



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Heritage Ireland 2030

Summit 2022

Prepared by Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
[gov.ie/housing](https://www.gov.ie/housing)

Heritage Ireland 2030

Heritage Sector

Leas Glendalough

Slido
We want to hear from you!

2,100 written Submissions

Presented by: **Anne Cassin**

Qs for Speakers

The Future!

Centralisation of Agencies Leadership

We have lots of work to do!

Launched 23rd Feb 2022... then the World changed.

Niall O'Doncha NPWS

The Government clearly has a Commitment to Heritage

Sustainability
Trust communities
embrace the Chaos

Volunteers
Fun Challenges
Never underestimate our Passion!

1st Cork

Making Cork Queer history impossible to ignore

Arthur Leahy's collection

Cork LGBT archive
Orla Egan

Annexes Exhibitions Books Tours

Acid-free storage

Funding from the Heritage Council?

Niall Sweeney (with Arts Council)

The three C's

- Community
- co-operation
- cash!

Offaly Archive Project

If you have a Project the Funding will come!

Drive Possions Interested Making Change

Keep your eye on what you want to Achieve

Coram M. Carey Waterways behind

Waterways Ireland

1000 km of water

Natural Built & Greening Ireland

Networking Dialogue

Positive Actions

Implementation PLAN!

Free Ads for Heritage!

Thanks to Nationwide

Decanting the Tinners House

Welcome from Minister Malcolm Noonan T.D.

AMAN Community Management Fund

Climate Change challenge

Protecting Vernacular Buildings

Building Heritage Grants

More Heritage Officers

Expansion of Positions

€147.5 million

Website coming soon...

First Responders communities

Partnership Working

Working Groups

Commitment of Government

Working with Departments

150 Actions

Heritage Ireland 2030

Community Projects

St. George's Arts & Heritage Centre, Mitchelstown
Bill Power & Mona Hallinan

Native Donor Cattle

Sheep

Fertiliser

Disturbance

Wildflower

Food Security, Rare Plants and Cattle - What's the connection?
Faith Wilson

Robert Hartpole Effigy
Dermot Mulligan

Hand held staff

Filled with rotting straw

on a plinth for 30 years

Return to Corkway

New Exhibition Next Year!

The Base isn't always comparable... a Mature democracy

Heritage Futures
Panel Discussion

embed heritage teams in Local Authorities

Help communities with applying for funding

more collaboration

Access?

Heritage on Private Land... Insurance? Work Needed!

Virginia Teahan (ex Heritage Council)

Regulation of Meas Dubachoir

our Heritage is ending up on Ebay

National Monuments service remit

Conservation Traditional Building Skills Apprenticeships?

People see and appreciate Heritage

Too many schemes!

I want to go see that castle!

Research

We researched this building by looking on the inside of its life

Maygarra Castle Research and Conservation Project
PT. O'NEILL

Public Access coming soon!

Conservation started with the gate Purse

after 26 years of work

Tidy Towns

SDGs

Biodiversity Action Plan for Communities

on the ground

Help is needed

Apple Trees

Tree planting

Big Win for Ireland!

More green spaces

Wildflower meadows

Communities working locally for Biodiversity across Ireland
Fiona McGowan

The purpose of this inaugural Summit was to bring together people interested in heritage and those involved in its management and custodianship to showcase successful projects, examine challenges and opportunities and to outline progress in delivering the objectives of **Heritage Ireland 2030**, Ireland's national heritage plan.

The event's structure reflected the core themes of HI2030: community, partnerships and leadership.

Minister of State for Heritage and Electoral Reform, Malcolm Noonan opened the event, acknowledging the many dedicated, talented and passionate people who work at the coalface of heritage and their work in protecting, managing, and sharing their enthusiasm for it with others.

