

## METHODOLOGY

There are two main methodologies for graveyard transcriptions, the first is the wide geographical approach where all memorials up to a certain date are transcribed and is purely a textual approach and can be called 'Rescue History'. The second is the comprehensive local community approach, which transcribes all memorials, has a map of the graveyard, describes the memorial type and iconography and usually includes photographs. A further option is to link the individuals with other sources to explore local and family history.

This work adopts the former approach and covers all graveyards and churches in west Counties Galway and Mayo and comprises all memorials with a date of 1901 or before. This date was chosen because this is the first surviving census for this section of Ireland. There are some exceptions, the first is that memorials buried or obscured under earth, grass or other vegetation are not transcribed, the second is that when a memorial, or group of associated memorials, has a relevant date all the text is included, regardless of subsequent dates. Usually all church memorials are recorded with the exception of late 20<sup>th</sup> century dedications, which are usually without any temporal or geographical context. It is regrettable that renovations of the 1960s and later were responsible for the destruction and loss of many old memorials in Roman Catholic Churches. Many Church of Ireland, Presbyterian and Methodist churches and chapels have been abandoned or converted to other uses in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and their memorials have not survived.

Graveyards were identified by examination of the various editions of the Ordnance Survey 6" maps. The area chosen was to the west of a north-south line starting from Belderg, west of the Nephin mountains, to Glenisland, to and including Castlebar, west of the Castlebar to Partry Road and then west of Loughs Mask and Corrib to, but excluding, Galway City. A map is provided which gives the general location with the graveyard names hyperlinked to the text. The survey only covers graveyards with surviving memorials and excludes those with none, whether they are in use, have been abandoned, whether of medieval or modern origin or are children's burial grounds (Gaelic: Kileen). These graveyards and churches, with the numbers of memorials and commemorations (but excluding erectors who were not otherwise commemorated) transcribed, are:

GALWAY	GRAVEYARD		CHURCH	
	Memorials	Names	Memorials	Names
Ardbear	27	48		
Ballyconeely	10	15		
Ballyconeely C of I	2	2		
Ballynahinch	13	16		

Ballynakill	9	15		
Ballynakill C of I	7	13	6	8
Barna	15	36		
Barna RC	1	6	1	1
Bunowen	2	3		
Bushy Park	57	118	2	2
Carna	1	1		
Carraroe	15	20		
Carraroe RC	1	1		
Clifden C of I	24	34	7	11
Clifden Franciscan	5	5		
Clifden RC			2	2
Clifden SM	15	15		
Clonbur C of I	7	9		
Cloughmore	67	88		
Erislannan	2	3		
Erislannan C of I	7	9	1	2
Gorumna	11	13		
Gurteen	4	4		
Inishboffin	5	5	8	11
Inis Maan	75	109		
Inis More Kilronan C of I	10	15		

Inis More Cill Einne	76	129		
Inis More Cill Muirbhghe	10	16		
Inis More Maritime	2	20		
Inis More RC churches	2	4	2	2
Inis More Seachta dTeampaill	87	111		
Inis More Wayside	27	46		
Inis Oirr	32	38		
Kilbrickan	10	14		
Kilkieran	13	27		
Kill	2	11		
Killannin	39	90		
Killannin RC	3	4	1	1
Kylemore	1	2		
Letterfrack	1	61		
Lettermore	5	5		
Lettermorenagalia	8	14		
Lettermullen	23	25		
Lettermullen RC	1	32		
Moycullen	83	116		
Moycullen RC	81	188	3	4
Moyrus C of I	1	1		
Moyrus Old	16	23		

Mweenish	41	59		
Omey	9	15		
Oughterard C of I	20	40	9	10
Oughterard Old	99	222		
Oughterard RC	2	2		
Renvyle	12	15		
Ross Abbey	71	155		
Roundstone C of I	13	19	10	12
Roundstone Franciscan	7	7		
Salruck	4	9		
Spiddal	211	270		
Streamstown	4	8		
Trawbawn	4	10		
Tully C of I	4	6		
Tully RC			2	3
Turlough	2	2		
<b>Totals 64 locations</b>	1418	2416	54	69

MAYO	GRAVEYARD		CHURCH	
	Memorials	Names	Memorials	Names
Aasleagh	6	12	13	14
Achill Sound C of I	1	2	4	4

Aughagower C of I	6	9		
Aughagower Old	113	235	3	3
Aughavale	153	323		
Ballintubber	48	107		
Ballycroy C of I	3	3		
Ballyheane	34	76		
Belmullet C of I	9	11		
Binghamstown C of I	9	13		
Bunacurry	1	1		
Bunahowen	9	20		
Burrishoole	165	281		
Carn	4	8		
Carrowkennedy	9	25		
Castlebar C of I	75	125	22	26
Castlebar C of I Old	7	8		
Castlebar Old	72	357		
Castlebar RC			5	5
Churchfield	15	46		
Claggan	11	20		
Clare Island	15	29	1	1
Clogher Lough	24	51		
Cross Church	4	5		

