Archaeological Survey, Churchill Graveyard, Tralee, Co. Kerry.



October 2010

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KE028-045

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Graveyard: Church Hill

Townland: Glebe,

Parish: Ballynahaglish (ecclesiastic parish of Spa since 1866)

Barony: Trughanacmy

Local name of graveyard: Churchill

XY Co-ords: E475622, N616981

RMP No.: KE028-045

No. of named tombs: 9

No. of unnamed tombs: 17

No. of grave slabs: 3

No. of named headstones: 311

No. of unnamed headstones: 59

Miscellaneous: 1

1. Introduction

Churchill graveyard was surveyed using a Magellan ProMark 3 Rover and Base station and presented in Irish Transverse Mercator (ITM). The GPS graveyard survey datasets were exported using Hangle software from GPS Ireland and then exported into AutoCad and finished using Adobe Illustrator. Reference numbers mentioned in the main body of the report relate to the ID point given when the survey was undertaken (see A3 plan, Figure 6). A digital photographic record and surname database was also compiled to complement the cartographic survey (see Appendices below). Digital photographs of the features within the graveyard are referenced in the appendix and all photographs are provided on the attached disc.

The survey was undertaken in October 2010 and was undertaken with due regard to:

- Conservation principles as produced by ICOMOS in the Venice and Burra Charters
- The publication in 2004 of the Architectural Heritage Protection-Guidelines for Planners by the DoEHLG
- The heritage objectives as outlined and adopted in the current Kerry County Council Development Plan 2009-2015, Built Heritage (Chapter 10).

The Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe was signed at the Granada Convention in 1985 and ratified by Ireland in 1997. The conservation aims as stated in the Burra Charter are for the retention or restoration of historical significance with the minimum of physical intervention and that such intervention work be reversible, maintain the structure's character and setting and that all conservation works should be undertaken following comprehensive research.

An information booklet on care and maintenance for tombs should be compiled and supplied to the relevant parish church.

All of these graveyards are recorded monuments protected under the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 and under the jurisdiction of Kerry County Council. All proposed works should be carried out by experience competent personnel under expert archaeological / architectural guidance and supervision. As these sites are recorded monuments conservation and restoration works can only be carried out under licence from the National Monuments Service of the Dept. of Environment, Heritage and Local Gov.

2. Site Location & Description

Church Hill Church and Graveyard is located in Glebe townland in the parish of Ballynahaglish approximately 10km west of Tralee town centre, 3.5km north east of Fenit and 5.5km south-west of Ardfert (Figure 1). Churchill is a protected archaeological site recorded in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP as KE028-045) *'church and graveyard'* (Figure 2).

The old church and graveyard is situated on an eminence at 30m OD with expansive maritime vistas over Barrow Harbour and Fenit Island to the west and Kerryhead to the north-west (Plates 1-2). Views to all other directions are locally restricted.

Churchill itself is effectively a crossroads with the graveyard straddling the south-west angle around which the road turns south-west to Chapeltown and Fenit (Plates 3-4 & Figure 1).

The modern Roman Catholic Church of the Purification-formerly St. Mary's, Star of the Sea stands across the junction to the north hidden by trees (O'Shea 2005, 125). A republican commemoration memorial cross is also situated opposite the entrance tp Church Hill Graveyard (Plate 5).

3. Archaeological and historic background

Churchill is situated in the townland of Glebe, one of eight townlands, in the old medieval parish of Ballynahaglish-*Baile na hEaglishe*-the townland of the church in the diocese of Ardfert. In 1866 it became part of the ecclesiastic parish of the Spa.

Anciently the wider geographic area encompassing Ballynahaglish was known as Altraige Cuille or Altraighe Caille which was the *tuath* or territory of the Altraige, a subordinate sept of the Ciarraighe, who controlled most of the northern coastal area of Tralee Bay from Fenit eastwards to around Ballymacelligott and Annagh and also essentially most of the barony of Clanmaurice i.e. much of the cantred of *Uí Fearba* (Barrington 1976-25, Moore 200, 13).

The hillfort at Knockanacuig at the Kerries and the triple ringfort at Barrow may have

been the royal sites of the Altraighe.

According to Fr. O'Connell, (2009, 12), the parish of Ballinahaglish was formerly known as *Cúileog* or *Cúil O dTaidhg*. When Fr. O'Connell built a new presbytery at Churchill he named it *Cúil-o-dTaidhg*, (O'Mahony 2009, 43). Similarly Dan King, (2009, 20), also refers to the parish as *Cúil O' dTaidhg*.

It is possible that the word Cuille or 'corner' more accurately refers to the Fenit-Spa-Churchill area (O'Shea 2005, 124; Ó Donnochadha 2009, 17-18; King 2009, 20). According to the late Fr. Kieran O'Shea the area was known until recent times as *Paróiste na Cuileach* or the Parish of the Corner (ibid).

This is also the explanation given Fr. Gearóid Ó Donnochadha who goes on to say that the area is also referred to in the Book of Genealogies as Cuile Beara, Kinbeara and Rinbeara and further states that the last two names are frequently listed in taxation lists and papal documents from 1300 onwards (*ibid*). However, Rinbeara or Kinbeara do not appear in the Calendar of Documents for the years 1302-07 at all for Offerba or indeed for any deanery in Ardfert diocese (Cal Docs Ire-Sweetman & Handcock 1885, 294-298).

The name of Ballinahaglish does not appear in the Papal Taxation List of 1302-07, however, it has been suggested that an entry in the taxation list for the church of *Scothfig* may be Ballynahaglish (King 2009, 20). The entry records: *'Deanery of Offeria: Scothfig, Value 13s 4d, Tenth 16d'* (CDI, 1896, Vol. 5, 295). However, Hickson (1874, 498) maintains that the *'Eccia de Scothfig is impossible to identify: no such name, or anything remotely resembling it, is known in the district'.*

The deanery of Offeria included part of the north side of the Dingle Peninsula as well as the Tralee Bay and Ballyheigue Bays. It was known as *Hy Fearba, Uí Fearba, Offeriba Offeria, O'Farriba, Farbowe and even corrupted on some charts as Varbo,* references to which are found on several State Papers and indeed in the Elizabethan Inquisition of 1584 (PRO 1881, 7-8; KAM 1919, 40-41; Hickson 1879, 167).

Scothfig appears on the taxation list between Clogherbrien and Fronwyn (possibly Fenit) and Barun (Barrow) so the church geographically is likely to be in the area of Ballinahaglish. Hickson suggests that Scothfig could be a corruption of *Scart-tiegue*-Tiegue's shrubbery. This is an interesting possibility as the townland of Lissodeige converges, along with five other townlands, at Churchill.

The earliest documentary record of Ballynaglish dates to the 1584 survey of the forfeited estate of Gerald the 15th Earl of Desmond, following his death. The 1584 survey records: *'… From an old Castle called Tawlaght…and Knocknidge…and a parcel of land called Knockatten, containing by estimation 4 quarters: and in* **Ballinhaglas** 2 quarters-all which were lately in the occupation of Morogh M'Rorye M'Owen, late constable of the aforesaid castle, worth, per annum, £20 (PRO 1881, 7-8; Hickson 1879, 165; O'Connell 2009, 12).

The medieval church of Ballinahaglish and its encompassing church land was first denoted on a map from 1587. The map corresponds to the grant Tralee town and castle as well as 6000 acres by Queen Elizabeth to Edward Denny for services to the crown against the Desmonds and in particular to his participation in the massacre at *Dún an Óir* in Smerwick Harbour (Figure 3; Hickson 1879).

A record from 1615 records that 'the Vicaradge of Balinahaglishy, valor £5, sequestered by me to Richard Gregorie, minister. The Incumbent is gone for England, expected by Michaelmas' (Hickson 1874, 28; O'Connell 2009, 13).

Four years later in 1619 the Elizabethan grantee, now Sir Edward Denny built a Protestant church on the site of the medieval church of Ballinahaglish at Church Hill (Lewis 1837, 156; King 1931, 20; Barrington 1976, 231; O'Connell 2009, 12; O'Donnochadha 2009, 17-18).

In 1633 the 'Perpetual Vicaradges of Lislaghtin and Bally Aglish, Thomas Chute, Chancellor of Ardferte, incumbent (Hickson 1874, 30).

In 1650 John Collis, son of a Cromwellian officer William Collis built a house on the shore at Barrow Harbour. Smuggling was prevalent, indeed endemic, on the coasts of Ireland and Britain in the 18th century and it would appear that the Fenit-Barrow area was a smugglers haven. The old fishing village and quay known as the Randy or Randies in Barrow is probably derived from the French word *rendezvous* (Kelly 1989, 203; Hanafin 1996, 14). The revenue officials finally caught up with the renowned smuggler Collis and ransacked his house to such an extent that he abandoned his smuggling ways. During renovations in the recent past, historian Edward Roe, (now recently deceased), discovered a hidden chamber in the gable of the house containing quantities of tobacco (*ibid*).

The Collis family tomb is in Churchill Graveyard. The memorial inscription, summarised here, records the death of George Collis, Capt. 10th Regt of Foot. Died 11th September 1801 aged 30 and his sister Catherine who died in 1803 aged 42. Their uncle Anthon Botet M.P. Major 10th Regt of Foot died 1811 aged 70 and Mrs Gertrude Botet Collis who died in 1822 (King 1931, 20). The Collis mural memorial slab records a very long inscription that was reproduced recently in entirety in a publication to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Church of the Purification (Bentley 2009, 46-7).

In another link to the Collis family, a Royal Navy officer Commander Francis Edward Collingwood, who had distinguished himself at the Basttle of Trafalgar in 1805, later in 1820 he was stationed on the Irish Coast in command of a Revenue Cruiser, the '*Kite'*. Collingwood most likely knew Lieutenant Samuel Collis who also commanded a Revenue Cruiser, the 'Cryus' in the same serving station of the Irish Coast. Possibly through this aquaintence he met and subsequently married Samuel Collis's sister Ellen. They lived and reared a large family in the Spa. Collingwood died in 1835 and is buried in Churchill. However, his grave or burial tomb is not known and no reference to him was found in the course of this survey (King 1991).

In 1741 the glebe-house was built at Church Hill with a grant of £100 from the Board of First Fruits (Lewis 1837, 156). It was built by the Re. Barry Denny who was at the time treasurer of the Cathedral Church of Ardfert.

Another notable gentry family the Hilliards were establishing a new estate house nearby at Ballygarran at the same time. The Hilliard family tomb is in Churchill graveyard. Christopher Hilliard was one of the 'Galway Prisoners' in 1788 (Bary 1994, 32). The Hilliard family already established in the parish having previously built a house at Listrim, Spa in the early 1700's possibly by William Hilliard which was the first house built by them in Kerry (Bary 1994, 173-4). William Hilliard was buried in the chancel of the church at Churchill (Fitzgerald 1906, 86; King 1931, 20). His small memorial inscription records:

HEARE LIES THE BODY OF LEVt Wm HILLIARD OF LISTRIM WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE

ON THE 9TH OF APRIL 1707 AND THE BODY OF HIS WIFE ELIZth WHO DIED ON THE 28th MAY 1709

The Rev. Barry Denny died in 1751 and was followed by his son Rev. Maynard Denny.

