



GC/ENV1

**GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT SECTION**

BURIAL GROUND PLOT BOOKS

1882 – 2005





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ENVIRONMENT SECTION

BURIAL GROUND PLOT BOOKS, 1882 - 2005

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GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL, ARCHIVES

Provenance: Galway County Council, Environment Section

Series: Burial Ground Plot Books

Date Range: 1882 – 2005

Size: 29 outsize volumes (+ two with caretakers), most measure approximately 50 x 48 cm (21" x 19")

Series Description: Volumes recording particulars relating to deceased and dates of interments in various graveyards in county Galway. The entries in some instances are for different Sections of the cemeteries, such as Section A or B, thereafter recording the date of interment, plot number, name and address of deceased and age, in most cases religion and occupation are also included, together with the name of the plot owner.

Most registers include an index to the deceased.

The registers are arranged alphabetically.

Prior to 1996

plots could be pre-purchased, so in some instances the grave has been purchased but not yet used.

The local burial ground caretaker retains the Registers for recording and reference purposes until the Register is full and complete. The records in this collection were returned to Galway County Council in 2005 for preservation, when new Registers were issued to the caretakers.

See also: Register of Interments

History / Context: The management of Burial Grounds is governed by various health legislation and regulations, such as *Rules Applicable to Burial Grounds Provided Under the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878*, and *Rules and Regulations for the Regulation of Burial Grounds etc (as Amended)*. The control and management of burial grounds was originally undertaken by Burial Boards, which were sub-committees of the various Poor Law Unions. In 1889 the function was carried



out on behalf of the local authority by the Rural District Councils, and then from circa 1923 by the Boards of Health & Public Assistance. From the early 1940's the function was the direct responsibility of the County Council. Initially the function was administered by the General Purposes and Water Service Sections of the Council. Upon the establishment of a separate Environment section in circa 1998 the function was transferred to it.

The Council is involved with the appointment of caretakers, and the provision and maintenance of graveyards. The day-to-day management of burial grounds is carried out on behalf of the County Council by local caretakers. They are responsible for completing the Registers, recording details relating to interments, and taking payment for the purchase of burial plots and so on.

There are 225 graveyards in the ownership of Galway County Council and it is estimated that there are in the region of 250 further burial grounds in the County that are not in Council ownership. Children's burial grounds which are locally called killeens or cillachaun/k illahauns form a considerable proportion of the burial sites that are not in Council ownership.

In 2005 a small quantity of the Plot books was collected by Galway County Council for safe keeping, and new Registers issued to the caretakers.

Some Caretakers only have Registers of Interment which record chronologically the date of burials but do not give the location of the plots.

In some cases the caretakers also have maps of the grave yards.

In 1974 the cost of a single grave was £30 and a double was £60, prior to that they had been £5 and £10 respectively.

In 1988 the cost of a single grave increased to £60 and a double to £120.

**Additional
Information:**

Rules Applicable to Burial Grounds provided under the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878 state that the 'area to be used for graves shall be divided into grave-spaces, to be designated by convenient marks...A corresponding map or maps of the Burial Ground shall



be constantly kept in some convenient place at or near the Burial Ground, and shall be open to the inspection of all persons. On such map or maps every grave-space shall be shown with its distinctive mark inscribed thereon.

A proper Registry Book (Hereinafter referred to as the Registry Book) made of parchment or vellum or other durable material with strong binding and suitable printed pagings, and ruled in columns, with proper printed headings, shall be constantly kept in some convenient place at or near the Burial Ground, and shall be open for inspection at all reasonable times: but no person except the person having the care and management of the Burial Ground, and in these Rules called the Registrar, shall be permitted to write in the Registry Book save as hereinafter mentioned.

A printed copy of these Rules shall be kept constantly affixed to the Registry Book.

Any Registrar refusing to give inspection of the Registry Book, as required by this Rule, shall be liable to a Penalty of Five Pounds sterling and any person whatever unlawfully writing in, defacing, altering or mutilating the Registry Book, shall be liable to a penalty of Five Pounds sterling' (Local Government Board, 1888).

Access

Restricted access

Galway County Council Archives



BURIAL GROUND PLOT BOOKS, 1882 - 2005

Volumes recording particulars relating to deceased and dates of interment in various graveyards in county Galway. The entries in some instances are for different Sections of the grave yards, such as Section A or B, thereafter recording the date of interment, plot number, name and address of deceased and age, in most cases religion and occupation are also included, together with the name of the plot owner.

Prior to *circa* 2003 plots could be pre-purchased, so in some instances the grave has been purchased but not yet used.

The local burial ground caretaker retains the Registers for reference purposes until the Register is full and complete. The records in this collection were returned to Galway County Council in 2005 for preservation, when new Registers were issued to the caretakers.

The registers are arranged alphabetically.

Most registers include an index to the deceased.

