

# National Monuments in State Care: Ownership & Guardianship

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Galway



Comhshaol, Oidhreachta agus Rialtas Áitiúil  
Environment, Heritage and Local Government

National Monuments Service  
Seirbhís na Séadcomharthaí Náisiúnta

[www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie)

## **Disclaimer**

These data sets are based on records many of which date to the late nineteenth or early twentieth centuries. Research to clarify the number and exact extent of some of the monuments brought into care, is ongoing. Consequently, the information presented here should be considered as a work in progress and changes will be implemented from time to time. While every effort has been made in preparing this data no responsibility is accepted by or on behalf of the State for any errors, omissions or misleading statements on these pages or any website to which these pages connect.



## NATIONAL MONUMENTS IN STATE CARE

### What is a National Monument?

The term 'national monument' as defined in Section 2 of the National Monuments Act (1930) means a monument 'the preservation of which is a matter of national importance by reason of the historical, architectural, traditional, artistic or archaeological interest attaching thereto...'

### What is a National Monument in State Care?

National monuments in State care include those which are in the ownership or guardianship of the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG). Other owners of national monuments are empowered under Section 5 of the National Monuments Act (1930) to appoint the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government as guardian of such monuments. This means in effect that while the property of such a monument remains vested in the owner, its maintenance and upkeep are the responsibility of the State.

Monuments which may be defined as national monuments are also in the ownership or guardianship of Local Authorities which have similar responsibilities under the National Monuments Acts (1930-2004) to DEHLG. These monuments are not included in the data sets presented here.

### How many National Monuments are in State Care?

In October 1874 the first group of monuments, those on the Rock of Cashel, Co. Tipperary, was taken into State care. Since then, over 1,000 individual monuments at 760 locations, have been taken into ownership or guardianship. These range from megalithic tombs of the neolithic period to medieval churches and castles, industrial mills and historic buildings of more recent times. One of the core functions of the National Monuments Service is to ensure the preservation of the monuments in its care for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. To view a list of monuments in state care go to [www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie).

### Who looks after National Monuments in State Care?

A partnership of the National Monument Services of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and the Office of Public Works, looks after the national monuments in State care. The conservation and presentation of these monuments is project-managed by the OPW with responsibility for the archaeological aspects of projects resting with DEHLG. The consent of the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government is required for any works at or in proximity to national monuments in State care.

The country is divided into six works districts, each with a team of specialist craftsmen and general operatives reporting to a district works manager, under the general direction of a senior conservation architect. [www.opw.ie](http://www.opw.ie).

### Which National Monuments can I visit?

Not all monuments in State care are open or accessible to the public. To view those which provide visitor facilities go to [www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie).



## National Monuments in State Care Database

This list of National Monuments in State care includes those which are in the ownership and guardianship of the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. Over 1,000 individual monuments at 760 locations are represented. In most cases, each entry on the list represents an individual monument however, where a group of monuments form a discreet entity e.g. Lough Crew passage tomb cemetery, Glendalough monastic settlement, these are treated as one entry.

### Format of the database

The database contains the following fields:

1. **NAME:** This is the common or popular name of the monument or group of monuments. In the absence of a commonly known name the townland name is used.
2. **DESCRIPTION:** This identifies the type of monument e.g. castle, church, passage tomb cemetery, etc. The terminology used does not strictly follow the classification of the Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) e.g. the term 'ringfort' is used for earthen forts and 'cashel' is used for stone forts.
3. **TOWNLAND:** The townland names used are in accordance with those used by the Ordnance Survey. If a monument extends over more than one townland, all townlands will be listed.
4. **COUNTY:** The county in which the monument is situated.
5. **LEGAL STATUS:** This indicates whether the site is in the ownership or guardianship of the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.
6. **RMP NUMBER:** Each monument is entered in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) as established under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994. A unique identifying number is assigned to each monument and place in the record. The RMP number provides the link to the records of the Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) which contains further information on the monument in question.
7. **NATIONAL MONUMENT NUMBER:** When a monument is taken into State ownership or guardianship its details are added to a National Monuments Register. In the earlier years, when a number of monuments were taken in State care at the same time, they were all given the same register number e.g. the monuments on the Dingle peninsula are all registered under number 221. Similarly, groups of monument such as the passage tombs at Lough Crew will have the same registration number. The register is not entirely up-to-date with the result that some of the more recent acquisitions have yet to be assigned numbers.