In 1756 Charles Smith records in his chapter on the state of all the parishes: *Ballina-haglish, vicarial, church in repair, Patron Sir Thomas Denny, knight. Proxy 5s* (Smith 1756, 37).

A tower was added to the Protestant Church in 1798. A plaque, now hidden under a mass of ivy on the tower, records the event and the name of the vicar, Rev. Maynard Denny. Maynard Denny died in 1812 and was succeeded by his son Rev. Barry Denny who was vicar until 1830 (O'Connell 2009, 13).

A Roman Catholic chapel was open at nearby Chapeltown from at least 1802. By 1837 the chapel was in a very dilapidated condition and a new Roman Catholic Church was opened at Churchill by Bishop Moriarty on the 24th May 1859 known as St. Mary's, Star of the Sea and later re-dedicated as the Church of Purification. The baptismal font inscribed with the date 1802 is now in the Church of Purification at Churchill (Crowley 2009, 26 & Plate 6).

Writing about Ballynahaglish in 1837 Lewis records 'The living is a vicarage, in the diocese of Ardfert and Aghadoe, with the entire rectory of Annagh and the rectory and vicarage of Clogherbrien episcopally united from a period prior to any known record, forming the union of Ballynahaglish, in the patronage of Sir Edward Denny, Bart.: the rectory is impropriate in the Denny family: the tithes amount to £230 15s 4 and of the whole benefice to £733 16s 10d. The church, an ancient structure built in 1619, is situated on an eminence thence called Church-hill, a little to the east of Chapeltown; it was repaired by aid of a gift of £900 from the late Board of First Fruits, in 1820, and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have recently granted £127 for its further repair. The glebe-house was erected by aid of a gift of £100 from the same Board, in 1741; it adjoins the church and commands fine views of the bays of Tralee and Brandon, and the Dingle mountains. The glebe comprises 34 acres. In the R.C. divisions this parish forms part of the union or district of Ardfert; the chapel, situated in the village of Chapeltown, is in a very dilapidated condition' (Lewis 1837, 156).

The 1st Edition OS 6"map, sheet 35 of 1841 clearly denotes the location of the church as well as the extent of the rectangular graveyard. The glebe-house and a complex of other buildings, including the glebe lands of 34 acres 29 perches are also denoted along with well laid out parkland, orchard, and a large formal garden laid out in the form of an encircled cross. A ringfort denoted by circular hachuring is also shown (Figure 4).

Thomas O'Connor, writing in August 1841, records: 'The name of this parish is pronounced in Irish Baile na hEaglishe which signifies the town (or bally) of the church. There is a Protestant church in this parish, situated in the Glebe of Knockanarny. The burial ground within which it stands is much frequented and there is no trace of an old building to be seen about it' (O'Donovan 1983, 40).

After 1830 the Protestant parishes of Ballinahaglish, Clogherbrien and Annagh were joined under the Rev. Henry Denny. From 1862 Henry was assisted by another Denny, Edward, until the death of Henry in 1877.

The Dennys sold the glebe-house and lands sometime after 1877 to Sir John Chute Nelligan K.C, a local Catholic judge. Later he transferred ownership to his son Major William John who in turn bequeathed the property to the Dominicans in Tralee following his death in 1902 (O'Connell 2009, 13).

The 2nd Edition OS 25" map of 1896 denotes the small rectangular graveyard at Churchill as .516 acres. The driveway from the gate to the church is also shown. The graveyard is the same size as in 1841. To the north-east behind a copse of trees the new Roman Catholic Church of St. Marys, built in 1859, is denoted (Figure 5).

The Dominicans occupied the glebe house and farm between 1902 and about 1920.

In 1910 the roof of the Protestant Church was removed and the building became derelict (O'Connell 2009, 13).

In 1916 the Dominicans gave land to expand the Churchill Graveyard along the northern limits as far as the road to Chapeltown.

In 1920 the Dominicans sold the property to Sarah Keane from Listowel and later transferred ownership to her nephew John O'Sullivan, son of a cattle dealer Karl O'Sullivan from Tralee. John O'Sullivan sold the glebe-house to Edward Joyce an engineer with Kerry County Council but continued to use the farm for his cattle business until around 1960 (O'Connell 2009, 13).

The recent history of Churchill House is somewhat at variance with the account by Valerie Bary in her Houses of Kerry (1994, 74). Her recent history of the estate records that General Karl O'Sullivan recently deceased and son of John O'Sullivan lived there until he sold it to a Mrs. Crampton. Later the estate came into the ownership of Mrs. O'Donoghue whose husband had, apparently, been on President Kennedy's staff. When she remarried it was again sold to the current owners the Krehbiels. Mrs Krehbiel's family, the Kirby's hail from Ballyduff in North Kerry.

4. Churchill Church and Graveyard

4.1 General

The graveyard at Churchill, like many graveyards, has an old medieval burial ground and a modern burial area opened in 1916. The old medieval burial ground also contains several very large overgrown and neglected tombs as well as the upstanding relict and completely ivy covered remains of a Protestant Church (Plates 4, 7-9. Negotiation of the old burial ground at Churchill is very difficult as it is very overgrown, irregular and bumpy underfoot whereas the modern northern section of Churchill, is in very good order and well maintained (Plates 2 & 10). Access into the church via the tower was blocked off by the caretaker as visitors were using it to dump rubbish. Consequently, it was not possible to physically evaluate the interior of the 17th century church internally or indeed externally due to the level of growth (Plates 7-8 & 11 & see below).

5. Entrance

There are two entrances into Church Hill Graveyard comprising a wide double gate entrance for vehicular traffic and a single gate for pedestrian access (Plate 4). The large 2m high double gates are set between two taller square capped piers of rubble limestone built to courses with modern forward ribbon cement pointing evident on the NW pier. The haunches on the capping of the SE pier is in need of repair and at least one of its stones is about to fall (Plate 12). The gates are locked and the key held by the caretaker Mr. Eddie Daughton. In general the painted iron gates and piers are in very good order, with the capping on one the only concern.

A modern water tap is fixed onto the SE pier on the inside.

The single wide pedestrian gate, suitable for non-able bodied pedestrians is situated *cir-ca* 4m immediately to the NW (Plate 4). The pedestrian gate is set between two squat square rubble limestone piers with coarse rounded concrete capping and opens freely.

Signage provided by Kerry County Council, beside both gates, informs visitors to keep the burial ground tidy and not to dump rubbish.

5.1 Recommendations

The capping on the SE pier should be repaired as a matter of urgency. Should the precarious dislodged stones fall from this tall pier it could seriously injure someone.

6. Boundaries

Boundary walls around the old medieval section of the graveyard are constructed with rubble limestone built to courses and bedded in mortar and capped with 'soldiers'. They appear to be in good condition where visible along the roadside or NE section. Otherwise the NE-SW and the SE-NW sections are covered in dense ivy and other growth (Plates 8 & 13).

The boundary wall around the more modern burial ground section opened in 1916 is also constructed with rubble limestone with coarse concrete rounded capping (Plate 14). In general, apart from the extent of the ivy, the walls appear to be in good order.

6.1 Recommendations

The dense ivy should be removed from the boundary walls. The cleared walls should then be re-assessed and appropriate repairs or re-pointing work carried out under expert advice and guidance.

7. Pathways

Immediately inside the main vehicular gateway there is a wide gravel trackway that more or less bisects the graveyard in two separating the older burial ground from the newer area. This trackway essentially extends to the old ruined church and is recorded on the 2nd Edition OS map of 1896 (Plate 15 & Figure 5). However, there are no other paths in the old medieval burial ground which is completely overgrown and unmanaged (Plates 8-9).

There is a perimeter pathway that extends around the limits of the more modern burial ground with other spur paths extending from it (Plates 2 & 10). The pathways are in good order and adequately service this area of the burial ground (Figure 6).

7.1 Recommendations

The old medieval burial ground area should have its dense grass cut very low. The ground should then be resurveyed and informal paths created and maintained by regular cutting.

8. Named Tombs

Nine named tombs were recorded in Church Hill Graveyard (Appendix 1 & Figure 6). All bar one (382), erected in 1944 for the Harmon family of Ballyea, are located within the medieval burial ground. Three of the tombs (382, 412, 479) are in good order, however the other six are in a poor neglected state of repair.

The largest tomb is the Collis-Hillard tomb (469) situated behind and parallel to the NE gable of the 17th century church (Figure 6). This rectangular tomb is very finely built of ashlar limestone masonry featuring six octagonal pinnacled columns capped with matching finials. This massive, almost mausoleum type, tomb is greatly neglected and almost entirely overgrown with ivy and small bushes and young trees. One of its octagonal pointed finials currently stands on top of the Hilliard family tomb (474) that is built between the Collis/Hilliard tomb and the church (Plates 15-19 & Figure 6).

The tomb of John Busteed (484), who died in 1863, is also built of ashlar limestone masonry with featured roll-moulded slim corner columns. However, the tomb is virtually entirely covered in ivy and bushes and its slate memorial slab lies dislodged and loose against it (Plate 20). Apparently, the memorial slab was removed during a Gárda search for arms in the graveyard in the recent past and not replaced (local info).

The small rectangular, plain, rather austere box type tomb of the Rev. Ebenezer Paul (479) is also constructed with ashlar slabs (Plate 21). This may be the Rev. Ebenezer Paul featured in one of W.H. Davies poems.

The 'strong-box' type tomb of the Crowley family (446) is un-rendered and built with local rubble stone. The tomb is supplanted by a late 18th century headstone in memory of Timothy Crowley who died in 1795 aged 86 years (Plate 22). The tomb which was repaired and tended in the recent past is now under threat from encroaching ivy and other vegetation.

8.1 Recommendations

Specialist work is required to preserve, repair, clean and restore at least six of the named tombs at Church Hill Graveyard. Several will require careful rebuilding. Work on the very large Collis-Hilliard tomb (469) and the Busteed tomb (484) should only be undertaken by skilled masons with a proven track record of working with historic structures and ashlar masonry.

Grass covering some of the tombs should only be fully removed as the primary element of an agreed inclusive strategy of repairs and other conservation and restoration works. This work should be undertaken with expert archaeological advice and guidance.

9. Unnamed Tombs

Seventeen unnamed tombs were recorded in various states of preservation. The majority are constructed with rubble limestone. Five of the tombs (392, 397, 402, 407, and 426) are collapsed and virtually destroyed (Plate 23). Eleven others are completely covered in vegetation (Plate 24). Tomb 436 still retains its heavy horizontal memorial slab but its supporting fabric has almost totally collapsed (Plate 25).

9.1 Recommendations

Grass covering some of the tombs should only be fully removed as the primary element of an agreed inclusive strategy of repairs and other conservation and restoration works. This work should be undertaken with expert archaeological advice and guidance.

The five tombs (392, 397, 402, 407, and 426) should be fully cleaned and assessed to determine if they are viable for repair works at all.

