

Field

The Kilkenny Field Names Recording Project Newsletter

November 2018





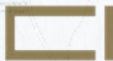
Image from "Naming Ground" film by
Shane Hatton (Photo:Shane Hatton)

Contents

Anniversary Approaching– We need your help	4
Harvest News	5
Volunteer of the Year	7
Recent Activities	8
European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018	11
Living Heritage	11
Heritage Week	12
Public Meetings / Training & Support	14
Bliain na Gaeilge 2018	16
A Remarkable Find	18
A Winter Survey	22
A Careful Process	28
Completed Townland Field Name Surveys	29



Kilkenny
County Council
Comhairle Chontae
Chill Chainnigh



Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme
2017–2022



Kilkenny
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Forum



Anniversary Approaching– We need your help

In 2019 the Kilkenny Field Names Recording Project will be in its tenth year of existence. Since its initiation in 2010 over **125** field name survey volunteers have recorded more than **9500** field names throughout the county. To mark this forthcoming anniversary we will be concentrating in 2019 on archiving and cataloguing all of the data (field names, stories and photographs) that have been recorded by Project volunteers over the past nine years so that it can be viewed and accessed by the public. We will also be making the data further available to a wider audience by sharing it with the official place names database of Ireland which is archived on www.logainm.ie.

To assist us in this task we ask all volunteers who presently have townland surveys ongoing or underway to return those surveys by 31st March 2019 at the latest even if the survey is incomplete.

Complete or incomplete surveys should be returned to:

The Kilkenny Field Names Recording Project,
The Heritage Office,
Kilkenny County Council,
John's Green House,
John's Green,
Kilkenny

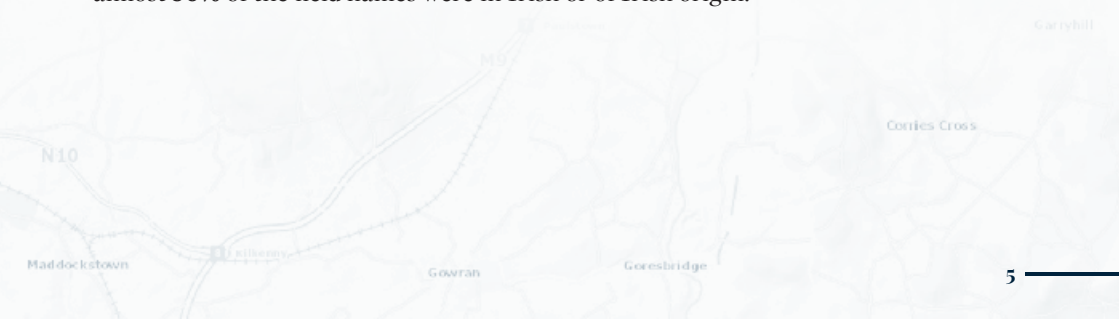


Harvest News

In 2017 **40** townland surveys were undertaken by Project volunteers. Of these, **34** were fully completed townland surveys and **6** were partial surveys. These comprised a harvest of **863** field names and **74** landmarks or places of interest. Of those field names recorded **97** or **11%** were in Irish or of Irish origin.

Townland Survey Activity 2017			
Survey Area	Number of Townlands	Complete Surveys	Partial Surveys
Castlecomer	1	✔	
Freshford	8	✔	
Inistioge	1	✔	
South Kilkenny	3	✔	
Stoneyford	3	✔	
Ullard	18	✔	
Kellymount, Lavistown, Redgap, Rochestown, Shankill, Templemartin	6		✔

In 2018 **46** surveys have been submitted to date. Of these **31** were complete surveys and **15** were partial. The number of field names added to the database in 2018 so far is **1411** along with **108** landmarks or places of interest. This year the percentage of Irish field names recorded has been higher than usual at **17%** or **239** of the total number recorded. In the townland of **Crowbally** near Mullinavat almost **50%** of the field names were in Irish or of Irish origin.



Townland Survey Activity 2018			
Survey Area	Number of Townlands	Complete Surveys	Partial Surveys
Castlecomer	1	✔	
Conahy	10	✔	
Graiguenamanagh	17	✔	
Mullinavat	1	✔	
South Kilkenny	2	✔	
Cooleen, Corbettstown, Glenbally, Mohil, Ruthstown, Tullagher	6		✔
Kilkenny City and Environs	9		✔

Special thanks to all those volunteers who gave so generously of their time in all of these field name surveys and to the landowners who supplied and shared the field names of their farms. For all those volunteers with surveys presently underway, or long ongoing, the Winter months are the ideal time for their completion. We will be very glad to receive them as soon as they are done.



Image from "Naming Ground" film by Shane Hatton (Photo:Shane Hatton)

Volunteer of the Year

The Kilkenny Field Names Recording Project does not have a ‘Volunteer of the Year’ Award but if we did then such an award for 2017 and 2018 would surely go to **Ned Moran** of **Powerstown** who singlehandedly recorded **36** townlands in the parishes of **Ullard** and **Graiguenamanagh**. He had previously carried out surveys in the Civil Parishes of **Powerstown** and **Grangesilvia** bringing his overall townland field name survey count over the past four years to a remarkable figure of **62** while recording **1946** field names in the process.

Special Commendations would also go to one of the Project’s longest serving volunteers, **Dick Claridge** of **Davidstown** who, since 2013 has surveyed **35** townlands and recorded **1073** field names.

