

**The Tyrone Guthrie Centre at Annaghmakerrig and
the Schools' Folklore Scheme (1937-1938):
a historic biodiversity survey.**

A.C. Hunter
August 2021

Contents

Introduction.....	1
Note on title.....	1
National Folklore Commission Schools’ Scheme: background and context.....	1
Aim	2
Methodology	3
Sampling	3
Limitations	3
Data collection and coding.....	4
Results.....	6
Annaghmakerrig	7
Annaghmakerrig: data overview	7
Annaghmakerrig: items of interest.....	7
Annaghmakerrig: dataset	9
Fauna.....	11
Fauna: data overview	11
Fauna: items of interest – birds.....	11
Fauna: items of interest – mammals	12
Fauna: Birds dataset.....	13
Fauna: Mammals dataset.....	19
Fauna: Molluscs dataset.....	20
Fauna: Insects dataset	20
Fauna: Annelids dataset	20
Fauna: Amphibians dataset.....	21
Fauna: Fish dataset.....	21
Flora	22
Flora: data overview	22
Flora: items of interest	22
Flora: dataset.....	24
Landscape	31
Landscape: overview	31
Landscape: items of interest.....	31
Landscape: dataset	33
Conclusions.....	38
References.....	39

Introduction

The Tyrone Guthrie Centre in Newbliss, County Monaghan is based at Annaghmakerrig House, which is set in extensive grounds. It was the home of Sir William Tyrone Guthrie who, on his death, bequeathed it to the Irish State for the benefit of artists. It operates as a residential workplace for artists and the house and grounds are maintained by Ireland's Office of Public Works.¹

The House and Collections Committee of the Tyrone Guthrie Centre, which oversees heritage and environmental considerations of the house and demesne, was successful in securing funding under the Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2021 from The Heritage Council to undertake a project to survey biodiversity on the Annaghmakerrig demesne named the Tyrone Guthrie Centre Wildlife and Habitat Survey. As part of the funding bid for this project, this archival survey was proposed as a benefit-in-kind supporting activity.

This archival survey uses volumes from the National Folklore Commission's Schools' Scheme as a data source to provide the Tyrone Guthrie Centre Wildlife and Habitat Survey with a complementary dataset which is historically rooted to the past relationship between local people and their environment, and which captures the distinct voices and traditions of the community local to Annaghmakerrig House.

Note on title

This document is an edition of the report produced for *Dúchas.ie*'s "Information Resources" section in April 2022. The original edition of this report produced in August 2021 had the title: *Report on a content survey of the National Folklore Collection's Schools' Collection to produce datasets relating to past biodiversity and history of the area around the Tyrone Guthrie Centre, Annaghmakerrig, County Monaghan.*

National Folklore Commission Schools' Scheme: background and context

The Schools' Collection material was collected between 1937-1939 as part of the Schools' Scheme being run by the Irish Folklore Commission. Schoolchildren gathered information from family and neighbours under headings provided by the Irish Folklore Commission booklet *Irish Folklore and Tradition* and created compositions in copy books, which were then transferred to each school's manuscript book;² these in turn form the volumes now available on *Dúchas.ie*. Although this was a folklore survey, it contains information on local flora and fauna, both in specific topics such as bird lore and medicinal plants, and hidden in topics such as local histories.

¹ "About the Centre," Tyrone Guthrie Centre. Accessed 15 August 2021, <http://www.tyroneguthrie.ie/about/centre>

² Mícheál Briody, *The Irish Folklore Commission 1935-1970*, (Helsinki: SKS, 2008), 263-270.

Aim

The research aim was to identify data on flora, fauna, and other information pertinent to biodiversity in locations local to Annaghmakerrig House within the National Folklore Collection's Schools' Scheme Volumes. It also presents the opportunity to record a small amount of more general historical information contained within the collection pertaining to Annaghmakerrig House and demesne.

The material sampled from areas close to the Annaghmakerrig demesne absorbs not only folk memory of the local flora and fauna at the time of the National Folklore Commission survey in 1937-1939, but captures local folk memory stretching back into the 19th Century through the memories of senior members of the local community.

Having this historical dataset presents an opportunity to take a heritage-focused view of supporting biodiversity in this geographical area by treating the data from Schools' Collection as a type of citizen survey. This type of record of local memory can provide context and may serve as evidence to establish a baseline. This baseline comparator may contribute to the effectiveness of future biodiversity planning on the site by serving as a mitigation measure against the phenomenon of "Shifting Baseline Syndrome" by "representing the original or historical environmental condition or ecosystem functions prior to a perturbation."³

Using the Schools' Collection through *Duchas.ie* also opens an opportunity for future consideration of linking the heritage of Annaghmakerrig House with national resources such as *Logainm.ie* and *Dúchas.ie*. The intention is to share the resulting report with *Duchas.ie* for their Information Resources section (<https://www.duchas.ie/en/info/res>) as an example of a research use of the Schools' Collection.

³ Matías Guerrero-Gatica, Enrique Aliste, and Javier A. Simonetti, "Shifting Gears for the Use of the Shifting Baseline Syndrome in Ecological Restoration," *Sustainability* 11, No. 5 (2019): 1458, DOI 10.3390/su11051458

Methodology

Sampling

The volumes of the Schools' Collection, freely available online at www.duchas.ie/en/cbes, form the data source for this archival survey.

Six schools from the Schools' Collection volumes were analysed. The school nearest to the Annaghmakerrig Demesne, Cnapagh (Crappagh), which is just to the north of Annaghmakerrig House, then the next most proximate locations to the demesne according to the interactive map⁴ on *Dúchas.ie*: see Table 1.

Table 1: Schools' Collection manuscript volume sampling

School	Volume	Pages	URL
Cnapagh (Crappagh)	0949	192-350	https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4723864
Newbliss	0950	200-289	https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4758592
St Brigid's Newbliss	0949	169-190	https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4723863
Edraguil (Edergole)	0944	225-381	https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4723853
Druim (1) (Drum)	0948	375-421	https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/5162175
Druim (2) (Drum)	0948	001-059	https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4723858

Limitations

This project is an archival survey in the form of a content analysis, and in no way seeks to align with scientific research methodologies for biodiversity analysis, rather it serves to highlight data available in this archive situated at the intersection of the natural environment and cultural history which can serve as supporting evidence of historic biodiversity.

As this project is undertaken voluntarily on a benefit-in-kind basis, this research is limited to basic, easily available data sources and software:

- Copy books informing the Schools' Collection volumes were not consulted. These are not available online and are housed at the National Folklore Collection, University College Dublin.
- Access to proprietary qualitative data analysis software was not possible, thus MS Excel was used for data management.

The vernacular, and in some cases Irish, is used for some names of flora and fauna recorded. Reference sources have been used to ascertain species where possible.

⁴ "Places," *Dúchas.ie*, accessed 1 August 2021, <https://www.duchas.ie/en/plc>

It should be noted that reliability of data is impacted by other factors such as the young age of the collectors, and uncertainty about identification of species or places due to the non-scientific context of the original Schools' Scheme surveys.

Data collection and coding

Data collected from the volumes was coded and recorded in MS Excel using a dedicated sheet for each of the six schools surveyed.

During initial content analysis of the volumes a clear set of categories emerged for coding.

Table 2: Coding categories

Category	Definition
Annaghmakerrig	Information related to Annaghmakerrig demesne or associated persons from Moorhead, Power, and Guthrie families.
Fauna	All types of non-domestic animal life.
Flora	All types of non-domestic plant life.
Landscape	Landscape types such as meadow or bog, and features such as hills or caves, including fairy forts, some archaeological features and holy wells. Also captures human use of non-plant landscape resources including but not limited to clay, stone, water.
None	No relevant information.

The emergence of these categories allowed the development a consistent format for data collection within MS Excel. Results of data collection were entered using the column headers outlined below:

Table 3: Data results format

Column header	Definition
Page	Page numbers within volume. Provides usage reference and allows location of information for further research.
IFC Heading	Heading on <i>Dúchas.ie</i> . These headings correspond to those provided in the instruction booklet <i>Irish Folklore and Tradition</i> , provided to all participating schools. This assists in providing context.
Category	Data types that emerged during analysis of volumes, as outlined in Table 2.
Tag 1, Tag 2, Tag 3, etc.	Entities within each category. E.g. within the category of "Fauna" tags include "frog," "swallow," "blackbird," etc.

On completion of basic data entry into MS Excel, the sort and filter function was used to create datasets under each Category as outlined in Table 2.

