In it is a very neat monument to the memory of the Rev. G. V. Sampson, author of the Memoir and Map of Londonderry and of the Statistical Survey of the same county: another belonging to the ancient family of the Hamiltons, and a third, of modern and elegant execution, to a junior branch of the Beresford family. A grant of £124 for its repair has been lately made by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. In the R. C. divisions the parish forms part of the union or district of Newtown-Limavady: the chapel is situated at Oghill, near Ballykelly; in which village there*

*is a large meeting-house for Presbyterians in connection with the Synod of Ulster, of the first class, built by the Fishmongers' company in 1827, in the Grecian style: at Largy and Myroe there are also meeting-houses of Presbyterians in connection with the Synod of Ulster.*

*Handsome male and female schools, with residences for the teachers, have been, erected by the same company, and are conducted under its patronage on the most improved system: the parochial male and female schools, at Tamlaght, were built by the rector in 1832, and are supported by him: two others in the parish were built and are supported by the Fishmongers' company; one, at Glasvey, is in connection with the London Hibernian Society; and there are schools at Ballinurig, Dromore, Largy, Crindale, Carraghmenagh, and Lomond, in connection with the Kildare-place Society. These schools afford instruction to about 500 children: there are also 10 private schools, in which are about 300 boys and 230 girls; and a large and handsome dispensary at Ballykelly.*

*The remains of Walworth castle, erected by the Fishmongers' company, in 1619, shew it to have been a large and spacious edifice, defended by a bawn and flankers, three of which are still in a tolerable state of preservation. Closely adjoining are the remains of a church, built by the Hamilton family in 1629. The ruins of the old parish church, which was destroyed in the war of 1641, occupy the site of the ancient abbey. There are numerous raths, of which that called Daisy Hill, in Roe park, and another near it, called Rough Fort, are the most remarkable.*

*MUFF, a village, in the parish of FAUGHANVALE, barony of TIRKEERAN, county of LONDONDERRY, and province of ULSTER, 6 miles (N. E. by E.) from Londonderry, on the old road to Coleraine; containing 192 inhabitants. This place owes its origin to the Grocers' Company of London, to whom, on the settlement of Ulster, Jas. I. granted the adjacent lands, on which the company erected a large bawn and a strong castle, defended by a garrison of their own tenantry. The castle was besieged in 1641 by the insurgents under Col. McDonnell, and gallantly defended by the garrison during the winter of that year, till relieved in the following summer by the troops from Derry, but it afterwards fell in the hands of the parliamentarians, by whom it was dismantled. The company, in 1626, erected a church here, which has ever since been the parish church of Faughanvale; and on the expiration of the leases, which they had granted for long terras, resumed the management of their estate in 1819, since which period very considerable improvements have been made.*

*The company's manor comprehends 38 townlands, extending into the parishes of Lower Cumber and Clondermot, and comprising 16,500 statute acres. The village has been entirely rebuilt; the houses are large and of handsome appearance, the streets spacious and regularly laid out, and the roads leading to it well constructed and kept in good repair. In conjunction with the resident gentry of the neighbourhood, the company established an agricultural school at Templemoyle, with which a classical school at Fallowlee is connected, and for its use allotted 130 acres for experiments in practical farming, in consideration of which they send three free pupils into the school. Fairs are held on the first Thursday in Feb., May, Aug., and Nov., for cattle, sheep, pigs, and various articles of merchandise. A pennypost has been established to Londonderry, a constabulary police force is stationed here, and petty sessions are held on the first Tuesday in every month. A manorial court is held monthly before the seneschal, for the recovery of debts under 40s.; the court and markethouse is a spacious and handsome building in the centre of the village. The old church built by the company having fallen into decay, a new church in the early English style was erected in 1821, towards which a loan of £1000 was granted by the late Board of First Fruits; the glebe-house (erected by the Company), a dispensary, and an almshouse for 20 poor widows, are also in the village. There are some remains of the old parish church; but not a vestige of the bawn or castle, except the vaults of the latter, can be traced.*

*FAUGHANVALE, a parish, in the barony of TIRKERAN, county of LONDONDERRY, and province of ULSTER, 8 miles (S. E.) from Londonderry, on the mail coach road to Coleraine; containing 6218 inhabitants. This parish, which is bounded on the north by Lough Foyle, comprises, according to the Ordnance survey, 18,582¼ statute acres, the greater portion of which was granted in 1609, by Jas. I., to the Grocers' Company of London, who in 1619 erected a strong and handsome castle, surrounded by a bawn, in which they placed a powerful garrison. In the war of 1641 this castle sustained a siege for several months, and resolutely held out against the parliamentarians till the garrison was relieved; it was again besieged and finally taken and*

dismantled by the parliament; the ruins were standing till 1823, when they were removed, and the present glebe-house erected on the site. Of the remainder of the parish, part is held in perpetuity equally by Lesley Alexander, Esq., and the heirs of the late Sir Wm. Ponsonby, who pay a chief rent of £200 per ann. to the Goldsmiths' Company; part belongs to Major Scott, part to the see of Derry, and a few of the native townlands in the Grocers' proportion to the Marquess of Londonderry.

The land is generally fertile, especially round the villages of Faughanvale and Muff, and the system of agriculture has been greatly improved under the auspices of the North West Agricultural Society, and the gentry resident in the district. Many thousand acres of bog and waste land have been reclaimed and brought into profitable cultivation; the lands are well drained and fenced, and there are extensive and flourishing plantations, exclusively of the ancient oak woods of Walworth, which are principally in this parish. At Creggan and Tullynee are quarries of excellent slate, but they are only partially worked, and principally for flags and tombstones. The principal seats are Willsborough, that of Major Scott; Foyle Park, of Lesley Alexander, Esq.; Campsey, of J. Quin, Esq.; Creggan, of T. Major, Esq.; Coolafeaney, of T. Lecky, Esq.; Muff House, of the Rev. J. Christie; and Tullybriland, of T. Major, Esq. A manorial court, in which debts not exceeding 40s. are recoverable, is held at Muff for that part of the parish which belongs to the Grocers' Company. The living is a rectory and perpetual curacy, in the diocese of Derry; the rectory forming part of the union of Templemore and of the corps of the deanery of Derry, and the curacy in the patronage of the Dean. The tithes amount to £700, payable to the dean, and the glebe comprises 1035 statute acres. The curacy was instituted in 1823; the stipend is £92. 6. 2., of which £69. 4. 7-½. is paid by the dean, and £23.1. 6½. from Primate Boulter's fund. The glebe-house, with a glebe of 10 acres, was given to the curate by the Grocers' Company. The church, a spacious and handsome edifice, with a square tower crowned with pinnacles, was built in 1821, by a loan of £1000 from the late Board of First Fruits, near the ruins of a former church built by the Grocers' Company in 1626, in the village of Muff, and about three miles distant from the ruins of the ancient parish church. The R. C. parish is coextensive with that of the Established church; the chapel is at Creggan. At Tullinee there is a place of worship for Presbyterians in connection with the Synod of Ulster, of the second class. About 370 children are taught in six public schools, of which the parochial school at Muff is supported by a grant of £30 per ann. from the trustees of Erasmus Smith's charity, and annual donations from the Grocers' Company and the rector; the school-house, adjoining the church, a large and handsome edifice, was erected in 1814. A school at Graceteel is under the Fishmongers' Company, who pay the whole charges for children of cottiers and one half for those of formers on their estate; two are aided by the Marquess of Londonderry and Major Scott; and an agricultural school is supported by shareholders and subscribers, and by the labour of the scholars on the farm. There are also three private schools, in which are about 150 children, and three Sunday schools. A valuable donation of sacramental plate and furniture for the altar and pulpit was bequeathed to the church, in 1665, by Bishop Wild, who also left £5 for the poor.

GLENDERMOT, or CLONDERMOT, a parish, in the barony of TIR.KEEK.AN, county of LONDONDERRY, and province of ULSTER; containing, with the town of Waterside, which is one of the suburbs of Londonderry, 10,338 inhabitants. This parish, which is separated from the city of Londonderry by the river Foyle, over which is a fine wooden bridge, 1068 feet long, comprises 22,495 acres, of which 987 are water. A religious house is said to have been founded here by St. Patrick, which was probably the church of Kil Ard, of which the foundations are still traceable. St. Columb kill founded a monastery here in 588, at the place which still bears his name; and Ailid O'Dormit founded a nunnery at Rossnagalliagh, in 879, of which some traces remain. The founder of the extensive building, of which the ruins are on Lough Enagh, is unknown; it probably belonged to the Knights Hospitallers, and was afterwards a chapel of ease to Clondermot, and as such was confirmed to the Dean of Derry in 1609, under the name of Annagh. In the Earl of Tyrone's rebellion the church of St. Columb and the parish church were destroyed; the former was not rebuilt, but some of its ruins are visible. The soil in the northern portion of the parish is rich and well cultivated, but there is a considerable quantity of moorland in the southern part. Quarries of slate and blue limestone exist. At Ardmore is a bleach-green, the first established in this part of the country, where 25,000 pieces of linen are finished annually; there is also one at the Oaks, and a large distillery at Waterside. The water for the supply of the city of Londonderry is obtained from an elevated spot near Prehen, and conveyed in cast-iron pipes over the bridge across the Foyle into the city. Besides that bridge, there is a handsome one over the Faughan, near Enagh; another on the Coleraine road, a little lower down, and a third at Drumahoe. The Bishop's, the Goldsmiths', and the Grocers' manors extend over parts of this parish, but no manorial courts are held. The principal seats are Prehen, the residence of Col. Knox; Beech Hill, of Conolly Skipton, Esq.; Ashbrook, of W.H. Ashe, Esq.;

*Ardmore, of J.A. Smith, Esq.; Larchmount, of C. McClelland, Esq.; Lisdillon, of W. J. Smith, Esq.; Berryburn, of Capt. Reynolds; Ardkill, of R. Stephenson, Esq.; Bellevue, of the Rev. J. D. Maughan; Bonds Hill, of J. Murray, Esq.; St. Columbs, of G.Hill, Esq.; Gleudermot: glebe, of the Rev, A. G. Cary; Caw, of A. Harvey, Esq.; Lower Caw, of J. Alexander, Esq.; and Coolkeragh, of R. Young, Esq. The living is a perpetual Curacy, in the diocese of Derry, and in the gift of the Dean of Derry; the rectory was united by patent in 1609, to Templemore and Faughanvale, the three forming the union of Templemore and tin; corps of the deanery of Derry, which is in the patronage of the Crown; the Ecclesiastical Commissioners recommend the dissolution of the union. The tithes amount, to £920. 11. S.t and the perpetual curate is paid by the dean. The church is a large handsome building, in the Grecian style, erected in 1753, and for the repairs of which the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have recently granted £609.*

*The glebe-house is situated on a glebe of 12 acres, purchased by the late Board of First Fruits in 1824, and is occupied by the perpetual curate. The rector's glebe comprises 407 acres, and the deanery lands in Clondermot consist of 1284 acres, In the R. C. divisions the parish is united to part of Lower Cumber; there is a small neat chapel at; Curryneirin. At Altnagelvin are two meeting-houses for Presbyterians in connection with the Synod of Ulster, one of the first, the other of the third, class; and at Drumahoe is one connected with the Seceding Synod. There are parochial schools at Clondermot, on the glebe, and at the new church, aided by the dean; there are also schools at Salem, Ardmore, Lisdillon, and Drumahoe; the Grocers' Company have built and maintain a school at Gortnessey; a school at Prehen is supported by Col. Knox and the perpetual curate; there in a national school at Curryneirin, and female work schools at Ardmore and Bellevue; also four Sunday schools. Col. Mitchelburne, who was a native of this place, and many of the other defenders of Londonderry, are interred in the burial ground of Clondermot, in which are considerable remain of the old church"*

## FOYLE ALLUVIAL PLAIN – Review of findings & recommendations

Significant surviving heritage asset groupings:

- Prehistoric sites at the River Faughan
- Churchlands & O’Cahan’s castle
- Siege of Derry/ Boom Hall site
- Military & World War 2 structures
- Railway
- Plantation towns & built heritage: Ballykelly & Eglinton
- Natural: flora & fauna
- Coastal engineering

Possible risk areas:

- Urban centres – damage due to erosion to designed urban landscapes at Ballykelly and Eglinton; potential loss of public view of Walworth bawn due to zoning of open space to the east for housing
- Building structures and setting at: 17<sup>th</sup> century site Willsborough; 19<sup>th</sup> century internationally recognised site at Templemoyle
- Damage to mediaeval church buildings at Ballykelly, Faughanvale, Enagh & Aghanloo caused by growth of ivy and vegetation
- WW2 structures which benefit from protection, have no current use and will demand specialist repair in the relatively short term. In the course of public consultation WW2 heritage was repeatedly mentioned as one of the most important assets in the region

Existing tourism uses & Opportunities

- Railway – international significance
- WW2 Structures – international significance
- Investigation of potential Gaelic & Plantation period structures at Enagh and Siege of Derry battlefield site at Gransha
- Removal of heavy traffic from disused sections of former A2 road for development of pedestrian routes and cycleways



#### 4.3 Burngibbagh & Drumahoe

### BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE – Landscape Character Area

The Landscape Character Area (LCA) forms the extent of the study area defined in the project brief. The following map and text relates to BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE Landscape Character Area – as described by Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)



Figure 129 – 1 to 50,000 scale Discovery map (c) OSNI

#### **“Key Characteristics**

- *linear valley system with a strong NE-SW alignment*
- *valley has a flat floor and is enclosed by broad, rounded ridges*
- *hedgerows enclosing pastures form a strong, geometric pattern on the valley sides, with small areas of open moorland capping some summits*
- *pylons lines are a dominant landscape element, particularly to the north*
- *built development concentrated in centre of valley, near Drumahoe*

#### **Landscape Description**

*The Burngibbagh and Drumahoe landscape character area includes the long, linear valley system of the Burngibbagh and the lower Faughan River and its enclosing ridges. The valley lies to the east of Londonderry and is parallel to the River Foyle. The valley has a strong linear form and is aligned along a NE-SW axis, following a similar geological fault line to that of the River Foyle. The valley floor is relatively flat and well-defined and the enclosing ridges have a broad, rounded landform with open summits. The higher summits, such as Gortree Hill and Clondermot, are capped with brown moorland, which stands out clearly against the surrounding green pastures. Pasture is the predominant land use and the fields are enclosed by a neat*

*network of hedgerows, with a transition to stone walls on some upper slopes. The hedgerows form a strong geometric pattern on the valley sides. The northern part of the valley, which contains the lower Faughan River, has a more open character, with larger fields and a relatively wide, unenclosed valley floor.*

*This part of the valley is dominated by a major power transmission line, with large pylons sited on raised plinths on the marshy valley floor. The Faughan River enters the Burngibbagh and Drumahoe valley system at its central point and then turns abruptly north to follow the natural fault-line. The valley is more open at this point and there is industrial development on the outskirts of the settlement of Drumahoe, as well as development spreading westwards from Londonderry along the A6. The southern part of the valley, which contains the Burngibbagh, has a more secluded character. The fields here are smaller and there are numerous hedgerow trees, which increase in density towards the valley floor. The Burngibbagh itself is relatively small and inconspicuous.*

### **Landscape Condition and Sensitivity to Change**

*The Faughan River valley, to the north, has a more degraded landscape character, with evidence of hedgerow loss and some sand and gravel extraction in the Gorticross area. The pylons also detract from the rural quality of this part of the valley. The valley landscape is relatively sensitive because it is in a highly accessible area; the ridgetops to the west also form part of the wider landscape setting of Londonderry. The Burngibbagh section of the valley, to the south, is particularly sensitive as it is relatively undeveloped. Its secluded, rural character could easily be diminished if the tree cover and hedgerow network was decreased due to built development, mineral extraction, farm expansion etc.*

### **Principles for Landscape Management**

- *the conservation of hedgerows and stone walls will ensure that the strong landscape pattern which is characteristic of the valley system is maintained*
- *there is scope to restore some of the disused sand and gravel quarries in the Gorticross area, using woodland planting to improve the definition of the valley form in this relatively open section of the valley*

### **Principles for Accommodating New Development**

- *the Clondermot ridge, to the east of Londonderry, forms part of the landscape setting for the city. The Burngibbagh valley system is, however, quite separate and it would not be appropriate for development to spread over the ridgetop and into the valley of the lower Faughan*
- *further development can be accommodated in the Drumahoe area, where the valley broadens to form a natural bowl shape. However, the valley is relatively open at this point and any built development should be associated with extensive planting, using native species, to integrate it with the surrounding landform*
- *white-washed dwellings and red-roofed barns are characteristic of the area*
- *development within the Burngibbagh valley to the south could disrupt its secluded, unspoilt character”*

## **BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE – Historic Landscape Characterisation**

Unlike other LCA areas this location relates most closely to its topography which is a deep glacial valley parallel to the Foyle and separated by a tapered ridge rising to a hill at its southern end.

The valley starts near to the mouth of the River Faughan and runs south towards towards the Burn Dennet. The valley is visually separated by a hill from the city of Derry by a hill, which closely corresponds to the parish of Clondermot. This hidden corridor and control of the hill overlooking the city from the eastern bank of the Foyle would have been significant to any military strategist and is no doubt reason why such an apparently small feature on the modern map would appear on Richard Bartlett's 1602-3 map of Ulster.

The northern end of this valley corresponds to route of the River Faughan before it changes direction at Drumahoe. This short section is the most complex, but can be characterised by a number of mansions and gentleman's houses laid out along the fertile river's edge. Whilst established in extensive landscaped grounds, these houses have come to mark the periphery forming an historic green belt which the city has extended out to meet in recent years. This northern section of the LCA also contains pockets of woodland.

Water mills and their attendant features are a major element of the landscape along both the river Faughan and the lower section of Burn Gibbagh. The major features are associated with the house at Ardmore where there was a large bleaching green.

World War 2 military features were present in this area at a remove from the airfields and other large sites located in the Foyle Alluvial Plain. This area provided officer and military planning accommodation at Beech Hill and isolated stores and ammunition dumps.

Significant transport features exist in the form of stone bridges at Mobuoy and Drumahoe and to the south, part of the track bed of the Great Northern Railway (Ireland).

This landscape area also formed the western edge of the Londonderry Plantation. Lands to the south were planted by Scottish settlers leading to a different pattern of settlement with small townlands following the rundale system. The pattern of rural occupation established more than 200 years ago is still clearly visible today.

The Landscape character area could be broken down further into two historic character areas which have differing spatial characteristics. The northern section corresponds to the area included within the Londonderry Plantation and its County boundary. The southern section is more rural within an open steeply sided valley :

- Lower Faughan
- Burngibbagh channel

These preliminary titles have not been adopted for use in this study but may assist the future naming or subdivision of the study area based on historical land use.

## **BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE – historical natural landscapes; geology**

The geological setting refers to the natural material state landscape as it has formed without the intervention of man. The following map and text relates to the geological setting of BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE Landscape Character Area – as described by Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)

### ***“Outline Geomorphology and Landscape Setting***

*The use of a cultural overlay in defining Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) means that they frequently subdivide natural physiographic units. It is common therefore for significant geomorphological features to run across more than one LCA. It is also possible in turn, to group physiographic units into a smaller number of natural regions. These regions invariably reflect underlying geological, topographic and, often, visual continuities between their component physiographic units, and have generally formed the basis for defining landscape areas such as AONBs. It is essential therefore, that in considering the 'Geodiversity' of an individual LCA, regard should be given to adjacent LCAs and to the larger regions within which they sit. In the original Land Utilisation Survey of Northern Ireland, Symons (1962) identified twelve such natural regions.*

*This LCA lies within the region described as the Western River Basins, although it grades westwards into the valley floor of the River Foyle and eastwards into the North Derry Uplands and Sperrin Mountains. The Western River Basins region consists essentially of the connected river systems that drain the Carboniferous and Old Red Sandstone plateau of County Tyrone, as well as the foothills of the Sperrin Mountains to the east and Donegal to the west. The region extends from the Omagh Basin in the south, northwards along the lower Foyle valley. The Omagh Basin has particular significance as an ice centre during the Late Midlandian and is now largely covered by a complex mixture of glaciofluvial sands and gravels and drumlins overlying Rogen moraines. When the headwaters of these river systems rise together they have in the past been responsible for serious flooding at the bottleneck of Strabane. Although this has been mitigated by extensive drainage control works in and around the town.*

*The Burngibbagh and Drumahoe landscape character area includes the long, linear valley system of the Burngibbagh and the lower Faughan River and its enclosing ridges. The valley lies to the east of Londonderry and is parallel to the River Foyle. The valley has a strong linear form and is aligned along a NE-SW fault-guided axis of Caledonian trend. The valley floor is relatively flat and well defined and the enclosing ridges have a broad, rounded landform with open summits. The higher summits, such as Gortree Hill and Clondermot, are capped with moorland, which stands out clearly against the surrounding green pastures. The Faughan River enters the Burngibbagh and Drumahoe valley system at its central point and then turns abruptly north to follow the natural fault-line. The valley is more open at this point and there is industrial development on the outskirts of the settlement of Drumahoe, as well as development spreading westwards from Londonderry along the A6. The southern part of the valley, which contains the Burngibbagh, has a more*

secluded character. The Faughan Valley is of high scientific interest due to the presence of extensive glaciolacustrine and glaciofluvial deposits consisting of deltas, moraines, eskers and outwash plains occurring in close field associations. There is scope to restore some of the disused sand and gravel quarries in the Gorticross area.

**Pre-Quaternary (Solid) Geology**

The stratigraphy of this area is made up of the mapped formations in the table, the youngest of which usually overlie the oldest. The older formations can be upside down (tectonically inverted).

**Stratigraphic Table (youngest rocks at the top of the table)**

<b>Carboniferous - about 350 million years old</b>
<b>Barony Glen</b>
<b>Dalradian (Neoproterozoic) - about 600 million years old</b>
<b>Un-named metabasites</b>
<b>Londonderry</b>
<b>Ballykelly</b>

This LCA is dominated by Dalradian (Neoproterozoic) strata of the Londonderry succession. Structural strike is dominantly east-west to northeast - southwest (NE-SW) with overall northerly dip in the north. These rocks were originally sediments with igneous intrusions: they have been metamorphosed and deformed, such as those seen at ESCR Site 336, Kittybane Quarry.

Two tectonic phases have affected the area: the Caledonian (Ordovician - Silurian) and Variscan (end Carboniferous). Caledonian deformation is very apparent throughout the Dalradian succession.

**Quaternary (Drift) Geology**

Northern Ireland has experienced repeated glaciations during the Pleistocene period that produced vast amounts of debris to form the glacial deposits that cover more than 90% of the landscape. Their present morphology was shaped principally during the last glacial cycle (the Midlandian), with subsequent modification throughout the post-glacial Holocene period. The Late Midlandian, the last main phases of ice sheet flow, occurred between 23 and 13ka B.P. from dispersion centres in the Lough Neagh Basin, the Omagh Basin and Lower Lough Erne/Donegal. The clearest imprint of these ice flows are flow transverse rogen moraines and flow parallel drumlin swarms which developed across thick covers of till, mostly below 150m O.D. during a period that referred to as the Drumlin Readvance. At the very end of the Midlandian, Scottish ice moved southwards and overrode parts of the north coast. Evidence for deglaciation of the landscape is found in features formed between the glacial maximum to the onset of the present warm stage

*from 17 and 13ka B.P. - a period of gradual climatic improvement. Most commonly these are of glaciofluvial and glaciolacustrine origin and include: eskers, outwash mounds and spreads, proglacial lacustrine deposits, kame terraces, kettle holes and meltwater channels (McCarron et al. 2002). During the Holocene, marine, fluvial, aeolian and mass movement processes, combined with human activities and climate and sea-level fluctuations, have modified the appearance of the landscape. The landforms and associated deposits derived from all of these processes are essentially fossil. Once damaged or destroyed they cannot be replaced since the processes or process combinations that created them no longer exist. They therefore represent a finite scientific and economic resource and are a notable determinant of landscape character.*

*The drift geology map for this LCA shows a landscape dominated by a mosaic of drift-free summits and lowlands masked by a cover of Late Midlandian till. The latter was laid down by ice that flowed northeastwards along the Foyle Valley, and the direction of flow is recorded by a mix of streamlined drumlins and rock ridges. However, the Quaternary features that are of possibly greatest geomorphological and geological significance are located within areas of deglacial sand and gravel. Of particular interest are those found in the valley of the lower Faughan, that form part of the Faughan/Dungiven Basins Complex. Although extensive sand and gravel deposits also occur in the valley of the Burngibbagh and in the west of the LCA, where there is a small area of the Foyle Valley Complex.*

*The Faughan/Dungiven Basins Complex in this LCA consists of 2.1km<sup>2</sup> of outwash deposits along the lower Faughan Valley. The complex itself consists of glaciofluvial deposits that are primarily deltaic in origin and are situated along structural lows in the upper Faughan and upper Roe drainage basins. The area is of high scientific interest due to the presence of extensive glaciolacustrine and glaciofluvial deposits consisting of deltas, moraines, eskers and outwash plains occurring in close field associations. The high relief range allows pleasant views both from the basin bottoms and from the Sperrin valleys. There is a general lack of commercial sand and gravel production in the area except immediately east of Dunnamanagh and another, larger pit at Moyagh. Most of the complex occurs in LCA 30, smaller areas occur in LCAs 27, 29, 33, 34 and 37.*

*The Foyle Valley Complex in this LCA consists of a small area (0.9km<sup>2</sup>) on the western border with LCA 27. The complex itself is a widespread assemblage of landforms which are genetically linked by formation during ice-margin retreat westward from the Sperrin valleys during the last deglacial cycle. Strong control on ice-margin configuration and meltwater drainage patterns was exercised by bedrock topography, serving to focus meltwater along the valley axes. This resulted in the formation of thick, flat-topped glaciofluvial terraces. Increases in sediment supply or temporary reductions in ice-margin retreat rates resulted in the accumulation of thick belts of hummocky moraine. Most of the complex can be found in LCA 27, smaller areas in LCAs 20, 21, 26 and 29.*

## **Key Elements**

### **Deglacial Complexes**

### *The Faughan/Dungiven Basins Complex*

*Deltaic deposits are preserved at seven principal locations and are of special scientific interest, as their widespread extent and relationship to proglacial water levels implies that substantial, deep lakes were impounded along the Faughan and upper Roe valleys as Irish ice masses retreated southwards and Scottish ice advanced southwestwards into the lower Roe valley. The upper Roe (Dungiven) and middle to upper Faughan valley basins have been used for mineral aggregate production in the northwest of the province for approximately twenty years.*

### *The Foyle Valley Complex*

*The complex has a high scientific value, for understanding the complexity of deglacial processes and records ice retreat westward from the western Sperrin valleys into the topographic low of the Foyle valley, indicating ice pressure from the direction of the Omagh basin to the south during the last deglacial cycle.*

### **Other sites/units identified in the Earth Science Conservation Review**

#### *336 Kittybane Quarry*

*Precambrian. Quality outcrop of Ballykelly Formation on south of Lough Foyle Syncline. Preserved sedimentary structures.”*



A further description of the geomorphology of the Foyle Valley Complex is described in “Geological Sites in Northern Ireland – Earth Science conservation Review 2003”. A large part of this description also includes the Foyle Valley, Landscape Character Area:

*“This account describes the retreat of the ice sheet at the end of the last Irish glaciation (the Midlandian) from a roughly triangular area with corners at Castlederg and Newtonstewart in the south and New Buildings just south of Londonderry in the north. The area includes a network of valleys draining into the River Foyle, including the Glenmornan, the Burn Dennet, the Mourne, the Derg and the Strule. The Burngibbagh meltwater channel drains into the River Faughan which enters Lough Foyle directly.*

*Immediately south of New Buildings hummocky moraine ridges with a north-west/south-east orientation occur on the eastern bank of the Foyle. They lie across rock ridges with a north/south orientation carved into the Ballykelly Formation of Dalradian rocks beneath. To the east, flat topped deposits occur in what must have been the intake for the overflow of meltwater into Burngibbagh, the deeply incised valley feeding the lower Faughan. More north/south rock ridges can be seen north west of Bready with unexposed flat-topped deposits to the east. At Cloghcor, hummocky and kettle-holed moraine material forms a patch of high ground between the Foyle and Burn Dennet valleys, with a spread of sand and gravel to the north east sloping between 20m and 15m above sea level. A little to the north, east of Lough Neas, an abandoned sand and gravel working reveals a deposit of pebble- and cobble-filled channels, up to 5m thick with rippled sands. This is topped by 80cm of boulder and cobble gravel with crude stratification. An ice wedge (over 1m deep) cuts these deposits, indicating a period of intense cold after they were formed. From Grove Hill to Crockanroe, on both sides of the Glenmornan valley, there are flat-topped remnants of what was previously a deposit filling its entire bottom. Their tops reach a level of 160m above sea level. On the southern side of the valley near Murder Hill they are exposed in a large sand and gravel pit. At the base there are 2m of pebble and boulder gravel in a sandy matrix, topped by up to 20m of cross-bedded sand, incorporating pebble and cobble gravels. A belt of moraine forms a hummocky ridge that cuts across the Glenmornan valley from Ballymagorry in the west to Artigarvan in the east. There is a series of cross valley ridges, the highest reaching the 100m contour. They are dissected at Artigarvan by an east to west draining meltwater channel. The deposits lie immediately west of the flat-topped, remnant facets of valley fill already mentioned. The Strule and Mourne valleys show extensive evidence of a former valley-bottom fill in the form of a series of irregular, remnant facets on both sides of the valley from Strabane in the north to the northern edge of Newtonstewart in the south. In the upper reaches of the valley it approaches the 60m contour, descending progressively northwards to 10m at Strabane. Nowhere are these deposits exposed. Along the Derg River valley, particularly the north bank, an extensive belt of hummocky glacial deposits with frequent kettle holes, 11km long by about 1km wide, drapes the low ground. The upper level reaches between 60m and 70m and the sketchy exposure reveals glacio-lacustrine gravels and sands. A discontinuous, segmented arc of steep-sided, moraine deposits extends from Wood Hills to Newtonstewart, and at Laragh a face can be seen where the moraine has preserved the shape of its direct contact with the ice. To the south west there is more hummocky ground cut through by a dramatic meltwater channel, to a depth of 20m. The northern flank merges smoothly on to the 60m terrace already mentioned in the Strule valley. At the confluence of the Derg with the Mourne, at Millbrook, segments of a former moraine are preserved on both banks of the Mourne. The surviving ridges reach a maximum height of 20m and the flanking terrace deposits cover them in part. There is an associated deposit of sand to cobble grade, crudely stratified gravels. There is also a small hummocky area near Lisatunny House, at the head of a deeply incised meltwater channel draining northwards towards Douglas Bridge. Another meltwater channel, 2km long, forms the valley between Clady Hill and Whisker Hill. The lack of exposure in this entire area limits its interpretation and much is inferred or deduced from individual and associated landforms. The Foyle valley depression was a major route of ice flow when the glaciation was at its most severe during the Midlandian but towards the end of the stage, as the climate improved, the ice sheets began to waste and the northerly outflow ceased. The ice front then commenced a southerly retreat. At the same time, the ice in the Sperrins decayed and the ice front wasted westwards. A body of stagnant ice at New Buildings deposited its pulverised rock load on to the rock foundations, ridged and grooved by the earlier ice mass flowing north. As this was happening, the decaying margin of the ice sheet spread a canopy of outwash deposits in its wake near the intake to the Burngibbagh channel, obviously free draining at the time into the Faughan. The flat-topped facets of deposits in the*

*Glenmornan valley are clear evidence of ice blocking its entrance leading to a build-up of meltwater. This lake had a maximum surface level of 160m above modern sea level, and the plentiful sediment washed into the lake along well-defined courses formed steep-fronted deltas in the relatively still water. The direction of flow appears to have been from the ice dam for much of this time. There are no substantial moraine deposits south and east of Artigarvan until the Deerpark ridges at Newtonstewart are reached, suggesting that the ice retreated rapidly over this stretch of ground. The ice sheet blanketing the area appears to have been flowing north to its melting fringe, and the deposits in the Derg valley suggest that ice flowed northwards across the pre-existing valley and melted south without ever flowing along the valley. This hummocky and kettle-holed deposit shows all the appearance of having collapsed on to stagnant ice. The ice contact feature associated with the Deerpark moraine shows the ice to have been on the southern side, and this and other moraines in the immediate area imply a period when flow and melt were in equilibrium for a period, allowing the deposition of the moraine in a confined belt. This was also the source of supply of sediment feeding the glacial lake occupying the lower Strule and Mourne valleys, where the remnant terraces imply a northward sloping series to Strabane. The moraines and terraces have been subjected to later erosion, extending into post-glacial times. Despite the lack of outcrop, the sequence of events during the melting of the ice sheet in the Foyle area and its progress southwards emerges with some clarity. The moraines and terraces in the vicinity of Deerpark, immediately west of Newtonstewart, are of exceptional quality and national importance.”*



Figure 130 – Burngibbagh & drumahoe historical geological mapping 1889 (c) GSI

## **BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE – historical natural landscapes; ecology**

Information on the ecology is available from a variety of sources. In addition to NIEA data, current sources include references relating to protected sites included in local authority development plans. The following pages offer an overview of these with a synopsis confirming the significant features written by ecologist Ralph Sheppard.

The following text relates to the Biodiversity Profile of BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE Landscape Character Area – as described by Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)

*“In the following account it should be noted that for consistency, the biodiversity section follows the standard order for all LCAs even though some of the communities discussed later may have more importance for biodiversity than those discussed earlier*

### **Key Characteristics**

- woodlands cover only about 1% of the LCA, considerably lower than for Northern Ireland as a whole (c. 5.6%)
- woodland located as small patches in steep-sided tributary valleys, as wet woodland patches, and in estates
- grassland covers c.82% of the LCA, three quarters of which is improved pasture of low biodiversity; the remainder - rush dominated acid grassland - is also of low biodiversity
- small amount of upland heathland, but almost no peatland
- R. Faughan of importance for Atlantic salmon

### **Woodlands**

Woodlands cover only about 1% of the LCA, considerably lower than for Northern Ireland as a whole (c. 5.6%). It occurs as small patches alongside tributaries to the Burngibbagh and Faughan, as for example at Carnafarn where oak, ash and sycamore are frequent, but there is also some beech that may indicate 'landscaping'. The ground conditions are often quite wet but the herb layers are diverse. Elsewhere there are small patches of scrub and wood along the flat floor of the Burngibbah valley and on hillsides where soil drainage is particularly poor; willow and alder are dominant (**wet woodland**).

Although individual estate woodlands are small, they are locally significant and include a band east of Derry stretching from Ashbrook to Birch Wood, and Dullerton in the south (**lowland woodland pasture and parkland**). Typical trees of estate woodlands are found, including beech, Scots pine, lime and oak, but there is also birch, and willows and alder in wetter parts. Most of these estate woodlands, and some of the woods alongside the steep tributary valleys, were present by 1830 and indeed many have been traced back to at least the seventeenth century; 'long-established' (at least from 1830) and possibly 'ancient' woodlands (pre-1600) are thought to be rare in Northern Ireland and may contain species not common in more recent woods.

### **Grassland and Arable**

*Grassland covers c.82% of the LCA, three quarters of which is improved pasture. This generally has low biodiversity as a result of relatively intensive management. Some of the pastures are sown grasslands dominated by ryegrass and few other species - low biodiversity is in-built. Other grasslands have been converted to improved pastures through management. High levels of grazing or repeated cutting for silage, high inputs of fertilizers and slurry, and selective herbicides serve to reduce diversity of both flora and fauna. Arable land cover is similar to that for Northern Ireland as a whole (c.6%); although scattered through the LCA, it is more concentrated to the north on better-drained brown earth soils.*

*Biodiversity in areas of improved pastures and arable is often concentrated in hedgerows. Indeed, they may be the most significant wildlife habitat over much of lowland Northern Ireland, especially where there are few semi-natural habitats. Hedgerows are a refuge for many woodland and farmland plants and animals. In this LCA predominantly hawthorn hedgerows around regular, square fields, are generally well-managed in the lower parts but thin towards the uplands where the improved pastures merge into acid and heathy grasslands. The northern part, which contains the lower Faughan River, has a more open character, with larger fields and a relatively wide, unenclosed valley floor; there has been some loss of hedgerows through field amalgamation. In the south, on the low ground of the Burngibbagh valley, the hedgerow trees are dense.*

*Acid grasslands on the upper slopes of the hills are dominated by rushy fields; some have been abandoned and colonised by willow and alder whereas other merge into heather heath. Rush dominated fields are also common on the organic soils of the flat floor of the Burngibbagh valley.*

*The variety of land cover within the farmland has created habitats for several bird Priority species, including **skylark, song thrush, spotted flycatcher and yellowhammer.***

### **Heaths and Bogs**

*There is only a little blanket bog in the LCA, on the slopes of Curryfree, but this is cut-over; elsewhere the upland slopes are only of thin peat and generally covered by acid grassland with small areas of **upland heath** dominated by common heather. Patches of gorse occur on short, steep slopes on the hillsides.*

### **Wetlands and Lakes**

*There are no significant lakes, fens or reedbeds in the LCA. The River Faughan, as part of the Foyle system, is important for Atlantic salmon as well as sea trout and brown trout.*

### **Key Issues**

General actions for UK and NI **Priority Habitats** and **Priority Species** are detailed in the **Habitat Action Plans** and **Species Action Plans**.

## **WOODLANDS**

*Issue: low woodland cover of variable biodiversity value*

### **Actions:**

- *enhance the biodiversity value of demesne/parkland woodland through control of grazing and felling - by encouraging planting of saplings of the standard trees; by preventing further loss of parkland; by retention of fallen and veteran trees (particularly for bryophytes, ferns, fungi and fauna)*
- *further study of the history and ecology of demesne and other broadleaved woodlands particularly any ancient and long-established, as a key to future management*
- *encourage control of grazing in broadleaved woodlands along streams to foster regeneration and if necessary, encourage replanting of canopy species*
- *encourage planting of native broadleaved woodlands, through appropriate grant schemes - rather than small conifer plantations which are of poor biodiversity and landscape value*

## **GRASSLAND AND ARABLE**

*Issue: poor biodiversity of farmland*

### **Actions:**

- *maintain and improve field boundaries especially hedgerows - this may be achieved through adoption of correct cutting cycles; hedge laying and replanting where necessary; leaving saplings uncut to develop into hedgerow trees; avoidance of spraying with fertilizers, slurry, herbicides; provision of wildlife strips and conservation headlands around fields; and limitation of field amalgamation*
- *encourage (through participation in Environmental Schemes) adoption of less intensive management of pastures to allow reversion to more species-rich grassland*
- *maintain and enhance floodplain grassland by restricting field or arterial drainage and encourage land-owners to promote environments for wetland birds - lapwing, curlew etc.*
- *leave stubble over winter, rather than autumn ploughing, to increase food resources for farmland birds; spring sown cereals are beneficial to breeding farmland birds*

## **HEATH AND BOGS**

*Issue: upland heathland is in decline in Northern Ireland, Ireland and Great Britain*

### **Actions:**

- *promote membership of ESA and other environmental schemes through consultation with farmers and thereby*

- control grazing intensity on existing heathland to encourage development of heathland and of heather of different ages
- control gazing intensity on some upland grassland to promote return to heathland
- discourage 'reclamation' to pasture fields around the heathland margins
- discourage afforestation

## WETLANDS

*Issue: important rivers, particularly for salmon*

### **Actions:**

- protect water quality of rivers through nutrient management and by reducing suspended sediments and deposition, thus
  - promote and encourage existing good farming practices so that streams are not polluted by run-off from agricultural land or seepage from silage pits
  - continued monitoring of streams below industrial plants and quarries (noting the requirement of salmonids for clean water and river beds)
- monitor streams in relation to expansion of rural/urban housing and associated septic tanks/sewage treatment plants

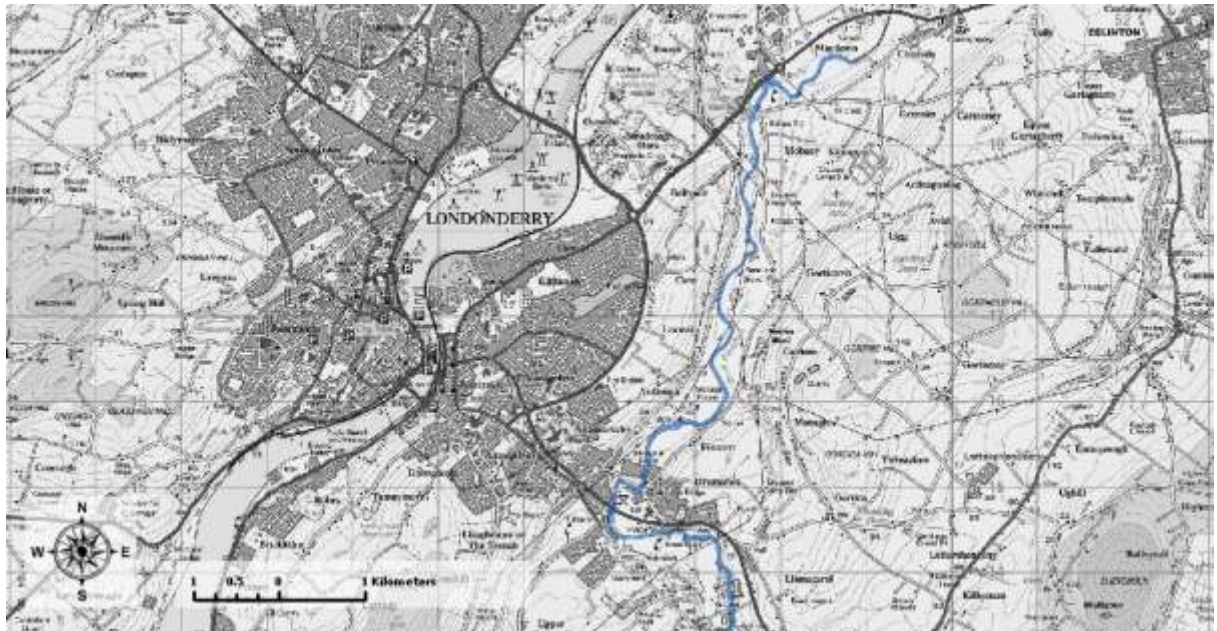


Figure 131 –Burngibbagh & Drumahoe Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

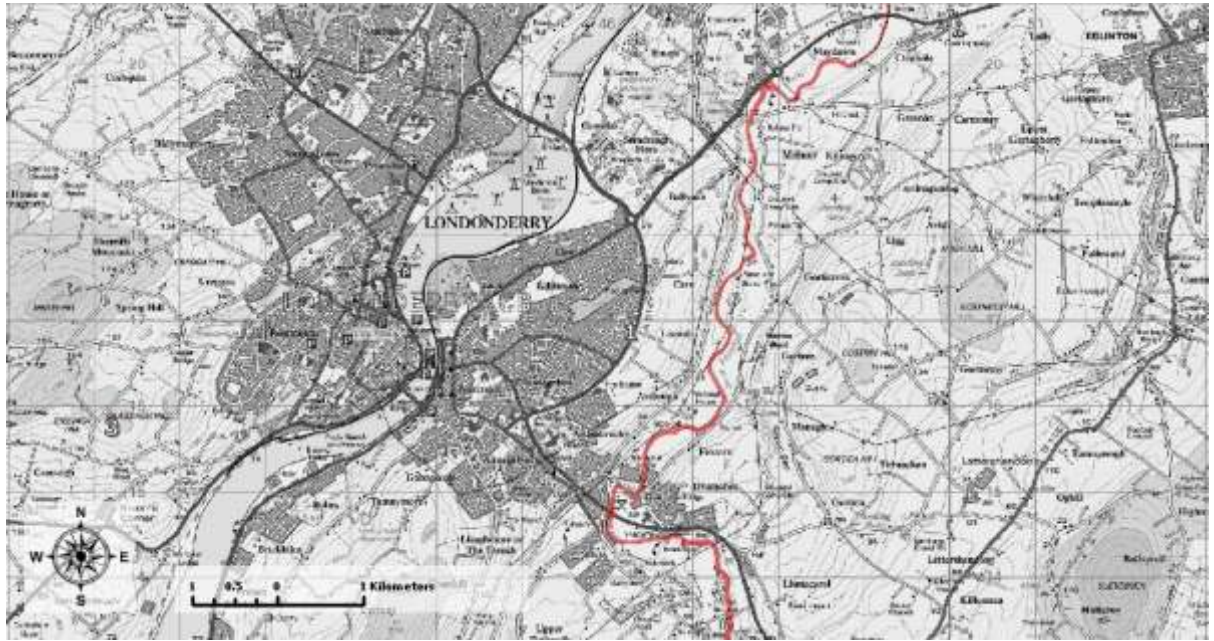


Figure 132 –Burngibbagh & Drumahoe Areas of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI's)



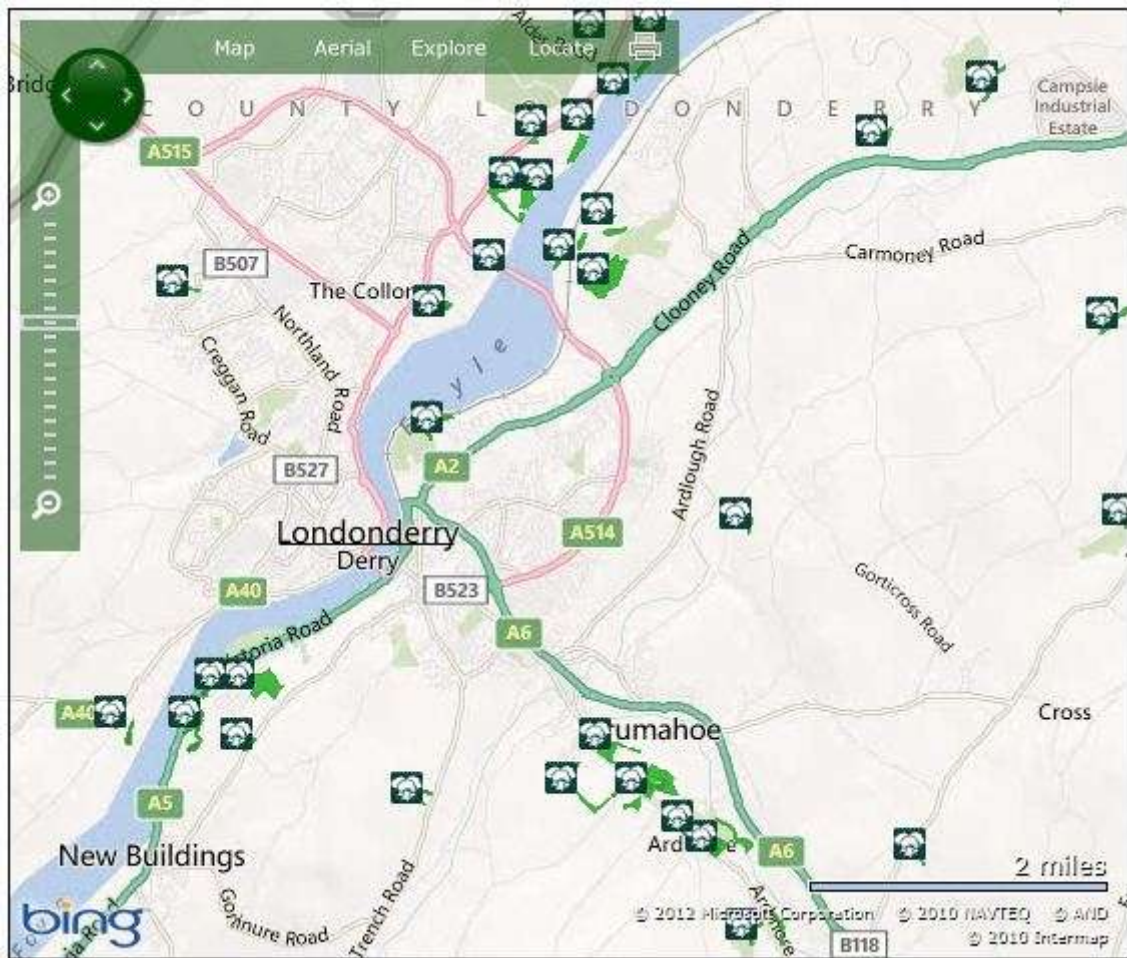


Figure 133 – Extract from Woodlands Trust map viewer showing significant tracts of woodland around Drumahoe at Beach Hill and Ardmore. The symbol next to Ardrough Road is Mantua Wood.

*An Analysis of Burngibbagh and Drumahoe Ecology by Ralph Sheppard*

This hilly LCA is dominated by the remarkable Burngibbagh channel. It is a deeply cut river valley paralleling the Foyle, but with only a minor stream flowing north towards the Faughan in the northern half of the valley, and another one flowing south to Burn Dennet in the southern half. It was formed close to the end of the last ice-age, when it would have been deepened and widened by a major river of glacial meltwater flowing from the Sperrins towards the Foyle, but diverted by the eastern edge of the Donegal ice sheet along this geological fault line.

1. Unlike other narrow river valleys, Burngibbagh's slopes are not clothed with much woodland. In fact there is very little woodland at all in this LCA. Most notable are what survives in old estates along the Faughan valley, some of which would have been established on ancient woodland sites. This supports open parkland with large ancient trees, which can often hold specialised species such as some beetles which have evolved to exploit what is now a very rare habitat.

The Ashbrook/Beech Hill area benefits from an Historic Gardens, Parks and Demesnes designation in the Derry Area Plan 2011.

2. The watershed of the Burngibbagh channel is high enough to support heathy vegetation, but most of the original heather bog has gone as a result of the inroads of agricultural intensification. However, a cover of heath / rough grassland is sufficient to add somewhat to the biodiversity value of a largely intensive agricultural landscape.

## BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE – historical cultural landscape; Barony

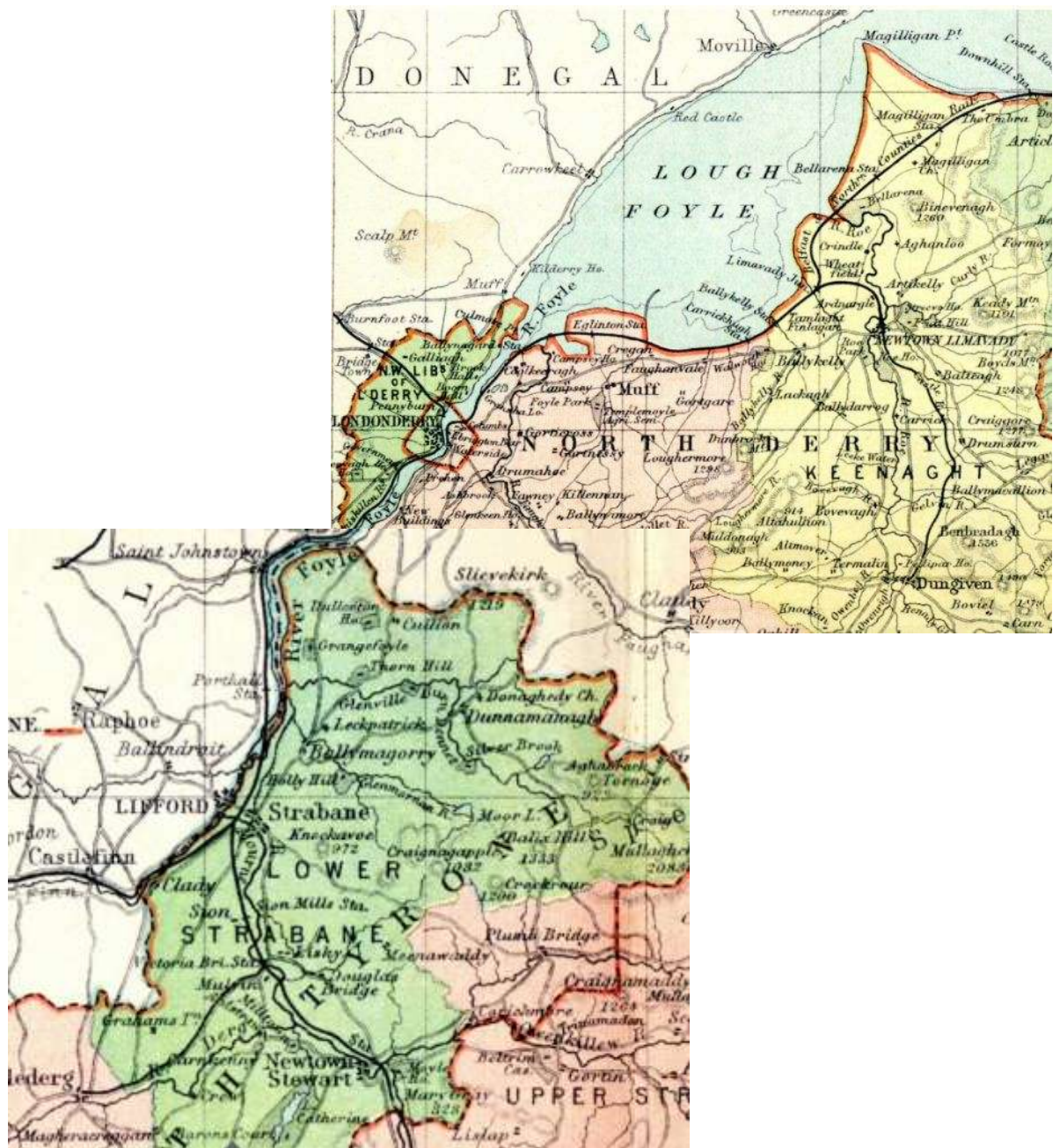


Figure 134 – the northern section of the Burngibbagh & Drumahoe LCA is located in the Tirkeeran, marked pink on the map and the southern section in Strabane Lower marked green on the map. Source: Philip's Atlas 1897

The Burngibbagh & Drumahoe LCA marks a transition between two barony areas. Physical landscape features correspond closely to County and Plantation boundaries.

## BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE – historical cultural landscape; Civil Parishes



Figure 135 – County Londonderry Parishes

The Burngibbagh & Drumahoe LCA spans three parishes in two separate counties: Parish of Clondermot, marked 17 on the above map, part of Faughanvale, marked 29 and Donaghedy marked 20 on the Tyrone map below.

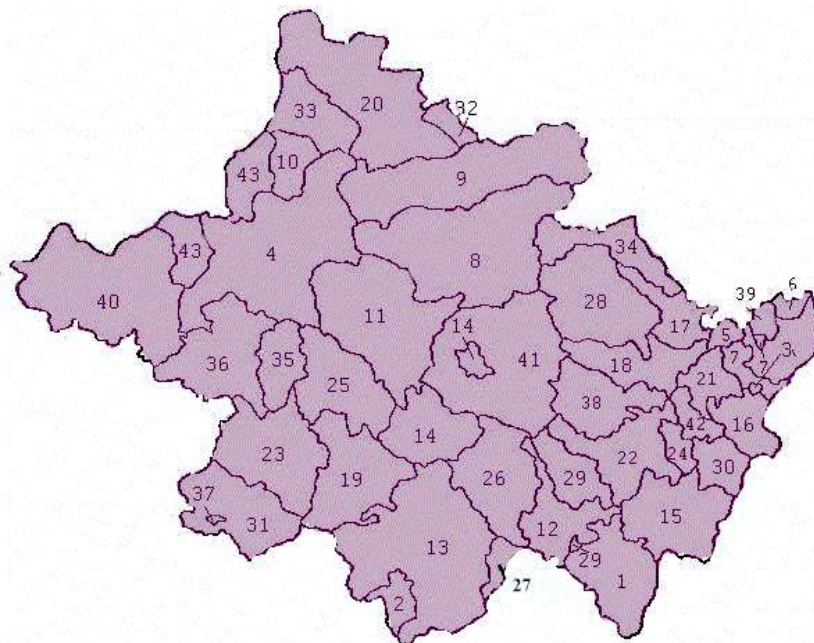


Figure 136 – County Tyrone Parishes



The following is a selective list of townlands within the Burngibbagh Drumahoe LCA. Where there are entries in the Northern Ireland Place Names Project or similar resources we have listed these alongside the town land name:

**Kilnappy – the wood of the abbot**" - Joyce, ii 94, 1875; **Cill-na-n-abhadh "The church of the abbot"** - Munn's Notes, 176, 1925

**Mobuoy – Magh-buidhe "The yellow plain"** - Munn's Notes, 177, 1925

**Ardlough – Ard-locha "The high lake"** - Munn's Notes, 88, 1925

**Lisneal – Lios Néill "Niall's fort"** - J O'D (OSNB), 93 C1, 1830 or **Lios-na-aoil "The fort of the limestones"** - Munn's Notes, 97, 1925

#### **Drumahoe**

**Clondermot –Baile-seascaich or Baile-seascaigh "the townland** - Joyce, iii 2, 1913 **should be Clandermot:**

**Clann Diarmada, "Dermot's c** - Joyce, iii 214, 1913

**Gortgranagh – Gort-grainseach "The granary field"** - Munn's Notes, 94, 1925

**Ardmore – Ard-mor "The great height, or hill"** - Joyce (Munn), 88,1.386, 1925

**Warbleshinny – "the fox's tail (sionnach "a fox")** - Joyce, ii 426, 1875

#### **Killymallaght**

**Craigtown – Craig-Town "Rock town"** - Munn's Notes, 92, 1925

#### **Dullerton**

#### **Eden**

**BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE – historical cultural landscape;  
Administration – Poor Law Union, Dispensary Districts & District Electoral  
Divisions**

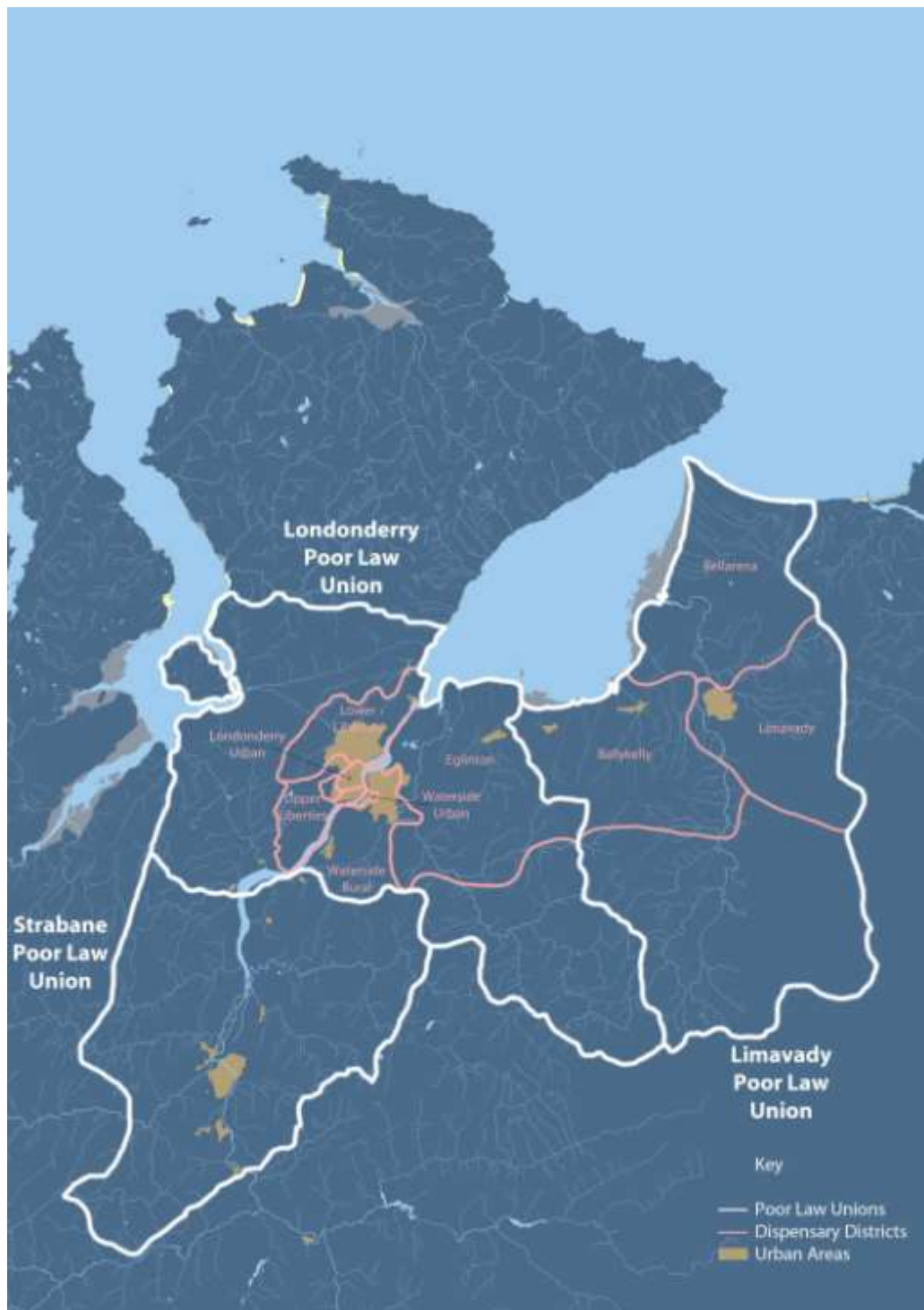


Figure 138 – Dispensary Districts & Poor Law Unions

Burngibbagh & Drumahoe LCA extends across two district electoral divisions and one Dispensary District in County Londonderry. The area also crosses part of the Londonderry and Strabane Poor Law Unions.

**BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE – historical cultural & built landscape; historical survival**



Figure 139 – Extract from Map of Ireland 1572



Figure 140 – Map of Ireland TCD MS1209/1 shows a boundary or shadow line extending from “upper Tirone” to “KRINE O’Kane” which reflects the approximate position and orientation of the Burngibbagh & Drumahoe LCA.





Figure 141 – Richard Bartlett’s “A General Description of Ulster” 1602-3

Richard Bartlett’s map shows the River Faughan “Faghan Flu.” With a branch parallel to the Foyle referred to as “Bangidon” which is presumed to be the Burn Gibbagh



Figure 142 – the Londonderry plantation of 1613. The map shows land allocated from north to south as follows: church, native freehold, Goldsmiths & native freehold



Figure 143 - Thomas Raven's Goldsmith's Company map 1622 This settlement appears to have been completely destroyed during the 1641 rebellion.

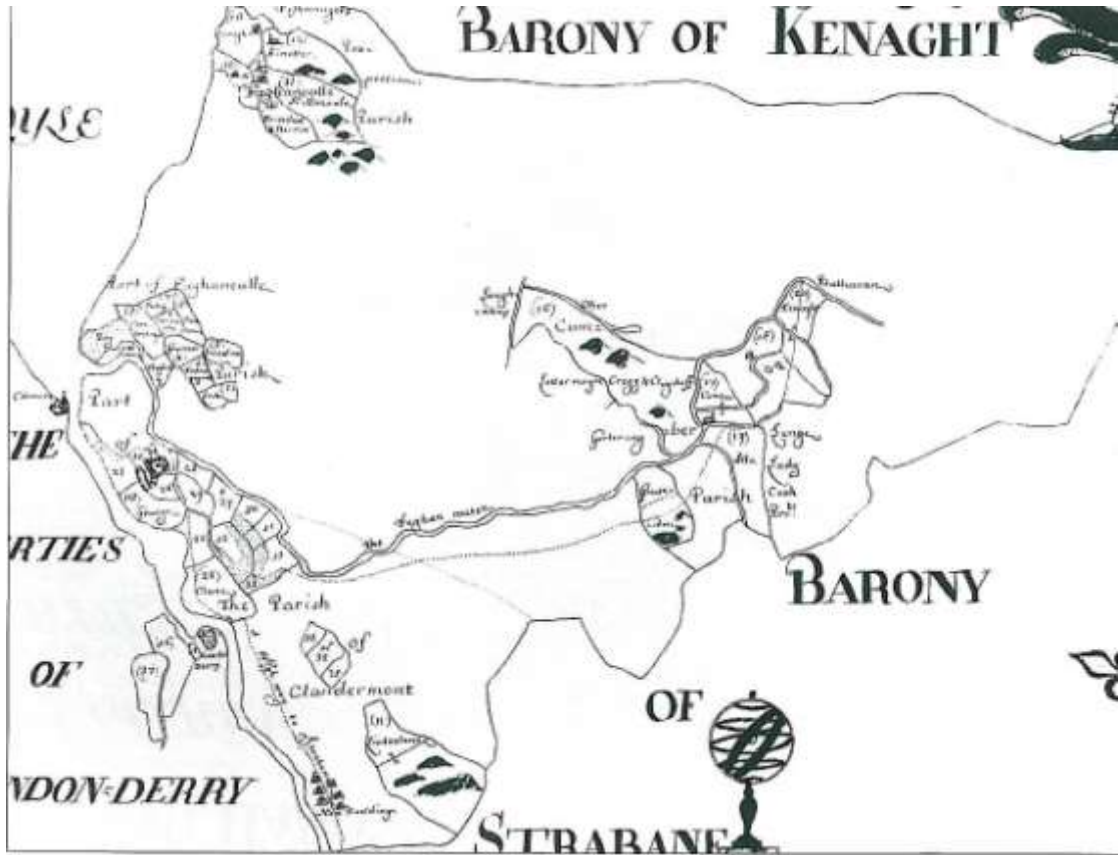


Figure 144 – Extract from Petty's Down Survey map c1655 showing the barony of Tirkeeran; the Burngibbagh valley runs north south through the Parish of Clondermot parallel to "the highway to Strabane" ©PRONI

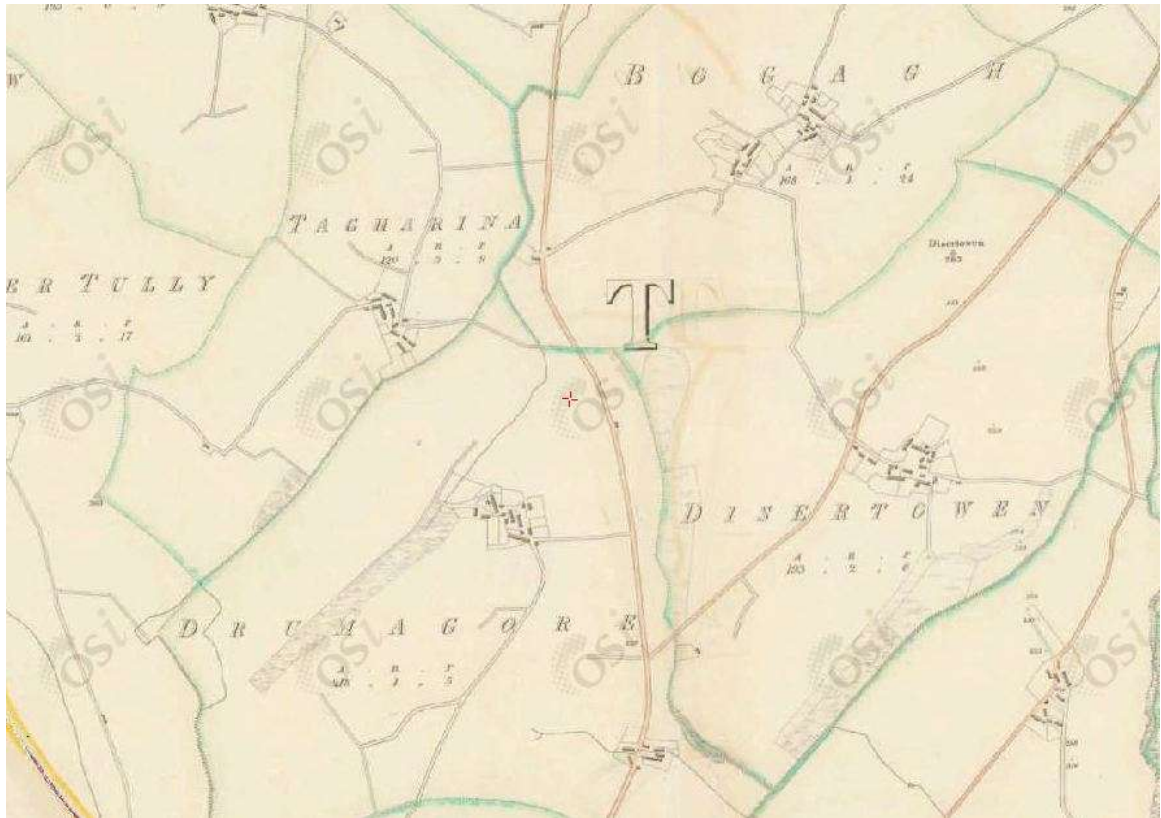


Figure 145 – Ordnance survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition mapping circa 1835 shows clachans (c)OSI



Figure 146 – aerial view of clachans 2012 (c) Google

Clachans were clusters of houses grouped for communal farming. Tagharina, Bogagh, Drumagore, Disertowen, shown one to each townland on 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey mapping, are still clearly visible in recent aerial photographs. Whilst fields have been enclosed, many other landscape features survive completely unchanged, including roads, extent of buildings and small garrai, or gardens, which adjoined the houses. A similar pattern of survival is visible over the entire LCA area and along the Foyle Valley to the south. Whilst it is assumed that the majority of these settlements are now occupied as single farms, aerial photographs suggest the possibility of significant survival of vernacular building structures and the extent of this should be explored further.

**BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE – historical cultural & built landscape;  
landed estates**

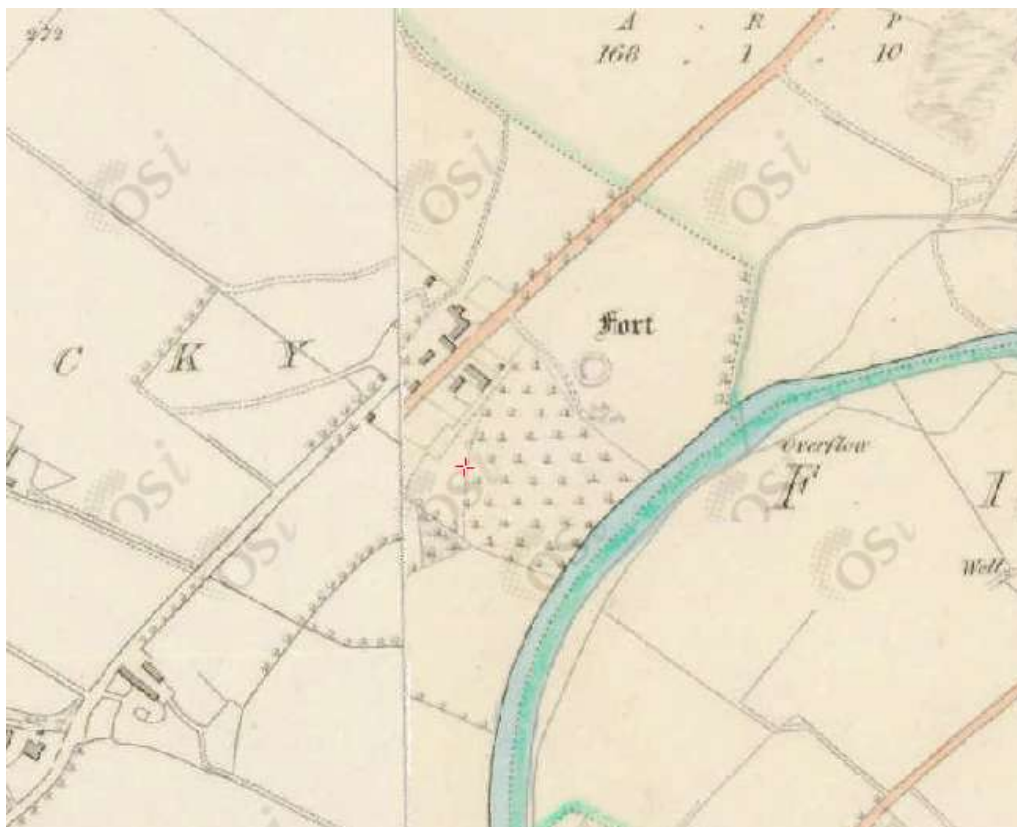


Figure 147 – 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance survey map circa 1835 showing Brookhill House & model farm buildings (c) OSI

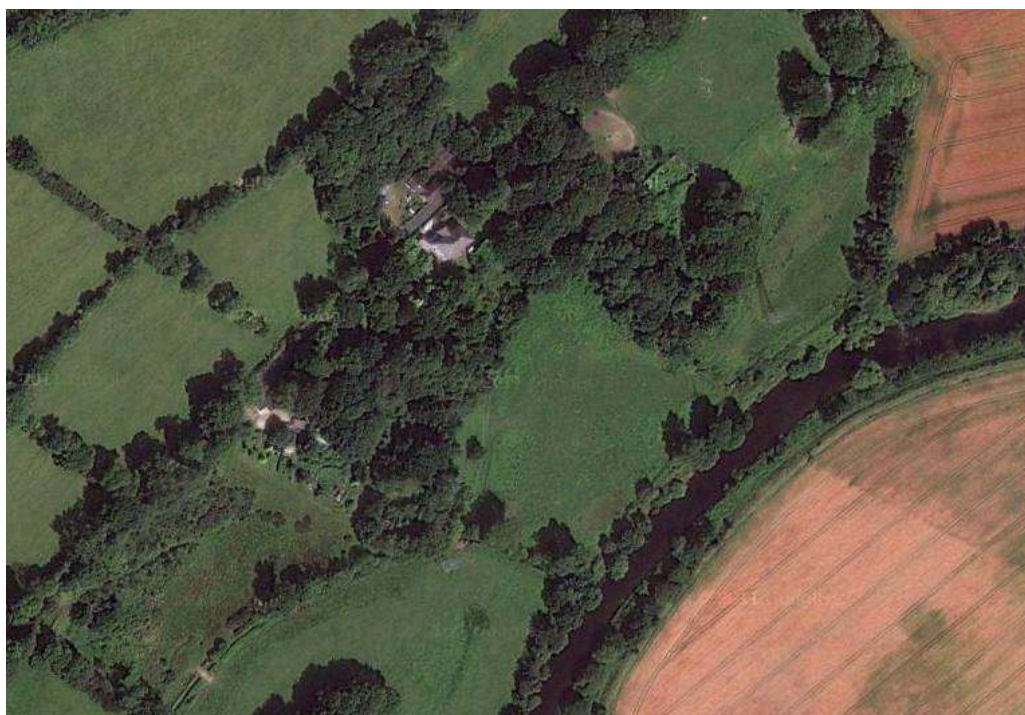


Figure 148 – Brookhill House; aerial view 2012 (c) Google



Figure 149 – 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map circa 1835 showing Asbrook & Beach Hill now Beech Hill (c) OSI



Figure 150 – 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey mapping circa 1835 showing Ardmore demesne and extensive milling & bleaching complex

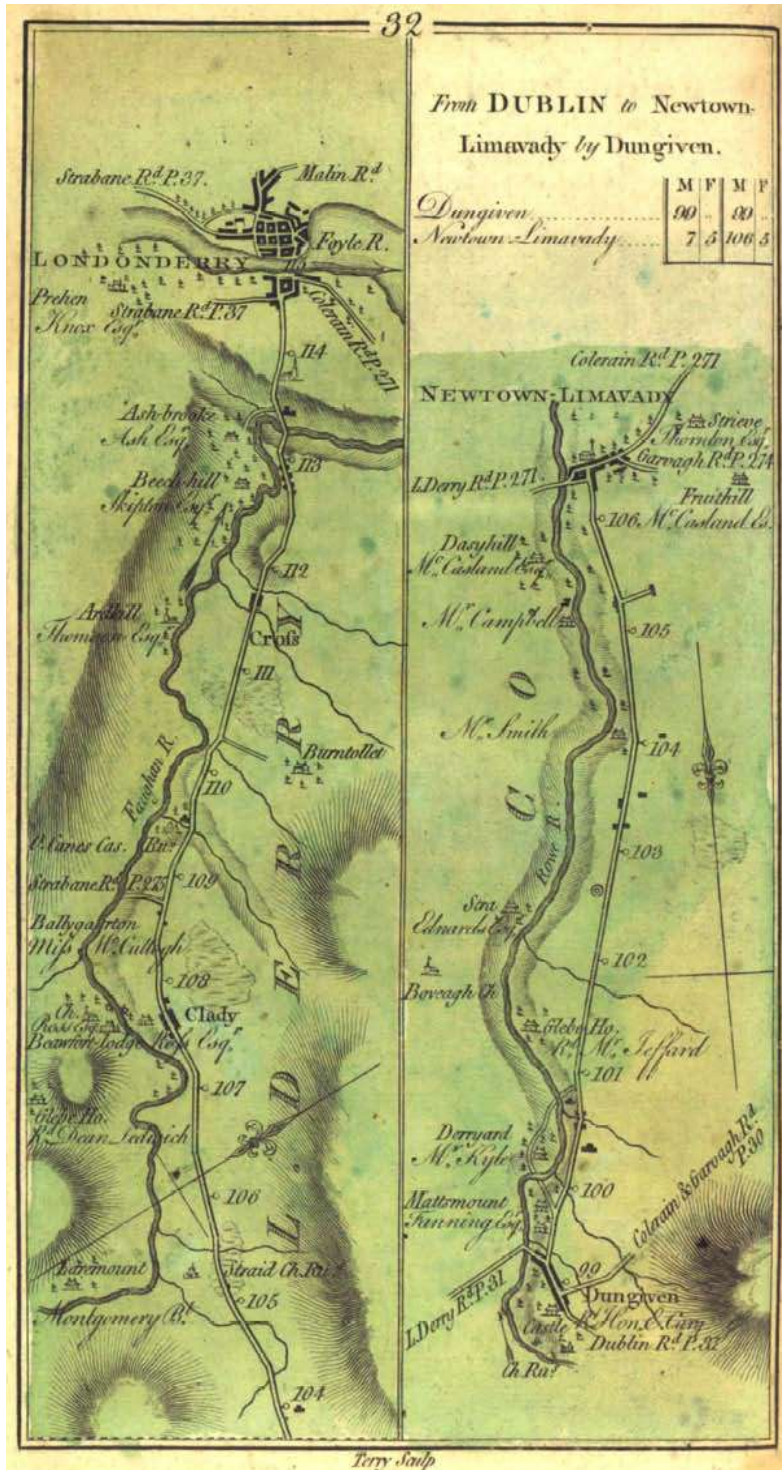


Figure 151 – Taylor & Skinner’s Road Map 1775

The Taylor & Skinner Road maps of the 18<sup>th</sup> century show the main roads, significant houses and their owners. The map on the left shows the main road from Claudy to Londonderry with sites at Ashbrook, Beechhill and Ardkill.

## **BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE – historical built landscape; Urban Settlement**

Whilst there is no significant urban settlement at the study site, in recent years the area around the northern end of the LCA has become increasingly urbanised and is designated for further residential development into the future.

The settlements associated with the Goldsmith's company were largely destroyed, however there may still be some archaeological potential associated with this.



## **BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE – historical built landscape; significant sites**

Several sites listed below are outside the LCA area

### **Prehistoric Sites**

- LDY015:016, Avish: Standing Stone
- LDY002:037, Gortmellan: Pre-bog field system

### **Medieval Sites**

- LDY014:005, Managh Beg: Possible Motte & Bailey (Scheduled)
- LDY022:008, Gortinure: Rath (Scheduled)
- TYR002:003, Mountcastle: Plantation Castle (Scheduled)
- TYR002:004, Ballynabwee: Rath (Scheduled)

### **Ecclesiastical Buildings & Sites**

- LDY022:004, Clondermot: Church & Graveyard
- LDY022:013, Lisglass: Cross-carved stone



Figure 152 – Glendermott Parish Church. Source: Natural Stone Database



Figure 153 – Glendermott Presbyterian Church. Source: [presbyterianireland.org](http://presbyterianireland.org)

### **Vernacular Buildings**

- None highlighted although this is a significant grouping requiring further exploration

### **Gentleman's Houses**

- HB/01/03/013, Foyle Park, Fallowlea (Country House)
- HB/01/05/004, Ballyowen House, Ballyoan
- HB/01/06/005, Fort James, Lower Tullyally (Country House now Residential Home)
- HB/01/06/010, Larchmount, Ardmore
- HB/01/06/013, Glenkeen House, Glenkeen
- HB/01/08/001, Brookhill House, Ardnabrocky



Figure 154 – Brook Hill Model Farm

### **Mansion Houses & Estate Buildings**

- HB/01/06/006A & HB/01/06/006B, Ashbrook Country House & Estate Related Structures and Registered Historic Gardens L-001
- HB/01/06/008 & HB/01/06/007 Beech Hill House (now Hotel) and gate lodge and Registered Historic Gardens L-029
- HB/01/06/012 Ardmore House & Historic Registered Garden L-031
- HB/10/10/002A, HB/10/10/002B & HB/10/10/002C Dullerton Manor House, gate lodge and outbuildings, Cullion, Strabane

### **Schools**

- HB/01/06/016 Faughan Valley High School, Drumahoe

### **Institutional Buildings: Prisons, Workhouses & Hospitals**

- None highlighted

### **Commercial Buildings**

- None highlighted

### **Military Structures**

- LDY015:045, Tully: Anti-Aircraft Operations Room (Scheduled)
- Fincarn Glen ammunition dump



Figure 155 – Fincarn Glen ammunition dump Source: ww2ni

### **Industrial Landscapes**

- None highlighted

### **Infrastructure – Roads, Canals & Railways**

- HB/01/05/003 Mobuoy Bridge, Maydown: Stone bridge over River Faughan
- Drumahoe Bridge



Figure 156 – Mobuoy Bridge. Source: faughan.org

## BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE – Key to significant heritage assets



## BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE – Visual Landscape: Spatial Context

### Photography



Figure 157 – Satellite image (c) Google



Figure 158 – Burngibbagh channel visible from across Lough Foyle slightly to the left of view



Figure 159 – View from Maydown in direction of Burngibbagh Drumahoe LCA

## BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE – Visual Landscape: Painting Maps & Images



Figure 160 – Burngibbagh Drumahoe looking north along channel; Dullerton squared enclosed fields centre view – Google Earth image (c) Google



Figure 161 – Burngibbagh Drumahoe looking south along channel to left of view– Google Earth image (c) Google

## BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE – Written Landscape: prose, poem & song

### 19<sup>th</sup> Century Gazetteers

#### **Account from Lewis' Topographical Dictionary of Ireland - 1837**

GLENDERMOT, or CLONDERMOT, a parish, in the barony of TIRKEERAN, county of LONDONDERRY, and province of ULSTER; containing, with the town of Waterside, which is one of the suburbs of Londonderry, 10,338 inhabitants. This parish, which is separated from the city of Londonderry by the river Foyle, over which is a fine wooden bridge, 1068 feet long, comprises 22,495 acres, of which 987 are water. A religious house is said to have been founded here by St. Patrick, which was probably the church of Kil Ard, of which the foundations are still traceable. St. Columb kill founded a monastery here in 588, at the place which still bears his name; and Ailid O'Dormit founded a nunnery at Rosnagalliagh, in 879, of which some traces remain. The founder of the extensive building, of which the ruins are on Lough Enagh, is unknown; it probably belonged to the Knights Hospitallers, and was afterwards a chapel of ease to Clondermot, and as such was confirmed to the Dean of Derry in 1609, under the name of Annagh. In the Earl of Tyrone's rebellion the church of St. Columb and the parish church were destroyed; the former was not rebuilt, but some of its ruins are visible. The soil in the northern portion of the parish is rich and well cultivated, but there is a considerable quantity of moorland in the southern part.

Quarries of slate and blue limestone exist. At Ardmore is a bleach-green, the first established in this part of the country, where 25,000 pieces of linen are finished annually; there is also one at the Oaks, and a large distillery at Waterside. The water for the supply of the city of Londonderry is obtained from an elevated spot near Prehen, and conveyed in cast-iron pipes over the bridge across the Foyle into the city. Besides that bridge, there is a handsome one over the Faughan, near Enagh; another on the Coleraine road, a little lower down, and a third at Drumahoe. The Bishop's, the Goldsmiths', and the Grocers' manors extend over parts of this parish, but no manorial courts are held. The principal seats are Prehen, the residence of Col. Knox; Beech Hill, of Conolly Skipton, Esq.; Ashbrook, of W.H. Ashe, Esq.; Ardmore, of J.A. Smith, Esq.; Larchmount, of C. McClelland, Esq.; Lisdillon, of W. J. Smith, Esq.; Berryburn, of Capt. Reynolds; Ardkill, of R. Stephenson, Esq.; Bellevue, of the Rev. J. D. Maughan; Bonds Hill, of J. Murray, Esq.; St. Columbs, of G.Hill, Esq.; Glendermot: glebe, of the Rev. A. G. Cary; Caw, of A. Harvey, Esq.; Lower Caw, of J. Alexander, Esq.; and Coolkeragh, of R. Young, Esq. The living is a perpetual Curacy, in the diocese of Derry, and in the gift of the Dean of Derry; the rectory was united by patent in 1609, to Templemore and Faughanvale, the three forming the union of Templemore and tin; corps of the deanery of Derry, which is in the patronage of the Crown; the Ecclesiastical Commissioners recommend the dissolution of the union. The tithes amount, to £920. 11. S.t and the perpetual curate is paid by the dean. The church is a large handsome building, in the Grecian style, erected in 1753, and for the repairs of which the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have recently granted £609. The glebe-house is situated on a glebe of 12 acres, purchased by the late Board of First Fruits in 1824, and is occupied by the perpetual curate. The rector's glebe comprises 407 acres, and the deanery lands in Clondermot consist of 1284 acres. In the R. C. divisions the parish is united to part of Lower Cumber; there is a small neat chapel at; Curryneirin. At Altnagelvin are two meeting-houses for Presbyterians in connection with the Synod of Ulster, one of the first, the other of the third, class; and at Drumahoe is one connected with the Seceding Synod. There are parochial schools at Clondcrmot, on the glebe, and at the new church, aided by the dean; there are also schools at Salem, Ardmore, Lisdillon, and Drumahoe; the Grocers' Company have built and maintain a school at Gortnessey; a school at Prehen is supported by Col. Knox and the perpetual curate; there in a national school at Curryneirin, and female work schools at Ardmore and Bellevue; also four Sunday schools. Col. Mitchelburne, who was a native of this place, and many of the other defenders of Londonderry, are interred in the burial ground of Clondermot, in which are considerable remains of the old church.

DONAGHEADY, a parish, in the barony of STRABANE, county of TYRONE, and province of ULSTER, on the road from Strabane to Cookstown; containing, with the post-town of Dunamanagh, 10,480 inhabitants. The greater part of this parish was granted by Jas. I. to Sir John Drummond, who founded the town of Dunamanagh, and built a bawn 109 feet square, no part of which remains, as the bawn was removed some



years since, and the modern building called the Castle was erected on its site. It comprises, according to the Ordnance survey, 39,398½ statute acres, of which 28,728 are apportioned under the tithe act, and valued at £10,271 per annum. There are about 154 acres of water, and 250 of bog; the remainder is arable and pasture land.

There is abundance of excellent limestone, both for building and agricultural purposes, but the mountains are chiefly clay-slate. Many of the glens and banks of the rivers are covered with underwood, the remains of the extensive forests of Mounterlony. Formerly there were several bleach-greens in the parish, and a papermill near Dunamanagh, all of which are now unemployed; but the inhabitants unite linen-weaving at home with agricultural pursuits. The upper half of the parish, with the exception of the church lands, is in the manor of Eliston, the court for which is held at Gortin; and the lower half is in the manor of Donolonge, which was granted by Jas. I. to the Earl of Abercorn. A court is held at Donolonge monthly, for the recovery of debts under 40s. There are several handsome houses, the principal of which are Earl's Gift, the residence of the Rev. C. Douglas; Loughash, of Capt. Kennedy; Tullarton House, of R. Bond, Esq.; Glenville, of R. McRae, Esq.; Silver Brook, of J. Carey, Esq.; Black Park, of R. Ogilbye, Esq.; Thorn Hill, of A. C. D. L. Edie, Esq.; and the Grange, of T. Hutton, Esq.

The living is a rectory, in the diocese of Derry, and in the patronage of the Marquess of Abercorn: the tithes amount to £1350. The glebe-house was erected in 1792, by aid of a gift of £100 from the late Board of First Fruits; the glebe comprises 1192 acres. The church is a small neat edifice, half a mile west from the ruins of the old church; it is in the Grecian style, with a small cupola and a bell at the western end; and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have recently granted £202 for its repair. In the R. C. divisions this parish is the head of a union or district, comprising Donagheady and Leckpatrick, and containing one chapel in the former and two in the latter: it is in the benefice of the dean of Derry, There are four Presbyterian meeting-houses, three of which are in connection with the Synod of Ulster, two being of the second class, and one with the Seceding Synod, also of the second class. The male and female parochial schools adjoin the church, and are supported by the Marquess of Abercorn and the incumbent.

At Loughash is a large and handsome schoolhouse, erected at an expense of £200: the school is under the National Board, as is another at Lisnarrow. There are also schools at Killeany, Rusky, Tamnaghbrady, Tyboe, Grange, and Ballyneuse; and an agricultural school at Loughash, supported by Capt. Kennedy.

At Mount Castle, which gives the title of baron in the Irish peerage to the Marquess of Abercorn, are some fragments of a castle, built in 1619, by Sir Claude Hamilton, on an estate of 2000 acres, called Eden, which was granted to him by Jas. I.: it was the birth-place of Sir George Hamilton, who distinguished himself in the parliamentary war, and of his son, Gen. Hamilton, afterwards sixth Earl of Abercorn, who commanded the Protestant Irish army against Jas. II. at Londonderry and Enniskillen. Extensive ruins of the ancient church of Grange, which belonged to the abbey of Derry, exist on the banks of the Foyle. At Kildollagh are some large artificial caves, formed of loose stones, with flagstones over them covered with earth; they are about a quarter of a mile long, and contain several apartments; there is a less perfect one at Gortmaglen.

## BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE – Review of Findings & Recommendations

Significant surviving heritage asset groupings:

- Demesne & Gentleman's Houses – these are the most significant features within the north of the study area; concentrated around the lower Faughan
- Clachan settlements – these are a significant historical settlement patterns to south of study area; the extent of survival of vernacular buildings within these is not known and worthy of further investigation
- Milling & Flax Industry features – the extent of survival of these is not known and worthy of further investigation
- WW2 fragments – a significant number of fragments are present which have not been protected with the same rigour as in other LCA areas
- Railway line – a long section of trackbed is visible in aerial photography

Possible risk areas:

- Vernacular buildings – extent of survival is currently unknown and potentially at risk
- Woodland – fragmentary survival
- Development pressure and gravel extraction around lower Faughan
- Partial protection of Listed Building sites: examples such as Brook Hill model farm overlooked in the Northern Ireland "2<sup>nd</sup> survey"

Existing tourism uses & Opportunities

- Country houses as Beech Hill, Ardmore and Brook Hill are close to city centre and present opportunity for further development of their tourism potential
- Former railway line – potential reuse of track bed for 'greenway' also reserving space for future reuse as railway
- Improved presentation of historic bridges

#### 4.4 Foyle Valley

### FOYLE VALLEY – Landscape Character Area

The Landscape Character Area (LCA) forms the extent of the study area defined in the project brief. The following map and text relates to the FOYLE VALLEY Landscape Character Area – as described by Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)



Figure 162 – 1 to 50,000 scale Discovery map (c) OSNI

#### **“Key Characteristics**

- *Broad, accessible valley on the western slopes of the Sperrins*
- *Farmland has strong, geometric field pattern, which continues onto the slopes of the adjacent higher land*
- *Sperrins to the east, with scenic, steep, wooded tributary glens*
- *Deeply incised river channel, with wooded banks and river terraces between Victoria Bridge and Newtownstewart*
- *Roads follow terraces on outer edge of valley floor or on lower valley slopes*
- *Attractive stone bridges.*

#### **Landscape Description**

*The Foyle Valley follows the border with the Republic to the south of Londonderry, before turning eastwards at Strabane to follow the meandering course of the river (known as the Mourne and, to the south of the confluence with the Derg, the Strule). It is steeply enclosed to the east by the slopes of the hills to the west of*

*the Sperrins range. It continues to the east of Newtownstewart and includes the lower reaches of the Owenkillev River. The character of the river channel varies from an open sheet of water between agricultural fields to the north of Ballymagorry, to an incised, wooded channel to the south of Strabane. The river flows within a deeper valley in areas where it is influenced by glacial moraine. The steep, irregular mounds of moraine on the banks of the Strule to the west of Newtownstewart are a distinctive local landmark.*

*The valley landscape blends with that of the surrounding hills; a well-enclosed, geometric patchwork of fields and hedgerows sweeps up onto the steep slopes of the Sperrins. There are arable fields as well as pastures in areas with a shallower landform and in the Maghereagh area, where there is an alluvial plain alongside the Foyle. By contrast, the tributary valleys of the Burdennet (near Milltown Burdennet) and the Glenmoran River (by Artigarvan) to the west of this flat valley floor, have a deeply undulating, secretive character. The villages in these steep valleys retain some of the large mill buildings. There is a transition from hedgerows to stone walls on the upper pastures. Stone bridges are a feature of the river valley, which is highly accessible as local roads follow the low terraces towards the margins of the valley floor. The valley is well-settled, and the towns of Newtownstewart, Sion Mills and Strabane are on the banks of the Mourne and the Strule.*

#### **Landscape Condition and Sensitivity to Change**

*The river valley is an attractive and sensitive landscape, prominent in views from the many roads and settlements. The deciduous woodlands on the steep banks of the Strule are particularly sensitive to changes from development, infrastructure or engineering works which might affect the shape and form of the channel.*

*The steep valley slopes of the margins of the Sperrins are also sensitive to change as they form a backdrop to river valley views and are part of the landscape setting for Strabane, Sion Mills and Newtownstewart. The special undulating character of the landscape in the Artigarvan area is also particularly sensitive and has relatively little capacity to accommodate further development.*

#### **Principles for Landscape Management**

- *Management of the deciduous woodlands on the steep river banks and valley slopes will ensure that this attractive and ecologically important landscape feature is sustained*
- *Picnic sites should be designed to take advantage of scenic river views*
- *The robust network of field boundaries is a distinctive feature of the landscape and it is important that hedgerows and stone walls are maintained and replanted if they are disrupted by any form of landscape change.*

### ***Principles for Accommodating New Development***

- *The natural linear pattern of the valley landscape encourages ribbon development along both major and minor roads, but this is particularly intrusive as buildings are prominent in the relatively short views across the valley. Ribbon development could threaten the unspoilt, tranquil character of the valley, reducing the subtle variations from one part of the valley to the next and potentially detracting from the distinctiveness of the individual valley settlements.*
- *New development can only be accommodated if it is integrated into the landscape through new planting which is designed to link with existing hedgerow and woodland patterns; any large scale development would require extensive woodland planting in order to reduce its overall dominance in valley views”*

## FOYLE VALLEY – Historic Landscape Characterisation

The Foyle Valley landscape character area could be broken down further into three historic character areas which have differing spatial characteristics.

The northern section corresponds to the valley leading into Derry from the South, from New Buildings to Prehen. Historically these areas are outside, but more closely associated with the City; their extent also corresponds to the boundary between Counties Londonderry and Tyrone.

The middle section towards the south the landscape folds out into a wider shallower valley which collects huge volumes of water from a wide catchment area to the east, south and west. Water can be held here by the tide and by the limited width of the valley downstream as it passes Derry.

This area is fertile and prone to flooding. The edges of the river are blurred with reedbed edges and gravel islands in the middle appearing and disappearing as the tide rises and falls. These areas are the first natural crossing points inland and were sites of skirmishes between the O'Donnells and the O'Neills and between Williamite & Jacobite forces during the Siege of Derry. There are religious settlements and clan strongholds. At the centre of all was a river which was teeming with Salmon a source of both nourishment and wealth.

The southern section, as the Foyle meets the Finn and the Mourne at Lifford, the Foyle Valley LCA continues to follow the Mourne past Strabane and it rises through more steeply sided valley. This, along with other tributary sections to the Foyle, was harnessed for water power. As the river rose and the farmland grew poorer, it provided employment in bleaching and milling industries sustaining larger towns such as Strabane, Sion Mills and Newtownstewart.

As the Mourne meets the Derg, the LCA continues upstream as the Strule reaching a shallow plateau at Newtownstewart before rising and dividing again into the mountains.

These smaller areas could be named:

- Lower Foyle Valley
- Salmon beds
- Mourne Valley

These preliminary titles have not been adopted for use in this study but may assist the future naming or subdivision of the study area based on historical land use.



## FOYLE VALLEY – historical natural landscapes; geology

The geological setting refers to the natural material state landscape as it has formed without the intervention of man. The following map and text relates to the geological setting of FOYLE VALLEY Landscape Character Area – as described by Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)

### ***“Outline Geomorphology and Landscape Setting***

*The use of a cultural overlay in defining Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) means that they frequently subdivide natural physiographic units. It is common therefore for significant geomorphological features to run across more than one LCA. It is also possible in turn, to group physiographic units into a smaller number of natural regions. These regions invariably reflect underlying geological, topographic and, often, visual continuities between their component physiographic units, and have generally formed the basis for defining landscape areas such as AONBs. It is essential therefore, that in considering the 'Geodiversity' of an individual LCA, regard should be given to adjacent LCAs and to the larger regions within which they sit. In the original Land Utilisation Survey of Northern Ireland, Symons (1962) identified twelve such natural regions.*

*This LCA lies within the region described as the Western River Basins. This region consists essentially of the connected river systems that drain the Carboniferous and Old Red Sandstone plateau of County Tyrone, as well as the foothills of the Sperrin Mountains to the east and Donegal to the west. The region extends from the Omagh Basin in the south, northwards along the lower Foyle valley. The Omagh Basin has particular significance as an ice centre during the Late Midlandian and is now largely covered by a complex mixture of glaciofluvial sands and gravels and drumlins overlying Rogen moraines. When the headwaters of these river systems rise together they have in the past been responsible for serious flooding at the bottleneck of Strabane. Although this has been mitigated by extensive drainage control works in and around the town.*

*The Foyle Valley follows the border with the Republic of Ireland to the south of Londonderry, before turning eastwards at Strabane to follow the meandering course of the river (known as the Mourne and, to the south of the confluence with the Derg, the Strule). It is steeply enclosed to the east by the slopes of the hills to the west of the Sperrins range. It continues to the east of Newtownstewart and includes the lower reaches of the Owenkillew River. The character of the river channel varies from an open sheet of water between agricultural fields to the north of Ballymagorry, to an incised, wooded channel to the south of Strabane. The river flows within a deeper valley in areas where it is influenced by glacial moraine. The steep, irregular mounds of moraine on the banks of the Strule to the west of Newtownstewart are a distinctive local landmark. There are arable fields as well as pastures in areas with a shallower land form and in the Maghereagh area, where there is an alluvial plain alongside the Foyle. By contrast, the tributary valleys of the Burn Dennet (near Milltown Burn Dennet) and the Glenmorán River (by Artigarvan) to the west of this flat valley floor, have a deeply undulating, secretive character. Key elements in the landscape are the extensive glaciofluvial landforms that consist of thick, dissected mounds and spreads of morainic and outwash deposits, forming*



large-scale undulating and hummocky belts, sharp-crested ridges and flat-topped valley-floor terraces. The margins of the valleys bounding the deposits are bedrock hills up to 150 - 200m O.D. and the rising ground of the Sperrin Mountains to the east (up to 400m O.D.) and streamlined hills in Co. Donegal to the west. Exposures in the deposits are rare.

**Pre-Quaternary (Solid) Geology**

The stratigraphy of this area is made up of the mapped formations in the table, the youngest of which usually overlie the oldest. The older formations can be upside down (tectonically inverted).

**Stratigraphic Table (youngest rocks at the top of the table)**

<b>Carboniferous - about 350 million years old</b>
<b>Owenkillew</b>
<b>Dalradian (Neoproterozoic) - about 600 million years old</b>
<b>Undifferentiated Southern Highland Group</b>
<b>Un-named metabasites</b>
<b>Londonderry</b>
<b>Ballykelly</b>
<b>Dart - Claudy</b>
<b>Dungiven - Aghyaran</b>
<b>Newtownstewart</b>

This LCA is dominated by Dalradian (Neoproterozoic) strata of the County Londonderry succession. Lateral equivalents from the Donegal and Tyrone succession occur in the area. These rocks were originally sediments and volcanic rocks that have subsequently been buried and metamorphosed. Pillow Lavas of the Dungiven Formation are exposed in the Glenmorran River (ESCR Site 329). Ballykelly Formation granular, pebbly tourmaline schists with some original hydraulic sedimentary structures occur in the southeastern edge of LCA27. Exposed in Kittybane Quarry (ESCR Site 326).

Londonderry Formation tourmaline schists and green beds with limestones occur in the northern strip of LCA27. Exposed in Prehen Quarry (ESRC Site 337).

Two tectonic phases have affected the area: the Caledonian (Ordovician - Silurian) and Variscan (end Carboniferous).

The ESCR Site of 328: Strabane Quarry, occurs in this LCA.

## **Quaternary (Drift) Geology**

*Northern Ireland has experienced repeated glaciations during the Pleistocene period that produced vast amounts of debris to form the glacial deposits that cover more than 90% of the landscape. Their present morphology was shaped principally during the last glacial cycle (the Midlandian), with subsequent modification throughout the post-glacial Holocene period. The Late Midlandian, the last main phases of ice sheet flow, occurred between 23 and 13ka B.P. from dispersion centres in the Lough Neagh Basin, the Omagh Basin and Lower Lough Erne/Donegal. The clearest imprint of these ice flows are flow transverse rogen moraines and flow parallel drumlin swarms which developed across thick covers of till, mostly below 150m O.D. during a period that referred to as the Drumlin Readvance. At the very end of the Midlandian, Scottish ice moved southwards and overrode parts of the north coast. Evidence for deglaciation of the landscape is found in features formed between the glacial maximum to the onset of the present warm stage from 17 and 13ka B.P. - a period of gradual climatic improvement. Most commonly these are of glaciofluvial and glaciolacustrine origin and include: eskers, outwash mounds and spreads, proglacial lacustrine deposits, kame terraces, kettle holes and meltwater channels (McCarron et al. 2002). During the Holocene, marine, fluvial, aeolian and mass movement processes, combined with human activities and climate and sea-level fluctuations, have modified the appearance of the landscape. The landforms and associated deposits derived from all of these processes are essentially fossil. Once damaged or destroyed they cannot be replaced since the processes or process combinations that created them no longer exist. They therefore represent a finite scientific and economic resource and are a notable determinant of landscape character.*

*The drift geology map for this LCA shows a landscape that is largely underlain by Late Midlandian till. This was laid down by ice that flowed northwards and eastwards along the present-day Foyle valley from a centre in the Omagh Basin to the south. However, from a geomorphological and geological standpoint, the Quaternary deposits of greatest interest are the deglacial sands and gravels that were laid down as the ice wasted and the ice margin retreated southwestwards. This LCA contains elements of four such deglacial complexes that are important scientifically and for their sand and gravel resources. However it is dominated by the Foyle Valley Complex.*

*The Foyle Valley Complex, located along the axes of the Foyle, Mourne, Strule, Glenmornan and Derg river valleys consists of a widespread assemblage of landforms which are genetically linked by formation during ice-margin retreat westward from the Sperrin valleys during the last deglacial cycle. Strong control on ice-margin configuration and meltwater drainage patterns was exercised by bedrock topography, serving to focus meltwater along the valley axes. This resulted in the formation of thick, flat-topped fluvioglacial terraces especially along the Mourne and Strule river valleys. Increases in sediment supply or temporary reductions in ice-margin retreat rates resulted in the accumulation of thick belts of hummocky moraine at Artigarvan and along the Derg River. Most landforms, except for the glaciolacustrine deposits in the Glenmornan valley, are relatively intact and free from commercial sand and gravel extractions. An aesthetically excellent and regionally important landform association is recorded by esker ridge segments, a*

*proglacial moraine ridge and fluvioglacial outwash terrace at Deerpark, 0.5 km west of Newtonstewart . This LCA contains 16.5km<sup>2</sup> of this complex out of a total of 31km<sup>2</sup>. Other deposits are found in LCAs 20, 26, 29, 30 and 31.*

*The Dunnamanagh Complex occurs as a small area in the east of the LCA (1.3km<sup>2</sup>). It comprises glaciofluvial landforms that consist of thick, dissected accumulations of morainic, outwash and glaciolacustrine deposits, forming large-scale undulating belts, flat-topped valley-floor terraces, hummocky topography and spectacular examples of later meltwater incision. Most of the complex occurs in LCA 30, where it is described in more detail.*

*The Faughan/Dungiven Basins Glaciofluvial Complex occupies a very small area of outwash (0.8km<sup>2</sup>) at the very northern end of the LCA. The principally deltaic deposits of the complex occur mainly in LCA 30 and are described in more detail there.*

*The Glenelly Valley Complex occurs as a series of moraine ridges in the extreme southeast of the LCA. Most of the complex is in LCA 28, where it is described in more detail.*

### **Key Elements**

#### **ASSI**

##### **DEER PARK MORaine AND OUTWASH (NEWTOWNSTEWART)**

*A massive sharp-crested moraine ridge extends westwards from Newtonstewart and merges on its northern flank with a flat-topped terrace that lies along the western bank of the Strule River. Two esker ridge fragments are located to the south of the main ridge. Landforms mark a major ice stillstand during final retreat towards the Omagh Basin. Steep ice contact slopes and deeply entrenched meltwater channels produce dramatic landscapes of high aesthetic quality.*

## **Deglacial Complexes**

### **FOYLE VALLEY COMPLEX**

*The complex has a high scientific value, for understanding the complexity of deglacial processes and records ice retreat westward from the western Sperrin valleys into the topographic low of the Foyle valley, indicating ice pressure from the direction of the Omagh basin to the south during the last deglacial cycle. It also shows, through the development of northward sloping glaciofluvial terraces that the mouth of the Foyle valley was ice free as ice retreated southwards. Finally, an esker, moraine ridge and outwash valley fill complex at Newtonstewart forms an important example of a deglacial landform association.*

### **ARTIGARVAN MORAINES (STRABANE)**

*These moraines form part of the Foyle Valley Complex and are a notable example of large scale moraine building in a valley setting that are of importance in understanding the complexity of deglacial processes during the recent glacial history of Northern Ireland. A well-marked belt of contiguous rounded ridges, piled against one another across the entrance of the Glenmornan River valley, marks halts in the retreat of ice from the western Sperrins into the Foyle valley. Geomorphologically, this is a pristine area, and landforms have been little disturbed by human activity. The rolling landscape, with steep ice contact and ice distal slopes, and deeply incised meltwater channels, has considerable aesthetic appeal.*

### **Other sites/units identified in the Earth Science Conservation Review**

#### **328 Strabane Quarry**

*Precambrian. Pillow lavas in Dalradian succession on northern limb of Sperrin Overfold.*

#### **336 Kittybane Quarry**

*Precambrian. Quality outcrop of Ballykelly Formation on south of Lough Foyle Syncline. Preserved sedimentary structures.*

#### **337 Prehen Quarry**

*Precambrian. Exposure of turbidite metasedimentary rocks of Londonderry Formation, on southern limb of Lough Foyle Syncline.*

#### **329 Glenmornan River**

*Precambrian. Argyll Group. Early Irish examples of Dalradian pillow lavas. Stratigraphic marker horizon in Dungiven Formation.*

## **AONB**

*Small areas of the Sperrin AONB (1968) lie in the south and west of the LCA. This designation is indicative of the scenic quality of the landscape in this area."*



Figure 163 – Foyle Valley historical geological mapping 1886 (c)GSI

## FOYLE VALLEY – historical natural landscapes; ecology

Information on the ecology is available from a variety of sources. In addition to NIEA data, current sources include references relating to protected sites included in local authority development plans. The following pages offer an overview of these with a synopsis confirming the significant features written by ecologist Ralph Sheppard.

The following text relates to the Biodiversity Profile of FOYLE VALLEY Landscape Character Area – as described by Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)

*“In the following account it should be noted that for consistency, the biodiversity section follows the standard order for all LCAs even though some of the communities discussed later may have more importance for biodiversity than those discussed earlier*

### **Key Characteristics**

- *although woodlands occupy only a small percentage of the LCA, they include some, or parts of some, of the best examples of priority woodland types in Northern Ireland, including some of the more extensive upland oakwoods*
- *significant amount of estate woodland and 'landscaping' of broadleaved woodlands along the R. Mourne - addition of beech, conifers etc*
- *improved pastures dominant, but wet grasslands important, especially alongside R Foyle in the north - important for waders and other wetland birds*
- *some intact lowland raised bog and intact blanket bog - important habitats on a national and European scale*
- *rivers with significant populations of Priority Species and part of the Foyle system - of international importance for Atlantic salmon.*

## **Woodlands**

Although woodlands occupy only a small percentage of the LCA, they include some, or parts of some, of the best examples of priority woodland types in Northern Ireland. For example, in the southeast there is a significant part of woodlands that occur at the confluence of the Glenelly and Owenkillew Rivers. The **Owenkillew River SAC** (and **Owenkillew and Glenelly Woods ASSI**) is associated with several woodlands which together represent one of

the best examples of old sessile oak wood (**upland oakwood**) in Northern Ireland. The woods contain a number of associated physical features, including waterfalls, gorges, cliffs and scattered boulder scree, which contribute to the diversity of the woodland communities.

However, the canopy is generally dominated by sessile oak with frequent downy birch and some planted beech. The shrub layer



consists of rowan and holly, with hazel locally frequent and occasional goat willow. In places, the ground flora is dominated by grasses, including wavy hair-grass, and calcifuge (not tolerant of lime) mosses such as *Rhytidiadelphus loreus*. Where grazing is absent, bilberry, great wood-rush and bluebell are dominant in the ground flora; species such as bluebell and lesser celandine reach local dominance where the slopes are mineral-enriched.

Along the Mourne River, especially on steeper meander scars, some woodlands are also dominated by oak, frequently with birch and hazel, but there are also species that indicate planting, including beech, Scots pine and other conifers. In other parts, these woodlands are more base-rich and ash becomes the canopy dominant; yet other parts are wet and dominated by alder. The woodlands are generally species-rich, partly because of the changing ground conditions, but there are parts that are grazed and the herb layer is predominantly grasses. These woodlands, as well as those at the Owenkillew-Glenelly confluence, were present in the 1830s and therefore are at least 'long-established'; such woodlands may contain species not present in more recent woodlands.

**Upland mixed ashwoods** are not frequent in the LCA, but examples include **Grange Wood ASSI** that partially lies over an isolated outcrop of Dungiven limestone. The wood is largely comprised of a low hazel canopy with occasional ash standards over a diverse base-rich herb flora. Frequent exposed rocky outcrops and boulders are covered by a luxuriant growth of mosses, particularly on the upper slopes. The lower slopes are

waterlogged with extensive flushing and in these areas willow and alder predominate in **wet woodland**. Similarly, **Strabane Glen ASSI** is a calcicolous (favouring lime) type due to the underlying geology. Hazel and ash are the predominant tree species with rowan and scrub oak, and occasional holly.

Wet woodlands are not extensive in the LCA; apart from forming small patches within other woodland types, they tend to be located at the edges and other wetter parts of cut-over bogs, as at McKean's Bog.

Examples of lowland woodland pasture and parkland are frequent. Although most are small, their influence has extended into the countryside, as exemplified by woodlands alongside the Mourne River (see above), particularly between Strabane and Newtownstewart. Here oak, beech, elm, horse chestnut and Scots pine are common amongst a wide range of species.

The most extensive estate woodlands are those at Holy Hill where beech and oak are the most abundant species, with elm, sycamore, ash and birch common. The herb layer is not diverse and the epiphytic moss and lichen flora is also poor. There are also plantations of Norway spruce.

There are no extensive coniferous forests in the LCA; the plantation at Wood Hills is dominated by Scots pine and Sitka spruce with larch, but there are also ash, alder and other broadleaves.

### **Grassland and Arable**

Grassland covers the vast majority of the LCA and most of that is improved pasture. Undulating land above the Mourne/Strule is composed of sands, gravels and tills on which there are well-drained soils; improved pastures are intensively managed and there are also some arable fields. Improved pastures generally have low biodiversity as a result of the relatively intensive management. Some of the pastures are sown grasslands dominated by ryegrass and few other species - low biodiversity is in-built. Other grasslands have



been converted to improved pastures through management. High levels of grazing or repeated cutting for silage, high inputs of fertilizers and slurry, and selective herbicides serve to reduce diversity of both flora and fauna.

Biodiversity in areas of improved pastures and arable is often concentrated in hedgerows. Indeed, they may be the most significant wildlife habitat over



*much of lowland Northern Ireland, especially where there are few semi-natural habitats. Hedgerows are a refuge for many woodland and farmland plants and animals. In this LCA hedgerows in the lower lands are generally well-managed, although thinning in the few upland parts, and provide the micro-habitats for enhancement of the biodiversity, for example for farmland birds and the semi-shade in which spring-flowering plants can establish - provided that the hedgerow is not too intensively managed.*

*To the north of the LCA, on the east bank of the R. Foyle, the land is flat and in addition to bog and marsh, there are wet grasslands that are important for breeding waders, including lapwing, snipe and **curlew**. In uplands to the east of the LCA, for example the lower slopes of Knockavoe, and on the margins of blanket peat to the north of the Owenkillew, there are acid, rushy grasslands that, although of low biodiversity, also provide habitats for waders.*

*Despite the overall dominance of improved pastures, there are sufficient intermixed habitats (woodland, hedges, arable fields, wet grasslands, bogs) in the farmland to provide habitats for a range of bird Priority Species, including **yellowhammer, spotted flycatcher, song thrush, skylark, reed bunting, linnets and bullfinch**.*

### **Heaths and Bogs**

*The LCA has both lowland raised bog and blanket bog, although some of the bogs may be transitional between the two; thus on the north side of the Owenkillew there are some sites on broad ledges that have been classed as lowland (North and South Lislea) whereas others at a similar altitude (Straletterdallan) have been classed as blanket - probably because they were almost continuous with other bog upslope.*

***Lowland raised bog** is a rare habitat in the UK, and Northern Ireland has a large proportion of that remaining; in particular it has much of the intact lowland bog. In the best examples there is a diversity of structural features including hummocks and hollows and pools that give rise to micro-habitats related especially to the height of the water table. The plant species are adapted not only to the generally waterlogged, acid and low nutrient conditions, but also to these small-scale variations in topography and water level. Typical plant species include bog mosses, deer sedge, cotton sedges, bog asphodel, sundews, cross-leaved heath and common heather. In addition, raised bogs (together with blanket bogs) are important repositories of archaeological and environmental information, and significant stores of carbon.*

***McKean's Moss ASSI** is most north-western lowland raised bog in Northern Ireland. The intact dome has characteristic vegetation and structural features, including hummock and lawn complexes and small shallow pools. There is a range of bog mosses associated with these micro-habitats. The periphery of the bog has been extensively cut for turf in the past (**McKean's Moss Part II ASSI**) and is now dominated by downy birch with frequent willow where the water table is maintained at a higher level. The ground flora is dominated by bog mosses and dense stands of purple moor-grass. These old hand cuttings provide additional habitat*

*diversity to McKean's Moss ASSI and are integral to its hydrology. North and South Lislea is the only other extensive area of 'lowland' bog, but it is completely cut-over.*

*Blanket bog is confined in Europe to the northwest margins of the continent, so that Northern Ireland contains not only a large proportion of the UK's and of Ireland's total area of blanket bog, but also is of major importance at a European scale. Blanket bog, and particularly intact blanket bog, in any LCA is therefore of national and international*



*significance. It is home to plant species adapted to the acidic, low nutrient conditions - including common heather, cross-leaved heath, cotton sedges, bog asphodel, deer sedge, bog mosses (Sphagnum species) and sundews. Some of the best examples of blanket bog, particularly those in the northwest of Britain and Ireland, have micro-topographic features such as pools and hummocks that provide micro-habitats for flora and fauna. Blanket bog is also important for over-wintering birds and for breeding birds, including waders. It is a significant store for carbon and a repository of information on past environments.*

*Blanket bog is confined in this LCA to the flat and gentle slopes to the north of the Owenkillev beginning at Lisnafin in the west and extending intermittently to The Black Park in the extreme east. Whereas most of the blanket bog is cut-over, there are intact remnants at Straletterdallan and a more extensive intact area down the centre of the low spur at Tullynadall. However, modern compact-harvester extraction (with drains) has eaten into this bog. Parts of Straletterdallan have been colonized by trees.*

### **Wetlands and Lakes**

*The Owenkillev River (**Owenkillev River SAC, Owenkillev River ASSI**) is ultra-oligotrophic (very low in nutrients) in its upland reaches, gradually becoming oligotrophic and oligo-mesotrophic through its middle and lower reaches (only the lower reaches are in this LCA). The river is notable for its physical diversity and the naturalness of banks and channel, and the richness of its plant and animal communities. Beds of stream water-crowfoot occur throughout its middle and lower reaches, typically in association with intermediate water-starwort and pondweeds such as broad-leaved pondweed and shining pondweed. Both salmon and brown trout are present in the river, in addition to species such as brook lamprey. **Otter**, dipper and*

kingfishers are present along the length of the river. The Foyle system, which includes the Strule/Mourne and Derg is, along with the Roe and Faughan, the most important salmon fishery in the north of Ireland.

None of the lakes examined by the Northern Ireland Lake Survey were classed as of priority to biodiversity; Lough Neas has a small area of fen, otherwise **fen** and **reedbed** are rare. In the north, the R. Foyle grades into its estuary where there are mudflats, patches of saltmarsh and important habitats for wetland birds (see LCA 32 and 35).