Between them these two volunteers have recorded almost a third (**32%**) of all the field names received by the Project to date. Great thanks are their due.




Recent Activities

‘Aithním an chré agus an chloch...’

In May 2018 Dearbhala Ledwidge, Heritage Officer, and Alan Counihan, Project Coordinator were invited to give a presentation at the **Ceardlann Mionlogainmneacha / Minor Place Names Conference** at Dublin City University. The conference - organised by Fiontar & Scoil na Gaeilge at DCU - provided not only an opportunity to share the field name survey work of the Project’s volunteers in a national forum but to learn from the methods and processes of others working in this area of study across the islands of Ireland and the United Kingdom.

Two Films & Creative Ireland Support

The Kilkenny Field Names Recording Project received support from the **Kilkenny Creative Ireland Programme**, an all-of-Government five-year initiative, from 2017 to 2022, which places creativity at the centre of public policy. This has allowed us over the past two years to develop and create two short films in partnership with our volunteers.

A photograph showing three young people in a grassy field. On the left, a young man in a blue hoodie plays a white flute. In the center, a young woman in a pink hoodie plays a black flute. On the right, a young man in a blue and black jacket plays a green and black bodhrán. The background is a lush green field with trees and a cloudy sky.

Holly Moore, Shane Grace and Jack Grace perform the soundtrack of ‘The Whispering Fields’ on location in Rathbeagh townland. (Photo:A.Counihan)

'The Whispering Fields', a short film made by cinematographer **Kevin Hughes**, celebrated the Civil Parish landscapes of Clontubrid, Gathabawn and Lisdowney and explored the value of field names as an inheritance handed on from one generation the next and the merits of recording them for posterity in the face of rapid change. Launched in Lisdowney National School in November 2018 it is available to view at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DdCEI8-qeNM>



Image from 'The Whispering Fields' film by Kevin Hughes



David Kenny, Survey Volunteer, from 'The Whispering Fields' film by Kevin Hughes. (Photo:A.Counihan)



Image from 'Naming Ground'
film by Shane Hatton
(Photo:Shane Hatton)

'Naming Ground' a short film made by cinematographer **Shane Hatton** of Old Mill Pictures, celebrated the landscapes and field names of the old Civil Parishes of Inistioge and Clonamery. Launched in Cois Abhann, Inistioge in December 2017, it is available to view at : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s7C0hpKwRJ4>



Dearbhala Ledwidge, Cllr. Mary Hilda Kavanagh, Eilís Costelloe, Kevin Hughes, Cllr. Maurice Shortall, Alan Counihan at the premiere of 'The Whispering Fields' in Lisdowney National School! (photo : Sean Bergin)

European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018

2018 is designated European Year of Cultural Heritage. The aim of this Europe-wide designation is to encourage the sharing and appreciation of Europe's cultural heritage, to raise awareness of our common history and values and to reinforce a sense of belonging. The Kilkenny Field Names Recording Project successfully applied to the Heritage Council (co-ordinators of the Irish programme for European Year of Cultural Heritage) to be part of Ireland's official programme for the year.

<https://www.eych2018.com/get-involved>

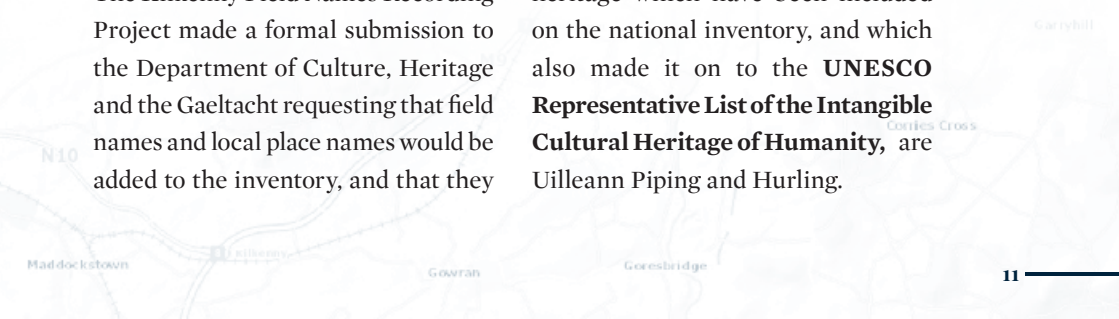
Living Heritage

In late 2017 the Irish Government put out a nationwide call for submissions to a new *National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Ireland*. Intangible cultural heritage comprises living forms of heritage that cannot be touched. It includes the practices, representations and expressions that are central to the lives and identities of our communities, groups and individuals.

The Kilkenny Field Names Recording Project made a formal submission to the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht requesting that field names and local place names would be added to the inventory, and that they

be given official state recognition as a unique part of our living cultural heritage. We contend that they are an expression of our cultural identity and heritage handed down from generation to generation providing families and communities with a sense of identity and continuity. We understand that submissions are being evaluated at present.

To date two aspects of Irish cultural heritage which have been included on the national inventory, and which also made it on to the **UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity**, are Uilleann Piping and Hurling.



Heritage Week

Since 2014 The Kilkenny Field Names Recording Project has supported communities in the development and staging of an exhibition during Heritage Week. This allows the volunteers engaged in local field name surveys to share their work with the wider community and encourages neighbouring communities to become involved in the Project.