## National Monuments in State Care

20-Feb-09

NAME	DESCRIPTION	TOWNLAND	COUNTY	LEG_STATUS	RMP NUMBER	Nat_Mon_No
Knockmoy	Church	Abbert Demesne	Galway	Ownership	GA058-002002-	278
Knockmoy Abbey	Abbey (Cistercian)	Abbey	Galway	Ownership	GA058-004001-	166
Kilconnell Abbey	Friary (Franciscan)	Abbeyfield	Galway	Ownership	GA086-001----	47
Dunmore Abbey	Friary (Augustinian)	Abbeyland South	Galway	Ownership	GA017-005001-	273
Clontuskert Abbey	Priory (Augustinian)	Abbeypark	Galway	Guardianship	GA088-001----	512
Annaghdown	Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Site	Annaghdown	Galway	Ownership	GA069-001----	49
Ardamullivan Castle	Castle	Ardamullivan	Galway	Ownership	GA128-003----	252
Athenry Abbey	Priory (Dominican)	Athenry	Galway	Ownership	GA084-001004-	164
Athenry Castle	Castle	Athenry	Galway	Ownership	GA084-001006-	406
Aughrim	Two Rinforts	Attidermot	Galway	Ownership	GA087-004----, GA087-006----, GA087-005----	371
Aughnanaure Castle	Castle	Aughnanaure	Galway	Ownership	GA054-002----	470

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20-Feb-09

NAME	DESCRIPTION	TOWNLAND	COUNTY	LEG_STATUS	RMP NUMBER	Nat_Mon_No
Cahevavoley	House & Bawn	Cahevavoley, Kilcahill	Galway	Ownership	GA057-067001-, GA057-067003-, GA057-067004-	369
Doonbeg	Ringfort	Carrownlisheen	Galway	Ownership	GA110-066----	42
Carrownlisheen	Wedge Tomb	Carrownlisheen	Galway	Ownership	GA119-077----	42
Templesaghtmacree	Church	Carrownlisheen	Galway	Ownership	GA119-081001-	42
Carrownlisheen	A Cross	Carrownlisheen	Galway	Ownership	GA119-081003-	42
Labbanakinneriga	Church	Carrownlisheen	Galway	Ownership	GA119-081002-	42
Doonfarvagh	Cashel	Carrownlisheen	Galway	Ownership	GA119-086----	42
Kilcanonagh Church	Church	Carrownlisheen	Galway	Ownership	GA119-087----	42
Dun Conor	Cashel	Carrownntemple	Galway	Ownership	GA119-054----	42
Dunmore Castle	Castle	Castlefarm	Galway	Ownership	GA017-069----	248
Castlegar East	St. Cuan's well & Cross slabs	Castlegar East	Galway	Ownership	GA061-023001-, GA061-023002-	467

NAME	DESCRIPTION	TOWNLAND	COUNTY	LEG_STATUS	RMP NUMBER	Nat_Mon_No
Feartagar or Jennings Castle	Castle	Castlegrove East	Galway	Ownership	GA016-021----	428
Isert Kelly Castle	Castle	Castlepark	Galway	Ownership	GA114-054----	272
Kiltartan Castle	Castle	Castletown	Galway	Ownership	GA123-031----	259
Claregalway Abbey	Friary (Franciscan)	Claregalway	Galway	Ownership	GA070-035001-	165
Cloonigny Castle	Ringfort & Castle	Cloonigny	Galway	Ownership	GA074-027001-, GA074-027002-	563
Derryhiveny Castle	Castle	Derryhiveny South	Galway	Ownership	GA118-035----	283
Doorus	Wedge Tomb	Doorus Demesne	Galway	Ownership	GA112-009----	527
Drumacoo	Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Site	Drumacoo	Galway	Ownership	GA103-118----	254
Drumharsna Castle	Castle	Drumharsna South	Galway	Ownership	GA113-110001-	365
Fiddaun Castle	Castle	Fiddaun	Galway	Ownership	GA128-052----	206
Kilnalekin Abbey	Abbey (Cistercian)	Friary	Galway	Guardianship	GA125-058----	554

NAME	DESCRIPTION	TOWNLAND	COUNTY	LEG_STATUS	RMP NUMBER	Nat_Mon_No
Glinsk Castle	Castle	Glinsk	Galway	Guardianship	GA007-062001-	439
High Island	Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Site	High Island and Kill	Galway	Ownership	GA021-026----	52
Inchagoill	Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Site	Inchagoill	Galway	Ownership	GA040-013----	412
Furmina Castle	Castle	Inisheer	Galway	Ownership	GA120-017002-	41
Creggankeel Fort	Cashel	Innisheer	Galway	Ownership	GA120-028005-	41
St. Gobnet's Church (Kilgobnet)	Church	Innisheer	Galway	Ownership	GA120-002001-	41
Knockgrannary	Burial Ground	Innisheer	Galway	Ownership	GA120-005----	41
St. Cavan's Church	Church	Innisheer	Galway	Ownership	GA120-007001-	41
Great Fort	Cashel	Innisheer	Galway	Ownership	GA120-017001-	41
Grave of the Seven Daughters	Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Site	Innisheer	Galway	Ownership	GA120-028002-	41
Kilcornan	Deserted Medieval Village	Kilcornan	Galway	Ownership	GA084-086----	642