### **Key Issues**

General actions for UK and NI **Priority Habitats** and **Priority Species** are detailed in the **Habitat Action Plans** and **Species Action Plans**.

### **WOODLANDS**

**Issue:** low woodland cover of variable biodiversity value, but including important examples of Priority types

#### **Actions:**

- enhance the biodiversity value of demesne/parkland woodland through control of grazing and felling; by encouraging planting of saplings of the standard trees; by preventing further loss of parkland; by retention of fallen and veteran trees (particularly for bryophytes, ferns, fungi and fauna)
- further study of the history and ecology of demesne and other broadleaved woodlands particularly any ancient and long-established, as a key to future management
- encourage control of grazing in broadleaved woodlands to foster regeneration and if necessary, encourage replanting of canopy species
- encourage planting of broadleaved plantations, through appropriate grant schemes, rather than the small conifer plantations which are of poor biodiversity and landscape value.

### **GRASSLAND AND ARABLE**

**Issue:** poor biodiversity of farmland

#### **Actions:**

- maintain and improve field boundaries especially hedgerows . This may be achieved through adoption of correct cutting cycles; hedge laying and replanting where necessary; leaving saplings uncut to develop into hedgerow trees; avoidance of spraying with fertilizers, slurry, herbicides; provision of wildlife strips and conservation headlands around fields; and limitation of field amalgamation
- encourage (through participation in Environmental Schemes) adoption of less intensive management of pastures to allow reversion to more species-rich grassland and protect unsown areas of species-rich grassland - in this LCA applies mainly to wet grasslands

- *maintain and enhance floodplain grassland by restricting field or arterial drainage - of importance to waders and other wetland birds*
- *leave stubble over winter, rather than autumn ploughing, to increase food resources for farmland birds; spring sown cereals are beneficial to breeding farmland birds.*

## **HEATH AND BOGS**

**Issue:** *raised bogs/blanket bogs of national and international importance*

### **Actions:**

- *maintain the integrity of existing lowland raised bogs and blanket bogs by for example, preventing infilling, fly-tipping, fires, new drainage and new peat cutting - applies particularly to intact bogs, but cut-over bogs can provide important habitats for birds and invertebrates*
- *consider restoration of raised bog/blanket bog habitats through appropriate water level management, removal of individual colonizing trees and phasing out peat cutting - applies particularly to any areas of recent mechanical cutting*
- *prevent new forest planting on raised/blanket bog*

## **WETLANDS**

**Issue:** *important rivers with populations of rare aquatic plants and fauna; rivers part of the Foyle system - important for salmon*

### **Actions:**

- *protect water quality of rivers through nutrient management and by ensuring that suspended sediments and deposition are low, thus*
- *promote and encourage existing good farming practices so that streams are not polluted by run-off from agricultural land or seepage from silage pits*
- *continued monitoring of streams below industrial plants/quarries*
- *monitor streams in relation to peat cutting (sediment load and deposition) - important for salmon that nursery and spawning beds are clear*
- *monitor streams in relation to expansion of rural/urban housing and associated septic tanks/sewage treatment plants*
- *recognise that monitoring of streams in relation to forestry and other operations upstream of the LCA boundary may be important*
- *continue cross-border cooperation in relation to salmon population"*

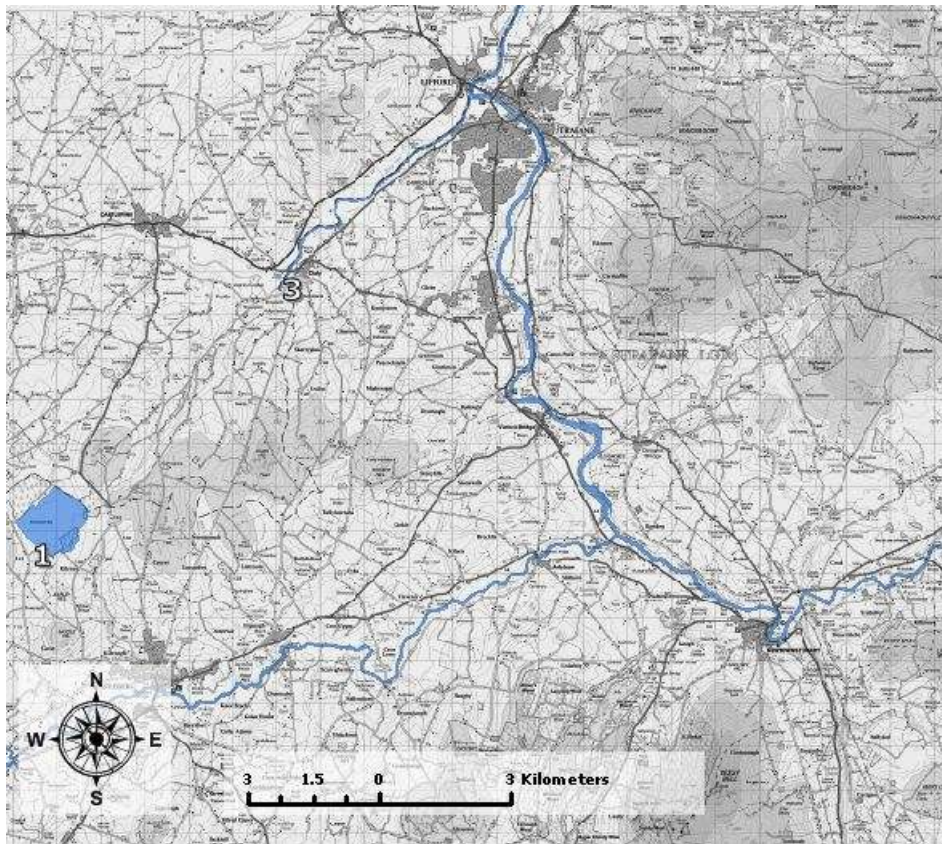
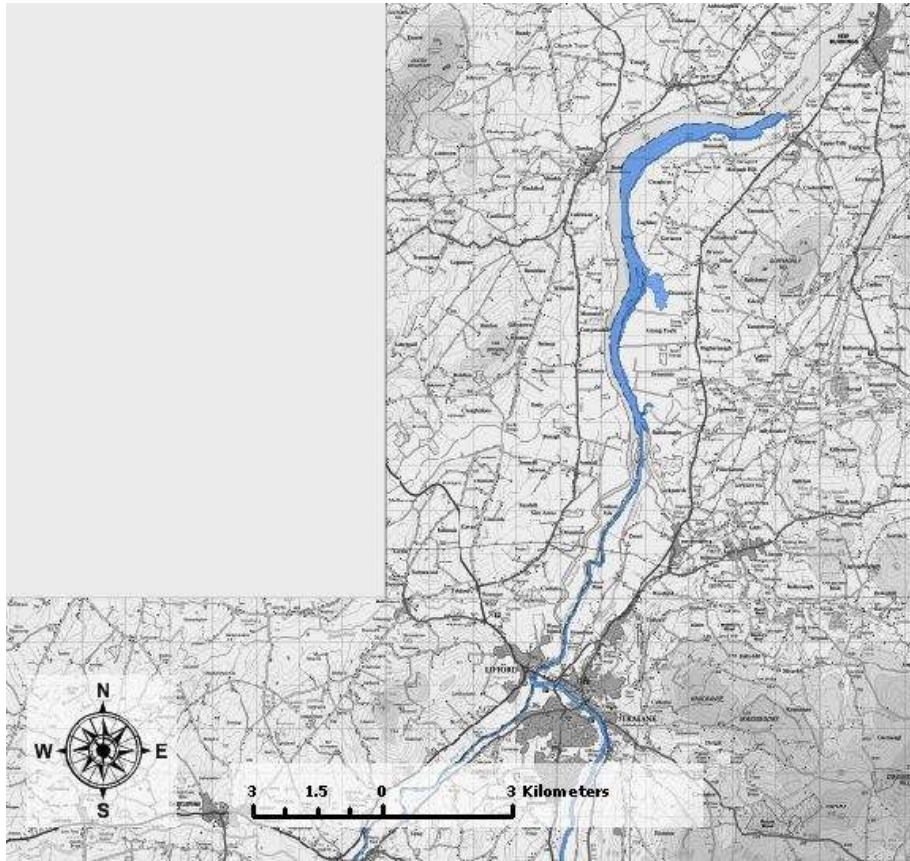


Figure 164 –Foyle Valley Special Areas of Conservation (SAC's)

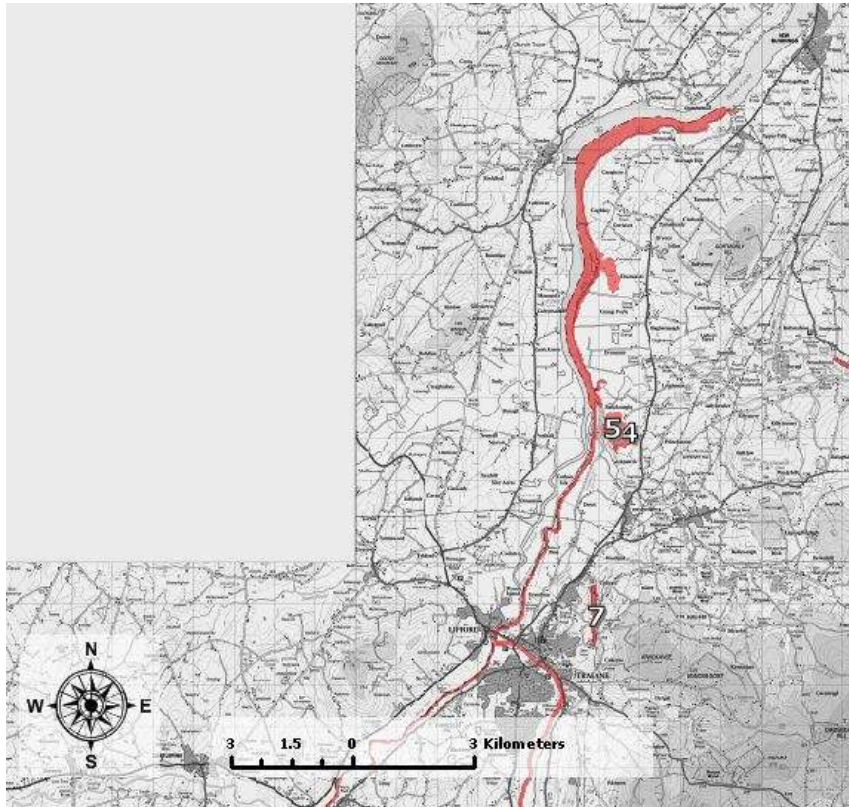


Figure 165 – Foyle Valley (northern section) Areas of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI's); (4) McKean's Moss PtII, (5) McKean's Moss; (7) Strabane Glen

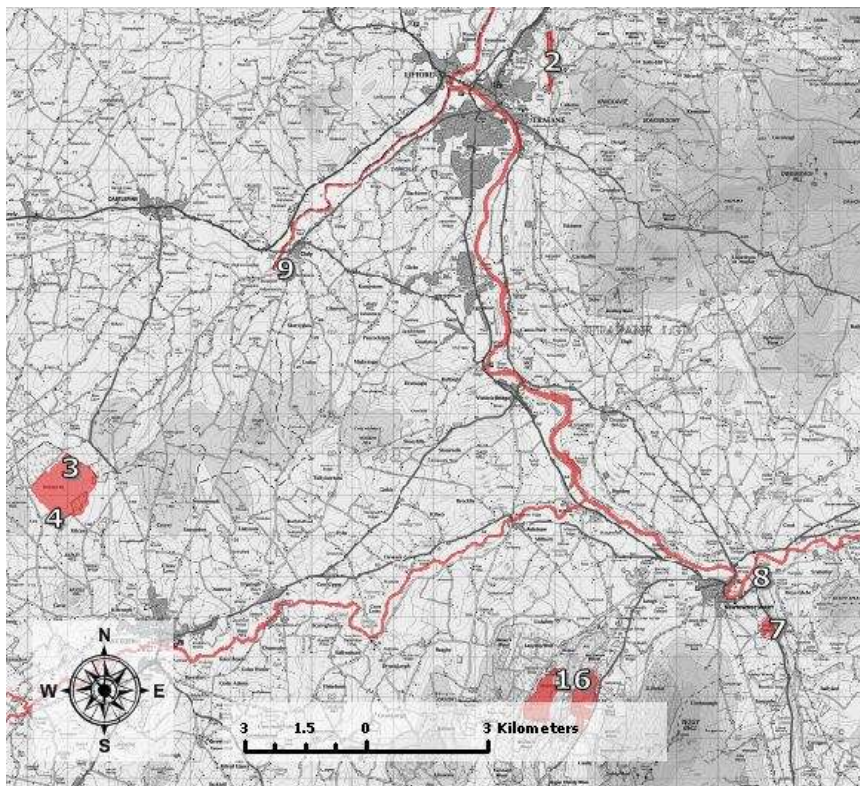


Figure 166 – Foyle Valley (southern section) Areas of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI's); (2) Strabane Glen, (7) Grange Wood, (8) Owenkillew River, (1&6) Baronscourt

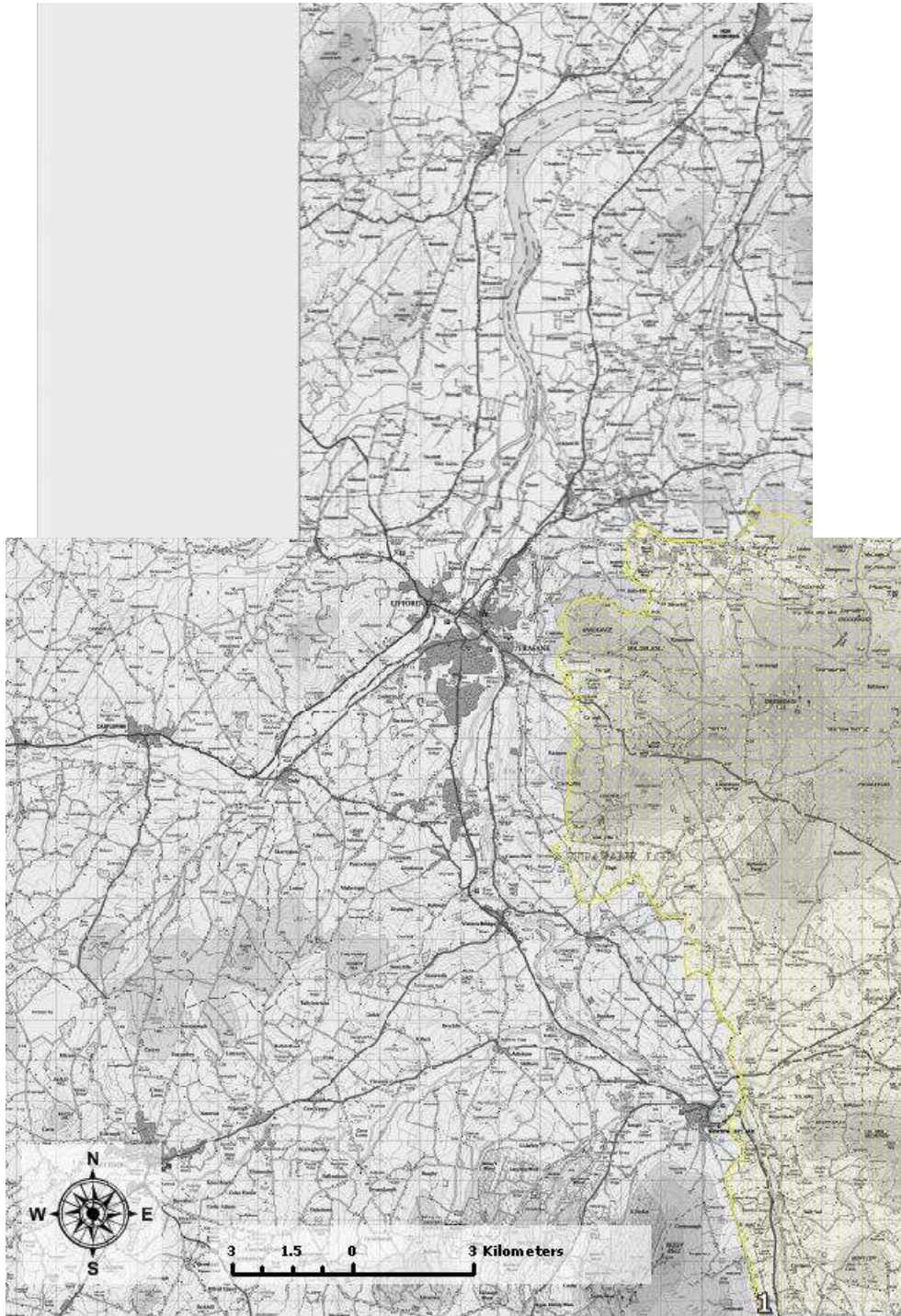


Figure 167 – Foyle Valley; Sperrins Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB); outlined in yellow



Figure 168 - Schist stone; Prehen Quarry. Source: Natural Stone Database



Figure 169 - Schist stone; Bready Quarry, Sollus. Source: Natural Stone Database

Quarry sites are significant both as a source of building materials for conservation purposes but also as natural habitats. The location of many quarries and the nature of the materials extracted are recorded both in historic Ordnance Survey mapping and in place names.

The materials sourced in the Foyle Valley were used to make vernacular buildings locally and in the construction of large buildings at Derry and Strabane. Local materials included schist stone for general work and for roofing slates; clay from the river's edge for bricks. Other materials were often sourced from further afield: sandstone for cut details from Dungiven and, from the 18<sup>th</sup> century, timbers imported from Norway and North America.



Limestone was burnt for use in building mortar and as a soil improver for farming. Organic material such as soil, hazel and willow was used in construction of walls; bog timber, grass turf, flax, straw, rushes & reeds for roofs and peat turf, bracken and heather for insulation. Whilst these materials had been used for many centuries in vernacular buildings; many of these techniques were adapted for use in construction of the new architecture from the 17<sup>th</sup> century onwards.



**Figure 170 – Beech. Tree with Character Habitat value Massive pollard beech beginning to break up (c) Tree Council of Ireland; Heritage Tree Database**



**Figure 171 – Beech, Baronscourt Estate. Described as an arboricultural curiosity forming part of an historic landscape. The throne beech. Probably a sandpit with overenthusiastic excavation. (c) Tree Council of Ireland; Heritage Tree Database**



Figure 172 – Cedar of Lebanon Tree with Character Massive multiple stem crown



Figure 173 – Sessile Oak Exceptional Specimen Tree Sessile Oak girth champion. Massive burred bole



Figure 174 – Pedunculate Oak Exceptional Specimen Tree One of many outstanding parkland Oaks



Figure 175 – Pedunculate Oak Tree with Character Forms part of an historic landscape Example of a parkland coppice



Figure 176 – Red Oak. Exceptional Specimen Tree. Broad crown lakeshore Red Oak.



Figure 177 – Roble Beech. Exceptional Specimen Tree; Irish girth champion still doing well despite growing in extreme winter conditions (c) Tree Council of Ireland; Heritage Tree Database

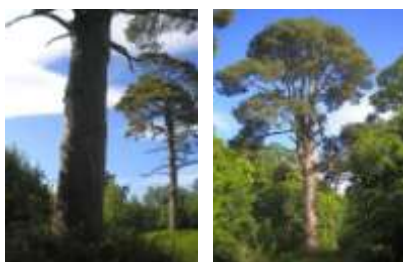


Figure 178 – Scot's Pine. Exceptional Specimen Tree; possibly the biggest single bole in Ireland



Figure 179 – Scot's Pine, Baronscourt Estate. Described as an exceptional specimen tree and genetic resource for local tree population. Most magnificent stem in Ireland. (c) Tree Council of Ireland; Heritage Tree Database

*An Analysis of Foyle Valley Ecology by Ralph Sheppard*

This is the largest and most diverse Landscape Character Area in the Foyle basin. It is dominated by the River Foyle itself, which varies from upland river to broad tidal estuary within the unit. There is much else of interest. Woodlands are particularly varied and rich, although not occupying a significant percentage of the land area. South of Strabane the whole valley is overlooked by the Sperrins Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which rises up from the right bank.

- 1) The River Foyle. Below Strabane, the Foyle is tidal, minimally at first, but increasingly obvious below the entrance of the Burndennet. From St. Johnston (on the Donegal bank), the river is very broad, and the tidal influence is such that broad sandbanks are visible at low tide. This stretch, between St. Johnston and Dunalong, is important for wildfowl in winter, and at times of passage. Geese and Swans utilize the large flat fields north of Foyle-Burndennet confluence, and to a lesser extent also at Dunalong.

This stretch is followed by a narrowing of the river between fairly steep, wooded slopes (see below), and then a widening at the heart of the city, at Rosses Bay. This allows some good areas of mud to be exposed at low tide on the south side of the Foyle Bridge. From here northward tidal mud is exposed all the way down to Culmore. Small numbers of wading birds use this.

Of greater importance is the value of this stretch of river as a route for Salmon to pass upstream. In their interests it is important that pollution is kept to a minimum – not easily done in a large urban transit. Up to the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Foyle had been one of the most productive Salmon rivers in Europe. Many people earned a living netting the fish at various points, using various techniques. Now, the species struggles to survive, although still remaining the best Salmon river in Northern Ireland. The whole river system is designated as a Special Area of Conservation, under the EU Habitats Directive, on which the Salmon is a listed species.

- 2) The Owenkillew River is further designated as an Area of Special Scientific Interest, and an SAC, for its physical diversity, the naturalness of its banks and channel, and the richness of its plant and animal communities.
- 3) McKean's Moss has the honour of being the most north-westerly raised bog in Ireland. It does not compare with classic raised bogs in the Irish midlands, being very small, and having been partially drained in the past. But it is nonetheless a typical example, and is

largely surrounded by the characteristic lagg woodland. It is not of sufficiently quality to justify an SAC designation, but it is protected as an ASSI.

- 4) The lower reaches of Burndennet and the Glenmornan River cut through extensive areas of glacial sands and gravels. Extraction of these has left the area with a legacy of old quarries, ponds and swampy areas. There is no particularly notable areas recorded, but collectively these are bound to provide habitat for a variety of flora and fauna that may be scarce elsewhere in the region.
- 5) The main woodlands of interest are along the banks of the Mourne, Strule and Owenkillew Rivers. Grange Wood near Newtown Stewart is an ASSI. But the Owenkillew River in particular is associated with several woodlands which in combination represent one of the best examples of old sessile oak wood in Northern Ireland, and are accordingly protected by both the ASSI and SAC designations. These woods contain a number of associated physical features, including waterfalls, gorges, cliffs and scattered boulder scree, which contribute to the diversity of the woodland communities.
- 6) Prehen Wood in the outer Derry suburbs, is owned and managed by the Ulster Woodland Trust, although it doesn't have any national or regional legal protection. But it is an Area of Local Conservation and Amenity Importance in the Derry Area Plan 2011. It has perhaps been seen as too compromised by its embattled context of urbanisation and casual abuse. Beech were widely planted, probably in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In the 1920s there was a major harvest of better formed trees. But fortunately, less well-formed specimens survived, and these now form a sizeable population of very large mature trees of various species. In fact Prehen Wood has excellent credentials for conservation as a site with a long recorded history as woodland, going back to at least the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. The main canopy species are now Beech, Oak and Birch, with an understory of Hazel and Holly, and the woodland floor has extensive carpets of Bluebells. Red Squirrels have been supported by a dedicated community feeding programme which may well help them to co-exist with the invading Grey Squirrels.
- 7) Estate woodlands are of some importance too. Holy Hill near Strabane is one of the largest. But Baronscourt is in a class of its own. This huge estate has plantations of all ages, some of which function now as excellent wildlife habitat. There are many groves of exotic and native trees species of great age and record dimensions. All these are set around a series of long established ornamental, but also quite natural, lakes. However, Baronscourt has not been entirely a bonus for wildlife. It was here that Sika Deer were

introduced in 1892 and have now spread widely throughout Tyrone and Fermanagh. Perhaps not quite as notorious as the populations in Wicklow and Kerry, where they interbreed with Red Deer and do immense damage to young conifer plantations, they are still a major threat to many interests in the north-west.

## FOYLE VALLEY – historical cultural landscape; Barony



Figure 180 – the Foyle Valley LCA is located in the barony of Lower Strabane Lower marked in green on the Philip's atlas map 1897

The barony of Lower Strabane corresponds to part of the former O'Neill territory enclosed by the Sperrins to the north and east and the River Foyle to the west where the River formed a natural boundary.

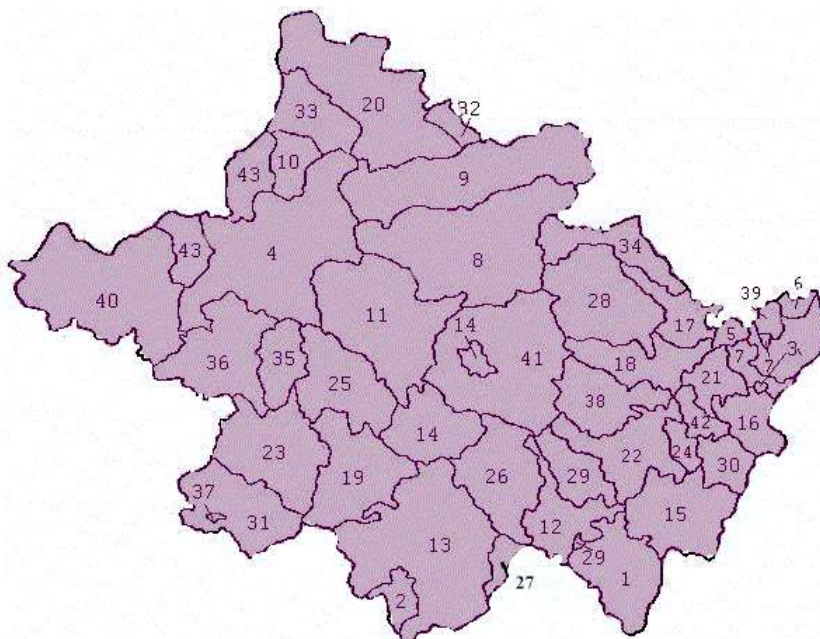
A small section of the Foyle Valley LCA continues north into County Londonderry and a small section of the barony of Tirkeeran.

## FOYLE VALLEY – historical cultural landscape; Civil Parishes



Figure 181 – County Londonderry Parishes

The Foyle Valley LCA spans parts of several parishes in two separate counties: Parish of Clondermot, marked 17 on the above map and, on the Tyrone map below, Donaghedy marked 20; Leckpatrick, marked 33; Camus, marked 10; Urney marked 43 (located “between the waters” at the confluence of the Mourne and the Finn; and Ardstraw, marked 4 (spanning both sides of the river Mourne)





## FOYLE VALLEY – historical cultural landscape; Townlands





## Key to Townlands (c) Placenames NI

The following is a selective list of townlands within the Foyle Valley LCA. Where there are entries in the Northern Ireland Place Names Project or similar resources we have listed these alongside the town land name:

**Bolies – no entry; thought to be associated with a cattle milking place**

**Tamnymore – Tamnach-mor "The great field"** - Munn's Notes, 99, 1925

**Brickkilns – no entry; presumed to be associated with brick making**

**Prehen – Preachan "The place of the crows"** - Munn's Notes, 98, 1925; **Prehen, Críoch Chéin, Cian's boundary?** - Bryson, Streets of Derry, 140, 2001

**Corrody – Comh-rodai "Common field, or plain"** - Munn's Notes, 92, 1925; **Cor-ruide "The hill of the red (Iron scum)"** - Joyce (Munn), 92,2.371, 1925

**Dunhugh – Dún Aodha "Hugh's dun or fort"** - J O'D (OSNB), 93 C1, 1830

**Kittybane**

**Ballyore**

**Primity – Baile-freamhadhaig "The townland of the old tree"** - Munn's Notes, 98, 1925

**Rossnagalliagh – Ros-na-g-cailleach "The wood of the nuns"** - Joyce (Munn), 98,2.96;3.546, 1925

**Gortin – Goirtín "a small garden or enclosure"** - J O'D (OSNB), , 1833c

**Lower Tully – An Tulach "the hillock"** - PNP talk, PMcK/Omagh DC, 2003

**Clampernow**

**Magheramason – Machaire maisan "the field for food"** - Ogilby, A., C23, 1830c

**Tully Upper**

**Tagharina**

**Meenagh Hill – Míneach "smooth surface"** - J O'D (OSNB), C23, 1833c

**Creaghcor – Créach-cor "bramble hill"** - J O'D (OSNB), C23, 1833c

**Tamnaclare – tamhnach clair - Green field of the plain** - TNCT, 66, 1920c

**Cloghboy**

**Gortavea – Gort a bheithe "Field of the beech"** - J O'D (OSNB), C23, 1833c

**Gortmessan – gort measan - A fruitful field** - TNCT, 65, 1920c

**Drumgauty**

**Grange Foyle – grainseach - Place for grain attached to monastery - TNCT, 13, 1920c**

**Drumetty Little**

**Drumetty Big**

**Ballydonaghy**

**Leckpatrick – Leac "a flag or rocky surface" - J O'D (OSNB), 94 CIX, 1827**

**Greenlaw – grinneal ath - Gravelly ford - TNCT, 67, 1920c**

**Desert**

**Backfence**

**Greenbrae**

**Townparks of Strabane – Srath Bán "White Strath or Holm" - J O'D (OSNB), No.33, 1835c**

**Castletown**

**Magirr – maigh ghearr -Short plain/level tract of land - TNCT, 68, 1920c**

**Ballycolman**

**Stragullan – srath cuilinn - Holm of the holly (Joyce) srath Gu - TNCT, 70, 1920c**

**Drumnaboy**

**Urney**

**Inchenny**

**Gallany – Geal-eanach "The White Marsh" - Joyce (Munn), 75, 1.461; 3.35, 1925**

**Ballyfattan**

**Seein – Joyce translates it sidhean - A fairy mount; also - TNCT, 68, 1920c**

**Liggartown**

**Camus – Camas "The bend or curve of the River" - Munn's Notes, 213, 1925**

**Ballought**

**Breen**

**Liscreevaghan – Lios Craoibhín "fort of the little bush or branch - OSNB Inf., B53 B75, 1834**

**Lisky – lios sceach - Fort of the whitethorn bushes - TNCT, 70, 1920c**

**Knockroe – Cnoc ruadh "Red hill" - J O'D (OSNB), 3, 1833c**

**Mulvin – Malvin "from Maulbhin, the bald/round pinnacle" - Ardstraw Geb., 50, 1968**

**Urbalreagh – "from Earbul, a tail or extremity" "and Riavagh gr - Ardstraw Geb., 50, 1968**

**Bunderg**

**Birnaghs**

**Lisnatunny Glebe**

**Pubble – Pobal "a congregation" - J O'D (OSNB), B127, 1834**

**Deer Park**

**Croshballinree**

***Newtownstewart***

**Townlands by Estate ownership**

The following townlands are attached to the Duke of Abercorn's Estate the seat of which is located at Baronscourt to the west of Newtown Stewart.

**Abercorn (D/623) c.1805 Manor of Strabane**

Argenagh	Drimnabuoy	Liggartown
Balloght	Drumnaboe	Lurganbuy
Ballyfoylard	Dunrean	Maghrygar
Ballymullerty	Edymore	Meenashesck Mountain
Breen	Elagh	Peacockbank
Bunderg	Fyfinn	Priestsess
Carrigullan	Glenglush	Seein
Cavanlee	Glentimon	Shanony
Concefs	Gortlocher	Skinbuy
Crue	Kinkit	Skinbuy Mountain
Dirnaleb	Knockrow	Stonyfalls
Doorlan	Lifky	Tullywhifker
Drimeagle	Liftimore	Tyrmegan

**Manor of Gloghole**

Altnageering	Cloughcon	Lagnagalaglagh
Artagarvon	Craignaugappul	Lifdoo
Backfence	Dessart	Lisscurry
Ballace	Drummon	Lonochreas
Ballydonochy	Dunniboe	Maccrackens Leckglebe
Ballykerry	Fyfinn	Millstown
Ballylaw	Gorteleck	Moorlough
Ballymagorry	GreenLaw	Owenreagh
Ballyskeagh	Irifhgortecrum	Poksitown
Barran	Killynaught	Pollateebe
Blackhill	Knockanervore	Scotch Gortecrum
Boyd's Hill	Knockinbrack	Stranifk
Brown Hill	Lagavedder	Tirkernaghan
Castletown	Lagavittal	Tullyard
		Woodend

**Manor of Donelong**

Ballybeeny	Cullan	Maghrymafion
Ballyhether	Donelong	Menaghill
Carrickatan	Drimgauty	Milltown
Castlemellan	Eden	Mountcastle
Castlewarren	Gortavea	Sandvill
Cavanacreagh	Gortmefson	Sollas
Cloghogle	Gortmellan	Tamnabraidy
Cloughbuoy	Lisiven	Tamnabryan
Coolmagbry	Loughreas	Tamnaclar
Creaghcorr	Maghereagh	Tamnakerry
		Tullyarn

**Manor of Dirrigoo**

<b>Aghafad</b>	Cloontey	Letterbin
<b>Aghasessy</b>	Coltan	Lurgymore
<b>Archil</b>	Creevy	Lurybeg
<b>Ballynalone</b>	Dirrigoon	Maghrycreggan
<b>Ballyrennan</b>	Drimclamph	Maghrylough
<b>Boytur</b>	Drimlegah	Mullaghcroy
<b>Castey</b>	Enuagh	Ratyn
<b>Cavandarragh</b>	Kairno	Tamnagh
		Whitehouse

**FOYLE VALLEY – historical cultural landscape; Administration – Poor Law Union, Dispensary Districts & District Electoral Divisions**

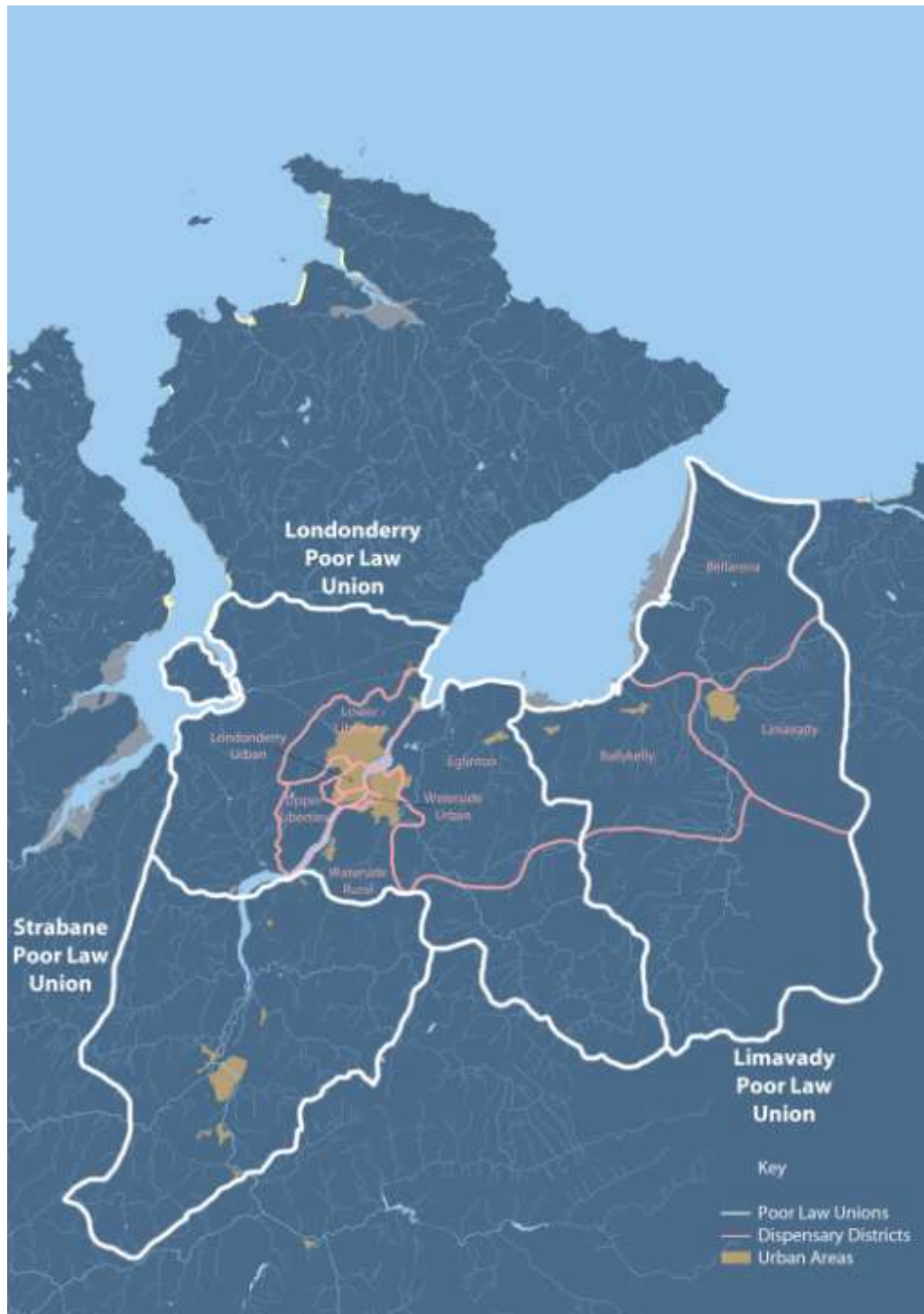


Figure 182 –Poor Law Unions. The Foyle Valley LCA is located in both the Londonderry & Strabane poor law unions

The Foyle Valley LCA extends across nine modern district electoral divisions; three Dispensary Districts at Dunnamanagh, Strabane and Newtown Stewart. The area also crosses part of the Londonderry and Strabane Poor Law Unions

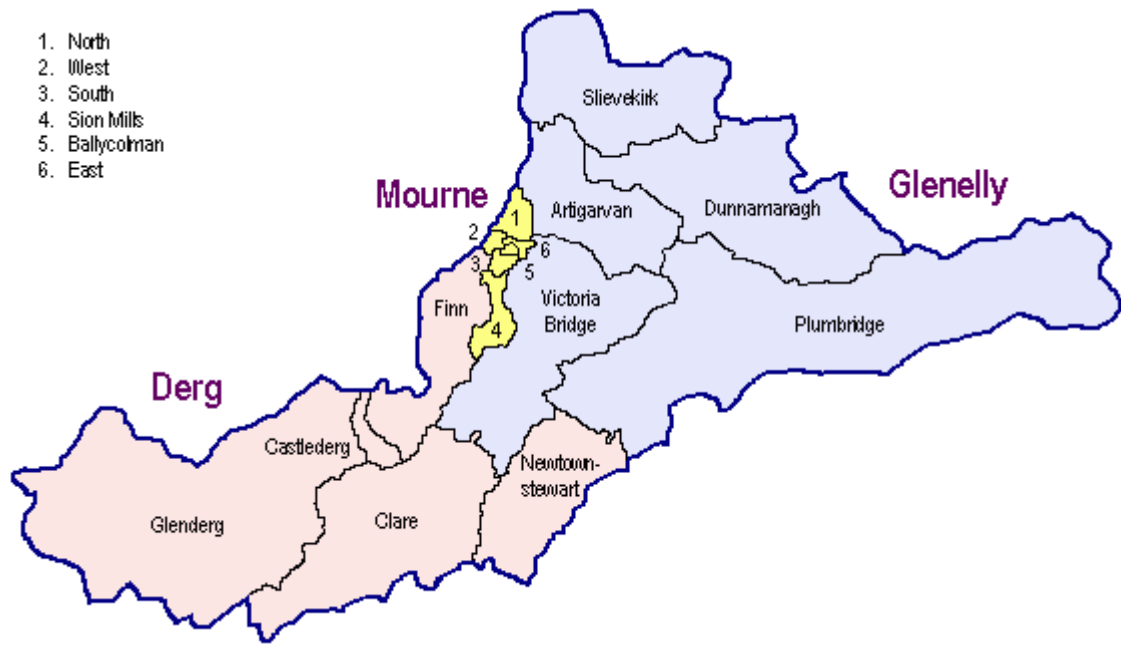


Figure 183 – Strabane District Council Area showing modern electoral divisions (c)ARK NorthernIreland/ Economic & Social Research Council (ESRC)



**FOYLE VALLEY – historical cultural & built landscape; historical survival**



Figure 184 – Extract from Map of Ireland 1572; “Leuer” is Lifford; “Castell Abony” is presumed to be Harry Avery’s castle overlooking Newtownstewart



Figure 185 – Extract from TCD MS1209/1 Map of Ireland circa 1580; north is to the right. Dunnalong and the Foyle islands are shown as are castles at Lifford and Strabane. The route of rivers is somewhat confused with the River Strule leading to Lough Derg (c)TCD



Figure 186 – Extract from Francis Jobson’s “The Province of Ulster” 1590 TCD MS 1209/15 is difficult to read but shows from north to south: Prehen Woods; a crannog or Irish castle at Dunalong; woods at Grange; Burn Dennett and the Glenmornan River with Leckpatrick church and another structure between; Strabane castle and fortification opposite at Port na Tri Namad; Camus church; Pubble Franciscan Friary, Harry Avery’s castle and a crannog, McHugh’s castle.



Figure 187 – Richard Bartlett’s “A General Description of Ulster” 1602-3. This very clear map shows from Derry in the north to Newtown Stewart in the south: Prehen woods, Dunalong, “The Salmon Fishing” and the Foyle islands, Strabane castle, Harry Avery’s castle and a crannog to the west site of McHugh’s castle.

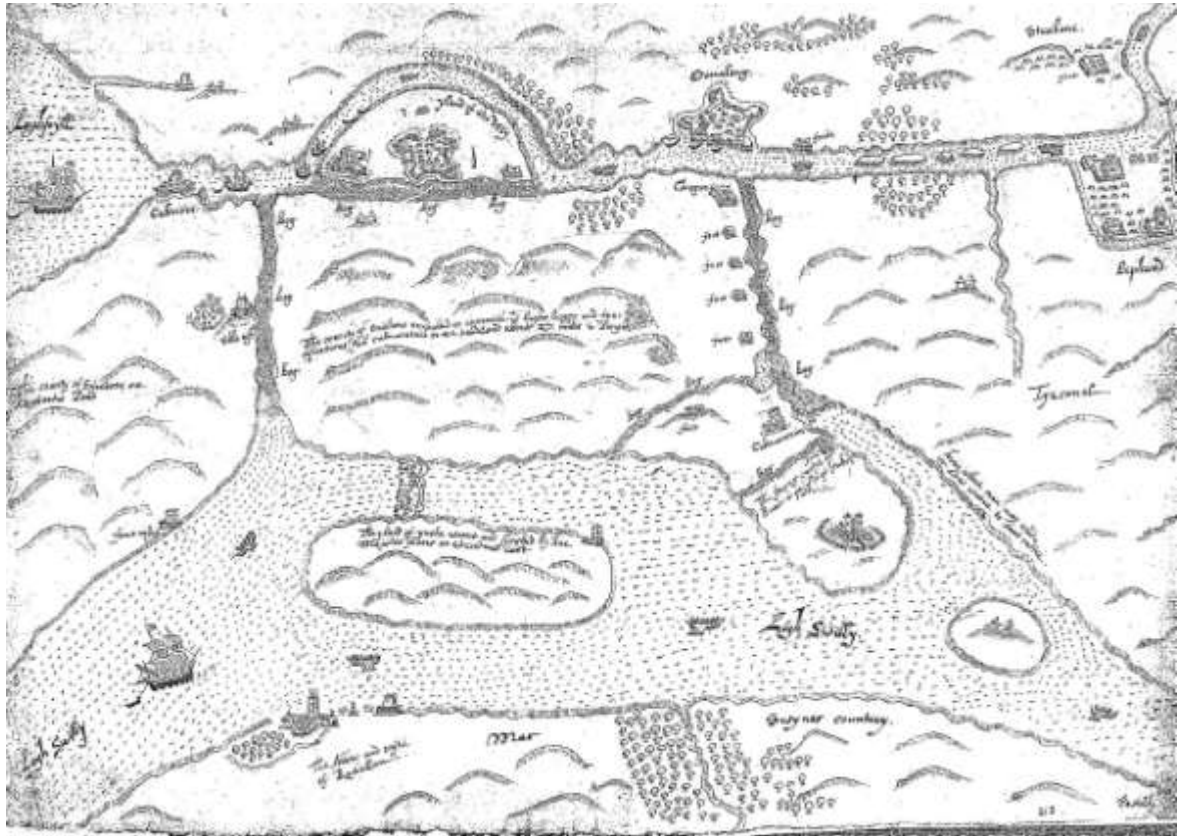


Figure 188 – Docwra’s military campaign map circa 1600 showing Prehen Woods, Dunnalong, the Foyle islands, woods at the Grange(?), Lifford and Strabane

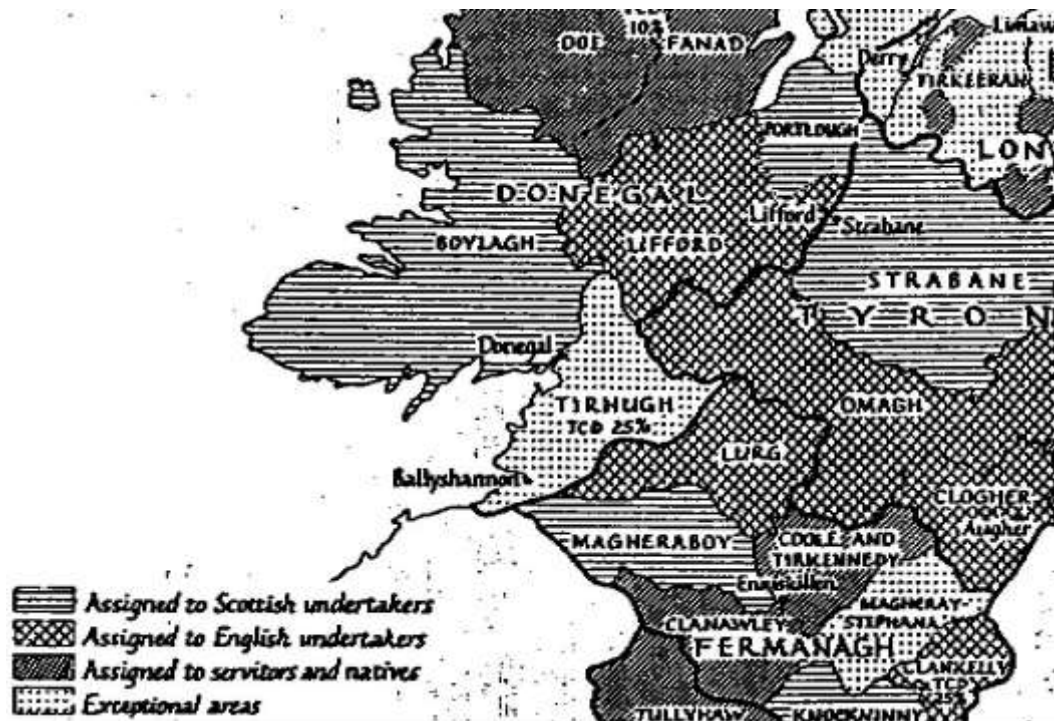


Figure 189 – the Londonderry plantation of 1613. The map shows land allocated from north to south as follows: church, native freehold, Goldsmiths & native freehold



Figure 190 – Bodley map 1609 showing townlands, fortifications at Dunalong and church building at Grange. The double circle at the junction of townlands marked Teadan, Lesduffin, Ballybin and Magherareogh corresponds to modern townland names and a ring fort shown on 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey maps circa 1835; no longer visible in aerial photography. Next to Grange is the Burn Dennett leading to a castle, possibly Mountcastle, although shown as a crannog on Lough Neas.



Figure 191 – Petty's map 1685 showing townlands, Burn Dennett, Glenmornan river and bogland at Leckpatrick and Greenlaw and a significant church or castle structure at Strabane



Figure 192 – Extract from 19<sup>th</sup> century Ordnance Survey 1 to 250,000 scale map of Ireland showing overview of rivers

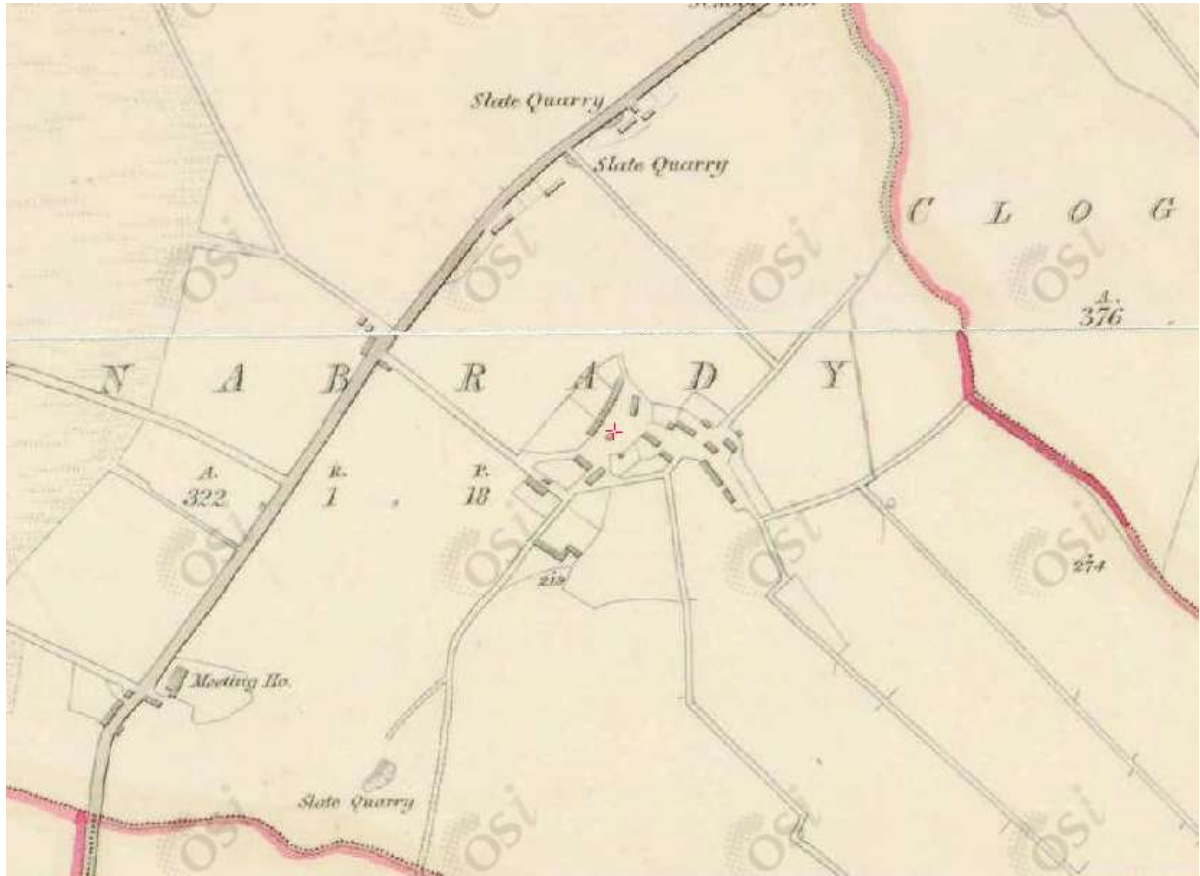


Figure 193 – Ordnance survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition map circa 1835 showing detail of a typical clachan at Tamnabready (c)OSI



Figure 194 – aerial view of Tamnabready 2012 showing clachan largely in use as a single farm complex which, whilst containing mostly large modern sheds also shows some survival of vernacular structures (c) Google



Figure 195 – 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map circa 1835; Farmhouse at Drumgauty (c)OSI



Figure 196 – aerial view of Drumgauty 2012 (c) Google



Figure 197 – 18<sup>th</sup> century vernacular farmhouse with rare St. Johnston slate roof; structure currently at risk (c) Google



**FOYLE VALLEY – historical cultural & built landscape; landed estates**

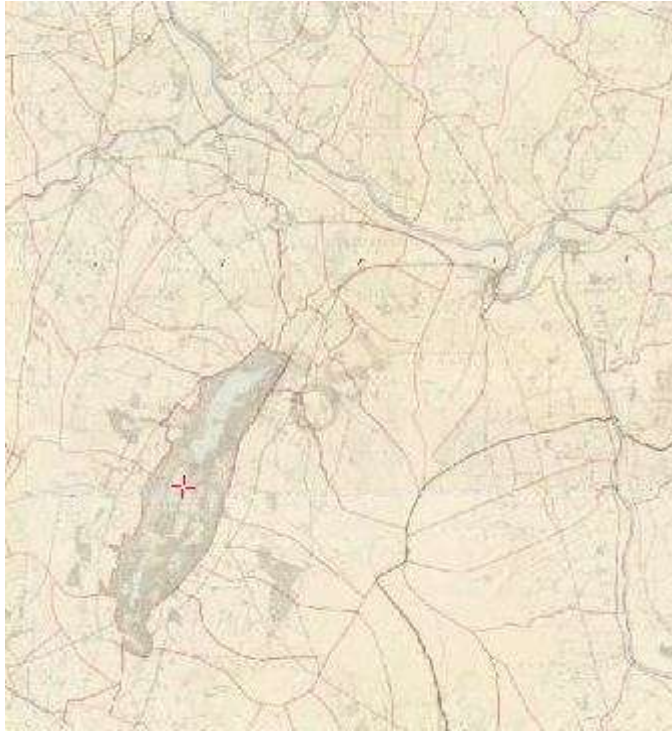


Figure 198 – Baronscourt OS 1<sup>st</sup> ed overview (c)OSI



Figure 199 – Baronscourt 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map circa 1835 (c)OSI



Figure 200 – Baronscourt Interiors significant not only for 18<sup>th</sup> century design, but also as examples of colour schemes of eminent designer David Hicks dating from the 1970's. Source: Paint & Colour in Decoration (c) Farrow & Ball



Figure 201 - Baronscourt House and Stables. Source: Natural Stone Database

From DUBLIN.

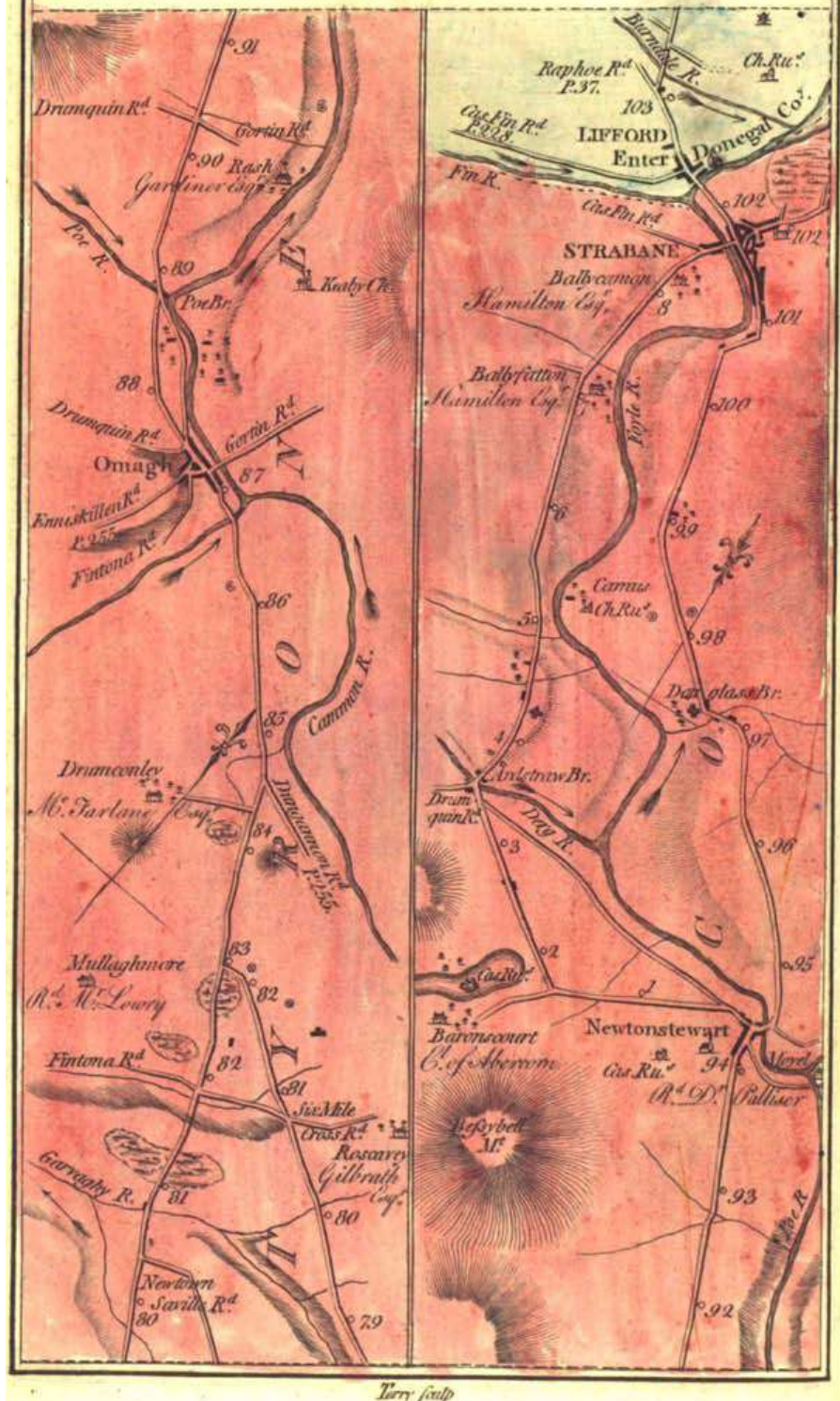


Figure 202 – Taylor & Skinner’s Road Map 1775; Newtownstewart to Strabane Road is shown on the right hand side with notable sites en route including Newtownstewart church, ruins of Harry Avery’s castle, Baronscourt, Camus Church, houses at Ballyfatton and Ballycamon.