Heritage Week Exhibition,
Conahy Community Hall 2017

Kilkenny



In 2017 Heritage Week exhibitions were held in **Castlecomer Library** and in **Conahy Community Hall**. The latter, organised by **Tom Downey, (Conahy Heritage Society)**, was extensive and involved maps, field name lists and archival video. The exhibition also provided an opportunity for the completion of some townland surveys by landowners who had been unaware of them until visiting the exhibition.

In 2018 there was another exhibition at **Castlecomer Library** (of **Cruft** townland) organised once again by local volunteer **Margaret O'Neill**. There was also an exhibition in the **Old Schoolhouse, Ballyfoyle**, based on the field names of Ballyfoyle and surrounding areas, organised by **Mick Brennan**. The exhibition included John Coghill's estate map of 1816 showing field names of the locality alongside contemporary townland maps showing the fields as they are named today. There was also a presentation here during Heritage Week by **Alan Counihan**, Project Coordinator, outlining the work of the Project for the benefit of the local community.

Garryhill

Corries Cross

N10

Maiddockstown

Castlecomer

Gowran

Goresbridge

Public Meetings / Training & Support

It has been the practice of the Kilkenny Field Names Recording Project to host public meetings each year to demonstrate the process and value of field name recording to local communities and to garner new volunteers.

In 2017 such a meeting took place 19th September at **The Springhill Court Hotel** and in response several new participants enrolled so that several surveys have been completed or are ongoing in the parish areas of **Ballyhale,**

Benettsbridge, Castlebanny, the townlands of **Kiltorcan, Moneenroe, Tullaherin** and the environs of **Kilkenny City.**

A new initiative, **The Kilkenny Urban Place Name Survey**, coordinated by **Paddy Neary**, also grew out of this meeting. Comprised of a Walking Group that explores the riverbanks and byways of Kilkenny City, the new volunteers are recording the fields, placenames and landmarks of several townlands in and around Kilkenny City.

19th September 2017 also provided an opportunity to hold a public meeting for the local community in **The Rower** at which there was a great uptake of

interest with **30** townland surveys now ongoing in the area.

In 2018 the Project was invited to hold a public meeting on 22nd October in **Dunnamaggan** which was also well attended and several new townland surveys have been initiated by new volunteers in the areas of **Aghaviller, Dunnamaggan, Kells,** and **Kilmaganny**.

Finally, on 26th October 2018, the Project was invited to make a presentation at **St Canice's Cathedral** as part of the Cathedral's October Talks 2018 series which was well attended.



Image from 'The WhisperingFields' film by Kevin Hughes (photo: Kevin Hughes)



Bliain na Gaeilge 2018

In celebration of **Bliain na Gaeilge 2018**, field name survey volunteer **Carmel Cummins** here considers the legacy of field names and their value:

‘Oidhreacht na bpáirceanna’

Ritheann se liom arís is arís eile an luach a bhaineann le hainmneacha na bpáirceanna agus a leanúnachas – is é sin an nasc atá eatarthu agus na glúnta a bhíodh, atá agus a bheidh ann agus mar aon le sin an nasc a chruthaítear idir na glúnta féin, ‘the human chain’ mar a deir an file.

Tá cuimhní cinn agamsa ar m’athair ag insint scéil faoin bpáirc ar ár bhfeirm ar a dtugtar Garraí Crann Bán. Roimh an ghorta, bhí teach a shin-seanmháthar suite faoi scáth na gcrann silíní fiáine. D’ainneoin an tsearbhais a bhí aige ar an doicheall a bhraith sé i leith gluaiseacht na teanga, ba soiléir domsa an lá sin an meas a bhí aige ar stair na cúilín sin agus ar an bhfilíocht bainteach lena hainm. Is é siúd atá liom fós.

Tá an meas sin mar rosc i gcroílár an tionscnaimh seo. Sna gearrscannáin, Naming Ground agus The Whispering Fields teann cúpla dréacht go mór I

bhfeidhm orm: James Murphy ag caint faoin a mhian maidir le hainmneacha na bpáirceanna a chaomhnú agus a roinnt lena ‘shliocht, agus sliocht a shleachta’: agus Michael O’Gorman ag caint faoi na hainmneacha mar dánta dá bheirt mhac, and ansin iad ag siúl le chéile trasna na páirce – íomhá atá lán dóchais is grá. I ré na bobnuachta, cén oidhreacht is luachmhar a bhíodh ann?

‘Legacy’

Again and again it strikes me that the richest aspects of the Field Names Recording Project are the continuity it has uncovered in the use of field names over centuries and its making more visible the link their handing on creates between the generations – the human chain as the poet would have it.

I have a memory of my father telling me the story of a field on our farm, Garraí Crann Bán, The Field of the White Trees. Before the famine, his great-grandmother’s house was in the shade of

the high wild cherry trees. He despised the exclusiveness involved in the efforts to preserve the Irish language, as he saw it, yet that day he handed me the poetry of those three words and the history of that place when Irish was the vernacular. The tenderness of that moment is with me still and this project has given me the opportunity to recognise and record the importance of a fragile linguistic link.

That appreciation of life as it was lived, is still lived, in Kilkenny lies at the centre of the Field Names Project. In the two

short films made by the Project a couple of extracts stand out for me: in Naming Ground, James Murphy's says that he tells his children the names of his fields so that that they will pass on in turn 'to their children, and their children's children'; in The Whispering Fields, Michael O'Gorman talks of offering the names as a gift to his children to make of them what they will. Walking the fields with his two sons, he embodies a parent's hope and love. In the age of fake news, what truer legacy?