An abbreviation is used in data tables to link school and volume as follows:

Table 4: Abbreviations used in data tables

Abbreviation	School	Volume
CNA	Cnapagh (Crappagh)	0949
NEW	Newbliss	0950
SBN	St Brigid's Newbliss	0949
EDR	Edraguil (Edergole)	0944
DR1	Druim (1) (Drum)	0948
DR2	Druim (2) (Drum)	0948

Datasets were enhanced using information from within the manuscript text, and from reference sources.

- Within the Annaghmakerrig dataset, direct quotations from the manuscript volumes have been included to provide context and narrative.
- Within the Fauna dataset, where possible scientific names of species are included.
- Within the Flora dataset, where possible scientific names of species are included.
- Within the Landscape dataset, where possible location of at least townland level is included. The abbreviation TD is used for townland. Additional location or site details may also be present.

An introductory “overview” and “items of interest” precedes each dataset, outlining any trend, or anything noteworthy.

Datasets are fully tabulated with no merged cells, to allow for easy export to a spreadsheet format if desired.

Results

Annaghmakerrig

The Avenue leading to Annaghmakerrig Hse.
owned by Mrs. Guthrie and once belonging to her father,
Sir W. Power, was at one time the main road leading to Dublin.

– The Schools' Collection, vol. 0949, p. 297.

Annaghmakerrig: data overview

Data relating to Annaghmakerrig were mainly located in the Cnapach school manuscript, with a further possible reference in Druim (2) school manuscript. The majority of data were from Cnapach school, which is consistent with its proximity to the Annaghmakerrig demesne and undoubtedly related to the fact that one of the main collectors at that school featuring in the manuscript, Brigid McGoldrick, was resident at the gate lodge on the lake avenue of the demesne. The data captured in this category relate mainly to the history of the demesne, names of places within the present or historic demesne, and landscape modifications undertaken by the Power family. It also records information on some geographical features within the demesne's historic or present area.

Unlike other datasets in this survey, results featuring Annaghmakerrig have been presented in the form of direct quotation from the *Dúchas.ie* transcripts of the manuscript volumes. This is because the majority are descriptive or narrative, and to present it otherwise would remove context.

Annaghmakerrig: items of interest

Reference to Sir William Tyrone Power (Cnapach, 299) adds credence to what is recorded in the Tyrone Guthrie Centre's catalogue to *The Annaghmakerrig Papers*: "family tradition is that Martha Moorhead encountered a Captain William James Tyrone Murray Power (later Sir William Tyrone Power KCB) [...] while he was supervising a famine relief employment initiative in the area in 1849."⁵ It appears to confirm his presence in the area as superintendent of famine relief work in the late 1840s.

A queried result emerging from both Cnapach and Druim (2) schools are several references to a "Dr. Moor" or "Dr. Moore." In one instance (Cnapach, 299) there is clear connection to the Moorhead family of Annaghmakerrig with reference to a marriage. Further references to "Dr. Moore" (Cnapach, 279; Druim (2), 26) are less precise, and might refer to Dr. John Hamilton Moore who was a general practitioner in nearby Rockcorry, County Monaghan c. 1862-1871.⁶

⁵ A.C. Hunter. *The Annaghmakerrig Papers: Tyrone Guthrie Centre, 1667-1972* (Archive Catalogue). (Newbliss: Tyrone Guthrie Centre, 2019), i.

⁶ R. S. J. Clarke. "Moore, Dr. John Hamilton" in *A Directory of Ulster Doctors (who qualified before 1901)*. Vol II. (Belfast: Ulster Historical Foundation, 2013).

Informant Mr. [David] Wales (Cnapach, 279-280) and referenced person Willie Ford [William Forde] (Cnapach, 333), are recorded in The Annaghmakerrig Papers AK/3/4/3/5 as among tenants of the estate who purchased lands from the Power family in 1897.

Willie Dunne (Cnapach, 333 and listed as an informant on several entries) is likely to be W. Dunne recorded in in The Annaghmakerrig Papers AK/4/1 corresponding with the Annaghmakerrig estate administrator, James Whiteside Dane in 1908, regarding an annuity for his mother.

A further name of interest is collector Peter McGorman, another of the school-aged collectors. Although a definite link cannot be made through documentary evidence available at the time of writing, the surname McGorman appears in The Annaghmakerrig Papers, with a Seamus McGorman appearing to be in the employment of Tyrone Guthrie during the 1960s in AK/7/2/5 and AK/7/3/6, and in AK/7/3/3 a Patrick McGorman sharing ownership of a manure spreader with Tyrone Guthrie and others.

Annaghmakerrig: dataset

School	Page/s	NFC Heading	Quotation
CNA	250	Food in Olden Times	Two large circular stones which were used for grinding or crushing oats and wheat are still in the farm yard at Mrs. Guthrie's, Anna[gh]makerrig. They are now used for sharpening farm implements.
CNA	252	Local Happenings	The people around here say that six people were drowned in AnnamaKerrig [sic] Lake and that six more will be drowned in it.
CNA	279-280	Herbs	An old Doctor, named Dr Moore, who used to attend people in this locality upward of 80 years ago, was talking to a man one day, when he saw some Rose Noble growing beside him. He exclaimed, 'Rosie, Rose, if only the people knew the goodness of you there'd be no use for the like of me.' The way to use it is to boil it, drain it, and drink the water. People used to come long distances to Mr. Wales' father for this herb.
CNA	288	Local Place Names	Tom's Road, in Annamakerrig [sic] is called after a man named Tom McGloughlin [?McLoughlin] who lived along it. It was to part of the main road at one time. Now it is a bog pass used by people going to Knockcor Bog.
CNA	289	Local Place Names	The "Gullion Dubh" is a field in Anna-ma-Kerrig. It is so called because it is wet and marshy and on account of the black ivy which grows in it. [...] A field near the school is called Lanes' Field because a man named Lane used to live in it. It now belongs to Mrs. Guthrie of Anna-ma-Kerrig and Lanes' house has disappeared.
CNA	297-298	Local Roads	The Avenue leading to AnnaghmaKerrig [sic] Hse. owned by Mrs. Guthrie and once belonging to her father, Sir W. Power, was at one time the main road leading to Dublin. All the traffic went that way. In order to prevent so much traffic on the Avenue, Sir William had a road made leading to Doohat P.O. It is called the New Line. Matthew McPhillip's [sic] of Kilnharvey, Newbliss, and his father helped to make the New Line. Matthew died about seven years ago and was then 70 years of age. A man named

			Blakely was the surveyor at the time. He took a great fancy to a fine horse that Sir William had and wanted to buy it from him, but Sir William refused to sell it. As result Blakely made him draw several extra loads of stones for the road, more than were needed.
CNA	299	Famine Times	The Bridge of Knockcor Rd. was made as Relief work. It is built on planks in the river. There was a river made from Doohatt [sic] Lake. Newbliss, to Dinemore & on to Cavan. It was Sir W. Power, who was an engineer & paymaster in the British army, who superintended the making of the River or Drain. He was a native of Tyrone & he married Dr. Moor[head]’s daughter of Annagh-ma-Kerrig [sic] & that’s how that place came to belong to him. The making of the river was relief work. It was made between 80 & 90 years ago
CNA	332-333	My Home District	There is a plantation near our farm. It belongs to Mrs Guthrie of Annagh-ma-Kerrig [sic]. But the forestry department took over part of the lands and have planted them. [...] I live in the townland of Knockcor Newbliss, in the Parish of Aghabog and in the Barony of Dartry. There are three families in Knockcorr [sic]. Willie Ford, Willie Dunne and ourselves. We live in a gatehouse along the back avenue leading from Knockcor Rd. to Mrs Guthrie’s of Annagh-ma-Kerrig. Knock-cor means hilly land. There is a lot of bog around our house. Annagh-ma-Kerrig Lake is only about 100 yards from the door and there is a plantation around the house. The lake is sometimes called Leesborough Lake after a family of Lees who lived in Annagh-ma-Kerrig before Sir W. Power.
DR2	26	Hidden Treasure	In the olden days, when there used to be a bank in Drum, a man who had been at a fair ran into the bank, snatched up a sack of gold, and before anyone could stop him he made off down the “Pump Brae” with it. When he found out that he was being pursued he threw the bag of gold into Dr. Moore’s field, where the new labourer’s cottages have been built, and it has never been found.