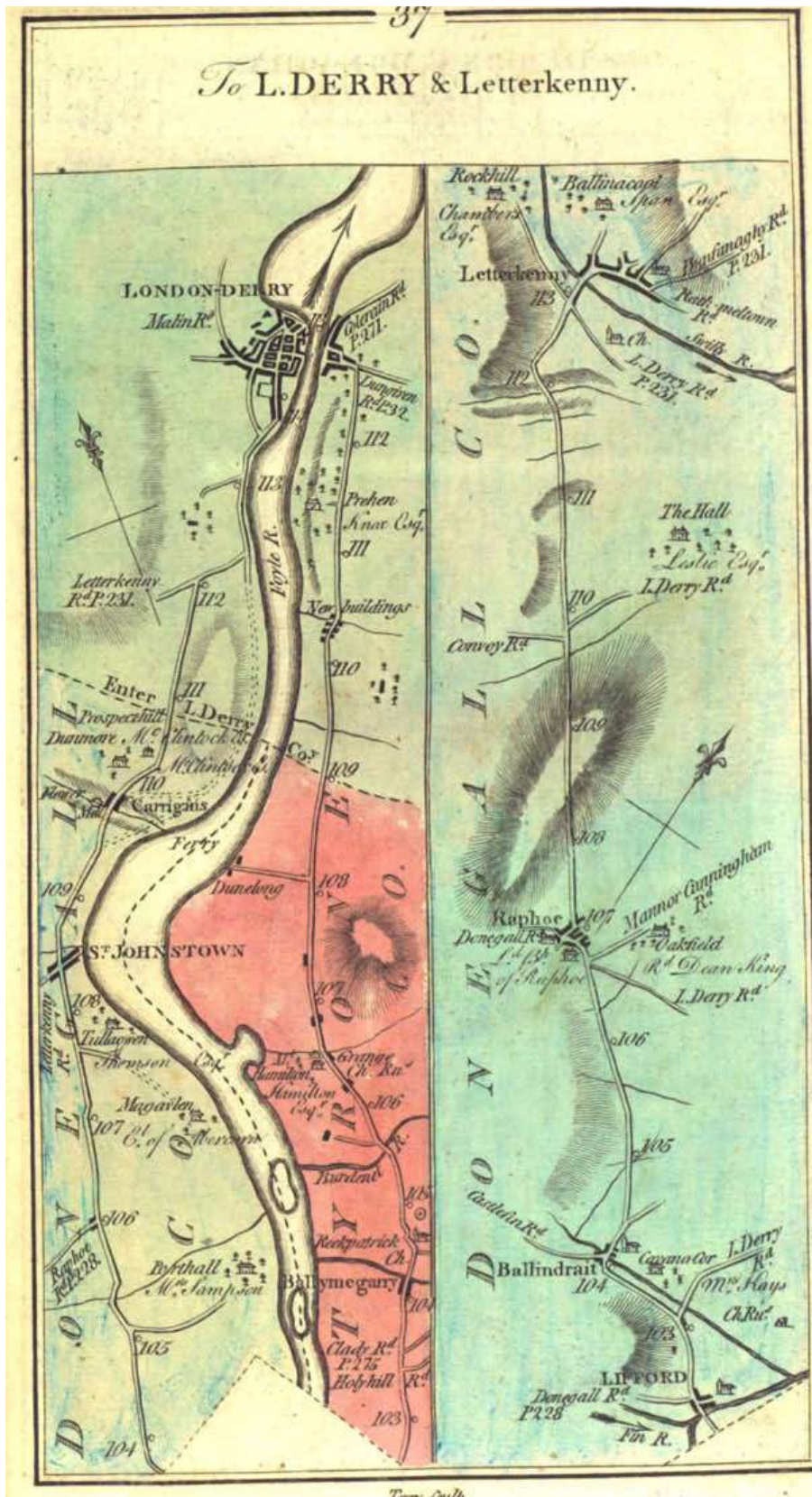


Figure 203– Taylor & Skinner’s Road Map 1775; Strabane to Londonderry road is shown on the left passing Leckpatrick church, Mount Hamilton (Grange House?), Grange church ruins, Dannelong, New Buildings, Prehen House and Woods.

## FOYLE VALLEY – historical built landscape; Urban Settlement

A number of urban settlements have been established in the Foyle valley LCA to the south of Derry.

The first of these is last of the Londonderry Plantation villages to be considered by this study; the Goldsmith's village at New Buildings of which almost nothing survives. The area remains of some interest from an archaeological perspective.

Further to the south, Dunnalong is an earlier settlement located at the ferry crossing point to Carrigans in County Donegal on the western side of the river Foyle. This strategic point served as an O'Neill stronghold controlling the river crossing and access to the boggy channel which connects the Foyle to Lough Swilly. The naive Irish fort was incorporated into a star shaped bastioned fort established by Docwra in the first decade of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Contemporary drawings show a fortified settlement complete with brewery and market place. It appears that the town thrived only for as long as there was a need for a river crossing; the crossing was made redundant in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Whilst there are no visible signs of this settlement today, the area is of significant archaeological importance and subject of a separate investigation.



Figure 204 – Dunnalong Griffith valuation map 1858



Figure 205 – Dunnalong aerial view (c) Google maps



Figure 206 – Dunnalong fort 1601

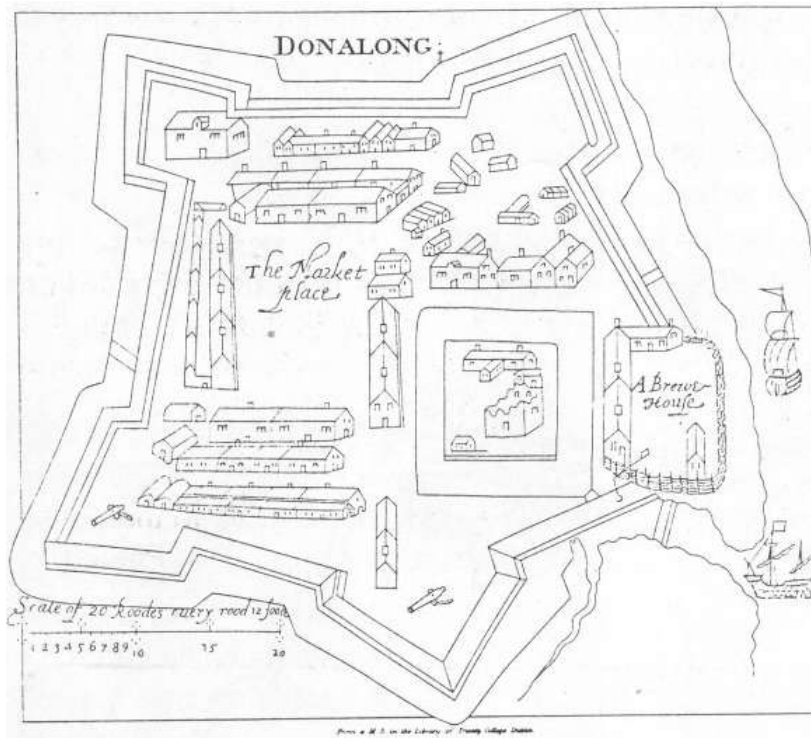


Figure 207 – Dunnaloug 16... (c) TCD



Figure 208 – Dunnaloug, former Ferry house and crossing point





Figure 209 – Strabane Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition map circa 1835.

Strabane was established during the mediaeval period as a castle controlling access to the Mourne from the river Foyle. The town was laid out in accordance with classical urban design principles. The layout of streets and design of the historic town hall building are attributed to architect Michael Priestley who is almost certainly responsible for the most significant mid 18<sup>th</sup> century buildings in the region including Lifford Courthouse, Port Hall, Prehen House and Boom Hall. Whilst the town hall has now gone and the town centre much degraded, the underlying townscape is still very much in evidence. A major feature on the north side of the town centre is the Strabane canal basin, which has been filled in and currently in use as a car park.



Figure 210 – Postcard published by Gray & Sons printers Strabane. Source: [oldstrabane.blogspot.ie](http://oldstrabane.blogspot.ie)



Figure 211 – Bowling Green, Strabane



Figure 212 – 19<sup>th</sup> century view of Strabane canal basin. Source: Old Strabane Blog



Figure 213 - Strabane Canal basin today



Figure 214 – Sion Mills from the northeast

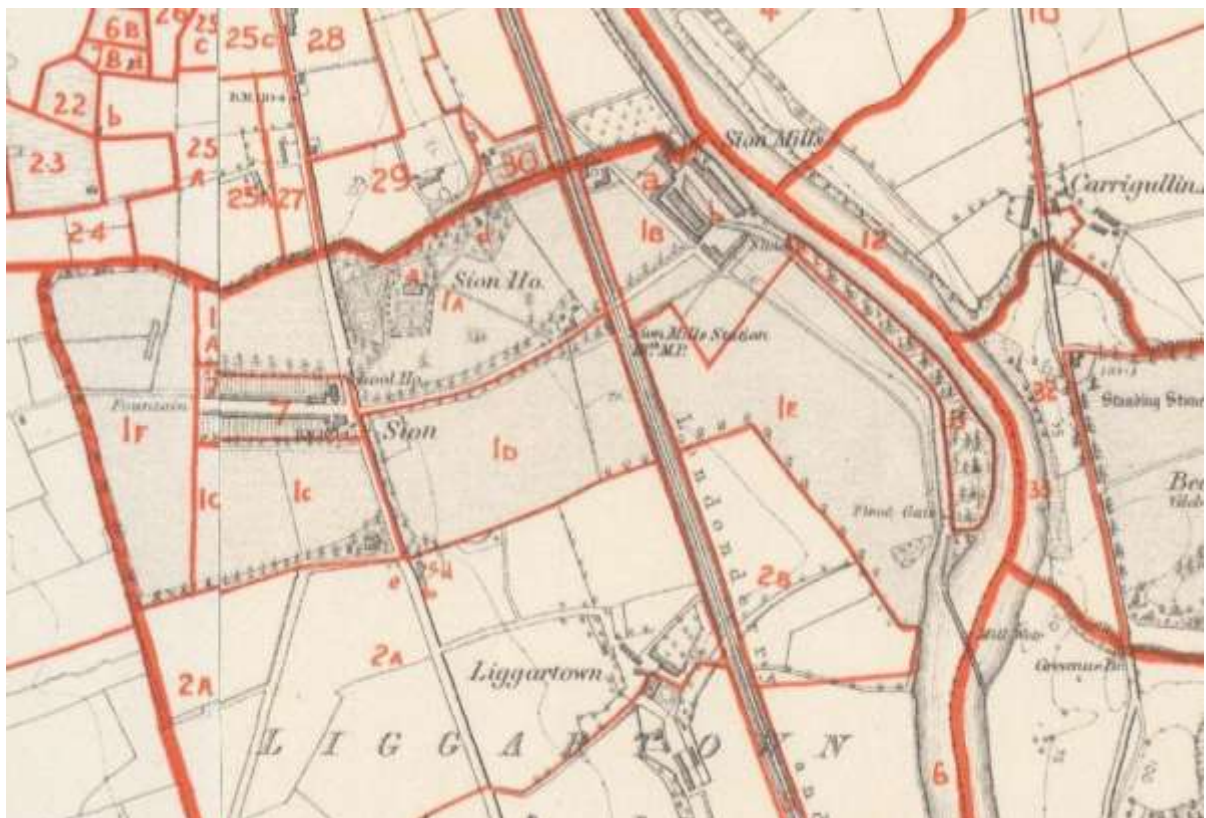


Figure 215 – Sion Mills model village

Sion Mills is one of the most impressive mill structures in the whole of Ireland and the model town constructed to house its workers unique within the Foyle region.

Sion Mills was designed as a heterogenous set piece and changes within the town centre need to be carefully considered; Sion Mills was the first conservation area to be established in Northern Ireland. Following a lengthy campaign for its restoration, the mill building was severely damaged by fire in 2011 and what appeared was about to be saved is now at risk of destruction. The town is threatened by significant examples of neglect to the extent that the protection supposed to have been provided by conservation area designation seems to have had the reverse effect of that intended.



Figure 216 - Sion Mills aerial view (c) Google maps

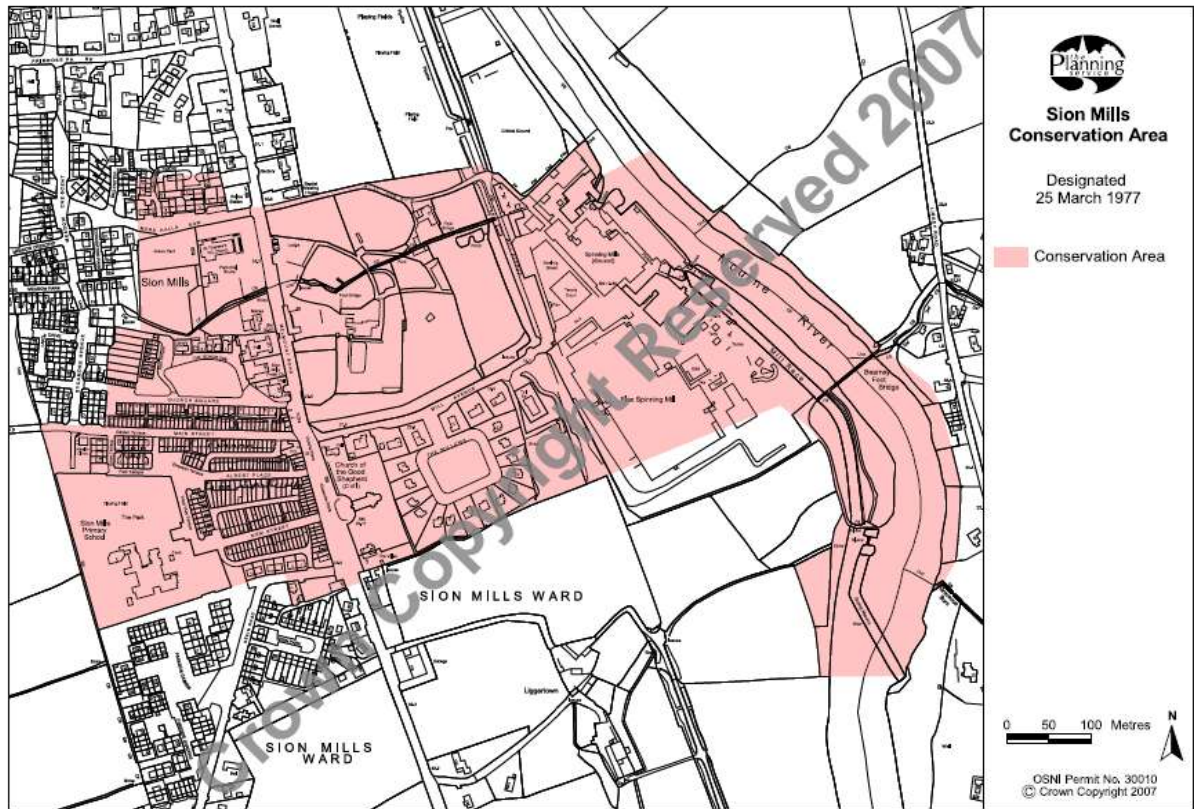


Figure 217 – Sion Mills Conservation Area (C) Crown Copyright



Figure 218 – Herdman's mill after damage by fire, Sion Mills



Figure 219 – Sion House gatelodge, Sion Mills



Figure 220 – Sion House stables, Sion Mills



Figure 221 – Church of the Good Sheperd, Sion Mills

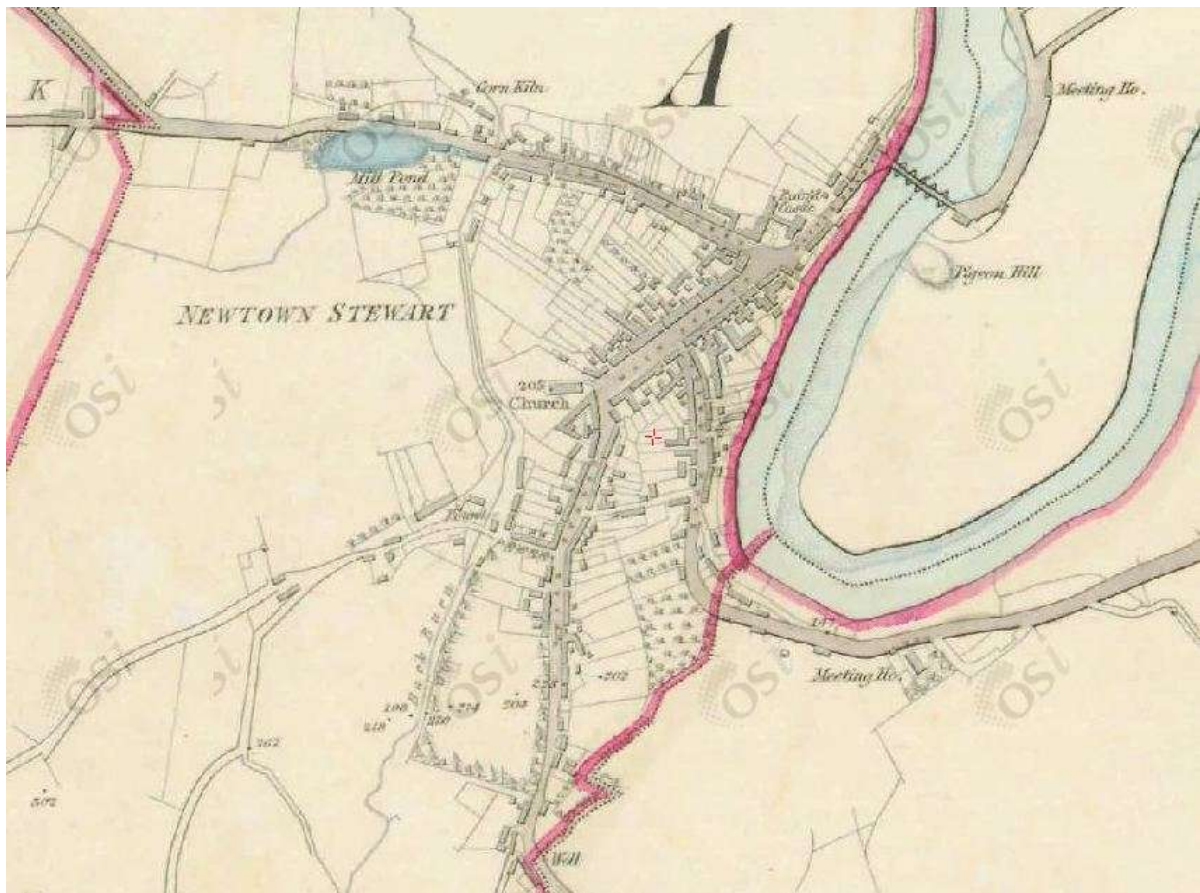


Figure 222 – Newtownstwart 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map circa 1835 (c) OSI



Newtownstewart is an excellent example of a Plantation town with the majority of its features well preserved due to the lack of development pressure in recent years. Examples of poorly conceived repair works were observed; the gradual loss of architectural detail to simple period buildings present a significant risk to the overall character of the town in the long term. The town centre is also designated as a conservation area.



Figure 223 - Main Street looking west to St Eugene's Church



Figure 224 – Dublin Street from steps of St Eugene's church



Figure 225 – Newtown Stewart Bridge



Figure 226 – Gateway at top of Castle Brae



Figure 227 – replacement of timber windows to Town Hall with plastic and cement render repairs, Newtown Stewart



Figure 228 – slates removed from roof of 19<sup>th</sup> century house, Newtownstewart



Figure 229 – Pigeon hill mound, possible mediaeval fort structure sandwiched between a sports ground and a lorry park

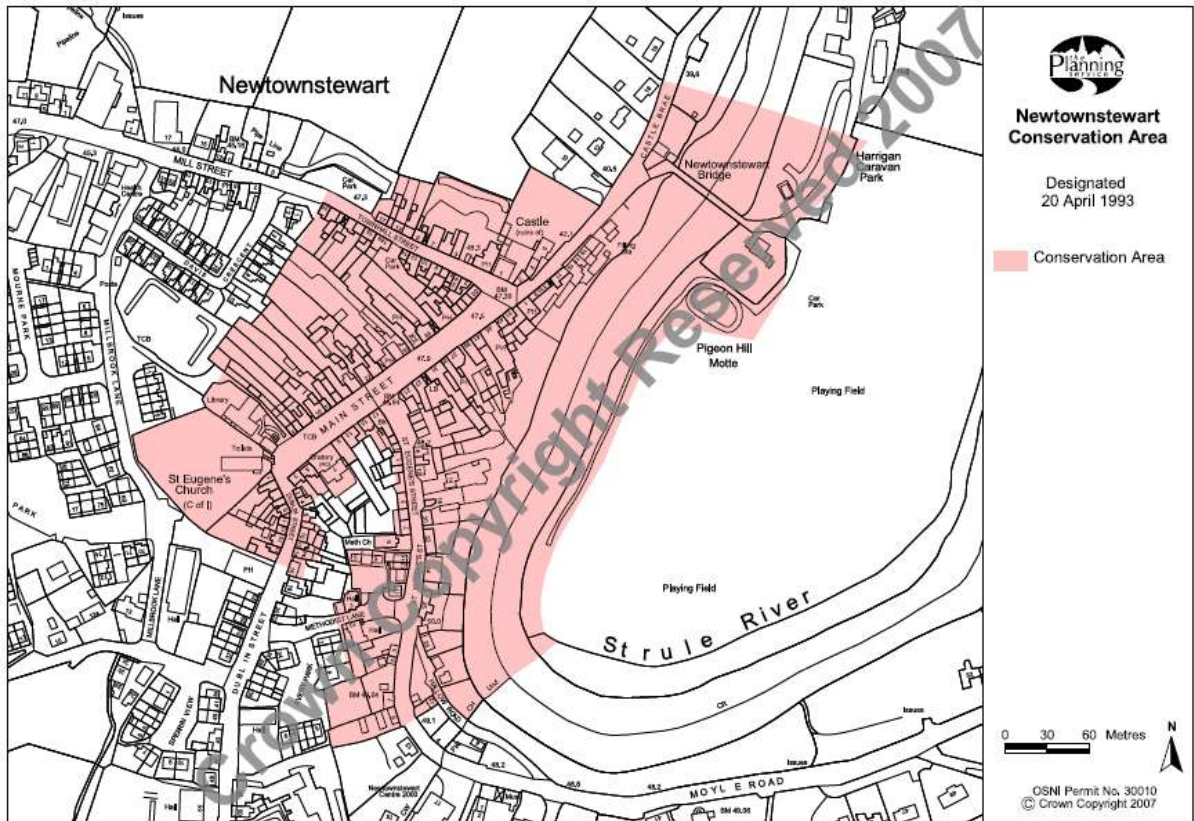


Figure 230 – Newtown Stewart Conservation Area Boundary

## **FOYLE VALLEY – historical built landscape; significant sites**

### **Prehistoric**

- TYR002:007, Windyhill, Wedge Tomb (Giant's Grave)
- TYR005:002, Killynaght, Portal Tomb (Rocking Stone)
- TYR005:010, Evisk, Wedge Tomb (Dermot & Grainne's Bed)
- TYR010:006, Lisky, Court Tomb (Giant's Grave)
- TYR017:008, Crosh, Cloghogle Portal Tomb
- TYR017:009, Crosh, Portal Tomb (Druid's Altar, Cloghogle)
- TYR017:023, Clady Halliday, Court Tomb (Carnmore)
- TYR017:033, Barons Court, Island MacHugh, Neolithic & Bronze Age Settlement Site, Early Christian Crannog Site and Plantation Castle
- TYR025:008, Beltany, Court Tomb (Cloghole)
- TYR025:037, Lurganboy, Wedge Tomb

### **Ecclesiastical Sites**

- TYR009:004, Urney Glebe, Ernaide/Irnaide/Ernaidhe: Monastery; Church; graveyard & Cross-Carved Stone (Early Medieval)
- TYR010:007, Camus, Church & Graveyard (Post-Medieval)
- TYR018:012, Corickmore, Corrick Abbey (Franciscan Friary & Graveyard) (Late Medieval)
- HB/10/04/003, St Eugene's Church, Main Street, Newtownstewart
- HB/10/07/006, Sion Mills; Church Hall (Formerly St Saviours)
- HB/10/14/012, 44 Barrack Street, Strabane; Parochial House (Strabane Presbytery)
- HB/10/05/003, St Eugene's RC Church, Plumbridge, Newtownstewart
- HB/10/07/002A & B, Church of the Good Shepherd, Sion Mills and Ricardo Monument Memorial
- HB/10/08/005, Christ Church, Bell Road, Strabane
- HB/10/14/008, Church of the Immaculate Conception (RC) Barrack Street, Strabane
- HB/10/14/009, Christ Church (COI), Bowling Green, Strabane



Figure 231 – St Eugene’s Church, Newtownstewart



Figure 232 – Camus church. Source: Natural Stone database.



Figure 233 – Urney Glebe monastic site. Source: Natural Stone Database



## Medieval Sites

- TYR004:005, Castletown: Port na Tri Namad Fortification (port of the three rivers/three enemies)
- TYR001:002, Dunalong: Dunalong Fort
- TYR010:003, Sessagh of Gallan: Children's Burial Ground
- TYR017:011, Croshballinree, Pigeon Hill, Castle Site (Mound & Foundation) (Uncertain period)
- TYR017:012, Upper or New Deerpark, Harry Avery's Castle & Bailey
- TYR017:033, Barons Court, Island MacHugh, Neolithic & Bronze Age Settlement Site, Early Christian Crannog Site and Plantation Castle
- TYR017:034, Barons Court, Derrywoone Castle (Plantation)
- TYR017:047, Newtownstewart, Newtownstewart Castle & Bawn



Figure 234 – Newtownstewart Castle & Bawn (c) Google streetview

### Battle Sites

- TYR002:042, Ballydonaghy, Greenlaw & Leckpatrick: Battle of the Fords, Northern Crossing, 1689
- TYR004:008, Carricklee, Battle site: 1588
- TYR005:026, Strabane: Battle of the Fords, Central Crossing, 1689
- TYR009:013, Clady, Donnygowan: Battle site 789AD & Battle of the Fords, Southern Crossing, 1689
- TYR017:068, Croshballinree, Glenknock, Grange, Moyle Glebe, Battle site: 1472

### Schools

- HB/10/04/008, Main Street, Newtownstewart; Former Newtownstewart County Primary School
- HB/10/07/007, 147 Melmount Rd; Sion Mills Primary School/Youth Club
- Barrack Street, Primary School, Corr & McCormick 1956; other school & hospital buildings in Strabane; condition & survival to be determined



Figure 235 – Barrack Street School, Strabane (c) Google



Figure 236 –St. Colman's School , Strabane, Coor & McCormick 1958 (Demolished)



Figure 237 – former Outpatient Clinic, Strabane. Corr & McCormick 1962

### Mansion Houses & Estate Buildings

- HB/01/04/001A; HB01/04/001B, HB01/04/001E, Prehen, Co. Londonderry; Prehen House, Stable Block & Coach House
- HB/01/12/014, 63 Ballougry Road, Mullennan; Mullennan House
- HB/10/04/050F, Baronscourt, Newtownstewart; Semple's Bridge
- HB/10/08/004B & HB/10/08/004C, Carricklee, Strabane; Courtyard, Stables & Gate Lodge
- HB/10/08/006, Finn Ward, Strabane; Urney Park House
- HB/10/08/008, 92 Urney Rd, Strabane; Gate Lodge
- HB/10/11/001A-P, 78 Ballee Rd, Artigarvan, Strabane; Holy Hill House and Estate Related Structures



Figure 238 – Baronscourt estate buildings

### Gentleman's Houses

- HB/10/04/018, 21 Strabane Road, Newtownstewart; Bellevue Villa
- HB/10/04/026, 1 – 3 Dublin St, Newtownstewart
- HB/10/04/028A, 7 Dublin St, Newtownstewart
- HB/10/04/028B, 9 Dublin St, Newtownstewart
- HB/10/06/001, 10 Myrtle Rd, Strabane; Lisky House
- HB/10/06/002, 42 Lisky Rd, Strabane; Camus House
- HB/10/06/003, 46 Lisky Rd, Strabane; Camus House
- HB/10/06/004, 3 Drum Rd, Victoria Bridge; Stragullin House
- HB/10/06/005, 75 Melmount Rd, Victoria Bridge; Mourne View
- HB/10/07/008A – B, 122 & 124 Melmount Rd, Sion Mills
- HB/10/08/007, 91 Urney Rd, Strabane; Castletown House
- HB/10/10/003, 50 Altrest Road, Bready, Strabane; Sandville
- HB/10/10/009, Grange Rd, Slievekirk, Strabane; Grange House
- HB/10/14/006 & HB/10/14/007, 41 & 43 Bowling Green, Strabane
- HB/10/11/004, 42 Woodend Rd, Strabane; Woodend Cottage



Figure 239 – Grane House, Rear



Figure 240 – Grange House (c)UAHS

### Vernacular Buildings

- HB/10/06/011, Wilson House, 28 Spout Road, Dergalt, Strabane
- HB/10/07/020, 40 Peacock Road, Glebe (thatched cottage)



Figure 241 – Vernacular, sexton's (?) house, Grange



Figure 242 - Peacock Road, Glebe, Sion Mills (c) UAHS

### **Historic Parks & Gardens**

- L-060, Molenan House
- Holy Hill House, T-022
- Barons Court, T-004
- Moyle House, T-061

### **Industrial Landscapes**

#### *Sion Mills:*

- Herdmans Flax Spinning Mills Site IHR 04181:000:00 & HB/10/07/004

#### *Strabane:*

- Gray's Stationary Shop & Printing Presses HB/10/12/003 & IHR 05326:000:0
- Numerous unprotected mill sites - subject of further investigation
- Gribben Ice House & Pier



Figure 243 – The Gribben Ice House and salmon processing factory



Figure 244 – Strabane Canal





Figure 245 – Strabane Canal

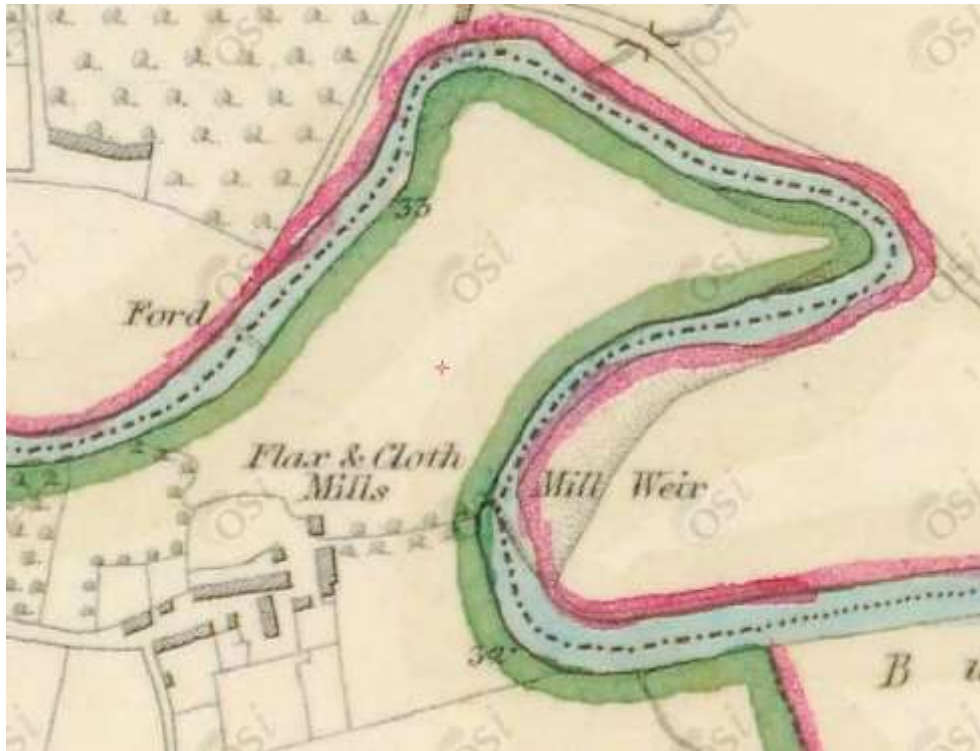


Figure 246 – Loughneas flax & cloth mills 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map circa 1835



Figure 247 – Loughneas site of flax and cloth mills showing weir, millrace and possible building structures intact



Figure 248 – Milltown Burn Dennet, Bleach Mills; 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey circa 1835 (c)OSI



Figure 249 – Milltown Burn Dennet, Bleach Mills aerial view 2012 showing survival of mill race, bleach green and bleach mill structure (c)Google

## Coastal Works

- **Lighthouses:** Boomhall Lighthouse 01618:000:00; Lighthouse in River Foyle between Gransha and Ballynashallog (01619:000:00)

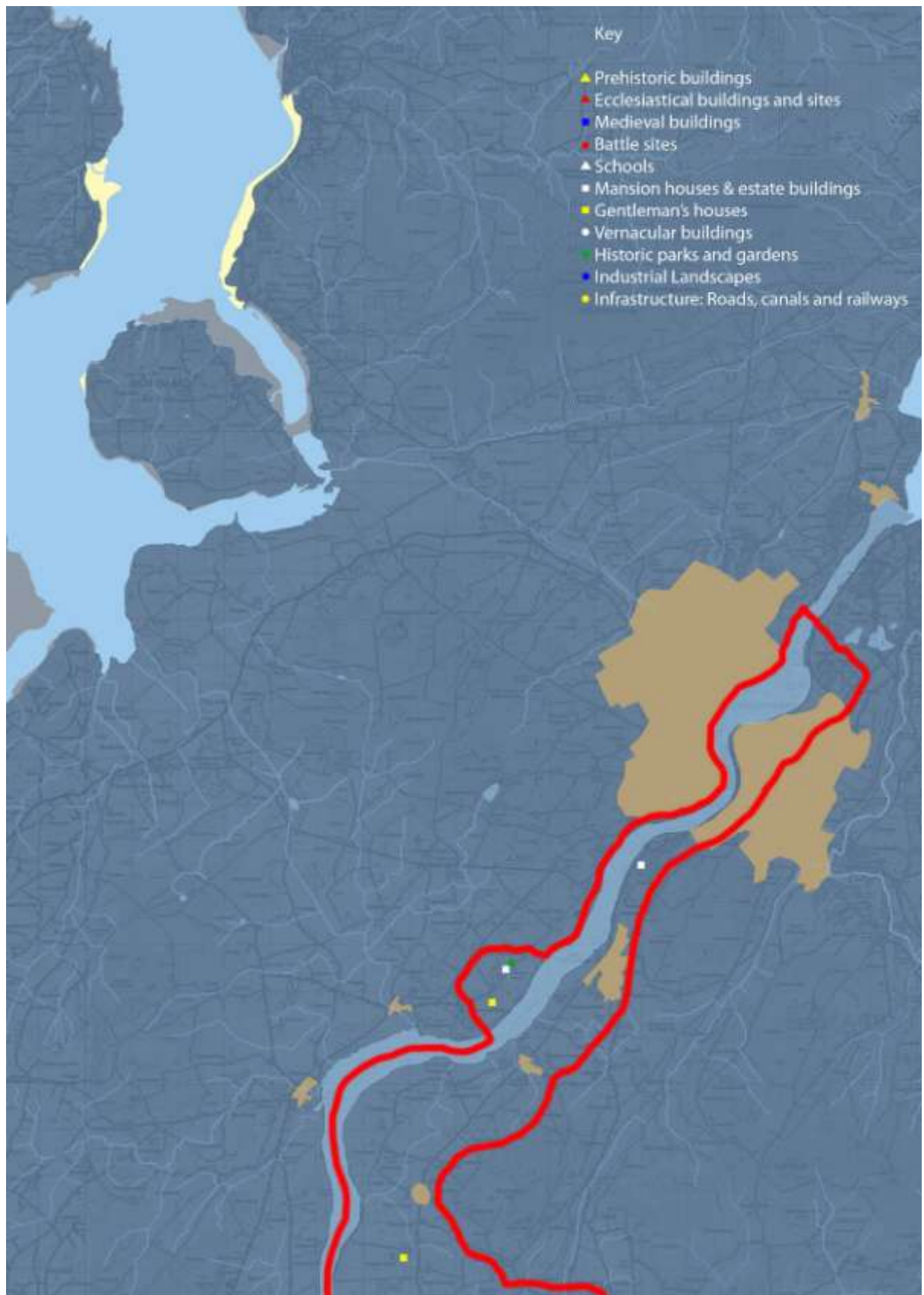
## Infrastructure – Roads, Canals & Railways

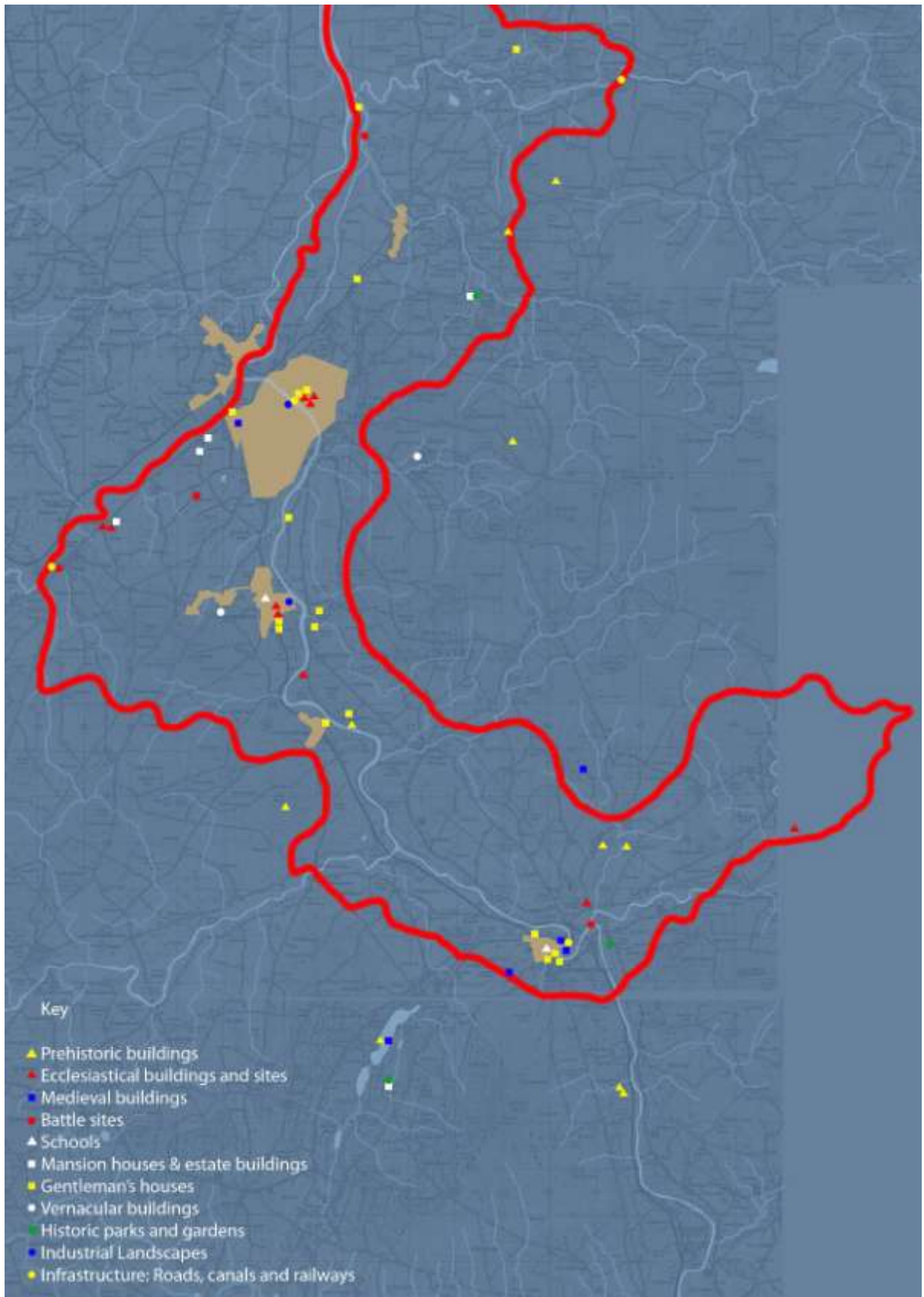
- **Great Northern Railway Branch Line Portadown – Londonderry:** A large quantity of industrial heritage sites including Londonderry Terminus; level crossings, bridges, signal posts, station sites, tunnel, engine house, good shed etc.
- **Strabane – Londonderry Narrow Gauge Railway:** a series of industrial heritage features including bridges, stations, engine house and goods sheds.
- **Strabane Canal:** TYR005:500, Ballydonagh Lock; Greenlaw Lock; Reaches 1-3
- **Glencush Bridge (formerly Stranabrosney Bridge):** HB/10/10/004
- **Strabane Bridge:** HB/10/12/005
- **Newtownstewart Bridge:** HB/10/04/007 & IHR04369:000:00
- **Clady Bridge, Strabane:** HB/10/08/002



Figure 250 – Strabane Bridge

## FOYLE VALLEY – Key to significant heritage assets





## FOYLE VALLEY – Visual Landscape: Spatial Context

### PhotographY

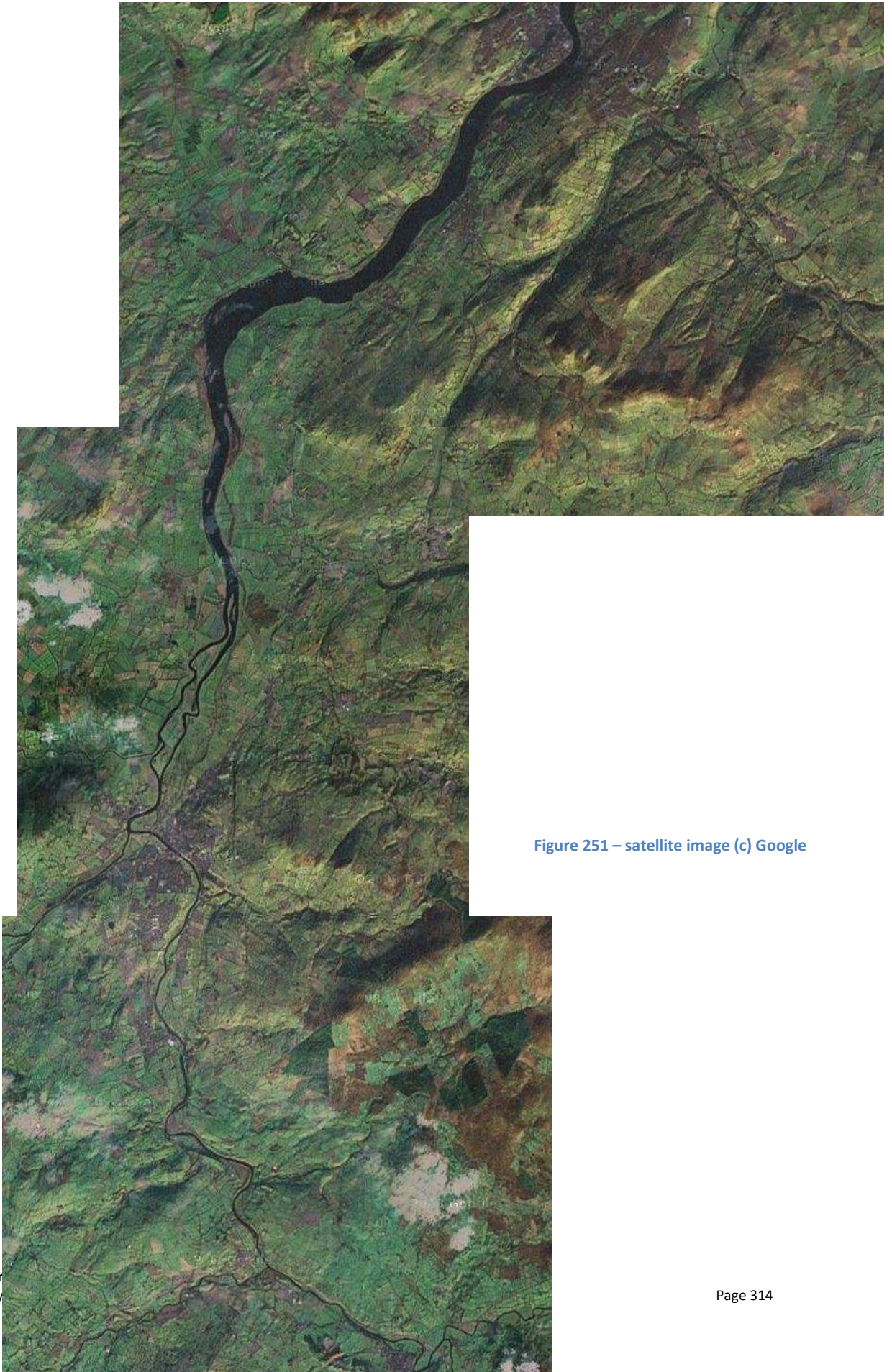


Figure 251 – satellite image (c) Google





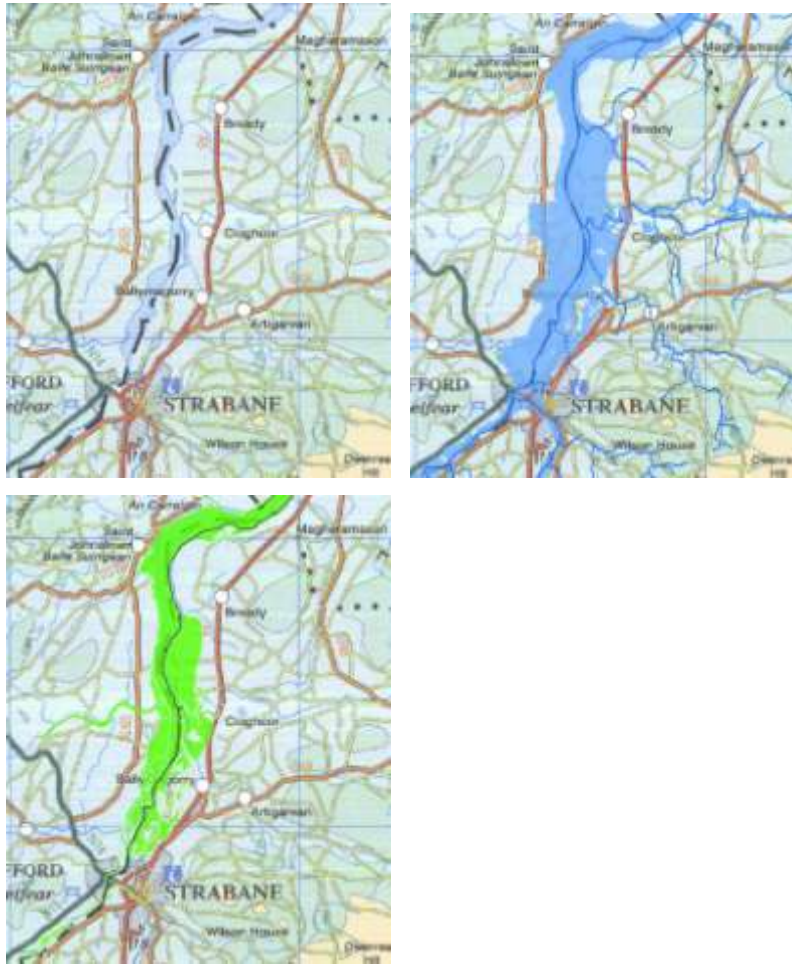


Figure 254– Strategic Flood Map (NI) & River & Tidal Flood Water superimposed

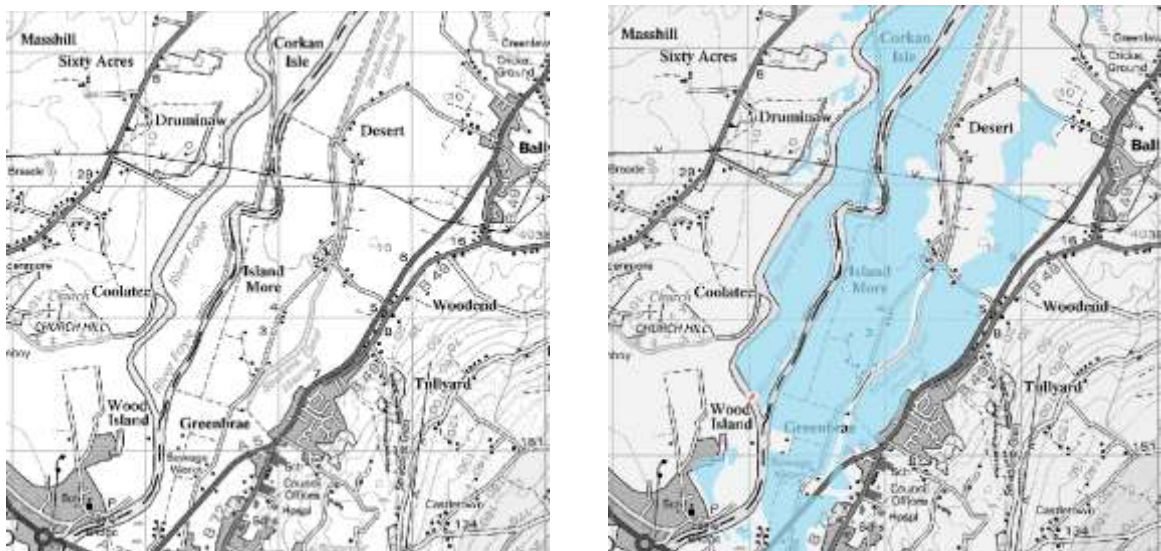


Figure 255– Strategic Flood Map (NI) & Historical Flood data superimposed

Strategic flood mapping highlights the topography of the landscape. The section of the river between Strabane and Carrigans is wide, almost level with linear surface undulations formed by the flow of water over deposits of gravel and sand. The flood map reveals features such as Desert are a version of the river islands and could be cut off by rises in the water level.

The maps show that flood water in this area can accumulate due to the confluence of several rivers, potentially due to tidal inundation; the Foyle is tidal from the Strabane to the sea.

## FOYLE VALLEY – Visual Landscape: Painting Maps & Images

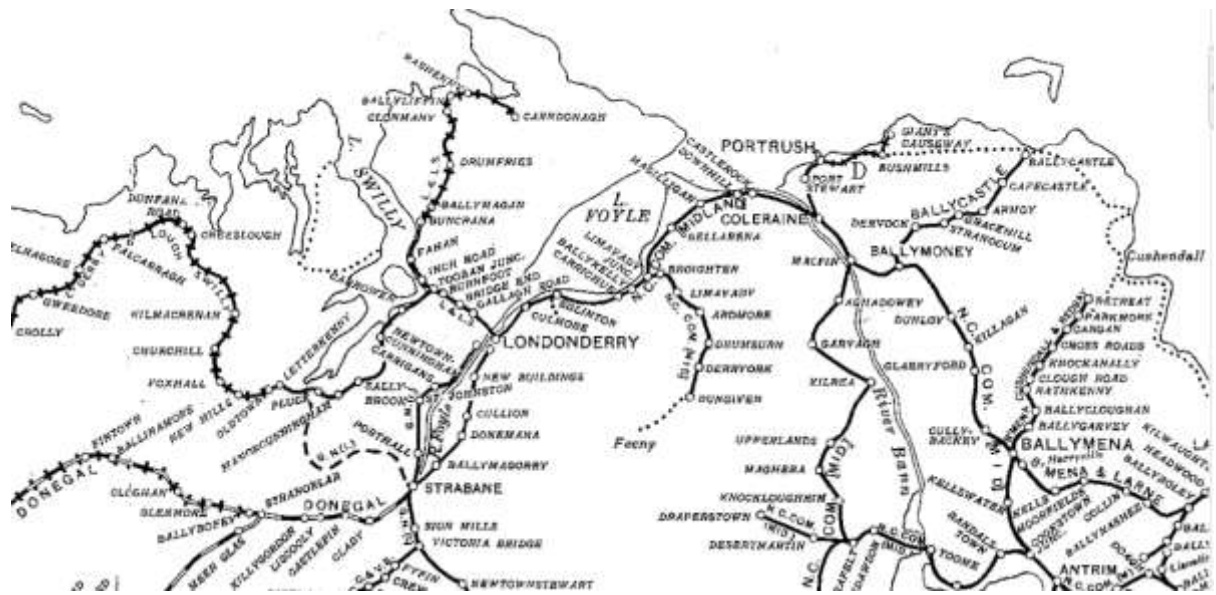


Figure 256 – extract from vice-regal commission map of Irish railway lines 1906

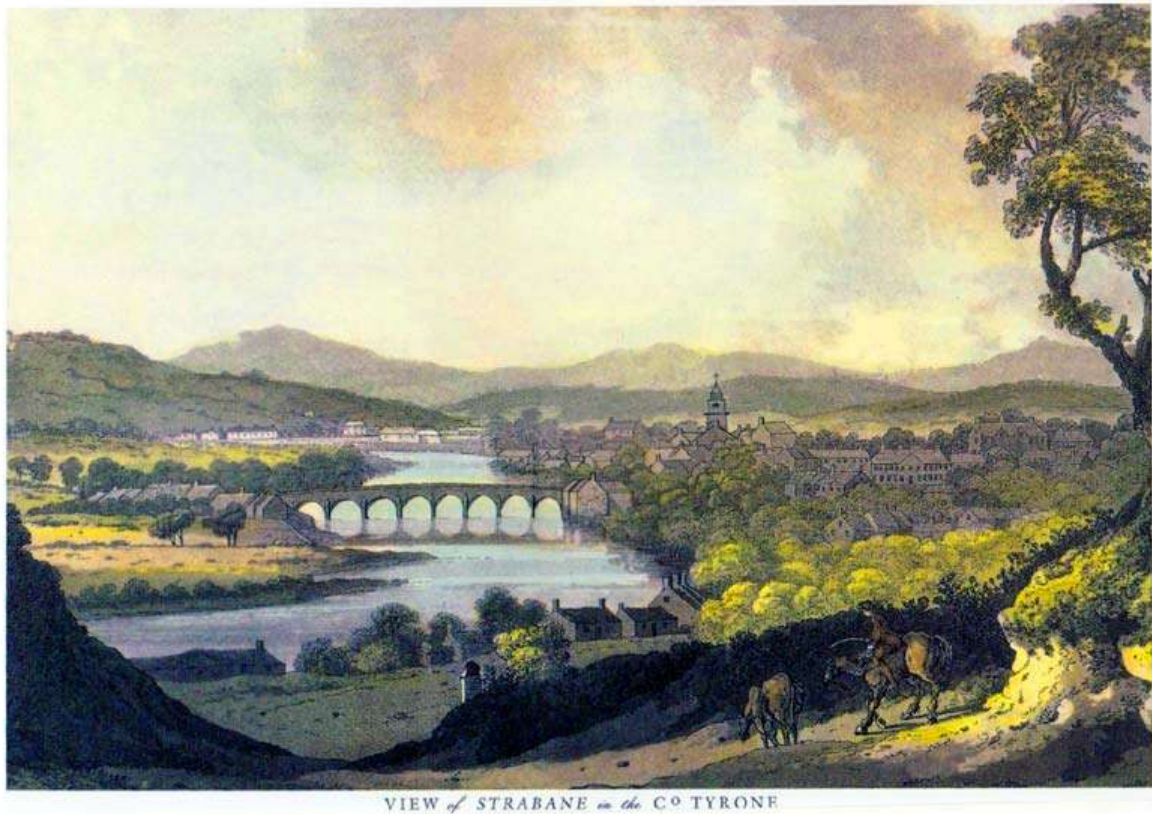


Figure 257 - Jonathan Fisher; engraving of Strabane from 'Scenery of Ireland' 1792. Source: Strabane Historical Society



Figure 258 – View along the Foyle Valley towards Derry from Magheramason showing more steeply cut valley edges



Figure 259 – Landscape at Grange showing gentle slope towards the river



Figure 260 – View towards Derry from the Gribben showing shallow slopes and expansive landscape



Figure 261 – the Mourne at Victoria Bridge showing symmetrical, relatively steeply cut valley



Figure 262 – the River Strule at Newtown Stewart showing steep cut to one side and narrow flood plain



Figure 263 – the Mourne becomes the Strule above the confluence with the river Derg. View along the Strule towards Mary Grey mountain

## FOYLE VALLEY – Written Landscape: prose, poem & song

### All Things Bright & Beautiful

1. *All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful,  
The Lord God made them all.*

2. Each little flower that opens,  
Each little bird that sings,  
He made their glowing colours,  
He made their tiny wings.

*All things bright ...*

3. The rich man in his castle,  
The poor man at his gate,  
God made them high and lowly,  
And ordered their estate.

*All things bright ...*

4. The purple headed mountain,  
The river running by,  
The sunset and the morning,  
That brightens up the sky;–

*All things bright ...*

5. The cold wind in the winter,  
The pleasant summer sun,  
The ripe fruits in the garden,–  
He made them every one:

*All things bright ...*

6. The tall trees in the greenwood,  
The meadows where we play,  
The rushes by the water,  
We gather every day;–

*All things bright ...*

7. He gave us eyes to see them,  
And lips that we might tell,  
How great is God Almighty,  
Who has made all things well.

*All things bright ...*

(Amen)

Mrs. Cecil Frances Alexander wrote her famous hymn, "All Things Bright and Beautiful", when she lived in Camus-juxta-Mourne Rectory overlooking the weir on the River Mourne at Sion Mills, in a Georgian house later owned by the Herdman family. The River Mourne is "the river running by" and "the purple headed mountain" is Meenashesk, a hill to the east of the village. Mrs Alexander was also author of "Once in Royal David's City" and "There is a Green Hill far away" and later lived in Derry and married to the Church of Ireland Bishop of Derry.

### **Bessy Bell and Mary Gray**

*“O Bessie Bell and Mary Gray,  
They war twa bonnie lasses;  
They bigget a bower on yon burn brae,  
And theekit it o'er wi' rashes.  
They theekit it o'er w rashes green,  
They theekit it o'er w heather;  
But the pest cam frae the burrows-town,  
And slew them baith thegither.*

*They thought to lye in Methven kirk yard,  
Amang their noble kin;  
But they maun lye in Stronach haugh,  
To biek forenent the sin.  
And Bessy Bell and Mary Gray,  
Tney war twa bonnie lasses;  
Tney bigget a bower on yon burn brae,  
And theekit it o'er wi' rashes.”*



## 19<sup>th</sup> Century Gazetteers

Account from Lewis' Topographical Dictionary of Ireland – 1837

Refer to Burngibbagh & Drumahoe LCA for Lewis' account of parishes of Clondermot and Donaghedy.