All work relating to these unnamed tombs should only be undertaken with expert archaeological advice, supervision and guidance.

It is likely that local information would furnish the names associated with some of these unnamed tombs and this information should be collected.

10. Named Headstones

A total of three hundred and eleven (311) named headstones (HN) were recorded in Churchill graveyard. Only two, (18th / 19th century), headstones were illegible (182 & 306). The vast majority of the headstones are in good condition and are located in the more modern area of the graveyard. Some in the old burial ground area are partially concealed by ivy and other growth (289 & 377).

Two side by side graveslabs (120, 515) in similar shared formal settings within the modern section of the graveyard are possibly children's graves. Graveslab 120 has a small inscription on the grave setting: Orla Theresa Harty. It is most likely that the other one beside it, is also from the same family.

A third illegible grave slab (510) is also included here for simplicity sake (Appendix 6 & Figure 6).

The oldest headstone recorded in the course of this study is (354) situated near the SE limits of the 17th century church (Plate 26). The inscription is expertly done in slightly elongated serif letters evenly disposed across the entirety of the slab. The epitaph reads beneath an IHS monogram:

HERE LYETH THE BODY OF TIMOTHY MORIARTY WHO DEP ARTED THIS LIFE THE 30th OF SEPtr 1717 AGED 11 years

The headstone is precariously surrounded by a mass of partially cleared vegetation and other rubble.

Another mid 18th century headstone (352) lies shattered 2-3m S of the Moriarty headstone. The headstone was unfortunately recently broken during clearance of briars and other vegetation (Plates 27-28). The inscription reads:

> In memory of John Lusiu of the Famely Of Ballymcquins Ch ildren Richard Dep arted 1757 aged 16yrs Wm (?) Thom & Cather

The last line of the inscription is partially missing because of the recent break.

The grave of Fr. Alexander (Sandy) O'Sullivan who was P.P. of the parish between 1933 and 1955 is marked by a tall High-Cross type headstone (23) with a Chi-Rho monogram (Plate 29). Fr. O'Sullivan had been a British Army chaplain during WW1 and returned apparently shell-shocked. At home he became embroiled with the local I.R.A and has his horse shot from under him, an event he anecdotally referred to his horse as having 'died for his country' (King 2009, 21).

The graves of other parish priests are interred beside the modern Church of the Purification and are therefore outside the scope of this survey.

The Ferris family is represented by fifteen headstones, one of which (129) has the name Ferris written in ogham characters on the side of it (Plate 30).

10.1 Recommendations

The area around the earliest headstone of the Moriarty family (354) should be carefully cleared of vegetation and other detritus with non-bladed strimmers and hand tools. The partially covered headstone headstones (289 & 377) should be cleared of ivy.

The recently shattered 18th century headstone (352) should be refixed onto its broken base. The area immediately around it should be cleared of vegetation by non-bladed strimmers and other hand tools.

The two illegible headstones should be professionally cleaned and their inscriptions added to the database.

11. Unnamed Headstones

Fifty eight unnamed headstones were recorded throughout the medieval graveyard area at Church Hill (Appendix 4 & Figure 6). All of the unnamed headstones are simple grave markers of unhewn local limestone and are disposed around the entirety of the burial ground.

11.1 Recommendations

These unhewn gravemarkers form a particular type of grave marker and are a important part of the life function and history of the graveyard. The grass in the interior of the graveyard around these graves should be cut low and maintained at a lower level so that these graves have a greater visibility which also helps in greater safety while walking.

12. Miscellaneous

A set-aside area (144) in memory of unnamed babies and two sailors drowned off Fenit Pier in 1936 is liminally set-aside against the NW elevation of the old church at Church Hill (Plate 31). The set-aside has a small stone kerb enclosing two small headstones. A low simple metal railing is set in front with a small Latin cross at the centre. The rotted remains of a decorated wooden trim lies broken on the ground.

In front of the unnamed babies headstone on the kerbing there is a small babies cradle motif (Plate 32) carved while in front of the sailors's headstone also on the kerbing is a steamship with the name Kilclogher (Plate 33).

12.1 Recommendations

This set-aside area should be cleaned and maintained.

13. Churchill Church Ruins

All elevations of the ruins of the 1619 Protestant Church at Church Hill and its later 1798 tower of First Fruits are standing to full height (Plates 7, 8, 15). The entire structure is densely covered by ivy. Access into the interior is blocked but it appears that it is completely overgrown as well (Plate 11).

The coarse rendered side slightly battered elevations of the church are lit by two round headed windows, now blocked up. The windows have dressed limestone sills with drip grooves. Areas where the render has disappeared reveal a fabric of rubble stone construction bedded in lime mortar and well matched quoins.

A stone soffit extends the full length of the building while a featured dressed limestone projects at the end of the soffit run at the corner shoulder area of the SW gable (Plate 34).

A blocked up opening is partially visible on the NE gable but it is partially concealed by the Hilliard tomb and by ivy (Plate 19).

The late 18th century tower is also virtually entirely covered in ivy except for a small area around the doorway on the NW elevation (Plates 7 & 11). The pointed doorway is

constructed with dressed limestone masonry with a neat hood-moulding and slightly battered bottom side stones to match the batter of the tower. There is a single small perforation on the RH side stone at shoulder height. The doorway is blocked by an ugly ad hoc arrangement of pieces of plywood and a metal gate reinforced wat the back with some scaffolding poles (Plate 11). This unhappy arrangement was put up to deter the dumping of rubbish. However, it has blocked access to visitors and the vegetation growth has increased dramatically. The church is not a hazard structurally.

Examination of two historic photographs provide much needed additional data (Plate35-36). The first of the two images, (Plate 35), shows the church with its slated roof still intact. This being the case the photo must date to before 1910 as Fr. O'Connell records that the roof was removed in that year (O'Connell 2009, 13). Indeed the photo must date to 1859 or slightly before as the belfry is not completed on St. Mary's Star of the Sea. Furthermore, there are no trees in the photo between the two churches. The OS survey map of 1896 (Figure 5) clearly denotes the trees. According to Ciarán Dalton (2009, 30), the Dennys objected to the closeness of the new Catholic church and planted a grove of trees between them.

It is therefore likely that the historic photograph was taken when the Protestant Church was still in use.

The photograph shows a crennelated tower with intact parapet and a featured string course underneath. Below the parapet on the SW elevation is a small, pointed, window. Underneath the SW facing window is a second string course. The un-rendered tower is constructed with rubble stone built to courses. The church itself is clearly rendered. There is no ivy on any of the walls of the church, boundary walls or tombs, indeed not a single bush or tree is in evidence anywhere.

The second image, (Plate 36), taken from the Ardfert direction, and although further away, provides further data of the other side of church. This image must have been taken after 1910 as the roof of the church is gone. However, it clearly shows a window on the NE gable of the church and on the tower. Possibly two other windows are shown on the NW elevation of the tower.

13.1 Recommendations

This rare early 17th century church and its late 18th century tower should be fully conserved. In advance of this a targeted costed conservation assessment should be undertaken including a full internal and external laser scan. This should be done subsequent.

All conservation works should only be undertaken under licence and under strict archaeological or conservation architectural expert opinion and advice and direction.

14. Summary of recommendations for future management/conservation of Churchill graveyard

- The early 17th century church and its late 18th century tower should be fully conserved.
- The current unhappy blocking of the doorway in the tower of the church should be removed as soon as possible and replaced with a proper functioning appropriate gate.
- Waste collection facilities should be provided.
- The overgrown and unmanaged medieval area of Church Hill Graveyard should be properly maintained. The dense growth of briars, ivy trees should be cut-back, cleared and removed.
- The dense grass should be cut very low with non-bladed strimmers and removed from the graveyard entirely and properly disposed.
- The recently shattered mid 18th century headstone (352) should be properly repaired and reset.
- The area around the early headstones 352 and 354 should be carefully cleaned and cleared of all vegetation and other modern builder's detritus and rubble.
- All vegetation on the tombs should be cut back and removed. The tombs should then be reconstructed, repaired and repointed sensitive to their original construction. The render should be replaced sensitive to the original construction. This work may require Ministerial Consent.
- The ivy and other growth on the tombs and on the boundary walls should only be fully removed as the primary element of an agreed strategy of repairs and other conservation and restoration works. Otherwise ivy and other growth should be simply cut back and maintained at a controllable level.
- Conservation and restoration works should only be carried out by qualified per-

sonnel under archaeological supervision.

- It is likely that local information would furnish the names associated with some of the unnamed tombs and this information should be collected.
- The loose capping stones on the SE entrance gate pier should be properly repaired to best practice.
- An information board similar to one already existing at Killury graveyard, in Lissycurrig townland near Causeway, should be established at a suitable location within the graveyard, most likely to the east of the entrance gate on its interior.
- The Care and Conservation of Graveyards, a publication from The Office of Public Works (OPW) is recommended reading for future maintenance of the church and graveyard.
- An informative booklet on Churchill graveyard should be compiled by Kerry County Council and supplied to the relevant parish church. It should include helpful tips for parishioners on caring for the graveyard, and the individual plots, as well as giving advice about works which may professional services such as the cleaning of old headstones etc.

Note on Recommendations

All recommendations as set out above are recommendations only based on visual site fieldwork undertaken by the writer. No invasive or other intervention work was undertaken in the course of producing this report. Ultimately, no responsibility will be accepted by the writer with regard to the undertaking of the conservation work as recommended in this report and based only on visual inspection. The ultimate decision on recommendations etc rests with Kerry County Council.

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16. Figures



Figure 1: Site location map. Extract from OS Discovery series 1: 50,000, sheet 71.

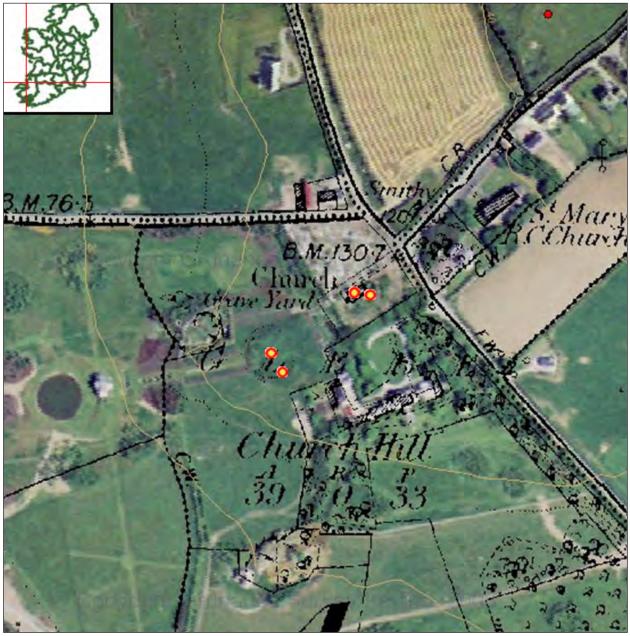


Figure 2: Ortho-image extract from National Monuments Service online database of recorded monuments.

