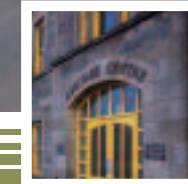
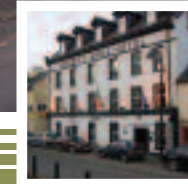
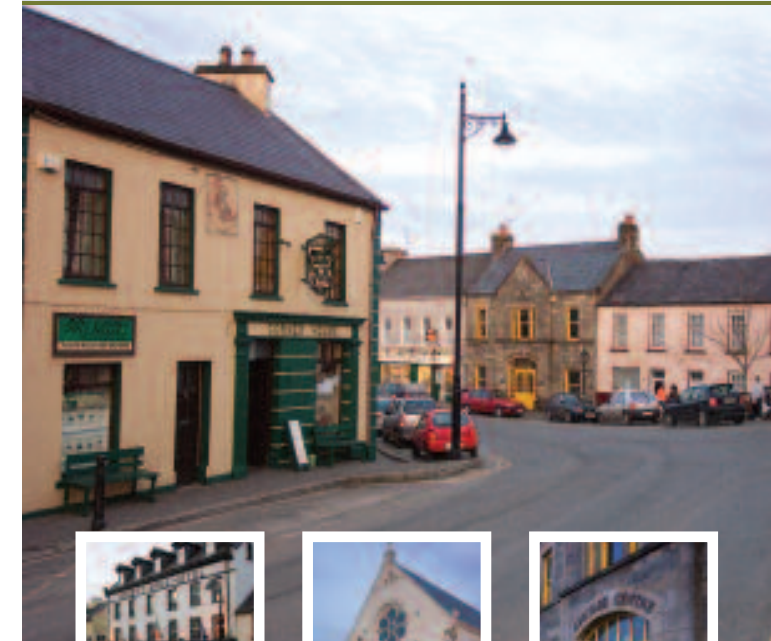


ARDARA HERITAGE TOWN



BAILE OIÐHREACHTA ARD AN RÁTHA



3 THE DIAMOND

On May 16, 1760, George Nesbitt was granted permission to hold fairs and markets in Ardara. Although the official fair green was at Hillhead, a variety of performers could be found in The Diamond on a fair day. Before 1912 when the Congested Districts Board erected the market-house known as ‘The Mart’, homespun and hand-woven tweeds were sold on Main Street.



AN DIAMANT

Ar an 16 Bealtaine, 1760, tugadh cead do George Nesbitt aontáí agus margáí a reachtáil in Ard an Rátha. Cé gur i Hillhead a bhíodh ionad oifigiúil an aonaigh, bhíodh ealaíontóirí éagsúla le fáil sa Diamant lá an aonaigh. Roimh 1912, nuair a thóg Bord na gCeantar Cúng an teach margaidh, nó “an Mart” mar is fearr aithne air, dhíoltaí bréidín de dhéantús an bhaile agus bréidín lámhdhéanta ar an Phríomhshráid.

4 CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

This cruciform Romanesque-revival Catholic church was opened on November 15, 1903. The stained-glass west window entitled “Christ among the doctors” was designed by Evie Hone (1894-1955) and completed in 1954. The Rose Window consists of seven panels. The centre panel shows Jesus seated in the temple addressing the Doctors of the Law. The Old Testament is represented in the top centre panel by David, playing a harp and in the bottom centre panel by Moses holding the Tablets of the Law. The New Testament is represented by the evangelists in symbolic form: Matthew (man), Mark (lion), Luke (ox) and John (eagle).