*“LECKPATRICK, a parish, in the barony of STRABANE, county of TYRONE, and province of ULSTER; containing, with part of the post-town of Strabane, 6030 inhabitants This parish, which is also called Leghpatrick, comprises, according to the Ordnance survey, 13,451 statute acres, of which 10,087 are apportioned under the tithe act, and valued at £5806 per annum; and 104 are in the tideway of the Foyle. The soil is generally cold and wet, but part of the land is well cultivated and fertile. There are considerable tracts of mountain pasture and valuable bog. Here is an extensive bleach-green, not used at present; also two manufactories for spades and edged-tools. The Strabane canal passes through this parish from its lower lock on the Foyle to the quay of Strabane. The principal seats are Holy Hill the residence of J. Sinclair, Esq.; the glebe-house, of the Rev. G. Smithwick; and Mount Pleasant, of, F. O'Neill, Esq. The living is a rectory, in the diocese of Derry, and in the gift of the Bishop; the tithes amount to £646. 3.1. There is a glebe-house, with a glebe of 148a. 3r. 12p., Cunningham measure, of which 112a. 1r. 32p. are cultivated land. The church, a plain edifice without tower or spire, was built by a loan of £600 from the late Board of First Fruits, in 1816, and much enlarged in 1834. In the R. C. Divisions the parish forms part of the union or district of Donaghedy, and has chapels at Cloughcor and Glenmornan. A Presbyterian meeting-house is in course of erection at Artigarran. There is a parochial school, to which the Marquess of Abercorn, who is proprietor of nearly all the parish, subscribes £10, and the rector £5 annually; and three other public schools, to two of which the Marquess of Abercorn contributes £5 each: about 520 children are educated in these schools, and about 160 in five private schools; there are also five Sunday schools. Near the glebe-house is an ancient rocking-stone.*

*CAMUS-juxta-MORNE, a parish, in the barony of STRABANE, county of TYRONE, and province of ULSTER; containing, with part of the town of Strabane, 6570 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the old road from Dublin to Londonderry, and on the river Morne, comprises, according to the Ordnance survey (including 20¼ acres in Lyons island), 7505¼ statute acres, of which 103¼ are water, about 4540 are arable and pasture land, and the remainder mountain and bog;” 6743 acres are apportioned under the tithe act, and valued at £3078 per annum. The land, although in some places rocky, is generally very fertile, producing abundant crops, particularly in the vale of Morne. The inhabitants combine the weaving of linen with their agricultural pursuits. The principal houses are Milltown Lodge, the residence of Major Humphries, and the glebe-house, of the Rev. J. Smith. The living is a rectory, in the diocese of Derry, and in the patronage of the Bishop: the tithes amount to £468. The church is in the town of Strabane, and is a large and handsome edifice, for the repairs of which the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have recently granted £184. 4. 2.: it was originally built as a chapel for the new town of Strabane, by the Earl of Abercorn, in 1619, and has been used as the parish church since the destruction of the mother church, about the middle of the 17th century. The glebe-house was built by aid of a gift of £100 and a loan of £800 from the late Board of First Fruits, in 1832, upon the townland of Bierney, which constitutes the glebe, comprising 300 acres, and is more than three miles from the church. In the R. C. divisions the parish is the head of a union or district called Clonleigh and Camus, and comprising both those parishes: there are two chapels in the union, of which that of Camus, in the town of Strabane, is a large plain edifice. There is a large meeting-house for Presbyterians in connection with the Synod of Ulster, of the first class; and there are places of worship for Wesleyan and Primitive Methodists. The parochial school, on the glebe of Bierney, is supported by the trustees of Erasmus Smith's charity, and the master has a rent-free residence and two acres of land. At Milltown is a school for boys and girls, erected by the Marquess of Abercorn, a large and handsome building, with a separate residence for the master and mistress, each of whom receives £20 a year from the Marquess, who also aids a school established at Edymon; and there is a national school at Strabane.’ About 160 boys and 100 girls are educated in these schools. Prior to 1829 a blue-coat school existed here, with an income of £30 per annum, which sum is now applied to clothing 12 boys. Near Milltown school are the dispensary and fever hospital*

*belonging to Strabane; they are large and well ventilated buildings, admirably arranged for their purposes. The ruins of the old parish church are situated on the banks of the Mourne: it was founded by St. Colgan in 586, and destroyed during the insurrection of 1641.—See STRABANE.*

*STRABANE, an incorporated market and post town (formerly a parliamentary borough), partly in the parishes of LECKPATRICK and URNEY, but chiefly in that of CAMUS - JUXTA - MORNE, barony of STRABANE, county of TYRONE, and province of ULSTER, 12 miles (S. S. W.) from Londonderry, 14¼ (N. W. by N.) from Omagh, and 107 (N. N. W.) from Dublin, on the mail coach road, and at its junction with that from Sligo, to Londonderry; containing 4700 inhabitants. Little notice of this place occurs prior to the 14th century, when a Franciscan monastery of the third order was founded here, which flourished only for a short time and ultimately merged into the abbey of Scarvahein. This place was formerly in the district of Munterlony, but on the formation of part of the territory of Tir-Owen into the county of Tyrone, in 1591, it was made the head of the barony of Strabane. It appears, however, to have been merely an inconsiderable village till the plantation of Ulster by Jas. I., who, in 1611, granted the surrounding district to the Earl of Abercorn, who, previously to the year 1619, had erected a strong castle, around which he built a town of 80 houses, and settled 120 families, mustering together 200 armed men, for whom, in 1612, he obtained a charter of incorporation and other valuable privileges. He also erected three water-mills for grinding corn, and began to build a church. The town now ranks the third in the county, and promises to rival Omagh and even Dungannon. In 1641 it was besieged by Sir Phelim O’Nial, who took the castle and carried off the Countess of Abercorn and detained her as a prisoner till ransomed by the payment of a large sum of money. The Irish forces of O’Nial remained for a long time in possession of the castle, till it was at length retaken by the troops under the command of Col. Sir G. Hamilton, brother of the Earl of Abercorn. In the war of the Revolution it was garrisoned for the Protestants, and on the 14th of March, 1688, afforded an asylum to the inhabitants of Dungannon and its neighborhood, when abandoned by Col. Lundy; but in the following month it fell into the hands of the enemy, and on the 18th of April, Jas. II. arrived in person at this place and passed the ford to Lifford. From Lifford he proceeded to Londonderry, but finding that city in a state much more opposed to his views than he had anticipated, he returned to the castle of Strabane on the 20th, and received a deputation who surrendered to him the fort of Culmore. The town is situated on the river Morne, near its confluence with the Fin, and consists of ten principal and several smaller streets; it contained 836 houses in 1831, since which time several more have been built and great improvements made, among which are the newly constructed roads to Londonderry, Newtown-Stewart, and Castlefin. The houses generally are well built and many of them are spacious and handsome, especially in such of the principal streets as are of more recent formation. Over the river Morne is a bridge, which has been recently widened; and over the Foyle, by which, name the united rivers Morne and Fin are called, is another, to which three arches have been added. The appearance of the town is strikingly prepossessing, and the effect is further increased by the thriving orchards attached to the houses and in the immediate neighbourhood, producing apples, pears, and cherries in abundance. The manufacture of corduroys and other cotton fabrics was formerly carried on here to a limited extent; and in the neighbourhood are several bleach-greens, none of which at present are in operation. The principal trade is in grain, of which more is sold in this market than in any other in the county; great quantities are annually shipped for Liverpool, Glasgow, and other ports. The provision trade is also very extensive; more than 1000 tierces of beef and 2000 barrels of pork are annually cured here for the English market. There is a large ale and beer brewery of some celebrity, chiefly for the supply of the town and neighbourhood, yet considerable quantities are sent to Londonderry, Coleraine, Lifford, Donegal, and other places. The chief exports are wheat, oats, barley, flax, pork, beef, butter, eggs, and poultry; and the imports, timber, iron, staves, groceries, and articles of general merchandise. The trade of the place is much facilitated by the Strabane canal, which meets the river Foyle at Leek, about three miles below the town, and is navigable for vessels of 40 tons’burden. It was constructed in 1793, at an expense of £12,000, defrayed by a grant from the Commissioners of Inland Navigation, aided by the Marquess of Abercorn, and brought into the town by two locks. On its banks are large ranges of warehouses and stores for grain, with wharfs and commodious quays, well adapted to the carrying on of an extensive trade. Near the town, on the river Foyle, is a salmon fishery, which belonged formerly to the corporation of Lifford, but is now the property of the Earl of Erne; great quantities of fish are annually taken. The market is on Tuesday, and is largely supplied with corn, provisions, and brown linen; and fairs are held on the first Thursday in every month, and on the 12th of May and November (O. S.), for horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs. The market-house is a commodious and handsome building; and the grain and meal markets, built by the corporation in 1823, are large and well arranged; over the principal gateway are the arms of Strabane. Jas. I., in the 10th of his reign, made the town a free borough, and granted the inhabitants a charter of incorporation, by the title of the “Provost, Free Burgesses*

*and Commonalty of the borough of Strabane”, with a weekly market, two annual fairs, and the power of returning two members to the Irish parliament, holding a court of record and other privileges. By this charter the corporation consists of a provost, twelve free burgesses, and an indefinite number of freemen, assisted by a recorder, chamberlain, two serjeants-at-mace, and other officers. The provost, who is also clerk of the market and judge of the borough court, is annually elected on the 29th of Sept. from the free burgesses, by a majority of that body; if no election takes place, he continues in office till the next appointment. The free burgesses fill up vacancies as they occur, from the freemen, by the provost and a majority of their own body, and also admit freemen by favour only. The corporation continued to return two members to the Irish parliament till the union, when the borough was disfranchised. The court of record held before the provost had jurisdiction to the amount of 5 marks, but after the abolition of arrest for small sums, the business of the court declined, and it has since fallen into disuse. The corporation has no property but the tolls of the fairs and market, which are under their regulation. There is a chief constabulary police station; the quarter sessions for the county are held here in April and October; petty sessions on alternate Tuesdays, and a court for the manor of Strabane, every month, at which debts to the amount of 40s. are recoverable. The church built here in 1619, by the Earl of Abercorn, has, since the parliamentary war of 1641, been the parish church of Camus-juxta-Morne: it has been enlarged from time to time and is now a handsome cruciform structure in the Grecian style, with a cupola, and the arms of the founder over the principal entrance. There are a spacious R. C. chapel, and two places of worship for Presbyterians and two for Wesleyan and Primitive Methodists. A handsome school-house, with apartments for the master and mistress, was erected in 1826 by the Marquess of Abercorn, who endowed it with £40 per ann.; and there is a fever hospital, with a dispensary attached. About one mile from the town, on the road to Londonderry, is a chalybeate spring, containing iron, magnesia, and sulphur, held in solution by carbonic acid gas. Of the castle built by the Earl of Abercorn nothing now remains; the site is occupied by a dwelling-house and merchant’s stores. Strabane gives the inferior titles of Baron and Viscount to the Marquess of Abercorn.*

*URNEY, a parish, partly in the barony of RAPHOE, county of DONEGAL, but chiefly in that of STRABANE, county of TYRONE, and province of ULSTER, 2 miles (S. S. W.) from Strabane; containing, with the village of Claudy and part of the town of Strabane (each separately described), 7277 inhabitants. This parish, comprising 14,489½ statute acres, according to the Ordnance survey, is bounded on the north-west by the county of Donegal, and is situated for the most part between the rivers Finn and Mourne, which, uniting at its northern extremity, form the Foyle. The greater portion of the land is remarkably fertile, and under its present improved treatment produces abundant crops of all kinds of grain: there is abundance of excellent limestone, which is extensively used both for building and agriculture; the bogs are greatly increasing in value, and the mountains afford excellent pasturage. The inhabitants combine with their rural employments, to which most attention is given, the manufacture of linen cloth: a large mill is now in progress of erection at Seair, upon the Mourne river, for the spinning of linen yarn. The produce of the soil and of the manufactories finds a ready market at Strabane, and much of the grain is sent to Derry by the river Finn, in barks of from 60 to 80 tons’ burden. At the northern extremity of the parish is a bridge of twelve arches over the Foyle, leading to Lifford; another near the church, over the same river, leads to Donegal; and at Bridgetown a third of eight arches over the Mourne connects the parish with the thriving and commercial town of Strabane. It is partly within the manor of Strabane, and partly within that of Ardstraw, for the latter of which a court is held once a month at Castle-Derg. The vale of Urney is among the most fertile and highly cultivated parts of the county: the houses are in general well built, and have gardens and orchards attached to them; those of the higher classes are embellished with flourishing plantations. The principal seats are Urney Park, the residence of Lady Galbraith; Urney House, of the Rev. R. Hume; Fyfinn Lodge, of Conolly Gage, Esq.; Galany, of J. Smith, Esq.; Ballyfatton, of M.C. Hamilton, Esq.; and Castletown, of Major Semple. The living is a rectory, in the diocese of Derry, and in the patronage of the Bishop: the tithes amount to £700. The old glebe-house having been, accidentally burnt, a new one was erected in 1798, during the incumbency and at the sole expense of Dr. Fowler, the present bishop of Ossory, who did not charge his successor with any portion of the outlay. The glebe of 286 Cunningham acres is in two portions; one, on which the glebe-house stands, contains 83 acres on the banks of the Finn, from the inundations of which river it is protected by an embankment 12 feet high and nearly a mile long; the other, called Rabstown, is let to tenants; the entire glebe is valued in the Commissioners’ books at about £300 per ann. The church, in the vale of Urney, a handsome edifice in the Grecian style, built in 1734, underwent a thorough repair in 1809. The right of nomination to the perpetual cure of Skirts, or Derg, belongs to the incumbent of this benefice. In the R.C. divisions the parish is the head of*

a union or district, comprising this parish and that of Skirts. There are places of worship for Presbyterians at Somerville and Alt, the former in connection with the Synod of Ulster and the latter with the Associate or Seceding Synod. The male and female parochial schools, built on the glebe at the joint expense of the rector and parishioners, are wholly supported by the former, who also maintains a school at Alt; a female work school, also on the glebe, is supported by the rector's lady, and two schools at Sion and Tullywisker are aided by the Marquess of Abercorn: about 300 boys and 260 girls are taught in these schools. There are also two private schools, in which are 60 boys and 30 girls; and four Sunday schools. Andrew Sproule, Esq., in 1801, bequeathed £1000 to the rector and churchwardens forever, in trust for the poor of the parish, the interest of which is annually distributed in winter clothing. The

Hon. and most Rev. Dr. Beresford, late Archbishop of Tuam; the Rt. Rev. Dr. Forster, late Bishop of Kilmore; and the Rt. Rev. Dr. Fowler, the present Bishop of Ferns and Ossory, were successively rectors of Urney.

**ARDSTRAW, or ARDSRATH**, a parish, partly in the barony of OMAGH, but chiefly in that of STRABANE, County of TYRONE, and province of ULSTER; containing, with the post-town of Newtown-Stewart, 21,212 inhabitants.

This place was distinguished, under the name of Ardsrath, as the seat of an ancient bishoprick, over which St. Eugene, or Oen, presided about the year 540. At a very early period a small stone church or chapel existed here; and the names are recorded of several bishops who presided over the see, which, in 597, was removed to Maghera, and finally to Derry, in 1158. This place suffered repeatedly by fire, and appears to have been destroyed about the close of the twelfth century. The parish, which is situated on the road from Dublin to Londonderry, comprises, according to the Ordnance survey, 44,974¼ statute acres, of which 537¼ are covered with water. The surface is pleasingly diversified with hill and dale, and enlivened by the rivers Struell, Glenelly, and Derg, which, after flowing through the parish, unite in forming the river Morne, which abounds with trout and salmon; and also with several large and beautiful lakes, of which three are within the demesne of Baron's Court. The land is chiefly arable, with pasture intermixed; and the soil in the valleys is fertile; but there are considerable tracts of mountain and several extensive bogs. Limestone is found in several places at the base of the mountain called Bessy Bell, the whole of the upper portion of which is clayslate; on the summit of another mountain, called Mary Gray, it is found with clay-slate at the base; and round the southern base of the former are detached blocks of freestone scattered in every direction. There are also some quarries of limestone at Cavandaragh; the stone is raised in blocks, or laminæ, from a quarter of an inch to three feet in thickness. The mountains within and forming a portion of the boundary of the parish are Bessy Bell, Douglas, and Mary Gray, which present beautiful and romantic scenery, particularly in the neighbourhood of Newtown-Stewart; and the view from the high grounds, including the lakes and rivers by which the parish is diversified, is truly picturesque. There are five bridges; one at Moyle, of three elliptic arches; a very ancient bridge at Newtown-Stewart, of six arches; another of six arches at Ardstraw, and a modern bridge of three arches on the Derry road. The principal seats are Baron's Court, the residence of the Marquess of Abercorn; Castlemoyle, of the Rev. R. H. Nash, D.D.; Woodbrook, of R.M. Tagert, Esq.; Newtown-Stewart Castle, of Major Crawford; Coosh, of A. Colhoun, Esq.; and Spa Mount, of E. Sproule, Esq. There were formerly several bleach-greens in the parish, but at present there is only one in operation, which is at Spa Mount, on the river Derg, and in which about

16,000 pieces are annually bleached and finished, principally for the London market. The living is a rectory, in the diocese of Derry, and in the patronage of the Provost and Fellows of Trinity College, Dublin: the tithes amount to £1094. The church is a large and beautiful edifice with a handsome spire, and is situated in the town of Newtown-Stewart; a grant of £478 for its repair has been lately made by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. A new church, or chapel of ease, is about to be built at Baron's Court, or Magheracreegan, for which the late Board of First Fruits granted £600, now in the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The glebe-house has a glebe of 681 acres attached to it, of which 461¼ are in a state of cultivation. The R. C. Parish is co-extensive with that of the Established Church, but is divided into East and West Ardstraw; there are chapels at Newtown-Stewart, Dragish, and Cairncorn. There are five places of worship for Presbyterians in connection with, the Synod of Ulster, at Ardstraw, Newtown-Stewart, Douglas Bridge, Clady, and Garvetagh; that of Ardstraw is aided by a second class grant, and those of Newtown-Stewart, Douglas-Bridge, and Clady have each a third class grant. There are also two places of worship for Presbyterians of the Seceding Synod, one at Drumligagh of the first class, and the other at Newtown-Stewart of the second class; and there are a meeting-house for Primitive and two for Wesleyan Methodists. The parochial school at Newtown-Stewart is aided by an annual donation from the rector; and there are fifteen other public schools in different parts of the parish, and seventeen private schools; in the former are 1600, and in the latter about

780, children: and thirty five Sunday schools. The poor are supported by voluntary contributions, aided by the interest of £100 in the 3½ per cents., being a sum due to the parish, which was recovered about twenty years since by process of law, and by act of vestry added to the poor fund. There are numerous interesting remains of antiquity in the parish, the most ancient of which are those of the monastery and cathedral of Ardsrath, near the village, consisting chiefly of the foundations of that part of the building which was formerly used as the parish church, the remains of some very beautiful crosses of elaborate workmanship, and several upright stones and columns richly fluted; but the churchyard, which was very extensive, has been contracted by the passing of the public road, in the formation of which many remains of antiquity were destroyed. Nearly adjoining is a ruin which tradition points out as the bishop's palace, and which was occupied as an inn when the Dublin road passed this way. About three miles above Ardstraw Bridge, and situated on a gentle eminence, are the picturesque ruins of Scarvahein abbey, founded by Turloch Mac Dolagh, in 1456, for Franciscan friars of the third order, and on its dissolution granted by Queen Elizabeth to Sir Henry Piers; and near Newtown-Stewart is the site of the friary of Pubble, which appears to have been an appendage to Scarvahein, and was granted at the same time to Sir Henry Piers; of the latter, nothing but the cemetery remains. In Newtown-Stewart are the extensive and beautiful remains of the castle built by Sir Robert Newcomen, in 1619; it is in the Elizabethan style, with gables and clustered chimneys. Jas. II. lodged in this castle, on his return from Lifford in 1689, and by his orders it was dismantled on the day following; with the exception of the roof, it is nearly perfect. At the foot of the mountain called Bessy Bell are the ruins of an ancient building called Harry Ouree's Castle, concerning which some remarkable legends are preserved by the country people; they consist of two circular towers, with a gateway between them, and some side walls, which overhang their base more than 8 feet. Near the end of the bridge at Newtown-Stewart is a large mound of earth, evidently thrown up to protect the ford, which in early times must have been of importance as the only pass through the vast range of the Munterlony mountains. There was a similar fort on the ford of Glenelly, near Moyle Castle, and another at the old ford at the village of Ardstraw. On the summit of Bessy Bell, or Boase-Baal, on which in pagan times sacrifice is supposed to have been offered to Baal or Bel, is a large and curious cairn; there are also cairns on the summit of Mary Gray, and more than thirty forts in the parish, nearly in a line from east to west, which were designed to guard the passes on the rivers of Glenelly and Derg. About a mile below Newtown-Stewart, in the bed of the river, is a single upright stone, called the "Giant's Finger," and lately "Flinn's rock," respecting which many strange traditions are preserved in the neighbourhood. —See NEWTOWN-STEWART.

**NEWTOWN-STEWART**, a market and post-town, in the parish of ARDSTRAW, barony of STRABANE, county of TYRONE, and province of ULSTER, 7¼ miles (N. W.) from Omagh, and 99¼ (N. N. W.) from Dublin, on the road to Londonderry; containing 1737 inhabitants. This town, which is beautifully situated on the western bank of the river Mourne, about halfway between Omagh and Strabane, and surrounded by the lofty mountains of Munterlony, was anciently called Lislas, and appears to have been a place of early importance, commanding

the only pass through this extensive and mountainous district. The adjacent lands were granted by Jas. I., on the settlement of Ulster, to Sir J. Clapham, who not having complied with the conditions of the grant, the property became forfeited to the Crown, and was granted by Chas. I. to Sir W. Stewart, from whom the present town takes its name. Sir Phelim O'Nial, having obtained possession of the castle in 1641, cut off all communication with this part of Tyrone, and compelled the King's forces to retreat from every post they occupied in this part of the country. In the war of the Revolution, Jas. II. lodged for one night in the castle on his way to Londonderry, and also on his return from Lifford, and on leaving it the following morning, ordered it to be dismantled and the town to be burned, which orders were carried into effect, and the town continued in ruins till it was restored by one of the Stewart family in 1722. After its restoration it soon became a place of considerable trade, from its situation in the centre of the great linen district; and in 1727, Dr. John Hall, rector of Ardstraw, built a handsome church here at his own expense, which has ever since continued to be the parish church. The town, which is the property of C. J. Gardiner, Esq., at present consists of three principal and three smaller streets, and contains 346 houses, which are neat and well built; the principal streets are well paved, and the inhabitants are amply supplied with water from a spring at the southwestern end of the town, conveyed by pipes to the more respectable houses, and into public reservoirs in several parts of the town for the supply of the poorer inhabitants; in the main street are two good hotels. A considerable trade is derived from its situation on a great public thoroughfare, and many of the inhabitants are employed in the numerous limestone and freestone quarries in the neighbourhood, which are extensively worked, the limestone found on the lands of Baronscourt is of remarkably fine quality for building. The market, on

Monday, is amply supplied with every kind of agricultural produce, and with unbleached linen. Fairs, which are numerous attended, are held on the last Monday in every month, and are chiefly for cattle, sheep, and pigs. A small constabulary police force is stationed in the town, and petty sessions are held monthly. The church is a large and handsome structure on a gentle eminence, and has a lofty and well-proportioned octagonal spire, which was added to it in 1803, in the time of the Rev. G. Hall, then rector, and afterwards Bishop of Dromore. There are also a R. C. chapel, two places of worship for Presbyterians and two for Wesleyan Methodists, and a dispensary. In the town are the remains of the castle, which, with the exception of the roof, is nearly entire, forming a noble and highly interesting ruin. In the vicinity is Baronscourt, the seat of the Marquess of Abercorn, a stately mansion, situated in a widely extended demesne, combining much romantic and beautiful scenery, embellished with three spacious lakes, and enriched with fine timber. Moyle House, the residence of the Rev. R. H. Nash, D.D.; Newtown-Stewart Castle, of Major Crawford; and Cross House, of A. W. Colhoun, Esq., are also in the neighbourhood. Adjoining one end of the bridge is an ancient fort thrown up to defend the ford of the river; there is a similar one at Ardstraw bridge, and also at Moyle, to guard the ford of the river Glenally. There are also numerous other forts in the neighbourhood, and various cairns, which are more particularly noticed in the article on ARDSTRAW."



Figure 264 – blue plaque Bowling Green, Strabane in celebration of the birthplace of Brian O’Nolan alias Flann O’Brien alias Myles na gCopaleen (c) Strabanephotos

## FOYLE VALLEY – Review of findings & recommendations

Significant surviving heritage asset groupings:

- Churchlands
- Plantation: archaeology and defensive structures at Dunnalong, Lifford, Strabane & Newtownstewart
- Urban: Strabane, Sion Mills, Newtownstewart
- Railway & Canal: Strabane Canal; GN(I) trackbeds from Newtownstewart to Strabane and Donegal narrow gauge line from Strabane to Victoria Road
- Mills: Herdmans Mill at Sion Mills & a significant number of smaller scale mills, condition unknown
- Demesne: Baronscourt
- Natural: salmon fishing; Baronscourt woodlands

Possible risk areas:

- Vernacular buildings – recognition of historic settlement patterns; only one protected vernacular house highlighted in Foyle Valley LCA
- Woodland – Prehen; development pressure due to suburban expansion.
- Development outside urban centres in Foyle Valley between Strabane & Newtownstewart
- Damage & neglect to multiple structures in conservation areas at Sion Mills & Newtownstewart and similar damage to urban core at Strabane.
- Significant damage to Herman's mill – one of the most significant mill complexes in Ireland
- A5 expansion – impact assessment methodology; negative impacts on natural habitats, historic building settings and Foyle Valley landscape along the length of the river basin.

Existing tourism uses & Opportunities

- Abandoned railway routes; reuse for walking & cycling tourism and reservation of trackbed for future rail use
- Reduction in traffic on secondary routes associated with A5 and vacation of road space to pedestrians and cycleway
- Investigation of potential of mediaeval & Plantation period settlement at Dunnalong
- Integration with Donegal, cycleway and river usage ( canoeing trail & tourism barges)
- Strengthening of historic town centres of Strabane, Sion Mills & Newtownstewart
- Promotion and improved access to Grays printing press site – Strabane
- Promotion of links with historic personalities: writers - Flann O'Brien & Cecil Frances Alexander and architect: Michael Priestley

## 4.5 Derry Slopes

### DERRY SLOPES – Landscape Character Area

The Landscape Character Area (LCA) forms the extent of the study area defined in the project brief. The following map and text relates to the DERRY SLOPES Landscape Character Area – as described by Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA). For the purposes of this study the built up area on both sides of the river have been joined to form a new LCA for the CITY CENTRE which has been reviewed separately.



Figure 265 – 1 to 50,000 scale Discovery map (c) OSNI

#### **“Key Characteristics**

- *smooth rounded hill tops with undulating lower slopes*
- *steep slopes of River Foyle to east; broad, shallow vale of Upper Skeoge River leading to the Republic border to west*
- *broad geometric patchwork of fields disrupted by extensive built development*
- *relatively open farmland on slopes of Minkey Hill; smaller fields, with hedgerows and narrow roads to north of Skeoge valley*
- *bands of broadleaf woodland on the banks of the Foyle*
- *telecommunication masts dominate open moorland summit of Minkey Hill*
- *City of Londonderry/Derry dominates the landscape; areas of managed public open space are juxtaposed with relatively neglected fields on the urban fringe*
- *the historic city has a dramatic, elevated site, with massive defensive walls and a strong, distinctive character*

#### **Landscape Description**



*The West Derry Slopes are between the River Foyle and the border with Donegal. They encompass the northern and eastern slopes of Minkey Hill and the southern ridges of Scalp Mountain in Donegal.*

*The area is dominated by the historic city centre of Londonderry/Derry and the built up areas on the western banks of the Foyle, including the port of Culmore. The headwaters and broad valley of the Skeoge River are directly to the west of the city centre and the built up area is concentrated on the relatively low-lying land. The slopes of the Foyle River are relatively steep, with a stronger field pattern and relatively little built development beyond the limits of the city. There are bands of broadleaf woodland along the water's edge, particularly on the banks leading to Culmore. The broad patchwork of pasture and arable fields becomes gradually more degraded towards the higher land and the rounded summit of Minkey Hill is capped with open moorland.*

*The farmland is relatively open, with occasional hedgerow trees and an increase in tree cover towards the valley floor. There are broken stone walls as well as hedgerows around many of the fields, particularly to the north of the Skeoge valley. The area is highly influenced by the city of Londonderry/Derry, with a relatively fragmented landscape character; fields and farms are surrounded by housing estates and commercial units. The summits of Minkey and Holywell Hills are dominated by a number of telecommunication masts which are a landmark for the area. The urban fringe is relatively devoid of tree cover and the larger industrial buildings are prominent.*

#### ***Landscape Condition and Sensitivity to Change***

*The landscape of the urban fringe is relatively degraded, with much evidence of hedgerow removal and a general neglect of land management. The banks of the River Foyle are the most scenic and sensitive parts of this landscape, together with the steep eastern slopes of Minkey Hill which plummet down to the river. These slopes and the river corridor are prominent in views to Londonderry/Derry from the east bank of the Foyle and contribute to the landscape setting of the city. The summits of Minkey Hill and Holywell Hill are also prominent and sensitive, although the profusion of telecommunication masts on the summits detracts from the quality of the views.*

#### ***Principles for Landscape Management***

- *Strengthening of field boundaries would result in a more robust landscape pattern, particularly in areas where it has become degraded through the influence of built development and infrastructure on the fringes of the city.*
- *Management and extension of the broadleaf woodlands on the banks of the Foyle would ensure that this important landscape feature is conserved; the woodland helps to 'anchor' the City within its riverside setting in the striking views from the east bank of the Foyle.*

#### ***Principles for Accommodating New Development***

- *Existing development outside the urban area is poorly integrated within the landscape and extensive woodland planting would help to improve the relationship between built form and the landscape setting. The natural pattern is for woodland on the lower slopes, leading to fields and unenclosed moorland on the summit."*

## **DERRY SLOPES – Historic Landscape Characterisation**

There are a number of distinct physical divisions present within this Landscape Character Area (LCA).

The dense urban areas, which include the hill of “The Derrie”; the Bogside; the Liberties of Derry, the Waterside, Clooney and Pennyburn have all been included in a new separate LCA division which has been referred to as “Derry City” and which is described separately.

The remaining rural and suburban areas are included in this section, the Derry Slopes LCA.

The narrow stretches of the Foyle, from Culmore to the City edge at Pennyburn to the north, and from Mullenan townland to the Lone Moor Road to the south, are also included in the Derry Slopes LCA.

Both of these areas are distinct from the remainder of the Derry Slopes and have much in common with their opposite banks. Where the river valley becomes narrow, it also becomes more symmetrical; its historic features are also reflected on each side of the river.

The Foyle Riverside Draft Strategic Masterplan published by Derry City Council divides a similar area along the Foyle into smaller landscape character units. Whilst the masterplan area boundary is centred on the river, character areas are named to reflect significant places within each subdivision and thus emphasise the separation of each bank. Physical connections across the river in the form of bridges, spatial symmetry and close visual connections along its narrower reaches result in a different relationship than the masterplan boundaries imply. Whilst these subdivisions may have been relevant to the masterplan study, it is recommended that future consideration of heritage features within their landscape context should consider adjustment and renaming of these divisions based on their topography, historical functions or activities, and spatial characteristics.

The southern reaches above the City are characterised in the past by use for milling, brick making and the extraction of building stone and gravel. Milton Lodge on the west bank suggests a link with the adjacent mill structures from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century; a possible version of “mill town”.

Prehen House is, however, the dominant feature in this stretch of the river having been established as a Plantation house in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

The equivalent stretch of the river to the north of the city also features significant houses within deliberately modified landscape settings. These are of a grander scale than to the South and the design of their setting was designed to reflect the influence of their owners over a wide area.

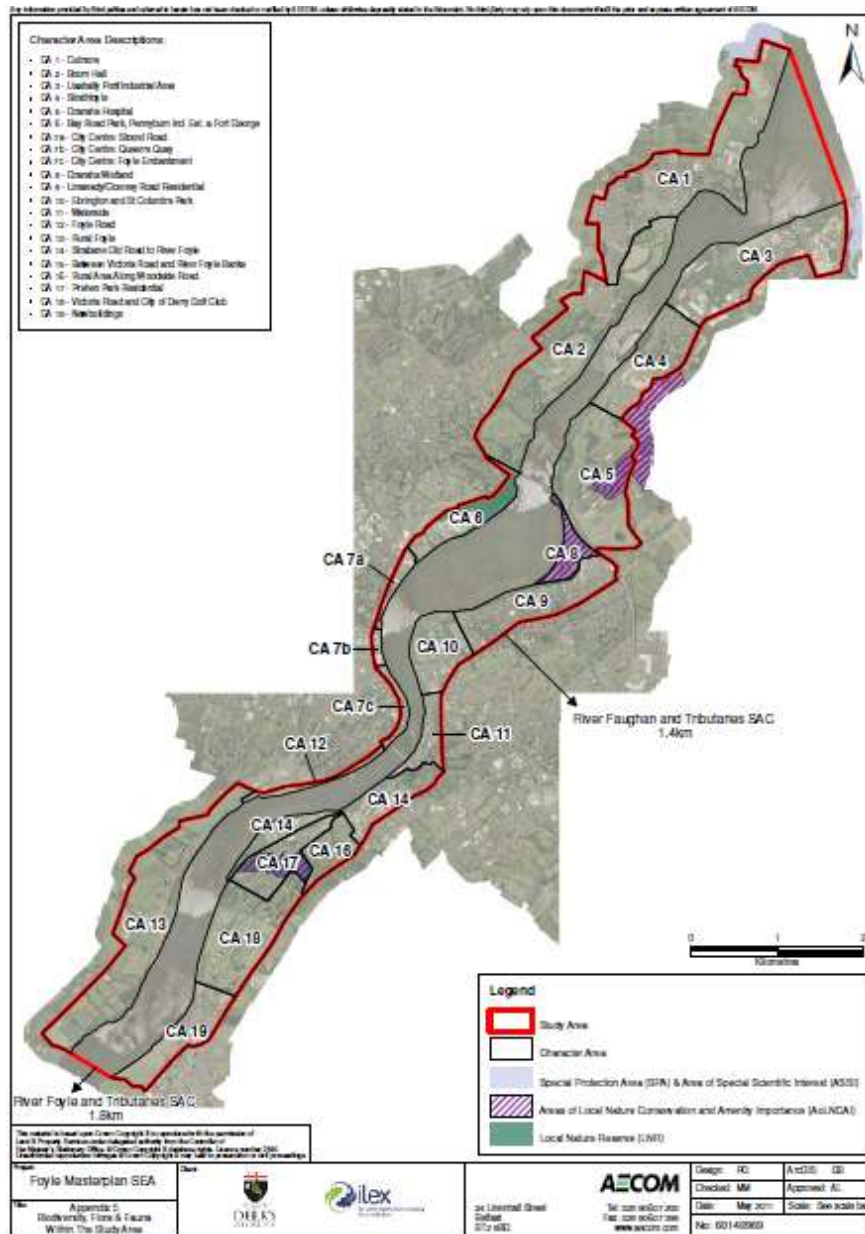


Figure 266 – Derry City Council Foyle Masterplan Strategic Environmental Assessment showing Landscape Character Subdivisions

## **DERRY SLOPES – historical natural landscapes; geology**

The geological setting refers to the natural material state landscape as it has formed without the intervention of man. The following map and text relates to the geological setting of BURNGIBBAGH & DRUMAHOE Landscape Character Area – as described by Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)

### ***“Outline Geomorphology and Landscape Setting***

*The use of a cultural overlay in defining Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) means that they frequently subdivide natural physiographic units. It is common therefore for significant geomorphological features to run across more than one LCA. It is also possible in turn, to group physiographic units into a smaller number of natural regions. These regions invariably reflect underlying geological, topographic and, often, visual continuities between their component physiographic units, and have generally formed the basis for defining landscape areas such as AONBs. It is essential therefore, that in considering the 'Geodiversity' of an individual LCA, regard should be given to adjacent LCAs and to the larger regions within which they sit. In the original Land Utilisation Survey of Northern Ireland, Symons (1962) identified twelve such natural regions.*

*This LCA lies within the region described as the Western River Basins, although it grades westwards into the Highlands and Lowlands of East Donegal. This region consists essentially of the connected river systems that drain the Carboniferous and Old Red Sandstone plateau of County Tyrone, as well as the foothills of the Sperrin Mountains to the east and Donegal to the west. The region extends from the Omagh Basin in the south, northwards along the lower Foyle valley. The Omagh Basin has particular significance as an ice centre during the Late Midlandian and is now largely covered by a complex mixture of glaciofluvial sands and gravels and drumlins overlying Rogen moraines. When the headwaters of these river systems rise together they have in the past been responsible for serious flooding at the bottleneck of Strabane. Although this has been mitigated by extensive drainage control works in and around the town.*

*The West Derry Slopes are between the River Foyle and the border with Donegal. They encompass the northern and eastern slopes of Minkey Hill and the southern ridges of Scalp Mountain in Donegal. The area is dominated by the historic city centre of Londonderry/Derry and the built up areas on the western banks of the Foyle, including the port of Culmore. The headwaters and broad valley of the Skeoge River are directly to the west of the city centre and the built up area is concentrated on the relatively low-lying land. The slopes of the Foyle River are relatively steep, with a stronger field pattern and relatively little built development beyond the limits of the city. The rounded summit of Minkey Hill is capped with open moorland. The landscape can therefore be summarised as one of smooth rounded hill tops with undulating lower slopes, steep slopes down to the River Foyle and a broad, shallow vale leading to the west.*

### **Pre-Quaternary (Solid) Geology**

*The stratigraphy of this area is made up of the mapped formations in the table, the youngest of which usually overlie the oldest. The older formations can be upside down (tectonically inverted).*

#### **Stratigraphic Table (youngest rocks at the top of the table)**

<b>Carboniferous</b>
<b>Barony Glen</b>
<b>Dalradian (Neoproterozoic)</b>
<b>Londonderry</b>
<b>Ballykelly - Southern Highland Group (undivided)</b>

*This LCA is dominated by Dalradian (Neoproterozoic) metamorphosed sedimentary and minor igneous rocks.*

#### **Key Sites**

##### *Dalradian*

*Schistose grits and phyllites of the Londonderry Formation crop out at ESCR Site 338, Creevagh Old Quarry.*

*Two tectonic phases have affected the area: the Caledonian (Ordovician - Silurian) and Variscan (end Carboniferous). Caledonian deformation is very apparent throughout the Dalradian succession. A parallel fault to the NE-SW trending Foyle Fault crosses the east of LCA32.*

#### **Quaternary (Drift) Geology**

*Northern Ireland has experienced repeated glaciations during the Pleistocene period that produced vast amounts of debris to form the glacial deposits that cover more than 90% of the landscape. Their present morphology was shaped principally during the last glacial cycle (the Midlandian), with subsequent modification throughout the post-glacial Holocene period. The Late Midlandian, the last main phases of ice sheet flow, occurred between 23 and 13ka B.P. from dispersion centres in the Lough Neagh Basin, the Omagh Basin and Lower Lough Erne/Donegal. The clearest imprint of these ice flows are flow transverse rogen moraines and flow parallel drumlin swarms which developed across thick covers of till, mostly below 150m O.D. during a period that referred to as the Drumlin Readvance. At the very end of the Midlandian, Scottish ice moved southwards and overrode parts of the north coast. Evidence for deglaciation of the landscape is found in features formed between the glacial maximum to the onset of the present warm stage from 17 and 13ka B.P. - a period of gradual climatic improvement. Most commonly these are of glaciofluvial and glaciolacustrine origin and include: eskers, outwash mounds and spreads, proglacial lacustrine deposits,*

*kame terraces, kettle holes and meltwater channels (McCarron et al. 2002). During the Holocene, marine, fluvial, aeolian and mass movement processes, combined with human activities and climate and sea-level fluctuations, have modified the appearance of the landscape. The landforms and associated deposits derived from all of these processes are essentially fossil. Once damaged or destroyed they cannot be replaced since the processes or process combinations that created them no longer exist. They therefore represent a finite scientific and economic resource and are a notable determinant of landscape character.*

*The drift geology map for this LCA shows a landscape underlain primarily by a mix of Late Midlandian till and drift-free areas of bedrock. The till was deposited by ice that moved northeastwards down the Foyle Valley. As it did so, it left a legacy of streamlined rock ridges on the higher ground to the west of the LCA. Wastage of the ice at the end of the Midlandian resulted in the deposition of glaciofluvial sand and gravel, especially in the broad valley of the Skeoge. These deposits are now partly masked by alluvial sand and silt associated with the present-day river. Similar alluvium can be found along the Foyle floodplain.*

### **Key Elements**

#### **ASSI**

*051 Lough foyle (5-10% of ASSI)*

*Contemporary coastal processes especially chenier ridge development. Exposure through the southern (earliest) portion of the Magilligan foreland complex.*

### **Other sites/units identified in the Earth Science Conservation Review**

*338 Creevagh Hill Old Quarry*

*Precambrian. Good outcrop of Londonderry Formation. Interbedded schistose grits and phyllites, with clear cleavage/strata relationships.”*



Figure 267 – Foyle Valley historical geological mapping 1886 (c)GSI

## DERRY SLOPES – historical natural landscapes; ecology

Information on the ecology is available from a variety of sources. In addition to NIEA data, current sources include references relating to protected sites included in local authority development plans. The following pages offer an overview of these with a synopsis confirming the significant features written by ecologist Ralph Sheppard.

The following text relates to the Biodiversity Profile of DERRY SLOPES Landscape Character Area – as described by Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)

In the following account it should be noted that for consistency, the biodiversity section follows the standard order for all LCAs even though some of the communities discussed later may have more importance for biodiversity than those discussed earlier.



### **“Key Characteristics**

- *woodlands account for less than 1% of the land cover, almost entirely associated with estate lands*
- *grassland covers about 62% of the land, lower than the percentage for Northern Ireland as a whole (c. 71%) as a result of the large area occupied by the city of Derry*
- *around two-thirds of the grassland is improved pasture - generally of low biodiversity small amount of upland heathland, a declining habitat in the UK and Ireland*
- *River Foyle of national and international importance for Atlantic salmon*

### **Woodlands**

*Woodlands account for less than 1% of the land cover, almost entirely associated with estate lands that include Mullenan House, Spring Grove, Creevagh House, and the concentration that extends from the northeast of the city along the lough shore and encompasses Brook Hall, Thornhill College and Ballynagard House (**lowland woodland pasture and parkland**). Almost all of these estate woodlands were present in 1831, so that they are at least 'long-established' and may therefore contain species of the herb layer and of mosses and lichens that are not common in more recent woodlands. Trees are typical of estate woods, including beech, sycamore ash and some elm. Brook Hall is the centre of a bio-energy project based on*



*coppiced willow. Other woodlands in the LCA are very small and confined to steep slopes alongside small streams as below Nixon's Corner.*

*The Woodland Trust has recently established small woodlands around Derry that may help to increase future biodiversity, especially of the urban area. Examples are Southway Community Woodland - planted with oak, ash, rowan and cherry - and Ballyarnet oak/wet woodland, where species include oak, ash, alder and birch.*

### **Grassland and Arable**

*Grassland covers about 62% of the land, lower than the percentage for Northern Ireland as a whole (c. 71%) as a result of the large area occupied by the city of Derry. Around two-thirds of the grassland is improved pasture. This generally has low biodiversity as a result of relatively intensive management. Some of the pastures are sown grasslands dominated by ryegrass and few other species - low biodiversity is in-built. Other grasslands have been converted to improved pastures through management. High levels of grazing or repeated cutting for silage, high inputs of fertilizers and slurry, and selective herbicides serve to reduce diversity of both flora and fauna. Arable land is about 10% of the land cover and is concentrated on flatter*

*land in the south and the north where the soils are predominantly well-drained brown earths.*



*Biodiversity in areas of improved pastures and arable is often concentrated in hedgerows. Indeed, they may be the most significant wildlife habitat over much of lowland Northern Ireland, especially where there are few semi-natural habitats. Hedgerows are a refuge for many woodland and farmland plants and animals. In this LCA however, the farmland is relatively open, with only occasional hedgerow trees; broken stone walls as well as hedgerows surround many of the fields, particularly to the north of the Skeoge valley.*

*Rough grassland is common on the outskirts of Derry, possibly as a result of urban blight whereby land becomes unmanaged with the prospect of further urban expansion. Rough pastures and acid grassland is also common on the gentle slopes of Minkey Hill and Ballymagrorty where field size is much smaller than on the low flat lands in the south and north. These fields are generally of low biodiversity, often with a high cover of rushes, but have some importance for wetland birds - snipe have been recorded in this part of the LCA. The mix of improved grasslands and a small amount of arable with these damp grasslands has also provided habitats for **linnet, yellowhammer, song thrush and skylark.***

### **Heaths and Bogs**

*Blanket bog is virtually absent from the LCA with the uplands of Holywell Hill and Minkey Hill covered by thin peat and peaty soils with boulders; **upland heathland**, dominated by common heather occupies these hills. Upland heathland is a declining habitat in Ireland and in the UK, partly due to overgrazing in the recent past as well as to lack of active management to encourage heather regeneration.*

## **Wetlands and Lakes**

*There are no significant fens or reed beds in the LCA and none of the lakes examined by the Northern Ireland Lake Survey were of high interest for conservation. The R. Foyle is an important river for Atlantic salmon.*

## **Coastal**

*The narrow shore of the River Foyle is very sheltered and has a limited amount of **saltmarsh**, but it is of low species diversity. There are also some small patches of **coastal mudflat**.*

## **Key Issues**

*General actions for UK and NI **Priority Habitats** and **Priority Species** are detailed in the **Habitat Action Plans** and **Species Action Plans**.*

## **WOODLANDS**

***Issue:** low woodland cover of variable biodiversity value*

### **Actions:**

- *enhance the biodiversity value of demesne/parkland woodland through control of grazing and felling; by encouraging planting of saplings of the standard trees; by preventing further loss of parkland; by retention of fallen and veteran trees (particularly for bryophytes, ferns, fungi and fauna)*
- *further study of the history and ecology of demesne and other broadleaved woodlands particularly any ancient and long-established, as a key to future management*
- *encourage control of grazing in broadleaved woodlands along streams to foster regeneration and if necessary, encourage replanting of canopy species*
- *encourage planting of native broadleaved woodland through appropriate grant schemes*

## **GRASSLAND AND ARABLE**

***Issue:** poor biodiversity of farmland*

### **Actions:**

- *maintain and improve field boundaries especially hedgerows. This may be achieved through adoption of correct cutting cycles; hedge laying and replanting where necessary; leaving saplings uncut to develop into hedgerow trees; avoidance of spraying with fertilizers, slurry, herbicides; provision of wildlife strips and conservation headlands around fields; and limitation of field amalgamation*
- *encourage (through participation in Environmental Schemes) adoption of less intensive management of pastures to allow reversion to more species-rich grassland and protect unsown areas - wet grasslands on hills may be poor in plant diversity but can be habitats for wetland birds*

- *leave stubble over winter, rather than autumn ploughing, to increase food resources for farmland birds; spring sown cereals are beneficial to breeding farmland birds*

### **HEATH AND BOGS**

**Issue:** *loss of upland heathland and decline in its biodiversity*

**Actions:**

- *promote membership of environmental schemes through consultation with farmers and thereby*
- *control grazing intensity on existing heathland to encourage development of heathland and of heather of different ages*
- *control gazing intensity on some upland grassland to promote return to heathland*
- *discourage 'reclamation' to pasture fields around the heathland margins*
- *discourage afforestation*

### **WETLANDS**

**Issue:** *important river - R. Foyle - particularly for Atlantic salmon*

**Actions:**

- *protect water quality of rivers, thus*
- *promote and encourage existing good farming practices so that streams are not polluted by run-off from agricultural land or seepage from silage pits*
- *continued monitoring of streams below industrial plants*
- *monitor streams in relation to expansion of rural/urban housing and associated septic tanks/sewage treatment plants*
- *encourage existing cross-border links to ensure maintenance of water quality and management of the Foyle system"*

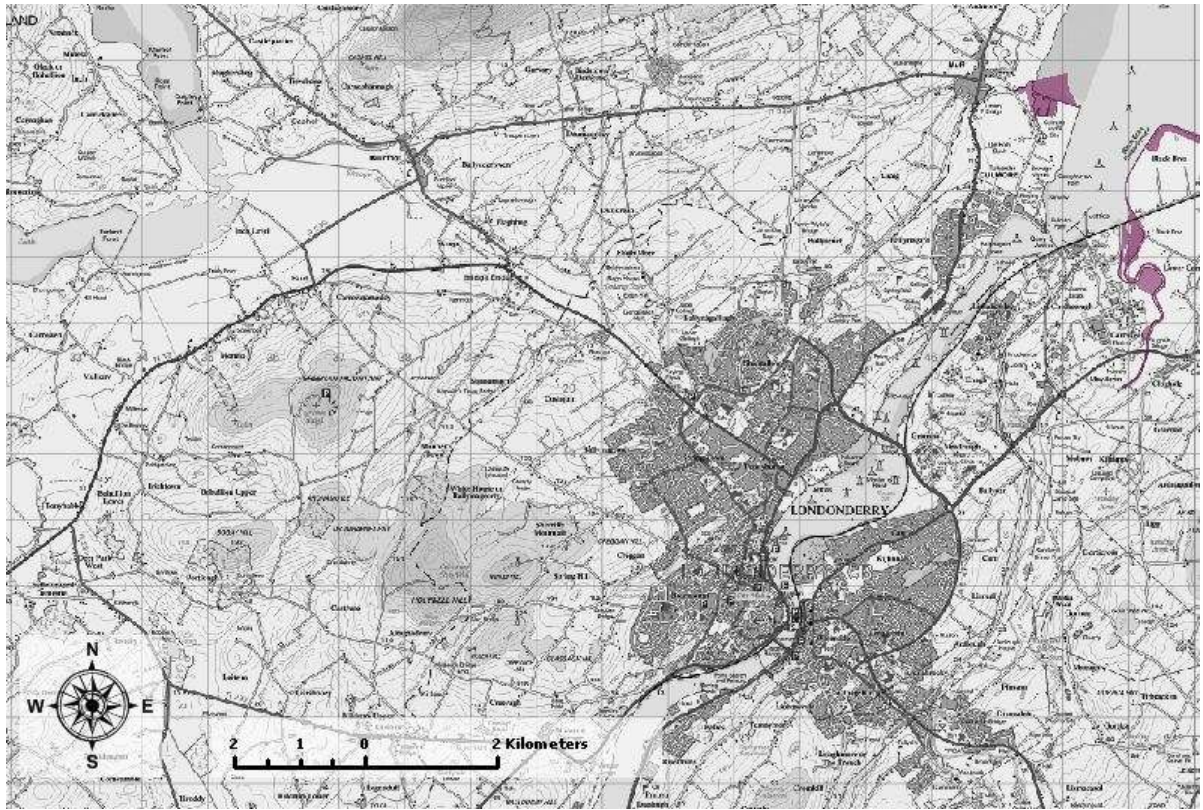


Figure 268 – Lough Foyle Ramsar site at Culmore

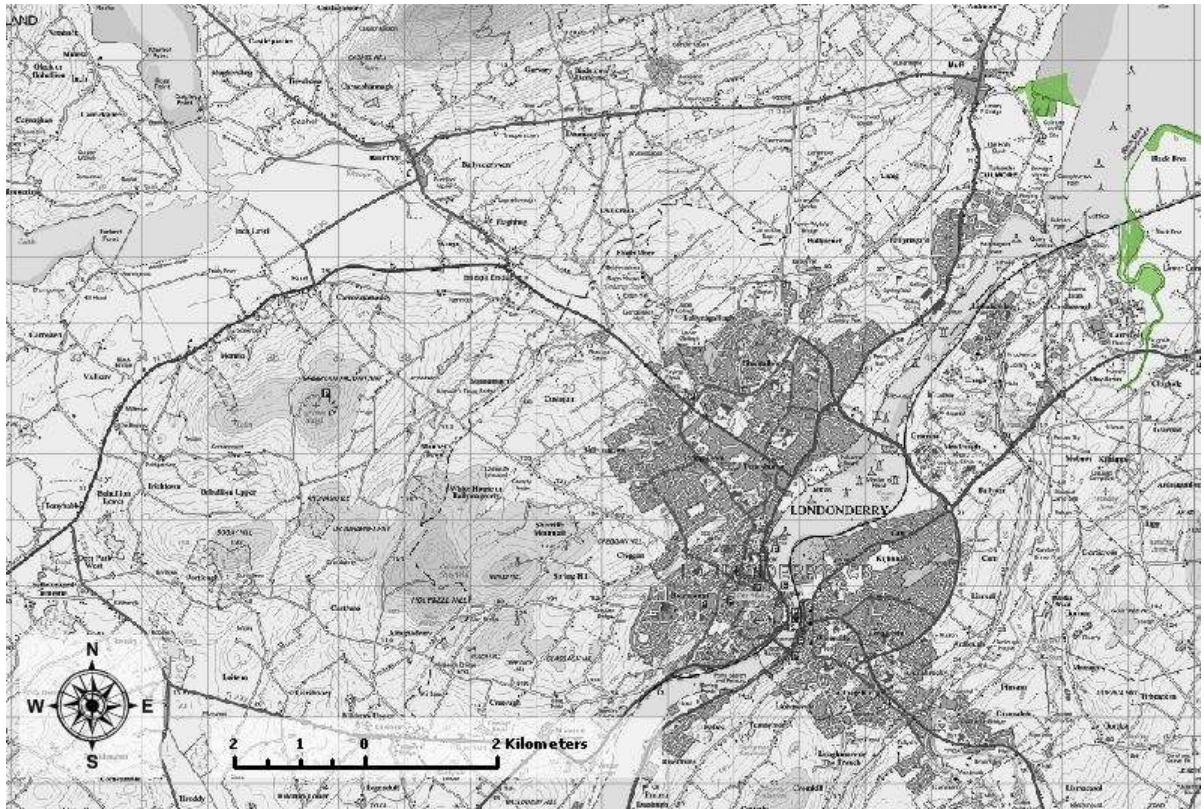


Figure 269 – Lough Foyle Special Protection Area (SPA) at Culmore

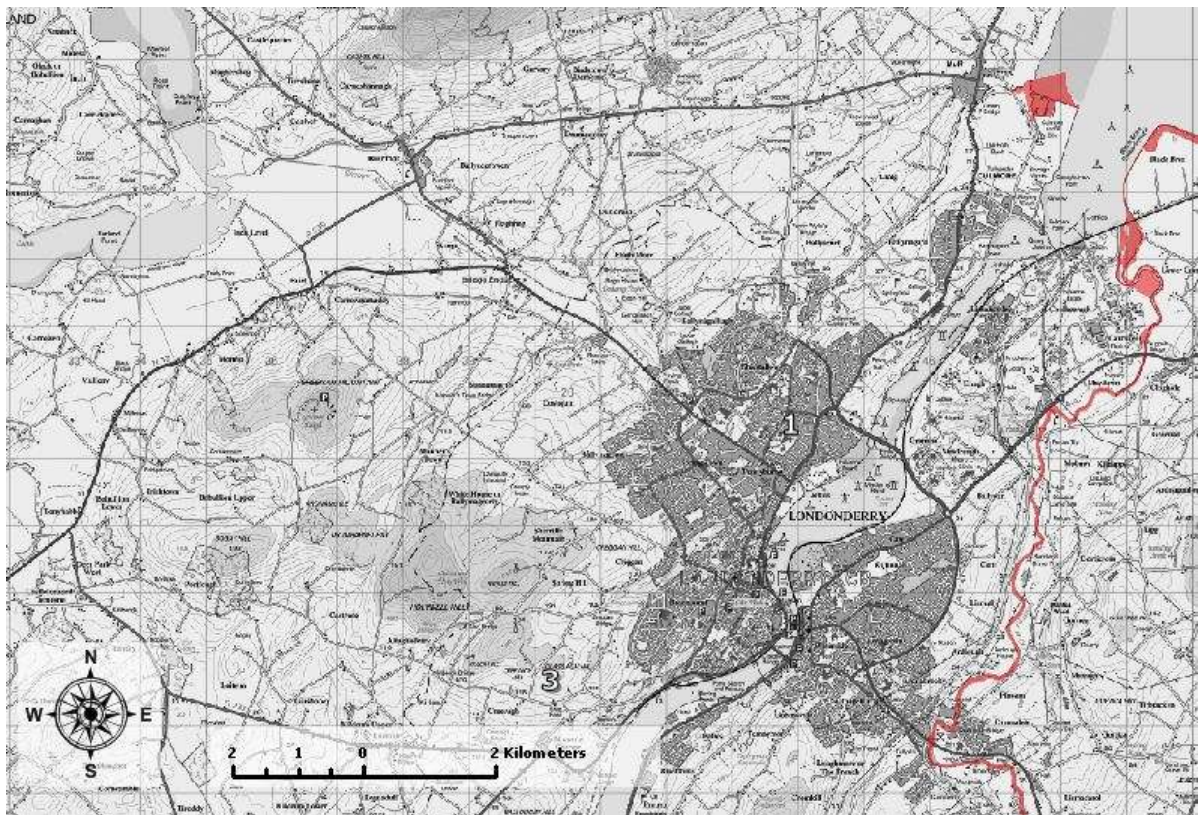


Figure 270– Derry Slopes Areas of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI's); (1) Lough Foyle, (3) quarry at Lower Creevagh



Figure 271 – Chinese Fir, Brooke Hall. Exceptional specimen tree; finest stand alone example in Ireland. Source: Tree council of Ireland; Heritage Tree Database.



Figure 272 – Chinese Red Barked Birch, Brooke Hall. A beautiful example in one of Ireland's most important private arboretums. Source: Tree council of Ireland; Heritage Tree Database.



Figure 273 – Dawn Redwood, Brooke Hall. Association with a noted person. Planted in 1948 by Frank Gilliland. The first in Ireland. Source: Tree council of Ireland; Heritage Tree Database.



Figure 274 – Lawson Cypress, Brooke Hall. Exceptional Specimen Tree. A good example of the finest of all Lawson Cypress cultivars. Source: Tree council of Ireland; Heritage Tree Database.



**Figure 275– Mexican Pine, Brooke Hall. Exceptional Specimen Tree; Habitat value. A Mexican species finding the Derry climate to its liking. Source: Tree council of Ireland; Heritage Tree Database.**



**Figure 276 – Noble Fir, Brooke Hall. Exceptional Specimen Tree; Habitat value. A warning to anyone planting out a Christmas tree. Source: Tree council of Ireland; Heritage Tree Database.**



**Figure 277 – Patagonian Cypress, Brooke Hall. Exceptional Specimen Tree; Habitat value. Very rare conifer from South America. Source: Tree council of Ireland; Heritage Tree Database.**



**Figure 278 – Red Beech, Brooke Hall. Exceptional Specimen Tree; Habitat value. New Zealand silver beech thriving at the opposite end of the world. Source: Tree council of Ireland; Heritage Tree Database.**



Figure 279 – Summit Cedar, Brooke Hall. Exceptional Specimen Tree; Habitat value. Beautiful example of very rare Tasmanian conifer. Source: Tree council of Ireland; Heritage Tree Database.



Figure 280 – Yew, Brooke Hall. Landmark Tree; Habitat value; Association with a historic event. Possible witness tree to the C17th siege of Derry. overlooking River Foyle. Largest Yew in Ireland. Source: Tree council of Ireland; Heritage Tree Database.