Fauna

“Swallows come from the southern countries in Spring.
They build in out houses, their nests are made of
tiny balls of clay, and lined with hair and down.
The swallow is the most skillful mason in the feathered world.”
The Schools’ Collection, vol. 0944, p. 273

Fauna: data overview

Fauna are recorded in all six of the volumes surveyed and refer to non-domestic animal life. They encompass mammals, birds, fish, and a very small number of amphibians, molluscs, annelids, and insects.

In many cases for birds, names used are vernacular, in the majority of instances recorded as Ulster vernacular in *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*, ed. Caroline MacAfee. (Oxford: University Press, 1996) and thus providing evidence for the link between language and nature in the area at the time. A small amount of fauna names are given in Irish as a record of Irish spoken in the local area. In these cases, the name is checked in an Irish-English dictionary, even if a translation is given in the manuscript text.

Often a general term is used e.g. “duck,” “crow” or “wild goose” making it impossible to accurately identify species, however these are retained where they provide a general view as to family or genus within the geographical area. Where terms are so broad as to provide no insight, such as “fish” or “butterfly,” results have been omitted from reported datasets.

Fauna: items of interest – birds

The majority of references to birds are within the headings of “bird-lore,” which often simply lists birds in the area or district. Birds are also often connected with weather signs or superstitions regarding weather, crops, or luck.

Of note is a mention at Newbliss school of a St. Stephen’s Day custom regarding the wren: “On St Stephen’s day, many people go out to hunt the wren, and at the end of the day, they bring them home tied on a pole, and they go round from door to door begging for money to bury the wrens.”⁷

Within the Cnapach manuscript, reference is made not only to a sense of birds communicating with one another, but also to increasing scarcity of both the cuckoo and the corncrake:

⁷ The Schools’ Collection, vol. 0950, 272.

Birds have their own way of conversing with one-another. Very often we hear one corn-crake answers another in the evenings. I suppose they are planning where they will build their nests and how. The cuckoo calls to its mate also, but it is not to plan nest-building. But of late years the corn-crake and cuckoo have got very scarce and we only get an occasional “crake-crake” or “cuck-oo” from the fields and woods.⁸

This signals a declining trend in corncrake population already present at the time of the Schools Collection in the late 1930s. The outcome of this decline is evident in the present day, with BirdWatch Ireland noting that corncrakes “were once numerous across Ireland but are now confined to Donegal and West Connaught.”⁹

The presence of the linnet *Linaria cannabina* (Druim, 411, possibly Newbliss 247) aligns with agricultural practice of the era. The genus name *Linaria* (relating to linen) is derived from the birds’ consumption of flax seed. There is evidence in the surveyed locality of flax processing for the linen industry. A flax pond is recorded in this survey in Edraguil, 307 (see “Landscape” dataset), and there are mentions throughout the volumes, not recorded in this survey, of scutching, spinning and weaving. This suggests that a flax crop was grown in the area, which would have provided a food source for the linnet and other small bird species.

Fauna: items of interest – mammals

The use of a wood mouse (or long-tailed field mouse) as a cure is cited in the Druim (1) manuscript: “Mr. Murdock of Magherysharey has the cure for the whooping cough. It is roasted grass-mouse and you have to swallow it in its whole.”¹⁰

A naturalisation of escaped deer from the Dartrey Demesne is recorded in the Edraguil manuscript: “There are deers [sic] in Dartrey demesne. They used to be kept in a deer-park there but since the proprietors of Dartrey has left there the deer are seen going wild over this district. There are only about five of them.”¹¹

The hare is mentioned only as a magical animal in a story connected with churning (Cnapagh, 308). It is nonetheless included in the dataset to elucidate how an area’s animals may inform its folklore.

⁸ The Schools’ Collection, vol. 0949, 220.

⁹ BirdWatch Ireland. “Corncrake Conservation.” <https://birdwatchireland.ie/our-work/species-habitat-conservation/countryside-wetlands/corncrake-conservation/> (Accessed 21 July 2021).

¹⁰ The Schools’ Collection, vol. 0947, 418.

¹¹ The Schools’ Collection, vol. 0944, 380.

Fauna: Birds dataset

- Arranged alphabetically by English name.
- Where the name recorded can indicate more than one species e.g. “crow,” either genus or no scientific name is recorded.
- Where a species can be clearly identified, scientific name is included in italics. Scientific names are taken from British Ornithologists’ Union (B.O.U.), “The British List: A Checklist of Birds of Britain (9th ed.),” *Ibis* 160 (2017): 190-240. N.B. some scientific names given in *A Concise Ulster Dictionary* do not represent the most recent classification changes in bird taxonomy and have not been used, with the B.O.U. list serving as the definitive source in these cases.
- Vernacular or recorded names from the manuscript text have references included in footnotes.
- Queried identification may include more than one species, each preceded by a question mark, followed by vernacular name record. References are included in footnotes.

School	Page	NFC heading	English name	Vernacular or recorded name/s	Scientific name
NEW	247	Bird-Lore	?Chiffchaff or ?Willow warbler ¹²	sallywick	
NEW	240	Bird-Lore	?dunlin or ?turnstone or ?ringed plover or “any small wader” ¹³	sandpiper	
NEW	240	Bird-Lore	?Great crested grebe ¹⁴	diver	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>
NEW	240	Bird-Lore	?Great tit	yellow tit	<i>Parus major</i>
NEW	247	Bird-Lore	?Linnet or lesser redpoll ¹⁵	whingray	
NEW	247	Bird-Lore	?Redpoll or ?linnet ¹⁶	thorngray	
NEW	247	Bird-Lore	[species unclear]	?Big duck	
NEW	247	Bird-Lore	[species unclear]	?Black side	

¹² “sally-picker,” *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*.

¹³ “sandpiper,” *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*.

¹⁴ “big diver,” *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*.

¹⁵ “whin-grey,” *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*.

¹⁶ “thorn grey,” *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*.

EDR	271	Bird-Lore	Blackbird		<i>Turdus merula</i>
DR2	19	Weather-Lore			
DR2	20	Bird-Lore			
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits			
CNA	217	Bird-Lore			
NEW	220	Weather-Lore			
NEW	24	Bird-Lore			
CRA	215	Bird-Lore	Blue tit ^{17, 18}	tom tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>
NEW	240	Bird-Lore		blue bonnet	
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits	Bullfinch		<i>Pyrrhula</i>
CRA	215	Bird-Lore	Chaffinch		<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
EDR	271	Bird-Lore	Corncrake ¹⁹	land-rail	<i>Crex crex</i>
CRA	217	Bird-Lore			
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits			
DR2	20	Bird-Lore			
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
DR2	22	Bird-Lore	Crane		<i>Grus grus</i>
SBN	174	Weather-Lore			
CRA	219	Bird-Lore	Crossbill		<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>
CRA	215	Bird-Lore	Crow		<i>Corvus</i>
EDR	273	Bird-Lore			
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits			
DR2	22	Bird-Lore			
NEW	218	The Signs of the Weather			

¹⁷ “tom tit,” in *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*.

¹⁸ “blue-bonnet,” *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*.

¹⁹ “land rail,” *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*.

NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
CRA	215	Bird-Lore	Cuckoo		<i>Cuculus canorus</i>
CRA	315	Old Superstitions			
EDR	271	Bird-Lore			
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits			
DR2	20	Bird-Lore			
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
CRA	212	Weather-Lore	Curlew		<i>Numenius arquata</i>
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits			
DR2	19	Weather-Lore			
NEW	217	The Signs of the Weather			
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
NEW	247	Bird-Lore			
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits	Dipper		<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
CRA	317	Local Heroes	Duck		
DR1	391	Weather-Lore			
NEW	240	Bird-Lore	Duncock ²⁰	hedge sparrow	<i>Prunella modularis</i>
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits	Goldfinch		<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
NEW	240	Bird-Lore	Greenfinch ²¹	green linnet	<i>Chloris chloris</i>
NEW	240	Bird-Lore	Grouse		
CRA	215	Bird-Lore	Hawk		
DR2	20	Bird-Lore			
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			

²⁰ “hedgeling,” *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*.

²¹ “green linnet,” *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*.

