

A Heritage of Dry-Stone Walls

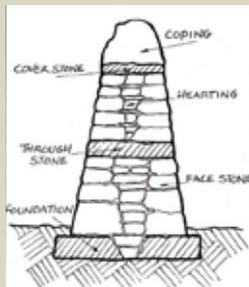
Dry-stone walls reflect the geological diversity of County Donegal and contribute to the character of our regional cultural landscapes. Some dry-stone walls were the result of land clearance as field stones were used in the construction of traditional field boundaries to create small-scale pastures and arable farming plots. Dry-stone walls can reveal historical farming patterns and land divisions that inform our understanding of society and culture in County Donegal. Dry-stone walls demonstrate a culture of traditional craftsmanship and local stonemasonry skills that has almost disappeared. The repair and maintenance of our dry-stone walls has the potential to enhance the character of the places in which we live, provide training and apprenticeship opportunities in stonemasonry and communicate our material culture to residents of, and visitors to, County Donegal. Our dry-stone walls help to reinforce our sense of place and iconic landscapes such as Cnoc Fola / Bloody Foreland are intrinsically associated with their dry-stone walls.

The aims of this free seminar are to raise awareness of dry-stone wall types and their construction, to convey their historical and cultural significance and to promote best practice in their care and conservation. The seminar is an initiative of the County Donegal Heritage Office, Donegal County Council and the County Donegal Heritage Forum in association with The Heritage Council & the Dry Stone Wall Association of Ireland as part of the implementation of the County Donegal Heritage Plan.

Booking Required:

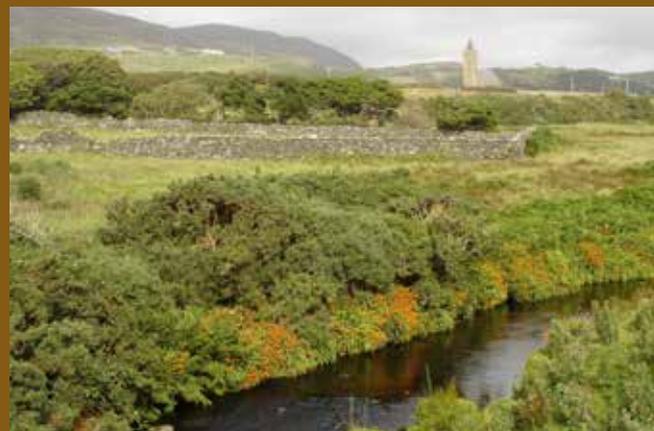
County Donegal Heritage Office,
Donegal County Council,
Station Island,
Lifford,
County Donegal.

Telephone: (074) 912 4613
E-mail: museum@donegalcoco.ie



Did you know . . .

- that geology is identified as one of the aspects of heritage defined under the Heritage Act of 1995?
- that Donegal County Council in partnership with the Geological Survey of Ireland and The Heritage Council commissioned a survey of geological heritage sites in County Donegal as part of the implementation of the County Donegal Heritage Plan?
- that Cnoc Fola / Bloody Foreland with its single granite dry-stone walls is one of the iconic cultural landscapes of County Donegal?
- that County Donegal was the first county in Ireland to initiate a survey of dry-stone wall types?



Saturday, June 20: Afternoon Schedule

Rock Detectives Club

Meet: Halla Mhuire, Gleann Cholm Cille / Glencolmcille
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Discover about planet earth and how rocks are made . . . have a go at making your own planet earth . . . dig in glacial mud . . . and construct your own stone wall! The Rock Detectives Club will be facilitated by Dr. Kirstin Lemon, Geological Survey Northern Ireland and Úna Collier, Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark.

Children should wear suitable outdoor clothing and bring a snack. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Places are limited to 20 children (aged 4 to 12 years of age). Booking is essential. Please call: (074) 912 4613.



Tír Chonail Stone Festival

The Dry Stone Wall Association of Ireland will be holding the Tír Chonail Stone Festival in Gleann Cholm Cille / Glencolmcille from Friday, June 19 to Sunday, June 21. Events include a dry-stone walling workshop with master stonemasons, and stone sculpting and letter carving workshops as well as lectures, guided tours and entertainment. For further information, see 'Events & Training' on www.dswai.ie. For bookings, please contact Louise Price by e-mail at info@dswai.ie or by telephone at (087) 322 3965.



