



a visitors' guide

eolai

Toraigh Tory Island



Údair Authors

Written by Cólín MacLochlainn based on texts and advice from Fidelma Mullane, David Walsh, Nick Duff, Gearóid Ó Smoláin, Noelle Ní Dhubhchóin and papers by Jim Hunter

Aistriúchán Translation

Irish translation by Anne McClafferty (main text) and Fearghas MacLochlainn (captions)

Comhordú Coordination

Project coordinated by Nick Duff

Grianghrafadóireacht Photography

Photography by Fidelma Mullane, Noelle Ní Dhubhchóin, Emer Magee, Eoin MacLochlainn, Eddie Dunne, Oran O'Sullivan, Jim Hourihan, Jim Hunter, Pádraig Carroll and GaelSaoire

Léarscáil Map

Map by Michael O'Clery

Líníochtaí Drawings

Line drawings by Dara Mac Aoidh and Eoin MacLochlainn

Pictiúir Paintings

Paintings by the late James 'Jimí' Dixon, Antain Ó Mionáin and Patsy Dan Mac Ruaidhri

Clúdach tosaigh Front cover

Cover image: Dún Bhaloir cliffs by GaelSaoire (Inset: Puffin by Oran O'Sullivan)

Clúdach cúil Back cover

Back cover image by Antain Ó Mionáin

Dearadh Design

Design by Cólín MacLochlainn

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Comharchumann Thoraí Teo

Toraigh

oileán iargúlta, stairiúl

Tory Island

a remote and historic outpost



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Key

-  Site of archaeological or historic interest
-  Site with no visible historical remains

Conversion Chart

1 metre (m)	3.28 feet
100 metres (m)	109 yards
1 kilometre (km)	0.62 miles
1 hectare (ha)	2.47 acres

Eochair

-  Suíomh stairiúil inspéise
-  Suíomh gan aon iarsma feiceálach

Cairt Iompaithe

1 mhéadar (m)	3.28 troighte
100 méadair (m)	109 slata
1 chiliméadar (km)	0.62 míle
1 heachtár (ha)	2.47 acra

Using this Guide The map on pages 56-57 shows all sites of major interest described in the guide. To find the notes on any site consult the map key or the index, page 112. The text and map are cross-referenced.

Tory Island

Tory Island is the most remote of Ireland's inhabited islands, lying twelve kilometres off Bloody Foreland on the north Donegal coast. Generations of islanders have wrung a living from the island's exposed and windswept soils and fished out of its picturesque coves. The island supports almost 200 people and retains the tradition of appointing a king, the only remaining place in Ireland to do so.

There is an atmosphere of by-gone days on Tory, as though time had stood still. Occupied cottages lie cheek-to-jowl with ecclesiastical remains from the Early Christian period, and hand-crafted rowing boats or currachs enliven the scenery. Irish persists as the spoken language and there is a vibrant tradition of native music, song and dance. The language, traditions and scenes from the past strike deep resonances within those in search of the "real" Ireland.

Sadly, the island's population has been halved by emigration and the people are struggling to cope with new economic realities. The search for new enterprises to replace the old includes a new focus on tourism. There is much to interest the visitor. The island has archaeological remains from the Bronze Age, Iron Age and Early Christian periods. Traces of the rundale system of farming, including clachan settlements and a rare surviving

Toraigh

Is é Oileán Thoraí, atá dhá mhíle dhéag amach ó Chnoc Fola in iarthuaisceart Dhún na nGall, an ceann is iargúlta de chuid oileán na hÉireann a bhfuil cónaí orthu. Shaothraigh glúnta fada de bhunadh an oileáin a mbeatha ó chréafóg lom sceirdiúil an oileáin agus ó iascaireacht farraige amach as a chaimais meallacacha. Tá thart fá 200 duine ina gcónaí inniu ar an oileán seo ina bhfuil gnás ar leith i réim i gcónaí, sé sin rí a thoghadh, an t-aon áit in Éirinn a bhfuil a leithéid amhlaidh sa lá atá inniu ann.

Tá atmaisféar den tsean-am i dToraigh, oiread is dá mba é gur stad an chlog. Is í an Ghaeilge teanga bheo na ndaoine i gcónaí agus tá traidisiún láidir bríomhar de cheol, d'amhránaíocht agus de dhamsa dúchasach ar an oileán. Tá tithe beaga cuachta taobh le taobh le ballóga eaglasta ó aimsir na Luath-Chríostaíochta, agus thall is abhus tá na curachaí lámhdhéanta ag cur leis an tírdhreach. Téann an teanga, na traidisiúin agus an léargas ar shaol atá imithe i bhfeidhm go mór ar chuairteoirí atá ar lorg Éire "fíor."

Ar an drochuair, tá daonra an oileáin laghdaithe go mór ag imirce agus tá an mhuintir atá fágtha ag streachailt le lámh in uachtar a fháil ar an staid úr eacnamaíoch atá i réim anois. Táthar ag lorg fiontair mhalairteacha le cur in áit na gcinn a bhíodh ann, agus ina measc seo tá fócas úrnua dírithe ar thurasóireacht. Tá mórán rudaí spéisiúla ann don chuairteoir. Tá iarsmaí seandálaíochta ar an oileán ón Chré-Umhaois, ón Iarnaois agus ó aimsir na Luath-Chríostaíochta. Tá lorg de chóras

example of a fan-shaped infield, are evident in the landscape though they have disappeared from almost every other part of Ireland.

Tory has a unique wildlife. It is internationally important for its birdlife, including the globally threatened corncrake - a bird peculiar to hay-meadows - and its nationally important colonies of cliff-nesting seabirds. Some wild flower species of great rarity occur.

With this guidebook, we attempt to bring you closer to an understanding of Tory. We direct you to the places and scenes of greatest interest and answer the questions you are most likely to ask about the sights you see. We hope this book will help you make the most of your visit to Tory and that you enjoy your stay.

Welcome to Tory!

feirmeoireachta na rondála agus de chlachain le feiceáil go fóill chomh maith le sampla suntasach de gharpháirc a bhfuil cruth fean uirthi, cé gur fíorbheagán rian dá leithéid atá le fáil anois in áit ar bith eile in Éirinn.

Tá fiadhúlra ar leith i dToraigh. Tá tábhacht idirnáisiúnta leis an oileán siocair a chuid éan, ina measc éanacha mara a dhéanann a gcuid neadracha sna beanna agus traonach na móinéar atá i mbaol díobhaidh ar fud na cruinne.

Leis an eolaire seo, déanaimid ár ndícheall ar mhaithe le tú a dhéanamh níos eolaí fá shaoithiúlacht Thoraí. Insíonn muid duit cá háit a bhfuil na radharcanna is deise agus na rudaí is spéisiúla agus freagraíonn muid na ceisteanna is dóichí a chuirfeá fá na rudaí a fheicfeas tú. Táimid ag súil go gcuideoidh an leabhar seo leat an tairbhe is mó a bhaint as do sheal i dToraigh. Go mbaine tú pléisiúr as do chuairt.

Fáilte go Toraigh!



Toraigh ó Dhún Bhaloir *View of Tory from Dún Bhaloir*

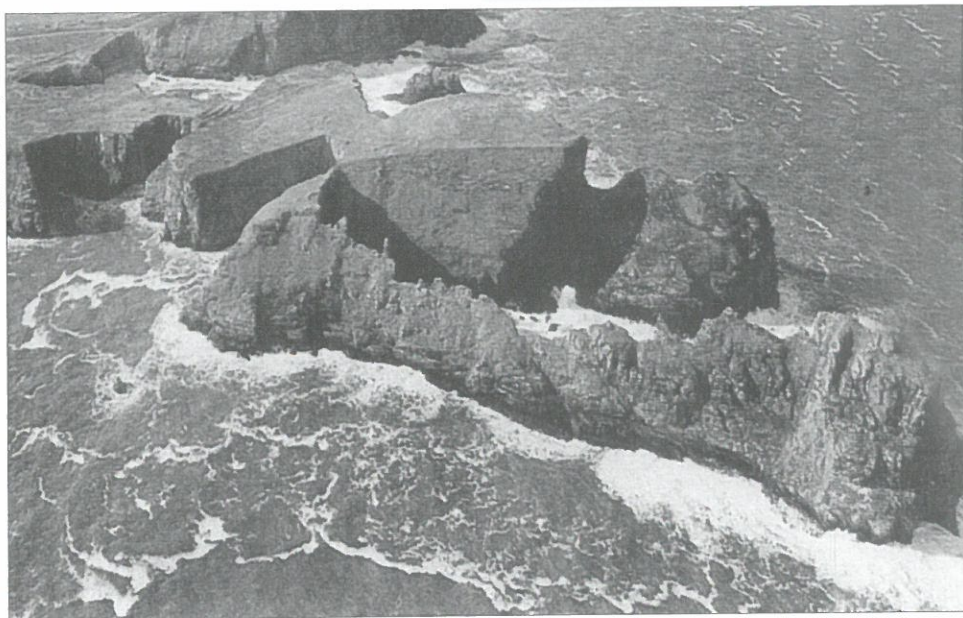
The name of Tory

The name 'Toraigh' is ancient and its meaning is unclear, though it could mean tower (from the Irish word 'túr') in reference to the towering buttresses that dominate the island's eastern end. More likely, the name is derived from 'túr rí' (tower of the king) or 'tor rí' (rock of the king), in reference to one of the fort-building kings described in Celtic mythology, such as Conan or the better-known Balor who gives his name to Dún Bhaloir, the Iron-age promontory fort at the east end of the island (see page 22).

An t-ainm Toraigh

Tá an t-ainm 'Toraigh' chomh sean sin go bhfuil an bhrí bunaidh caillte. D'fhéadfadh sé go dtáinig an t-ainm ón fhocal 'túr,' a bheadh ag tagairt do na béanna arda atá ar an taobh thoir den oileán. Ach is dócha go dtáinig an t-ainm ó 'túr rí' nó ó 'tor rí,' a thagraíonn do dhuine de na ríthe atá luaite sa mhiotaseolaíocht Cheilteach, leithéidí Conan agus Balor iomráite a thug a ainm do Dhún Bhaloir, dún cinn-tíre de chuid na hIarnaoise atá suite ar an taobh thoir den oileán (féach leathanach 22).

FROM ORIGINAL BY JIM HOURIHAN



Leithinis Dhún Bhaloir *Dún Bhaloir peninsula*



Appreciating Tory

It is possible to explore Tory in a day, but why not stay for a few days and get more out of your visit? A selection of B&B guesthouses and the new hotel offer a range of comfortable accommodation.

The number and range of activities for visitors is slowly expanding. There are opportunities to go on guided walks and to experience traditional music song and dance. Cultural events are staged during the summer, so check the arts festival calendars, events listings and tourist information before you visit.

Ferry: It is advisable to check in advance with the ferry operator about sailing times. Access may not be possible for people with a disability. The ferry crossing can cause sea-sickness in those not used to sea journeys.

Behaviour Code

Visitor numbers have increased on Tory since the ferry service was established. While the increase is welcome, it has to be managed so that it does not threaten the distinctive character and heritage of Tory. We request that visitors respect the natural and built heritage and the islanders' way of life. Remember the following points to help make your visit more enjoyable:

Walking: Try to stay on roads and tracks. Do not walk at random across open spaces and fields without permission – these are private property. Grassy areas are the nesting habitat of the endangered corncrake and should not be disturbed. There is a way-marked way called Bealach na Gaeltachta which provides a circuit walk of Tory (see map, page 56). There are some benches along the walking route, and two picnic sites with tables.

Ag baint suilt as Toraigh

Thiocfadh leat Toraigh a chlúdach in aon lá amháin ach cad chuige nach bhfanfa cúpla lá agus breis tairbhe a bhaint as do chuairt? Tá lóistín compordach ar fáil leis an óstán úr agus an-rogha tithe lóistín B&B.

Tá an réimse gníomhaíochtaí a bhíos ar fáil do chuairteoirí ag méadú de réir a chéile. Beidh seans agat dul ar shiúlóidí faoi threoir agus blas a fháil den cheol traidisiúnta, de na hamhráin agus den damhsa. Bíonn imeachtaí cultúrtha ar bun i rith an tsamhraidh. Déan staidéar ar na féilirí féilte ealaíona, liostaí d'imeachtaí agus eolas do thurasóirí sula dtugann tú aghaidh ar Thoraigh.

Bád Farantóireachta: Ba cheart na hamanntaí seolta a chinntiú le dream an bháid roimh ré mar go mbíonn siad ag braith ar na taoidí agus ar an aimsir. Tharlódh sé nach bhféadfai freastal ar dhaoine le mí-chumas. Thiocfadh leat tinneas farraige a bheith ort mura bhfuil cleachtadh agat ar an fharraige.