NEW	240	Bird-Lore	House sparrow		<i>Passer domesticus</i>
NEW	240	Bird-Lore	Housemartin	martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits	Jackdaw		<i>Coloeus monedula</i>
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
NEW	240	Bird-Lore	Jay		<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>
NEW	240	Bird-Lore	Kingfisher		<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
NEW	240	Bird-Lore	Lapwing		<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>
CRA	217	Bird-Lore	Lark		
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits			
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits	Linnet		<i>Linaria cannabina</i>
CRA	316	Old Superstitions	Magpie		<i>Pica pica</i>
DR2	19	Weather-Lore			
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
NEW	240	Bird-Lore	Mallard		<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits	Owl		
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
NEW	240	Bird-Lore	Partridge		
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits	Pheasant		<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
EDR	273	Bird-Lore	Pigeon		<i>Columba</i>
DR2	20	Bird-Lore			
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
CRA	215	Bird-Lore	Robin		<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>
EDR	271	Bird-Lore			
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits			
DR2	20	Bird-Lore			
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
DR1	394	Weather-Lore	Rook		<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>

SBN	174	Weather-Lore	Seagull		
NEW	240	Bird-Lore	Siskin		<i>Spinus spinus</i>
DR2	21	Bird-Lore	Skylark		<i>Alauda arvensis</i>
NEW	247	Bird-Lore	Snipe ²²	weatherblade	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
CRA	212	Weather-Lore			
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits			
CRA	215	Bird-Lore	Sparrow		
EDR	271	Bird-Lore			
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits			
DR2	20	Bird-Lore			
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits	Starling		<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
CRA	215	Bird-Lore	Stonechat		<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>
CRA	215	Bird-Lore	Swallow		<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
EDR	271	Bird-Lore			
EDR	273	Bird-Lore			
DR1	390	Weather-Lore			
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits			
DR2	19	Weather-Lore			
DR2	20	Bird-Lore			
NEW	217	The Signs of the Weather			
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
CRA	316	Old Superstitions	Swan		<i>Cygnus</i>
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits			
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits	Teal		<i>Anas crecca</i>

²² “weather-bleat, weather-blade,” *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*.

NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
CRA	215	Bird-Lore	Thrush		
EDR	271	Bird-Lore			
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits			
DR2	20	Bird-Lore			
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
CRA	215	Bird-Lore	Wagtail		
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits			
NEW	222	Weather-Lore			
NEW	240	Bird-Lore		willie wag tail	
NEW	240	Bird-Lore	Wigeon	widgeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits	Wild duck		
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits	Wild goose		
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits	Woodcock		<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
NEW	240	Bird-Lore	Woodpecker		
CRA	215	Bird-Lore	Wren		<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>
DR1	411	Birds and their Habits			
DR2	20	Bird-Lore			
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			
NEW	272	Festival Customs			
NEW	240	Bird-Lore	Wryneck		<i>Jynx torquilla</i>
CRA	215	Bird-Lore	Yellowhammer ²³		<i>Emberiza citronella</i>
DR2	20	Bird-Lore		yellow-amber	
NEW	240	Bird-Lore			

²³ "yellow-ander," *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*.

Fauna: Mammals dataset

- Arranged alphabetically by English name.
- Where the name recorded can indicate more than one species e.g. “deer,” no scientific name is recorded.
- Where a species can be clearly identified, scientific name is included in italics. Scientific names are taken from Vincent Wildlife Trust Ireland’s “Species Profiles,” on <https://www.vincentwildlife.ie/species>.

School	Page	NFC heading	English name	Vernacular, Irish or recorded name/s	Scientific name
EDR	380	Strange Animals	Deer		
CRA	308	Story	Hare		
CRA	222	Games I Play	Rabbit		<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>
EDR	278	Homemade Toys			
NEW	219	The Signs of the Weather			
NEW	222	Weather Lore			
CRA	265	Irish Words in Use Around Here	Stoat	Easóg, weasel*	<i>Mustela erminea</i>
DR1	418	Local Cures	Wood mouse (or long-tailed field mouse)	Grass mouse	<i>Apodemus sylvaticus</i>

*Easóg is recorded in translation as “weasel,” however the Vincent Wildlife Trust’s leaflet titled *The Irish Stoat in Galway* states that there are “no weasels in Ireland.”²⁴

²⁴ The Vincent Wildlife Trust, *The Irish Stoat in Galway*, (The Vincent Wildlife Trust: 2013), accessed 1 August 2021, <https://www.vwt.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/irish-stoat-leaflet.pdf>

Fauna: Molluscs dataset

School	Page	NFC heading	English name	Vernacular, Irish or recorded name/s	Scientific name
CRA	210	Local Cures	Snail		
NEW	222	Weather-Lore			
SBN	170	Local cures			

Fauna: Insects dataset

School	Page	NFC heading	English name	Vernacular, Irish or recorded name/s	Scientific name
CRA	264	Irish Words in Use Around Here	[species unclear]	Daol, black beetle	
DR1	391	Weather-Lore	Cricket		

Fauna: Annelids dataset

School	Page	NFC heading	English name	Vernacular, Irish or recorded name/s	Scientific name
EDR	244	Weather-Lore	Worm		

Fauna: Amphibians dataset

School	Page	NFC heading	English name	Vernacular, Irish or recorded name/s	Scientific name
EDR	244	Weather-Lore	Frog		
DR1	391	Weather-Lore			
DR1	394	Weather-Lore			
DR2	18	Weather-Lore			
NEW	220	Weather-Lore			

Fauna: Fish dataset

- Arranged alphabetically by English name
- Where a species can be clearly identified, scientific name is included in italics. Scientific names are taken from “Table 1: Checklist of freshwater fish species of Ireland (scientific and common names) after King et al. (2007)” in *Ireland Red List No. 5: Amphibians, Reptiles & Freshwater Fish*.

School	Page	NFC heading	English name	Vernacular, Irish or recorded name/s	Scientific name
NEW	234	Old Crafts	Minnow		<i>Phoxinus phoxinus</i>
NEW	234	Old Crafts	Pike		<i>Esox lucius</i>
NEW	234	Old Crafts	Salmon		<i>Salmo salar</i>
NEW	234	Old Crafts	Trout		<i>Salmo trutta</i>

Flora

“Holly is hung up in the houses on Christmas Eve.
May flowers (wild marsh marigolds)
are gathered on May Eve and placed
at wells and doors round the farm house.”

— The Schools’ Collection, vol. 0944, p. 378

Flora: data overview

This dataset provides a list of plants that, from the records present, can reasonably be assumed to have been present in the geographical area around the Annaghmakerrig demesne at the time of the survey, it also outlines the many uses the local people made of the resources around them, with local flora being used for building manufacture, household items, toys, food, animal fodder, and medicine. There is record of understanding of how flora indicates soil type, and which plants impoverish land intended for agricultural use. There are also more intangible connections with flora, with non-medicinal cures, and customs including defence against fairy folk, featuring among recorded uses.

References to forestry plantation activity in the area do not allude to specific tree species and are recorded in the next section, “Landscape.”

The NFC heading “Herbs” tends to capture herbaceous wild plants rather than more contemporary understandings of a herb as an aromatic or medicinal plant. Many of the “herbs” recorded will have a use or attribute recorded, but in many instances this heading includes a list of familiar and commonly occurring plants in the vicinity regardless of their usefulness.

Flora: items of interest

One of the most commonly mentioned flora within the survey is rushes. As well as a range of domestic uses such as thatching, rush lights, and storage of the potato crop, they also feature as toys in the making of skipping ropes and butterfly traps (Edraguil, 278), and as a material in the making of a St. Brigid’s Crosses.

The use of local herbs for a food source elucidates folk memory of the foraging of plants for nutritious food sources. One record pertaining to watercress links to a sense of Irish culinary tradition but also to the social activity of gathering the plant:

There were several old women around here a few years ago who would collect watercress and eat it with salt & wheaten bread and a drink of sweet milk. They held it was the best food obtainable. I often saw them gather the water cress in the long summer evenings.²⁵

²⁵ The Schools’ Collection, vol. 0944, 315.