Public consultation and engagement has been at the heart of Heritage Ireland 2030 since it was first conceived, and the 2,100+ submissions which were received during its consultation phase have strongly influenced and informed the plan's objectives and 158 actions. The plan recognises the right of everyone to engage with heritage, putting citizens and communities to the fore in local and national discourse about how we can best manage our heritage sustainably and this Summit continued that valuable engagement. A key aim of the Summit was to facilitate audience participation in the discussion on the day. To this end, an app was used to enable those present and online to comment, pose questions and to engage through polling throughout the course of the event. There was also a robust Q&A from the floor.



The 'Community' session showcased six very different heritage projects from around the country that are being delivered with the support of Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and Heritage Council funding. These brief presentations demonstrated the range and scope of projects that benefit from these heritage grant schemes; from the archaeological investigation of a Gaelic castle in Sligo to the digitisation of the Cork LGBT Archive. Notwithstanding the diversity of the featured projects, the presentations raised several common themes including: the benefit of collaborative working across disciplines; the need for assured, multi-annual funding that enables and sustains the ongoing work of heritage groups; the power of heritage activism; and the need to engage young people in heritage volunteerism.

1. **St George's Arts and Heritage Centre**, Bill Power and Mona Hallinan (Cork County Council building conservation officer)
2. **Birr Courthouse** - Council enabling community reuse, Amanda Pedlow (Offaly Heritage Officer)
3. **Return of the Hartpole Effigy to Carlow**, Dermot Mulligan (Museum Curator, Carlow Museum)
4. **Towns and villages biodiversity action plans**, Fiona McGowan (ecologist)
5. **Moygara Castle Research Project**, Sligo, PJ O Néill (private owner)
6. **Community Foundation Ireland Environment & Nature Fund**, Faith Wilson (ecologist)
7. **Cork LGBT Archive**, Orla Egan (founder)

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Food security, rare plants and cattle - what's the connection?

In-situ conservation and restoration of habitat for Priority Crop Wild Relatives at Screen Hills pHNA/SAC, Co. Wexford over a two-year period (18/GR/12)



Faith Wilson & Co. Team Leads
In association with
Faith Wilson
ECOLOGICAL CONSULTANTS

Moygara Castle Research & Conservation Project



Moygara Castle From the South West

Communities working locally for biodiversity in Ireland

Dr Fiona Mac Gowan,
Consultant Ecologist & Botanist, National Tidy Towns
Competition Adjudicator & Community Volunteer

Mac Gowan Ecology
Botanical & Ecological Services

1594 ROBERT HARTPOLE EFFIGY



Skilfully carved limestone tomb effigy

Robert Hartpole, Constable of Carlow Castle, Died 1594. Effigy of a Knight in armour, head resting on his helmet and a dog at his feet

1898 effigy rediscovered in the archaeological ruins of the Church of the Blessed Lady the Virgin Mary in Carlow Town

Moved from Carlow Town to Portarlington, Co. Lanes, in the 19th century. Late 20th century displayed in the People's Park

Discussions on it's future owing to vandalism 2019 - 2020, Condition Report Commissioned by Carlow County Museum, Designated Museum

Consent from Lanes County Council to relocate the effigy back to Carlow Town

Consent under the National Monuments Act National Monuments Service

License to Alter from the National Monuments Service Ireland

Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
An Chomhairle Deoiseachta
The Heritage Council



Birr Courthouse 1800s to 2022

OFFALY HERITAGE OFFICER

Cork LGBT Archive

CORK LGBT ARCHIVE

ORLA EGAN

www.corklgbtarchive.com



Under the banner of ‘Heritage Futures’, a panel discussion convened by the Heritage Council and chaired by MC Anne Cassin looked at the theme of heritage partnerships, particularly in the context of the work of local authorities. Representing Offaly Archives, Michael Byrne spoke about the benefits for heritage groups of enlisting the help of the local authority heritage officer and building further relationships within the local authority, as well as making use of the expertise and supports of the Heritage Council.