Cód Iompair

Tá líon na gcuairteoirí go Toraigh méadaithe ó cuireadh an tseirbhís farantóireachta ar fáil. Cé go bhfuil an-fháilte roimh chuairteoirí, caithfear a chinntiú nach gcuirfear as do thréithe sainiúla agus oidhreacht Thoraigh. Iarraimid go dtaispeánfadh cuairteoirí meas ar oidhreacht nadúrtha, dhúchasach an oileáin, na hiarsmaí stairiúla, an tsaoithiúlacht dhaonna agus ar shlí bheatha mhuintir an oileáin. Smaointigh ar na pointí seo a leanas agus bainfidh tú níos mó suilt as do chuairt:

Ag Siúl: Fan ar na bealaí agus ar na casáin. Ná siúl gan aird trasna áiteacha oscailte agus cuibhrinn gan chead – tá siad seo príobháideach. Coinnigh glan ar thalamh féarach – is ann a bhíos an traonach atá fíorghann ag neadú. Tá siúlóid rianaithe, Bealach na Gaeltachta, timpeall an oileáin (amharc léarscáil, leathanach 56). Tá roinnt binnsí ar an bhealach agus dhá shuíomh picnic le táblaí.



Camping: Do not camp at random. There are no serviced camp-sites, so please ask the Co-op manager where it is possible to pitch a tent. Do not camp in or near corncrake breeding habitat.

National Monuments: Tory has an array of monuments and antiquities, many from the Early Christian period. Please afford this valuable heritage due care and regard.

Birdwatching: Respect property and privacy rights when birdwatching. Do not point your binoculars at houses or enter gardens without permission. Disturbance of corncrakes or other rare species in their breeding habitat is an offence.

Cameras: Please respect the privacy of islanders when taking photographs or videos, especially around their homes. If in doubt, ask permission.

Health & Safety: There is a Health Centre on Tory, check locally about opening times. You are advised not to visit the island if you are in poor health or recuperating. Bring any medication you may require and a basic first-aid kit. Inform your host, family or friends of your planned activities and keep in touch.

Hazards: The sea-cliffs on Tory pose a danger to unwary walkers. Some are crumbling or have loose rock. Please keep well back from the cliffs and do not approach them with small children or in windy conditions. The shore is hazardous in times of big ocean swells or storms. Be aware of the tides and the sea conditions when near the shore.

Water: The water supply on Tory is affected by saline and bacterial inputs and can be unsafe to drink. If self-catering, boil your water for 5-10 minutes. Don't waste water; it is in short supply. You can buy bottled water from the island store, café or hotel, or bring your own.

Ag Campáil: Ná buail fút in áit ar bith. Níl aon láithreán cAMPála le seirbhísí ar an oileán. Fiafraigh de bhainisteoir an Chomharchumainn cén áit a bheadh fóirstineach le campáil. Ná campáil gar don áit a mbíonn an traonach.

Séad-Chomharthaí Náisiúnta: Tá neart séad-chomharthaí agus iarsmaí stairiúla i dToraigh, go leor acu ón Ré Luath-Chríostaíocht. Déan an-chúram den oidhreacht luachmhar seo, le do thoil.

Éanacha: Nuair atá tú ag faire ar éanacha bíodh meas agat ar mhaoín agus ar phríobháideachas mhuintir an oileáin. Ná téigh ag speiceáil gan cead i ngairdíní príobháideacha. Ná dirigh do chuid gloineacha ar thithe príobháideacha. Is coir é cur as do thraonaigh nó d'éanacha ganna eile san áit a mbíonn siad ag neadú.

Ceamaraí: Bíodh meas agat ar phríobháideachas mhuintir an oileáin má tá tú ag tógáil grianghrafanna nó físeáin, gar do na tithe go speisialta. Má tá aon amhras ort, iarr cead roimh ré.

Sláinte & Sábháilteacht: Tá Ionad Sláinte ar Toraigh. Cuir ceist go háitiúil cá huair a bhíonn sé foscailte. Moltar gan cuairt a thabhairt ar an oileán mura bhfuil tú i mbarr na sláinte. Tabhair leat aon chóir leighis a theastaíós agus mála bunúsach céad-chabhrach. Inis do mhuintir an tí, do chlann nó do chairde cá háit a bhfuil tú ag dul agus coinnigh i dteangbháil.

Contúirtí: Tá na hailltreacha i dToraigh contúirteach mura bhfuil tú airdeallach agus tú amuigh ag siúl. Tá clocha ag sciorthadh ó chuid acu. Coinnigh siar uathu. Ná téigh gar dóibh má tá páistí leat nó má tá an aimsir garbh. Bíonn an cladach contúirteach nuair atá suaitheadh farraige nó stoirm ann. Bí sa airdeall ar na taoidí agus ar an fharraige.

Uisce: Is fearr an t-uisce reatha i dToraigh a fhuachadh ar feadh 5-10 mbomaite. Thiocfadh le baictéir nó sáile a bheith fríd. Ná cuir an t-uisce amú – tá sé gann! Thig leat uisce i mbuidéil a cheannacht ó shíopa an oileáin, ón chaifé nó ón óstán.



Litter & Waste: Refuse disposal is a growing problem as waste volumes are increasing and litter is blown by the wind. Please do not add to the problem. Make use of litter bins and recycling facilities where available. Minimise your use of bottles, cans and packaging. If possible, take your rubbish back with you to the mainland.

Electricity: The island's electricity is supplied by a diesel generator of limited capacity and there may be occasional power cuts at nightfall. Cut down on electricity use where possible. Conserve energy!

Transport: There is no regular public transport and visitors must get around on foot. If you have special requirements, talk to your host by phone before your visit. Visitors who purchase large items may need help in bringing them to the ferry. Seek advice from your host or the shops or ask the ferry operator for assistance.

Be Aware, Come Prepared: Bring suitable all-weather gear in case of rain or strong winds. Sturdy footwear is advisable and some spare food. Be aware of the ferry departure times and allow plenty of time to get back to the pier. Have extra money with you in case you miss the ferry and are stranded unexpectedly.

Unruly Behaviour: Noisy or rowdy behaviour stands out on a small island and is not welcome. Groups visiting Tory should behave responsibly and respectfully.

Views & Complaints: If you have a complaint or a matter of concern in relation to your visit, please talk to the Co-op Manager. The Co-op is the main authority on the island and welcomes your comments and views to aid better understanding of the needs of visitors.

Brúscar agus Dramhaíl: Is fadhb é an brúscar agus tá sé doiligh fáil réidh leis. Ní ionadh ar bith go bhfuil líon an bhrúscar ag méadú agus bíonn páipéirí &rl á bhfuadach sa ghaoth. Ná cuir leis an fhadhb, más é do thoil é! Bain úsáid as na bocsaí brúscar agus as na háiseanna ath-chúrsála atá ar fáil. Thig leat gearradh siar ar bhuidéil, ar channaí agus ar pháipéar. Má fhéadann tú, tabhair do chuid brúscar ar ais leat go tír mór.

Leictreachas: Cuireann gineadóir díosail leictreachas an oileáin ar fáil. Bíonn barraíocht brú ar an ghineadóir agus uaireanta gearrtar amach an leictreachas le titim na hoíche. Bí spárlach leis an leictreachas!

Iompar: Níl aon iompar poiblí rialta ar an oileán agus is de shiúl na gcós a chaithear dul ó áit go háit. Má tá riachtanaisí speisialta agat, labhair le muintir an tí sula dtagann tú chun an oileáin. Má cheannaíonn tú aon ní atá mór agus toirtiúil beidh cuidiú de dhíth á thabhairt chun an bháid. Iarr comhairle ó mhuintir an tí, na siopaí nó muintir an bháid.

Bí Airdeallach, Bí Réitithe: Tabhair leat éadaí atá fóirstineach fá choinne achán sórt aimsire – fearthainn nó gaoth. Is fearr bróga maithe siúil agus roinnt bia sa bhreis a bheith leat. Tabhair aird ar amanta an bháid agus tabhair do sháith ama duit fhéin le a bheith in am ag an chéibh. Bíodh airgead breise agat ar fhaitíos go gcaillfeá an bád agus gcaithfeá fanacht níos faide ná mar a bhí pleanáilte agat.

Mí-iompar: Bíonn iompar garbh, callánach nó fiáin an-fheiceálach ar oileán beag agus ar ndóigh níl aon fháilte roimh a leithéidí. Ba cheart do ghrúpaí a thagann go Toraigh meas a bheith acu ar an oileán agus iad fhéin a iompar go freagrach.

Tuairimí & Gearáin: Má tá aon údar gearáin nó imní agat maidir le do chuairt, labhair le bainisteoir an Chomharchumainn, mas é do thoil é. Sé an Chomharchumainn an príomh-údarás ar an oileán agus beidh fáilte roimh do bharúil le go mbeidh tuigbheáil níos fearr ann do riachtanaisí na gcuairteoirí.

The lie of the land

A narrow island some four kilometres in length and one kilometre wide, Tory has two settlements - An Baile Thiar (West Town) located beside the island pier in Camusmore Bay, and An Baile Thoir (East Town) in the hinterland. There is a lighthouse at the west end.

The greater part of the island is a gently sloping plain dropping from high, indented sea-cliffs on the north side to flat, wave-washed bedrock and boulder beaches on the south. Quartzite crags dominate the eastern end, forming spectacular cliffs.

Much of the island is covered in damp pastures and meadows grazed by sheep, cattle and donkeys and some areas are under tillage. The exposure to sea breezes and salt spray means the island is virtually treeless and arable farming is difficult. The hills and slopes are covered in short, stunted heather.

Shallow lakes and freshwater marshes are found at both ends of the island. Both Loch Ó Thuaidh (north lake) and An Loch Ó Thoir (east lake) are freshwater lakes surrounded by marshes and wet heath which support a wide variety of rushes and flowering plants. Loch Ó Thuaidh provides the island's water supply, though some islanders still lift their drinking water from wells.

Luí na talún

Is oileán cúng é Toraigh atá tuairim is ceithre chiliméadar ar fhad agus ciliméadar amháin ar leithead. Tá dhá shráidbhaile ar an oileán - An Baile Thiar atá suite in aice an ché i mBá Chamais Mhóir agus An Baile Thoir atá suite sa chúlchríoch. Tá teach solais ar cheann thiar an oileáin.

Tá formhór an oileáin ina mhachaire ag titim anuas le fána réidh ó bheanna farraige arda bhearnacha ar an taobh ó thuaidh go dtí buncharraig chothrom thonn-nite agus tránna bollán ar an taobh ó dheas. Ar an taobh thoir, tá creagacha de ghrianchloichít ag éirí ina mbeanna suntasacha go hard os cionn an oileáin.

Tá an chuid is mó den oileán faoi thalamh tais féaraigh agus móinéaracha ina mbíonn caoraigh, eallach agus asail ag innilt, agus tá paistí curaíochta anseo is ansiúd. Is fíorbheagán crann atá ar an oileán siocair é a bheith i mbéal na gaoithe agus an cáitheadh sáile, rud a chiallaíonn gur deacair curaíocht a dhéanamh ann. Tá clúdach d'fhraoch gairid cranda ar na cnoic agus ar na malacha.

Tá locha tanaí agus bogaigh fhionnuisce ar dhá cheann an oileáin. Is lochanna fíor-uisce iad an Loch Ó Thuaidh agus an Loch Ó Thoir. Tá bogach agus criathrach fliuch ina dtimpeall ar a bhfásann go leor cineálacha luachra agus bláthanna. Faightear soláthar uisce an oileáin ón Loch Ó Thuaidh, ceann den dá loch is mó ar an oileán. Mar sin féin, tógann go leor de bhunadh an oileáin a gcuid uisce óil ó thobreacha fíoruisce.



An Loch Ó Thuaidh *North lake, with nesting gulls*

Loch Ó Dheas (south lake) is a shallow, sedimentary, saline lagoon with a long, unbroken shingle barrier. It is one of only a very few lagoons in Ireland with a completely natural permeable barrier and no tidal inlet. Its vegetation is dominated by dense growths of tassleweed and pondweed.

Tory's once-extensive peat bogs are now exhausted of turf and reduced to stony ground and rushy pools. Piles of stones that served as foundations for drying stacks of cut peat are dotted across the former bogs.

Is murlach éadomhain sáile é an Loch Ó Dheas, le gob fada leanúnach duirlinge á choinneáil isteach. Is duirling nádúrach é agus níl aon bhearna ná góilín sáile ann. Níl mórán murlach eile den chineál seo le fáil in Éirinn. Tá an duileasc abhann ag fás go dlúth ann.

Bhí neart caorán ar Thoraigh uair amháin ach níl móin ar bith fágtha anois. Diaidh ar ndiaidh, gearradh an mhóin síos go dtí an charraig agus níl sa chaorán anois ach grinneall clochach agus slodáin feagacha. Tá carnacha cloch a bhíodh mar dhúshraith do na mullacháin móna le feiceáil thall is abhus.

Flora and fauna

Farming practices on Tory have changed little in centuries and as a result the island supports some plant and animal species that are now rare elsewhere.