TEACH POBAIL AN TEAGHLAIGH NAOFA

Teach Pobail Caitliceach chroschruthach de chuid na hathbheochana Rómhánúla í seo, a fosclaíodh i Samhain 15, 1903. Ba í Evie Hone (1894-1955) a dhearaigh an fhuinneog gloine dhaite dar teideal “Christ among the doctors”, agus críochnaíodh an fhuinneog i 1954. Tá seacht bpainéal ar Fhuinneog an Róis. Ar an phainéal sa lár tá pictiúr d’Íosa ina shuí sa Teampeall ag labhairt le Dochtúirí an Dlí. Tá dhá shiombal den tSean-Tiomna le feiceáil, mar atá, David ar an phainéal lár thuas agus é ag seinm ar an chláirseach, agus ar an phainéal lár thíos tá Moses agus Leaca an Dlí ina sheilbh aige. Tá na soiscéalaíthe ann i bhfoirm shiombalach mar chomhartha ar an Tiomna Nua: Máitiú (fear), Marcas (leon), Lúcas (damh) agus Eoin (iolar).

5 NESBITT ARMS HOTEL

Neil McNelis, a grocer and hotel-keeper of the Nesbitt Arms Hotel, was one of the pioneers of the tweed industry in Ardara and helped to secure markets for locally-produced woollen goods. Among the visitors to the hotel was Patrick Pearse who had lunch here on July 5, 1907 and was pleased to find that many of the staff were fluent Irish speakers.

ÓSTÁN AN NESBITT ARMS

Bhí Niall Mac Niallais, grósaeir agus fear tí Óstán an Nesbitt Arms ar dhuine de na ceannródaithe i dtionscal an bhréidín in Ard an Rátha agus chuidigh sé le margáí a aimsiú do na hearraí olla a dhéantaí go háitiúil. Bhí Pádraig Mac Piarais i measc na ndaoine a chaith seal a gcuarta san óstán. Bhí lón aige ansin ar an 5 Iúil, 1907, agus b’ábhar lúcháir dó gur chainteoirí dúchais Gaeilge iad cuid mhór d’fhoireann an óstáin.



6 THE OLD ‘CHAPEL-SCHOOL’



This 1813 building served as a school during the day and a church up until the new church was built in 1832. Although it now serves as a private residence, it demonstrates traditional building methods using local stone and slate.

SEANSCOIL AN tSÉIPÉIL

Tógadh an foirgneamh seo i 1813 agus d’fhónadh sé mar scoil i rith an lae agus mar shéipéal go dtí gur tógadh an séipéal úr i 1832. Cé go bhfónann sé anois mar áit chónaithe phríobháideach, tá sean-nósanna tógála le tabhairt faoi deara ann go fóill, ina bhfuil cloch agus slinn áitiúil in úsáid.

7 ST. CONALL’S CHURCH OF IRELAND

The original church was built in 1820 as a Chapel of Ease for Iniskeel and Killybegs on a site donated by George Nesbitt of Woodhill. The present church was built in 1833 and consists of a harled three-bay hall with bellcote and porch. A short chancel was added in 1908. George Nesbitt is buried in the grounds of the church in an unmarked grave.



EAGLAIS NA hÉIREANN NAOMH CONALL

Tógadh an eaglais bhunaidh i 1820 mar Sheipéal Cúnta d’Inis Chaol agus do na Cealla Beaga ar shuíomh a bhronn George Nesbitt as Cnoc na Coille. Tógadh an eaglais atá ann san am i láthair i 1833 agus tá halla garbhtheilgthe trí-bhá, clogás agus póirse aici. Cuireadh saingéal gearr san fhoirgneamh i 1908. Tá George Nesbitt adhlactha i dtalamh na heaglaise in uaigh gan mharcaíl.



8 RINGFORT

This is the Ringfort (or Ráth) from which Ardara (‘Ard an Rátha’) takes its name. The site consists of a platform surrounded by a low earthen bank. The sides of the platform are steep, dropping to a flat-bottomed ditch. An outer bank also survives. The site is listed on the Record of Monuments and Places and protected under the National Monuments Acts (1930-2004).

RÁTH

Is é seo an ráth as a bhfuair Ard an Rátha a ainm. Is é atá sa suíomh ná léibheann agus ráth íseal thart air. Tá taobhanna an léibhinn iontach géar, ag titim isteach i ndíog réthónach. Tá bruach sheachtrach ar marthain fosta. Tá an suíomh liostaithe ar Thaifead na Séadchomharthaí agus Áiteanna, agus tá cosaint aige faoi Achtanna na Séadchomharthaí Náisiúnta (1930-2004).