C.C. 2018



Michael, Conor and Liam O'Gorman walk the fields of Rathbeagh townland in 'The Whispering Fields' film by Kevin Hughes (Photo:Kevin Hughes)

A Remarkable Find

Early in 2018 a supporter of the Kilkenny Field Name Recording Project, Con Manning, an Adjunct Professor at UCD School of Archaeology who had recently retired from his position as Senior Archaeologist with

...unlikely discovery of an old Public Records document on the shelves of a Dublin charity shop.

the National Monuments Service, made an unlikely discovery of an old Public Records document on the shelves of a Dublin charity shop. That document made reference to an old cartulary from County Kilkenny dating from the 16th century. Cartularies are manuscripts that contain copies of charters and documents related to the landholdings of religious institutions or estates. Con was reared in the townland of Dunbell Big which lies directly across the River Nore from the townlands of Sheastown and Kilfearagh which feature in the Cartulary. Con takes up the story from here:

Place names in the Cartulary of Sir Richard Shee

*I was fortunate recently to pick up the 57th Report of the Deputy Keeper of Public Records in Ireland (1936) in a charity shop. Among the interesting items in it is an account of the **Cartulary of Sir Richard Shee** including a fascinating inquisition of 1577 detailing the boundaries of his lands. The Kilkenny lands documented include, in their modern form, **Upperwood, Freshford, Garranamanagh, Suttonsrath, Ardaloo, Tullowglass, Troyswood, Keatingstown, Bonnetstown, Lemonstown, Rossenarra, Wallstown and Sheastown**. Named persons, whose age was given and how they knew the places, gave detailed testimony on the line of the boundaries, giving many place names and topographical features. Some of the names can be recognised as modern townlands but others are subdivisions, topographical features or fields. Many are anglicised forms of Irish names such as **Drehednegowre**, near **Bonnetstown**, while others are straightforward English forms such as Cold Wood or **Gray Freren Whear** (weir).*

The first of the witnesses was William O'Phelan of **Fowlingrath (Holdensrath)**, 'husbandman aged 60 years or thereabouts sworn upon the Holy Evangelists'. The cause of his knowledge was given as follows: 'he himself was carried of purpose to walk that meares betwixt **Bonnetstown** and **Ardagh** and was beaten twice or thrise at the end of said meares, and was resident at **Keappagh ne Gearagh** aforesaid during six years in Sir Piers Butler time Earl of Ormonde and Ossorie and was thirteen years after tenant thereof.' The beating he received is a rare account in an Irish context of the bounds, whereby boys were made to walk the bounds of parishes during the Rogation Days (days of devotion associated with Spring planting of crops) and were whipped or beaten, hopefully not severely, so that they would remember important points on the boundary in subsequent years.

Some of the place names recorded are old English forms – a reminder that many of the tenants and cottiers, who were settled on the Anglo-Norman manors

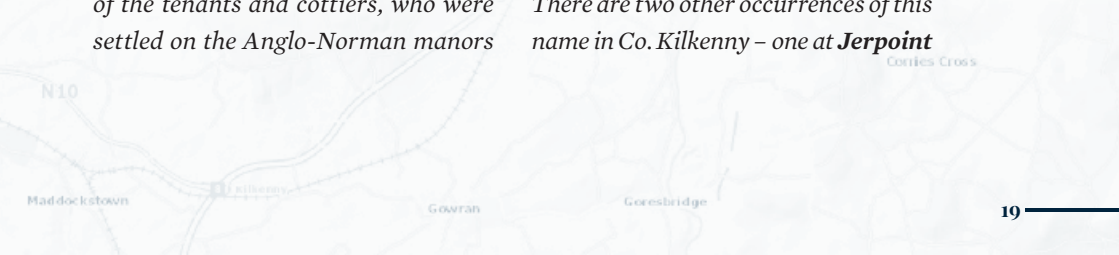
around the thirteenth century, were English. The old name for **Sheastown**, given here as **Wasesland**, is elsewhere recorded as **Waseshayes**. 'Was' was an English surname and 'hay' an old English word for an enclosed field. This document shows that there was still a member of the Was family living nearby – 'Marryn Wase of Kilferagh, widow, 4 score years or thereabouts'. According to the testimony of Patrick Dullard of Kilferagh 'husbandman, 3 score and odd years' **Blackhouseies** (elsewhere recorded as **Blackhouse Hayes** and apparently part of present-day Sheastown) stood 'in the Kill of **Kilfearagh** near the highway'. Another name he mentioned was **Wases Insh**.

The beating he received is a rare account in an Irish context of an English custom called the beating of the bounds,...

The name **Was** survived into modern times in Co. Kilkenny as **Voss**. There is still one townland in Co. Kilkenny with the element 'hay' in it and

that is **Spruceshay**, in the civil parish of **Mallardstown**.

The **Drehednegowre** mentioned by O'Phelan is marked on Ordnance Survey maps as **Goatsbridge**, a small bridge on the **Tullaroan** road. There are two other occurrences of this name in Co. Kilkenny – one at **Jerpoint**



and another just south of **Callan**. There is also a Goatsbridge in South Tipperary near Newcastle. It is hard to think of a logical reason for calling even one bridge Goatsbridge not to mind four. They are all relatively old names, some having also an Irish form, as here, and two of them recorded in an older English form – Goaten Bridge. I wonder does the name

I wonder does the name derive from an international folktale, which is well known to children today as *The Three Billygoats Gruff*, *Gruff*, based on a

nineteenth-century version recorded in Norway. Perhaps this story was known around Kilkenny in medieval times and became associated with wooden precursors of these bridges.