NAME	DESCRIPTION	TOWNLAND	COUNTY	LEG_STATUS	RMP NUMBER	Nat_Mon_No
Arkin's Castle	Castle	Killeany	Galway	Ownership	GA119-005----	43
Temple Benen	Church	Killeany	Galway	Ownership	GA119-009001-	43
Turmartin Tower	Watch Tower	Killeany	Galway	Ownership	GA119-026----	43
Killeany	Leacht Cuimhne	Killeany	Galway	Ownership	GA110-093----	43
Tighlagh Eany	Church	Killeany	Galway	Ownership	GA119-020----	43
Killeany	Clocháns	Killeany	Galway	Ownership	GA119-007----, GA119-008----, GA119-009002-, GA119-010----, GA119-014----, GA119-015----	43
St. Eany's	Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Site	Killeany	Galway	Ownership	GA119-006001-, GA119-006005-, GA119006002-, GA119-006004-	43
Doocaheer	Promontory Fort	Killeany	Galway	Ownership	GA119-001----	43
Kilmacduagh	Churches & Round Tower	Kilmacduagh	Galway	Ownership	GA128-034001-, to GA128-034004-, GA128-034007, to GA128-034009-, GA128-034011-, GA128-034014-	51
Temple MacDuagh	Church	Kilmurvy	Galway	Ownership	GA110-044001-	43
Templenaneeve	Church	Kilmurvy	Galway	Ownership	GA110-044007-	43

NAME	DESCRIPTION	TOWNLAND	COUNTY	LEG_STATUS	RMP NUMBER	Nat_Mon_No
Dun Aengus	Promontory Fort	Kilmurvy	Galway	Ownership	GA110-039----	43
Clochán na Carraige	Clochán	Kilmurvy	Galway	Ownership	GA110-033----	43
Kiltiernan	Church & Cashel	Kiltiernan East	Galway	Guardianship	GA103-139001-, GA103-109001-	446
Lacken	Ringfort & Souterrain	Lacken	Galway	Ownership	GA114-109----, GA114-109001-	627
Lissard	Two Ringforts & Souterrain	Lissard	Galway	Ownership	GA073-125----, GA073-126----, GA073-126001-	621
Castlekirk Castle	Castle	Lough Corrib	Galway	Ownership	GA039-020----	245
Rathsoony	Ringfort	Masonbrook	Galway	Ownership	GA106-122----	499
Rahannagragh	Ringfort	Masonbrook	Galway	Ownership	GA106-123----	499
Merlinpark Castle	Castle	Merlinpark	Galway	Ownership	GA094-023----	609
Moanmore East	Stone Circle	Moanmore East	Galway	Guardianship	GA105-162----	498
St. Kieran's	Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Site	Oghil	Galway	Ownership	GA111-002----	43

NAME	DESCRIPTION	TOWNLAND	COUNTY	LEG_STATUS	RMP NUMBER	Nat_Mon_No
St. Soorney's	Church & Enclosure	Oghil	Galway	Ownership	GA110-084----	43
Temple an Cheathrair Aluinn	Church & grave	Oghil	Galway	Ownership	GA110-086----, GA110-085----	43
Oghill	Cashel	Oghil	Galway	Ownership	GA110-138----	43
Killeany	Clocháns	Oghill	Galway	Ownership	GA110-100001-, GA110-101----, GA110-099001-	43
Killeany	Wedge Tomb	Oghill	Galway	Ownership	GA110-098----	43
Onaght	Castle & house site	Onaght	Galway	Ownership	GA110-009001-, GA110-009002-	43
Onaght	Clocháns	Onaght	Galway	Guardianship	GA110-014----, GA110-015----, GA110-016----, GA110-016001-	43
Kilcholan Church	Church	Onaght	Galway	Ownership	GA110-019001-	43
Onaght	Cashel	Onaght	Galway	Ownership	GA110-020----	43
Templebreacan	Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Site	Onaght	Galway	Ownership	GA110-010----	43
Killursa	Church	Ower	Galway	Ownership	GA041-045----	231

NAME	DESCRIPTION	TOWNLAND	COUNTY	LEG_STATUS	RMP NUMBER	Nat_Mon_No
Pallas Castle	Castle	Pallas	Galway	Ownership	GA117-078----	462
Kilbennen	Church & Round Tower	Pollacorragune	Galway	Ownership	GA029-017002-, GA029-017001-	48
Portumna Abbey	Friary (Dominican)	Portumna Demesne	Galway	Ownership	GA127-019----	461
Portumna Castle	Castle	Portumna Demesne	Galway	Ownership	GA127-018----	515
Roscam	Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Site	Roscam	Galway	Ownership	GA094-072001-, GA094-072004-	46
Ross Errily Abbey	Friary (Franciscan)	Ross	Galway	Ownership	GA041-047----	50
St. MacDara's Island	Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Site	St. MacDara's Island	Galway	Ownership	GA076-020001-, GA076-020003-, GA076-020004-, GA076-020005-, GA076-020006-	242
Tonaroasty	Deserted Medieval Village	Tonaroasty	Galway	Ownership	GA105-189----	643
Tuam	High Cross	Townparks 2nd Division	Galway	Guardianship	GA029-179004-	505
Pearse's Cottage	House with historic associations	Turlough	Galway	Ownership	GA065-013----	431
Turoe	Sculptured Stone	Turoe	Galway	Ownership	GA097-152----	327