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Figure 3: Extract from 1587 map of part of Desmond estate granted to Edward Denny. Note Ballynahaglish clearly denoted.

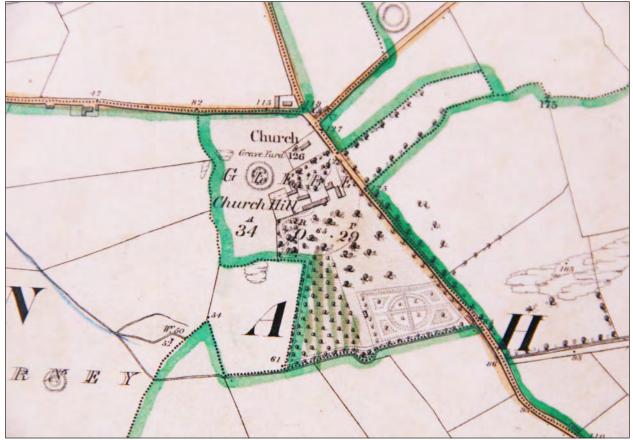


Figure 4: Extract from OS 1st Edition 1841 map, sheet 028.

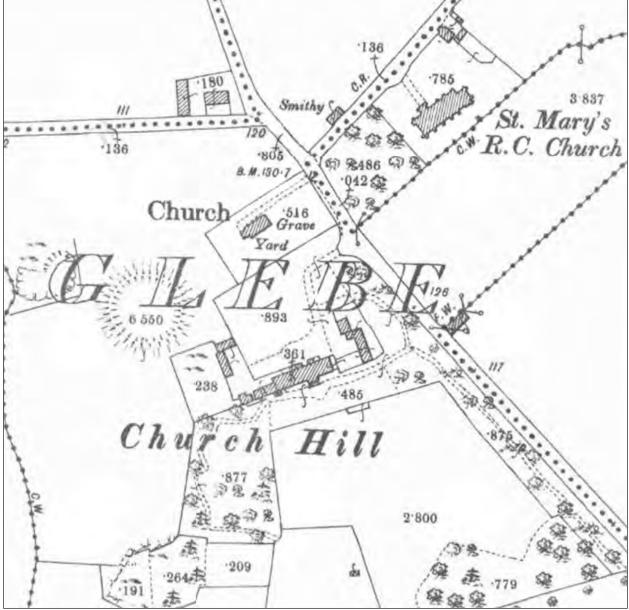


Figure 5: Extract from OS 2nd Edition 25" 1896, sheet.

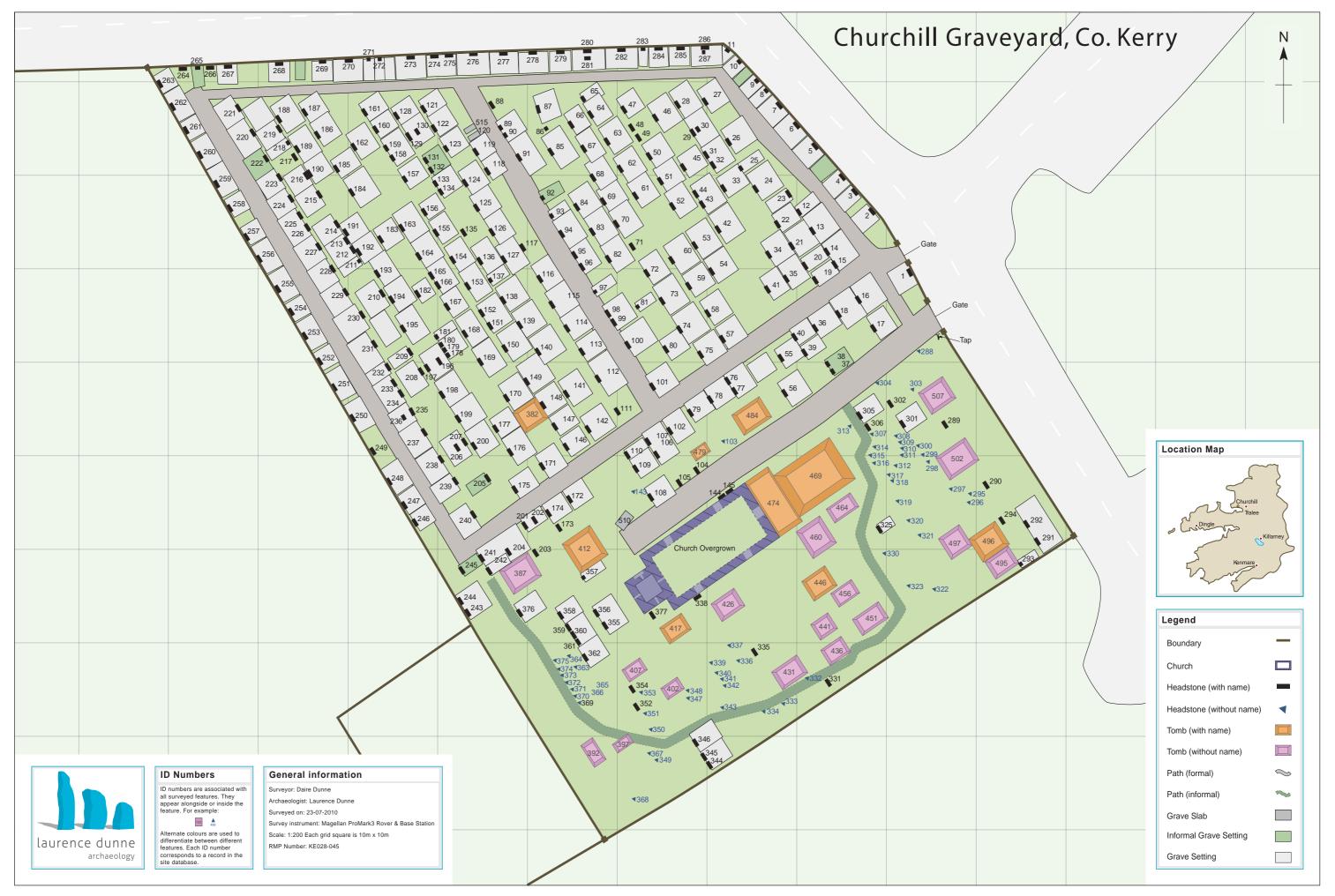


Figure 6: Archaeological survey plan of Churchill Graveyard, 2010.

17. Plates



Plate 1: View of Churchill Graveyard from east. Note Barrow Harbour and Fenit Island Castle and the Maharees Islands of Tralee Bay in the background



Plate 2: View of Churchill Graveyard from east. Note Barrow Harbour on left and Kerry Head on right in the background



Plate 3: View of exterior of modern burial ground section at Churchill



Plate 4: View of exterior of entrance gates to Churchill Graveyard



Plate 5: View of from entrance of Churchill Graveyard of carparking and approach to graveyard from Ardfert direction. Note Church of Purification concealed by trees and republican commemoration cross



Plate 6: Close up view of 1802 baptismal font from Chapeltown now located at the Church of the Purification (2009)



Plate 7: View of ruined ivy clad 17th century Protestant Church and late 18th century tower at Churchill Graveyard from south



Plate 8: View of medieval burial ground area of Churchill Graveyard from north-east



Plate 9: View of medieval burial ground area of Churchill Graveyard from south-west. Note wild unmanaged neglected state



Plate 10: View of well managed ordered modern section of Churchill Graveyard from east

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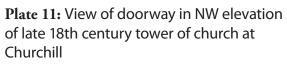




Plate 12: View of deteriorated loose capping on SE gate pier at Churchill Graveyard



Plate 13: View of interior of north-eastern section of boundary wall in Churchill Graveyard



Plate 14: View of interior of north-western section of boundary wall in Churchill Graveyard



Plate 15: View of wide vehicular accessway leading to old church from entrance gates in Churchill Graveyard

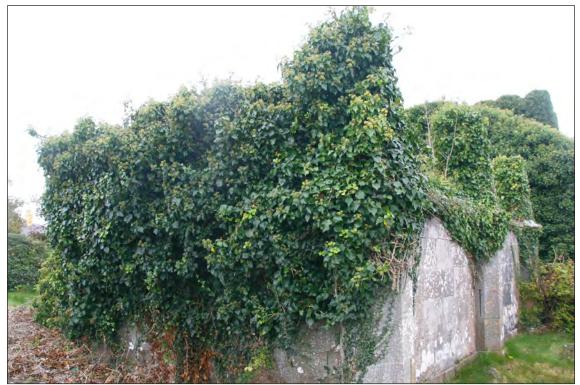


Plate 16: View of the Collis-Hilliard tomb (469) in Churchill Graveyard from north-west



Plate 17: View of the Collis-Hilliard tomb (469) in Churchill Graveyard from south-west



Plate 18: Close up view of ex situ finial from the Collis-Hilliard tomb (469)



Plate 19: View of the Hilliard tomb (474) in Churchill Graveyard from north-west



Plate 20: View of the Busteed tomb (484) in Churchill Graveyard



Plate 21: View of the tomb of the Rev. Ebenezer Paul (479) in Churchill Graveyard



Plate 22: View of the Crowley tomb (446) in Churchill Graveyard



Plate 23: View of the unnamed, denuded tomb (397) in Churchill Graveyard



Plate 24: View of the unnamed, overgrown tomb (497) in Churchill Graveyard



Plate 25: View of the unnamed, partially collapsed tomb (436) in Churchill Graveyard



Plate 26: View of the headstone of Timothy Moriarty (354) who died in 1717 aged 11 years

Plate 27: View of recently shattered 1757 headstone (352) of the Lusiu family in Churchill Graveyard





Plate 28: View of recently shattered 1757 headstone (352) of the Lusiu family in Churchill Graveyard. Note completely neglected overgrown state and dump of cement and other rubble. Further note Churchill House in background

Plate 29: Image of Fr, Alexander (Sandy) O'Sullivan, P.P. of Spa parish between 1933-55, (photo from 2009 publication on Church of the Purification, Churchill)





Plate 30: View ogham inscription on Ferris family headstone (129)at Churchill Graveyard.