9 METHODIST CHURCH

The church was built in 1832 on land provided by George Nesbitt of Woodhill. Mathew Stewart was the first to preach Wesleyanism in Ardara after being influenced by John Wesley whom he met in 1786: “Go to that part of the country, the Barony of Boyleagh and see what you can do”.

AN EAGLAIS MHEITIDISTEACH

Tógadh an eaglais i 1832 ar thalamh a chuir George Nesbitt as Cnoc na Coille ar fáil. Ba é Matthew Stewart an chéad duine a chraobhscaoil an Wesleyachas in Ard an Rátha, i ndiaidh dó bualadh le John Wesley i 1786: “Go to that part of the country, the Barony of Boyleagh and see what you can do”.



10 NANCY’S

This public house demonstrates an example of the distinctive local sign writing tradition. Such signs are typically painted on small timber boards displaying the name of the proprietor and mounted over the doorway.



TEACH NEANSAÍ

Is eiseamláir é an teach tábhairne seo de na seanchomharthaí a bhíodh ann sa seanam. De ghnáth, dhéantaí na comharthaí seo le péint ar chláiracha beaga adhmaid ar a raibh ainm an úinéara curtha in airde os cionn an dorais.

ARDARA

From its origins as a crossing point on the Owentocker River, Ardara became a world-renowned centre for the manufacture of hand-woven tweed, hand knitwear, hand-loomed knitwear and embroidery. Ardara has a long association with the tweed and knitwear industries and was designated by Bord Fáilte as a 'Heritage Town' on the basis of this tradition of weaving and knitting. The Nesbitt family arrived in Ardara in 1609 and exerted a strong influence on the town's development. The demise of the great fair at nearby Magheramore in the mid-nineteenth century saw the fairs in Ardara begin to prosper and confirmed Ardara's role as a commercial centre.

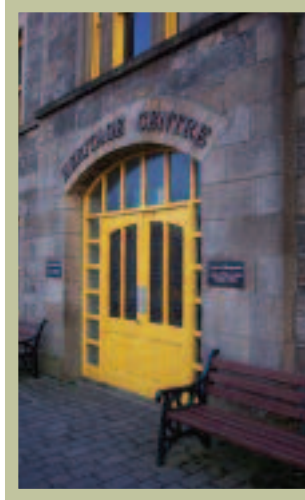
In the Middle Ages, the reputation of Irish cloth as that of superior quality and lower price had been well established throughout western Europe. A 1688 act that forbade the sale of Irish woollen goods to anywhere except England threatened the continued existence of the woollen industry and traditional skills associated with it. By the beginning of the nineteenth century, the woollen industry existed on a small domestic scale. In the late nineteenth century, a market for homespun woollen goods was identified and the re-introduction of the art of dyeing made them a more marketable commodity. In 1893, a Congested Districts Board supported improvement scheme was started in the Ardara area and provided for the inspection of cloth and the stamping of high-quality goods. Tweed continued to be marketed on the streets of Ardara on fair days. A market house known as 'The Mart' was built in 1912 and used for the inspection, storage and sale of tweed. Despite a resurgence in the tweed industry in Ardara during the two World Wars, it declined markedly thereafter and continued on a smaller cottage-industry basis and, more recently, as a tourist attraction. Several domestic vernacular buildings, some original weavers' cottages, echo Ardara's early associations with the tweed industry.