Cormac McCarthy, Climate and Sustainability Manager of Waterways Ireland, detailed how partnership and collaboration with key stakeholders – including staff, state agencies, community groups, NGOs and local authorities on both sides of the border – was key to implementing the agency’s heritage plan.

Representing the local authority sector, Mary Mulholland, Director of Services for Housing, Community, Library, Arts, Heritage and Fire Service in Kilkenny County Council noted the key role played by local authority heritage officers in helping community groups to navigate complex grant application procedures and generally maximise their access to funding. Asked how different stakeholders could act more cohesively to progress **Heritage Ireland 2030**, Mary noted the need to reignite local heritage forums and to engage with local project promoters.

Heritage Council CEO, Virginia Teehan emphasised that local authorities are key in the development of professional heritage services and noted the central role played by heritage officers within their organisations, with the support of the Heritage Council. The Council plans to broaden this support and to continue its advocating for expanded heritage teams within local authorities.



The Summit's guest speaker was Professor John Sweeney, Emeritus Professor at Maynooth University, whose wide-ranging presentation on 'Climate Change and the Built Heritage: Past Vulnerability and Future Adaptation', mapped the breadth of current and forecast climate challenges. Professor Sweeney's presentation highlighted the imbalance between Ireland's CO₂ emissions with those of the global South to counter any claim that there is little that we, as a small country, can do to mitigate climate breakdown.

Describing the Irish landscape as our equivalent of a melting glacier, Professor Sweeney argued that we should value, protect and preserve its heritage above all. He cautioned that many hard decisions lie ahead about what to prioritise, how to manage retreat and loss, and how to balance the many competing demands on money and place. In making such decisions we must be guided by the science and mindful of medium and long-term projections.

**...many hard decisions
lie ahead about what to
prioritise, how to manage
retreat and loss...**

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Last Year
Ireland
emitted the
equivalent of

69.3M tonnes

Each person on average was
responsible for approximately

12 tonnes





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The final panel discussion brought together heritage leaders from across the sector including Minister Malcolm Noonan TD, Niall Ó Donnchú (DHLGH), Rosemary Collier (Office of Public Works), Orla Carroll (Fáilte Ireland), Joe Gallagher (Heritage Officers Network) and Virginia Teehan (Heritage Council) who responded to attendees' questions about their priorities for heritage and the next steps for Heritage Ireland 2030.

The panel agreed on the centrality of partnerships across local and central government and the heritage sector to deliver on the plan's objectives as well as the need for greater capacity building – and resourcing – within the voluntary sector. Virginia Teehan pointed to the need to support greater professionalisation within the heritage sector to achieve best practice in the protection, management and development of our heritage. This was echoed by Rosemary Collier who highlighted the particular need to

invest in the next generation of skilled craftspeople, as traditional craft skills sustain conservation and are essential to protect and maintain properties to highest standards.