Figure 281 – Common Oak, Boom Hall. Tree with Character & Habitat value. Magnificent parkland oak with canopy spread of 20m on one side. Source: Tree council of Ireland; Heritage Tree Database.





**Figure 282 – Horse Chestnut, Boom Hall. Exceptional Specimen Tree; Habitat value. Very impressive trunk forking at 2.5m. Source: Tree council of Ireland; Heritage Tree Database.**



**Figure 283 – Sessile Oak, Boom Hall. Tree with Character; Habitat value. Fused three-stem coppice with exposed surface roots. Source: Tree council of Ireland; Heritage Tree Database.**



Figure 284 – Site protected in 2009; permission was already granted for development at this site in 2007

*An Analysis of Derry Slopes Ecology by Ralph Sheppard*

This small enclave of Northern Ireland on the west bank of the River Foyle is largely occupied by the city of Londonderry/Derry. The rural areas have been affected by the urban influence which is largely negative – but not entirely so.

1. North of the city and the Foyle Bridge, the river on its final few miles to Lough Foyle flows through a fairly confined channel which is lined with woodland on both sides. Mostly this is estate woodland of Beech etc. Its ecological value is not known to be particularly important, but it is undoubtedly a fine amenity landscape.
2. This small, largely urban LCA (Landscape Character Area) has a significant corner of upland habitat, around Holywell and Minky Hills in the south-west. Communication masts have taken over much of this, and urban blight is probably responsible for the lack of good hedgerows and trees, and a general air of dereliction.
3. The Pennyburn Gap is a flat-bottomed, river-less landscape feature, which appears to represent a past divide between Inishowen and “the mainland”, from the time when its more modest predecessor was deepened and flattened by the River Foyle temporarily taking a detour to Lough Swilly, while its route to Lough Foyle was blocked by the Scottish ice sheet. Its farmland has been less intensively managed than on the better drained lands on either side, and although its conservation value would not have been of major importance, such land always retains more of interest than most farmland. However, urbanisation is gradually claiming the Pennyburn Gap, and it has been a political aspiration to close the gap between Londonderry/Derry and the Donegal border at Bridgend. The prospects for what is left of interest in the Pennyburn Gap do not look good.
4. Ballyarnet, on the northern fringe of the city, is a complex area of interest. The core is at Ballyarnet Lake, part of the Ballyarnet County Park, which is owned by the City Council. The lake is a glacial kettle hole lake, similar in origin to those at Enagh Lough in the Foyle Alluvial Plain LCA, occupying the space left by a melting block of ice. It is surrounded by encroaching bog and swamp vegetation which, although threatening the existence of the lake in the medium term, is in itself a fascinating fragment of evolving landscape and natural habitat.

Adjacent to this on the city side is Ballyarnet Wood, a woodland creation site, also owned by the city council. The field on which the woodland has been planted was formerly a small pig farm. It is now planted with a mixture of native broadleaved trees, with oak in the dry areas, and a willow/alder/birch mixture in the wetter areas.

These areas have great recreational and educational value, if the management succeeds in maintaining that delicate balance between human use and nature conservation which is so essential to the success of such projects within urban contexts.

5. The Foyle Slopes LCA has a small corner where the River Foyle meets Lough Foyle. It is shrinking steadily as the landfill site spreads into the remaining area of tidal mud. At the moment, there is still some interest here in the wildfowl, waders and gulls which use it, and the re-vegetating landfill can at time attract such rare birds as Twite which winter mainly along the southern shores of the Lough. But this is all going to inevitably fade, as the site matures.

## DERRY SLOPES – historical cultural landscape; Barony



Figure 285 – the Derry Slopes LCA is located in the barony known as “Northwest Liberties of Londonderry” marked green on the on the map. Source: Philip’s Atlas 1897

The barony of “The Northwest Liberties of Londonderry” is land which was controlled by The Honourable the Irish Society on behalf the City of London companies; the Liberties were those areas associated with the city but located outside the city walls. The barony also corresponds to the parish of Templemore. The *Teampull Mór* or ‘great church’, the ecclesiastical community established by Saint Colmcille in the 6<sup>th</sup> century and the earliest establishment on the island of Derry. The city was the ecclesiastical centre of the Foyle valley before becoming its centre of military governance.

## DERRY SLOPES – historical cultural landscape; Civil Parishes



Figure 286 – County Londonderry Parishes

The Derry Slopes LCA is incorporated within the civil parish of Templemore, marked 45

## DERRY SLOPES – historical cultural landscape; Townlands



Ballymagowan

Ballynagard

Ballynashallog – *Bhaile na Sealg*

Cloughglass

Coshquin – banks of the 'caoin', a tributary of Lough Foyle – OS memoirs

Creevagh Lower

Creevagh Upper

Creggan – *an Chreagáin* the rocky place

Culmore – *na Cúile Móire the great angle(?)*

Edenballymore - **Eudhan-baile-mor "The hillbrow of the large town"** - Munn's Notes, 257, 1925

Elagh More – **Aileach-mor "The great stone fortress/habitation"** - Munn's Notes, 257, 1925

Killea – *Chill Fhéich Fiach's Church/ Grey church (?)*

Mullennan – associated with milling; there are mills & springs shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map

Pennyburn – Plantation period name derived from Welsh Pen y Bryn - Bryson

Shantallow – **Shean-talamh "The old cultivated land"** - Munn's Notes, 262, 1925

Sheriff's Mountain – land annexed after the Plantation, allocated to the office of city sheriff =, in lieu of salary, for grazing

Spring Hill

Spring Town – *Bhaile an Tobair*

Termonbacca – tearmann bacach – sanctuary for the poor or sick



**DERRY SLOPES – historical cultural landscape; Administration – Poor Law Union, Dispensary Districts & District Electoral Divisions**

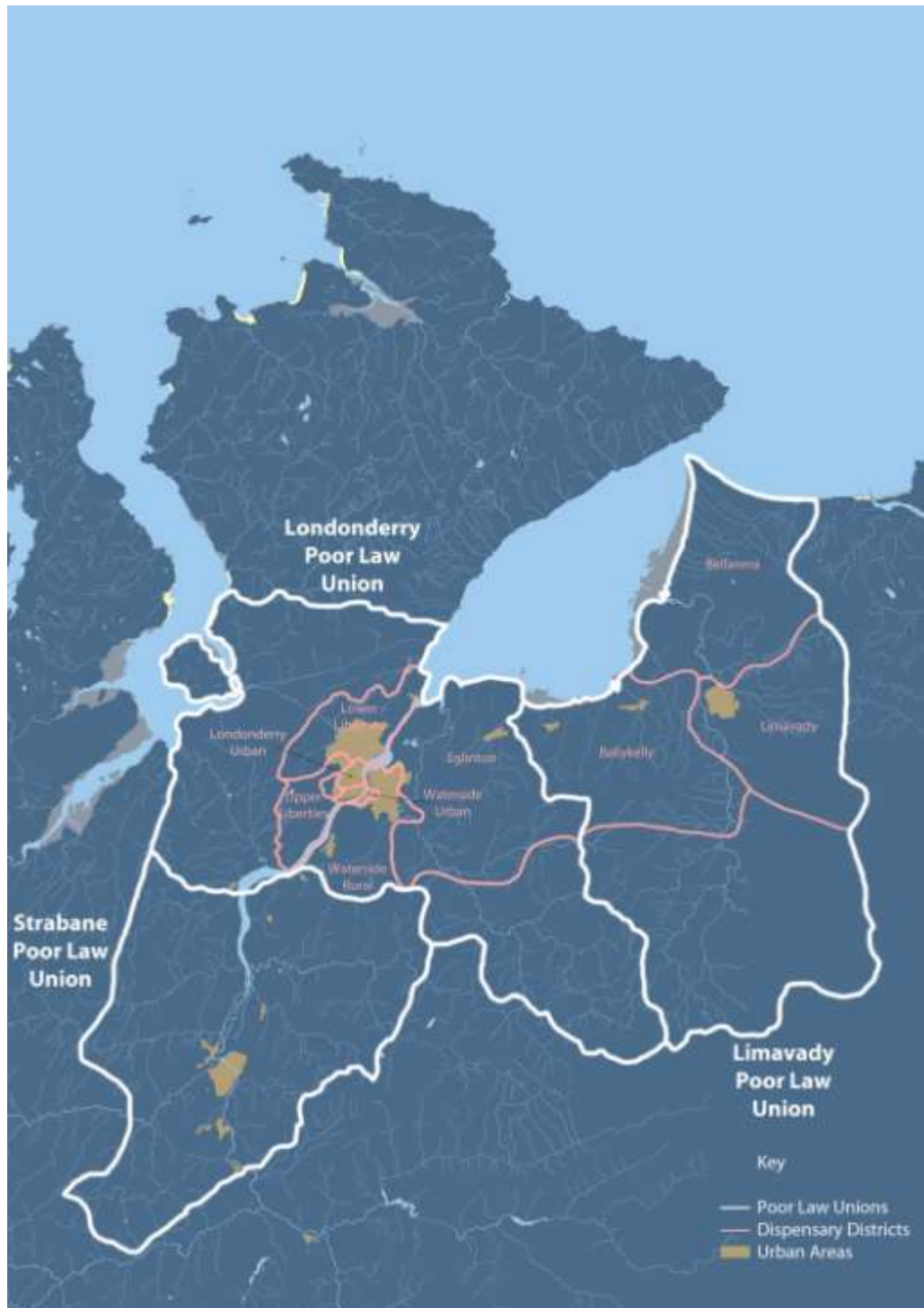


Figure 287 – Ulster Poor Law Unions from “The Workhouse, Story of an Institution”. The Derry Slopes LCA is located in the Londonderry poor law unions

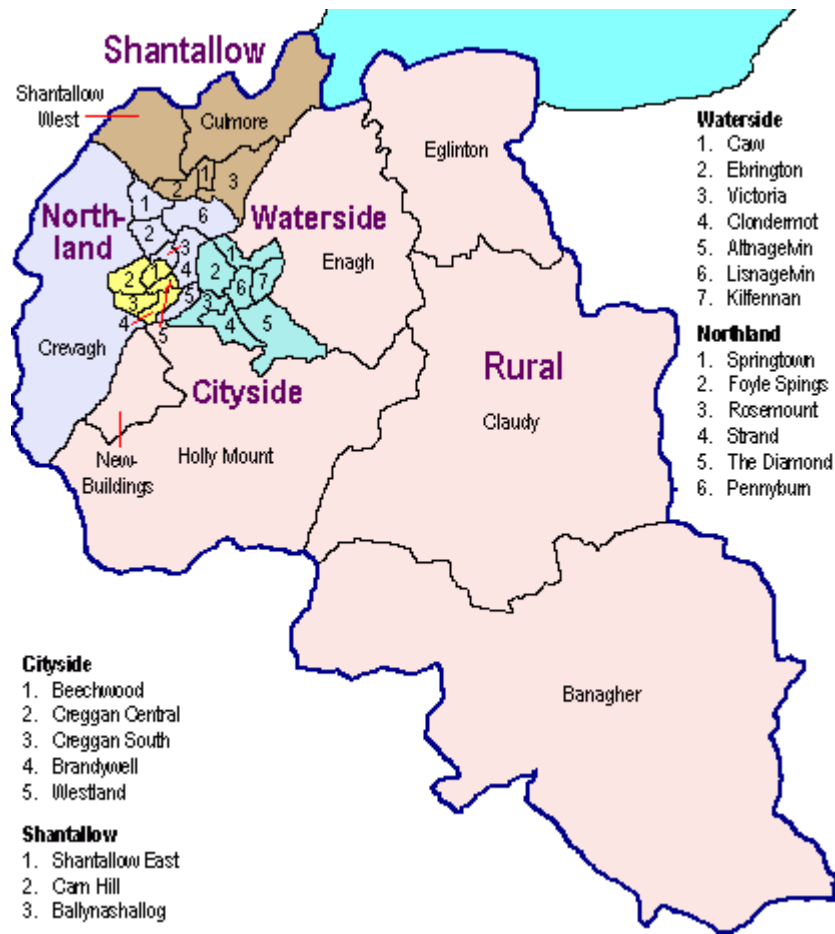


Figure 288 – the Derry slopes are located in the Shantallow, Northland and Cityside electoral areas

The Derry Slopes LCA extends across 17 no district electoral divisions; 4 no Dispensary Districts and is contained within the Londonderry Poor Law Union it is located entirely within the Derry City Council area.

## DERRY SLOPES – historical cultural & built landscape; historical survival



Figure 289 – Richard Bartlett's "A General Description of Ulster" 1602-3

Richard Bartlett's map shows the first bastioned fort and the church to the west; Skeoge Burn linking the Foyle & Swilly, Elaghmore castle with Inch, Burt and Culmacatrane to the west. The river island of Derrie is shown here as part of a larger island, which included south Inishowen. This attribute was important to both the defence and in the provision of adequate supplies of food to sustain the city.

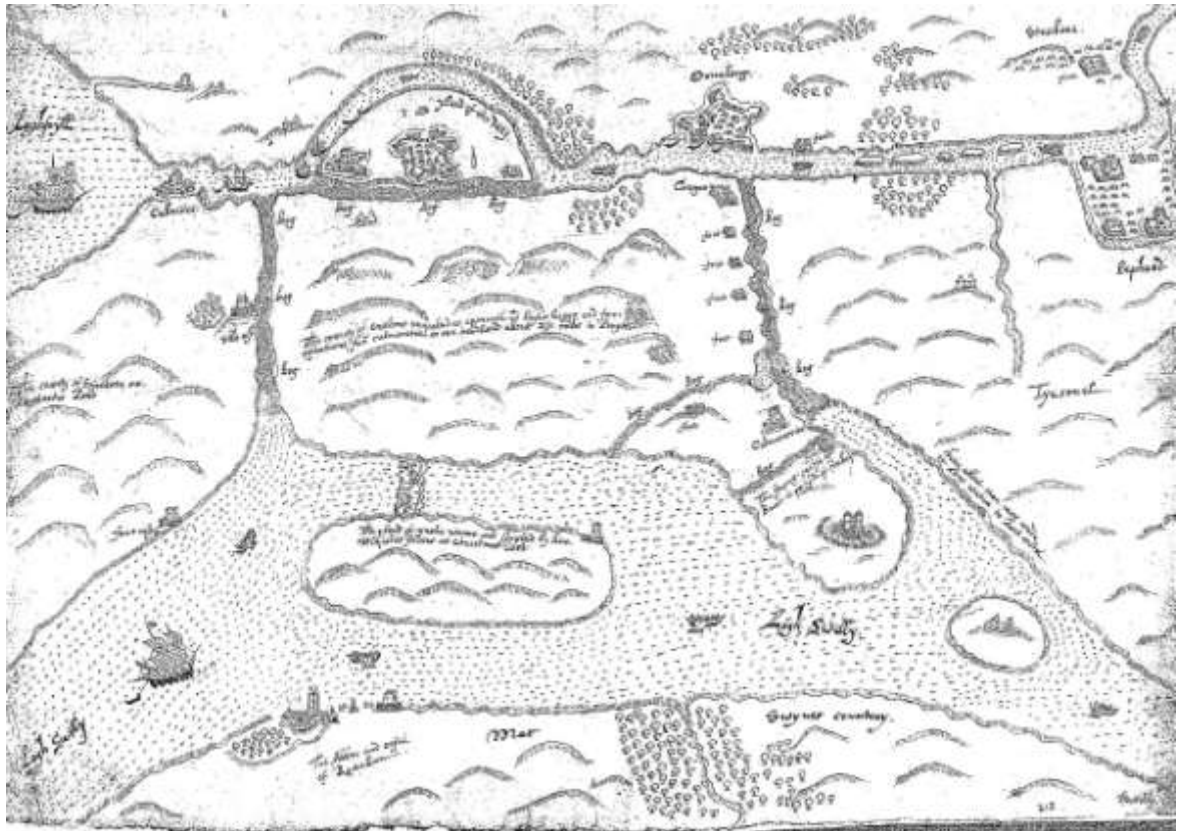


Figure 290 – Sir Henry Dowcra’s military campaign map circa 1600 shows the island of “The Derry” with established fortification and ecclesiastical structures.

Dowcra’s map was drawn from the standpoint of recording military defences but also indicates significant buildings and landscape features. North is to the left of the view on Dowcra’s map. To the north is “the county of Inishowen; O’Dogherties land” Culmore, Elaghmore and the Skeogue River form a defensible ditch on the north side of the city.

A similar defence existed to the south with a fort at Carrigans linking to Culmacatraine, also known as Castle Foward adjacent to Lough Swilly.

The entire area to the north and south is overlooked by Grianan fort shown to the north of Culmacatraine.

The map also shows the importance of Lough Swilly in the supply and defence of the city.

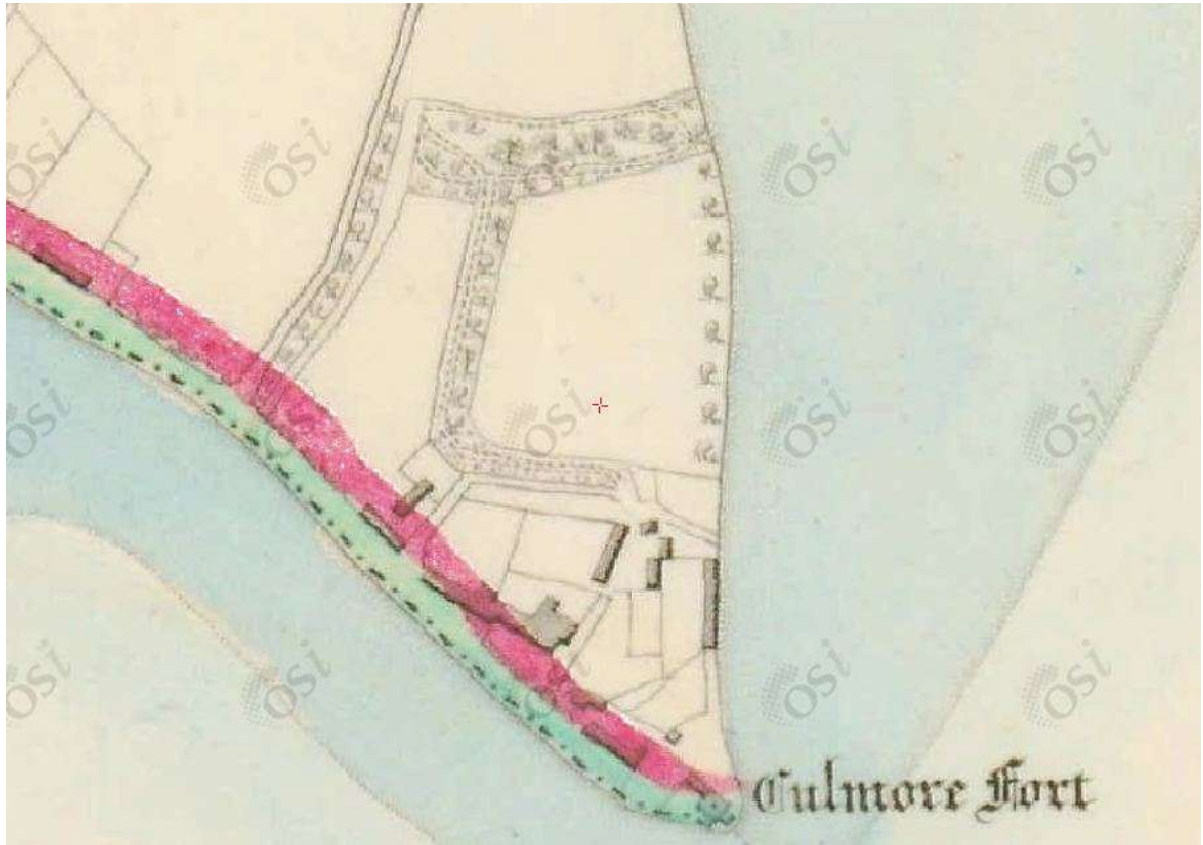


Figure 291 – Ordnance survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition mapping showing Culmore Point (c)OSI

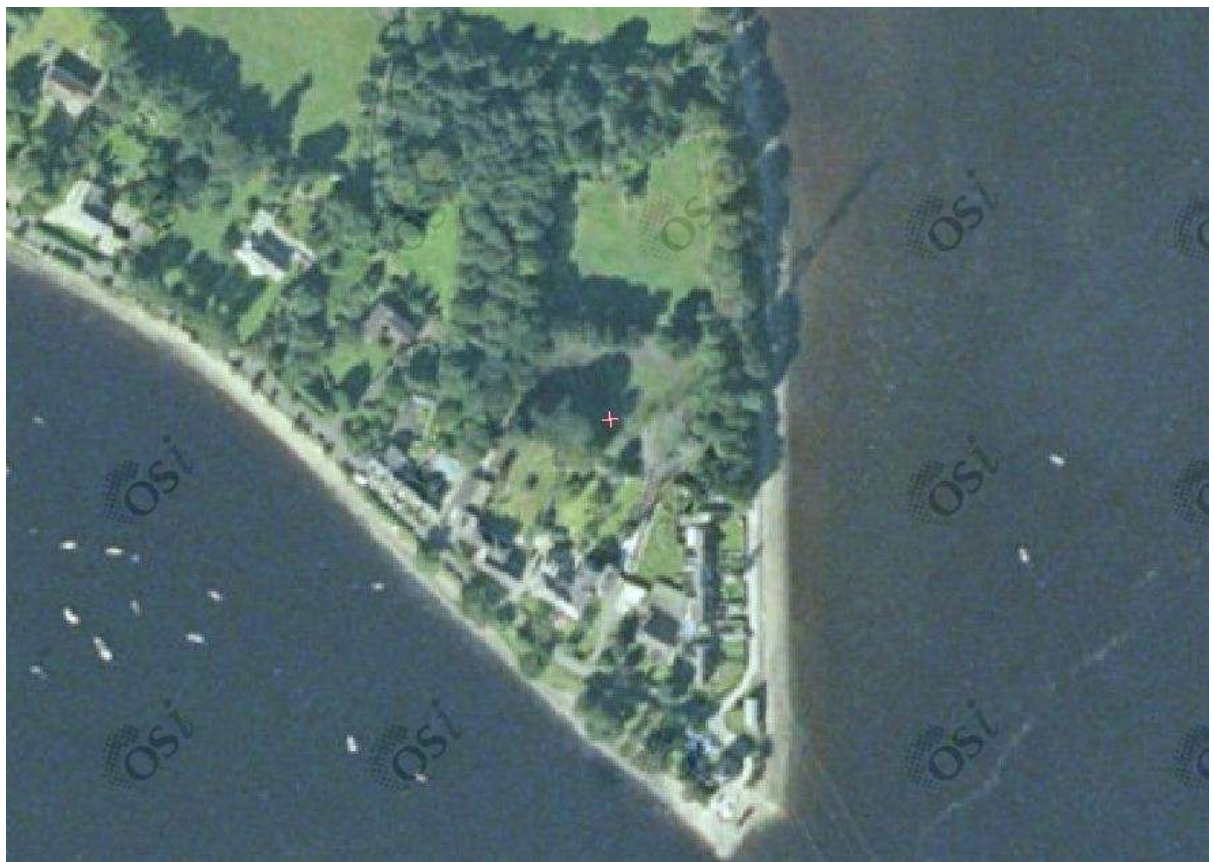


Figure 292 – aerial view of Culmore Point 2005 (c) OSI

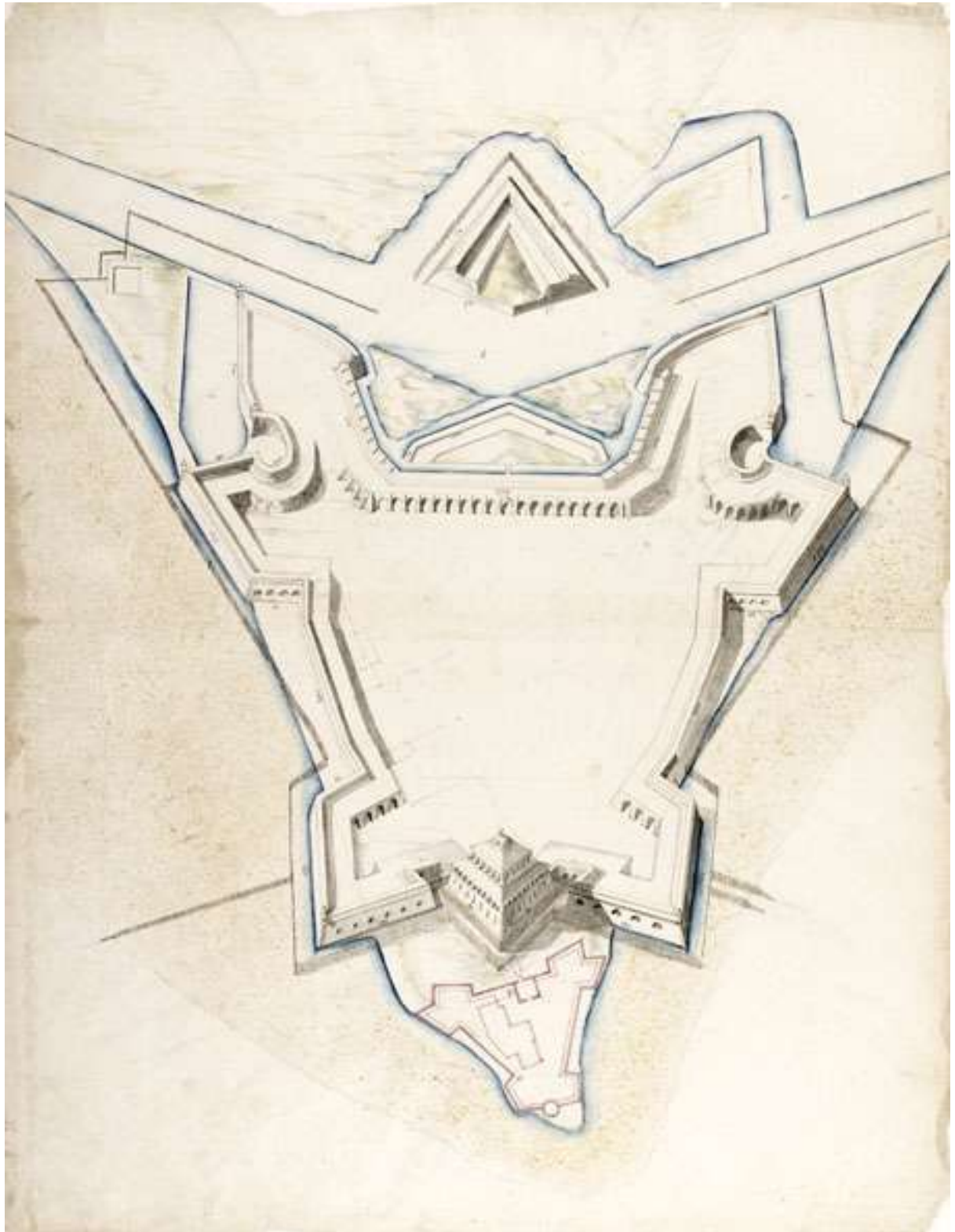


Figure 293 – Sir Thomas Philip’s proposals for strengthening of fortifications at Culmore (c) NLI

## DERRY SLOPES – historical cultural & built landscape; landed estates



Figure 294 – Brook Hall 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map circa 1835 (c) OSI



Figure 295 – extract from a 17<sup>th</sup> century engraving showing the western end of the Boom tied at the southern end of the Brook Hall estate where the stream enters the river. The route of the stream has altered, however the boom site and defensive positions are still clearly visible



Figure 296 – Brook Hall Ordnance Survey aerial view circa 2005 (c) OSI



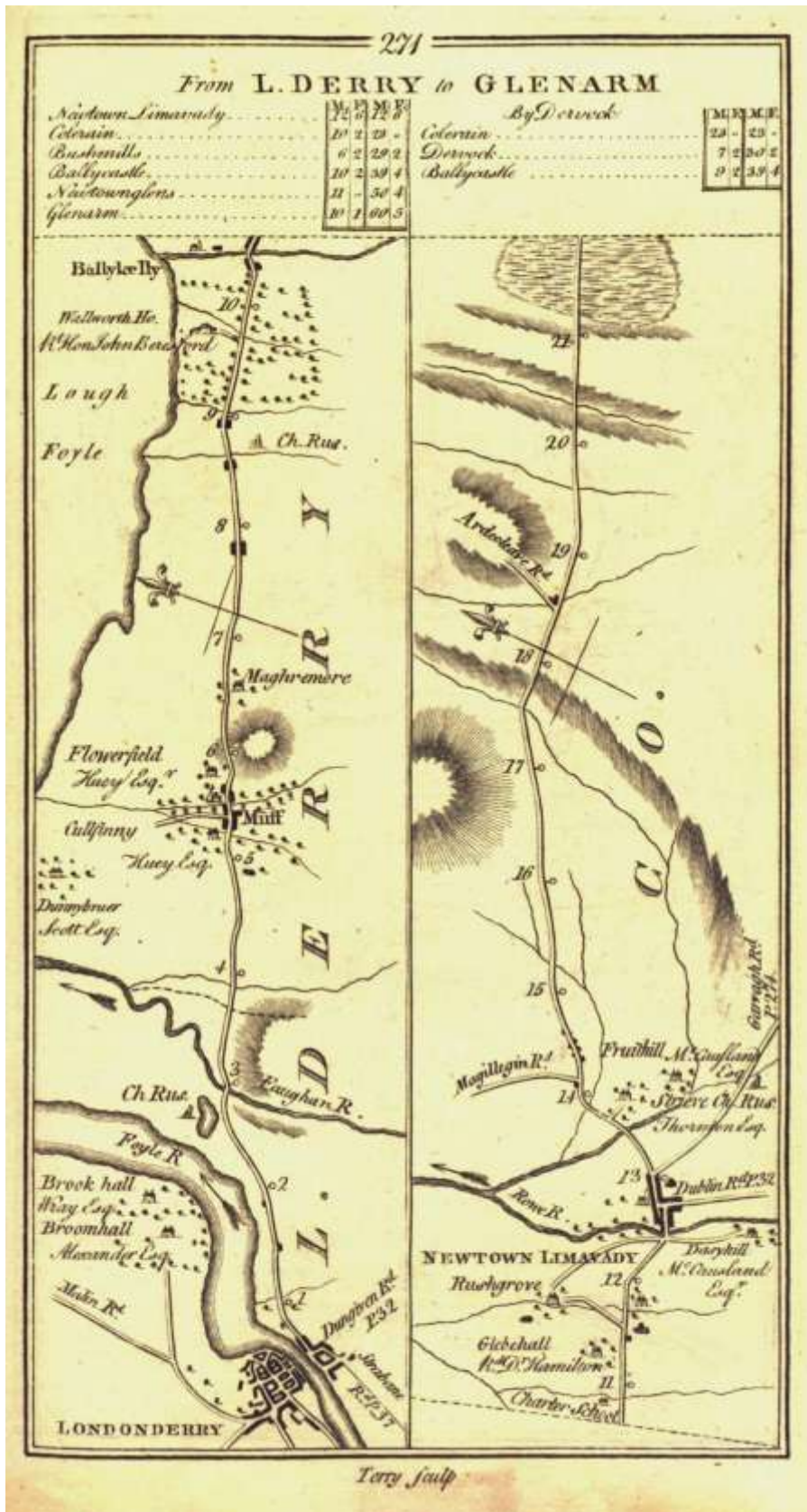


Figure 297 – Taylor & Skinner’s Road Map 1775; the map on the left side showing the road from Londonderry to Ballykelly along the main road which, at this time crosses the Mobuoy Bridge . Whilst on the opposite bank, ‘Brook Hall’ & ‘Broomhall’ are significant enough to be marked on the map, as are Donnybrewer and Walworth in the Foyle Alluvial Plain LCA.



Figure 298 –Milton Lodge (west bank) & Prehen House (east bank) 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map circa 1835 (c) OSI



Figure 299 – Prehen House 2012 (c) Google



Figure 300 – Prehen House. Source: [www.gaeltacht.de](http://www.gaeltacht.de)

Whilst, technically, in part of the Foyle Valley LCA; Prehen House is included here to demonstrate links with the Derry Slopes LCA north and South of the City. Large houses on both banks, originally backing onto the water, were separated from the river by the railway in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and, later on the east bank, by an expanded roadway. Consideration might be given to how similar damage to the setting of the estates to the north of city might be avoided in the future. In many other respects, Prehen is a model for the manner in which a relatively modest 18<sup>th</sup> century house might be developed for tourism purposes. Recent investigations have also uncovered evidence of the 17<sup>th</sup> century Plantation period house at this site.

The 18<sup>th</sup> century house benefits from having been designed by nationally significant architect, Michael Priestley, and there is also the possibility for development of links with other Priestley designed buildings such as: Boom Hall, Port Hall and Lifford Courthouse.

## **DERRY SLOPES – historical built landscape; Urban Settlement**

The city centre area is described separately. The liberties were always tied to the city and over time the major part of the Derry Slopes has been absorbed into the city itself.

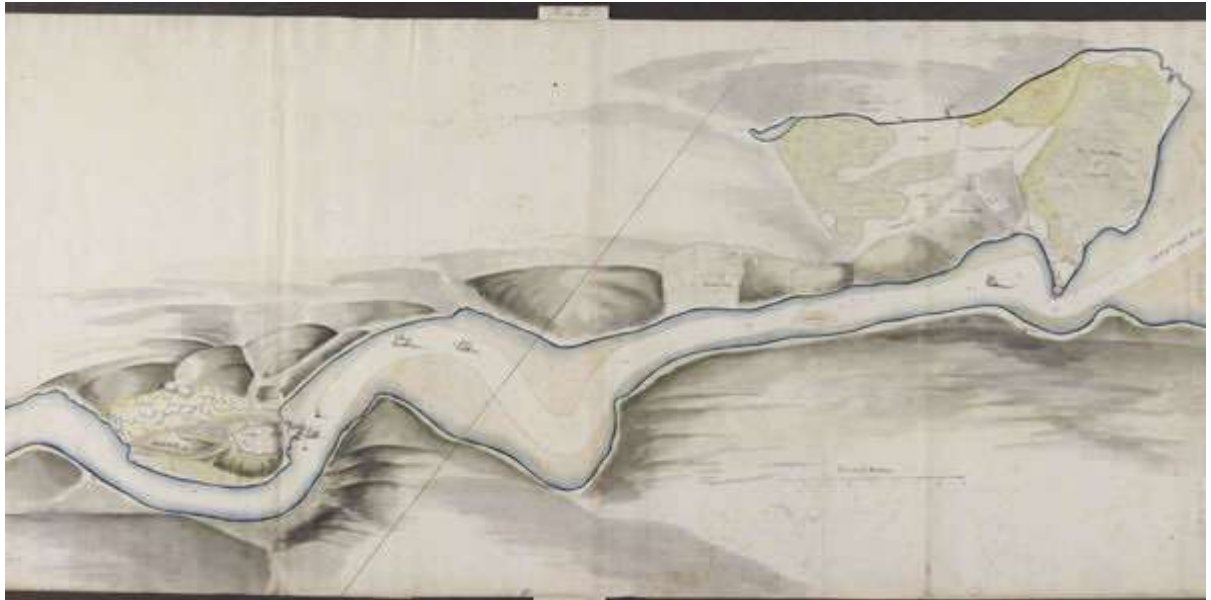


Figure 301 – Sir Thomas Phillip’s map of London Derry and the River Foyle from the city to Culmore 1685.

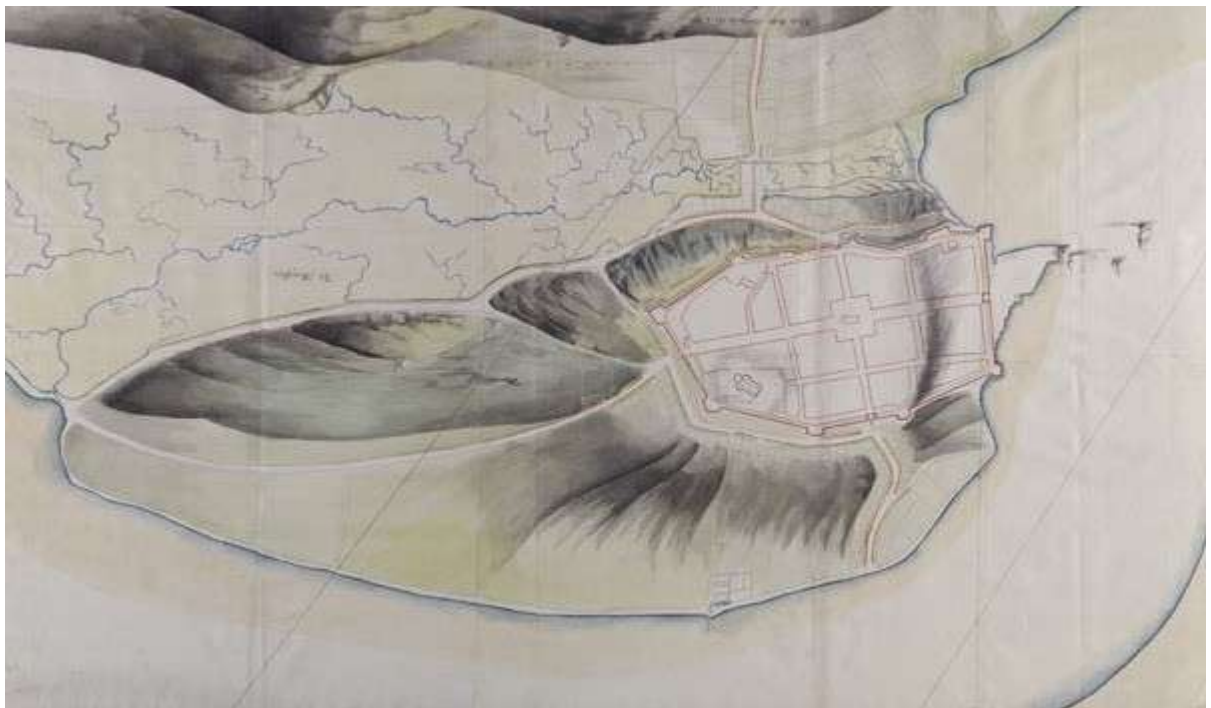


Figure 302 – Sir Thomas Phillip’s map of London Derry 1685

The importance of the connection between Irish Society lands / military defences at Culmore and the walled city itself established the extent of expansion of the city on the west bank of the Foyle

towards Inishowen. This expansion, now almost complete, was anticipated at an early stage of the development of the city by Sir Thomas Phillip's 1685 map.

## **DERRY SLOPES – historical built landscape; significant sites**

### **Prehistoric**

- LDY013:002, Ballymagroarty or White House, Cairn with Cist – possible megalithic tomb
- LDY014A:023, Ballynashallog, Thornhill: Neolithic settlement – houses and palisaded enclosure

### **Ecclesiastical Sites**

- HB01/12/003, Killea Mortuary Chapel, Killea
- HB01/25/001 A -B, Convent of Mercy (and gate lodge), Thornhill, Culmore Road
- HB01/27/007, Holy Trinity Church, Culmore
- HB01/25/025, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Steelstown – Liam McCormick & Partners
- St Mary's Church, Fanad Drive, Creggan – Corr & McCormick



Figure 303 – Killea Mortuary Chapel. Source: Ulster Architectural Heritage Society



Figure 304 – Culmore Church. Source: Natural Stone Database

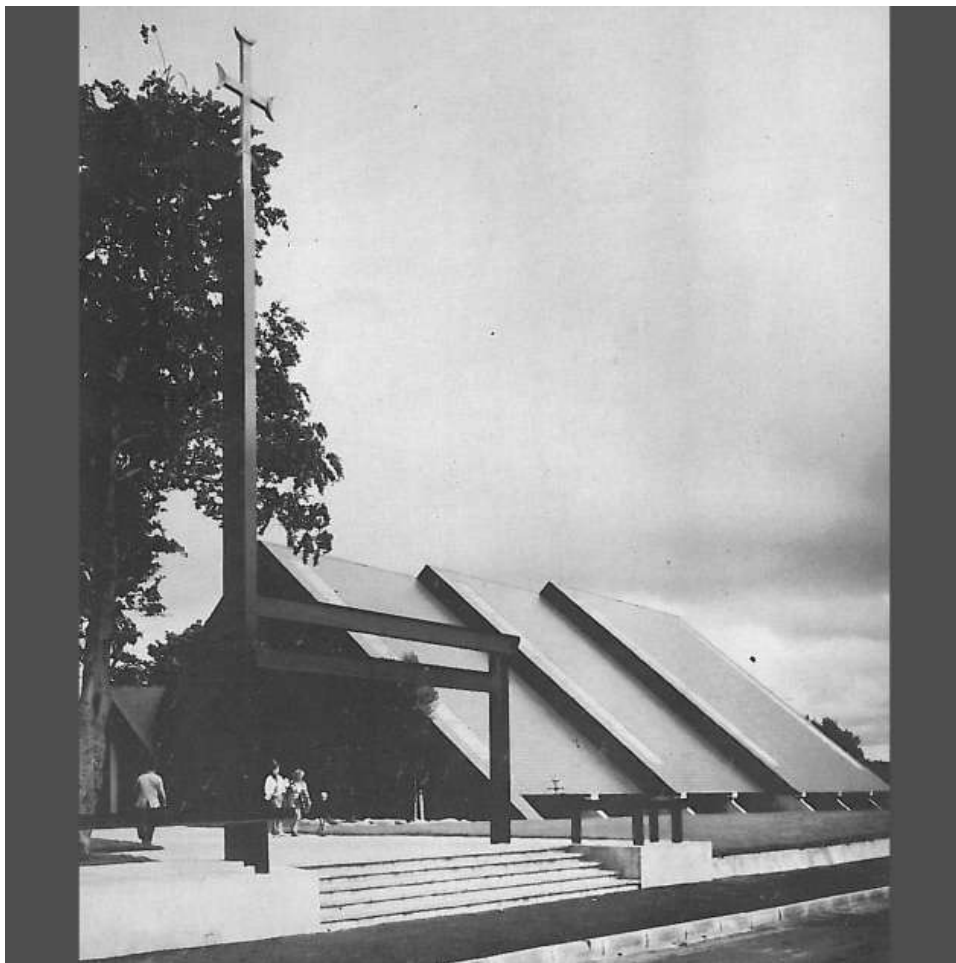


Figure 305 – Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel, Steelstown – Liam McCormick & Partners. Source: Tracey Architects.

## Medieval Sites

- LDY014A:001, Culmore, Fortification, Stone Blockhouse & earthworks: Culmore Fort
- LDY014A:003, Elaghmore, Doherty Tower; Castle Aileach – castle & earthwork enclosure



Figure 306 – Culmore Fort & Lighthouse



Figure 307 – Culmore Fort & Lighthouse circa 1890 (c) NLI

## Schools/College/University

- HB01/27/006, Culmore Primary School, 181 Culmore Road

## Mansion Houses & Estate Buildings

- HB01/26/003 A – B, Glengalliagh Hall & gate lodge, 22 Upper Galliagh Road
- HB01/25/002 A - B, Brookhall Country House & gate lodge, 65 Culmore Road
- HB01/12/006, Government House, 23 Letterkenny Rd, Termonbacca



- HB01/12/014, Mullennan House, 63 Ballougry Rd, Mullennan

### **Gentleman's Houses**

- HB01/12/001, Clover Farm, 18 Killea Rd, Killea
- HB01/12/004, Creevagh House, 57 Letterkenny Rd, Upper Creevagh3333
- HB01/12/008, Milltown House, 4 Ballougry Rd, Termonbacca
- HB01/12/010, Milltown Lodge Farm, adjacent to 8 Ballougry Rd, Termonbacca
- HB01/12/015, House, 68 Ballougry Rd, Mullennan
- HB01/12/016, House, 17 Ballougry Rd, Mullennan
- HB01/27/002, Ballyarnett House, Racecourse Road
- HB01/27/018 A - C, House, Farm Buildings, Outbuildings, Ballyarnett, 50 Beragh Hill Road



**Figure 308– Dairy and outbuildings HB01/27/018 Ballyarnett; important example of vernacular farm buildings falling into disuse (c) UAHS**



Figure 309 – HB01/27/018 Same buildings from “Streetview” (c) Google

## Historic Parks & Gardens

- Belmont House, L062, (House, now a school HB 01/26/006)
- Boom Hall, L003, (also HB01/25/004 B stables; cropmark; LDY014:041; and Enclosures; LDY014:046-050)
- Brook Hall, L004, (HB 01/25/02 - House; lodge & gates; LDY014:044 – Cropmark)
- Glengalliagh Hall, L028, (House HB 01/26/003A House & gate lodge HB 01/26/003B)
- Thornhill, L033, (House HB 01/25/001)
- Ballyarnett, L061, (House & Farm HB 01/27/018A-C)
- Molenan House, L060, (House; HB 01/12/014)
- Government House, L004, (HB/01/12/006 and Enclosure LDY014:001)
- Ballynagard House (HB/01/27/015 House, Outbuildings & Gate Lodge)



Figure 310 – South lodge Ballynagard House (C) UAHS



Figure 311 – Glengalliagh Hall gate lodge (c)UAHS



Figure 312 – Boom Hall; design of house attributed to Michael Priestley



Figure 313 – Boom Hall Stable Building

### **Military Structures/Defence Heritage**

- DH 137; LDY014A:035 & Scheduled Site, Culmore, Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery
- LDY014:074, White House or Ballymagroarty, Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery
- LDY014A:034, Ballynagard, WWII Light Anti-Aircraft Battery

### **Infrastructure – Roads, Canals & Railways**

- IHR 01563:002:00, Coshquin, L'Derry & Lough Swilly Narrow Gauge, Level Crossing & Signal Post



Figure 314 – Foyle Bridge constructed 1984; the longest bridge in Ireland

## DERRY SLOPES – Key to significant heritage assets



## DERRY SLOPES – Visual Landscape: Spatial Context

### Photography



Figure 315 - satellite view of Derry slopes area (c) Google



Figure 316 – view of southern end of Derry slopes viewed along Foyle Valley with Binnion Hill visible in the distance



Figure 317 – southern Derry Slopes: Balloughry & Creevagh hills



Figure 318 – view of Termonbacca and southern Derry slopes





Figure 319 – southern slopes of the island of Derry



Figure 320 – Foyleside slopes of the island of Derry



Figure 321 – View towards the riverside houses from Culmore



Figure 322 – Ballynagard House from the North



Figure 323 – Elagh Castle 1802, drawn by Captain William Smith (c) TCD



Figure 324 – Elagh castle, Upper Galliagh Road (c) Google

## DERRY SLOPES – Visual Landscape: Painting Maps & Images



Figure 325 – Culmore Point from Lisahally circa 1890 (c) NLI



Figure 326 – Pennyburn naval repair yard circa 1945; site of Fort George (c) Imperial War Museum

## DERRY SLOPES – Written Landscape: prose, poem & song

*'Now I courted a wee girl, her age was nineteen  
She was the fairest colleen that ever you've seen  
For her cheeks were like roses and her hair waved in coil  
And she came from lovely Derry on the banks of the Foyle  
By those banks I have roamed, in the dear days gone by  
With my dear girl I strolled, not a tear, not a sigh  
Her fair charms without equal, from the Nore to the Moyle  
Oh, sweet maid from lovely Derry on the banks of the Foyle  
But now cruel misfortune drove me from my home  
'Twas my fate in deep sorrow to sail o'er the foam  
And now from dark strangers, in grief I recoil  
While I pine from dear old Derry on the banks of the Foyle  
Oh, mind when I left her, for to cross o'er the sea  
For to try and make a fortune, for Mary and me  
How I cried when I left her, but my tears fell in toil  
Far away from dear old Derry on the banks of the Foyle  
I was young, I was wild, like the rest of the boys  
I had not many sorrows nor yet many joys  
I worked hard for a living, all day I did toil  
Far away from dear old Derry on the banks of the Foyle  
I was fearing that another had a place in her heart  
And that from me my darling forever would part  
That no more she would brighten with her sweet sunny smile  
My dear home in lovely Derry on the banks of the Foyle  
For my true love was buxom, and a fine girl to see  
That she won my affection, all my friends did agree  
And I long for to wed her, on our own native soil  
Though I'm far from dear old Derry on the banks of the Foyle  
But a wee bird came flying from over the sea  
And he brought me a letter from my true love to see  
Saying "Come home, my darling, to your native soil  
And I'll wed you in lovely Derry on the banks of the Foyle"  
Now when I make a fortune, then to home I will go  
To the dear land of my boyhood, to the sweet girl I know  
I will build her a mansion, and no more need we toil  
far away from lovely Derry on the banks of the Foyle'*

"Lovely Derry on the Banks of the Foyle" – JJ McCready; circa 1920

## 19<sup>th</sup> Century Gazetteers

### Account from Lewis' Topographical Dictionary of Ireland – 1837

*“TEMPLEMORE, a parish, in the North-west liberties of the city of LONDONDERRY, county of LONDONDERRY, and province of ULSTER; containing, with the city of Londonderry, 19,620 inhabitants, of which number, 10,130 are in the city. This parish, also called Templederry, and more anciently Derry, or Derry Columbkille, derives its name Templemore, “the Great Church,” from the cathedral of Derry, to which that name had been applied, in a popular acceptance, to distinguish it from the smaller churches in its immediate vicinity, and, after the cathedral had been used as the parish church, the name was extended to the parish. The most ancient name of the district in which it was situated was Moy-Iha, “the Plain of Ith,” uncle of Milesius, whose sons led into Ireland the celebrated colony that bore his name. This district, which comprehended the tract between Loughs Foyle and Swilly, and extended as far south as the river Fin, was afterwards divided between Owen and Enda, the two sons of Nial of the Nine Hostages, under the names of Inis-Owen, “Owen’s Island,” and Tir-Enda, “Enda’s Territory.”*

*Previously to the 12th century, Moy-Iha was occupied by a branch of the Kinel-Owen, called Clan- Conor, of which the most distinguished families were those of O’Cathan, O’Cairellan, O’Murry, O’Kennedy, O’Corran, O’Quin, and O’Dugan, most of whom having crossed the Foyle into Derry, their places here were occupied by the Kinel-Moen; another branch of the Kinel-Owen, of whom the O’Gormlys and O’Loonys were chiefs: these in turn were driven across the Foyle by the Kinel-Connell in the 15th century. From inquisitions taken in the reign of Jas. I. it appears that about half the parish was then considered to belong to Inishowen, or O’Dogherty’s country; that Sir John O’Dogherty had several townlands now in Templemore, which were included in a regrant of Inishowen made to him on a surrender in the 30th of Elizabeth: he forfeited this property in 1599 by rebellion, but it was regranted to his son, Sir Cahir O’Dogherty, with the exception of some townlands reserved for the fort of Culmore. In 1608, Sir Cahir also rebelled, in consequence of which all his estates were granted to Arthur, Lord Chichester, of Belfast, who leased them to Sir Faithful Fortescue, Arthur Ussher, Tristram Beresford, and Chas. Pointz. Of the 24 townlands into which the parish is now divided, one, on which is the fort of Culmore, belongs to the King; one to Capt. Hart; one and a part to the Bishop of Derry in right of his see; two to Lord Templemore, a branch of the Chichester family; three to the Marquess of Donegal, the head of the same family; and fifteen and a part to the Irish Society.*

*Until the year 1809 the parish extended into the county of Donegal, and included the three parishes of Burt, Inch, and Muff, which were then severed from it and erected into perpetual curacies. The parish, as at present constituted, contains 12,611 statute acres, according to the Ordnance survey, valued at £8363., without the buildings on it, and with these, at £26,716., per ann.: it is bounded by the river and Lough Foyle on the east, and by the county of Donegal on every other side, extending about eight miles in length from north-east to south-west, and less than three in its greatest breadth in the contrary direction. The surface is beautifully undulating, presenting a succession of hills, mostly cultivated or under pasture. A wide valley, extending from the Foyle at Pennyburn, separates the hills into two groups. Of these the southern is the most prominent, rising at its southern extremity into Holywell hill, 860 feet above the sea; the highest point of the northern group, in Elaghmore, is not more than 354 feet. The lake of Ballyarnet, occupying portions of the three townlands of Ballyarnet, Ballynashallog, and Ballynagard, contains only 3a.3r.27p.; its height above the sea is about 100 feet, Except the Foyle, which is navigable for small craft to Castlefin, there is no other body of water entitled to the name of river; the numerous small streams which irrigate the parish, flow eastward into the main river or lough, with the exception of one, which, passing by Coshquin, terminates in Lough Swilly. Springs are numerous; not fewer than eight occur within a tract of about 20 acres, in Springhill and Creggan; several of them are slightly chalybeate. The coast of Lough Foyle, where it borders the parish, is low, and destitute of any striking characteristic features. It is the general opinion of the intelligent farmers here that a marked amelioration has taken place in the climate; the seasons both of seed time and harvest have advanced considerably: the extended cultivation of wheat, and the increasing number of quails are further proofs of it. The soil in the higher grounds is occasionally, though rarely, stony, sandy, and meagre; but in by far the greater portion of the parish it is a light productive clay or loam, which in the very low grounds becomes stiffer, though never to an injurious extent. The subsoil is more generally a coating of gravel resting on the rock than the rock itself, and is often in a very indurated state, owing to the abundance of iron proceeding from the decomposition of the schistose rocks: it is then called “till,” and more generally “red till,” from its prevailing colour, and is considered to be injurious to vegetation. The geological structure*

*of the parish is simple; the great mass of the primary schistose rocks which occupies much of the western portion of the county, spreads over its whole surface, with the exception of a considerable patch of detritus at Culmore in the north-east, which probably conceals a part of the new red sandstone, that rock being visible at the northern extremity of the parish, and also with the exception of several very limited deposits of mud and clay which skirt the Foyle on the south-east. Mica slate, passing into quartz slate, is the prevailing rock, occupying at least two thirds*

*of its substance. Limestone is found only in small quantities at its southern extremity, where the quarries have been abandoned; and greenstone, of a dense, close-grained and homogeneous character, at Conn's Hill, where the opening of the quarry is, strictly speaking, without the bounds. The schistose rocks are in the harder varieties too coarse, and in the softer not sufficiently cohesive, for being used as roofing slates; but they are much employed in building: plenty of clay for bricks is to be had; but the manufacture has been relinquished on account of the scarcity of fuel. The bogs are of great local importance, though they are now only the relics of a more extensive tract, which has been nearly exhausted by continued use: portions are occasionally reclaimed, and when the peat has been entirely cut away, the subsoil is easily brought into cultivation: large trunks and roots of trees have been raised from them. The natural meadows are extensive, particularly on the sides of some of the bogs: the mountain pasture is generally poor. Wheat, which formerly was considered unsuitable to the climate and soil, is now in much estimation: green crops are occasionally adopted. Forced or sown meadows are by no means general; when prepared for cutting the first year, they are sown with perennial ryegrass and red clover; when for grazing, white grass and white clover are sown. There are several nurseries. Most of the timber in the parish appears to have been planted more for ornament than profit: the most common trees along the Foyle are beech, elm, sycamore, and ash: a small patch of natural wood is to be seen at Ballynagalliagh. Manures are easily attainable, being partly stable dung, partly lime, drawn from the city; and partly a compost of bog earth, dung, lime, and shells; the shells are procured at a bank called Shell*

*Island, in Lough Foyle: kelp is occasionally used.*

*The manufactures carried on in the rural parts of the parish are chiefly those arising directly from agricultural produce. The mill at Pennyburn ground 1,513,200lbs. of wheat, and 1,164,800 of oats, in the year 1834; three others ground an aggregate of 543,000 lbs. of oatmeal: seven flax-mills worked up 4250 cwt. of flax and 1059 cwt. of tow: a brewery made 5200 barrels of beer, and two distilleries 208,800 gallons of spirits: two tanneries converted 5300 hides into leather: there were two limekilns, 1 brick-kiln, 2 rope-walks, 80 linen looms, 28 cotton looms, and 1 woollen loom at work: all these totals are the results of returns collected in that year, and are exclusive of the manufactures of the city, to which the commerce of the district is wholly confined: the salmon fishery gives employment to 232 persons. The jurisdiction of the corporation of Londonderry extends over the whole parish, but in Culmore only by sufferance, that townland being the exclusive property of the Crown, and under the control of the governor of the fort. The condition of the peasantry in the low lands is comfortable, the dwellings neat, and orchards and kitchen gardens are frequently to be seen, attached to well-fenced farms of considerable extent and in good condition. In the mountain lands, which are much frequented on account of free turbary being granted with their cabins, the cottiers are very poor, and several of the farm-houses are nearly as wretched as the huts of the labourers. Three main roads from Londonderry to Greencastle, Lifford, and Letterkenny, intersect the parish: they are not kept in good order, and would admit of much improvement as to the line of direction: the cross roads and bye-roads are sufficiently numerous: there is a ferry across the mouth of the Foyle at Culmore, below the fort. It has long been contemplated to connect Loughs Foyle and Swilly by a canal; but though the distance be short, and the district through which the line would pass well adapted for it, a difficulty presents itself in the Swilly at the Burnfoot, which is separated from the Foyle by a neck of land only three miles broad, rising and falling at spring tides 18 feet, which is twice as much as at Londonderry, and therefore the surfaces of the loughs at high water stand at different levels. The principal seats are The Farm, the property of Sir R. A. Ferguson, Bart.; Boom Hall, the property of the Earl of Caledon, and the residence of the Bishop of Derry; Brook Hall, remarkable for the beauty of its grounds, the property and residence of the Rt. Hon. Sir G. F. Hill, Bart.; Thorn Hill, of Capt. Simeon; Ballinagard, of Capt. Hart; Belmont, lately the residence of W. Miller, Esq., deceased; Troy or Troy vale Cottage, of Chas. O'Doherty, Esq.; Foyle Hill, of W. Holland, Esq.; Milton Lodge, of Capt. H. Lecky; Ballougry, of Capt. McNeil; Green Haw House, of W. K. McClintock, Esq.; Mullennan, of R. Harvey, Esq.; Culmore Point, of A. McCausland, Esq.; Bellevue, of Hans Riddall, Esq.; Pennyburn, of A. Bond, Esq.; and Troy House, of J. Murray, Esq. The bishop's demesne, though it is not his residence, may be included under this head. Casina, erected by the late Earl of Bristol, is situated in the suburbs of the city, close to the bishop's garden, commanding a fine view of the river and the scenery on its opposite bank; although*

*irregularly built, it presents a handsome front, and the principal apartment is decorated with paintings in chiaro-oscuro.*

*The living is a rectory, united by patent of Jas. I. to the rectories of Faughanvale and Clondermott, forming together the corps of the deanery of Derry, in the patronage of the Crown: the tithes amount to £1607.0.1. The deanery-house was rebuilt in 1834, at an expense of £3330, provided out of the funds of the present incumbent, the whole of which will be chargeable on his successor: the glebe, containing 3 acres, is valued at £9. per ann.; the gross value of the benefice, tithes and glebe inclusive, amounts to £3224.7.11½.*

*The cathedral of Londonderry is used as the parish church, and there are two other churches in the parish, the particulars of all which are given in the account of that city, which see. The old church was situated in the northern part of the parish, near Culmore fort. The R. C. parish is co-extensive with that of the Established Church; it is also the head of the diocese and the mensal of the Bishop. Besides the schools described in the article on the city, there is one at Ballougry, to which the Irish Society gives an annual grant of £30.; also four private schools, in all of which, including the city schools, there are about 500 boys and 450 girls; there are also 9 Sunday schools. In Ballinagard demesne, on the western bank of the Foyle, is a rath measuring 73 yards by 60; it is surrounded by a fosse and parapet, and is now covered with trees. In Ballymagrorty there is a small cromlech, the table stone of which is 4 feet by 3; and on the summit of Holywell Hill are the remains of a cairn, about 40 feet in diameter, in the centre of which is a small pit, 3 feet square and 5 deep; the rock of the mountain forms its bottom, and it is called the Holy well, from a small pool of rain water being found in it, which is supposed to possess healing virtues. There are also two cairns of modern construction; one is called "Jenny's Cairn," from having been the spot where a young woman was murdered under very atrocious circumstances; the other, in the bed of a rivulet, is called the "Priest's Burn," from a tradition that a priest was killed on the spot. The old church of Killea, in the townland of the same name, was one of the five chapels of ease to the mother church; its foundations still remain in a cemetery surrounded by an old stone wall. The church of Culmore, though a ruin, is of no great antiquity, having been built a short time before the war of 1688 and burnt by James's army, since which it has never been repaired: it was cruciform and consisted of a nave and transept; the walls are still entire, except at the western end. The castle of Aileagh or Elagh, the property of W. McCorkell, Esq., now a small ruin, stands on a commanding eminence on the verge of the parish, about two miles from the more ancient fortress of the same name in the county of Donegal, formerly a royal castle. The forts of Culmore and Donnalong were erected by the English in the reign of Elizabeth or Jas. I., to secure their newly acquired possession of Derry: the former, situated on a projecting point on the western bank of the Foyle, where it opens into the lough, was a small triangular fort with a bastion at each corner, and a square tower at the point next the river: though not occupied as a military station for upwards of a hundred years, a governor is still appointed to it. General Hart, the late governor, substantially repaired the tower, but the outworks are now nearly obliterated. Donnalong, or Donolonge, which was a place of more importance, was built on the eastern bank of the Foyle, in the parish of Donagheady; there are no remains. Templemore gives the title of an English baron to a branch of the Chichester family."*



## DERRY SLOPES – Review of findings & recommendations

Significant surviving heritage asset groupings:

- Ecclesiastical: cemetery sites; Culmore church site and modern church buildings at Creggan and Steelstown
- Mediaeval & Plantation: Elaghmore Castle & Culmore
- Railway: Londonderry & Lough Swilly Railway fragments
- Demesne: Continuous historic parkland landscapes between Ballynagard, Thornhill, Brooke Hall & Boom Hall and facing landscapes at Gransha
- Natural: Ballynagard, Thornhill, Brooke Hall & Boom Hall, heritage trees and parkland landscapes. Ballyarnett & Creggan Country Parks; rejuvenation of redundant farmland/urban fringe landscapes to public park.