Plants also remain part of ritual and superstition. As well as the quotation at the section heading, flora are mentioned in a number of instances of ritual uses. An example is as part of a cure for a cow not giving milk:

There used to be an old cure for cows that were “heartaked”, or the milk taken from them. A Mr. Dunne who used to live in Crappagh nearly 80 years ago had the cure and many people where cows had been bewitched used to come to him. The cure was to collect “violets, penny-winkle and rowan leaves” and boil them with some silver and give the water to the cow to drink. Then a branch of rowan tree was held over her head and some one began to milk her. The milk would come all right then. Mr. D. Wales of Crappagh remembers seeing Mr. Dunne preparing the concoction & he remembers clearly that he put 2/6 (bit) in the pot to boil. The Wale’s [sic] had a cow which had been “overlooked” & they got the Dunne-man to cure her.²⁶

Rowan is also cited in Cnapagh, 201 as a charm put at the byre on May Eve. This connects with rowan as a plant used in charms associated with assuring milk yield^{27, 28} and it is used as a milk charm here when it is held over the cow’s head. However, the plants listed in the cure, violet, periwinkle and rowan, are all recognised as possessing medicinal properties.²⁹

Of further interest is the understanding of plants within the landscape and how they impact on agricultural activity and land use. There is record of how plants indicate and impact on soil quality, such as in this quotation from Newbliss:

Thistles, ragweed and rushes the most harmful of all weeds growing on my farm at home. Some are harmful because they spread rapidly, and others because they impoverish the soil. Rushes grow where the land is bad, and the thistle and ragweed where it is good.³⁰

The impact of plants on livestock is also present, this time from Cnapagh:

Hemlock is a poisonous weed. It grows in a field belonging to Mr D Wales of Crappagh but he has the place hemmed in with bushes lest the cattle would get at it. He remembers hearing his father say that cows belonging to a man named McGahy who used to lived [sic] in Crappagh were poised [sic] after eating it. A shrub called yew tree grows around here also. It’s another poisonous plant and people are careful not to let cattle near it as it would poison them should they eat it.³¹

It is of note that in both these instances of poisonous plants, preventing the cattle from ingesting the plant rather than removing the plant itself is recorded.

²⁶ The Schools’ Collection, vol. 0949, 281-282.

²⁷ E. Estyn Evans, *Irish Folk Ways*, (London: Routledge, 1988), 304-305.

²⁸ Niall Mac Coitir, *Irish Trees: Myths, Legends and Folklore*, (Cork: The Collins Press, 2012), 28

²⁹ Dieter Podlech, *Herbs and Healing Plants of Britain and Europe*, trans. Martin Walters, (London: HarperCollins, 2015), 12, 14, 148.

³⁰ The Schools’ Collection, vol. 0950, 266.

³¹ The Schools’ Collection, vol. 0949, 279.

Flora: dataset

- Arranged alphabetically by English name.
- Where the name recorded can indicate more than one species e.g. “rushes,” either genus or no scientific name is recorded.
- Where a species can be clearly identified, scientific name is included in italics. Scientific names are taken from the following sources:
 - Clive Stace, *New Flora of the British Isles (3rd ed.)*, (Cambridge: University Press, 2010).
 - Paul Sterry, *Collins Complete Guide to British Trees*, (London: HarperCollins, 2007).
- Vernacular or recorded names from the manuscript text have references included in footnotes.
- Queried identification may include more than one species, each preceded by a question mark, followed by vernacular name record. References are included in footnotes.

School	Page	NFC heading	English name	Vernacular, Irish or recorded name/s	Scientific name
SBN	172	Local Cures	?Berberis (barberry) ³²	jaundice bush	<i>Berberis vulgaris</i>
EDR	314	Herbs	?Common [black] knapweed or ?cotton-grass ³³ or ?ribwort plantain or ?greater plantain ³⁴	black heads	
EDR	314	Herbs	?Common water crowfoot or ?lesser spearwort ³⁵ or ?buttercups in general ³⁶ or ?bird’s-foot trefoil ³⁷	crowfoot	
DR2	51	Herbs	?Dead-nettle	day-nettle	<i>Lamium purpureum</i>

³² Linda-May Ballard, “An approach to traditional cures in Ulster,” *The Ulster Medical Journal* 78, No. 1 (2009): 26-33, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2629017/>, accessed 1 August 2021.

³³ “blackhead,” *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*.

³⁴ Niall Mac Coitir, *Irish Wild Plants: Myths, Legends and Folklore*, (Cork: The Collins Press, 2012), 274.

³⁵ *Ibid.*, 204.

³⁶ David E. Allen and Gabrielle Hatfield, *Medicinal Plants in Folk Tradition: An Ethnobotany of Britain and Ireland*, (Portland, Cambridge: Timber Press, 2004), 71.

³⁷ “crowfoot,” *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*.

CNA	196	Care of Farm Animals	?primrose or ?marsh marigold ³⁸ or ?hawthorn ³⁹	May flowers ⁴⁰	
CNA	199	Care of Farm Animals		May flowers	
EDR	325	Festival Customs		May flowers	
NEW	269	Festival customs		May flower	
DR2	51	Herbs	?Cleavers (“goosegrass”) ⁴¹	Goose-tongue ⁴²	<i>Galium aparine</i>
CNA	281	Herbs	?Tutsan ⁴³	safe John	<i>Hypericum androsaemum</i>
CNA	289	Local Place Names	[species unknown]	black ivy	
EDR	291	Fairy Forts	Alder		<i>Alnus gultinosa</i>
EDR	313	Herbs	Belladonna		<i>Atropa belladonna</i>
EDR	313	Herbs	Bogbean		<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>
NEW	266	Local Herbs			
DR1	395	Fairy Forts	Bramble	blackberry	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>
NEW	260	Games I Play			
CNA	208	Local Cures	Broom		<i>Cystius scoparius</i>
CNA	232	Old Houses			
CNA	280	Herbs		Butcher’s broom ⁴⁴	
NEW	266	Local Herbs			
CNA	235	Old Houses	Bulrush		<i>Typha</i>
EDR	291	Fairy Forts	Chestnut		
NEW	249	Toy-making			

³⁸ Mac Coitir, *Irish Wild Plants*, 49, 54.

³⁹ Mac Coitir, *Irish Trees*, 52.

⁴⁰ It is most likely that this reference is to marsh marigold, as this is elucidated in the Edraguil manuscript: “May flowers (wild marsh marigolds) are gathered on May Eve and placed at wells and doors round the farm house.” The Schools’ Collection, vol. 0944, 378.

⁴¹ Mac Coitir, *Irish Wild Plants*, 197

⁴² “Goose tongue” is recorded as relating to sea plantain, *Plantago maritima*, however its distribution does not extend as far inland as County Monaghan. Zoë Devlin, “Information on Sea Plantain,” Wildflowers of Ireland, accessed 1 August 2021, http://www.wildflowersofireland.net/plant_detail.php?id_flower=208

⁴³ The name “safe John” is likely to be a corruption of “St. John,” and the recorded use of the plant here as being placed in books corroborates information on a member of the St. John’s wort family, tutsan, *Hypericum androsaemum*, in Richard Mabey, *Flora Britannica*, (London: Sinclair-Stevenson, 1996), 115-116.

⁴⁴ Although there is a plant named “butcher’s broom,” the Cnapach manuscript outlines that this is simply broom but that “It differs from the ordinary form of broom in that the flower has a red streak in it.” (The Schools’ Collection, vol. 0949, Page 280).

CNA	207	Local Cures	Chickweed	chicken weed	<i>Stellaria media</i>
CNA	279	Herbs		chicken weed	
EDR	315	Herbs			
NEW	213	Local Cures		chigawig	
NEW	266	Local Herbs		chickenweed	
CNA	279	Herbs	Coltsfoot		<i>Tussilago farfara</i>
DR2	51	Herbs			
NEW	266	Local Herbs			
DR2	51	Herbs	Comfrey		<i>Symphytum</i>
CNA	258	Irish words in use around here	Common cotton-grass ⁴⁵	Cean-a Bhán	<i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i>
CNA	279	Herbs	Common couch grass ⁴⁶	scutch grass	<i>Elymus repens</i>
DR2	51	Herbs		switch grass	
CNA	279	Herbs	Corn spurrey	sperry	<i>Spergula arvensis</i>
DR2	51	Herbs	Creeping buttercup ⁴⁷	set-fast	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>
NEW	248	Toy-making	Daisy		
CNA	207	Local Cures	Dandelion		<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>
CNA	281	Herbs			
EDR	313	Herbs			
EDR	314	Herbs			
EDR	315	Herbs			
NEW	215	Local Cures			
NEW	266	Local Herbs			
CNA	281	Herbs	Dock	docken	<i>Rumex</i>
DR2	51	Herbs			
EDR	278	Homemade Toys	Dog rose	wild rose	<i>Rosa canina</i>
DR1	395	Fairy Forts	Fern		
EDR	314	Herbs	Feverfew	featherfew	<i>Tanacetum parthenium</i>

⁴⁵ Mac Coitir, "Common Cotton-Grass – *Ceannbhan*," *Irish Wild Plants*, 197.

⁴⁶ Mac Coitir, *Irish Wild Plants*, 193.

⁴⁷ "setfast," *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*.