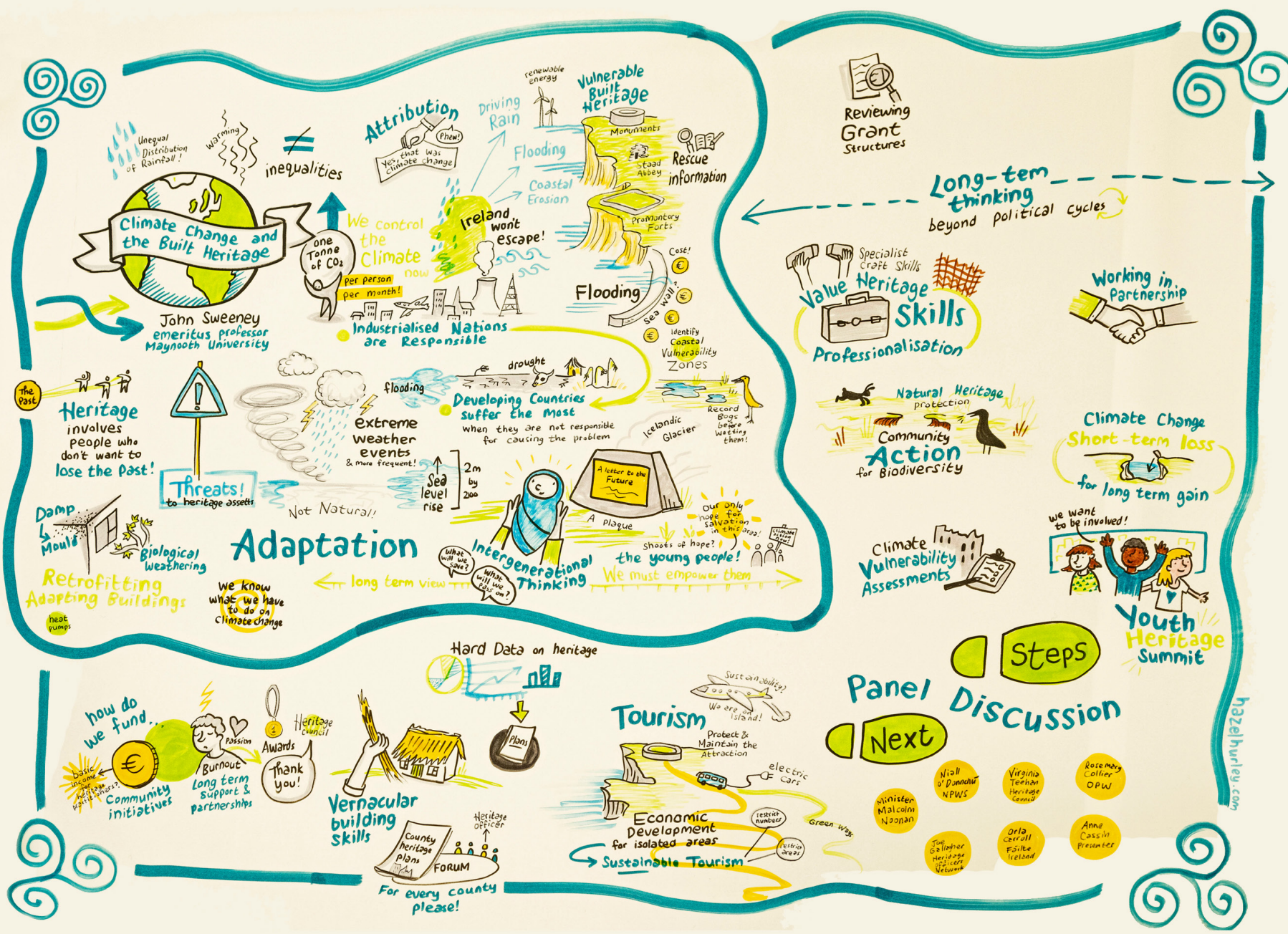
Joe Gallagher pointed out that several of the actions of **Heritage Ireland 2030** were already in train and that the local authorities provided an excellent infrastructure to lead in the delivery of many of the remaining actions. In terms of national leadership, Minister Noonan remarked on the need for persistence across government and for politicians to engage courageously and meaningfully with the challenges facing our heritage. Niall Ó Donnchú outlined the delivery mechanisms that will shortly be established to ensure oversight of the implementation of **Heritage Ireland 2030** and noted that progress on the plan would be subject to ongoing review and reported on, including at the annual Summit.

Outside the auditorium, the Summit provided an opportunity for attendees to mingle and learn more about each other's projects. One of the challenges in organising the event was in striking a balance of representatives across the broad church of heritage and involving as many stakeholders from across the sector as possible. To allow for wider inclusion, heritage stakeholder groups manned booths in the concourse, providing information and advice to attendees. To expand the showcase further, heritage groups from around the country produced posters on their work and these were displayed on screens outside the theatre for attendees to view during breaks. Attendees were also encouraged to engage with graphic illustrator, Hazel Hurley, and to have their say using the materials provided by her.

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