Plate 31: View set-aside (144) for unbaptised babies and drowned sailors at Churchill Graveyard



Plate 32: Detail of motif of cradle from kerbing of set-aside (144) at Churchill Graveyard



Plate 33: Detail of motif of steamship the 'Kilclogher' from kerbing of set-aside (144) at Churchill Graveyard



Plate 34: View of stone soffit of 1619 Protestant Church from south-west at Churchill Graveyard

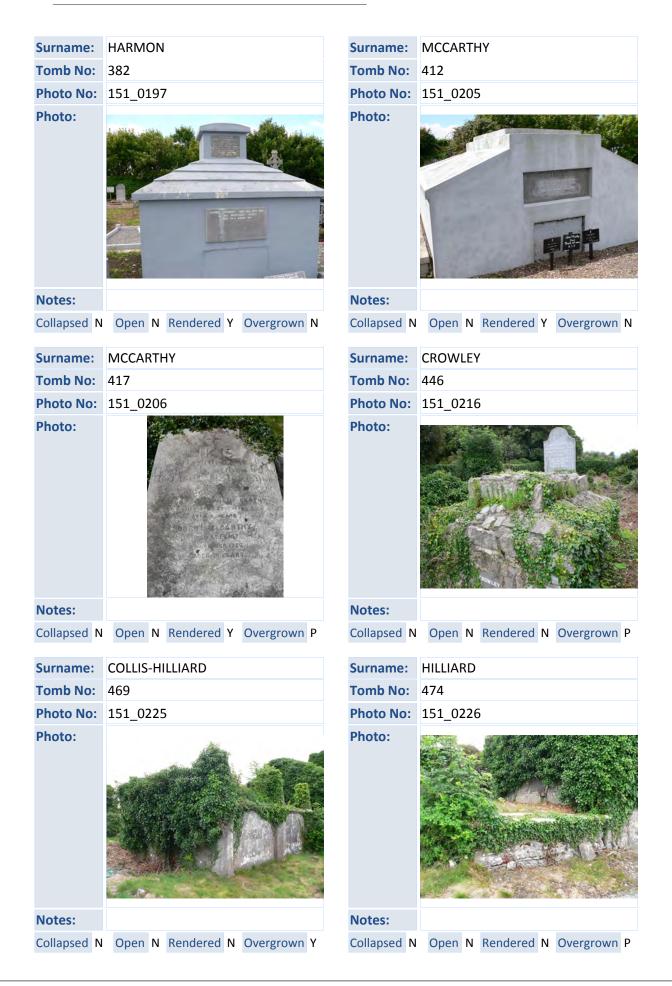


Plate 35: Historic pre-1910 photograph of Churchill Church and Graveyard taken from south-west. Note complete lack of any vegetation growth to all walls and buildings creating a clear unhindered view of the Roman Catholic Church of Mary's Star of the sea in background (photo from 2009 publication on Church of the Purification, Churchill)



Plate 36: Historic view of Churchill post-1910 from north-east along the road approach from Ardfert direction. Note the roof is now gone from the church while the absence of ivy shows windows on the north-east gable of the church and on the north-east and north-west elevations of the tower, background (photo from 2009 publication on Church of the Purification, Churchill)

18. Appendix 1 Named Tombs



Surname		PAUL				
Tomb No		-				
		479				
Photo No	:	151_02	227	7		
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19. Appendix 2 Unnamed Tombs

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		Photo No:	
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Tomb No:	397	Tomb No:	402
Photo No:	151_0202	Photo No:	151_0203
Photo:		Photo:	
Notes:		Notes:	
Collapsed N	Open N Rendered N Overgrown Y	Collapsed N	Open N Rendered N Overgrown Y
Tomb No:	407	Tomb No:	426
Photo No:	151_0204	Photo No:	151_0210
Photo:		Photo:	
Notes:		Notes:	
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Tomb No: 495

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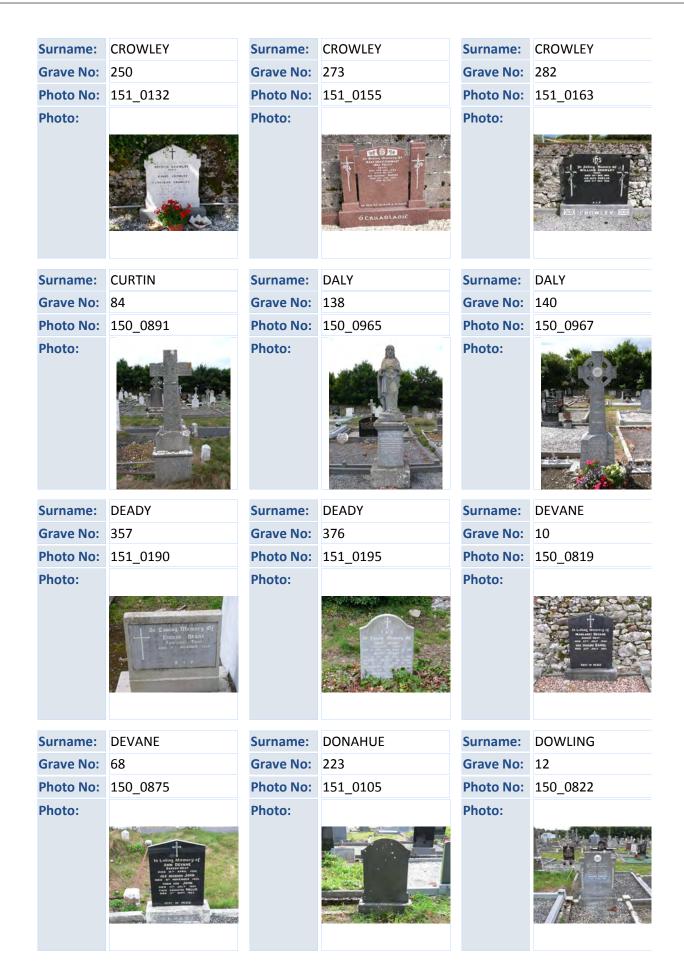


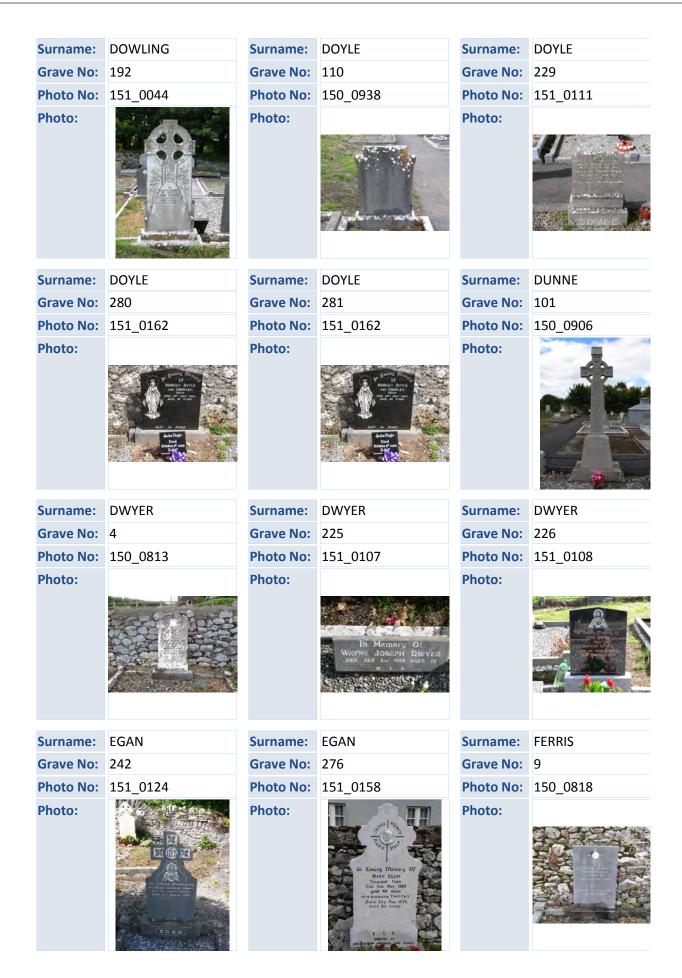
20. Appendix 3 Named Headstones

Surname:	ASHE	Surname:	ASHE	Surname:	BARRETT
Grave No:	291	Grave No:	292	Grave No:	191
Photo No:	151_0170	Photo No:	151_0170	Photo No:	151_0043
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	
Surname:	BREATNACH	Surname:	BRENNAN	Surname:	BRENNAN
Grave No:	199	Grave No:	209	Grave No:	338
Photo No:	151_0050	Photo No:	151_0091	Photo No:	151_0183
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	Bar SHEEIAA BRENAA JULY 1163
Surname:	BRICK	Surname:	BROSNAN	Surname:	BROSNAN
Grave No:	190	Grave No:	7	Grave No:	76
Photo No:	151_0042	Photo No:	150_0816	Photo No:	150_0883
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	
	A CONTRACT OF CONTRACT				
Surname:	BROSNAN	Surname:	BROSNAN	Surname:	BROSNAN
Grave No:	77	Grave No:	112	Grave No:	169
Photo No:	150_0884	Photo No:	150_0940	Photo No:	151_0023
Photo:		Photo:	A Loss directions of the second secon	Photo:	+ H BROSHAN

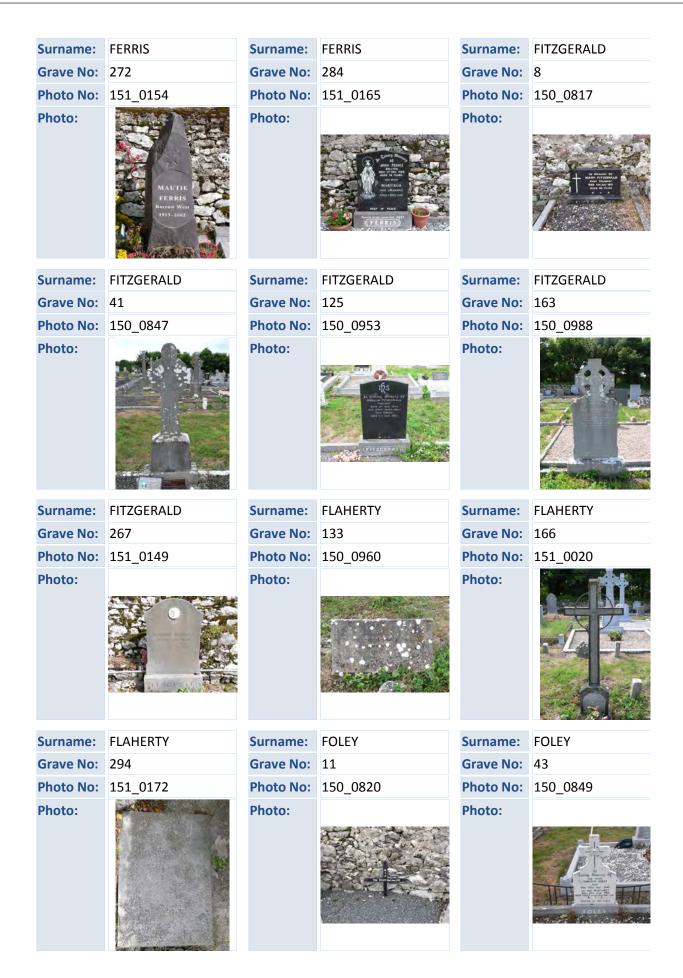


Surname:	CASEY	Surname:	CLIFFORD	Surname:	CLIFFORD
Grave No:		Grave No:		Grave No:	
Photo No:	151 0030	Photo No:	150 0879	Photo No:	151 0028
Photo:	E CASEY	Photo:		Photo:	
Surname:	CLIFFORD	Surname:	COLLINS	Surname:	COSTELLOE
Grave No:	241	Grave No:	279	Grave No:	78
Photo No:	151_0123	Photo No:	151_0161	Photo No:	150_0885
Photo:		Photo:	Sorting Tenners OF Looning Tenners OF Lisawing Billion Billion State of Allowed Billion Stat	Photo:	
Surname:	COTTER	Surname:	CREAN	Surname:	CREAN
Grave No:	160	Grave No:	1	Grave No:	171
Grave No: Photo No:		Grave No: Photo No:		Grave No: Photo No:	
Photo No:		Photo No:		Photo No:	
Photo No: Photo:	150_0985	Photo No: Photo:	150_0810	Photo No: Photo:	151_0025
Photo No: Photo: Surname:	150_0985	Photo No: Photo: Surname:	150_0810	Photo No: Photo: Surname:	151_0025 IIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII





Surname:	FERRIS	Surname:	FERRIS	Surname:	FERRIS
Grave No:	48	Grave No:	49	Grave No:	69
Photo No:	150_0854	Photo No:	150_0855	Photo No:	150_0876
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	
Surname:	FERRIS	Surname:	FERRIS	Surname:	FERRIS
Grave No:	70	Grave No:	71	Grave No:	105
Photo No:	150_0877	Photo No:	150_0878	Photo No:	150_0909
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	
Surname:	FERRIS	Surname:	FERRIS	Surname:	FERRIS
Grave No:	108	Grave No:	128	Grave No:	129
Photo No:	150_0936	Photo No:	150_0956	Photo No:	150_0957
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	RIP Vice RIS FERRIS FERRIS
Surname:	FERRIS	Surname:	FERRIS	Surname:	FERRIS
Grave No:	130	Grave No:	270	Grave No:	271
Photo No:	150_0957	Photo No:	151_0152	Photo No:	151_0153
Photo:		Photo:	A A A A	Photo:	



Surname:	FOLEY	Surname:	GALVIN	Surname:	GAYNOR
Grave No:	44	Grave No:	88	Grave No:	18
Photo No:	150_0850	Photo No:	150_0895	Photo No:	150_0827
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Surname:	GAYNOR	Surname:	GILDEA	Surname:	GRIFFIN
Grave No:	136	Grave No:	59	Grave No:	40
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Surname:	GRIFFIN	Surname:	GRIFFITHS	Surname:	HAMPSON
Grave No:	155	Grave No:	269	Grave No:	173
Photo No:	150_0980	Photo No:	151_0151	Photo No:	151_0027
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	
Surname:	HANIFIN	Surname:	HARMON	Surname:	HARMON
Grave No:	79	Grave No:	98	Grave No:	99
Photo No:	150_0886	Photo No:	150_0904	Photo No:	150_0904
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					HARMON

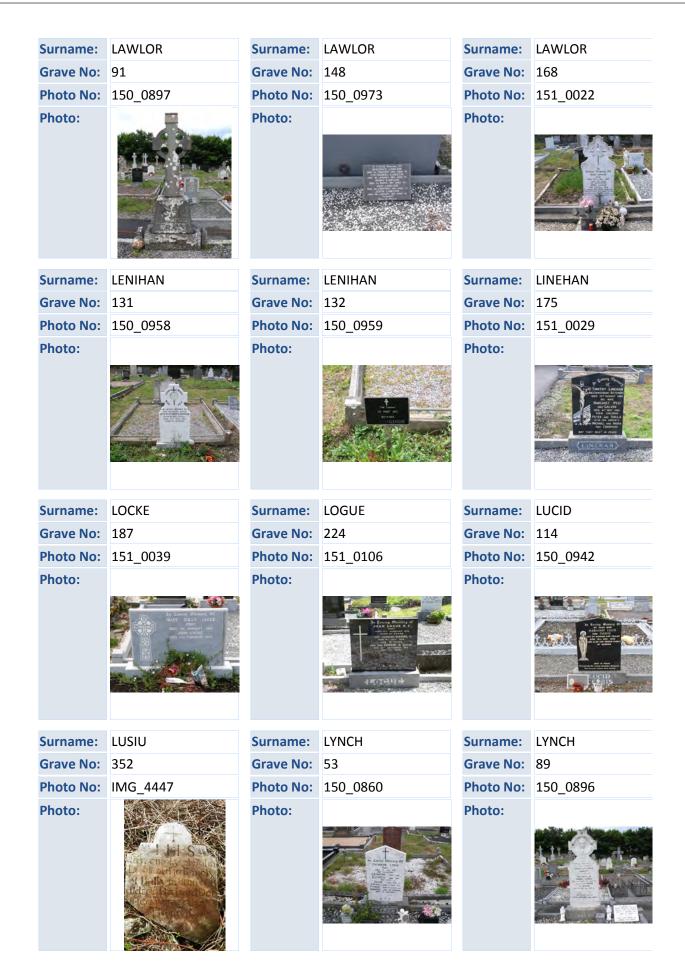
Surname:	HARRIS	Surname:	HARTY	Surname:	HEALY
Grave No:	335	Grave No:	87	Grave No:	57
Photo No:	151_0182	Photo No:	150_0894	Photo No:	150_0864
Photo:	The second	Photo:		Photo:	
Surname:	HEALY	Surname:	HICKEY	Surname:	HICKEY
Grave No:	60	Grave No:	146	Grave No:	158
Photo No:	150_0867	Photo No:	150_0971	Photo No:	150_0983
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	t the second sec
Surname:	HICKEY	Surname:	HICKEY	Surname:	HIGGINS
Grave No:	183	Grave No:	249	Grave No:	74
Photo No:	151_0035	Photo No:	151_0131	Photo No:	150_0881
Photo:	Part Aller Market	Photo:		Photo:	
Surname:	HIGGINS	Surname:	HIGGINS	Surname:	HIGGINS
Grave No:	177	Grave No:	235	Grave No:	346
Photo No:	151_0031	Photo No:	151_0117	Photo No:	151_0186
Photo:		Photo:	HIGGINS	Photo:	

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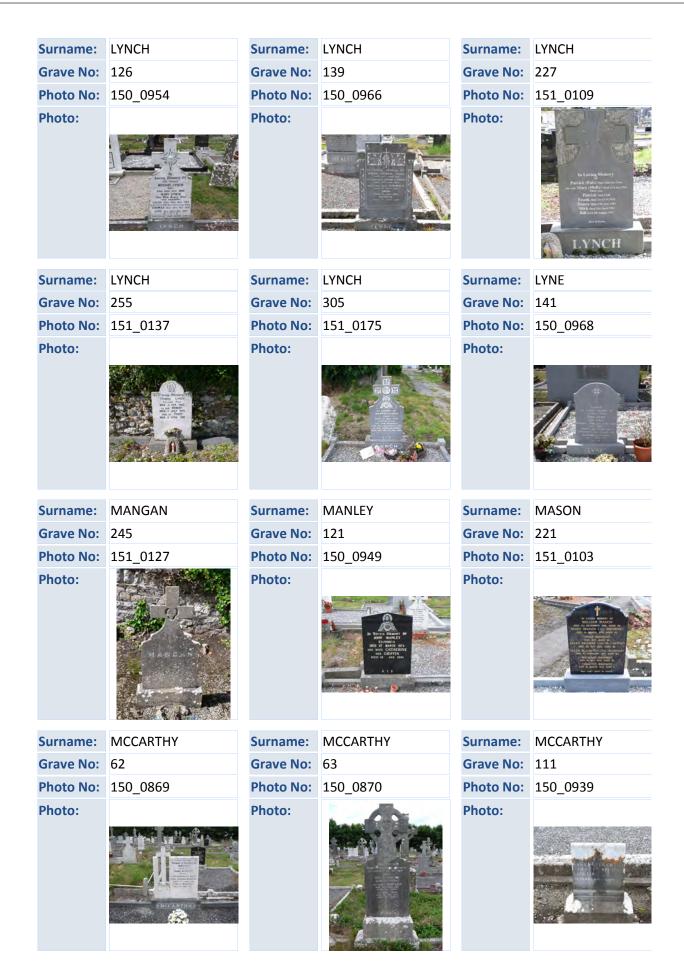
Surname:	HORGAN	Surname:	HUSSEY	Surname:	ILLEGIBLE
Grave No:	36	Grave No:	137	Grave No:	182
Photo No:	150_0843	Photo No:	150_0964	Photo No:	151_0034
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	
Surname:	ILLEGIBLE	Surname:	KAVANAGH	Surname:	KAVANAGH
Grave No:	306	Grave No:	265	Grave No:	266
Photo No:	151_0176	Photo No:	151_0147	Photo No:	151_0148
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	
Surname:	KELLY	Surname:	KELLY	Surname:	KELLY
Grave No:	31	Grave No:	32	Grave No:	47
Photo No:	150_0839	Photo No:	150_0839	Photo No:	150_0853
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	AND MARK
Surname:	KELLY	Surname:	KELLY	Surname:	KELLY
Grave No:	161	Grave No:	215	Grave No:	239
Photo No:	150_0986	Photo No:	151_0097	Photo No:	151_0121
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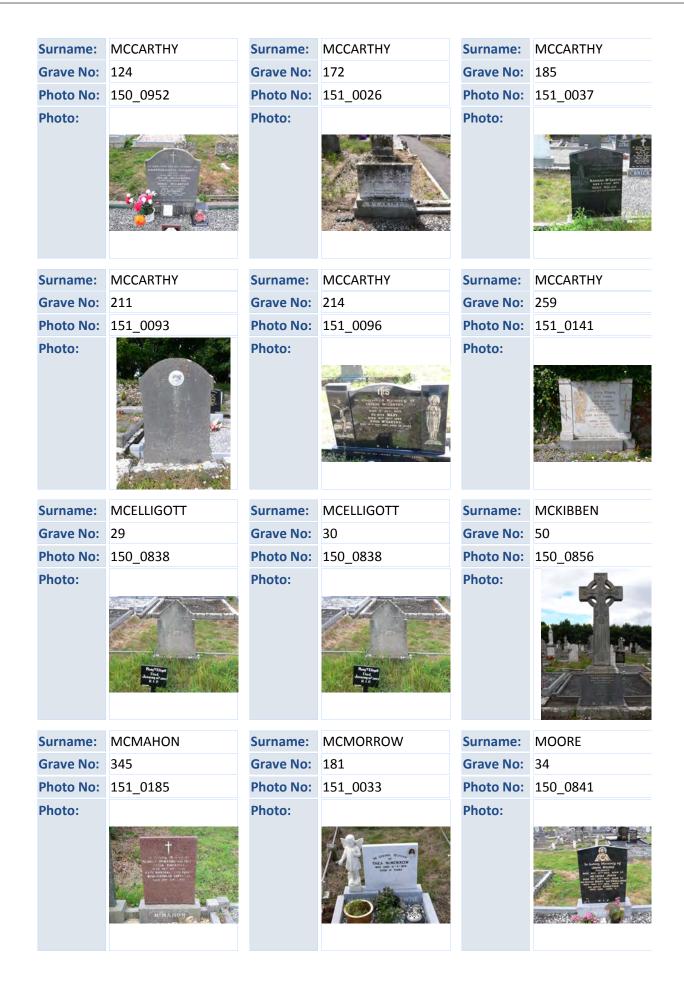
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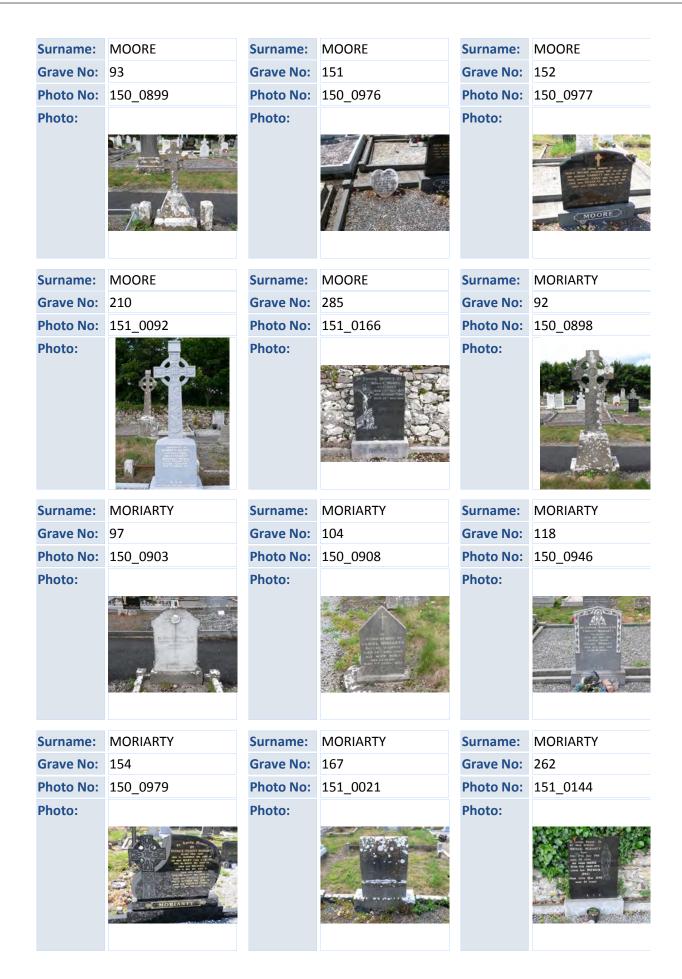
Surname:	KENNY	Surname:	KENNY	Surname:	KING
Grave No:	37	Grave No:	203	Grave No:	14
Photo No:	150_0844	Photo No:	151_0085	Photo No:	150_0824
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	
Surname:	KING	Surname:	KING	Surname:	KING
Grave No:	15	Grave No:	106	Grave No:	107
Photo No:	150_0824	Photo No:	150_0910	Photo No:	150_0911
Photo:		Photo:	A CONTRACT OF A	Photo:	Churchen Ken Der Der Er Pro-
Surname:	KING	Surname:	KIRBY	Surname:	KIRBY
Grave No:	247	Grave No:	24	Grave No:	94
Photo No:	151_0129	Photo No:	150_0833	Photo No:	150_0900
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	
Surname:	KIRBY	Surname:	LAWLOR	Surname:	LAWLOR
Grave No:	115	Grave No:	16	Grave No:	51
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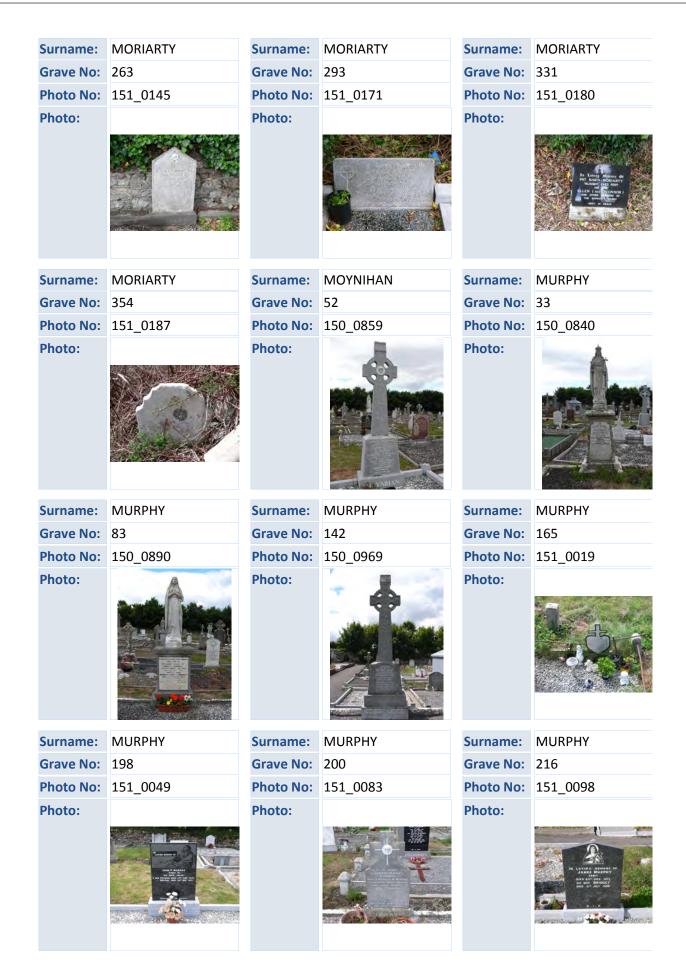