Plants

The two most notable wild flower species are **Scots lovage**, a celery-scented member of the carrot family (Umbelliferae) classified as an arctic-sub-arctic species, and **Scottish scurvygrass**. Both grow in abundance on the eastern cliffs among other rocky-coast species including **sea pink**, **red fescue** and **sea mayweed**. Scots lovage is a threatened species listed in the Red Data Book.

Plandaí agus ainmhithe

Is beag athraithe a tháinig ar na nósanna feirmeoireachta a bhí coitianta ar Thoraigh leis na cianta agus dá thairbhe sin tá cineálacha plandaí agus fiadhúlra ar an oileán nach bhfuil le fáil in áiteanna eile níos mó.

Plandaí

Is iad an dá phlanda fiáin is iomráití ná an **lúiste Albanach** - speiceas de shoilire cumhraithe atá gaolmhar de speiceas an chairéid (Umbelliferae), atá rangaithe mar speiceas artach-fo-artach, agus an **biolar trá Albanach**. Fásann an dá phlanda seo go flúirseach ar na beanna thoir, i gcuideachta cineálacha eile de phlandaí cósta carraigeach, ina measc an **chaoróg mhara, feisciú dearg** agus **lus Bhealtaine**. Is planda gan, faoi bhagairt, é an lúiste Albanach.

EDIN MACLOCHUINN



Caoróg mhara *Sea pink*

Lacha lochlannach (nó éadar) *Eider: commonly seen around Tory*Cág cosdearg *Chough*

Sea kale, an arable weed verging on extinction in Ireland, has been recorded on the boulder beaches of Tory's south shore. It is a Red Data species. Specimens of prostrate **juniper** occur on the heaths.

Birds

Seabirds

Tory's seabird colonies are of national importance. The northern cliffs and stacks have the biggest **puffin** colony in Donegal (over 1,400 birds) as well as **razorbills** (1,000 birds), **guillemots** (570 birds), **kittiwakes** (400 pairs), **fulmars** (640 pairs) and some **shags**, **herring gulls** and **great black-backed gulls**. A few **storm petrels** breed (20 pairs were found in 1987) and possibly **Manx shearwaters**.

Tá go leor **praiseach thrá**, lustan curaíochta atá chóir a bheith imithe in éag in Éirinn, ag fás go fóill i dToraigh ar chladach gharbh an chósta theas. Is planda atá faoi bhagairt é, agus áirítear sa Leabhar Dearg é. Tá corr **aiteal** sínte le fáil fríd an fhraoch.

Éanacha

Éanacha mara

Tá tábhacht náisiúnta ag baint leis na h-éanacha mara a bhíos ag neadú i dToraigh. Tá an choilíneacht **fuipín** is mó i nDún na nGall le fáil sna beanna thuaidh (os cionn 1,400 éan) chomh maith le **crosáin** (1,000 éan), **forachain** (560 éan), **saidhbhéir** (400 péire), **fulmairí** (640 péire) agus measarthacht **seagaí**, **faoileogaí scadán** agus an **droimneach mór**. Tagann dornán **guairdeall** (fuarthas 20 péire sa bhliain 1987) chun an oileáin le pórú agus, b'fhéidir, corr **chánóg dhubh**.



The seabirds and their eggs were taken for food until the end of the 19th century. They were captured during the night by islanders climbing down the cliff faces to their nests with the aid of ropes.

Peregrine falcons and **ravens** also nest on the cliffs and a population of about fifteen **choughs** survives on the maritime grasslands. Ireland is particularly important for chough, a red-billed, red-legged 'sea-crow' rare in Europe. Its sharp 'cheoww' call announces its presence. **Eider** ducks are often seen around the coast and may now breed.

Corncrake

By virtue of being farmed in the old style, Tory provides sanctuary for some bird species formerly more widespread in Ireland. Chief among these is the **corncrake**, a globally threatened species. The distinctive 'crek-crek' or craking song of the male was once a familiar sound throughout Ireland.

Because the corncrake nests mainly in hay meadows, modern agricultural practices such as early cutting of hay and silage have impacted greatly on its breeding success. There is little mowing of hay on Tory today and, amazingly, the numbers of breeding corncrakes are increasing against a national trend of continuing decline: 32 singing males were heard on Tory in the summer of 2002 as against eight in 1993.

Go dtí deireadh an 19ú haois, ba ghnách le bunadh an oileáin na heánacha mara agus a gcuid uibheacha a ithe. Bheirtí orthu san oíche nuair a théadh na hoileánaigh síos ar rópaí ó bharr na mbeann go dtí na neadracha.

Déanann an **seabhadh seilge** agus an **fiach dubh** neadracha sna beanna fosta, agus déanann thart fá 15 **cág deargchosach** a ngnáthóga sna féarthailte muirí. Tá tábhacht ar leith ag Éirinn mar gheall ar an éan seo de bhrí gur annamh a fheictear an 'préachán mara' deargchosach, dearg-ghobach seo in áit ar bith eile ar fud na hEorpa. Is furasta é aithint óna ghuth géar cágach. Is minic a fheictear **lachain lochlannacha** fá chóstaí Thoraigh.

An traonach

A bhuíochas do na seanghnásanna feirmeoireachta a chleachtar go fóill ar an oileán, tá tearmann ar fáil i dToraigh do chineálacha éan a bhíodh roimhe seo le feiceáil i bhfad níos minice ar fud na hÉireann, go háirithe an **traonach**, a bhfuil i mbaol díobhaidh ar fud an domhain. Tá guth 'crec-crec' ar leith ag an traonach fireann, guth a bhíodh le cluinstitín go forleathan in Éirinn sna blianta a chuaigh thart.

Cionn is gur sna páirceanna féir a dhéanann an traonach a nead de ghnáth, tá tionchar an-mhór ag nósanna feirmeoireachta nua-aimseartha, macasamhail luathghearradh féir agus sadhlas, ar phórú an éin seo. Is beag féar a ghearrtar i dToraigh sa lá atá inniu ann agus dá thairbhe sin, tá líon na dtraonach atá ag pórú ag ardú go suntasach i gcomparáid leis an mheath atá ag teacht orthu ar fud an chuid eile den tír: cluineadh thart fá 32 éan fireann ag gabháil cheoil i dToraigh le linn samhradh na bliana 2002 i gcomparáid le hochtar sa bhliain 1993.



Traonach *Corncrake: a globally endangered bird that breeds on Tory, where this image was captured*

The corncrake's survival on Tory is helped by the Corncrake Grant Scheme introduced by BirdWatch Ireland in 1996 and funded by National Parks and Wildlife, Department of the Environment. The scheme pays farmers to farm in ways that benefit the corncrake. Some 37 farmers are participating in the scheme, accounting for 75% of the farmland on Tory. BirdWatch Ireland is working with the farmers to improve the corncrake's habitat. Early herbage is scarce when the birds arrive from Africa in spring. Cover has now been increased by cultivating nettle and iris patches in five different areas.

Tá buaineadas an traonaigh i dToraigh ag fáil cuidithe ó Scéim Deontais an Traonaigh, scéim atá maoinithe ag na Páirceanna Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra, agus a chuir Cairde Éanlaith Éireann i bhfeidhm ar an oileán sa bhliain 1996. A bhuíochas na scéime seo, íoctar feirmeoirí le curaíocht a dhéanamh ar bhealaí a rachas chun sochair don traonach. Tá thart fá 37 feirmeoir páirteach sa scéim, rud a chiallaíonn go bhfuil 75% de thalamh curaíochta an oileáin san áireamh. Tá Cairde Éanlaith Éireann ag comhoibriú leis na feirmeoirí ar mhaithe le gnáthóg an traonaigh a bhisiú. Bíonn an luibhre gann nuair a thagann na héanacha ón Afraic san earrach. Ach tá clúdach níos fearr ar fáil anois de bhrí go bhfuiltear ag fás ceapacha cáil faiche agus siolastair i gcúig áit éagsúil ar an oileán.

Terns and waders

The relative lack of disturbance by farm machinery and livestock, and the total absence of predators like rats and foxes on Tory, is of major advantage to birds that nest on the ground, including the corncrake.

Other notable ground-nesters include the **little tern**, **arctic tern** and waders such as **oystercatcher**, **dunlin**, **ringed plover**, **lapwing**, **redshank** and **snipe**, as well as **common gull** and the ubiquitous **wheatear**. The levels around Loch Ó Thuaidh and Loch Ó Dheas at the west end are particularly favoured by the terns and waders. Recently, little tern numbers on Tory increased from single figures to about fifteen, an encouraging sign. It is a threatened species in Europe.

Geabhrógaí agus lapairí

Tá buntáiste mhór ag éanacha - an traonach ina measc - a dhéanann a gcuid neadracha ar an talamh ar an tséala nach bhfuil mórán innealra feirme agus beostoc ann le cur isteach orthu agus fosta de thairbhe nach bhfuil ainmhithe creiche ar bith, leithéidí luchóga móra agus madraí rua, ar an oileán.

I measc na n-éan eile a dhéanann neadracha ar an talamh tá **an gheabhróg bheag**, **an gheabhróg Artach** agus lapairí macasamhail **roilleach**, **breacóg**, **feadóg chladaigh**, **pílibín**, **ladhrán trá** agus **an naoscach**, le cois an **fhaoileog bhán** agus an **clochrán** atá le feiceáil i ngach áit. Tá na geabhrógaí agus na lapairí iontach tugtha don talamh cothrom atá thart fá Loch Ó Thuaidh agus Loch Ó Dheas in iarthar an oileáin. Ar na mallaibh, tháinig méadú ar líon na ngeabhróg beag ar Thoraigh ó dhornán go dtí cúig cinn déag, rud atá ina chomhartha maith. Tá an t-éan seo i mbaol díobhaidh ar fud na hEorpa.

ORAN O'SULLIVAN



Geabhróg bheag *Little tern: threatened in Europe, breeds on Tory*

Breacóg *Dunlin*Gealbhan crainn *Tree sparrow*

The tree sparrow

Tory has a small **tree sparrow** colony, in common with a number of other western islands. Despite the name, tree sparrows are not dependent on trees. They are rare in Ireland. The more common **house sparrow** is also resident on the island.

Migrant birds

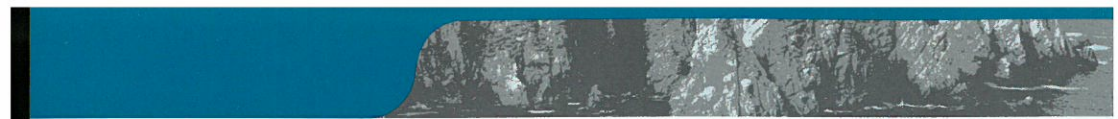
Many birdwatchers are drawn to Tory for the rare, vagrant songbirds, including warblers and buntings, that can occur in spring and especially autumn. By virtue of its lighthouse beacon and offshore location, some displaced birds migrating from as far afield as Siberia and North America make landfall on Tory in most years. The perching birds are easily found on the island's few trees and bushes, which act as a magnet for songbirds. Rarities have included short-toed lark,

An gealbhan crainn

Tá coilíneacht bheag de **ghealbhan crainn** i dToraigh, mar atá ar roinnt de na hoileáin san iarthar. In ainneoin a ainm, níl an gealbhan crainn ag brath ar chrainn. Ní fheictear in Éirinn iad ach go hannamh. Tá an **gealbhan binne**, a bhfuil sean aithne againn ar fad air, ag cur faoi san oileán fosta.

Éanacha imirce

Tagann mórán faireoirí éan go Toraigh mar gheall ar na héanacha ceoil annamh fánacha - ceolairí agus gealogaí ina measc - a d'fhéadfaidís a fheiceáil san earrach agus go háirithe san fhómhar. De thairbhe a shuíomh mara agus solas Theach an tSolais, déanann cuid de na héanacha seachránacha seo, atá ar a mbealach ón tSibéir agus ó Mheiriceá Thuaidh, a sciste i dToraigh gach uile bhliain. Tá sé furasta go leor iad a aimsiú sa bheagán crann agus tom atá ar an oileán ach a mheallann na héanacha ceoil. I measc na n-éanacha ganna áirítear an fhuisseog



paddyfield warbler, olivaceous warbler, arctic warbler, great grey shrike, arctic redpoll (see picture, next page), rustic bunting, yellow-breasted bunting and many more.

Offshore movements of migrating **petrels**, **skuas** and other seabirds are witnessed in spring and especially autumn.

Mammals

Atlantic grey seals and **common seals** are often seen around the island's coast. Wild **rabbits** graze the heaths, and **wood mouse** and **pigmy shrew** are common. Interestingly, there are no rats, foxes, stoats or hedgehogs on the island.

Conservation designations

Tory is the only inhabited island in Ireland designated in its entirety as a **Special Protection Area** for birds under the EU Birds Directive. The whole island is protected in order to secure as much habitat as possible for the birds. The sea adjacent to the northern cliffs, where the seabirds forage, is included in the SPA.