CNA EDR NEW	279 276 213	Herbs Local Cures Local Cures	Figwort ⁴⁸	rose noble rosenoble rose-noble	<i>Scrophularia</i>
NEW	205	Old Crafts	Fir		<i>Abies</i>
CNA CNA	210 280	Local Cures Herbs	Garlic		<i>Allium</i>
CNA CNA EDR DR1	281 344 269 395	Herbs Carn Hill Newbliss Local Place Names Fairy Forts	Gorse	whins whins whins whins	<i>Ulex</i>
CNA	348	Objects of Value	Hawthorn	white thorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>
EDR NEW	291 249	Fairy Forts Toy-making	Hazel	hazelnut	<i>Corylus avellana</i>
CNA CNA EDR	232 346 260	Old Houses Travelling Folk Marriage Customs	Heather		<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>
CNA DR2	279 53	Herbs Herbs	Hemlock		<i>Conium maculatum</i>
EDR	378	Emblems and Objects of Value	Holly		<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>
CNA NEW NEW	282 214 266	Herbs Local Cures Local Herbs	Ivy		<i>Hedera</i>
EDR	291	Fairy Forts	Lime/linden		<i>Tilia</i>
EDR	378	Emblems and Objects of Value	Marsh marigold	May flowers (wild marsh marigolds)	<i>Caltha palustris</i>
NEW	266	Local Herbs	Meadowsweet		<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>
EDR EDR	313 314	Herbs Herbs	Mint	Wild mint	<i>Lamiaceae</i>
CNA CNA	207 279	Local Cures Herbs	Nettle		<i>Urtica dioica</i>

⁴⁸ Mac Coitir, *Irish Wild Plants*, 99.

EDR	275	Local Cures			
EDR	276	Local Cures			
EDR	314	Herbs			
EDR	315	Herbs			
DR2	2	Local Cures			
DR2	51	Herbs			
NEW	216	Local Cures			
NEW	266	Local Herbs			
NEW	235	Old Crafts	Oak		<i>Quercus</i>
EDR	278	Homemade Toys	Ox-eye daisy ^{49,50}	field daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>
DR2	38	Local Place Names		dog daisy	
CNA	282	Herbs	Periwinkle	penny-winkle	<i>Vinca</i>
EDR	313	Herbs	Poppy		<i>Papaver</i>
DR2	48	The Care of Our Farm Animals	Primrose		<i>Primula vulgaris</i>
CNA	279	Herbs	Ragwort	ragweed	<i>Senecio</i>
DR2	51	Herbs		rag-weeds	
NEW	266	Local Herbs		ragweed	
CNA	279	Herbs	Redshank	red shanks	<i>Persicaria maculosa</i>
CNA	275	Irish words in use around here	Ribwort plantain ⁵¹	Slán lus - ribworth	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>
CNA	201	Stories Connected with Milking	Rowan		<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>
CNA	282	Herbs			
NEW	249	Toy-Making			
CNA	232	Old Houses	Rushes		<i>Juncus</i>
CNA	234	Old Houses			
CNA	348	Objects of Value			
EDR	278	Homemade Toys			
EDR	320	The Potato Crop			

⁴⁹ Mac Coitir, *Irish Wild Plants*, 255.

⁵⁰ "field daisy", *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*.

⁵¹ Mac Coitir, *Irish Wild Plants*, 274.

EDR	361	Old Houses			
EDR	378	Emblems and Objects of Value			
DR2	5	Local Cures			
DR2	51	Herbs			
NEW	205	Old Crafts			
NEW	208	Old Crafts			
NEW	234	Old Crafts			
NEW	248	Toy-Making			
NEW	266	Local Herbs			
SBN	178	Old Crafts			
SNA	259	Irish words in use around here	Silverweed ⁵²	brioscán [sic]	<i>Potentilla anserina/ Argentina anserina</i>
EDR	315	Herbs	Sorrel		<i>Rumex acetosa</i>
CNA	236	Old Houses	Spruce		<i>Picea</i>
CNA	207	Local Cures	Sun spurge ⁵³	seven sisters	<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>
EDR	313	Herbs	Tansy		<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>
NEW	213	Local Cures			
NEW	266	Local Herbs			
CNA	279	Herbs	Thistle		<i>Onopordum acanthium or Cirsium vulgare</i>
DR2	51	Herbs			
NEW	217	The Signs of the Weather			
NEW	266	Local Herbs			
EDR	313	Herbs	Thyme		<i>Thymus</i>
CNA	282	Herbs	Violet		<i>Viola</i>
NEW	266	Local Herbs			
NEW	249	Toy-Making	Walnut		<i>Juglans regia</i>
CNA	207	Local Cures	Watercress		<i>Nasturtium officinale</i>
CNA	279	Herbs			

⁵² Mac Coitir, “silverweed – briosclán,” *Irish Wild Plants*, 251.

⁵³ “seven sisters,” *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*.

EDR	315	Herbs			
NEW	266	Local Herbs			
NEW	266	Local Herbs	Horehound		<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>
CNA	239	Old Crafts	Willow	sally	<i>Salix</i>
CNA	267	Irish words in use around here		Gad - a withe	
CNA	275	Irish words in use around here		Sailligh - sallies (willows)	
CNA	348	Objects of Value		sally	
EDR	361	Old Houses		sally	
DR2	6	Local Cures		sally	
NEW	205	Old Crafts		sally	
NEW	208	Old Crafts		sally	
NEW	234	Old Crafts		sally	
SNB	178	Old Crafts		rods	
NEW	266	Local Herbs	Wormwood		<i>Artemisia absinthium</i>
NEW	279	Herbs	Yew		<i>Taxus baccata</i>

Landscape

“The bog thro’ which I go to school was a lake once.
Mr Dunne - an old man well over 70 years -
remembers his father fishing in it.”
– The Schools’ Collection, vol. 0949, p. 334

Landscape: overview

The coding term “landscape” is broad, capturing not only landscape types relevant for various plant and animal habitats such as bog, meadow, or woodland, but also capturing human use and modification of the landscape such as forestry plantation, drainage and use of clay in brick manufacture, as well as archaeological features, and features which speak to intangible relationships with the landscape such as holy wells and fairy forts.

Townland locations have been checked against the Monaghan and Cavan lists on *Townlands.ie*. The Ordnance Survey Ireland application *National Townland and Historic Map Viewer* was also used to ascertain place and feature names.

Fairy forts may be listed multiple times within particular townlands. In most cases it is impossible to ascertain whether the references are to the same site.

Landscape: items of interest

These data provide a record of modification of the landscape during famine relief work (briefly alluded to in the Annaghmakerrig section) and provides insight into how habitats in the area have changed; for example, drainage and redirection of water will have changed the character of the landscape and will thus have impacted the biodiversity in the area. Evidence of this is found in Cnapagh, 297, outlining the impact of the draining of what was Corduff Lough resulting in boggy, marshy land. On Cnapach page 299 there is also reference to creation of a drainage river from Doohat Lough, superintended by Sir W Power.

There is a reference to curative clay in a grave in Aghabog Parish Church yard: “There is supposed to be a cure in the clay of Father Brian Duffy’s grave in Aghabog Church yard.”⁵⁴ A similar piece of local folklore in Boho, County Fermanagh became newsworthy in 2018 when the curative properties of clay at Sacred Heart Church, Boho were tested by microbiologist Dr. Gerry Quinn and the clay was found to contain a unique strain of streptomycetes⁵⁵ which can be used in the manufacture of antibiotics; these findings were published in the journal *Frontiers of Microbiology*.⁵⁶

⁵⁴ The Schools’ Collection, vol. 0949, Page 348

⁵⁵ Julian Fowler, “Ancient Fermanagh cure gets modern makeover,” BBC, 29 December 2018, <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-46651702>, accessed 1 August 2021.

⁵⁶ Luciana Terra et al., “A Novel Alkaliphilic Streptomyces Inhibits ESKAPE Pathogens,” *Frontiers in Microbiology*, 9 (2018): 2458, <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2018.02458>, accessed 1 August 2021.

A significant feature of this dataset is the volume of fairy forts mentioned. Although these represent an intangible relationship with the landscape, a practical consideration also applies. The site of any fairy fort will be likely to represent at least a small area of undisturbed landscape, free from agricultural interference and at times avoided as a thoroughfare. It should also be noted that the term “fort” captures a variety of site types, and some of these are evidently of archaeological significance. Some examples of the archaeological significance of a Fairy Fort are in Fastry TD (Druim (1), 297), referring to the presence of a ditch or moat and an earthen wall, and in Lisnaveane TD on McPhillips’ farm (Edraguil, 290), where reference is made to a Fairy Fort with three ring-shaped earthworks.