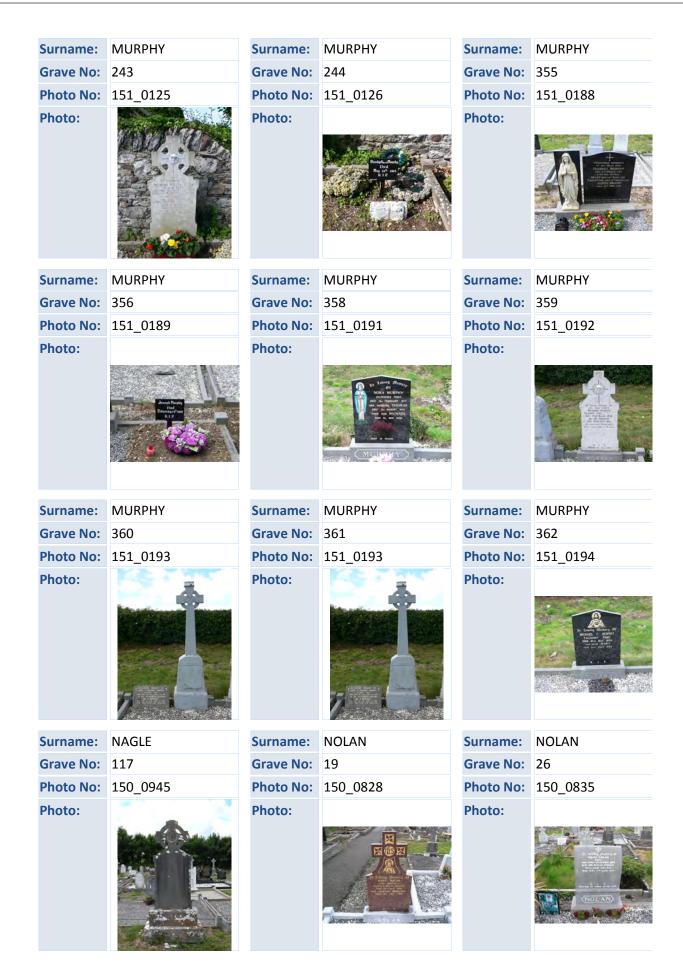
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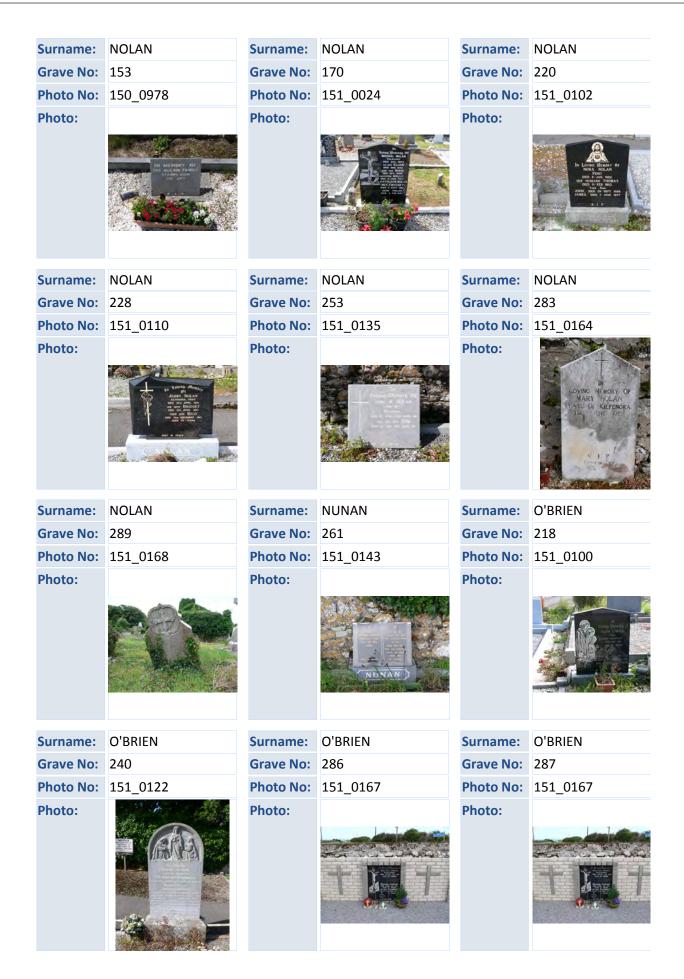