Much of the island, including the entire coastline and surrounding coastal waters, is a candidate **Special Area of Conservation** under the EU Habitats Directive. It was selected as an SAC for its important lagoon (Loch Ó Dheas), a

ladharghearr, ceolaire gort ríse, ceolaire bánlíoch, ceolaire Artach, mórscreáchán liath, deargéadan Artach, gealóg thuathúil agus an gealóg bhroinnbhuí, agus go leor eile.

San earrach agus go speisialta san fhómhar, is minic a fheictear éanacha mara imírceacha, cosúil le **guairdill** agus **meirligh mhara**, ar eiteog amach ón chósta.

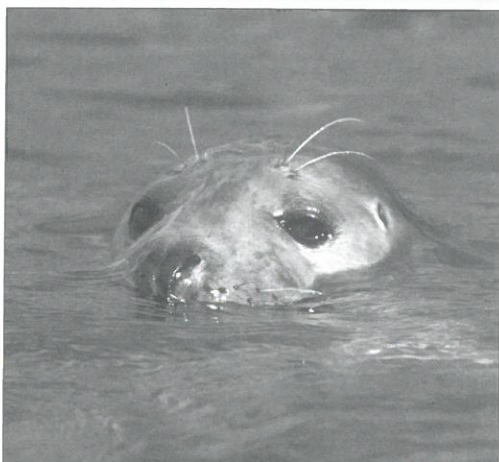
Sineacha

Bíonn **róntaí glasa an Atlantaigh** agus **róntaí beaga** le feiceáil thart fá chladaí an oileáin go minic. Bíonn **coiníní** fiáine á gcothú féin sa fhraochach chois cladaigh agus tá **luchógaí féir** agus **dallóga fraoigh** coitianta. Aisteach go leor, níl aon fhrancaigh, sionnaigh, easóga ná gráinneoga i dToraigh.

Sonraithe caomhantais

Is é Toraigh an t-aon oileán de chuid na hÉireann a bhfuil cónaí air atá go hiomlán sonraithe mar **Limistéar faoi Chosaint Speisialta** (LCS) do éanacha faoi Threoir Éan an Aontais Eorpaigh. Tá an t-oileán uilig go léir faoi chosaint sa dóigh go gcaomhnófar an oiread gnáthóg agus is féidir do na héanacha. Curtha in áirithe san LCS fosta, tá an fharraige in aice leis na beanna ó thuaidh, áit a mbíonn na héanacha ar thóir bia.

Tá Toraigh mar ábhar **Limistéir Speisialta Caomhantais** (LSC) faoi Threoir Gnáthóga an Aontais Eorpaigh agus mar ábhar **Limistéir Oidhreacht Nádurtha**, molta ag Dúchas, An tSeirbhís Oidhreacht. Roghnaíodh mar LSC

Deargéadan Artach *Arctic redpoll on Tory*Rón glas *Atlantic grey seal*

priority habitat under the directive, and for other listed habitats including stony banks with perennial vegetation, sea-cliffs and sub-tidal reefs. The reefs are characterised by kelp forests of *Laminaria hyperborea* with an understorey of jewel anemones and red algae, or an understorey of sponges, sea-squirts and red algae. The SAC is also a proposed **Natural Heritage Area**.

Local Conservation Ranger

The local Conservation Rangers attached to the Heritage Division (National Parks and Wildlife) of the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, are based at:

Glenveagh National Park
Churchhill, Letterkenny, Co Donegal
Tel: (074) 37090

é mar gheall ar an murlach tábhachtach; tugadh tús áite don ghnáthóg seo faoin Treoir. Cuireadh gnáthóga eile san áireamh freisin: bruachanna carraigeacha, fásra ilbhliantúil, ailltreacha agus líonáin. Tá na líonáin seo brataithe le ceilp *Laminaria hyperborea* agus faoi sin arís bundúin leice agus alga dearg, nó spúinsí, ascaidí agus alga dearg.

Saoiste Caomhantais áitiúil

Saoistí Caomhantais áitiúil don Roinn Oidhreacht (Páirceanna Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra), An Roinn Chomhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtas Áitiúil:

Páirc Náisiúnta Ghleann Bheatha
Cnoc an Teampaill, Leitir Ceannainn
Co Dhún na nGall
Fón: (074) 37090

Prehistoric times

Tory in the Stone Age and Bronze Age

We have no precise knowledge of when Tory was first settled but we know it has been inhabited - perhaps discontinuously - for at least four and a half thousand years. Ireland's first settlers were Mesolithic hunters, fishers and gatherers who reached the country 9,000 years ago. As they migrated around the coast, some would have visited or settled on Tory attracted by the abundance of fish, fowl and shoreline pickings.

Neolithic farmers arrived in Ireland around 4,000 BC and brought with them the custom of communal burial in large stone structures or dolmens. The earliest evidence of human occupation on Tory was a dolmen discovered in the 19th century and dated to around 2,500 BC, the late Neolithic period.

Megalithic tomb

Map Ref: 17

The dolmen, situated on high ground east of An Baile Thiar, was first noted by Edmund Getty, a Belfast antiquarian who visited Tory in the 1840s. Unfortunately, it was dismantled in the late 19th century and its stones used in the construction of the wall surrounding the lighthouse. The monument is marked on the 1910 Ordnance Survey map.

An tréimhse réamhstaire

Toraigh sa Chlochaois agus sa Chré-Umhaois

Níl eolas beacht againn i dtaca le cá huair a rinneadh cónaí i dToraigh den chéaduaire ach tá a fhios againn gur chuir daoine fúthu ar an oileán - b'fhéidir nach go leanúnach - ar feadh ceithre mhíle go leith bliain ar a laghad. Ba iad sealgairí, iascairí agus cnuasaitheoirí Méasailiotacha na chéad daoine a tháinig go hÉirinn corradh le 9,000 bliain ó shin. De réir mar a rinne siad a mbealach thart an cósta, is dócha go dtug cuid acu cuairt ar Thoraigh agus gur fhan siad ann ar an tséala go raibh neart éisc, éanlaith agus cnuasach trá go flúirseach ann.

I dtrátha 4,000 bliain roimh Chríost, tháinig feirmeoirí Neoiliteacha go hÉirinn. Bhí sé de nós acusan na mairbh a adhlacadh i gcuideachta a chéile taobh istigh de struchtúr mór cloch ar a dtugtar cromleac nó dolmain. Ba sa naoú céad déag a nocht fianaise go raibh daoine ina gcónaí i dToraigh na cianta bliain ó shin nuair a haimsíodh dolmain a bhí ansin ó 2,500 bliain roimh aimsir Chríost, go mall sa tréimhse Neoiliotach.

Tumba meigiliteach

Map Ref: 17

Ba é Edmund Getty, seandálaí as Béal Feirste a thug cuairt ar Thoraigh sna 1840idí, a d'aithin gur dolmain a bhí sna clocha móra a bhí suite ar ardán ar an taobh thoir den Bhaile Thiar. Ar an drochuair, tógadh na clocha as an tumba meigiliteach seo i ndeireadh an naoú haois déag le hiad a úsáid sa bhalla thart ar Teach an tSolais. Tá an dolmain marcáilte ar léarscáil na Suirbhéireachta Ordanáis 1910.



Dara '92

Ag amharc ar Thoraigh ó thí r mór, is geall le fear ina luí ar a dhroim é an t-oileán
Tory Island viewed in silhouette from the mainland resembles a man lying on his back

👁 Ancient fields

Map Ref: 30

Lines of stones representing the boundaries of ancient fields are found near Dún Bhaloir at the east end of the island and have been ascribed tentatively to the Neolithic. The boundaries pre-date the peat bogs that began to form about 4,000 years ago and would only have been revealed as the peat was cut away for fuel. Similar fields dating from around 2,000 BC have been detected at the western end of the island.

👁 Seanpháirceanna

Map Ref: 30

Tá linte cloch le feiceáil in aice le Dún Bhaloir ar an taobh thoir den oileán. Tá siad ag marcáil críochanna de pháirceanna iontach ársa agus meastar go bhfuil siad ansin ón ré Neoilíotach. Is cinnte go bhfuil na críochanna níos sine ná na portaigh mhóna a thosaigh ag fás corradh le 4,000 bliain ó shin agus ach ab é gur baineadh an mhóin go léir síos go dtí an dúshraith, ní thiocfadh na páirceanna sin chun solais ar chor ar bith. Tá fianaise faighte fosta go bhfuil páirceanna cosúil leo ar an cheann thiar den oileán agus dáta siar go dtí 2000 roimh Chríost curtha ina leith.

👁 Bronze-age cairn

Map Ref: 22

A large cairn dating from the Bronze Age (1,650 BC to 500 BC) is found east of An Baile Thiar, beside the road to An Baile Thoir. It is a low, near-circular mound of stones, burnt at the top. Bronze-age burnt-mounds, or *fulachta fiadha*, are believed to have been used for metal-working, cooking and washing. By inference, there was wood fuel on Tory at the time, most likely trees of hazel, yew and Scots pine. Similar, smaller cairns dot the landscape close to An Baile Thiar.

👁 Cairn na Cré-Umhaoise

Map Ref: 22

Tá carn mór cloch atá ann ón Chré-Umhaoise (1,650 go 500 bliain roimh Chríost) le feiceáil ar an taobh thoir den Bhaile Thiar in aice an bhóthair a théann go dtí An Baile Thoir. Mullachán íseal chóir a bheith cruinn atá ann agus na clocha dóite ar an bharr. Creidtear gur baineadh úsáid as na cairn dhóite seo, nó fulachtaí fiadha, faoi choinne cócaráil, níos ársa agus déanamh miotail. Dá bhrí sin, caithfidh go raibh breosla adhmaid ar an oileán ag an am sin, leithéidí crann coll, crann iúir agus an crann giúise Albanach. Tá cairn bheaga eile den déanamh céanna le feiceáil thart timpeall an Bhaile Thiar.

Tory in the Iron Age

The Early Iron Age in the second and third centuries BC witnessed the emergence of kingdoms in Ireland and the consolidation of territories defended by hilltop forts. Promontory forts were built on coastal headlands where steep cliffs and a narrow isthmus provided a natural defence. Dún Bhaloir, situated on a peninsula at the east end of Tory, is one such promontory fort, though some believe it was established as early as 700 BC, in the late Bronze Age.

The fort is traditionally held to have been the stronghold of Balor, mythical king of a tribe called the Fomorians who harried the Irish coast from their island retreat. According to 12th-century annals, Balor was slain and the Fomorians driven from Ireland by the mainland's largest tribe, the Tuatha Dé Danann.

👁 Dún Bhaloir (Balor's fort)

Map Ref: 32

Dún Bhaloir is virtually impregnable. It is located on the highest part of the island and is surrounded on three sides by sheer 90m-high cliffs. The only landward approach is across a narrow isthmus or neck defended by four earthen embankments ('Balor's Fort' on Ordnance Survey maps). The banks are separated by intervening fosses (ditches) and there are traces of a possible revetment or retaining wall on the inner side.

Toraigh san Iarnaois

Le linn na Luath-Iarnaoise, sa dara agus tríú céad roimh Chríost, nocht ríochtaí in Éirinn. Rinneadh comhdhlúthú ar na dúichí agus tógadh dúnta cosanta thuas go hard os a gceann. Tógadh dúnta cinntíre thart ar an chósta in áiteanna inar chuir beanna arda crochta agus caolas cúng cosaint nádúrtha ar fáil. Is é a leithéid sin de dhún ceanntíre atá i nDún Bhaloir ar an taobh thoir den oileán, cé go bhfuil daoine eile den bharúil gur tógadh an dún níos faide siar i ndeireadh na Cré-Umhaoise.

Glactar leis go traidisiúnta gurbh é seo dún cosanta Bhaloir, rí miotasach a bhí i gceannas ar threibh darbh ainm Na Fomhóraigh a bhí ina gcónaí ar an oileán agus a rinne slad agus creach ar chósta na hÉireann. De réir annála ón 12ú céad, ba iad na Tuatha Dé Danann - an treibh a ba mhó ar tír mór - a rinne Balor a mharú agus a dhíbhir na Fomhóraigh as Éirinn.

👁 Dún Bhaloir

Map Ref: 32

Tá Dún Bhaloir beagnach do-ionsaithe. Suite ar an phointe is airde ar an oileán, tá beanna crochta 90m ar airde thart timpeall air ar thrí thaobh. Níl ach bealach isteach amháin ar talamh agus sin trasna caolas cúng atá cosanta le ceithre chlaifort créafóige ('Balor's Fort' ar léarscáileanna na Suirbhéireachta Ordanáis). Tá díogacha istigh idir gach claifort agus tá rian de shraodbhalla ar an taobh istigh.