1. August 1899 (f150),
1921 – 1961 **Ardbear**, Clifden, Connemara
Includes Index
c 200ff
2. 1982 – 2004 **Bauntragh**, Ballynahown / Baile na hAbann (Ballinahown)
(Furbough, Uachtar Ard (Oughterard) / Kilcummin, An Cheathrú
Rua Connemara)
Includes Index
c 155ff
3. 1956 - 2004 **Calvary Cemetery**, Portumna
Includes Index
c 107ff
4. 21 April 1956 – 28
January 1964, 1978 -
1999 **Claregalway**
Includes index and layout plan of residual grave space in the
[old graveyard in front of the Friary].
Also includes at front of volume list of the names of persons
buried *in the old graveyard (beside Extension)* for the period
1978 to 1999, detailing date, name address, age, and name of
next of kin. A list of the owners of various grave numbers, in
the Old Graveyard, is given at the back of the volume.
c 300ff



5. 1992 - 2004 **Curragh, Loughrea.**
The Register is divided into two sections, one for the old cemetery and one for the new.
Includes partial Index
c 20ff
6. 1975 – 2004 **Doorus, Kinvara**
Includes separate detached index
c 50ff
- (7.) 1950 - 2005 Errislannon, Clifden, Connemara (with local caretaker)
8. 1956 - 2004 **Kilbeacanty, Gort**
Includes copy of part of a map showing the layout of graves in the new Burial Ground.
c 130ff
9. 9 March 1955 – 3 August 1999 **Kilconly, Tuam**
Includes index
c 130ff
10. 25 May 1996 – 10 October 2003 **Kilcooney, Ballinasloe - Extension to burial ground**
c 6ff
11. 1956 – 1980 **Kilcummin, Oughterard**
Includes map showing plots and grave spaces (110 cm x 69 cm ~ 43" x 27")
c 183ff
12. 1975 – 2004 **Killanin, (Rosscahill) Oughterard – many entries are not dated.**
Includes Index
c 77ff



13. 1980 – 2004 **Kiltormer**, Ballinasloe
Includes Index
c 80ff
14. 5 September 1928 **Knock**, Inverin (Spiddal) (Register of Interment)
1930 – July 1948
Includes Index
c 21ff
15. (26 May 1917 – 31 **Knock**, Inverin, (Spiddal)
October 1928)
14 April 1956 – 1966
Includes index, and several loose receipts (1917-1928) for the
purchase of graves.
c. 120ff
16. 18 June 1948 – August **Knock**, Inverin (Spiddal) – with local caretaker
1970
17. 1989 – 2004 **Leenaun** (Leenane), Clifden, Connemara
Includes Index
c 90ff
18. 5 September 1995 – **Lettermore** (Leitir Móir), - New Burial Ground, An Cheathrú
24 December 2003
Rua, Connemara
Includes Index
c 90ff
19. 11 March 1994 – **Meelick** (Extension), Eyrecourt, Ballinasloe
26 December 2003
Index not included
c 6ff
20. 1955 – [1979] **Mountcross**, Kinvara
c 80ff
21. 1997 – 2004 **Moycullen** – fragile, in poor condition
Includes Index
c 80ff



22. 1956 – 2002 **Moylough, Ballinasloe**
Includes Index
c 100ff
23. 1981-1999 **Oughterard, Connemara**
Includes index and map of extension to the burial ground showing 192 plots in Section A, and 216 plots in Section B of the cemetery.
c 100ff
24. 1989 – 2005 **Rakerin, Gort**
c 60ff
25. 1966 – 2003 **Roevagh, Craughwell**
Includes Index
c 70ff
26. 1984 – 2004 **St Michael Cemetery, Portumna**
Includes Index
c 70ff
27. 21 October 1882 – 31 December 1902 **Tuam** - Registry of Interment but also includes details relating to the Section of Ground, Row and Line number of the grave. The place of residence of many of the deceased is shown as the Workhouse.
Fragile, in poor condition
Index included
c70ff
28. 30 December 1902 – 16 February 1920 **Tuam** (new cemetery), Registry of Interment but detailing the Section of Ground, Row and Line number of the grave.
Index included
c80ff
29. 16 February 1920 – 1943, 26 January 1963 **Tuam**, Registry of Interment but detailing the Section of Ground, and Row and Line number of the grave.
Includes Index
c80ff



30. 1991 – 2004 **Tynagh**, Portumna
Includes index c45ff
31. 14 April 1996 –
21 January 2005 **Woodford**, Loughrea – Register of interment (chronological
listing of interments, NOT detailing location of burial plot.
(See also Register of Interment 1938-1996) Includes index c4ff

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NUMBERS 32 ONWARDS ARE ADDITIONAL REGISTERS THAT WERE ACQUIRED SUBSEQUENT TO THE INITIAL ACQUISITIONS LISTED ABOVE. AS ADDITIONAL ACCRUALS WILL HENCEFORTH BE INTERMITTENT THEY WILL BE LISTED IN NUMERIC SEQUENCE, NOT IN ALPHABETIC ORDER

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|-----|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 32. | 1982 – May 2006 | Carraroe (Clynagh) (An Cheathrú Rua) |
| 33. | 1987- Feb 2005 | Cummer (Tuam) |

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