‘Sir John Dowgin of **Aghour**, chaplain of three score and ten or thereabouts’ gave the cause of his knowledge of **Aghour (Freshford)** that he ‘saw five bishops successively perambulating the meares’ and indeed there were five bishops

of Ossory during his time – Barron, Bale, Thonery, Gaffney and Walsh. By the way the ‘sir’ before his name is merely a customary title used for ecclesiastics at the time.

Many of the place names in this document may never be located but with good local knowledge, adequate maps and a number of perambulations of the likely boundaries significant progress could be made.

C.M. 2018



Old stone bridge, ‘The Whispering Fields’ film by Kevin Hughes (photo: Kevin Hughes)

Reflections on the Find

What is most fascinating to any field name survey volunteer is the mention of field names in a document from the late 16th century. It shows that evidence for field names in the county long predates the great enclosures of the landscape in the 18th century. Here follows a section from the Shee Cartulary describing the lands around Kilfearagh and Sheastown, as Wasesland is known today:

*‘To the 16th interrogatory – The chief dwelling house of the **Black houseies** stands in the Kill of Kilfearagh near the highway having one croft joined to it in the South side of the church and mears with Forstall for the more part on every side. Another field parcel of same called **Crogtinevonsiog** is compassed with a high ditch and mears with Forstall, the churchland and the highway. Another called the **Short acre** lying in the other side of the highway having “his” ditch round about mears with Wasesland in the east and south and with the little bothir at end of **Twelve Acre** and the highway or great bothir in the west and north. Another parcel called **Twelve Acre** ditched round about lies in Wases lands in the south and west and the great bothir and the little bothir at the end of the **Short Acre** in the north and east and two Crofts parcel thereof wynd in one, ditched round and mears with*

*Wases lands on every side saving the highway on the north; and the **Black Croft** otherwise the **Black hole** is parcel thereof and ditched round and the west side of the Bawn being built on top of the ditch of said croft. A parcel of land called **Katherins field** is parcel thereof and ditched round and is situated betwixt the two highways in the east and west and Wases lands in the south and north. The Twenty Acre parcel of same lies from the high way leading to Bennetisbridge unto the Noer in the east and west and Wases lands in the north and south. He heard say by Thomas Cantwell and Patrick Forstall that the Insh called **Wases Insh** is parcell belonging to said house’.*

From this short excerpt we learn of fields that were known 430 years ago as **Crogtinevonsiog**, (**Croichtín Fuinnseoige / Little Field of the Ash Tree**), **Twelve Acre**, **Short Acre**, **Black Croft**, **Katherin’s Field**, **Twenty Acre** and **Wase’s Inch**.

In 2016 field name surveys of the townlands of Sheastown and Wallslough were completed (alongside a partial survey of Kilfearagh townland) by volunteer **Nora Brennan**. Unfortunately, none of those ancient field names generously brought to our attention by Con Manning have survived.

A Winter Survey

A Field Name Survey of Ullard | By Ned Moran, Survey Volunteer

During the winter of 2016/17 I undertook a field name survey of the old Civil Parish of Ullard in Co Kilkenny. This Civil Parish has 16 townlands including townland sub-divisions such as Killeen East and Killeen West. [Two additional townlands from Graigue Parish - Coolfarnamanagh and Fishersgraigue - were also included].

The Parish townlands vary in area from Ullard townland with 637 acres to Posey townland with only 48 acres. The Parish axis stretches from north to south with the River Barrow forming the eastern boundary starting near Ballyteiglea Bridge and stretching to the double lock at Ballykeenan on the Barrow and to Cloghasty Castle in the south.

The field name survey dealt with 61 landowners and 44 farmers, landowners or members of their families were interviewed. The information received was backed up by walking the area to inspect laneways, fields, the river inches, plantations, old

buildings and features like raths, lime kilns and sacred sites.

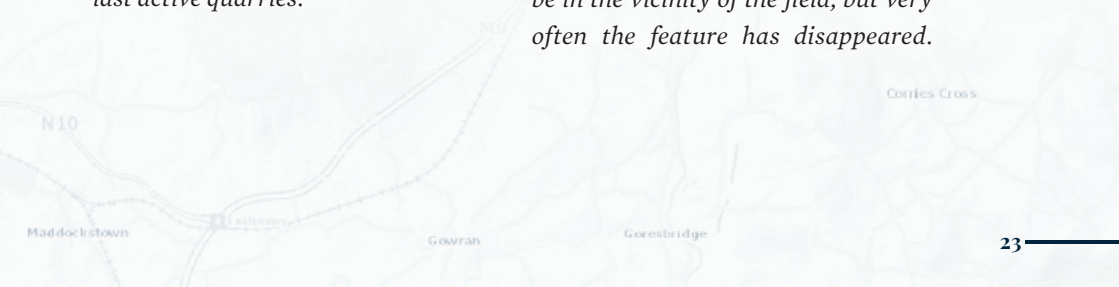
The Parish comprises an undulating landscape varying in a height over sea level of 42 ft at Ballykeenan Lock to 457 ft on the high ground of Griffinstown. Land quality varies, from wet, heavy bog land in much of the lowland areas and by the river and streams, to dry, productive land on the higher ground. Some areas beside the River Barrow consist of steep scrub and tree-covered slopes or flat marshy inches. Many of the wetter, marshy areas have been drained and reclaimed over many generations. This is evident by the many fields throughout the area having


names like *The Bogs*, *The River Bog*, *McGee's Bog* and *The Middle Bog*. Some of the less productive land on the hillier ground has produced names like *Whelan's Moor*, *Tighe's Knock* and *The Ferry Hill*. Some of the less productive ground has also been planted and sadly the old field names have been lost in the process. There are also some examples of old forest plantations such as *Ullard Wood*, now owned by the state forestry company, *Coillte*, which has been allowed to develop as a natural habitat, with no planting or harvesting of timber.