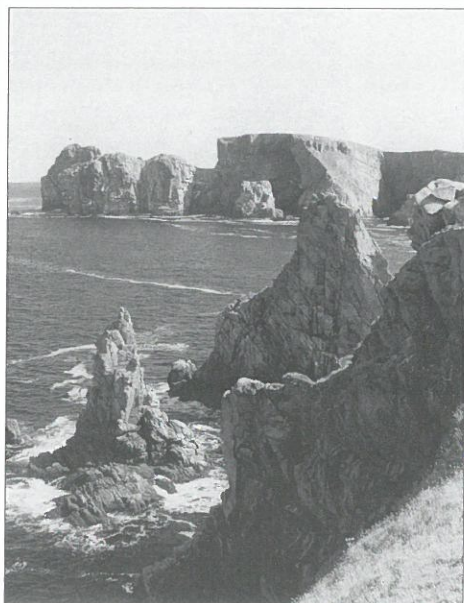
Scoilt dhomhain chladaigh is ea Príosún Bhaloir atá ar an taobh thoir den chaolas.

Príosún Bhaloir (Balor's prison) on the east side of the isthmus is a deep coastal cleft where Balor is said to have thrown his prisoners.

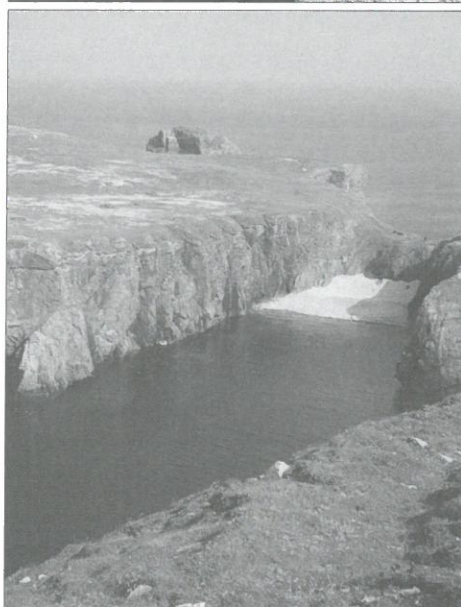
Inside the defences are the remains of at least 20 hut-sites and a well. The huts are low circular banks of earth and stone, up to 10m wide. Most have two entrances and one is divided internally. The three easternmost huts are known as 'the Diarmaid and Gráinne's' after Ireland's most famous mythological couple. It is not known when the huts were built - such structures can range from the Neolithic right down to the modern period.

Further remains, possibly of Iron-age vintage, are found between Dún Bhaloir and a second isthmus, further in, that separates the coves of Port Challa and Port an Duín. These include a linear embankment bordered by a stone fosse, and a square enclosure of earth and stone lying next to the embankment.

A band of water-rolled beach stones 10m from the enclosure may be a field boundary from the Neolithic, laid before the growth of peat enveloped the ground (see also page 21). A second enclosure lies 10m beyond the beach stones, while four stone hut-sites lie 20m further north. A nearby water-filled hole may have been used as a well.

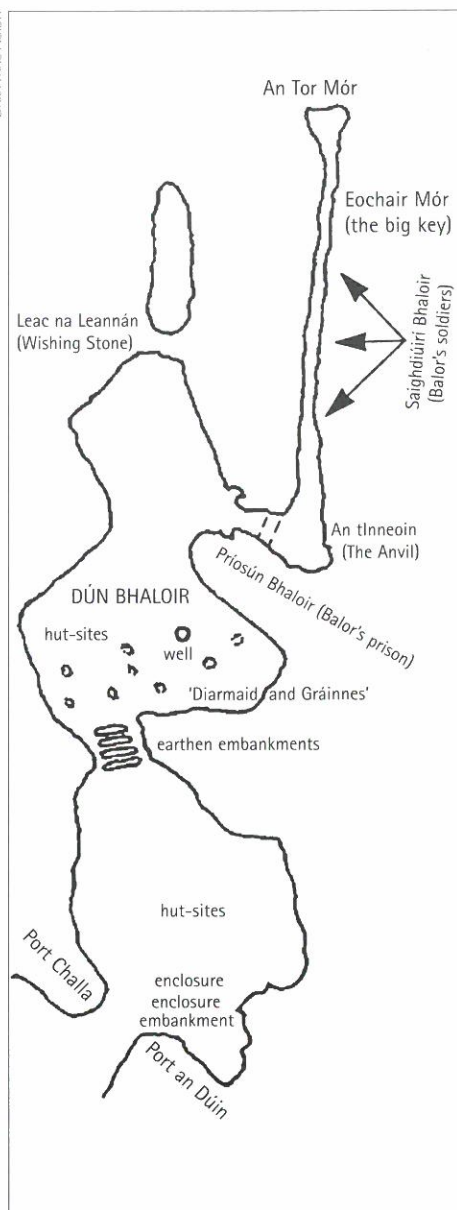


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Dún Bhaloir *Views of Dún Bhaloir*

Ceann-tíre Dhún Bhaloir *Dún Bhaloir peninsula*

Deirtear gur ghnách le Balor a chuid príosúnaigh a chaitheamh isteach innti.

Taobh istigh de na claiócha chosanta tá iarsmaí de 20 suíomh bothán chomh maith le tobar. Botháin íseal chruinn a bhí déanta de chreáfóg agus de chlocha a bhí iontu agus bhí siad suas le 10m ar leithead. Bhí dhá bhealach isteach ina bhformhór agus bhí ceann amháin roinnte ina dhá chuid. Tugtar leapacha Dhiarmaid agus Ghráinne ar na trí bhothán is faide soir, i gcuimhne ar an lánúin is iomráite i miotaseolaíocht na hÉireann. Ní fios cá huair a tógadh na botháin de bhrí go bhféadfaí a macasamhail de struchtúir a thógáil in am ar bith ón ré Neoilíotach go dtí an lá atá inniu ann.

Tá tuilleadh iarsmaí, ó aimsir na hIarnaoise, b'fhéidir, le feiceáil istigh idir Dún Bhaloir agus caolas eile atá níos faide intire agus a scarann camais Phort Challa agus Phort an Dúin óna chéile. Ina measc seo tá claifort líneach a bhfuil díog cloiche thart timpeall air agus clós cearnógach de chreáfóg agus de chlocha sínte in aice an chlaifóirt.

Tá crios de chlocha duirlinge le feiceáil 10m ón chlós agus d'fhéadfadh sé gur mharcaíl siad críoch páirce ón ré Neoilíotach, páirce a bhí ann sular fhás portach móna ina mullach (féach leathanach 21, fosta). Tá clós eile 10m ar shiúl ó na duirlíngí agus tá dúshraith de cheithre bhothán cloiche 20m níos faide ó thuaidh. Is dócha gur baineadh úsáid as an poll uisce atá in aice láimhe mar tobar.



Saighdiúirí Bhaloir *Balor's soldiers*

👁 An Eochair Mhór (The big key)

Map Ref: 33

An Eochair Mhór is a long, steep-sided spur jutting from the east side of the peninsula and ending in a crag called An Tor Mór (the big rock). A rock-cut fosse, 1.5m-deep, inhibits access to the spur. A near-circular stone enclosure found on the elbow of the spur (An tInneoin, or the Anvil) may have been used as a look-out.

👁 Saighdiúirí Bhaloir (Balor's soldiers)

Map Ref: 35

An Eochair Mhór has prominent rocky pinnacles known as Saighdiúirí Bhaloir (Balor's soldiers). They give the spur a toothed appearance - hence its name, An Eochair Mhór (the big key).

👁 An Eochair Mhór

Map Ref: 33

Ar an taobh thoir den leathinis, tá speir fhada le taobhanna crochta ag gobadh amach go dtí creig ar a dtugtar An Tor Mór. Tá bac rochtana chuig an speir cionn is go bhfuil díog atá 1.5m ar doimhne gearrtha isteach sa charraig. Táthar den bharúil gur baineadh úsáid as clós cloch ciorclach, a fuarthas ar uillinn na speire (An tInneoin), mar áit faire. Níl dáta ar bith curtha ina leith.

👁 Saighdiúirí Bhaloir

Map Ref: 35

Tá stuaiceanna stairriceacha suntasacha, Saighdiúirí Bhaloir, ar an Eochair Mhór. Tugann siad cuma ghéagach don speirín; sin an t'údar leis an ainm - An Eochair Mhór.

👁 Leac na Leannán (The Wishing Stone)

Map Ref: 34

Leac na Leannán (the lovers' stone), also known as the Wishing Stone, is a precipitous flat-topped rock beside the northern cliff-face of Dún Bhaloir. A wish is granted to anyone foolhardy enough to step from the cliff-face onto the rock and turn around three times, or who succeeds in throwing three stones onto it.

Leac na Leannán is extremely dangerous and visitors are strongly advised not to approach it.

👁 Leac na Leannán

Map Ref: 34

Séard atá i Leac na Leannán ná staic farraige géarchrochta a bhfuil barr cothrom uirthi, atá taobh le héadan na binne thuaidh de Dhún Bhaloir. Maítear go mbronnar a mhian ar dhuine ar bith atá amaideach go leor le coiscéim a ghlacadh ó dhroim na haille go dtí an leac agus iompú thart trí huaire uirthi, nó a n-éiríonn leo trí chloch a chaitheamh a fhad léi.

Tá Leac na Leannán thar a bheith contúirteach agus moltar do chuairoteoirí coinneáil amach uaithi.

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Leac na Leannán *The Wishing Stone*

Island of saints and scholars

The Early Christian period

The Early Christian period from the 5th to the 8th century AD saw monastic cities flourish throughout Ireland. A monastery was founded on Tory in the 6th century by Colmcille, an influential missionary of the day. In this respect Tory resembles other islands along the western seaboard where the harsh environment seems to have offered attractions for an ascetic way of life. The monastery was built between 548 and 561 and located beside Camusmore Bay where An Baile Thiar is situated today.

Colmcille was born into the aristocratic Cenell Conaill family in Gartán, Co Donegal, in 521. He founded over 40 monasteries in Ireland before emigrating to Scotland in 564, where he founded a monastery on Iona. By the time of his death in 597, more than 60 Scottish monasteries had been founded in his name.

After Colmcille came a succession of abbots who enlarged the Tory monastery and frequently had to repair damage caused by attacks from predatory fleets. Colmcille's most illustrious successor, Ernan, founded an abbey in the early years of the 7th century. In 612, the

Oileán na naomh is na n-ollamh

Aimsir na Luath-Chríostaíochta

I rith tréimhse na Luath-Chríostaíochta, idir an 5ú agus an 8ú céad i ndiaidh Chríost, tháinig borradh mór ar chathracha manachúla ar fud fad na hÉireann. Bhunaigh Colm Cille mainistir i dToraigh sa séú céad. Bhí seisean ar dhuine de na misinéirí ab iomráite lena linn. Bhí an nós céanna sin amhlaidh ar oileáin eile ar chósta thiar na hÉireann. De réir cosúlachta, d'fhóir an timpeallacht chrua do shlí mhaireachtála aiséitiúil. Tógadh an mhainistir am éigin idir 548 agus 561 agus bhí sí suite in aice le Cé Chamais Mhóir, áit a bhfuil An Baile Thiar inniu.

Tháinig Colm Cille ar an tsaol do theaghlach uasal Cineál Conaill i nGartán, Co Dhún na nGall, sa bhliain 521. Bhunaigh sé corradh le 40 mainistir in Éirinn sula ndeachaigh sé ar imirce go hAlbain sa bhliain 564, áit ar bhunaigh sé mainistir ar Oileán Í. Faoin am a bhfuair sé bás sa bhliain 597, bhí níos mó ná 60 mainistir bunaithe in Albain ina ainm.

Tháinig mórán abai i ndiaidh a chéile mar chomharbaí ar Cholm Cille i dToraigh. Chuir gach duine acu méadú leis an mhainistir agus ba mhinic a bhí orthu an damáiste a rinne foghlaithe mara ar an áit a chóiriú. Go luath sa seachtú haois, bhunaigh Earnán, an comharba is cáilúla de chuid Colm Cille, abtheach ar an oileán. Sa bhliain 612, rinneadh ruaig chreiche ar

monastery was raided and the abbey destroyed. Ernan rebuilt the abbey, but it was again devastated by pirates in 616 and by Dougall, the second king of Scotland, in 732 or 733.

Ernan was followed by a series of erenachs (Irish: airchinneach) who acted as church wardens and looked after the church property. Erenachs were rulers of the Brehon caste who were experts in interpreting law, an important function of the king.

The first erenachs on Tory were the Ó Maonaigh (Mooney) family, who were followed by the Ó Braonáins (Brennans) and the Mac Ramhartaighs (MacRoartys). The 17th-century *Annals of the Four Masters* record the deaths of

an mhainistir agus scriosadh an abtheach. Thóg Earnán an abtheach arís, ach sa bhliain 616 rinne foghlaithe mara creach agus slad uirthi. Níos moille ná sin, i dtrátha 732 nó 733, tháinig Dubhghall - an dara rí a bhí ar Albain - agus chreach seisean an áit fosta.