ARD AN RÁTHA

Sa Mheánaois, bhí sé de chlú ar éide na hÉireann ar fud iarthar na hEorpa go raibh sí ní b'fhearr ó thaobh caighdeáin de, agus ní ba shaoire chomh maith. Tháinig reachtaíocht i bhfeidhm i 1688 a chuir cosc ar earraí olla as Éirinn a dhíol le tír ar bith eile seachas le Sasana féin, rud a bhí ina bhagairt mhór do thodhchaí an tionscail olla agus do na scileanna traidisiúnta a mbíodh sé ag brath orthu. Ag tús an naoú haois déag, mhair an tionscal olla ar scála beag sa pharóiste. Go mall sa naoú haois déag, aithníodh go raibh margadh ann fá choinne earraí olla de dhéantús baile agus rinneadh tráchtairr inmhargaidh ní b'fhearr d'obh nuair a tugadh isteach ealaín na ruaimneoireachta in athuair. I 1893, cuireadh tús le scéim feabhsúcháin de chuid Bhord na gCeantar Cúig in Ard an Rátha maidir le héadach a scrúdú agus earraí ardcháilíochta a stampáil. Leanadh le bréidín a dhíol ar shráideanna Ard an Rátha ar gach lá aonaigh. Tógadh teach margaidh a dtugtaí "The Mart" air i 1912, agus is ansin a dhéantaí an bréidín a scrúdú, a choinneáil agus a dhíol. In ainneoin go raibh borradh úr faoin tionscal bréidín in Ard an Rátha idir an dá Chogadh Domhanda, thosaigh sé ag dul go mór i léig ina dhiaidh sin. Lean sé ina thionscal tinteáin ar scála níos lú, agus le tamall anuas, ina áis turasóireachta. Tá roinnt foirgneamh dúchasach áitiúil ann go fóill, cuid acu ina seantithe fíodóireachta, a bhfuil baint acu le luath-thionscal an bhréidín in Ard an Rátha.

1 ARDARA HERITAGE CENTRE

The Ardara Heritage Centre is based in the quoined, cut-stone former Market House with central segmental arch, front gable and clock (c. 1840). It was opened in 1995 and outlines the history of tweed production in the Ardara area. There are proposals for a small theatre within.



IONAD OIHDREACHTA ARD AN RÁTHA

Tá Ionad Oidhreachta Ard an Rátha suite i Seanteach an Mhargaidh, de chloch-chúinne agus de chloch ghearrtha, ar a bhfuil áirse dheighilteach lárnach, binn tosaigh agus clog (c. 1840). Osclaíodh an tIonad i 1995, áit a bhfaightear sraceolas ar stair an bhréidín thart fá Ard an Rátha. Tá sé i gceist amharclann a lonnú ann.