Cross Abbey	17	27		
Drummin	44	78		
Dugort C of I Old	3	3		
Dugort C of I new	6	13	10	11
Fahy	22	36		
Franciscan Achill	4	4		
Glenhest	17	48		
Inishturk	2	3		
Glenisland	29	60		
Islandeady	19	57	1	1
Kilbride	15	22		
Kildavnet	43	89		
Kilgeever C of I	2	5		
Kilgeever Old	45	102		
Kilgeever RC			4	4
Killeen	28	98		
Kilmeena C of I	4	5		
Kilmeena Old	59	133		
Kilteany	17	28		
Knappagh C of I	12	23		
Murrisk Abbey	49	105		
Murrisk Church	3	6		

Newport C of I New	17	31	8	10
Newport C of I Old	24	40		
Newport Presbyterian	13	20		
Newport RC	2	5	1	1
Partry House Private	1	18		
Partry Old	53	116		
Partry RC			1	1
Pollatomish	14	26		
Prospect	5	8		
Raheen House Private	3	6		
Slievemore	27	49		
Stonefield	6	9		
Termonacarragh	14	22		
Tierna	30	64		
Tourmakeady C of I	1	1		
Tourmakeady RC	36	104	2	2
Westport C of I	21	34	22	60
Westport Demesne	5	7		
<b>Totals 64 locations</b>	1505	3272	97	143

This gives approximate totals of 3,074 memorials and 5,900 deaths. Probably another 1,500-2,000 names can be added for erectors who were not otherwise commemorated.

#### **Miscellaneous Churches and memorials.**

Ballynahinch House Private Graveyard, Co. Galway, is now densely covered by scrub and young forest and was not found in two visits.

Belclare Church of Ireland, Co. Mayo, is a private house.

Carnalurgan Rath, Co. Mayo, has a memorial with the inscription "Peter Browne 1723". He died in 1722 and is buried in Burrishoole Abbey according to 'Aughagower' by John Keville in Cathair na Mart, vol. 4, no. 1, 1984.

Castlebar Mall Memorial, Co. Mayo,: "Pray for the soul of John Moore of Ashbrook Hall, Co. Mayo, Ireland's First President and descendant of St. Thomas More who gave his life for his country in the Rising of 1798 born Alicante Spain 1763 died a prisoner awaiting transportation in the city of Waterford 6-12-1799. By the will of the people he was exhumed and re-interred here with all Honours of Church and State 13-8-1961".

Castlebar Methodist Church, Co. Mayo,: "This chapel was built for the Methodists under the patronage of Charles Lord Lucan. The Rev John Wesley A.M. laid the first stone March the 21<sup>st</sup> 1785".

Clifden Castle Private Graveyard, Co. Galway, was not found after one visit.

Fallmore, Co. Mayo, on the southern end of Belmullet peninsula has no pre-20<sup>th</sup> century memorials.

Fox's Mountain, Co. Mayo, (near Clonbur) has no pre-20<sup>th</sup> century memorials

Inchagoill Island, Lough Corrib. While this is not strictly within the area of reference I quote from Francis J. Biggar who published two memorials in J.P.M.D., 1895, vol. 3, pp. 76-7:

1) Cave ne me tangas/ Pray for the soul of Patrick/ O'Sullivan who died in April 1849/ aged 55 years/ Erected by his son John

2) Cave ne me tangas/ Pray for the soul of Sarah/ O'Sullivan who died 26 May 1884/ aged 37 years/ Erected by her husband Bernard O'Sullivan

Inisbiggle Island, Co. Mayo, has no pre-20<sup>th</sup> century memorials

Inishdaf Island, Clew Bay Co. Mayo. This has church ruins but is not a consecrated burial ground though there have been some 20<sup>th</sup> century burials, by dispensation, as well as young children and possibly un-baptised babies

Lankhill, Co. Mayo, is famine burial ground with no memorials. There is one stone with the following inscription: 1839/ A record/ of the/ (m?)unificent/ of the Revd John Hensman/ and the congregation of/ Trinity Church/ (Cl?)ifton/ (En?)gland/ To (t?)he suffering/ pea(...) his Parish".

Leenane, Co. Galway, has no pre-20<sup>th</sup> century memorials

Pollock Roman Catholic Church, Achill Island, Co. Mayo. A modern church with the following memorial: "In memory of those who died in the Kirkintilinch Disaster 16 September 1937. Erected by the McNamara and Gilroy family".



Wayside memorial near Burrishoole Abbey, Co. Mayo: “Do-chum gloire de tugus onora na he-i reann I mbuan-chumne o Nora de Burca O.P. agus o Nora Magaen O.P. ar imir airm Cromuil bas grainiuil orta le fuath do chreidheamh san ait seo AD 1653 Regina martrum ora pro nobis podal buirgeis uamail a thog an scrin seo 14 meitheamh 1953”

Westport Roman Catholic Church, Co. Mayo, is dedicated to St. Mary. An interior plaque has: “Erected by subscription and the strenuous efforts of the Most Revd Oliver Kelly aided by the parishioners 1813”. There are no pre 20<sup>th</sup> century memorials.