I ndiaidh Earnáin, bhí cúram na mainistreach agus an abthí ag airchinnigh. Ba iad na hairchinnigh lucht ceannais na mBreithiún. Bhí siad sároilte i gcúrsaí dlí, ceann de phríomhfheidhmeanna an rí.

Ba iad Muintir Uí Mhaonaigh na chéad airchinnigh a bhí i dToraigh. Ansin, tháinig Clann Uí Bhraonáin agus ina ndiaidhsan Clann Mhic Ramhartaigh. In *Annála na gCeithre Máistrí* a scríobhadh sa 17ú céad, tá cuntas ar bhás Maolcolaimh Ó Branain, "Airneach" Thoraí, sa bhliain 1002 agus ar



NOELLE NÍ DUBHROCHÁIN

Cruth croise i gcarraig *Cross shape in rock*



Maolcolaimm Ó Branain, "Airneach" of Tory, in 1002, and Loerghasus, "Aircharnneach" of Tory, in 1041. From at least the 12th century the erenachs paid fixed amounts of "duty" to the Bishop of Raphoe, within whose diocese Tory lay.

The monastery was at the heart of the island's tillage and pastoralism, growing cereals and vegetables and rearing cattle and sheep. It dominated life on Tory until 1595 when it was plundered and destroyed by English troops waging a war of suppression against local chieftains.

Ecclesiastical monuments found on Tory include a round tower, a Tau cross and the remains of the monastery and abbey, including three small chapels or shrines, the most ancient probably being Móirsheisear.

The Bell Tower

Map Ref: 5

The round tower or An Cloigtheach (The Bell Tower) is the most impressive structure to have survived the destruction of the monastery. It is the only surviving round tower in Donegal (another once stood in Raphoe).

The tower was built in the sixth or seventh century, probably to give warning of attacks from the sea. During such incursions the abbey elite would take refuge in the tower with their sacred vessels and manuscripts.

bhás Loerghasus, "Aircharnneach" Thoraí, sa bhliain 1041. Ón 12ú céad ar aghaidh, ar a laghad, d'íoc na hairchinnigh suimeanna áirithe "dleachta" le hEaspag Ráth Bhoth cionn is go bhfuil Toraigh sa deoise sin.

Ba í an mhainistir ceartlár curaíochta agus tréadach an oileáin. D'fhástaí arbhar agus glasraí agus thógtáí eallach agus caoirigh. Bhí an mhainistir i gceannas ar shaol an oileáin suas go dtí 1595, uair a ndearna saighdiúirí de chuid na Sasana léirscrios uirthi ina n-iarrachtaí na taoisigh áitiúla a chur faoi chois.

Ar na séadchomharthaí eaglasta atá le feiceáil i dToraigh go fóill, tá cloigtheach, cros Tau, agus iarsmaí na mainistreach agus an abhtí ina bhfuil trí sheipéal bheaga, nó scrínte, ina measc. Táthar den bharúil gurb é An Móirsheisear an ceann is sine díobh seo.

An Cloigtheach

Map Ref: 5

Is é An Cloigtheach an struchtúr is suntasaí a tháinig slán ó léirscrios na mainistreach. Lena chois sin, is é an t-aon túr ciorclach atá sa chontae anois (ba ghnách le ceann a bheith in Ráth Bhoth uair den tsaoil).

Tógadh an túr sa séú nó sa seachtú céad faoi choinne, is dócha, rabhadh a thabhairt fá fhoghlaith mara. Le linn a mhacasamhail d'ionsaí, rachadh uaisle na mainistreach i bhfolach sa túr lena gcuid soithí naofa agus lámhscríbhinní.

The tower is relatively small, just 12.8m in height, and built of local granite beach stones mortared with sea-shell lime. The western side is partly breached, though the eastern side is intact to the cornice and a remnant of the tower cap survives. The round-headed doorway is above ground-level in the manner of most Irish round towers, and the door arch is constructed of small, undressed stones.

The tower has three internal floors, two of them underground (see drawing). Tradition had long held that one-third of the tower was beneath ground. This was confirmed in 1845 by the Belfast antiquarian Edmund Getty who excavated the ground floor to reveal two subterranean floors, the lower at eight metres below ground. The tower's third floor is stone-vaulted. This floor originally had four windows, two of which remain, whilst another window survives on the floor below.

Clog Cholm Cille (Colmcille's bell) hung in the tower until the late 18th century, when the cornice was damaged by lightning.

Nil an cloigtheach iontach mór, díreach 12.8m ar airde. Tá sé déanta de chlocha eibhir trá atá táite le chéile le moirtéal d'aol sliogán. Cé go bhfuil páirt den éadan thiar briste, tá an t-éadan thoir iomlán slán go dtí an choirnis agus tá píosa de bharr an túir ann fosta. Tá an doras ceannchruinn os cionn leibhéal an talaimh, mar a bhí coitianta le bunús na dtúr ciorclach in Éirinn, agus tá áirse an dorais déanta le clocha beaga neamhchóirithe.

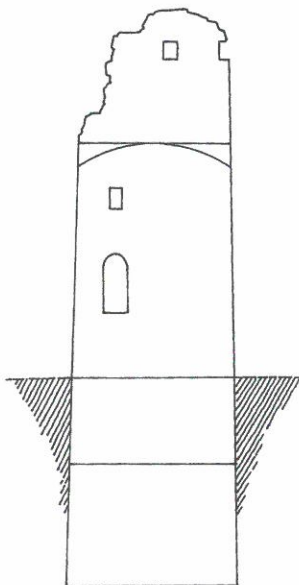
Tá trí urlár sa túr agus tá dhá cheann díobh sin faoin talamh (féach an phictiúr). De réir an tseanchais, bhíothas i gcónaí den bharúil go raibh trian den túr faoin talamh. Cruthaíodh é seo sa bhliain 1845 nuair a thochail an seandálaí Edmund Getty síos

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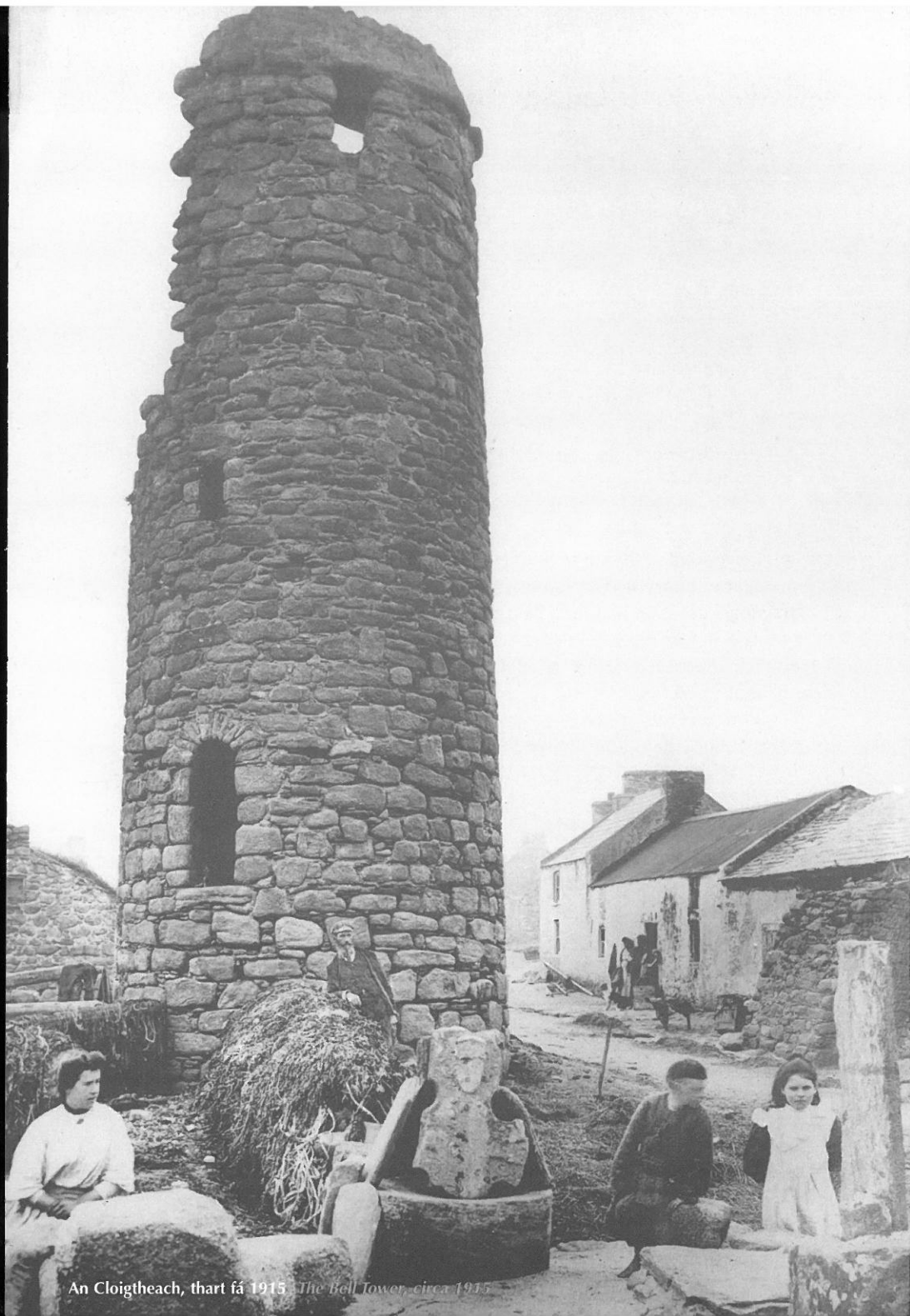
go bhfuair sé dhá urlár faoi thalamh, an ceann is ísle ocht méadar faoi leibhéal an talaimh.

Tá síleáil stuachloch sa tríú hurlár. Bhí ceithre fhuinneog air uair amháin ach níl fágtha anois ach beirt agus tá fuinneog amháin fágtha ar an dara hurlár.

Bhí Clog Cholm Cille crochta sa túr go dtí chóir a bheith deireadh an 18ú céad, am a ndearna soilseach damáiste den choirnis. Tugadh an chlog go dtí Uláí Eoin Baiste, aireagal in aice láimhe



Urláir an Chloighí *The tower's floors*



An Cloigtheach, thart fá 1915. The Bell Tower, circa 1915.

The bell was removed to Ulaí Eoin Baiste, an oratory beside the tower (see page 36), but went missing in the early 19th century, never to be recovered.

In the 1980s, the Office of Public Works undertook restoration work on the tower to protect it against further deterioration.

The Tau Cross

Map Ref: 2

The most distinctive Early Christian relic on Tory is the T-shaped Tau cross standing close to the harbour pier and believed to date from the 12th century. It is one of only two Tau crosses in Ireland, the other being in Cill Iníne Baoith (Kilnaboy), Co Clare. It is carved from a single slab of mica slate (a rock type absent from Tory) and is 1.9m high and 1.1m in breadth.

The Tau symbol is believed to have been the symbol of the cross used by the Coptic Christians of Egypt, who may have had connections with Irish Christianity through their seafaring tradition.

The Tau symbol is widely represented in T-shaped Early Christian croziers, though only one Irish Tau crozier has been found (in Kilkenny). Tau croziers are depicted on some Celtic high crosses, including the Doorty Cross in Kilfenora, Co Clare and the Market Cross in Kells, Co Meath.

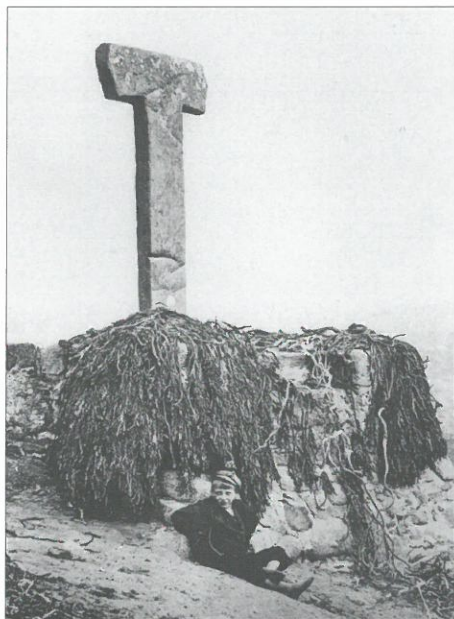
(féach leathanach 36), ach go luath sa 19ú céad chuaigh an chlog ar iarraidh agus ní bhfuarthas é ariamh ó shin.

Sna 1980idí chuir Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí bail ar an túr ar mhaithe lena chosaint ó thuilleadh meathlú.

An Chros Tau

Map Ref: 2

Is cinnte gurb í an Chros Tau an ceann is suntasaí de na hiarsmaí Luath-Chriostaíochta atá i dToraigh. Tá an cros ina seasamh in aice leis an ché agus meastar go bhfuil sí ansin ón 12ú céad. Níl ach cros amháin eile dá cineál in Éirinn, an chros Tau atá i gCill Iníne Baoith, Co an Chláir. Gearrtha í bhfoirm T as leac amháin de shlinn míoca (cloch nach bhfuil



An Chros Tau, thart fá 1915 *The Tau Cross, circa 1915*



Sa tSean Reilig *In the Old Graveyard*

In the 17th century, a Cromwellian soldier known as Aindreas na gCros (Andrew of the crosses) is said to have struck the cross twice with his sword in an attempt to break it. This is said to explain the damage marks seen on the cross (they are more likely natural).