2 THE CENTRAL

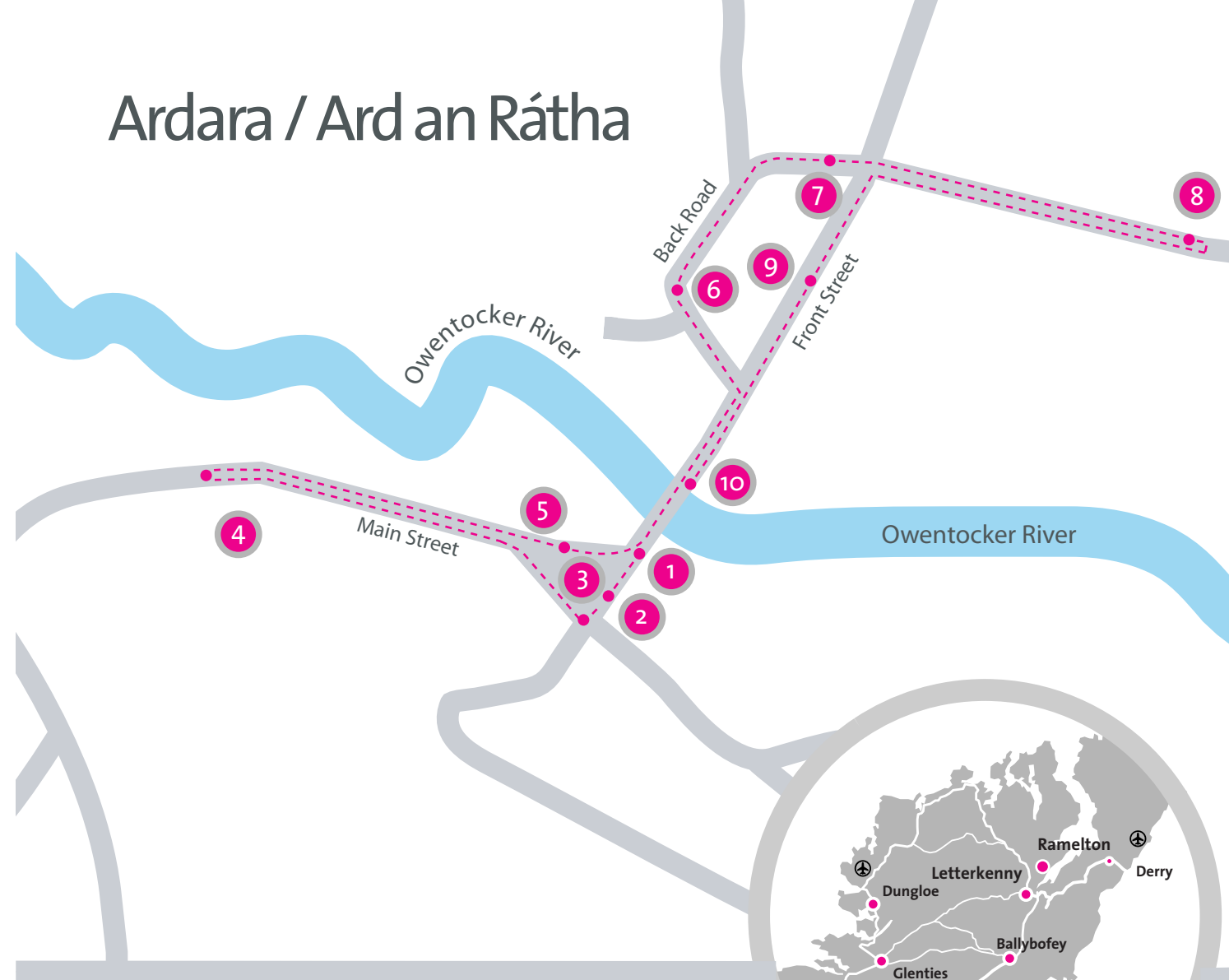
The terraced, five-bay, two-storey house known as 'The Central' was built c. 1800. It demonstrated some characteristics of vernacular architecture typical of County Donegal's small towns. Although a Protected Structure, it was demolished in 2006.

AN "CENTRAL"

Tógadh an Central thart fá 1800. Teach sraithe, cúig bhá, dhá stór a bhí ann. Bhí roinnt tréithe de chuid na hailtíreachta dúchasáí, a bhí coitianta sna bailte beaga i gContae Dhún na nGall, le sonrú ann. Cé gur Déanmhas Cosanta a bhí ann, leagadh é i 2006.



Ardara / Ard an Rátha



1. Ardara Heritage Centre / Ionad Oidhreachta Ard an Rátha
2. The Central / An Central
3. The Diamond / An Diamant
4. Church of the Holy Family / Teach Pobail an Teaghlaigh Naofa
5. Nesbitt Arms Hotel / Óstán an Nesbitt Arms
6. The 'Old Chapel' School / Seanscoil an tSeipéil
7. St. Conall's Church of Ireland / Eaglais na hÉireann Naomh Conall
8. Ringfort / Ráth
9. Methodist Church / An Eaglais Mheidisteach
10. Nancy's / Teach Neansaí

HERITAGE TOWNS BAILTE OIHDREACHTA

There are five 'Heritage Towns' in County Donegal
Tá cúig 'Bhaile Oidhreachta' i gContae Dhún na nGall

Ardara / Ard an Rátha
Ballyshannon / Béal Átha Seanaidh
Moville / Bun an Phobail
Ramelton / Ráth Mealtain
Raphoe / Ráth Bhoth



ARDARA | ARD AN RÁTHA

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT
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An action of the County Donegal Heritage Plan (2007-2011)
Gníomh de chuid Phlean Oidhreachta Chontae Dhún na nGall (2007-2011)