Possible risk areas:

- Development pressure and erosion due to human activities and vandalism on the city periphery
- Development along the river's edge that does not include adequate time depth in its assessment of impacts. Future proposals for cycleways along river's edge should also consider impacts on the undeveloped siege battle site around Brooke Hall, Boom Hall and Gransha as well as the setting of these structures.
- Lack of recognition of the importance and loss of historic landscape settings of protected buildings including the accumulation of smaller attendant features such as boundaries, gate lodges etc
- National & Regionally important listed building structures at: Boom Hall, Thornhill and Ballynagard; whilst protected at risk from neglect and vandalism. Culmore old church ruin at risk from ivy damage
- Locally important building structures: listed building structures at Killea Mortuary House, Glengalliagh Hall and Ballyarnett/ Beragh Hill Road at risk of dereliction

Additions to Existing tourism uses & Opportunities

- Opportunity for development of tourism at Elaghmore castle & development of links with Grianan of Aileach
- Potential links between Culmore and the city via Ballynagard House, Thornhill, Brooke Hall Boom Hall with improved public access to open space and the River, subject to controls.
- Investigation of potential of mediaeval & Plantation period defences at Culmore
- Integration with Donegal network of walking routes, cycleways and river usage ( small pleasure craft, canoeing trail & tourism barges)
- Development of linkages between sites associated with designers of national importance such as Michael Priestley and Liam McCormick.

## 4.6 The City

### DERRY CITY – Landscape Character Area

The Landscape Character Area (LCA) forms the extent of the study area defined in the project brief. The Derry City Landscape Character Area is an additional area defined for this study and comprises parts of the Derry Slopes and Foyle Valley landscape character areas which make up the urban centre of the city of Derry~Londonderry.

The heritage audit is intended to focus on the rural areas within the Foyle basin region; however a more limited review of the city area has been included here in order to set the scene in which the rural areas of the region have developed.

The significant city buildings and estates highlight influence within the rural areas beyond the city boundaries.



Figure 327 – 1 to 50,000 scale Discovery maps of Derry Slopes & Foyle Valley landscape character areas (c) OSNI

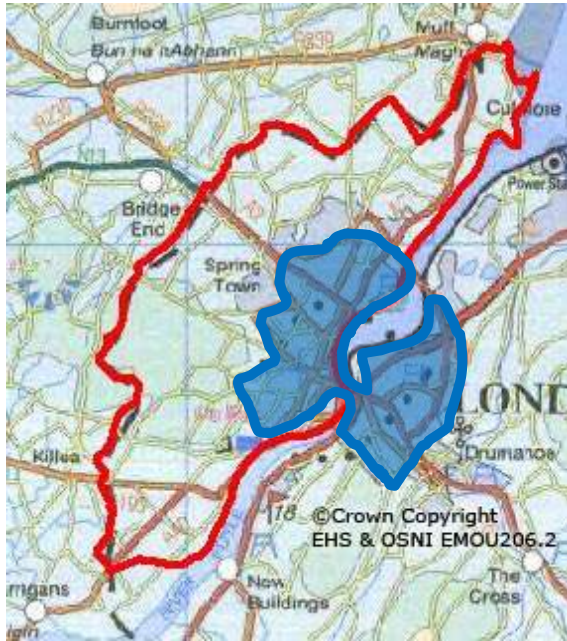


Figure 328 – 1 to 50,000 scale Discovery map showing approximate extent of Derry City landscape character area (c) OSNI

## DERRY CITY – Historic Landscape Characterisation

A number of distinct physical areas are present within this LCA: the hill of “The Derrie” or the walled city area; the Bogside; the Waterside; the Liberties of Derry are all distinct areas relating closely to their historic land usage.

Further distinct ‘quarters’ can be defined by uses such as the: southern slopes to the south where the Bishops garden and windmill hill were located; or 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century expansions to the north with middle class terraces centred around the Clarendon Street area; institutions overlooking the river to the north; urbanisation along the strands and shoreline on the east and west banks with quays and tramlines linking to the four railway lines connecting the city to the countryside beyond.

The following ‘figure-ground’ maps show the development of Derry from its establishment as a defensible colonial outpost in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century until the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. These drawings were prepared by architecture students at Queens University Belfast in 1990 and published by the Orchard Gallery in conjunction with Derry City Council. The simple drawing format is easy to understand and shows the extent to which the city has been constructed in black over the white undeveloped background.



Figure 329 – “The Derrie” 1600

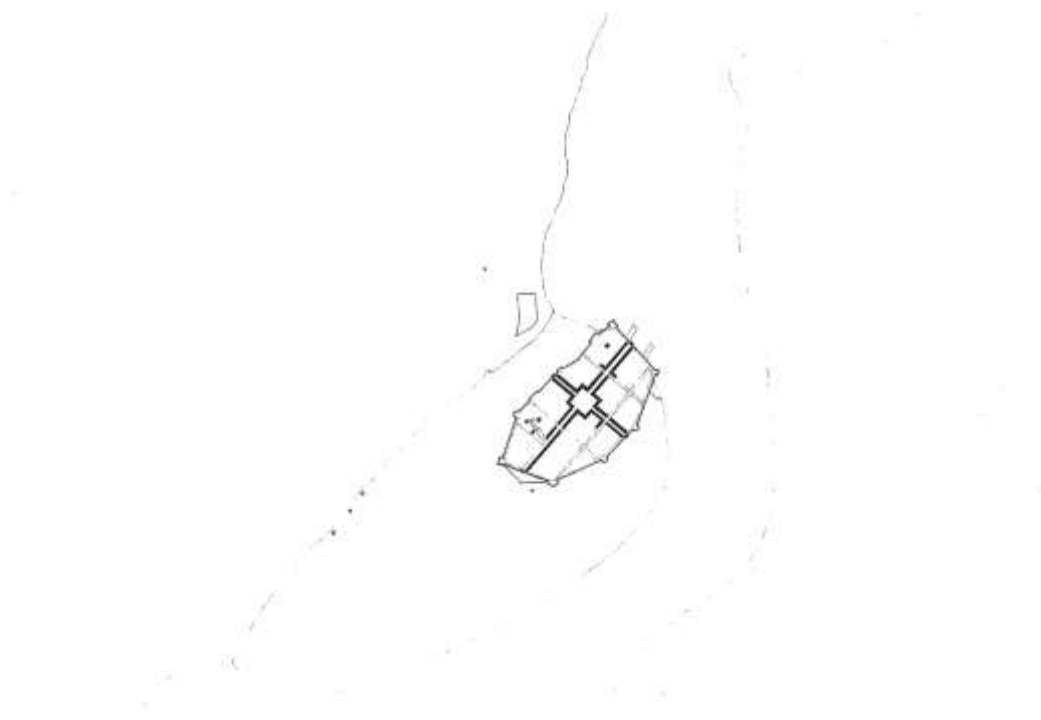


Figure 330 - 1622

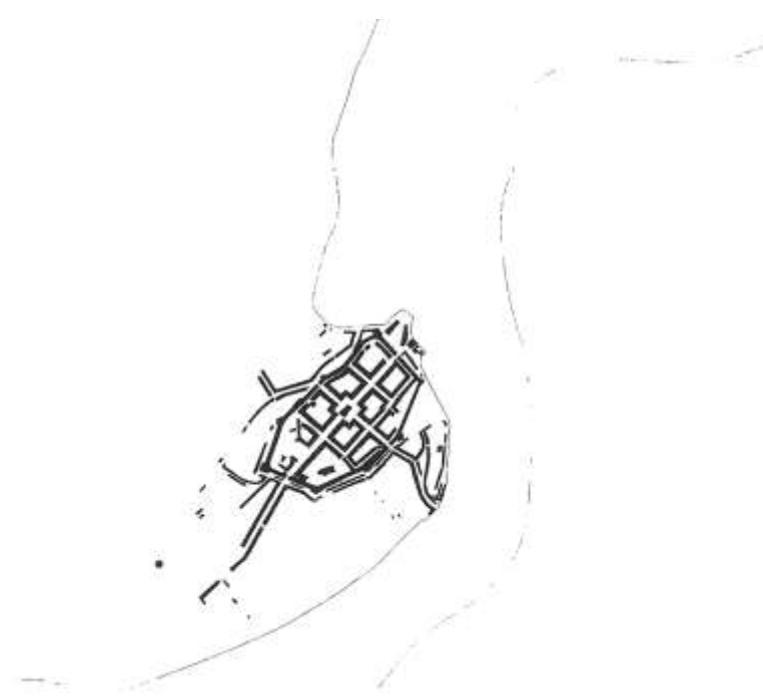


Figure 331 - 1747



Figure 332 – 1831



Figure 333 – 1930



Figure 334 – 1988

As this heritage audit amply demonstrates, the simplicity of the figure-ground map is also misleading; development does not take place on a blank canvas, nor does it develop by simple addition. The reality is more complex and interesting; and the city has evolved through a process of layering and reuse. Avril Thomas' map below shows the growth of Derry to 1870. This map indicates how the city has expanded over time and how the process has included overlaying earlier phases. A number of 'hotspots', notably green circles which mark the probable mediaeval sites, assist in relating 17<sup>th</sup> century maps to today's city landscape.

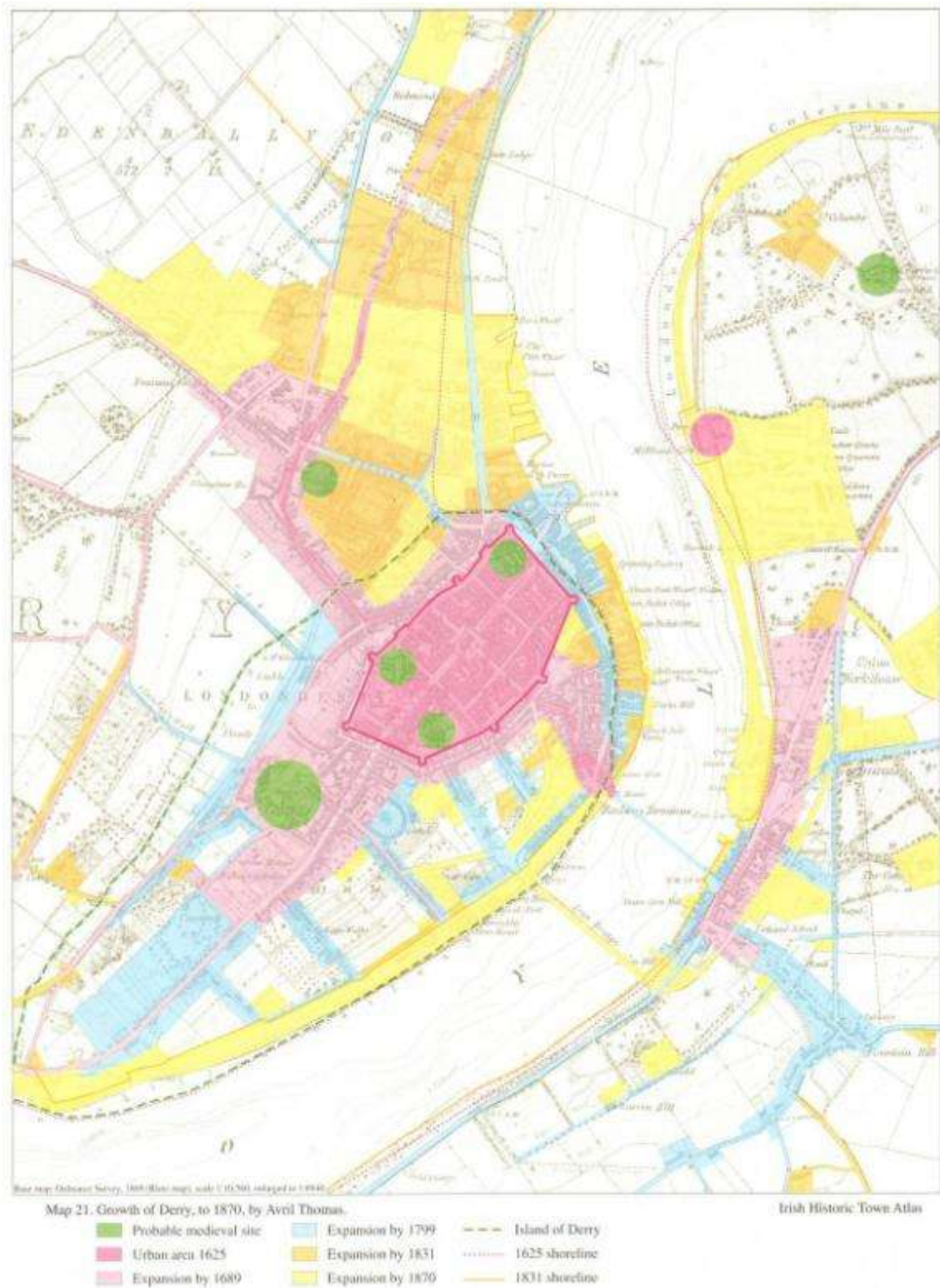


Figure 335 - Growth of Derry to 1870; Avril Thomas. Source: Irish Historic Town Atlas



## DERRY CITY – historical cultural landscape; Administration – District Electoral Divisions

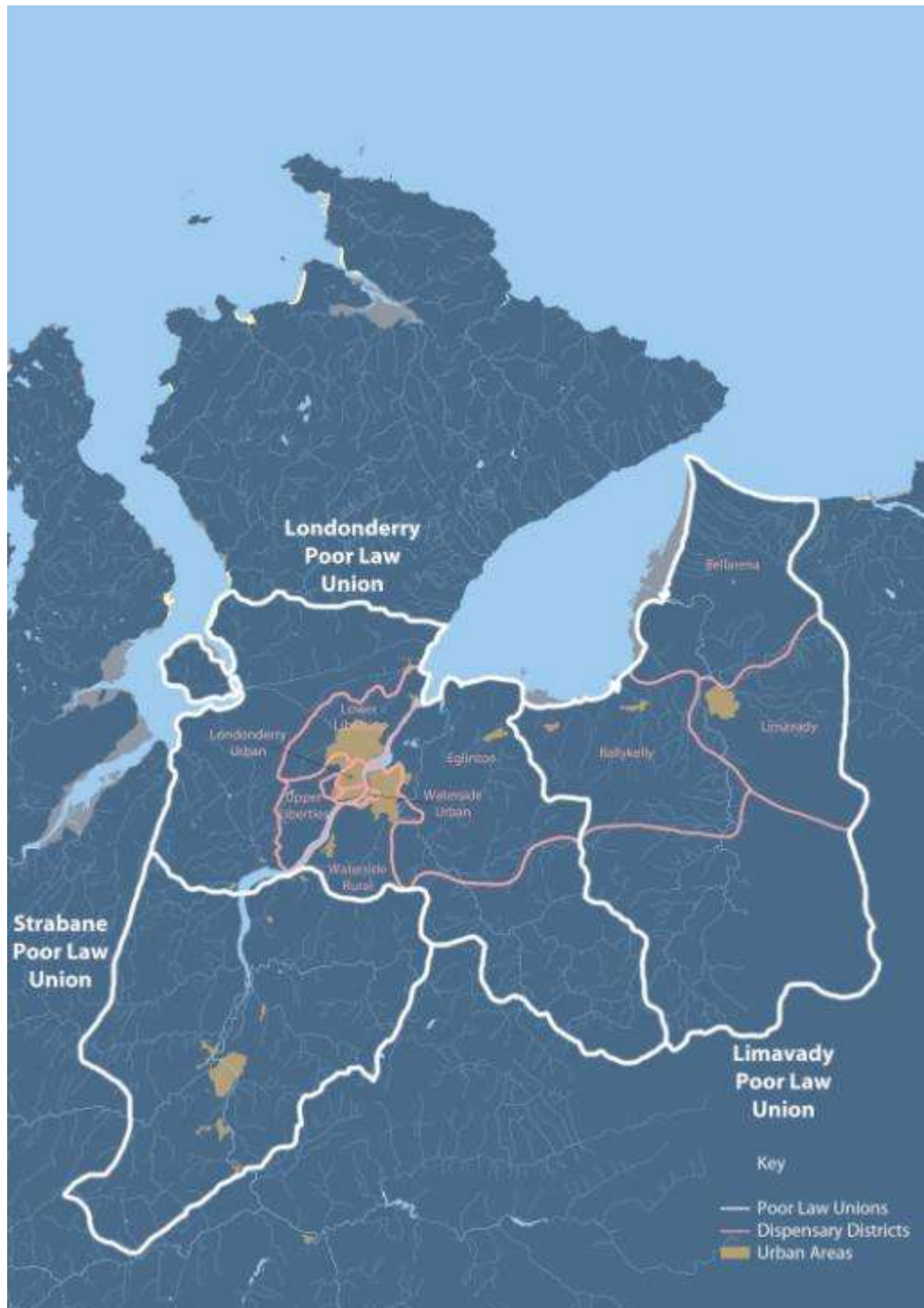


Figure 336 – Dispensary Districts & Poor Law Unions

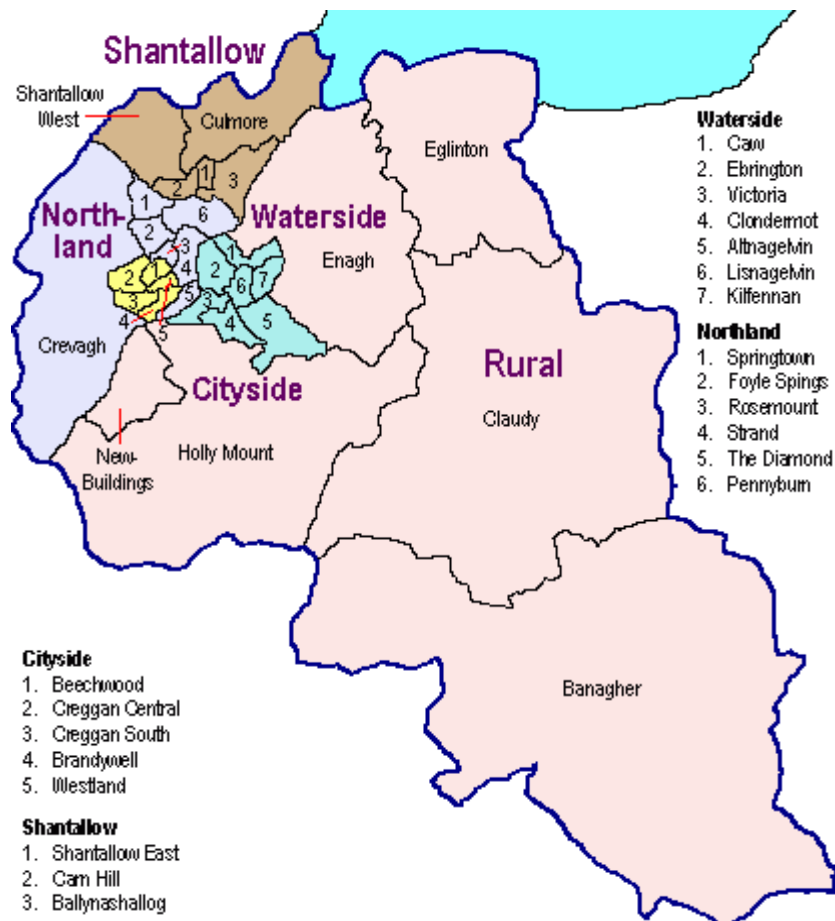


Figure 337 – the Derry slopes are located in the Shantallow, Northland and Cityside electoral areas

The proposed Derry City LCA extends across approximately 10 no. district electoral divisions; part of 5 no. Dispensary Districts and is contained within the Londonderry Poor Law Union it is located entirely within the Derry City Council area.

## DERRY CITY – historical cultural & built landscape; historical survival

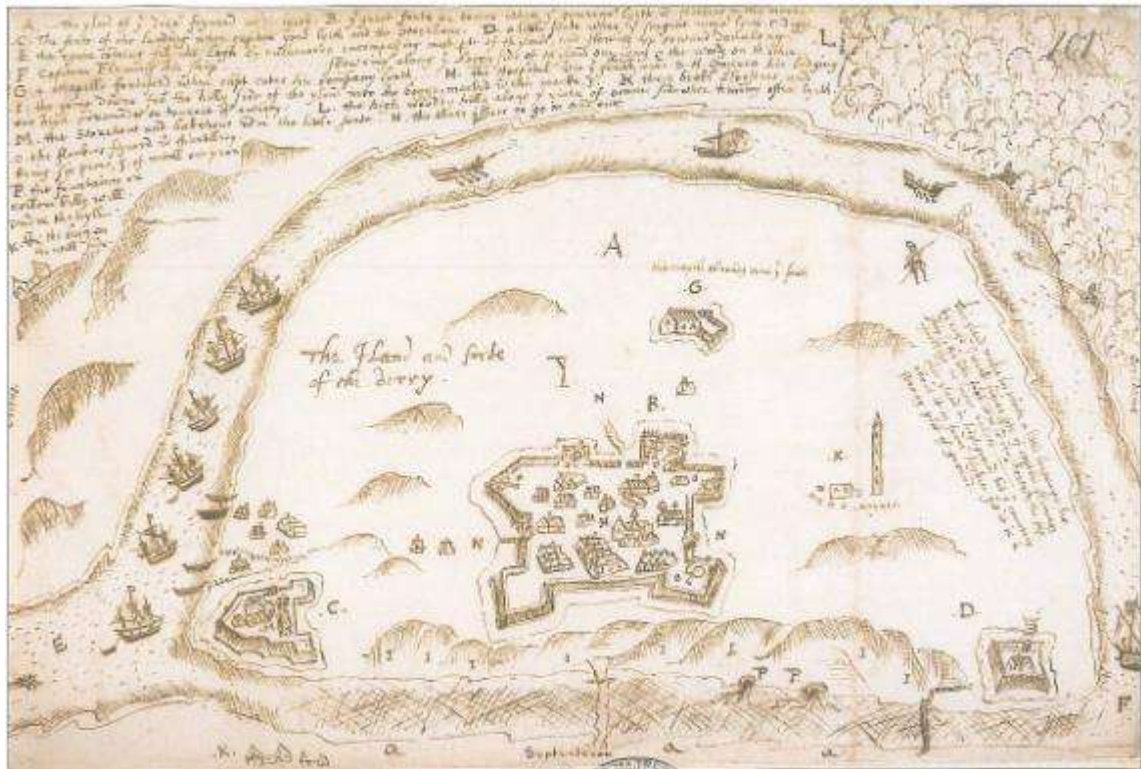


Figure 338 - Sir Henry Docwra's 'Island and Forte of the Derry' 1600. Source: UK National Archive

Docwra's map shows the features, both existing and as found, that are significant in the establishment, access to and defence of the new settlement. Some of these features are referred to again in later maps and commentary. The key, deciphered by John McGurk, reads as follows:

A – the island of the Derry as it lyeth

B – the great fort or town

C – the fort of the landing where Capt. York lyeth and the Storehouse (*this is the site of the former native Irish, O'Doherty, stronghold*)

D – a little fort where the sergeant major lyeth – Capt. Digges

E – the river coming from the lough by Culmore encompassing most part of the island and flowing up towards Dunalong

F – Capt. Fleming his ship

G – A Chapel fortified where Capt. Coach lyeth his company (*note the angles defensive trenches across the side of the church*)

H – A Hospital within the great fort next Sir Henry Docwra his lodging

I – The going down from the hill side of the island into the bog

K – Three broken cloisters and one broken pyramid or high tower of antiquity (*there is some debate as to whether the base of this tower may also be that of the later windmill*)

L – The high woody hills along the river of O’Cahan’s side where the enemy often lyeth (*this is the extended area of Prehen woods; the maps show muskets being fired from both positions* )

M – The storehouse and bakehouse within the little fort

N – The three issues to go in and out, the flanks figured with the artillery, six pieces, five of metal , one of iron ( *these are the three entrances to the town protected by cross fire from the corner bastions or flankers*)

P – The fountains (wells) under the hill

Q – the bog on the north side

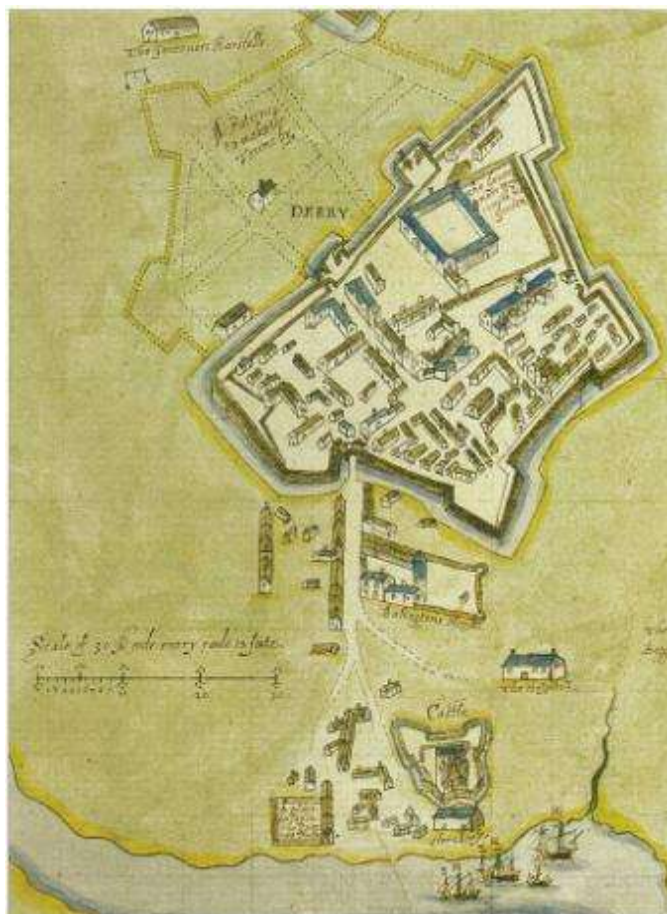


Figure 339 – Griffin Cocket’s “Derry” 1601. Source: Irish Towns Atlas/ Trinity College Dublin

Cocket’s map shows the original bastioned fortress established by Docwra. The castle by the shore side is the O’Doherty tower; the drawing suggests that the original buildings have simply been reoccupied. The “governor’s horstall” or stables is, perhaps, the earlier church building

which was to become the site of St Columb's cathedral. There are some discrepancies with Docwra's map and account such as the number of entrances to the fortified town, location of hospital etc

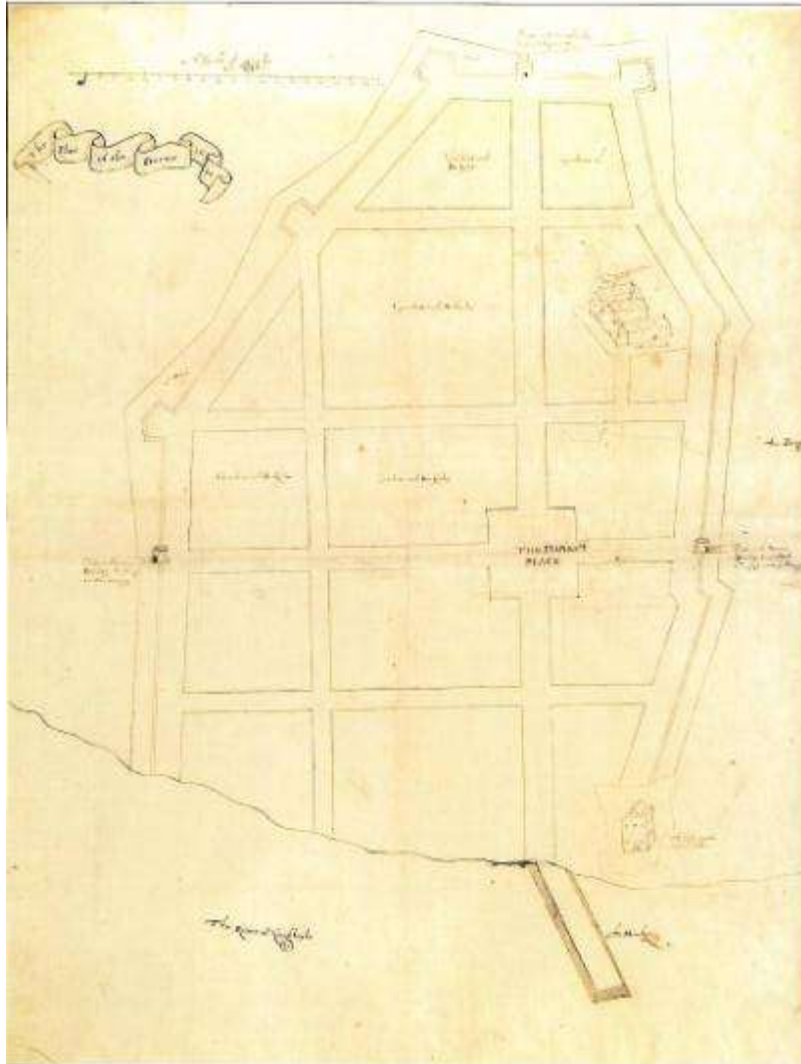


Figure 340 – “The Platt of the Derrie” 1611. Source: Trinity College/ Irish Historic Towns Atlas

The “Platt of Derrie” does not correspond to Pynnar’s map below, which shows the city walls constructed more or less as they are today. The “Platt” engraving does, however, show how earlier structures, including part of the walls are to be incorporated into the new city, and appears to be a design version of the walls, prior to their construction. Later maps show O’Doherty’s tower located well within the new wall.

Detailed review and analysis of the development of the city can be found in:

Ferguson W.S. 2005 *Maps & Views of Derry 1600-1914*. Royal Irish Academy

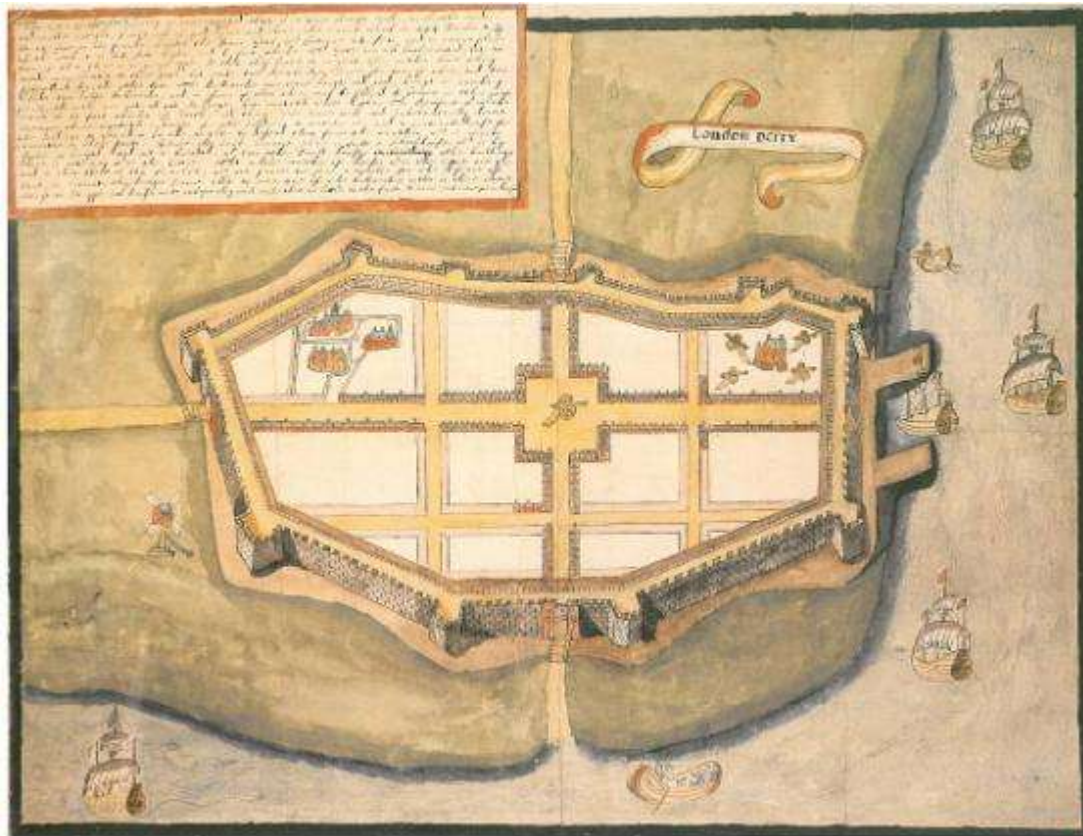


Figure 341 – “London Derry” Nicholas Pynnar, 1618-19. Source: Trinity College/Irish Historic Towns Atlas



Figure 342 – Londonderry circa 1780. Source: Trinity College Dublin/ Irish Historic Towns Atlas

## DERRY CITY – historical cultural & built landscape; landed estates



Figure 343 – Cafina, the Bishop's summer palace & garden incorporating ice houses; the former windmill or 'long tower'? circa 1835 (c) OSI



Figure 344 – Lumen Christi college; former St Columb's College on the site of the Bishop's garden



Figure 345 – St Columb's House & gardens circa 1835 (c) OSI



Figure 346 – St Columb's Park and House circa 2012 (c) Google



## **DERRY CITY – historical built landscape; Urban Settlement**

Mapping showing the development of the walled city and later expansions is shown above. Since the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century outward expansions of the city were designed to improve environmental conditions for those that had to live in cities; city suburbs, such as Victoria Park, were laid out within ornamental garden landscapes.

Public parks were created from existing private estates, such as at St Columb's Park, or Brooke Park which was created on the site of Gwynn's institute, an orphanage and school for destitute boys.



Figure 347 – Victoria Park Derry



Figure 348 – Brooke Park; site of the former Gwynne's Institute

## **DERRY CITY – historical built landscape; significant sites**

### **Prehistoric**

- None highlighted

### **Ecclesiastical Sites**

- LDY014:002, Clooney, St Breacan's Chapel; St Columb's Chapel; Domnach Min-Cluane Chapel & Graveyard on earlier site (Early Medieval)
- HB/01/09/007, former Religious House: Good Shepherd Convent (now Belle Vue House)
- HB/01/11/002, Chapel Road, Waterside; St Columb's RC Church (incl. WW1 memorial)
- LDY014:025, Teampull Mor; Daire Calgaich; Daire Columcille; Dubh Regles; Templemore. C6th Monastery; pre-Norman; Medieval; Post-Medieval & modern church & cathedral
- LDY014:029, Augustinian Priory
- LDY014:031, Dominican Friary - St Dominic's Priory
- City: LDY014:034, Cathedral
- HB01/16/001, Mausoleum, Mortuary Chapel, Lone Moor Road
- HB01/18/003, St Columba's Church, Long Tower Street
- HB01/19/001, St Columb's Cathedral, St Columb's Court
- HB01/19/004, The Deanery, 30 Bishop Street
- HB01/19/012, St Augustine's Church, Palace Street
- HB01/19/015 A, First Derry Presbyterian Church, Upper Magazine Street
- HB01/19/015 B, Lecture Hall, First Derry Presbyterian Church, Upper Magazine Street
- HB01/19/059 A, Presbyterian Church, Carlisle Road
- HB01/19/063, Methodist Church, Carlisle Road
- HB01/19/067, Convent of Mercy, 10-18 Pump Street
- HB01/21/001, St Eugene's Cathedral, Francis Street
- HB01/21/002, Bishop's and Parochial Houses, St Eugene's Cathedral, Francis Street
- HB01/21/009, Presbyterian Church, Great James Street
- HB01/21/011, Second Presbyterian Church & Hall, Strand Road
- HB01/22/002, Christ Church, Infirmary Road
- HB01/22/010, Claremount Presbyterian Church, Claremount St, Northland Road
- HB01/22/019, Former Reformed Presbyterian Church, Clarendon Street



Figure 349 – St Columb's Cathedral circa 1890(c) NLI Lawrence Collection



Figure 350 – First Derry Presbyterian Church



Figure 351 – St Columba's/Long Tower church circa 1890 (c) NLI Lawrence Collection



Figure 352 – Carlisle Road Presbyterian Church; circa 1890 (c) NLI Lawrence Collection



Figure 353 – St Eugene’s Cathedral circa 1890 (c) NLI Lawrence Collection



Figure 354 – All Saint’s Church, Clooney Terrace (in distance); St Columb’s Church, Chapel Road (foreground) & Tower Hall, Bond’s Hill (left) – circa 1890 (c) NLI Lawrence Collection

### Medieval Sites

- LDY014:072, Clooney, Ebrington Barracks Star Fortification (C18th)
- LDY014:003, Londonderry, The Rath, re-used as encampment during the siege of Derry
- LDY014:018, Tower museum, St Columb’s Inauguration Stone
- LDY014:032, Tower-House – O’Doherty’s Castle or The Magazine
- LDY014:033, Derry City Walls
- LDY014:035, Linear, connected cellars structure
- LDY014:039, C17th rampart; ditch and city walls
- LDY014:063, Historic settlement, Doire-Calgaic; Derry-Calgach
- LDY014:064, Urban excavation, C17th siege defences & occupation site (just outside city walls)



Figure 355 – Ferryquay Gate looking in; historical phases in 19<sup>th</sup> century



Figure 356 – Bishop's Gate, looking out

### Schools/College/University

- HB01/16/003, Lumen Christi (formerly St Columb's College), Bishop St., Derry
- HB01/18/004, St Columba's Boy School, Long Tower Street
- HB01/19/059 B, Presbyterian Church School, Carlisle Road
- HB01/19/064, former St. Joseph's and St. Mary's Primary School, (now The Playhouse), 5-7 Artillery Street
- HB01/19/066, Derry Cathedral Primary School, London Street
- HB01/19/079, First Derry Primary School (now Verbal Arts Centre), Bishop Street Within
- HB01/21/003, St Eugene's Convent School, Francis Street
- HB01/22/009 A & B, Magee University College Building & Admin, teaching buildings etc.
- HB01/22/015, Technical College, Strand Road (NWRC)
- HB01/22/016, Old Foyle College (now Foyle Arts Centre) Strand Rd



Figure 357 – Magee College circa 1890 (c)NLI Lawrence Collection



Figure 358 – Lumen Christi, former St Columb's, College, circa 1890 (c) NLI



Figure 359 – Strand Road Technical College circa 1915 (c) NLI

### Institutional Buildings & Offices

- HB01/19/002, Court House, Bishop Street
- HB01/19/003, Crown & Peace Offices, Bishop Street
- HB01/19/005, Irish Society Offices, St Columb's Court
- HB01/19/006, Masonic Hall, Bishop Street
- HB01/19/008, Northern Counties Club, 24 Bishop Street
- HB01/19/011, Apprentice Boys Memorial Hall, 13 Society Street
- HB01/19/022 A – B, Offices, 15 & 16 The Diamond
- HB01/19/038, Guildhall, Shipquay Place
- HB01/19/041, Council Offices, 8 Custom House Street/5 Guildhall Street
- HB01/19/042, Harbour Commissioners Office, Harbour Square
- HB01/19/050, Hall, St Columb's Hall, Newmarket Street
- HB01/19/061, Hall, Good Templars Hall, Horace St/Hawkin St
- HB01/19/065, Synod Hall, London Street
- HB01/19/070, Gaol Tower, Bishop Street
- HB01/19/080, Office, 1A Hawkin Street (former fire station)

- HB01/21/016, Northern Counties Hotel, 22 Waterloo Place
- HB01/21/017 A, Post Office, Custom House Street
- HB01/21/017 B, Custom House, Custom House Street
- HB01/21/021, Office, 35 Great James Street
- HB01/21/028, Archway, Strand Road
- HB01/22/005, Londonderry Fire Station, Northland Road
- HB01/22/030, Boating Club, Quay St, Boating Club Lane
- HB01/24/001, John Lawrence Statue, Foyle College, Springtown



Figure 360 – Bishop Street Courthouse circa 1890 (c) NLI



Figure 361 – Masonic Hall; former Bishop's Palace circa 1890 (c) NLI



Figure 362 – Apprentice Boys Memorial Hall circa 1890 (c) NLI



Figure 363 – St Columb's Hall, Newmarket Street circa 1890 (c) NLI Lawrence Collection

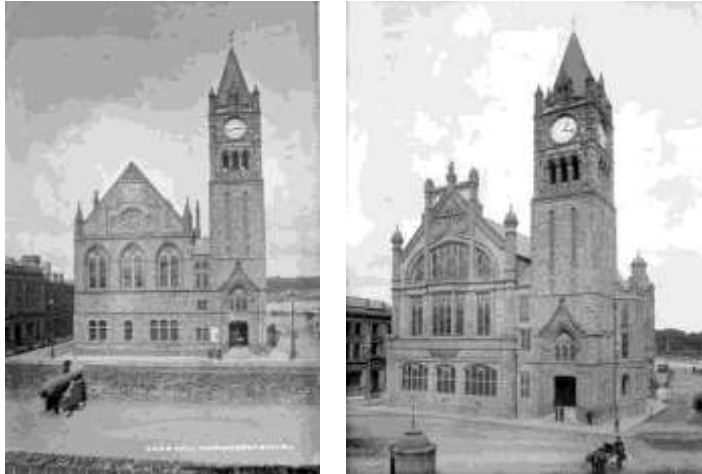


Figure 364 – Guildhall, circa 1890 prior to alteration & 1915 (c) NLI Lawrence Collection



Figure 365 – Harbour Commissioner's Office/ Harbour Museum, circa 1890 (c) NLI

### **Shops/Public Houses**

- HB01/19/016, Shop, 2 Butcher Street/18 The Diamond
- HB01/19/019, Shop, Austins Department Store, The Diamond/Ferryquay Street
- HB01/19/026 C, Shop, 13 Shipquay Street
- HB01/19/032, Shop, 28 Shipquay Street
- HB01/19/034, Public House, 31-33 Shipquay Street
- HB01/19/035, Shop, 35-37 Shipquay Street
- HB01/19/035 B, Public House, 3-4 Bank Place
- HB01/19/040 A, Public House, New Monico Lounge, 4-6 Custom House Street



- HB01/19/040 B, Shop, 1-3 Guildhall Street
- HB01/19/043, Shop, 1 Shipquay Place
- HB01/19/044 A – H, Shops 3, 5-15, 17, 19-21, 23, 25 & 27 Foyle Street, & Public House, 29 Foyle Street
- HB01/21/026, Public House, Grand Central Bar, 27 Strand Road
- HB01/21/027, Shop, 12 Strand Road
- HB01/21/029, Public House, 63A Great James Street
- HB01/22/023, Public House, Strand Bar, 35 Strand Road



Figure 366 – Shops & commercial buildings Foyle Street circa 1890 (c) NLI Lawrence Collection



Figure 367 – Shipquay Place circa 1890 (c) NLI

### Banks

- HB01/19/026 A, Allied Irish Bank, 9 Shipquay Street
- HB01/19/026 B, Bank, 11 Shipquay Street
- HB01/19/027, Allied Irish Bank, 15-17 Shipquay Street
- HB01/19/030, Bank of Ireland, 20 Shipquay Street
- HB01/19/036, Northern Bank, 39 Shipquay Street
- HB01/19/036 B, Bank, 2 Bank Place
- HB01/19/039, Northern Bank, 6 Shipquay Place
- HB01/21/025, Bank of Ireland, 15 Strand Road

### **Battle Sites**

- LDY014:066, Caw/Gransha, Battle site: c. 1200AD

### **Workhouses**

- HB/01/09/008A, Glendermott Rd, Londonderry; Admissions Building to the former Londonderry Workhouse

### **Schools**

- HB/01/11/001, Malvern Terrace, Waterside; Former Girls School

### **Mansion Houses & Estate Buildings**

- HB/01/09/001, St Columb's Park, Derry; St Columb's House & Registered Historic Garden L-050
- HB01/21/022, St Eugene's Lodge, Francis Street
- HB01/22/001 B, gate Lodge, Brook Park
- HB01/22/007, Aberfoyle House, Northland Road

### **Gentleman's Houses**

- HB/01/07/002, 4 Clooney Rd, Limavady Road, Derry: Bay View House
- HB/01/07/004, 9 Clooney Rd, Limavady Rd, Derry: Hertford House
- HB/01/09/006B – R; 9 – 24 Bond's Hill, Londonderry (terrace of houses)
- HB/01/11/044, 5 Victoria Park, Waterside and remaining houses within Victoria Park
- HB01/17/001, House, 164 Bishop's Street
- HB01/17/002, (residential home) Bishop's Street, Carrigans Lane
- HB01/19/024 A –B, houses, 6 & 8 Shipquay Street
- HB01/19/068 D, House, 22 Pump Street
- HB01/21/006, Foyle Cottage, Clarendon Street
- HB01/21/008, 18 Queen Street
- HB01/21/010, 33 Great James Street
- HB01/21/019, House, 15 Chamberlain Street
- HB01/22/003 T, House, 1A Academy Road
- HB01/22/011, Carrickmore House, Rock Road
- HB01/22/020 A & B, 1 & 2 Clarendon terrace, Clarendon Street

## City Terraces

- HB01/17/003, Alexander Memorial Cottages (1-6), New Street
- HB01/19/007 A – F, 1-6 St Columb’s Court
- HB01/19/037 A – D, 14 & 18 – 20 Lower Magazine Street
- HB01/20/002 A – G, 1-7 Westend Park
- HB01/21/005 A – Z, Clarendon Street
- HB01/21/020 A – D, 9-12 Queen Street
- HB01/21/024 A – H, 1-8 Queen Street
- HB01/22/003 A – S, 1-19 Crawford Square
- HB01/22/004 A – D, 20-23 Crawford Square
- HB01/22/006 A – K, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20 & 22 Clarence Avenue
- HB01/22/008 A – F, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 & 20 Florence Terrace, Northland Rd
- HB01/22/014 A – Q: 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33 & 35 Aberfoyle Terrace, Strand Road
- HB01/22/017 A – G, 1-7 Bayview Terrace, Asylum Road
- HB01/22/018 A – D, 13-16 Queen’s Street
- HB01/22/022 A – U, Clarendon Terrace, Clarendon Street
- HB01/22/025 A – Q, 1-17 De Burgh Terrace, Academy Road
- HB01/22/026 A – M, 1-13 College Terrace, Rock Road
- HB01/22/029 A – C, 11, 13 & 15 Northland Road

### **Vernacular Buildings**

- None highlighted

### **Historic Parks & Gardens**

- Aberfoyle, L042
- Brook Park, L049, (HB01/22/001 - Gate Lodge & Bronze Statue)

### **Industrial Landscapes**

#### ***City (Waterside) Manufacturing Landscape:***

- Clooney Mill (Flour) – steam corn mill IHR 02419:000:00
- Distillery & Steam Corn Mill with kiln and chimney, later a shirt factory IHR 02420:000:00
- Shirt Factory/Bond Warehouse IHR 11174:000:00
- Victoria Mills (Meal & Flour) IHR 02425:000:00
- Ebrington Short & Collar Factory IHR 02487:000:00

#### ***Mills:***

- IHR 02405:000:00, City Centre, Foyle Mills (Flour & Corn) - Foyle Steam Mills
- IHR 02403:000:00, City Centre, Foyle Foundry (Brass & Iron)
- IHR 02448:000:00, Edenballymore, Saw Mills; Tramway & Mortar Mill - Electric Power Station
- IHR 02449:000:00, Edenballymore, Flour Mill
- IHR 02479:000:00, Edenballymore, Foyle Saw Mills
- LDY014:500, City centre, C17th Windmill

#### ***Shirt Factories:***

- IHR 02415:000:00, City centre, Shirt Factory
- HB01/21/007, City Factory, Queen Street/Factory Street/ IHR 02444:000:00, Edenballymore, Shirt Manufactory - City Factory (Shirt & Collar)
- IHR 02450:000:00, Edenballymore, Shirt Factory
- IHR 02452:000:00, Edenballymore, Shirt Factory
- IHR 02454:000:00, City centre, Shirt Manufactory
- IHR 02455:000:00, City centre, Shirt Factory
- HB01/19/058, Factory, 1 Abercorn Road/ IHR 02467:000:00, City centre, Shirt & Pyjama Manufactory
- HB01/23/001 A, Rosemount Factory, Rosemount Avenue/ IHR 02471:000:00, Edenballymore, Rosemount Factory (shirt & collar)

- IHR 02472:000:00, Edenballymore, Strand Factory (shirt & collar)
- IHR 02484:000:00, City centre, Shirt Factory (originally the Imperial Hotel)
- HB01/19/009, McCandless Factory, 23 Bishop Street
- IHR 02486:000:00, Edenballymore, Paragon Factory (shirt & collar)
- IHR 02489:000:00, City centre, Shirt & Pyjama Factory
- IHR 02490:000:00, City centre, Erin Shirt & Collar Factory
- IHR 02491:000:00, City centre, Southern Factory (collar)
- IHR 02492:000:00, City centre, Bellevue Factory (shirt & collar)
- IHR 02493:000:00, City centre, Factory (shirt & collar)
- HB01/17/004, Star Factory, 79E Foyle Road, Derry/ IHR 02495:000:00, City Centre, Star Factory (Shirt)

**Factories Misc:**

- HB01/19/062, Factory, 20A Carlisle Road
- HB01/21/013, 13A Little James Street
- HB01/22/013, Factory, Rock Bakery, Strand Road

**Infrastructure – Roads, Canals & Railways**

- Carlisle/Craigavon Bridge, 02497:000:00
- HB/0109/005/ IHR 0133909400, LMS Northern Counties Committee line (Waterside terminus and other features of the NCC Belfast to Londonderry Line)
- IHR 00017:044:00, GNR Branch Line; Portadown - L'Derry, (Foyle Road Londonderry Terminus and other GNR features within UD area)
- IHR 01563:008:00, Pennyburn, L'Derry & Lough Swilly Narrow Gauge, Strand Road Terminus to Narrow Gauge
- HB0111005/ IHR 0161401000, Victoria Road terminus to County Donegal Joint Railway Committee narrow gauge line



Figure 368 – LMS Northern Counties Committee line Waterside terminus circa 1890 (c) NLI Lawrence Collection



Figure 369 – Craigavon Bridge, lower deck (used for transfer of goods wagons between standard gauge GNR and Northern Counties lines and narrow gauge CDJRC & LL&LS lines ; circa 1890 (c) NLI Lawrence Collection

### Military Structures/Defence Heritage

- DH 209, St Columb's Park House –Headquarters
- DH 389, US Navy Headquarters, Magee University,
- DH 724, Ebrington Barracks
- HB01/19/021, War Memorial, The Diamond



Figure 370 – Ebrington Barracks circa 1890 (c) NLI Lawrence Collection

## DERRY CITY – Key to significant heritage assets

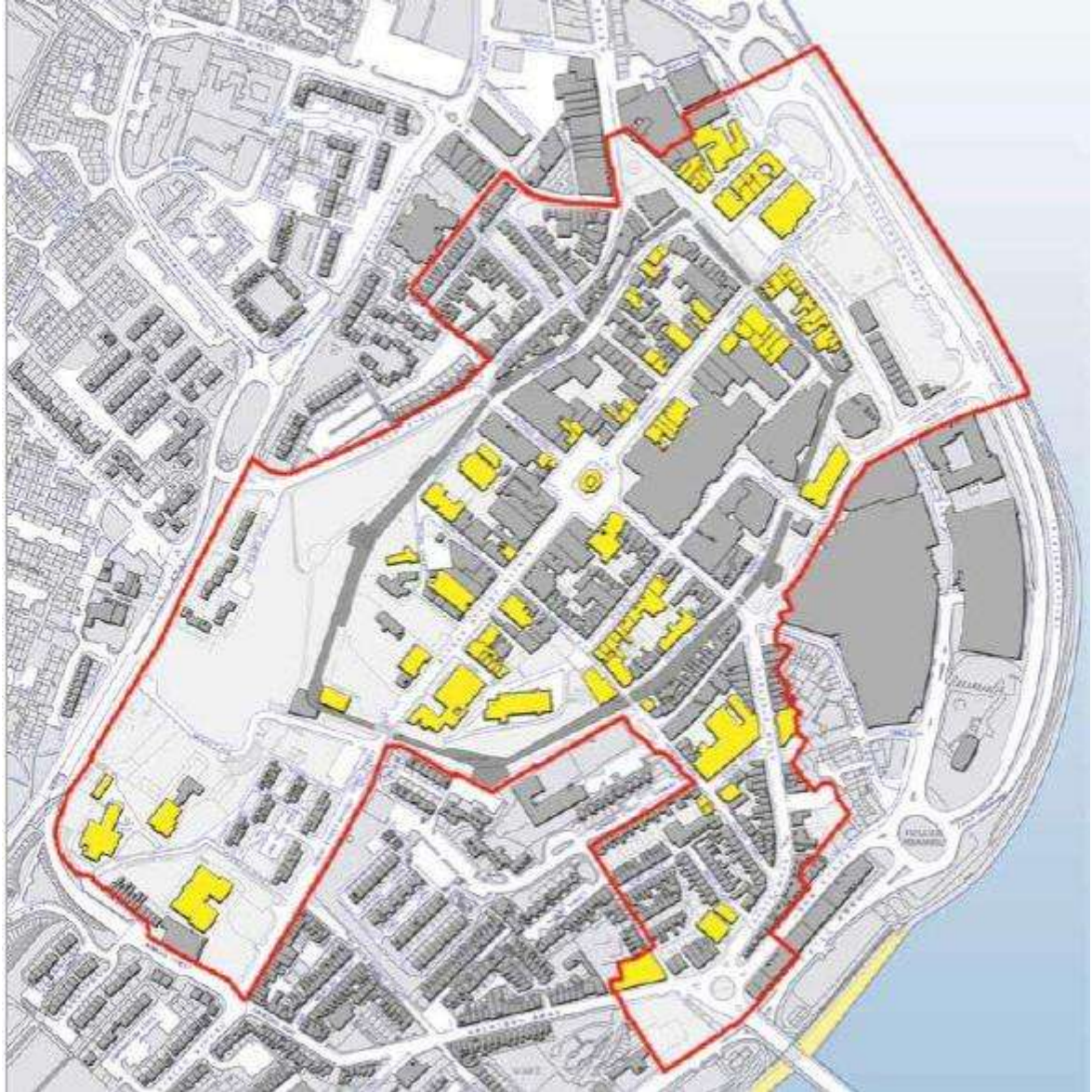


Figure 371 – Historic City Conservation Area –listed buildings marked in yellow. Source: Historic City Design Guide (c) NIEA

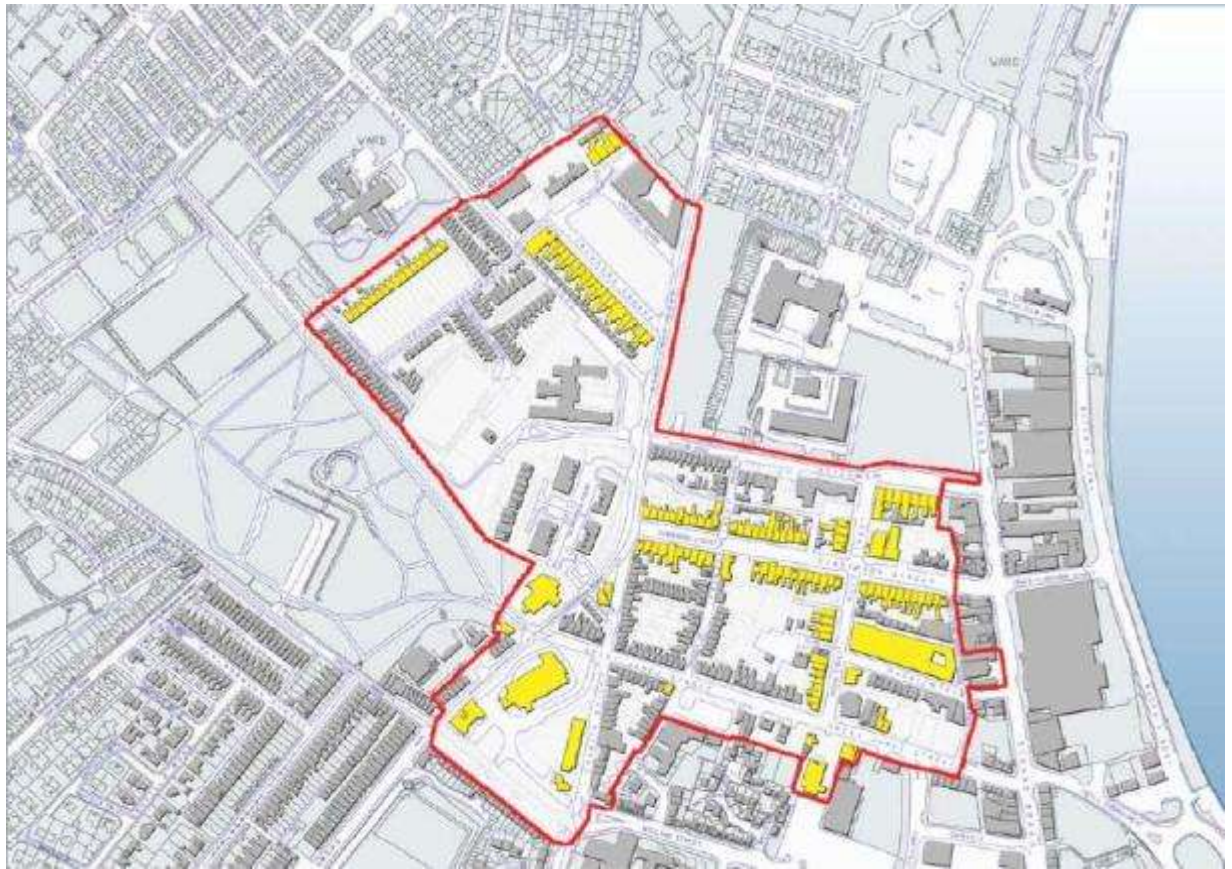


Figure 372 – Clarendon Street Conservation Area –listed buildings marked in yellow. Source: Clarendon Design Guide (c) NIEA





Figure 373 – Magee Conservation Area –listed buildings marked in yellow. Source: Historic City Design Guide (c) NIEA

**Significant buildings in memory**



**Figure 374 – old town hall; the Diamond**



**Figure 375 – former Londonderry asylum**



**Figure 376 – old jail; Bishop Street**



**Figure 377 – former public library Brooke Park**

## DERRY CITY – Visual Landscape: Spatial Context

Artistic representations of the city reflect emotions that attach to place at a place in time; whilst the place may be, physically, the same in many respects the representations reflect a mood; a small selection here show some of the contrasting imagery used to describe the city.