The Tau Cross is the first sight to greet the visitor on arrival in Tory and is used as a symbol for the island. Tory fishermen traditionally pray before the cross before setting out to sea.

👁 The Old Graveyard

Map Ref: 3

The Old Graveyard (An tSean Reilig) to the west of the harbour pier is where burial took place until the 1970s. It is thought to be the site of the original

dúchasach i dToraigh), tá sí 1.9m ar airde agus 1.1m ar leithead.

Creidtear gurbh é siombail an Tau samhailchomhartha na Croise a d'úsáid Críostaithe Coptacha na hÉigipte. Creidtear fosta go mb'fhéidir go raibh ceangal acusan le Críostaithe na hÉireann de thairbhe go raibh siad tugtha do thaisteal thar farraige.

Baineadh úsáid leitheadach as an tsamhailchomhartha ar bhachaill T-chruthacha na Luath-Chríostaíochta, cé nach bhfuarthas ach bachall Tau amháin in Éirinn (i gCill Chainnigh). Tá bachaill Tau greannta ar chuid de na crosanna Ceilteacha, ina measc Cros Doorty i gCill Fhionnúrach, Co an Chláir, agus Cros an Mhargaidh i gCeannanas Mór, Co na Mí.

Maítear go ndearna saighdiúir de chuid Chromail, air ar tugadh Aindreas na gCros, iarracht an chros a bhriseadh sa 17ú céad agus gur bhuail sé dhá bhuille dá chlaíomh uirthi. Tá marcanna le feiceáil ar an chros agus deirtear gurb iad seo lorg a chlaímh.

Is i an Chros Tau an chéad rud a fheiceann cuairteoirí nuair a thagann siad i dtír i dToraigh. Baintear úsáid aisti mar shiombail an oileáin. Tá sé de nós ariamh ag iascairí an oileáin paidir a rá os comhair na croise sula dtéann siad amach ar an fharraige.

👁 An tSean Reilig

Map Ref: 3

Ba sa tSean Reilig, ar an taobh thiar den ché, a ba ghnách na coirp a adhlacadh suas go dtí na 1970idí. Táthar den bharúil



abbey church, An Teampall Buí (the yellow church).

The first Christian burial ground on Tory extended from the round tower to An Coirín and was availed of for burial by mainlanders. But as it eroded the islanders began to use the old abbey grounds for burial.

In 1853, Getty depicted the graveyard as a walled enclosure with an arched entrance. He believed it was the site of the 7th-century abbey and that the archway (now gone) was the abbey entrance. No traces of the abbey remain, though a stone altar beside the west wall of the graveyard may have belonged to it. It includes a broken bullaun stone and a cross slab, cemented into the wall. There is also a socketed stone that may have been the horizontal shaft of a multi-pieced cross.

Móirshéisear (Church of the Seven)

Map Ref: 7

There were at least seven small oratories in Tory, and the ruins of three can still be seen – Ulaí Eoin Baiste, Ulaí Bhríde and Móirshéisear.

Móirshéisear is an Early Christian oratory situated southwest of An Baile Thiar. Móirshéisear translates as 'big six', an archaic term for seven, and according to island lore it is the tomb of seven people, six men and a woman, who drowned when their boat

gurb é seo suíomh eaglais na mainistreach, An Teampall Buí.

Deirtear gur shín an chéad reilig Chríostaí i dToraigh ón túr chiorclach go dtí An Coirín agus gur ghnách daoine ó thíir mór a adhlacadh inti fosta. Ach diaidh ar ndiaidh, bhí an fharraige á creimeadh agus thosaigh bunadh an oileáin ag úsáid seanthalamh na mainistreach lena gcuid mairbh a adhlacadh.

Sa bhliain 1853, thug Getty cuntas ar an reilig mar chlós a raibh balla timpeall air agus geafta le háirse. Bhí seisean den bharúil gurbh é sin an suíomh den abtheach a tógadh sa 7ú céad agus gurbh é an bealach áirseach (imithe anois) an bealach isteach chuig an abtheach.

Níl rian ar bith den abtheach fágtha, ach táthar den bharúil go bhféadfadh altóir cloiche atá in aice le balla thiar na reilige a bheith mar pháirt de. Tá bollán anseo chomh maith le leac croise atá daingnithe isteach sa bhalla. Soir ó dheas ón altóir tá cloch logaill agus meastar gurbh í seo stoc cothrománach a bhí mar chuid de chros ilchodach.

Móirshéisear

Map Ref: 7

Bhí seacht gcinn, ar a laghad, d'aireagail bheaga i dToraigh. Tá fothraigh de thriúr le feiceáil go fóill – Ulaí Eoin Baiste, Ulaí Bhríde agus Móirshéisear.

Is aireagal ó aimsir na Luath-Chríostaíochta atá sa Mhóirshéisear, atá suite siar ó dheas ón Baile Thiar. Is ionann an focal ársa 'móirshéisear' agus 'seachtar' (ag tagairt do dhaoine), agus de réir

Móirsheisear *Móirsheisear*

capized off Scoilt an Mhóirsheisir (cleft of the seven) on the island's northwest coast. The oratory is small and rectangular with an altar at the east end on which three portable stones were placed during ceremonies. The stones, whose whereabouts are unknown, are believed to have represented a chalice and two candlesticks. There is a bullaun stone with a cut depression near the entrance.

According to local superstition, clay from the woman's grave at Móirsheisear has the power to ward off vermin. There are no rats on Tory and seafarers of old believed that Tory Clay, or Úir Thorai, would keep their vessels free of rats. They travelled to the island to collect the clay, which had to be lifted by the eldest member of the Ó Dubhagáin (Duggan) family.

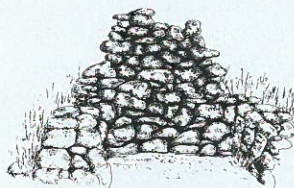
The Office of Public Works renovated the site and rebuilt part of the church in 1980.

bhéaloidis an oileáin, is uaigh atá ann inar hadhlacadh seisear fear agus bean amháin a báthadh nuair a chuaigh a mbád béal faoi taobh amuigh de Scoilt an Mhóirsheisir, ar chósta iarthuaiscirt an oileáin.

Aireagal beag dronuilleogach atá ann le haltóir ag an bhinn thoir ar a bhfágtaí, le linn searmanas, trí clocha a bhí éadrom go leor le hiompar thart ó áit go háit. Meastar gur sheas na clocha do chailís agus dhá choinnleoir. Ní fios cá bhfuil na clocha sin sa lá atá inniu ann. Tá bollán ina bhfuil lag gearrtha isteach ann, cóngarach don bhealach isteach.

De réir an tseanchais, tá cumhacht ar leith ag an chréafóg atá os cionn uaigh na mná atá curtha sa Mhóirsheisear. Níl luchógáí móra ar bith i dToraigh agus chreid mairnéalaigh an ama a chuaigh thart go gcoinneodh créafóg, nó Úir Thorai, a gcuid long saor ó luchógáí móra. Ba ghnách leo theacht chuig an oileán chun an chréafóg a fháil ó Chlann Uí Dhubhagáin, an t-aon dream a bhfuil sé de phribléid acu an chréafóg a thógáil.

Sa bhliain 1980, chuir Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí tús le hobair chothabhála ar an suíomh agus rinne siad atógáil ar pháirt den eaglais.



Ulaí Eoin Baiste (St John's Altar)

Map Ref: 4

Little remains of Ulaí Eoin Baiste (John the Baptist's oratory), or St John's Altar, which may have marked the site of Colmcille's original church. Its foundations can be traced beside the round tower, but its stones were re-erected just east of the tower during the 20th century. Mass was celebrated at this altar before the present-day church was built in 1857.

There are sixteen carved fragments at the altar (see photo below and Plate 5). The fragments comprise portions of ancient crosses, inscribed stones and a quern (millstone). Some of the relics are said to be mass stones, and one of the hollow stones may have been used as a receptacle for holy water (water blessed by a priest).



Ulaí Eoin Baiste *St John's Altar*

Ulaí Eoin Baiste

Map Ref: 4

Nil mórán iarsma fágtha d'Ulaí Eoin Baiste, a d'fhéadfadh a bheith suite san áit inar thóg Colm Cille a chéad eaglais. Tá lorg na dúshraithe le feiceáil ag taobh an cloigtheach. Sa 20ú haois, baineadh na clocha as agus rinneadh iad a atógáil piosa beag soir ón túr. Ba ghnách an tAifreann a cheiliúradh ag an altóir seo sular tógadh an teach pobail atá ann anois sa bhliain 1857.

Tá sé phiosa dhéag de smionagar cloch snoite le feiceáil ag suíomh úr na hulaí nó na haltóra (féach an griangraf agus Pláta 5). Ina measc tá píosaí de chrosanna ársa agus de chlocha greanta chomh maith le bró (cloch mhuilinn). Deirtear gur clocha Aifrinne iad cuid de na clocha seo agus d'fhéadfaí gur baineadh úsáid as ceann de na clocha logaill mar umar uisce coisrithe.

Tá na trí phiosa is inspéise ina seasamh leo féin. Is bloc eibhir ceann amháin acu a bhfuil cros shimplí greanta air. Tá log ar dhéanamh piorra sa dara piosa agus leac dingthe isteach sa log. Is bonn croise atá sa tríú ceann atá cothrom ciorclach agus log croschruthach ina lár. Tá stoc maol dingthe isteach sa log agus is féidir páirt de chros, atá snoite i rilif éadrom, a dhéanamh amach go fóill ar éadan amháin den stoc. Ina lú ar an bhunchloch, tá piosa de chros ar a bhfuil snoíodóireacht de dhuine atá gléasta i gclóca cochaill agus a dhá sciathán sinte amach aige. Meastar gur Colm Cille nó Earnán atá léirithe anseo.



The three pieces of greatest interest are free-standing. One is a granite block on which a simple cross is carved. A second features a pear-shaped socket into which a slab is wedged. The third is a flat, circular cross-base with a cross-shaped socket. Wedged into the socket is a flat shaft of stone. Part of a cross, carved in light relief, can be discerned on one face of the shaft. A cross fragment rests on the cross base; it features a carving of a hooded figure with outstretched arms, thought to represent Colmcille or Ernan.

On either side of the altar are slabs decorated with frets, spirals and plaits, all badly eroded. One of the slabs is probably from St Colmcille's Church (see below).

There are seven stone blocks in the altar itself, and one is deeply notched. Another stone partly underlies the circular cross-base and has a rectangular cut on one side. A stone trough at the altar once contained a vessel that was probably used for baptism. A damaged, disc-type quern-stone lies beside the trough.

St Colmcille's Church

St Colmcille's Church was situated southwest of the Old Graveyard, close to the present-day site of Ulaí Eoin Baiste. No traces of the church remain. The church was similar in size to the church of Móirshesear and its ruins

Ar dhá thaobh na haltóra, tá leacacha atá maisithe le cliatha, biseanna agus trlseáin ach tá siad creimthe go holc. Is dócha go dtáinig ceann de na leacacha ó Eaglais Cholm Cille (féach thíos).

Tá an ulai i féin déanta le seacht mbloc, ceann amháin acu a bhfuil eangai doimhne gearrtha isteach inti. Tá cloch eile, a bhfuil gearradh dronuilleogach ar thaobh amháin di, leath i bhfolach faoin bhonn chiorclach. In aice na haltóra tá umar cloiche ina raibh soitheach uair amháin a d'úsáidti faoi choinne baisteadh, is dócha. Tá cloch bhró chruinn bhriste ina lui ag taobh an umair.

Eaglais Cholmcille

Táthar den bharúil go raibh an eaglais a bhunaigh Colm Cille suite siar ó dheas ón tseanreilig in aice leis an áit ina bhfuil Ulaí Eoin Baiste anois. Níl rian den eaglais sin le feiceáil inniu. Mar sin féin, bhí an bhallóg ansin nuair a thug Getty cuairt ar an oileán sna 1840idí agus dá thairbhe sin tá a fhios againn go raibh sí thart fán mhéid chéanna le haireagal an Mhóirshesear. Deir Getty go raibh altóir gharbh ann chomh maith le huaigh a bhí cumhdaithe le leach mhaisithe. Creidtear gur haistríodh an leac sin go hUlaí Eoin Baiste ina dhiaidh sin agus d'fhéadfadh sí a bheith ansin ar fad (féach thuas).