Landscape: dataset

School	Page	NFC heading	Description, context	Location and name
DR2	26	Hidden Treasure	Bog	?Barragh TD, Co. Cavan, Baragh Bog
DR2	28	My Home District	Bog	Aghareagh TD
CNA	307	The White Bog	Bog	Calliagh TD, “The White Bog,” near Aghabog R.C. Church
DR2	37	Local Place Names	Bog	Cortober TD, the Bog Field, Carnew’s land
CNA	314	Local Poem	Bog	Crappagh TD (site of Crappagh National School)
CNA	332	My Home District	Bog	Drumary TD
CNA	298	Local Roads	Bog	Knockcor Bog, Knockcor TD
CNA	288	Local Place Names	Bog	Knockcor Bog, Knockcor TD
CNA	314	Local Poem	Bog	Knockcor Bog, Knockcor TD
CNA	333	My Home District	Bog	Knockcor Bog, Knockcor TD
NEW	263	My Home District	Bog	Newbliss (around)
EDR	309	My Home District	Boggy land	Carsan TD
CNA	335	My Home District	Boggy land	Corduff TD (Cordoo)
CNA	297	Local Roads	Boggy land	Crappagh Rd
NEW	231	Severe Weather	Boggy land (currach)	Newbliss
CNA	314	Local Poem	Cave	Crappagh TD (site of Crappagh National School)
CNA	306	Aghabog Church	Cave (Mass location)	Murphy’s Glen
NEW	206	Old Crafts	Clay (brick manufacture)	Drumlina TD (Drumlaney), Tullyard TD
NEW	236	Old Crafts	Clay (brick manufacture)	Drumlina TD (Drumlaney), Tullyard TD
CNA	241	Old Crafts	Clay (brick manufacture)	unknown
CNA	348	Objects of Value	Clay (curative)	Aghabog TD, Aghabog R.C Church, grave of Fr Brian Duffy
EDR	265	Local Place Names	Cromlech/dolmen	Edergole TD, Durnan’s land
EDR	268	Local Place Names	Cromlech/dolmen	Edergole TD, Durnan’s land, Grey Stones field
EDR	306	My Home District	Cromlech/dolmen	Edergole TD, The Giant’s Grave
SBN	182	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	?Enagh TD (Ionagh)
DR1	396	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	?Fastry TD (Fosty)

EDR	291	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	?Killygragy TD (Killygarry)
DR1	396	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	?Lisbrannan TD (Lisbrinney)
DR1	399	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	?Lisbrannan TD (Lisbrinney)
DR1	396	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Aghareagh TD (Aughareagh)
DR1	396	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Ashfield, ?Co. Cavan
DR1	397	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Carn TD
DR1	399	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Carn TD
EDR	288	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Cootehill (1 mile from), ?Bon, near Freamount House
EDR	288	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Cootehill (1 mile from),The Dane's Fort, near ?Bon, near Freamount House
DR1	396	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Corballyquill TD, Co. Cavan
CNA	294	Fairy Stories	Fairy Fort	Corduff TD (Cordoo)
CNA	296	Fairy Stories	Fairy Fort	Corduff TD (Cordoo), Allen's land
CNA	319	A Story	Fairy Fort	Corduff TD (Cordoo), Allen's land
CNA	296	Fairy Stories	Fairy Fort	Correvan TD (Coraven), Wylie's land
DR1	396	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Cortober TD
DR1	399	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Cortober TD
CAN	294	Fairy Stories	Fairy Fort	Crappagh TD
CNA	295	Fairy Stories	Fairy Fort	Crappagh TD
CNA	296	Fairy Stories	Fairy Fort	Crappagh TD
SBN	182	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Cremoyle TD
SBN	182	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Descart TD
DR1	395	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Doocarrick TD, Co. Cavan
DR1	399	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Drumgrone TD
SBN	182	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Faltagh TD (Faltaugh)
DR1	399	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Fastry TD (Fostry)
DR1	396	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Killynenagh TD
NEW	264	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Lisalea TD
NEW	264	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Lisdarragh TD
DR1	398	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Lisgorran TD

DR1	397	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Lislongfield TD
DR1	399	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Lislongfield TD
EDR	291	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Lismagonway TD (Lisnagoneway)
SBN	182	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Lismagonway TD (Lisnagonway)
NEW	264	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Lisnagore TD
EDR	291	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Lisnaveane TD (Lissevaner), Lios-Aoibhinn fort
DR1	395	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Lurganboy Td, near Lurganboy School
CNA	296	Fairy Stories	Fairy Fort	Newbliss TD, Landy's land
DR1	396	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Rockcorry, ?Boyher TD
SBN	182	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Rosnaglogh TD
SBN	182	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Rosnaglogh TD (Rosnaglough)
EDR	291	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Unknown: Lisna lough
NEW	264	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Unknown: ?Lisalaney
DR1	395	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Unknown: Barber's land
DR1	395	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Unknown: Black Fort
DR1	396	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Unknown: Corabay Fort
SBN	182	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Unknown: Hillycraggy
DR1	395	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Unknown: near Barber's land
DR1	398	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Unknown: near Mrs. Pickens'
DR1	395	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort	Unknown: Pritchard's land
DR1	397	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort (with circular grinding stones)	Cornaglare TD
DR1	397	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort (with ditch/moat and earthen wall)	Fastry TD (Fostry)
EDR	290	Fairy Forts	Fairy Fort (with three ring earthworks)	Lisnaveane TD, McPhillips' farm
DR1	401	Severe Weather	Forest	Ashfield, ?Co. Cavan
NEW	201	The Barony of Dartree	Grove	Killycoonagh TD
DR2	28	My Home District	Hilly land	Aghareagh TD
DR2	29	My Home District	Hilly land	Drumann TD
EDR	307	My Home District	Hilly land	Edergole TD
EDR	304	My Home District	Hilly land	Milltown TD

DR1	417	Local Place Names	Lake	?Black Lough, Corweelis TD, (Kildrumsherdan), Co. Cavan, the Lough field, Brown's land
CNA	333	My Home District	Lake	Annaghmakerrig Lake
EDR	350	An Old Story	Lake	Coolkill Lough
CNA	321	Story	Lake	Corlougharoe Lough (Corlougharoo)
NEW	231	Severe Weather	Lake	Corlougharoe Lough (Corlougharoo)
DR1	400	Severe Weather	Lake	Corweelis TD, Co. Cavan
EDR	310	My Home District	Lake	Dartrey Demesne
CNA	299	Famine Times	Lake	Doohat Lake
DR1	401	Severe Weather	Lake	Drum Lough
DR1	403	Severe Weather	Lake	Drum Lough
CNA	317	Local Heroes	Lake	Drumgole Lough
EDR	304	My Home District	Lake	Drumsaul Lough (Drimsail Lake)
DR1	403	Severe Weather	Lake	Drumsaul Lough (Drumsheal)
NEW	263	My Home District	Lake	Newbliss (around)
DR1	403	Severe Weather	Lake	Quarry Lough
DR2	24	Hidden Treasure	Lake	Quarry Lough
CNA	297	Local Roads	Lake (drained)	Corduff Lough
NEW	209	Old Crafts	Limestone (kiln burning)	Drumlina TD (Drumlaney)
NEW	234	Old Crafts	Limestone (kiln burning)	Unknown
CNA	289	Local Place Names	Marshy land	Annaghmakerrig demesne, Gullion Dubh field
DR1	415	Local Place Names	Meadow	Corweelis TD, (Kildrumsherdan), Co. Cavan, the Far Meadow, Brown's land
EDR	267	Local Place Names	Meadow	Dartrey Demesne, Mitchell's Meadow
CNA	289	Local Place Names	Meadow	Drumary TD, Black Hollow, land of Mr. Burke
EDR	264	Local Place Names	Meadow	Monage TD
EDR	264	Local Place Names	Pasture	?Monage TD, Jackie's Hollow, near Dartrey Post Office
DR1	405	Severe Weather	Plantation	Carn TD
CNA	332	My Home District	Plantation (Forestry Department)	Annaghmakerrig demesne, Mrs. Guthrie's land
EDR	307	My Home District	Pond (flax pond)	Edergole TD (site of Edraguil National School)