Near the river banks a number of sand quarries have been opened over the years to extract river rolled sand, deposited in the old river channels, for building purposes. They are remembered in fields named *The Sand Pit*, in the townlands of *Milltown*, *Ullard* and in *Knockbarron South*, location one of the last active quarries.

Livestock farming predominates with only a small area under tillage crops. The Parish lands support a small number of dairy farms (3) with the bulk of the farms involved in beef production and also a small number of sheep flocks. Some farms have been fragmented due to acquisitions and Land Commission distribution and this has led to field name losses particularly in the case of out-farms. Despite the disagreeable nature of a proportion of the land, the Parish has a large number of well-farmed, productive fields, many of them well fenced with traditional stone walls.

In all nearly **400** field names were collected. A large portion of those were positional names - *Over the Road*, *Under the Lane*, *Over the House* and *Under the Lane*. Others were associated names - *The Well Field*, *The Rath*, *The Kiln Field* or *The Pond Field* representing structures that may still be in the vicinity of the field, but very often the feature has disappeared.





“ The underlying rock of the Parish lands is granite as evidenced by the boulders and rocks in many field boundaries where there are some good examples of organised wall building. ”

Granite drystone field boundary, Civil Parish of Ullard. (Photo: Ned Moran)



Names of former occupants, owners, or those with some association with the field are numerous - Shea's, Lawlor's Middle, Brennan's Field, Tighe's Knock and Peg's Garden are good examples. Descriptive field names are also widespread - The Knock, Top Bog, Stony Field, The Rock, The Hilly Field, Ferny Field and Long Field.

The Parish contains a number of new and old forestry plantations and some fieldnames reflect the presence of trees - The Wood Field, Beech Field, The Orchard and The Grove. Some names allude to some activity that once took place in or around the field; names like - Cricket Field, The Racecourse, The Forge Field, The Mill Field and The Football Field

Around 30 fields have retained old Irish names (or corrupted names of Irish origin) accounting for just over 7% of the total field names collected. These names could possibly have survived from the early half of the 19th century before the Irish language went into serious decline. They are thinly spread throughout the whole area and examples are the The Aska, The Knock, Sean Croke, Fáshine, Bán na Haugh, Lína Móna, Kile Boe and The Tulláun. They have been translated as Easca (wet sedgy Bog), Cnoc (Hill), Sean Cruach (Old Hillock),

Faichín (Little Lawn or Level Place), Bán na hAithe (Kiln Pasture), Linn na Móna (Bog Pool), Coill na mBó (Cows' Wood), Tullán (Hillock).

The underlying rock of the Parish lands is granite as evidenced by the boulders and rocks in many field boundaries where there are some good examples of organised wall building. Some particularly good examples are in the Milltown area, these possibly dating to the mid-19th century when Public Works schemes were organised to provide relief during the famine of the 1840s. There are also some good examples of granite masonry by local stonemasons such as the Brennans and the Neills in local church buildings and also in some local lime kilns, older vernacular farm dwellinghouses, and farmyard outbuildings.

Lime Kilns were used extensively during the latter half of the 18th century and into the following century; many of them being built around the mid 18th century. The burned lime produced was used to improve the fertility of the land and also to provide lime mortar for building and of course to provide lime for whitewashing dwelling houses and farm buildings. A small number survive in good condition in Tiroe beside the Ullard Road, up Hayden's Lane in Ullard,

and in Cloghasty South where there is a well preserved kiln beside the river which was used in the latter half of the 18th century during the building of the weirs and locks for the improvement in the Barrow navigation.

Some old forged iron gates have survived on some fields, a memory of generations of blacksmiths in the area like the Duggan family. According to local tradition, Josiah C. Coghill, landlord of Milltown townland in the early 18th century, not only helped and encouraged his tenants to drain and reclaim their land but gave each of his tenants an iron gate to improve their holdings.

Also demonstrated in Milltown townland are changes in land distribution over the past 200 years when we compare

the number and size of tenant farms in the mapped survey by James Croake in 1823 and the Griffith Valuation of 1849 with the estimated position of today's farmers in the area. In the 1823 and 1849 surveys there were 35 tenant farmers working an average of 14.8 acre holdings and in 2016/17 there were 12 farmers working approximately 43.3 acres in the townland; some of those also had land outside the area and six of them lived outside the townland. In the 1823 series of maps of individual tenants farms, most of the farm units seemed to be fragmented and the average tenant had three fields. In the 1849 survey there were 14 non-farming families living in Milltown townland.

N.M.2018.



A Bullaun stone near St Fiachra's Well, Civil Parish of Ullard (Photo, Ned Moran)

A Careful Process

The goal of the Kilkenny Field Names Recording Project is not to simply record the names of as many fields as possible in the county but to use the survey process as a key to a deeper understanding and appreciation of our landscape.