### Painting



Figure 378 - watercolour, William Pars; 'Londonderry' 1771. Source: Victoria & Albert Museum/ Irish Towns Atlas.

This view from the Letterkenny road looking north to the island of Derry shows clearly the route of the river towards the Lough in the distance. The island citadel shows the church at its peak with the valleys of both the river and the bog on either side.

Views on the following pages show the fortified island and aspects of development of the city. Van der Hagen's painting shows an exaggerated landscape and city reinforcing the myth of the city and its impregnability.

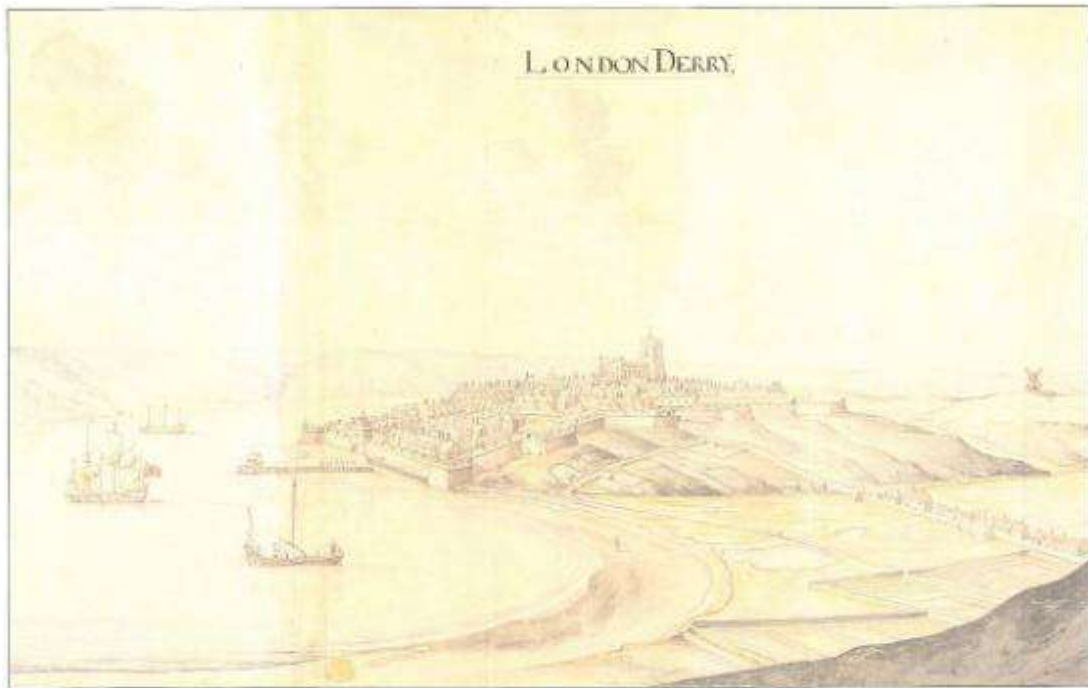


Figure 379 – pen & ink drawings, 'London Derry', Thomas Phillips, 1685. Source: British Library/ Irish Historic Towns Atlas



Figure 380 – oil on canvas, William van der Hagen, 1730. Source: Irish Historic Towns Atlas



Figure 381 - print, J.H. Connup, 'Londonderry', 1863. Source: Irish Historic Towns Atlas

### Photography

The following images can be found in the National Library of Ireland; the majority are from the Lawrence Collection which has been digitised and is available online



Figure 382 – mid 19<sup>th</sup> century view of the city from Clondermot showing the Fountain area, Carlisle Road and the expanded Tillie and Henderson building, between the river and the city walls, under construction. (c) NLI



Figure 383 – View of city from the north (c) NLI



Figure 384 – View of Waterside from city quays (c) NLI



Figure 385 – ‘Garrison Ferry’ from Ebrington to city quays (c) NLI



Figure 386 – The Diamond looking south towards Bishop Street (c) NLI



Figure 387 – The Diamond circa 1910 (c) NLI



Figure 388 – The Diamond circa 1910



Figure 389 – The Diamond circa 1910 (c) NLI



Figure 390 – Bishop Street looking south (c) NLI



Figure 391 – Bishop Street circa 1890 (c) NLI



Figure 392 – city walls Grand Parade circa 1890 (c) NLI



Figure 393 – Bogside from St Columb's Cathedral tower (c) NLI



Figure 394 – view from St Columb's Cathedral tower northeast towards Lough Foyle (c) NLI





Figure 395 – Guildhall Square (c) NLI



Figure 396 – Guildhall circa 1890 (c) NLI



Figure 397 – Foyle Street looking north towards Guildhall (c) NLI



Figure 398 – Ferryquay Street circa 1910 (c) NLI



Figure 399 – Carlisle Road looking south towards the bridge (c) NLI



Figure 400 – Waterloo Place circa 1900 (c) NLI



Figure 401 – Strand Road (c) NLI





Figure 403 – “FLYOVER Ghost Walk” 1985-2012, Willie Doherty – twice nominated for the Turner Prize



Figure 404 – “BETWEEN Failed Housing Project” 1987-2012, Willie Doherty.



Figure 405 – “The Emigrants”, Eamonn O’Doherty. Location: Waterloo Place. Source Arts Council NI

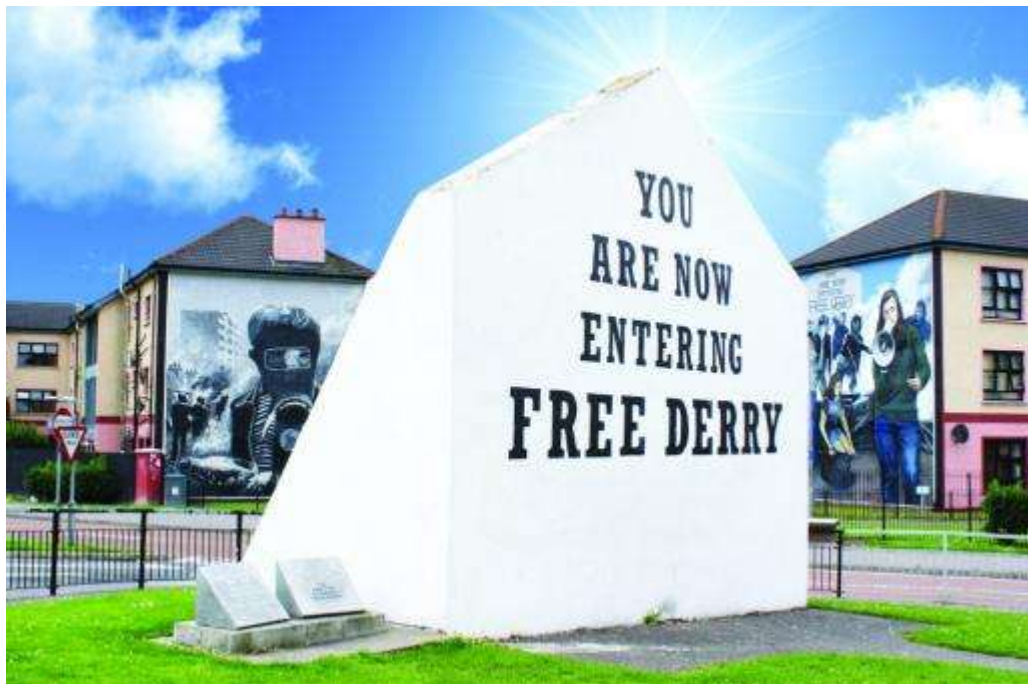


Figure 406 - Free Derry Corner. Source: visitderry.com



Figure 407 – “Petrol Bomber – The Battle of the Bogside” The Bogside Artists. Source: Conflict Archive on the Internet (CAIN)

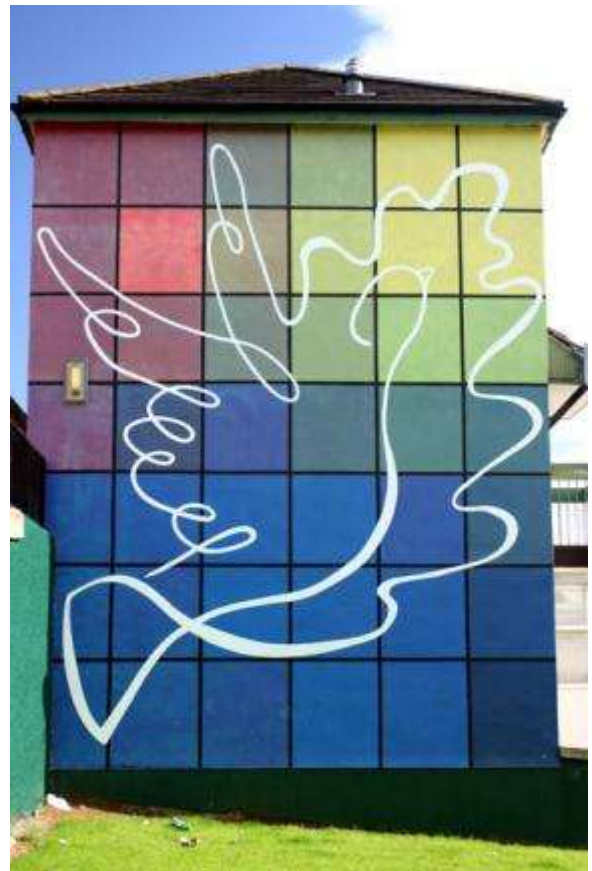


Figure 408 – “Peace Mural”, Rossville Street. The Bogside Artist. Source: CAIN



Figure 409 – “Past Present & Future”, Lincoln Courts – artist Kevin Killen

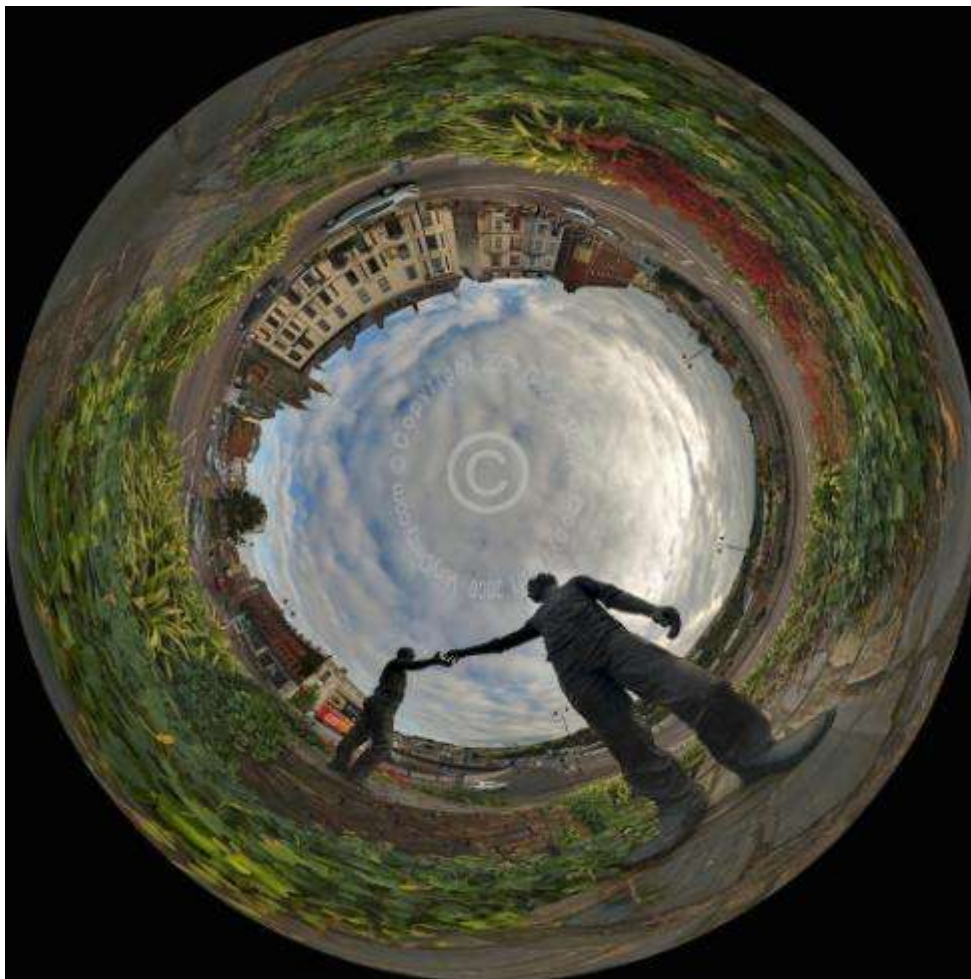


Figure 410 – “Hands across the Divide” – artist Maurice Harron. Source: Very Derry.com (c) George Row



Figure 411 – St Breacan's Chapel, St Columb's Park. Source: Natural Stone Database

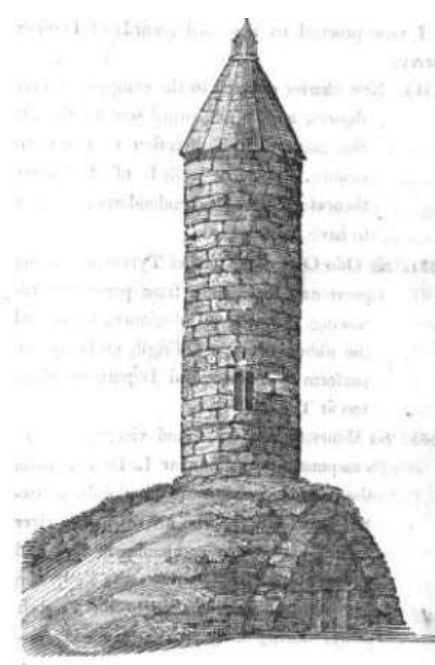


Figure 412 – "Old siege windmill". Source: lusbyfamilyhistory.com & Windmill tower, 1802. Sampson

Sampson in his statistical survey describes the site of the Long tower as extending from the catholic chapel (St Columba's/ the Long Tower Church) and the Bishop's garden and describes it as "*one belonging to the monastery, but now converted into an ice-house*". This interpretation has been refuted in later historical accounts; however, the theory remains an attractive emphasising how little is actually known about the 6<sup>th</sup> century Columban settlement.



## **DERRY CITY – Written Landscape: prose, poem & song**

*"In my memory I will always see  
The town that I have loved so well  
Where our school played ball by the gasyard wall  
And we laughed through the smoke and smell.  
Going home in the rain running up the dark lane  
Past the jail and down beside the fountain  
Those were happy days in so many, many ways  
In the town I loved so well.  
In the early morn the shirt factory horn  
Called women from Creggan, the Moor and the Bog  
While the men on the dole played a mothers role  
Fed the children and then walked the dog  
And when times got rough, there was just about enough  
But they saw it through without complaining  
For deep inside was a burning pride  
For the town I loved so well.*

*There was music there in the Derry air  
Like a language that we could all understand  
I remember the day when I earned my first pay  
as I played in a small pickup band  
There I spent my youth and to tell you the truth  
I was sad to leave it all behind me  
For I'd learned about life and I'd found a wife  
In the town I loved so well.*

*But when I returned how my eyes were burned  
To see how a town could be brought to it's knees  
By the armoured cars and the bombed out bars  
And the gas that hangs on to every breeze  
Now the army's installed by that old gasyard wall  
And the damned barbed wire gets higher and higher  
With their tanks and guns  
Oh my God, what have they done  
To the town I loved so well.*

*Now the music's gone but they carry on  
For their spirit's been bruised, never broken  
Oh, they'll not forget still their hearts are set  
On tomorrow and peace once again  
Now what's done is done and what's won is won  
And what's lost is lost and gone forever  
I can only pray for a bright brand new day  
In the town I loved so well. "*

*Phil Coulter*

Derry~Londonderry is well represented in the field of music; the above are examples of the city and landscape represented in song. Many personalities from Joseph Lock to the Undertones are inextricably linked to the heritage of the city and this legacy has been matter of detailed research; notably:

Hipsley. P ed. 2008 "City of Music – Derry's Music Heritage". Guildhall Press.

McAllister Hart, N. 2012 "From Farquhar to Field Day: Three Centuries of Music & Theatre in Derry~Londonderry"

The Derry~Londonderry written landscape is a city that is also well populated by journalists, campaigners, historians, novelists and poets who include:

- Willie Carson
- Joyce Cary
- Seamus Deane
- Richard Doherty
- Brian Friel
- Seamus Heaney
- Nell McCafferty
- Eamonn McCann

This is a theme that is deserving of further investigation through the medium and activities of the city's Verbal Arts Centre located at the former Bluecoat School on the City walls.



Figure 413 – Verbal Arts Centre; “Double Bastion & the Bogside”. Source: Very Derry.com (c) George Row

## 19<sup>th</sup> Century Gazetteers

### Account from Lewis' Topographical Dictionary of Ireland – 1837

LONDONDERRY, a city and port, in the parish of TEMPLE MORE, and county of LONDONDERRY (of which it is the chief town), and province of ULSTER, 69¾ miles (N. W. by W.) from Belfast, and 118½ (N. N. W.) from Dublin; containing 10,130 inhabitants. It was originally and is still popularly called Derry, from the Irish Doire, which signifies literally "a place of oaks," but is likewise used to express "a thick wood." By the ancient Irish it was also designated Doire-Calgaich, or Derry-Calgach, "the oak wood of Calgach;" and Adamnan, abbot of Iona in the 7th century, in the life of his predecessor St. Columbkil, invariably calls it Roboretum Calgagi. About the end of the 10th century, the name Derry-Calgach gave place to Derry-Columbkil, from an abbey for canons regular of the order of St. Augustine founded here by that saint; but when the place grew into importance above every other Derry, the distinguishing epithet was rejected: the English prefix, London, was imposed in 1613, on the incorporation of the Irish Society by charter of Jas. I., and was for a long time retained by the colonists, but has likewise fallen into popular disuse. The city appears to be indebted for its origin to the abbey founded by St. Columbkil, according to the best authorities in 546, and said to have been the first of the religious houses instituted by that saint; but the exact period of its foundation and its early history are involved in much obscurity.

In 783 and 812 the abbey and the town were destroyed by fire; at the latter period, according to the Annals of Munster, the Danes heightened the horrors of the conflagration by a massacre of the clergy and students. The place must have been speedily restored, as, in 832, the Danes were driven with great slaughter from the siege of Derry by Niall Caille, King of Ireland, and Murchadh, Prince of Aileach. In 983, the shrine of St. Columbkil was carried away by the Danes, by whom the place was also thrice devastated about the close of the 10th century; in 1095 the abbey was consumed by fire. In 1100, Murtagh O'Brien arrived with a large fleet of foreign vessels and attacked Derry, but was defeated with great slaughter by the son of Mac Loughlin, prince of Aileach. Ardgar, prince of Aileach, was slain in an assault upon Derry in 1124; but on the 30th of March, 1135, the town with its churches was destroyed by fire, in revenge, as some state, of his death: it also sustained a similar calamity in 1149. In 1158, Flahertagh O'Brokhain, abbot of the Augustine monastery, was raised to the episcopacy and appointed supreme superintendent of all the abbeys under the rule of St. Columbkil, by a synodical decree of the Irish clergy assembled at Brigh-mac-Taidhg, in the north of Meath. O'Brokhain immediately commenced preparations for the erection of a new church on a larger scale; and in 1162 he removed more than 80 houses adjacent to the abbey church, and enclosed the abbey with a circular wall. In 1164 Temple More, or "the great church," was built, and the original abbey church was thenceforward distinguished as Duv Regies, or "the Black Church:" the new edifice was 240 feet long, and was one of the most splendid ecclesiastical structures erected in Ireland prior to the settlement of the Anglo-Normans; its site was near the Black Church, outside the present city wall, and is now chiefly occupied by the Roman Catholic chapel and cemetery; both edifices were entirely demolished by Sir Henry Docwra, governor of Derry, in 1600, and the materials used in the erection of the extensive works constructed at that period; but the belfry or round tower of the cathedral served till after the celebrated siege, and has given name to a lane called the Long Tower.

In 1166 a considerable part of the town was burned by Rory O'Morna; and in 1195 the abbey was plundered by an English force, which was afterwards intercepted and destroyed at Armagh. In 1197, a large body of English forces having set out from the castle of Kill-Sanctain on a predatory excursion, came to Derry and plundered several churches, but were overtaken by Flahertach O'Maoldoraidh, lord of Tyrone and Tyrconnell, and some of the northern Hy-Niall, and a battle ensued on the shore of the adjoining parish of Faughanvale in which the English were defeated with great slaughter. In this year Sir John De Courcy came with a large army and remained five nights; and in the following year also, having made an incursion into Tyrone to plunder the churches, he arrived at this place, and during his stay plundered Ennishowen and all the adjacent country; while thus engaged he received intelligence of the defeat of the English at Lame by Hugh Boy O'Nial, which caused him to quit Derry. In 1203 the town was much damaged by fire; and in 1211 it was plundered by Thomas Mac Uchtry and the sons of Randal Mac Donnell, who came hither with a fleet of 76 ships, and afterwards passed into Ennishowen and laid waste the whole peninsula. This Thomas and Rory Mac Randal again plundered the town in 1213, carrying away from the cathedral to Coleraine all the jewellery of the people of Derry and of the north of Ireland. A Cistercian nunnery -was founded on the south

side of the city in 1218, as recorded in the registry of the Honour of Richmond; but from the Annals of the Four Masters it appears that a religious establishment of this kind existed here prior to that period. Nial O’Nial plundered the town in 1222; and, in 1261, sixteen of the most distinguished of the clergy of Tyrone were slain here by Conor O’Nial and the Kinel-Owen or men of Tyrone. In 1274 a Dominican abbey was founded on the north side of the city, of which even the site cannot now be accurately traced. Edw. II. granted the town to Richard de Burgo, Earl of Ulster, in 1311; but from this period till the reign of Elizabeth, prior to which the English exercised no settled dominion in Derry, no event of importance connected with the place is recorded. In 1565, Edward Randolph arrived in the Foyle with seven companies of foot and one troop of horse, to repress Shane O’Nial, Earl of Tyrone, who had renounced his allegiance to the English crown; and a sanguinary engagement taking place on the plains of Muff, the Irish chieftain was signally defeated. An encampment was then formed by the English near the city; but in a sally against some of O’Nial’s forces, who had ostentatiously paraded before it, the English general was slain by a party who had concealed themselves in an adjoining wood, and the command of the garrison was given to Col. St. Lo. The English converted the cathedral into an arsenal, and on the 24th of April, 1566, the gunpowder blew up by accident with so much damage as to render the place untenable; the foot embarked for Dublin, to which city also the horse returned, passing through Tyrconnell and Connaught to avoid O’Nial. In 1599 it was again determined to fortify Derry, a measure long deemed essential in order to divide and check the power of O’Nial and O’Donell, the accomplishment of which object was favoured by its situation and the friendship of O’Dogherty of Ennishowen. With that view Sir Henry Docwra, in 1600, entered the Foyle with a British force of 4000 foot and 200 horse, and landed at Culmore, at the mouth of the river, where he erected a fort. He soon obtained possession of the city, and constructed fortifications and other works for its defence and improvement, pulling down the abbey, cathedral, “and other ecclesiastical buildings for the sake of the materials. On the termination of the war at the commencement of 1603, the garrison was reduced to 100 horse and 150 foot under the governor, and 200 foot under Capt. Hansard; and at Culmore were left 20 men. Sir Henry now directed his attention to the improvement of the place with so much zeal as to entitle him to be regarded as the founder of the modern city. A number of English colonists settled here on his invitation; he obtained grants of markets and fairs, and, in 1604, a charter of incorporation with ample privileges. But in 1608, after the flight and forfeiture of O’Nial and O’Donell, the growing prosperity of the new city was checked by the insurrection of Sir Cahir O’Dogherty, the young chief of Ennishowen, who took both Culmore fort and Derry, at the latter of which Sir George Paulet (to whom Sir Henry Docwra had alienated all his interests) and his men were slain; as many of the inhabitants as could escape fled, and the town was plundered and burned. A large part of Ulster having escheated to the Crown on the attainder of the above-named earls, proposals of colonization were made to the city of London, in which this place is described as “the late ruined city of Derry, which may be made by land almost impregnable.” In accepting the offers of the Crown the city agreed to erect 200 houses here, and leave room for 300 more; 4000 acres contiguous to the city were to be annexed to it in perpetuity, exclusively of bog and barren mountain, which were to be added as waste; convenient sites were allowed for the houses of the bishop and dean; the liberties were to extend three miles or 3000 Irish paces in every direction from the centre of the city; and the London undertakers were to have the neighbouring fort of Culmore, with the lands attached, on condition of maintaining in it a competent ward of officers and men. In 1613 the inhabitants, having surrendered their former charter, were re-incorporated, and the name of the city was altered to Londonderry. The natives having conspired to take the town by surprise, a supply of arms was sent from London in 1615; an additional sum of £5000 was ordered for completing the walls; and, that it might not in future be peopled with Irish, the Society issued directions that a certain number of children from Christ’s Hospital, and others, should be sent hither as apprentices and servants, and prohibited the inhabitants from taking Irish apprentices. Leases of most of the houses were granted for thirty-one years, and to each was allotted a portion of land according to the rent, with ground for gardens and orchards; 300 acres were assigned for the support of a free school; and of the 4000 acres the Society allotted to the houses or granted to the mayor 3217, including a parcel of 1500 acres which were set apart to support the magistracy of the city, and which subsequently became a source of contention between the Society, the corporation, and the bishop. In 1618 we find the fortifications completed, at an expense of £8357; but notwithstanding the adoption of these and other measures of improvement, the increase of houses and inhabitants was very slow, and the operations of the Society were made the ground of various representations to the Crown respecting the non-fulfilment of the conditions of planting.

In 1622, commissioners were appointed to enquire into the affairs of the plantation, to whom the mayor and corporation presented a petition complaining of many grievances resulting from the conduct of the Society,

one of the chief of which was the non-erection of the specified number of houses: this enquiry led to several sequestrations of the city and liberties until 1628, and for some time the rents were paid to the Crown. In the rebellion of 1641 the English and Scottish settlers received a considerable supply of arms and ammunition from London, and having secured themselves within the walls, successfully defended the city from the attacks of the rebels under Sir Phelim O’Nial. In 1643 the inhabitants of Londonderry and Coleraine sent letters to the lords-justices urging their impoverished condition and praying for relief. Sir John Vaughan, the governor, having died this year, Sir Robert Stewart was appointed to the command of the garrison, of which five companies aided in his defeat of Owen O’Nial at Clones, on the 13th of June. Towards the close of the year the parliament having taken the covenant, the London adventurers sent over an agent with letters desiring that it should be taken within their plantation; but in the year following the mayor was ordered by the lord-lieutenant and council to publish a proclamation against it. Col. Audley Mervin, who had been appointed governor by the Marquess of Ormonde, was nevertheless obliged from expediency to take the covenant: in 1645 he was displaced by the parliament, and was succeeded by Lord Folliott. Sir C. Coote, the parliamentary general, having, in 1648, treacherously seized upon the person of Sir Robert Hamilton, forced him to surrender Culmore fort, by which the parliamentarians became masters of all the forts of Ulster, except Charlemont. The Marquess of Ormonde having failed in his attempts to induce Sir C. Coote to join the king’s cause, the latter was blocked up in Derry by the royalists; and soon after the city and Culmore fort were regularly besieged by Sir Robert Stewart, who was subsequently joined by Sir G. Monroe and Lord Montgomery with their respective forces, and Chas. II. was proclaimed with great solemnity before the camp of Derry. The decapitation of the late king having excited general horror among the majority of the people of the north, they rose in arms and soon obtained possession of all the towns and places of strength in that quarter, except Derry and Culmore, which, after a siege of four months, and when the garrison, consisting of 800 foot and 180 horse, was reduced to the greatest extremities, were relieved by Owen Roe O’Nial, to whom Sir C. Coote had promised a reward of £5000 for this service; and by the defeat of Ever Mac Mahon, the Roman Catholic general, the following year, at Skirfolas in Donegal, Coote finally reduced all Ulster under the power of the parliament. After the Restoration, Chas. II., in 1662, granted letters patent to the Irish Society, containing, with very little alteration, all the clauses of the first charter of Jas. I.; this is the charter under which the Society and the corporation of Derry now act. In 1684 the same monarch constituted a guild of the staple, with powers as ample as those enjoyed by any other city or town: in the following year, owing to the decay of trade, the corporation complained to the Society that the government of the town was too expensive for the magistrates to sustain, and solicited an abatement of the rent.

In 1689 this city became the asylum of the Protestants of the north, who, in number about 30,000, fled to it for refuge before the marauding forces of James; and is distinguished in the annals of modern history for the heroic bravery of its inhabitants amidst the extreme privations of a protracted siege. The chief governor having withdrawn the Protestant garrison, and steps being taken to introduce an undisciplined native force influenced by hostile prejudices, the young men of the city closed the gates against its admission, and the bulk of the inhabitants took up arms in their own defence. The magistrates and graver citizens endeavoured to palliate this ebullition of military ardour in their representations to the lord-lieutenant, but in the meantime the armed inhabitants applied to the Irish Society for assistance. Lord Mountjoy, a Protestant commander in the army of James, was, however, admitted, in a great measure from personal regard, but on condition that a free pardon should be granted within 15 days, and that in the interval only two companies should be quartered within the walls; that of the forces afterwards admitted one-half at least should be Protestants; that until pardon was received the citizens should guard the fortifications; and that all who desired it might be permitted to quit the city. By the advice of Mountjoy, who was obeyed as a friend and associate, the arms were repaired, money cheerfully subscribed, ammunition purchased in Scotland, and the agent despatched to England urged to procure supplies. He was succeeded in the command by his first lieutenant, Lundy, whom King William, on sending an officer with some military supplies, commissioned to act in his name; but the dissatisfaction of the citizens was excited by the vacillating character of this commander, who, on the approach of James to besiege the city in person, prepared to surrender it, notwithstanding the arrival of two English colonels in the river with reinforcements, which he remanded. The principal officers being about to withdraw, and the town council preparing to offer terms of capitulation, the inhabitants rose tumultuously against the constituted authorities, received with enthusiasm a brave and popular captain who presented himself at the city gates with a reinforcement, and, rushing to the walls, fired upon James and his party advancing to take possession of the place. On deliberation they suffered the timid to depart unmolested; Lundy first concealed himself and afterwards escaped; and two new governors were

*chosen, one of whom was the celebrated George Walker, rector of Donoughmore. Under their directions the soldiers and able inhabitants were formed into eight regiments, numbering 7020 men, with 341 officers; order and discipline were in some degree established, and, notwithstanding partial jealousies, 18 Protestant clergymen and seven non-conformists shared in the labour and danger of the siege, and by their exhortations stimulated the enthusiastic courage of the defenders with the fervour of devotion. The operations of an army of 20,000 men were thus successfully opposed in a place abandoned as untenable by the regular forces, unaided by engineers or well-mounted guns, and with only a ten days' supply of provisions.*

*An irregular war of sallies was adopted with such effect that James, who had hitherto remained at St. Johnstown, six miles distant, returned to Dublin, leaving his army to continue the siege. The defenders had now to contend against the inroads of disease and famine; and the arrival of Kirke with a fleet in the lough afforded but little prospect of relief, as he deemed it too hazardous an enterprise to sail up to the town in front of the enemy's lines. Although thus apparently left to their own scanty resources, the brave garrison continued the defence with unabated heroism, still making desperate and effective sallies even when too much enfeebled by hunger to pursue their success. To induce a surrender, Marshal Rosen, the besieging general, ordered his soldiers to drive round the walls of the town the helpless Protestant population of the surrounding district, of all ages, who were thus exposed to the horrors of famine for nearly three days before they were suffered to disperse; some of the ablest of the men secretly joined their comrades in the town, and an ineffective body of 500 people were passed from it unperceived by the enemy. When even such miserable resources as the flesh of horses and dogs, hides, tallow, and similar nauseous substances had failed for two days, two of Kirke's ships, laden with provisions and convoyed by the Dartmouth frigate, advanced up the lough in view both of the garrison and the besiegers, in a dangerous attempt to relieve the place, returning with spirit the fire of the enemy. The foremost of the provision ships came in contact with the boom that had been thrown across the channel and broke it, but rebounding with violence ran aground, and for the moment appeared to be at the mercy of the besiegers, who with acclamations of joy instantly prepared to board her; but the vessel, firing her guns, was extricated by the shock, floated, and triumphantly passed the boom followed by her companions.*

*The town was thus relieved and the enemy retired; but of the brave defenders only 4300 survived to witness their deliverance, and of this number more than 1000 were incapable of service; those who were able immediately sallied out in pursuit of the enemy, who had lost 8000 men by the sword and by various disorders during the siege, which had continued 105 days. Culmore fort was reduced to ruin, and was never afterwards rebuilt; and the city sustained so much damage that the Irish Society deemed it necessary to appoint commissioners for its restoration; the twelve chief companies of London advanced £100 each; the Society supplied timber for the public buildings, abatements were made in the rents, the terms of leases were augmented, and other measures necessary for the accomplishment of this object were adopted. In 1692, the corporation failing to negotiate with Bishop King for a renewal of the lease of the quarter-lands, reminded the Society that the bishop's claims to this property were unsubstantial, and agreed to establish their right in consideration of £90. 10. per annum, which is still paid. In 1695 the Society procured a resumption of the remainder of the 1500 acres comprised in their letters patent, by an ejectment against the bishop, who, in 1607, appealed to the Irish House of Lords and obtained an order for their restitution, which the sheriffs and other inhabitants of Derry opposing, were taken into custody and conveyed to Dublin. Against this decision the Society applied to the English House of Lords, and in 1703 an act was passed establishing their right not only to the 1500 acres but also to the fisheries, which had previously been an object of dispute, subject to the payment of £'250 per annum to the bishop and his successors, which is still continued, with a condition of exonerating him from rent or other demands for his palace and gardens.*

*In 1721 a dispute took place between the corporation and the military governor, who refused to deliver the keys of the city gates to the new mayor, which by the charter he was bound to do; he surrounded the town-hall with troops, and prevented the members of the corporation entering it, but was removed immediately after. A grand centenary commemoration of the shutting of the gates took place in 1788, and was continued with the utmost harmony for three days; and in the month of August following the relief of the city was commemorated.*

*The city is advantageously situated on the western or Donegal side of the river Foyle, about five statute miles above the point where it spreads into Lough Foyle, chiefly on the summit and sides of a hill projecting into the river, and commanding on all sides richly diversified and picturesque views of a well cultivated tract: this*

hill, or "Island of Deny," is of an oval form, 119 feet high, and contains about 200 acres. The ancient portion of the city occupies the higher grounds, and is surrounded by massive walls completed in 1617; at the expense of the Society: they form a parallelogram nearly a mile in circumference, and in the centre is a square called the Diamond, from which four principal streets radiate at right angles towards the principal gates. Since the Union the city has considerably increased, particularly on the north along the shore of the river, where several warehouses, stores, and merchants' residences have been erected: on the west is also a considerable suburb, in which, within the last fifteen years, some new streets have been formed; and on the eastern bank of the river is another, called Waterside. The walls, which are well built and in a complete state of repair, are nearly 1800 yards in circuit, 24 feet high, and of sufficient thickness to form an agreeable promenade on the top. The four original gates have been rebuilt on an enlarged and more elegant plan, and two more added; but the only two that are embellished are Bishop's gate and Ship-quay gate, the former, built by subscription in 1788, being the centenary in commemoration of the siege. In 1628 the Irish Society was ordered to erect guard and sentinel houses, of which two are yet remaining; and of the several bastions, the north-western was demolished in 1824, to make room for the erection of a butter market; and in 1826 the central western bastion was appropriated to the reception of a public testimonial in honour of the celebrated George Walker.

A few guns are preserved in their proper positions, but the greater number are used as posts for fastening cables and protecting the corners of streets. The houses are chiefly built of brick: the entire number in the city and suburbs is 2947. The city is watched, paved, cleansed, and lighted with gas, under the superintendence of commissioners of general police, consisting of the mayor and 12 inhabitants chosen by ballot: the gas-works were erected in 1829, at an expense of £7000, raised in shares of £11. Water is conveyed to the town across the bridge by pipes, from a reservoir on Brae Head, beyond the Waterside, in the parish of Clondermot; the works were constructed by the corporation under an act of the 40th of Geo. III., at a total expense of £15,500, and iron pipes have been laid down within the last few years. The bridge, a celebrated wooden structure erected by Lemuel Cox, an American, in lieu of a ferry which the corporation held under the Irish Society, was begun in 1789, and completed in the spring of 1791. It is 1068 feet in length and 40 in breadth: the piles are of oak, and the head of each is tenoned into a cap piece 40 feet long and 17 inches square, supported by three sets of girths and braces; the piers, which are 16 1/2 feet apart, are bound together by thirteen string-pieces equally divided and transversely bolted, on which is laid the flooring: on each side of the platform is a railing 4 1/2 feet high, also a broad pathway provided with gas lamps. Near the end next to the city a turning bridge has been constructed in place of the original drawbridge, to allow of the free navigation of the river. On the 6th of Feb., 1814, a portion of the bridge extending to 350 feet was carried away by large masses of ice floated down the river by the ebb tide and a very high wind. The original expense of its erection was £16,594, and of the repairs after the damage in 1814, £18,208, of which latter sum, £15,000 was advanced as a loan by Government: the average annual amount of tolls from 1831 to 1834, inclusive, was £3693. Plans and estimates for the erection of a new bridge, nearly 200 yards above the present, have been procured; but there is no prospect of the immediate execution of the design. A public library and news room, commenced in 1819 by subscription and established on its present plan in 1824, by a body of proprietors of transferable shares of 20 guineas each, is provided with about 2660 volumes of modern works and with periodical publications and daily and weekly newspapers: it is a plain building faced with hewn Dungiven sandstone, erected by subscription in 1824, at an expense of nearly £2000, and, besides the usual apartments, contains also the committee-room of the Chamber of Commerce. The lower part of the building is used as the news-room, to which all the inhabitants are admitted on payment of five guineas annually. A literary society for debates and lectures was instituted in 1834, and the number of its members is rapidly increasing. Concerts were formerly held at the King's Arms hotel, but have been discontinued.

Races are held on a course to the north of the town. Walker's Testimonial, on the central western bastion, was completed in 1828 by subscription, at an expense of £1200: it consists of a column of Portland stone of good proportions, in the Roman Doric style, surmounted by a statue of that distinguished governor by John Smith, Esq., of Dublin: the column is ascended by a spiral staircase within, and, including the pedestal, is 81 feet in height, in addition to which the statue measures nine feet. The city is in the northern military district, and is the head-quarters of a regiment of infantry which supplies detachments to various places: the barracks are intended for the accommodation of four officers and 320 men, with an hospital for 32 patients, but from their insufficiency a more commodious edifice is about to be erected, for which ground has been provided in the parish of Clondermot.



*The manufactures are not very considerable: the principal is that of meal, for which there are several corn-mills, of which one erected by Mr. Schoales in 1831, and worked by a steam-engine of 18-horse power, and another subsequently by Mr. Leatham, worked by an engine of 20-horse power, are the chief: the recent extension of this branch of trade has made meal an article of export instead of import, as formerly; in 1831, 553 tons were imported, and in 1834 6950 tons were exported. In William-street are a brewery and distillery; there are copper-works which supply the whole of the north-west of Ulster, and afford regular employment to 27 men; two coach-factories; and a cornmill and distillery at Pennyburn, and another at Waterside. A sugar-house was built in 1762, in what is still called Sugar-house-lane, but was abandoned in 1809; the buildings were converted into a glass manufactory in 1820, but this branch of business was carried on for a few years only. This is the place of export for the agricultural produce of a large tract of fertile country, which renders the coasting trade very extensive, especially with Great Britain: the quantity of grain exported to England and Scotland alone, in the year ending Jan. 5th 1835, was 3680 tons of wheat, 1490 tons of barley, 10,429 tons of oats, 6950 tons of oatmeal, 3050 tons of eggs, 3654 tons of flax, 52,842 firkins of butter, 11,580 barrels of pork, 1900 bales of bacon, 590 hogsheads of hams, 1628 kegs of tongues, and 147 hogsheads of lard. It is still the market for a considerable quantity of linen, of which 9642 boxes and bales were exported in the same year. The number of vessels employed in the coasting trade which entered inwards in 1834 was 649, of an aggregate tonnage of 63,726, and which cleared outwards, 646, of an aggregate tonnage of 62,502, including steam-vessels, which ply regularly between this port and Liverpool and Glasgow. The principal articles of foreign produce imported direct are staves and timber from the Baltic, barilla from Spain, sugar and rum from the West Indies, wine from Spain and Portugal; tobacco from the United States, from which the ships come chiefly to take out emigrants, who resort to this port from the inland districts in great numbers; flax seed, the importation of which has much increased within the last few years, from Riga, America, and Holland; the quantity imported in 1835 was 12,400 hogsheads; but the greater proportion of foreign commodities comes indirectly, or coastwise. The number of vessels employed in the foreign trade which entered inwards in 1834 was 57, of an aggregate burden of 10,406 tons, and that cleared outwards, 16, of an aggregate tonnage of 4869. The salmon fishery of the Foyle affords employment to 120 men, exclusively of the same number of water-keepers: the fish is shipped principally for Liverpool; some is also sent to Glasgow, and some pickled for the London market: the quantity taken annually on an average of three years from 1832 to 1834 inclusive was about 149 tons. The right of fishing in this river up to Lifford is vested by charter of Jas. I. in the Irish Society, who by an act in the reign of Anne, are bound to pay the bishop £250 per annum, as compensation for his claim to some small fishings, and also to a tithe of the whole; but at present the Marquess of Abercorn and the Earl of Erne hold fisheries below the town of Lifford.*

*The fishery off the coast is precarious, and frequently yields only a scanty supply, from the danger in encountering a rough sea experienced by the boats employed in it, which are only indifferently built; yet at other times the market abounds with turbot taken near Innistrahull and on Hempton's Bank, about 18 Irish miles north of Ennishowen Head; soles and haddock, taken in Lough Swilly and elsewhere; cod, mostly off the entrance to Lough Foyle; and oysters, taken in Lough Swilly from the island of Inch up to Fort Stewart, and in Lough Foyle, from Quigley's Point down to Greencastle.*

*Derry is situated about 19 statute miles above the entrance to Lough Foyle, the approach to which is facilitated by a lighthouse on the island of Innistrahull, and will be rendered still more safe by two others now in course of erection on Shrove Head, Ennishowen, intended to serve as guiding lights past the great Tun Bank lying to the east. A new and very important trade as connected with the port, is the herring fishery; in 1835, upwards of 5800 barrels were cured at the Orkneys, by Derry merchants, and the total quantity imported exceeds 12,000 barrels, one half of which are cured by vessels fitted out from this port; large quantities of oysters have been taken in the river Foyle since 1829. The limits of the port extend to Culmore, a distance of three miles; the lough has been deepened under the directors of the Ballast Committee, in consequence of which, vessels drawing 14 feet of water, can come close to the quays.*

*At the entrance to the lough is a well-regulated establishment of pilots, under the superintendence of the Ballast Board. The Ballast Office was established by act of parliament in 1790, and remodelled by another act in 1833: the port regulations are under the control of a committee of this establishment, consisting of the mayor and seven other members, of whom the two senior members go out annually by rotation, and who have the power of making by-laws. The corporation alone possessed the right of having quays prior to 1832, when they lost their monopoly, and private quays were constructed: they disposed of their interest in the*

merchants' or custom-house quays, in Nov. 1831; there are now 21 sufferance or private wharfs or quays, including two at Waterside, in the parish of Clondermot.

A patent slip dock was constructed in 1830, at an expense of £4000, in which vessels of 300 tons registered burden can be repaired: prior to that period most vessels were sent for repair to Liverpool or the Clyde, and two large brigs have been built here since that date: naval stores are brought chiefly from Belfast, but sails are manufactured here. The custom-house, a small and inconvenient building, was built as a store in 1805, and since 1809 has been held by Government on a permanent tenure, at an annual rental of £1419. 4. 6., at first as a king's store, and since 1824 as a custom-house: the premises comprise some extensive tobacco and timber yards, laid out at different periods, and extend in front 450 feet, varying in depth: the duties received here in 1837 amounted to £99,652. The markets are generally well supplied. The shambles, for meat daily, and to which there is a weigh-house attached, are situated off Linen-hall-street, and were built in 1760, by Alderman Alexander and other members of the corporation: the tolls belong to Sir R. A. Ferguson, Bart., who in 1830 purchased the shambles and the fish and vegetable markets of the corporation. The linen market, on Wednesday, is held in a hall occupying an obscure situation in a street to which it gives name, and built in 1770, by the late Fred. Hamilton, Esq., to whose descendant the tolls belong: it consists of a court measuring 147 feet by 15, and enclosed by small dilapidated houses; the cloth is exposed on stands placed in the court and under sheds; on the opposite side of the street is the sealing-room. The butter market, in Waterloo-place, for butter and hides daily, and to which three weighhouses are attached; the fish market, off Linen-hall street, daily; the potatoe market, in Society-street, for potatoes and meal by retail daily, with a weigh-house attached; and the vegetable market, off Linen-hall-street, for vegetables, poultry, and butter daily, were all built in 1825 by the corporation, to whom the tolls of the butter and potatoe markets belong. The cow market, for the sale of cows, pigs, sheep, and goats, every Wednesday, is held in a field to the south of Bishop-street, near the river, which was enclosed in 1832 by the corporation, to whom the tolls belong. There are also a flax market in Bishop-street every Thursday, and a market for yarn in Butchers'-street every Wednesday.

Six fairs are held annually, but only three are of importance, namely, on June 17th, Sept. 4th, and Oct. 17th; the others are on March 4th, April 30th, and Sept. 20th. Custom was charged on every article of merchandise brought into the city prior to 1826, when it was abolished, except as regards goods conveyed over the bridge; and in lieu thereof, the corporation instituted trespass, cranage, storage, and other dues. The post office was established in 1784; the amount of postage for 1834 was £4047. 17. 1 1/2. The revenue police force usually consists of a lieutenant and twelve men; and the constabulary is composed of a chief constable and twelve men.

The municipal government is vested in a mayor, twelve aldermen, and twenty-four burgesses, assisted by a recorder, town-clerk, and chamberlain; and the inferior officers of the corporation are a sword-bearer, mace bearer, four town-Serjeants, two sheriffs' bailiffs, &c. The mayor and sheriffs are elected by the common council on the 2nd of Feb., the former from among the aldermen, and the latter from the burgesses, from whom also the aldermen are chosen; the burgesses are appointed from the freemen and inhabitants. The sheriffs exercise jurisdiction both over the entire county and the liberties of the city; and the town-clerk is generally clerk of the peace for the county. The freedom is inherited by the sons of aldermen and burgesses, and is obtained by marriage with their daughters, by apprenticeship to a freeman, and by gift of the corporation.

The city returned two representatives to the Irish parliament till the Union, since which it has sent one to the imperial parliament. The right of voting was formerly vested in the burgesses and freemen, in number about 450; but by the late enactments, under which a new electoral boundary, minutely described in the Appendix, has been established, the former non-resident electors, except within a distance of seven miles, have been disfranchised, and the privilege extended to the £10 householders: the number of registered voters on the 1st of April, 1835, was 724, of whom 504 were £10 householders, and the remainder freemen. The mayor, recorder, and all aldermen who have filled the mayoralty, are justices of the peace within the liberties, which comprise the city and a circuit of three Irish miles measured from its centre; and they also exercise jurisdiction by sufferance over the townland of Culmore. The mayor and recorder, or the mayor alone, hold a court of record every Monday, for pleas to any amount; the process is either by attachment against the goods, or arrest of the person. The court of general sessions for the city is held four times a year: there is a court of petty sessions weekly, held before the mayor, or any of the civic magistrates. The mayor also holds weekly a court of conscience, for the recovery of ordinary debts not exceeding £20 late currency or servants'

wages to the amount of £6, and from which there is no appeal. The city is in the north-west circuit, and the assizes are held here twice a year: it is also one of the four towns within the county at which the general quarter sessions are held, and where the assistant barrister presides in April and October. The corporation hall in the centre of the Diamond, and on the site of the original town-house built by the Irish Society in 1622, was erected by the corporation in 1692, and till 1895, when it was rebuilt by the corporation, was called the market-house or exchange: the south front, in which is the principal entrance, is circular. The upper story contains a common-council room, an assembly-room, and an ante-chamber. On the ground floor, which was formerly open for the sale of meal and potatoes, but was closed in 1825, is a news-room established by the corporation in that year.

The courthouse, completed in 1817 at an expense of £30,479.15., including the purchase of the site and furniture, is a handsome building of white sandstone, chiefly from the neighbourhood of Dungiven, ornamented with Portland stone, and erected from a design by Mr. John Bowden: it measures 126 feet by 66, and exhibits a facade, judiciously broken by a tetrastyle portico of the enriched Ionic order, modelled from that of the temple of Erectheus at Athens; over the pediment are the royal arms; and the wings are surmounted by statues of Justice and Peace sculptured in Portland stone by the late Edward Smith. The principal apartments are the crown and record courts, the mayor's public and private offices, the offices of the recorder, treasurer, and clerks of the crown and peace, the judges' room, and the grand jury room: in addition to the assizes, sessions, and mayor's court, the county and other meetings are held in it. The gaol, situated in Bishop-street, beyond the gate, was erected between the years 1819 and 1824, by Messrs. Henry, Muffins, and McMahan, at an expense of £33,718, late currency: the front, which is partly coated with cement and partly built of Dungiven stone, extends 242 feet; and the depth of the entire building, including the yards, is 400 feet. It is built on the radiating plan; the governor's house, which includes the chapel and committee room, is surrounded by a panoptic gallery; and the entire gaol contains 179 single cells, 26 work and day rooms, and 20 airing-yards: apart from the main building is an hospital, containing separate wards for both sexes. The regulations are excellent: in 1835 the system of classification was abandoned, and the silent system introduced; the prisoners are constantly employed at various trades, and receive one-third of their earnings."

## **DERRY CITY – Review of findings & recommendations**

### Significant surviving heritage asset groupings:

- Ecclesiastical: archaeological fragments; St Columbs cathedral, city churches of all denominations
- Mediaeval/ Plantation: bastioned city walls and archaeological fragments
- Urban: planned colonial walled city; 19<sup>th</sup> century expansions and institutions
- Industrial Heritage: Mills, Shirt Factories & Railway Heritage
- Natural: city landscape setting and city park landscapes at St Columb's and Brooke Park

### Possible risk areas:

- Erosion of original city fabric through neglect and deliberate damage
- Erosion of original city fabric through well intentioned, but inappropriate, repair techniques due to lack of knowledge
- Absence of grass roots level building industry training in traditional materials and craft skills
- Implementation of poorly conceived redevelopment proposals at any price in the name of short term job creation
- Erosion of city centre activities through peripheral development
- Potential for loss of city's unique regional qualities through normative design approaches
- Stealth buildings and inappropriately scaled development on city quays and at Pennyburn/ Fort George
- Measurement of short term energy savings associated with new building without reference to embodied energy and reuse of heritage buildings.
- Building structures: structures identified as being at risk by the Walled City Partnership

### Existing tourism uses & Opportunities

- Redevelopment of significant sites such as Ebrington
- Use of tourism generated revenues for planned conservation approach to the city fabric
- Creation of improved access to and links across river
- Creation of tourism links between city centre and wider Foyle valley region
- Promotion of the city in the wider Foyle landscape setting to an international audience in 2013 and beyond.

## 5 STUDY FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

### 5.1 *Future Research & Use of Audit Information*

Foyle Civic Trust has planned to use information obtained within the course of this audit to prepare a directory of heritage source material, a series of visitor trail maps and several other related activities. The scale of the task, and the information revealed in the course of undertaking it, has prompted a series of further recommendations. Many of these recommendations are relevant to the Foyle Civic Trust and other may be of concern to policy makers and other stakeholders with an interest in the future of the heritage of the Foyle basin. It is expected that further suggestions will arise as the content of the study is disseminated and the audit is seen as a beginning of a process rather than end in itself.

Recommendations contained in this report can be summarised under a number of headings as follows:

- **Heritage Audit Document** – the size of the task became apparent at an early stage and, despite the establishment of precise boundaries, the Audit Document is substantial and has potential for the addition of further information. In order to ensure that the audit should continue to be useful it is recommended that the audit be reviewed on a periodic basis and updated accordingly. In the long term, a web based resource would allow better access to the information and allow new information to be added as it becomes available
- **Web based information resource** – the heritage audit has supplied data sheets on a selection of significant heritage assets. These are supplied in a standardised form with mapping coordinates that will allow information to be integrated with a web based GIS system using the Ordnance Survey for base mapping. A natural extension of this in future would be through the virtual spatial forms that are already anticipated by new technologies such as Lidar Scanning and satellite imagery. In many respects the scope of the audit only allows the capture of a limited amount of information in respect of each asset. A digital framework would allow this information to be added to and some further recommendations are relevant to this.
- **Photographic Survey** – the heritage audit has not allowed buildings and sites to be visited in any significant numbers; it is unlikely that resources would be available to undertake such a comprehensive photographic study in the future. A substantial

number of images are already available through a variety of websites including the Natural Stone Database and the Ulster Architectural Heritage Society. A schools or community based collection campaign may be possible allowing an online resource to be accumulated. Such an approach may allow collection of information relating to the vernacular and industrial heritage features highlighted below.

- **Vernacular Buildings** – the audit has revealed that, despite their importance in portraying regional distinctiveness and identity, and also to tourism, there is almost no protection to vernacular buildings throughout the study area. Many buildings have been lost and many survive in a degraded condition. Further study is required to determine the real extent of this problem, but more importantly practical and financial assistance may be required to encourage the maintenance and reuse of these structures.
- **Industrial Heritage Mills** – the importance of water power to the region cannot be underestimated and aerial photography, in common with vernacular settlements, reveals an unexpected level of survival. A ground level investigation and review is needed to determine the real extent of survival of a building type that may have practical and tourism potential in the future.
- **Audit region** – any study of this nature requires limits to be established and, to a degree, the spatial approach that is generated through the use of Landscape Character Areas can be extended indefinitely. Subject to review of the audit and its uses in the long term, consideration should be given to the extension of the study area to include links to other parts of the Foyle system.
- **Visitor trail maps** – a number of trails exist or are in the process of development covering separate areas within the region. It is recommended that new trails are integrated with local and regional routes so that the existing resource is enhanced.
- **Heritage Management** – the need for ongoing maintenance of built heritage is a significant concern that has been revealed repeatedly throughout the study area. Excellent free information is available from the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, the Ulster Architectural Heritage Society in Northern Ireland and the Department of Arts Culture Heritage and the Gaeltacht in the Republic. There is also a need for practical assistance in a number of different forms. The most pressing need appears in the context of masonry ruins and ecclesiastical monuments in particular. Almost without exception, where sites were visited, ivy and other woody

vegetation are doing significant damage to significant medieval buildings and a small scale maintenance programme is needed to needed. The success of this is likely to require assistance from local communities.

- **Heritage Impact Assessment** – the audit has revealed cases where permission has been granted for development of historic sites, apparently without an understanding of the possible impacts that development might have in its execution or its completed form. Similar concerns arise in relation to major projects where assessments are made on the basis of isolated review of protected structures and sites within their statutory boundaries alone. Such an approach ignores the importance of setting and visual and historic landscape impacts; it is hoped that the Landscape Character approach promoted by the project brief may begin to address this.
- **Archaeological Investigations** – several important Plantation and Siege period sites have been highlighted for further investigation. The site at Dunaanlong is already being studied in further detail; others include: investigation of a possible Plantation period house at Magilligan; mapping and exploration of outlying Siege of Derry sites, particularly at Gransha/ Boom Hall and also at St Columb’s Park, Creggan and the City Cemetery.

## APPENDICES

### *Data Asset Sheets*

Appendix 1: Magilligan Lowlands

Appendix 2: Foyle Alluvial Plain

Appendix 3: Burngibbah & Drumahoe

Appendix 4: Foyle Valley

Appendix 5: Derry Slopes

Appendix 6: The City

Appendix 7: Information Sources

Appendix 8: Consultation List & Acknowledgments