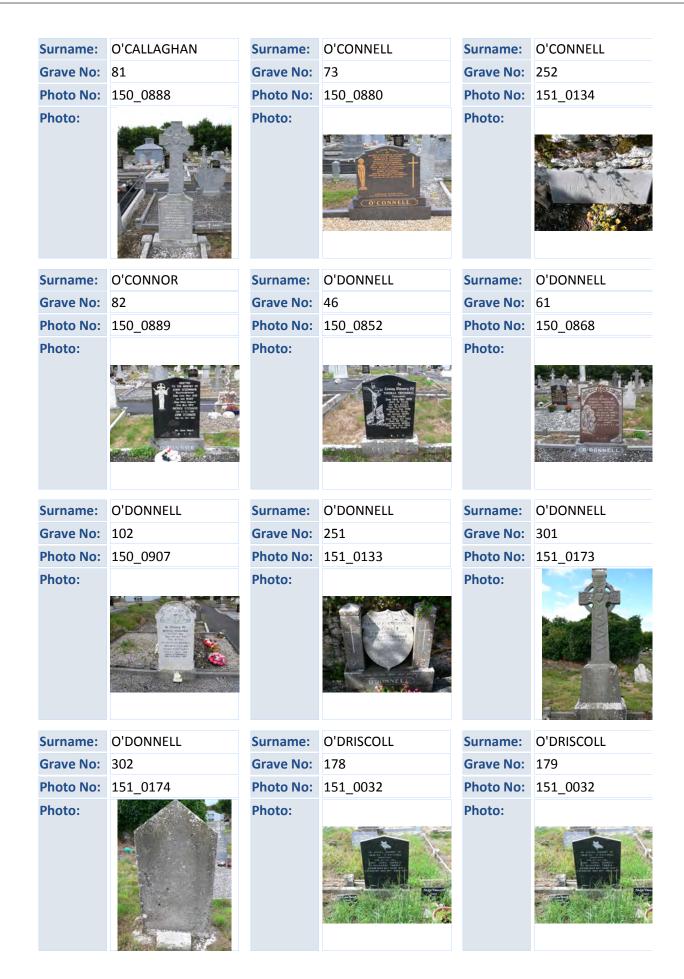


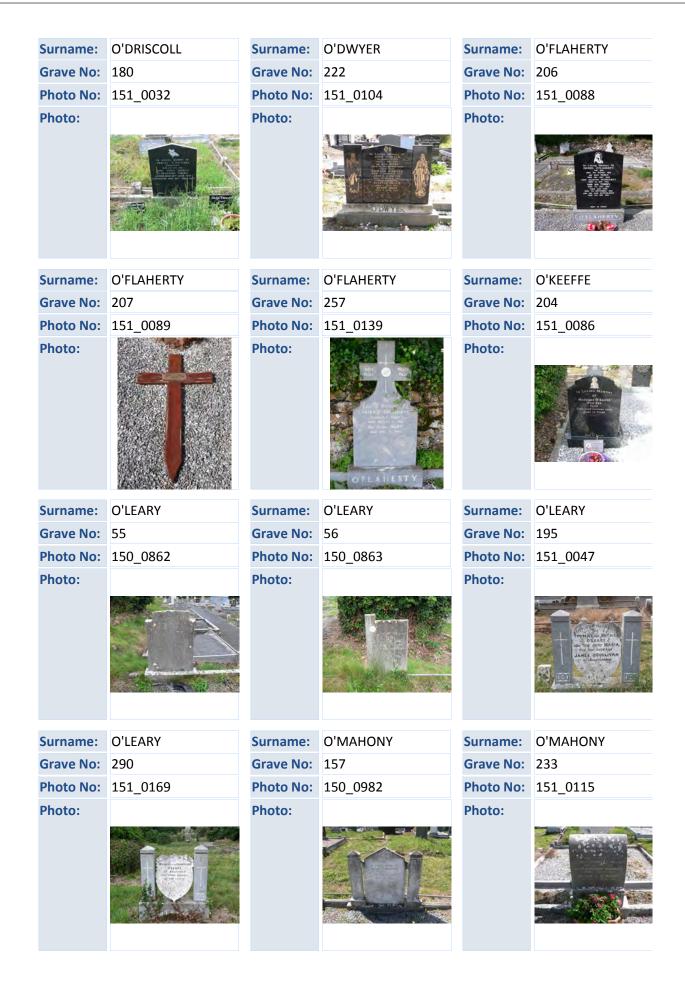




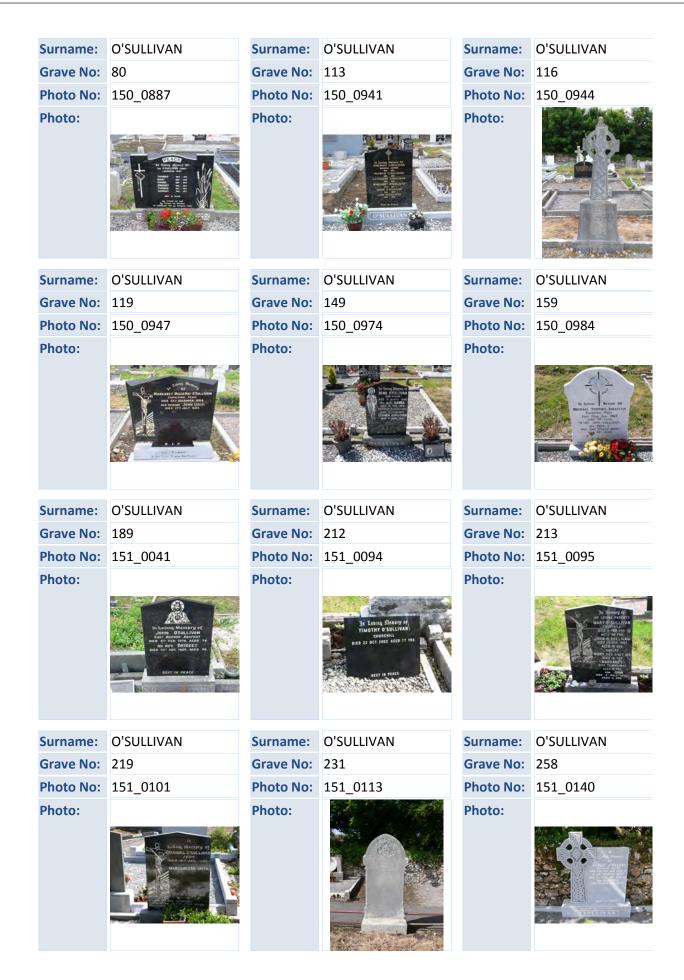


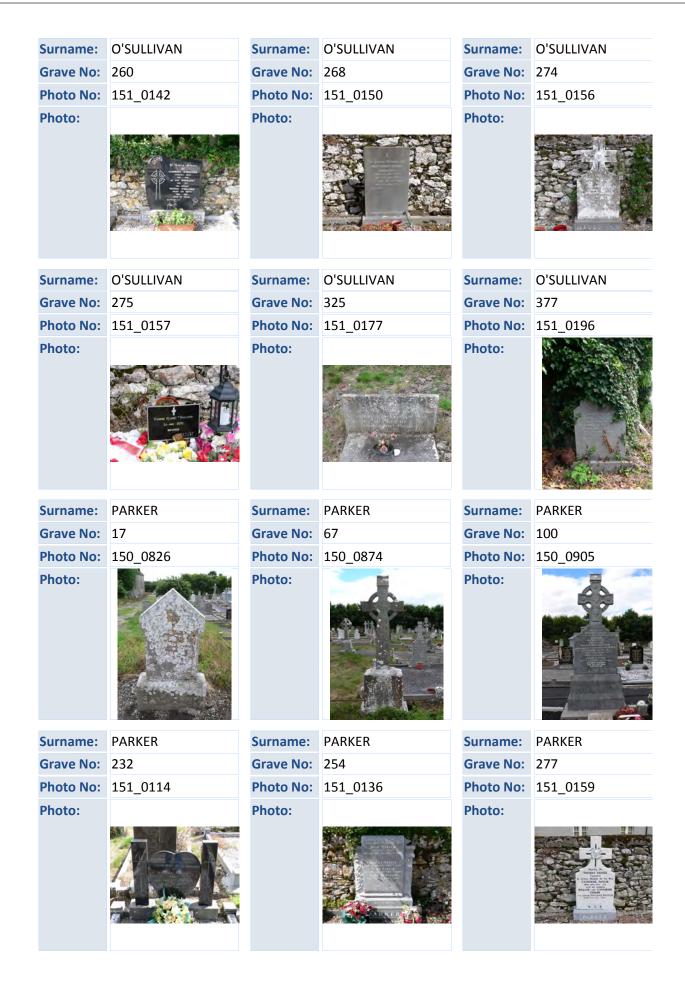




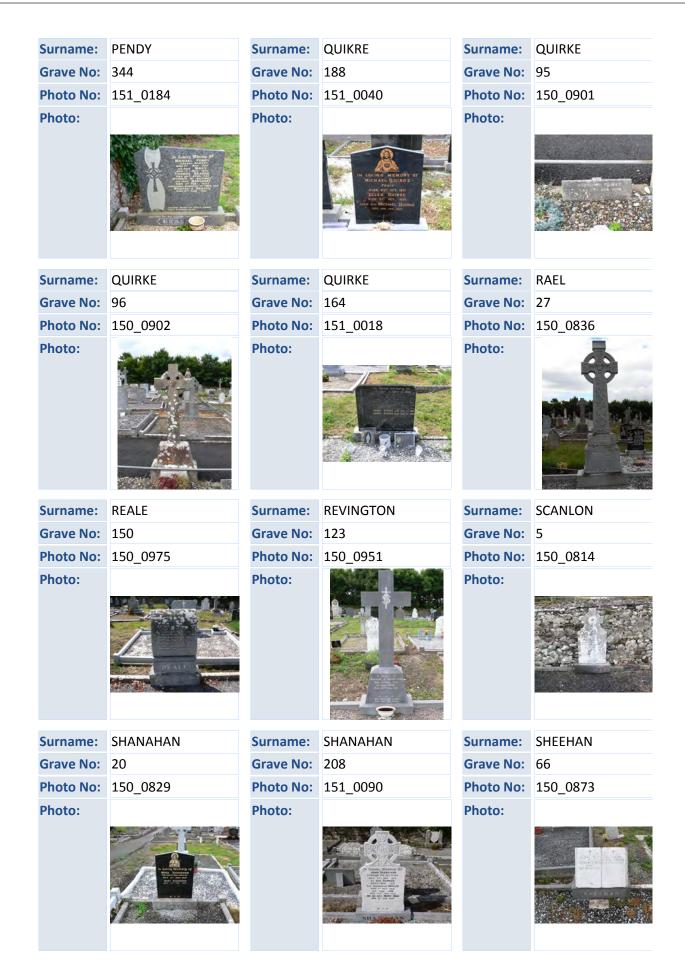








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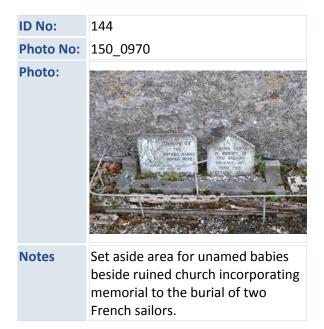
Surname:	SUGRUE	Surname:	SWEENEY	Surname:	SWEENEY
Grave No:	21	Grave No:	196	Grave No:	197
Photo No:	150_0830	Photo No:	151_0048	Photo No:	151_0048
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	
Surname:	TANSLEY	Surname:	TANSLEY	Surname:	TANSLEY
Grave No:	54	Grave No:	85	Grave No:	230
Photo No:	150_0861	Photo No:	150_0892	Photo No:	151_0112
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	
Surname:	WALLACE	Surname:	WALSH	Surname:	WALSH
Grave No:	65	Grave No:	22	Grave No:	90
Photo No:	150_0872	Photo No:	150_0831	Photo No:	150_0896
Photo:		Photo:		Photo:	
Surname:	WALSH	Surname:	WALSH		
Grave No:	156	Grave No:	264		
Photo No:	150_0981	Photo No:	151_0146		
Photo:	He developed a service of the servic	Photo:	the second		

21. Appendix 4 Unnamed Headstones

Grave No Notes	
103	
143	
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Grave No	Notes
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22. Appendix 5 Misc



23. Appendix 6 Grave Slabs



ID No:	510
Photo No:	151_0235
Photo:	
Notes	