County Donegal Heritage Office, Donegal County Council
in association with the County Donegal Heritage Forum
& Dry Stone Wall Association of Ireland presents

Dry-Stone Walls Seminar

Free Seminar

Halla Mhuire,
Gleann Cholm Cille / Glencolmcille
Saturday, June 20, 2015
9.20 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



An Action of the County Donegal Heritage Plan

Why?

The aims of this seminar are to:

- (i) raise awareness of dry-stone wall types and methods of construction;
- (ii) disseminate information on regional variations of dry-stone wall types, geology and historical field patterns;
- (iii) promote best practice in the management of dry-stone walls and engage people in their conservation; and
- (iv) convey their cultural heritage significance.

Where & When?

Friday, June 19, 2015: 8:00 p.m.

Folk Village, Gleann Cholm Cille / Glencolmcille

Saturday, June 20, 2015: 9:20 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Halla Mhuire, Gleann Cholm Cille / Glencolmcille

Who Should Attend?

The event is open to the public, community groups, heritage groups, historical societies, farmers, landowners, traditional craftsmen, stonemasons, students, 'Tidy Towns' committees, architects, builders, local authority staff and anyone who has an interest in local heritage and history.

Friday, June 19: Evening Schedule

Venue: Folk Village, Gleann Cholm Cille / Glencolmcille

8:00 p.m. Launch of 'A Field Guide to the Dry-Stone Walls of County Donegal' by **Patrick McAfee**

Saturday, June 20: Morning Schedule

Venue: Halla Mhuire, Gleann Cholm Cille / Glencolmcille

- 9:00 a.m. Registration
- 9:20 a.m. Welcome
Louise Price,
Dry Stone Wall Association of Ireland
Joe McHugh T.D., Minister of State,
Department of Arts, Heritage & the
Gaeltacht
- 9:40 a.m. From the Very, Very Old to the Very, Very Young: a geological history of County Donegal
Kirstin Lemon,
Geological Survey of Northern Ireland
- 10:10 a.m. Donegal's Dry-Stone Walls as Historical Evidence
Jonathan Bell, agricultural historian,
folklorist and author
- 10:40 a.m. Dry-Stone Walls on the Aran Islands and in South Carlow
Mary Laheen, University College Dublin
- 11:10 a.m. Tea & Coffee
- 11:40 a.m. Irish Stone Walls: their forms and conservation
Patrick McAfee, stonemason and author
of 'Irish Stone Walls'
- 12:20 p.m. Donegal Dry-Stone Wall Types: a reflection of local geological foundation
Joanne Curran, Consarc Design
- 12:50 a.m. Questions & Answers
Joseph Gallagher,
County Donegal Heritage Office (Chair)
- 1:20 p.m. Lunch: Soup & Sandwiches



Saturday, June 20: Afternoon Schedule

Dry-Stone Walls Demonstration

Meet: Halla Mhuire, Gleann Cholm Cille / Glencolmcille
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m

Seminar participants will have the opportunity to view demonstrations of traditional skills such as dry-stone walling, stone carving, letter cutting and traditional stone cutting taking place as part of the Tír Chonaill Stone Festival organised by the Dry Stone Wall Association of Ireland. If you would like to participate, please wear protective footwear. Gloves and goggles will be provided. Please note that places are limited.



Booking Form

Dry-Stone Walls Seminar & Demonstration

The seminar is free but booking is required, as places are limited.

Phone: (074) 912 4613

E-mail: museum@donegalcoco.ie

Post:

- I would like to attend the Dry-Stone Walls Seminar
Saturday, June 20, 2015: 9:20 a.m. - 1:20 p.m.
- I would like to attend the Dry-Stone Walls Demonstration
Saturday, June 20, 2015: 2:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.

To book Rock Detectives Club, please call (074) 912 4613

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Please return the completed Booking Form to:

County Donegal Heritage Office,
Donegal County Council,
Station Island,
Lifford,
County Donegal.