



## Exploring Civic Trusts in County Donegal

The built heritage of our towns and villages makes a significant contribution to our sense of place and identity, and to making these towns and villages attractive places to live, work and visit. While there is often a strong interest in the history of these towns, it does not always translate into the conservation of our built heritage and streetscapes. The built environment of our streetscapes is constantly changing and aspects of our built heritage and village character can be lost in the process. The individual and collective loss of aspects of the historic built fabric of our towns and villages in County Donegal in recent years has been considerable. The 'Civic Trust' model in some of our larger towns and cities has been effective in mobilising some of the local interest, enthusiasm and effort towards the conservation of our built and cultural heritage.

The aims of this free seminar are to raise awareness and appreciation of the built heritage and streetscapes of County Donegal's historic towns, disseminate information and practical advice on the establishment of civic trusts, investigate sources of information on the built heritage of our towns and villages, promote best practice in the conservation of our built heritage, and convey the heritage value and significance of our town's streetscapes. The seminar is an initiative of the County Donegal Heritage Office, Donegal County Council in conjunction with the County Donegal Heritage Forum & The Heritage Council 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](mailto:museum@donegalcoco.ie)

County Donegal Heritage Office,  
Donegal County Council  
in association with the  
County Donegal Heritage Forum  
presents



## Did you know . . .

- that Ballyshannon, Donegal Town, Killybegs, Lifford and St. Johnston are 'Historic Towns' identified in the Urban Archaeological Survey of County Donegal (1989) by the National Monuments Service and are protected under the National Monuments Acts (1930-2004)?
- that the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage for County Donegal by the Department of Arts, Heritage & the Gaeltacht is nearing completion and that more information on the built heritage of County Donegal is available on the [www.buildingsofireland.ie](http://www.buildingsofireland.ie) website?
- that the purpose of the Record of Protected Structures is to protect structures, or parts of structures "which form part of the architectural heritage and which are of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest"?
- that Ardara, Ballyshannon, Moville, Ramelton & Raphoe were designated as 'Heritage Towns' by Donegal County Council & Bord Fáilte (now Fáilte Ireland) in order to help conserve their historic built environments and as a tourism marketing initiative?
- that heritage grant assistance is available for the preservation and conservation of historic buildings in our towns and villages?

## 'Held in Trust'

Conserving the Built Heritage of  
County Donegal's Towns & Villages

## Free Seminar

Dorrian's Imperial Hotel,  
Ballyshannon, County Donegal  
Saturday, November 22, 2014  
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



An Chomhairle Oidhreachta  
The Heritage Council



An Action of the County Donegal Heritage Plan

## Why?

The aims of this seminar are to:

- (i) raise awareness and appreciation of the built heritage and streetscapes of County Donegal's historic towns,
- (ii) disseminate information and practical advice on the establishment of civic trusts,
- (iii) investigate sources of information on the built heritage of our towns and villages,
- (iv) promote best practice in the conservation of our built heritage, and
- (v) convey the heritage value and significance of our town's streetscapes.

## Where & When?

Dorrian's Imperial Hotel,  
Main Street, Ballyshannon, County Donegal  
Saturday, November 22, 2014:  
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.



**WILD ATLANTIC WAY**  
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## Who Should Attend?

The event will be of interest to heritage groups, historical societies, 'Tidy Towns' committees, community groups, historic building owners, architects, builders, students, local authority staff and anyone who has an interest in local heritage and history.



## 'Held in Trust': Seminar Schedule

Dorrian's Imperial Hotel, Main Street, Ballyshannon

- 8:50 a.m. Registration
- 9:20 a.m. Welcome
- 9:40 a.m. Creating a Sense of Place in Our Towns & Villages  
Geraldine Walsh, Chief Executive Officer,  
Dublin Civic Trust
- 10:15 a.m. Community & Civic Engagement in Our Historic Towns: a case study of Westport, County Mayo  
Simon Wall, Westport Town Architect,  
Mayo County Council
- 11:00 a.m. Conserving the Historic Built Environment  
Leah O'Neill, Heritage Projects Officer,  
Ulster Architectural Heritage Society
- 11:20 a.m. Tea & Coffee
- 11:50 a.m. The Role of a Civic Trust  
Mary McLaughlin & Caroline Dickson,  
Foyle Civic Trust
- 12:20 p.m. Understanding Irish Towns  
Anngret Simms, Emeritus Professor of Geography,  
University College Dublin
- 12:50 p.m. Seven Secrets for a Successful Conservation Project  
Duncan McLaren, Conservation Architect,  
Dedalus Architecture
- 1:20 p.m. Open Forum – Questions & Answers  
Joseph Gallagher, County Donegal Heritage Officer,  
Donegal County Council (Chair)
- 1:50 p.m. Lunch: Soup & Sandwiches

# Booking Form

## 'Held in Trust' Conserving the Built Heritage of County Donegal's Towns & Villages Free Seminar

The seminar is free but booking is required  
and early booking is recommended.

Phone: (074) 912 4613

E-mail: [museum@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:museum@donegalcoco.ie)

Post:

I would like to attend the 'Held in Trust' seminar:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

Please return the completed Booking Form to:

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