

COUNTY DONEGAL HERITAGE PLAN

SUMMARY REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION

LEGEND

	Progress on Heritage Plan Action
	Part Progress on Heritage Plan Action
	External Initiative to address Heritage Plan Action
	Limited Progress on Heritage Plan Action

Objective 1: To increase knowledge and awareness, and promote appreciation and enjoyment of County Donegal's heritage to reinforce our sense of place and identity

1.1.	Establish Local Community Heritage Awareness Days
1.2.	Initiate a local heritage awards scheme
1.3.	Develop an enhanced awareness of our heritage internationally and amongst the Donegal diaspora
1.4.	Raise awareness and celebrate the heritage of Historic Towns and Heritage Towns and their shared public spaces
1.5.	Establish a Heritage Open House scheme to encourage the conservation, rejuvenation and extension of traditional buildings for contemporary living
1.6.	Establish a Donegal 'Green Plaque' Scheme to highlight the material heritage associated with historically-significant individuals and heritage sites
1.7.	Undertake a project to raise appreciation of locally-significant species and habitats of flora and fauna
1.8.	Establish a 'Golden Mile' competition
1.9.	Identify and record individual trees of heritage value in County Donegal
1.10.	Investigate the establishment of literary and music heritage trails to highlight the material heritage associated with these traditions
1.11.	Use the County Donegal Heritage Office website and social media as a means of making County Donegal Heritage Plan information accessible
1.12.	Promote awareness of historic buildings and structures and their settings listed in the Record of Protected Structures and/or on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
1.13.	Support and enable a research and development project on the Ulster demesne landscape

Objective 2: To promote and encourage best practice in the conservation and management of our heritage

2.1.	Continue the programme of vernacular architecture and traditional buildings skills seminars and festivals
2.2.	Encourage the conservation of thatch and thatching skills and materials in County Donegal as a distinctive aspect of the county's heritage
2.3.	Develop a 'support pack' for the conservation and interpretation of material heritage in conjunction with local communities
2.4.	Initiate a traditional shopfront and signage conservation, restoration and painting scheme in towns and villages
2.5.	A project to encourage the conservation of landmark historical buildings in County Donegal
2.6.	Encourage the use and demonstration of traditional skills and traditional materials in the conservation of our towns' streetscapes and public works
2.7.	Organise a 'Care & Conservation of Historic Graveyards' seminar
2.8.	Support for projects to protect and enhance habitat for rare/threatened breeding birds
2.9.	Pilot a management scheme to conserve and manage the natural heritage of traditional roadside verges
2.10.	Initiate a pilot scheme to control/eradicate selected invasive species
2.11.	Initiate a best practice conservation and recording scheme for historic graveyards in County Donegal
2.12.	Encourage the re-use of historic buildings and the appropriate contemporary building intervention within the county's historic built fabric
2.13.	Facilitate an archaeological excavation enlisting archaeological expertise and using best conservation practice

Objective 3: To encourage partnership, networking and active engagement with our heritage

3.1.	Re-establish the Donegal Heritage Network
3.2.	Continue to provide the framework for coordinating, organising and promoting an extensive programme of Heritage Week events in County Donegal
3.3.	Coordinate an annual calendar of heritage events in the county
3.4.	Support research, preservation and promotion of the material heritage related to landmark historic events including the 'Decade of Centenaries'
3.5.	Encourage the appropriate use of heritage sites for festival programmes and pilot animated visitor experiences at selected heritage sites in County Donegal
3.6.	Pilot a social history / genealogy / emigration project in relation to the Donegal diaspora
3.7.	Undertake joint initiatives involving heritage and the arts [traditional music, song, dance, storytelling, folklore, language and contemporary arts] in County Donegal
3.8.	Establish a Local Heritage Grant Scheme to support local heritage initiatives

Objective 4: To promote heritage education, training, tourism and outreach activities

4.1.	Produce educational and information materials to assist in the interpretation of selected aspects of heritage in the county
4.2.	Facilitate training in relation to heritage management and funding for local community groups, museums and heritage centres
4.3.	Facilitate heritage interpretation and promotion of heritage sites and embrace new technology
4.4.	Create an education pack on the county's built heritage
4.5.	Host a vernacular architecture summer field school
4.6.	Support the development of traditional building and craft skills training and apprenticeships
4.7.	Investigate the concept of a Heritage Ambassador scheme
4.8.	Explore the 'adoption' of heritage sites by local communities
4.9.	Undertake an audit of oral history recording and explore training opportunities
4.10.	Identify and promote the fauna of selected coastal areas by encouraging whale/bird watching stations
4.11.	Investigate and promote the potential for a heritage 'Greenway'
4.12.	Establish a third-level (academic and vocational) education working group to encourage, support and/or sponsor third-level research on the county's heritage
4.13.	Compile photographic / audio / film documentary evidence and stories of traditional crafts and skills in County Donegal
4.14.	Work with the Donegal Education Centre to undertake a schools' heritage project
4.15.	Support the annual Donegal Historical Society's Schools' Competition

Objective 5: To collect data on heritage, inform decision-making and promote economic, cultural and social development

5.1.	Undertake a study of Heritage/Historic Town(s) and explore opportunities to develop their heritage potential
5.2.	Establish a built heritage project around 'making history'
5.3.	Survey and record mass rocks and roadside grottos in the county
5.4.	Undertake a study of field systems/boundaries and expand the existing survey of clachans and their contribution to the cultural landscape of County Donegal
5.5.	Undertake a study of rural industrial heritage [such as lime kilns, stone mining, salt works, distilleries, quarries, brick works, forges and cottage industries]
5.6.	Document the heritage of National Schools and educational buildings in County Donegal
5.7.	Survey and catalogue maps, plans and photographic collections in Donegal County Archives collection
5.8.	Undertake a study of County Donegal's maritime heritage (including archaeological and built heritage) and explore its potential
5.9.	Pilot an archaeological field survey of monuments and artefacts in a selected parish
5.10.	Establish a database of County Donegal objects housed in national repositories
5.11.	Undertake an audit of geological and geomorphological heritage sites in conjunction with the Geological Survey of Ireland
5.12.	Survey of archival sources relating to County Donegal and the 'Decade of Centenaries'
5.13.	Encourage the appointment of an Assistant Heritage Officer, a Field Monument Adviser, a County Archaeologist and a Biodiversity Officer for County Donegal
5.14.	Support the preservation and development of the Donegal Studies collection
5.15.	Establish a digitisation strategy (with priorities) for conserving archival materials and providing on-line access to key documents
5.16.	Support new research and fieldwork in relation to archaeological heritage and folklore
5.17.	Inform a scheme to establish townland markers using vernacular materials and craftsmanship
5.18.	Advocate improved access to heritage sites based on international best practice in association with key partners
5.19	Undertake a study of ecclesiastical/spiritual sites within the county and explore opportunities to develop ecclesiastical/spiritual routes, such as Slí Cholmcille.