Along with the field names of their local townlands our volunteers now record landmarks, local histories or folklore, often supporting or illustrating them with photographs. The field name survey process encourages us in the attention we pay to our landscape and in our care for it.

Our thanks to all of our Field Name Survey Volunteers for the great work they have carried out over the past nine years. In preparation for the upcoming 10th anniversary of the Kilkenny Field Names Recording Project we hope that all those townland field name surveys which are still ongoing or outstanding (over **100** in number!) can be completed over this coming Winter and returned for inclusion in the Project database by March 31st 2019 at the latest.

"Our thanks to all of our Field Name Survey Volunteers for the great work they have carried out over the past nine years."

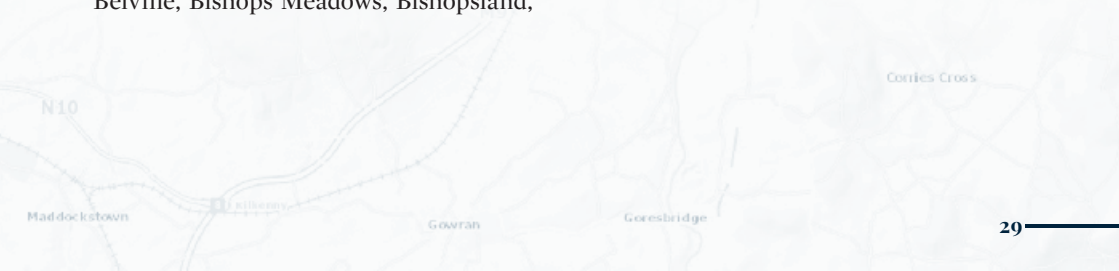
Completed Townland Field Name Surveys

Field Name Surveys Have Been Completed In The Following 249 Townlands.

Acragar, Agha, Aghclare, Aharney, Annaleck Lower, Annaleck Upper, Archerstown, Ardaloo, Ardbeg, Atateemore or Blackneys, Aughkiletaun, Aylwardstown, Ballinclare, Ballinorea, Ballinlammy, Ballycabus, Ballycarran, Ballyconra, Ballycoam, Ballydaniel, Ballygowan(Reade), Ballygowney, Ballygub New, Ballygub Old, Ballyhobuck, Ballyduff, Ballyhomock, Ballyjohnboy, Ballylehaun, Ballylinnen, Ballymurragh, Ballynakill, Ballynamona, Ballyogan, Barnaviddaun North, Barnaviddaun South, Ballyphilip, Ballyrafton, Ballyrahan, Ballyreddy, Ballyring Upper, Ballyvarrig, Ballyverneen, Barna, Barrowmount, Baunaniska, Baunastackaun, Baunreagh, Bauntanabarna, Bawntanameenagh, Belville, Bishops Meadows, Bishopsland,

Blackwood, Boherkyle, Bohermore, Bohernastreckaun or Killure, Brandondale, Brownstown, Cappagh, Carrickcloney, Carrickinnane, Carrigeen, Catsrock, Cherrymount, Clintstown, Cloghasty North, Cloghasty South, Clonamery, Clone, Clontubrid, Connahy, Coolatogher, Coolbricken, Coolcashin, Cooleshall Beg, Coolnabrone, Coolnamuck, Coolroe, Coppanagh, Courtnaboghilla, Cramersgrove, Crossybrennan, Crowbally, Crow Hill, Crutt, Cullaun, Currahill, Curraghduff, Curraghlane Lower, Curraghlane Upper, Curraghmore, Davidstown, Deerpark, Duninga, Dunmore East, Farnoge, Farnoge East, Farnoge West, Fiddaun Lower, Fiddaun Upper, Firoda Lower or Glenmagoo, Firoda Upper, Freshford, Forestallstown, Garranamanagh, Garryduff, Garryleesha, Gaulstown(Muckalee), Gaulstown(Kilcolumb), Glencoum, Glensansaw, Glenmore, Glentiroe, Gorteen,

Garryhill



Gorteenamuck, Gragara, Graigueswood, Grange, Grange Upper, Griffinstown, Grogan, Grove, Hoodsgrove, Inchbeg, Inchmore, Johnswell, Kilcollan, Kilcross, Kilkieran, Killaree, Killeen East, Killeen West, Kilmacoliver, Kilmacshane, Kilmacar, Kilmagar, Kilmurry, Kilrush, Kiltown, Knickeen, Knockbarron North, Knockbarron South, Knockbodaly, Knockbrack, Knocknacuppoge, Knocknew, Knockshanbally, Lacken, Lamoge, Lavistown, Leapstown, Lennaght, Lisdowney, Lisduff, Lismaine, Lisnafunshin, Lodge, Lodge Demense East, Lodge Demense West, Maudlin (Mothell), Maudlin(Kilmacar), Milltown, Moanroe, Moat, Monabrika, Moneen, Moneenaun, Moneenroe, Monphole, Mount Loftus, Mt Nugent Lower, Mt Nugent Upper, Moyne, Naglesland, Newhouse, Newtown(Cy), Newtown(Fd), Newtown(Ulld), Oldcourt, Oldgrange, Parksgrove, Pollagh, Posey, Powerstown East, Powerstown West, Purcellsgarden, Rahard, Rahard East, Rahard West, Raheendonore, Rahillakeen, Rathbeagh, Rathculliheen, Rathduff, Rathinure, Rathkieran, Rathkyle, Rathnasmolagh, Rathpatrick, Redgap, Rossinan, Sandfordscourt, Scart, Scartnamoe, Seskin Little, Seskin North, Seskin South, Shanbogh Lower, Shanbogh Upper, Shanganny, Shankhill, Sheastown, Simonsland, Skehana, Sleveen, Smithstown, Somerton, Srughawadda, Stakally, Stonecarty East, Suttonsrath, Sweethill, Swiftsheath, Three Castles, Three Castles

Demesne, Tifeaghna Browne, Tifeaghna Mt. Garret, Tikerlevan, Tincouse, Tinnakeenly, Tinalintan, Tinnapark, Tinnislatty, Tiroe, Tobernapeastia, Tomakeany, Tomascotha, Tomnahaha, Toor Beg, Treanaree, Tullabrin, Tullahought, Tullowglass, Ullard, Wallslough, Webbsborough.