EDR	361	Old Houses	Quarry	Unknown
EDR	305	My Home District	River	Milltown TD
NEW	263	My Home District	River	Newbliss (around)
NEW	201	The Barony of Dartree	River	River Finn
EDR	304	My Home District	River (?mill race)	Drumsaul Lough (Drimsail Lake)
CNA	299	Famine Times	River (constructed)	Doochat Lake on to Dinemore and Cavan
NEW	201	The Barony of Dartree	River (mill race)	Killeevan Glebe TD
EDR	344	The Landlord	Rocky land	Rockcorry
EDR	269	Local Place Names	Sandy soil	Losset TD, land of Charlie McCabe
CNA	344	Carn Hill Newbliss	Standing stones	?Newbliss TD, Carn Hill
CNA	344	Carn Hill Newbliss	Stone circle	?Newbliss TD, Carn Hill
DR2	28	My Home District	Stream	Aghareagh TD
NEW	263	My Home District	Streams	Newbliss (around)
CNA	344	Carn Hill Newbliss	Subterranean passage (to Logat Hill)	?Newbliss TD, Carn Hill
DR1	417	Local Place Names	Well	Corweelis TD, (Kildrumsherdan), Co. Cavan, the Well field, Brown's land,
CNA	307	A Strange Well	Well (bitter water)	Corleck TD, in a glen
NEW	215	Local Cures	Well (curative for jaundice)	Loughoony TD (Loughoona)
EDR	379	Emblems and Objects of Value	Well (holy)	?Aghabog TD
SBN	181	Our Holy Wells	Well (holy)	Liscumasky TD
DR1	405	Severe Weather	Woodland	Dartrey Demesne
EDR	304	My Home District	Woodland	Dartrey Demesne
EDR	310	My Home District	Woodland	Dartrey Demesne
EDR	267	Local Place Names	Woodland	Dartrey Demesne, Thoshes Wood
NEW	263	My Home District	Woodland	Newbliss (around)

Conclusions

The information gathered from this survey provides several datasets of use to the Tyrone Guthrie Centre House and Collections committee. It provides a comparative data source for the Tyrone Guthrie Centre Wildlife and Habitat Survey and will continue to be of use for environmental and historical research pertaining to the demesne.

The Annaghmakerrig dataset provides accounts and evidence of activities of residents of Annaghmakerrig House, and how these activities impacted on and were connected to local people. The accounts particularly of how Sir William Tyrone Power came to be in the local area to superintend famine relief work, although a secondary source, corroborate a story from the Power/Guthrie family history.

The fauna dataset provides an extensive list of birds, and some very small lists of mammals, molluscs, insects, amphibians, annelids and fish. Although at times references are folkloric such as medicinal usage as a “cure” or as a motif in local myth, or unclear in terms of establishing a definite species record, nonetheless the results collected provide an overview of fauna in the area around the time of the Schools’ Scheme and can serve as a comparator for results from any contemporary biodiversity survey.

The flora dataset, like that of the fauna, provides an extensive list. As well as an overview of species present within the area at the time of the Schools’ Scheme, the plants present can serve as indicators for landscape type, food and medicine for people or animals, and as a resource for myriad domestic needs.

The landscape dataset provides a record of land types in the area, bodies of water and waterways, use of natural resources in the area such as limestone, turf and clay. Alongside the more intangible landscape records, such as curative clay and Fairy Forts, this dataset provides an insight into the relationship between local people and their area, the impact of famine works and landowner decisions, and the archaeology of the area. These factors in combination point to several possible uses for the landscape dataset, but in context of this project as a record of habitat types for flora and fauna and how these have undergone change due to human intervention.

Using this small sample of volumes from the Schools’ Collection relating to a discrete geographical area for a focused project demonstrates how the Schools’ Collection can work as a data source that sits at the intersection of folklore, the biological and environmental sciences, and archaeology. The data contained in this survey have a practical application for the Tyrone Guthrie Centre Wildlife and Habitat Survey. These records serve as supporting baseline evidence for historically present flora and fauna species in the locality of the Annaghmakerrig demesne, which can be referred to when considering practical actions to enhance biodiversity on the demesne.

References

- Allen, David E. and Gabrielle Hatfield. *Medicinal Plants in Folk Tradition: An Ethnobotany of Britain and Ireland*. Portland, Cambridge: Timber Press, 2004.
- Ballard, Linda-May. "An approach to traditional cures in Ulster." *The Ulster Medical Journal* 78, No. 1 (2009): 26-33. Accessed 1 August 2021.
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2629017/>
- BirdWatch Ireland. "Corncrake Conservation." Accessed 21 July 2021.
<https://birdwatchireland.ie/our-work/species-habitat-conservation/countryside-wetlands/corncrake-conservation/>
- Briody, Mícheál. The Irish Folklore Commission 1935-1970. Helsinki: SKS, 2008.
- British Ornithologists' Union, "The British List: A Checklist of Birds of Britain (9th ed.)," *Ibis* 160 (2017): 190-240. DOI 10.1111/ibi.12536
- Cairdeas Loganimeacha na Sionna. *Name Your Place*. Dublin: Foras na Gaelige, n.d.
- Clarke, R. S. J. "Moore, Dr. John Hamilton" in *A Directory of Ulster Doctors (who qualified before 1901)*. Vol II. Belfast: Ulster Historical Foundation, 2013.
- Devlin, Zoë, "Information on Sea Plantain," Wildflowers of Ireland. Accessed 1 August 2021. http://www.wildflowersofireland.net/plant_detail.php?id_flower=208
- Dúchas.ie. "Places." Accessed 1 August 2021. <https://www.duchas.ie/en/plc>
- Dúchas.ie. "The Schools' Collection." Accessed 1 August 2021.
<https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes>
- Evans, E. Estyn. *Irish Folk Ways*. London: Routledge, 1988.
- Fowler, Julian. "Ancient Fermanagh cure gets modern makeover." BBC. 29 December 2018. Accessed 1 August 2021. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-46651702>.
- Guerrero-Gatica, Matías, Enrique Aliste, and Javier A. Simonetti. "Shifting Gears for the Use of the Shifting Baseline Syndrome in Ecological Restoration," *Sustainability* 11 No. 5 (2019): 1458. DOI 10.3390/su11051458
- Hunter, A.C. *The Annaghmakerrig Papers: Tyrone Guthrie Centre, 1667-1972* (Archive Catalogue). Newbliss: Tyrone Guthrie Centre, 2019.
- Irish OpenStreetMap Community. Townlands.ie. Accessed 14 July 2021.
<https://www.townlands.ie/>
- King, J. L. et al., "Table 1: Checklist of freshwater fish species of Ireland (scientific and common names) after Kelly et al. (2007)" in *Ireland Red List No. 5: Amphibians, Reptiles & Freshwater Fish*. Dublin: National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, 2011. Accessed 1 August 2021.
<https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/publications/pdf/RL5.pdf>
- Mabey, Richard. *Flora Britannica*. London: Sinclair-Stevenson, 1996.
- Mac Coitir, Niall. *Irish Trees: Myths, Legends and Folklore*. Cork: The Collins Press, 2012.
- Mac Coitir, Niall. *Irish Wild Plants: Myths, Legends and Folklore*. Cork: The Collins Press, 2012.
- MacAfee, Caroline, ed. *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*. Oxford: University Press, 1996.
- Ordnance Survey Ireland. National Townland and Historic Map Viewer (Online Application). Accessed 2 August 2021.
<https://geohive.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9def898f708b47f19a8d8b7088a100c4>
- Podlech, Dieter. *Herbs and Healing Plants of Britain and Europe*. Translated by Martin Walters. London: HarperCollins, 2015.
- Shannon, Fiona, Astrid Sasse, Helen Sheridan, and Michael Heinrich. "Are identities oral? Understanding ethnobotanical knowledge after Irish independence (1937–1939)."

- Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine*, 13 (2017): 65.
DOI 10.1186/s13002-017-0189-0
- Stace, Clive. *New Flora of the British Isles* (3rd ed.). Cambridge: University Press, 2010.
- Sterry, Paul. *Collins Complete Guide to British Trees*. London: HarperCollins, 2007.
- Terra, Luciana, et al. "A Novel Alkaliphilic *Streptomyces* Inhibits ESKAPE Pathogens," *Frontiers in Microbiology*, 9 (2018): 2458. DOI 10.3389/fmicb.2018.02458
- The Tyrone Guthrie Centre. "About the Centre." Accessed 15 August 2021.
<http://www.tyroneguthrie.ie/about/centre>
- The Vincent Wildlife Trust. *The Irish Stoat in Galway*. The Vincent Wildlife Trust: 2013.
Accessed 1 August 2021.
<https://www.vwt.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/irish-stoat-leaflet.pdf>