Townland surveys are ongoing in a further 100 townlands throughout the county.

County Kilkenny

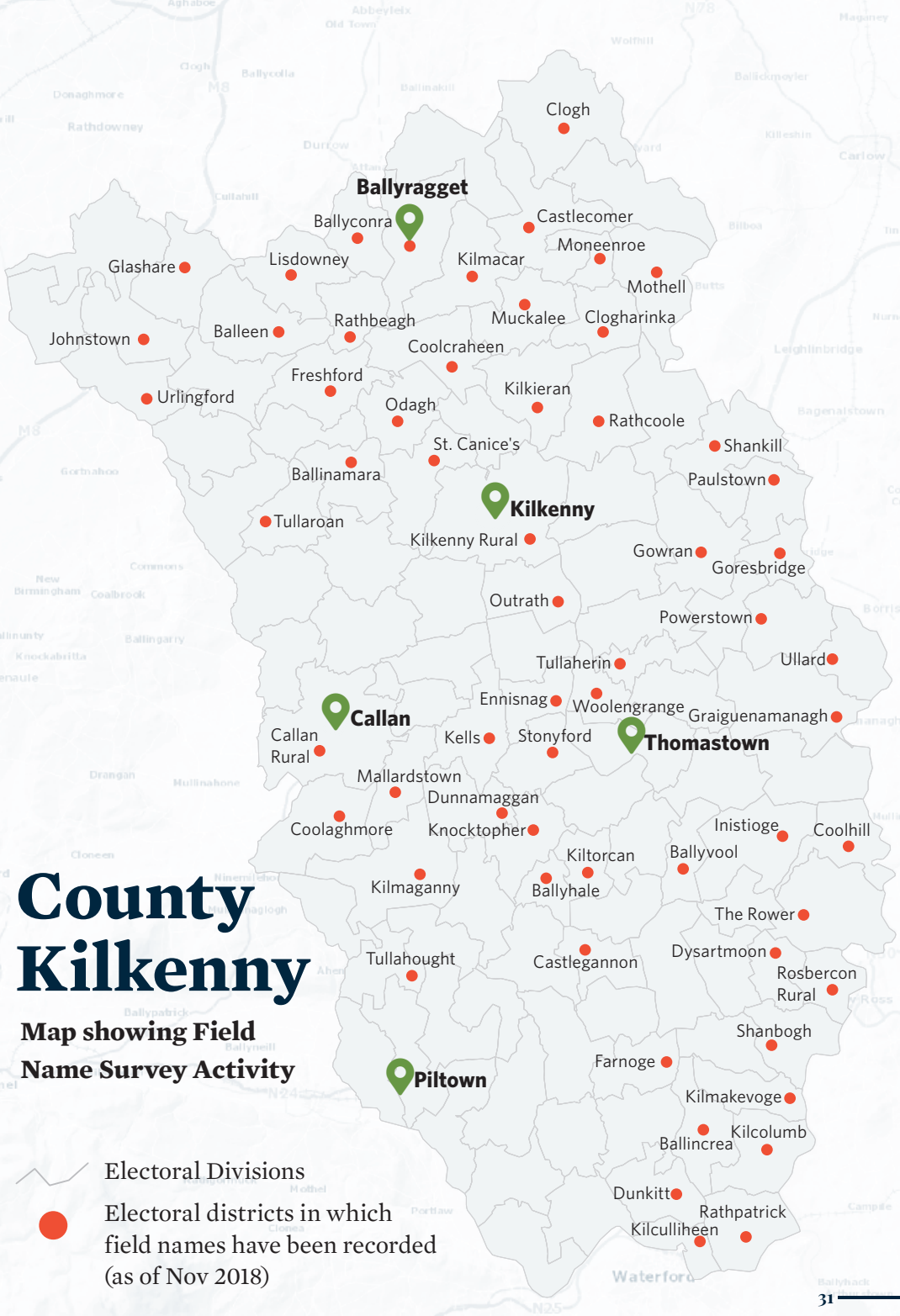
Map showing Field
Name Survey Activity



Electoral Divisions



Electoral districts in which
field names have been recorded
(as of Nov 2018)



A detailed map of the Kilkenny region in Ireland, showing various towns, roads, and geographical features. The map is centered on Kilkenny, with major roads like the N77, N78, N79, N80, N81, N82, N83, N84, N85, N86, N87, N88, N89, and N90 clearly marked. Numerous towns and villages are labeled, including Rathdowney, Durtow, Ballyraggel, Freshford, Kilkenny, and Waterford. The map also shows the River Nore and other waterways.

For more information on the Kilkenny Field Names Recording Project:

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www.kilkennyheritage.ie/cultural-heritage