Ulaí Bhríde

Map Ref : 6

Tá Ulaí Bhríde suite i bpsaiste ar an taobh thiar ó dheas den túr chiorclach, cóngarach d'Ulaí Eoin Baiste. Níl mórán fágtha den aireagal seo, diomaite d'altóir bheag chloiche ar a bhfuil trí bhró dhiallaite agus

were still visible when Getty visited in the 1840s. According to Getty, it contained a rude altar. A grave within the church was covered by a decorated slab which was later placed on Ulaí Eoin Baiste. The slab may still be there (see previous page).

St Brigid's Altar

Map Ref: 6

St Brigid's Altar (Ulaí Bhríde) is situated in an alleyway southwest of the round tower, near Ulaí Eoin Baiste. All that remains of this oratory is a small stone altar upon which are three saddle querns and two granite slabs. The querns (millstones) may be pre-Christian in date. Quern-stones were traditionally placed in the foundations of the island's churches to ensure a plentiful supply of food. Cailís Cholm Cille (Colmcille's chalice), a stone chalice reputedly used by Colmcille, was kept at Ulaí Bhríde. It is now in the National Museum.

Colmcille's Cross

Also known as Pope Gregory's Cross, this high cross dating from about 590 AD was still on the island in the 1500s, as recorded by Maghnus Ó Domhnaill in *Beatha Cholmcille* [The Life of Colmcille] (1532). Fragments of the cross may be among the relics in Ulaí Eoin Baiste (see page 36).

Cairn cross

An early Ordnance Survey map of Tory shows a cross on the site of the cairn

NOELLE NÍ DHUBHCHÓIN



Ulaí Bhríde *St Brigid's Altar*

dhá leac eibhir. D'fhéadfadh aois na mbróanna a bheith roimh aimsir na Críostaíochta. De réir an tseanchais, chuirte clocha bró i ndúshraitheanna eaglaisí an oileáin lena chinntiú go mbeadh neart bia ar fáil. Maítear gurbh í an chailís chloiche a bhí coimeáda in Ulaí Bhríde, Cailís Cholm Cille, an ceann céanna a d'úsáid Colm Cille. Tá sí seo anois sa Mhúsaem Náisiúnta.

Cros Cholm Cille

Bhí an ardchros seo (ar a dtugtar Cros an Phápa Ghréagóir chomh maith), a bhí ar an oileán ó thart fán bhliain 590AD, go fóill ansin sa 16ú haois, de réir mar atá scríofa ag Maghnus Ó Domhnaill i *mBeatha Cholmcille* (1532). D'fhéadfadh sé go bhfuil smionagar den chros i measc na n-iarsmaí atá ar Ulaí Eoin Baiste (féach thuas, leathanach 36).



east of An Baile Thiar, but Getty could find no trace of it when he visited in 1845.

The Cursing Stone

The Cursing Stone (Cloch na Mallacht) was formerly found at the west end of the island but was washed away or removed in the late 19th century.

Also known as Cloch Thorai (the Tory stone) and An Glacach (the handful) and associated with Colmcille, it lay on a pilgrimage route called An Turas Mór (the long journey) walked clockwise around the island. Pilgrims would walk the route before sunrise on three successive mornings, stopping to pray and place a small stone at points along the route. On reaching Cloch Thorai they would turn it upside down.

Some time after the destruction of the monastery in 1595 the stone became known as Cloch Na Mallacht or the Cursing Stone. Those bent on harnessing its supposed destructive powers would walk the route in an anti-clockwise direction before upturning the stone.

The Cursing Stone is said to have been used against the English gunboat HMS *Wasp* which was wrecked with loss of life when it attempted to dock to collect rates from the islanders in 1884 (see page 66). After the sinking of the *Wasp* the stone disappeared, either being washed away by high seas

Cros an Chairn

Taispeánann ceann de na chéad léarscáileanna de chuid na Suirbhéireachta Ordanáis go raibh cros suite ar shuíomh an chairn atá taobh thoir den Bhaile Thiar, ach nuair a thug Getty cuairt ar an oileán sa bhliain 1845 ní bhfuair sé rian ar bith den chros sin.

Cloch na Mallacht

Ba ghnách le Cloch na Mallacht a bheith ar an cheann thiar den oileán ach sciobadh ar shiúl leis an lán mara í, nó cuireadh i bhfolach í, am éigin i ndeireadh an 19ú céad.

An Glacach a thugtaí mar ainm uirthi ach thugtaí Cloch Thorai uirthi fosta. Deirte go raibh ceangal ag an chloch le Colmcille. Bhí sí suite ar shlí oilithreachta ar a dtugtaí An Turas Mór, a shiúltaí deiseal thart ar an oileán trí mhaidin i ndiaidh a chéile roimh éirí na gréine. Ag pointí áirithe ar an bhealach, stopfadh na hoilithrigh le paidreacha a rá agus clocha beaga a leagann síos. Nuair amháin a thiocfadh siad a fhad leis An Glacach, thiontódh siad i bunoscionn.

Is gan mhoill i ndiaidh scrios na mainistreach sa bhliain 1595 a tugadh Cloch na Mallacht uirthi. Bhí daoine ann a chreid go raibh cumhacht mhillteach ag an chloch agus go bhféadfaí an chumhacht sin a úsáid ach an turas a shiúl tuathal sula dtiontófaí an cloch bunoscionn.

Maítear gur baineadh úsáid as Cloch na Mallacht in éadan long cogaidh de chuid na Sasana, an HMS *Wasp*, sa bhliain 1884

or, as local lore has it, hidden by the parish priest of the time, who took the secret of its whereabouts with him to the grave.

It is possible that Cloch na Mallacht was always a cursing stone and that some pagan rite was taken over and given a Christian gloss to explain it.

Cloch Arclaí

Map Ref: 11

Cloch Arclaí, a distinctive rock on the coast southwest of the lighthouse, is believed to be the pedestal used for the Cursing Stone.

nuair a bhí sí ar shéala theacht i dtír chun rátaí a bhailiú ó bhunadh an oileáin. Chuaigh an bád go tóin poill agus cailleadh bunús na foirne (féach leathanach 66). Go gearr i ndiaidh báthadh an *Wasp*, d'imigh an chloch as amharc, cé acu a sciob an lán mara ar shiúl í nó, mar a deir seanchas an oileáin, gur chuir an sagart paróiste i bhfolach í agus go dtug sé fios a háit folaithe leis chun na huaighe.

B'fhéidir go raibh cumhacht mhillteach ag Cloch na Mallacht i gcónaí agus gur cuireadh cuma na Críostaíochta ar cá bith gnás páganach a bhain léi.

Cloch Arclaí

Map Ref: 11

Creidtear gur ar Chloch Arclaí, carraig shuntasach atá ar an chósta siar ó dheas ó Theach an tSolais, a bhí Cloch na Mallacht suite roimhe seo.



Years of war

The massacre of 1608

The late 1500s saw the English waging war on the Gaelic chieftains who held sway over Ireland. One of the final clashes of the campaign took place on Tory in 1608.

Tory had harboured survivors from the wreck of the Spanish Armada in 1588 and given refuge to local forces fleeing the bloody Tyrone War of 1593-1603. In May 1595, the monastery in Tory was plundered and destroyed by English troops commanded by George Bingham, Governor of Sligo.

The Battle of Kinsale in 1601 decisively broke the Irish chieftains' grip on power, and the early years of the 17th century saw the English quelling the last pockets of resistance in Ulster. In 1607 the foremost Gaelic lords including Aodh Ó Niall (Hugh O'Neill) and Aodh Rua Ó Domhnaill (Red Hugh O'Donnell), Earls of Tyrone and Tyrconnell respectively, fled to the continent, an event remembered as the Flight of the Earls.

By 1608, Crown forces had largely gained control of Ulster and the process of planting British settlers on clan lands began. These plans were disrupted in April 1608 by a surprise attack on the garrison of Derry, launched by Sir Cahir O'Doherty,

Blianta cogaidh

Ár na bliana 1608

I ndeireadh an 16ú céad, bhí na Sasanaigh ag cur cogaidh ar thaoisigh na nGael a bhí i réim in Éirinn. Is istigh i dToraigh a tharla ceann de na cathanna deireanacha sa chogadh seo sa bhliain 1608.

Thug muintir Thoraí dídean do mhairnéalaigh a tháinig slán nuair a briseadh longa de chuid Armáid na Spáinne ar na carraigeacha sa bhliain 1588, agus fosta thug siad dídean d'fhórsaí áitiúla a bhí ar a dteitheadh ó chogadh fuilteach Thír Eoghain, 1593-1603. I mí na Bealtaine, 1595, rinne saighdiúirí na Sasana faoi cheannas George Bingham, Gobharnóir Shligigh, creach agus slad ar mhainistir Thoraí.

Cuir briseadh Chath Chionn tSáile, 1601, deireadh go deo le tiarnas thaoisigh na nGael agus, go luath sa 17ú céad, chuir na Sasanaigh faoi chois an méid a bhí fágtha ina gcoinne i gCúige Uladh. Sa bhliain 1607, d'imigh na taoisigh a ba chumhachtaí chun na Mór-roinne, Aodh Ó Néill, Iarla Thír Eoghain, agus Aodh 'Rua' Ó Dhomhnaill, Iarla Thír Conaill, ina measc. Tugtar Teitheadh na nIarlaí ar an eachtra sin ariamh ó shin.

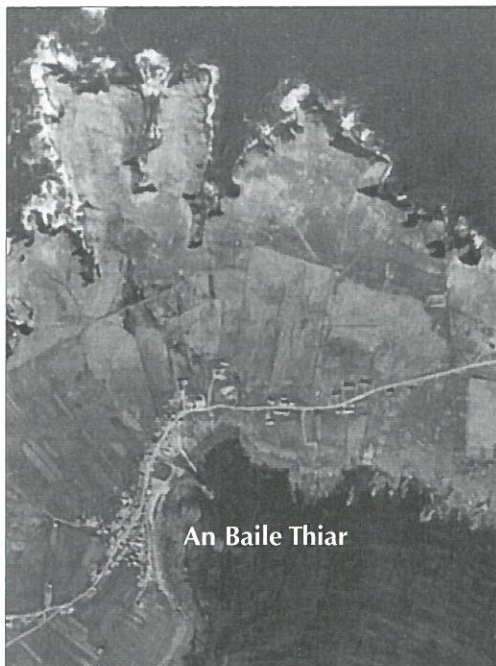
Faoin bhliain 1608, bhí Cúige Uladh faoi smacht na Sasana agus cuireadh tús leis an phlandáil, ag tabhairt tailte Chlanna Gael do choilínigh ó Shasana agus ó Albain. Cuireadh isteach ar an phróiseas seo i mí Aibreáin na bliana 1608 nuair a rinne

a Donegal chieftain who had been knighted to gain his loyalty. He overcame the garrison and called on neighbouring clans to join him in arms. He was joined by Seán Mánais Óg Ó Dómhnaill who had succeeded Aodh Rua Ó Domhnaill as leader of the Ó Domhnaill clan after the Flight of the Earls.

O'Doherty was defeated and killed at Kilmacrennan and the surviving forces of 240 men, under Seán Mánais Óg, fled the scene. Mánais Óg with 60 of his followers was pursued by the Lord Deputy of Ireland, Sir Arthur Chichester, and took refuge on Tory. In August 1608 all sixty members of the band were put to the sword by English troops under Sir Henry Foillot, Sir Ralph Bingley and Captain Gore, with the help of a collaborator, Maolmhuire 'An Bhata Bhuí' Mac Suibhne.

This massacre took place midway between An Baile Thiar and An Baile Thoir. The horror of the event is remembered in the battlefield's placenames: Log Anáil na nDaoine (hollow of the people's breath), Fuíoll na bhFear (remains of the men) and Claí an Áir (bank of the massacre). Shortly afterwards, in 1609, the island was annexed in the name of England's King James I at Lifford, in east Donegal.

In 1653, the Cromwellian authorities placed a garrison on Tory and made one of their officers, Captain John Stafford,

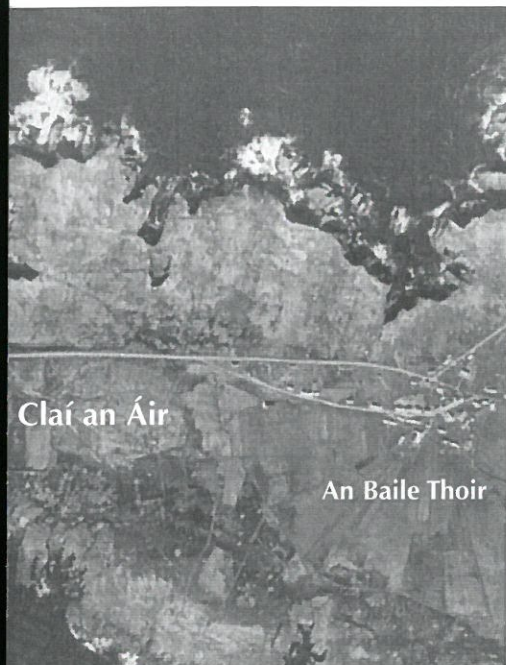


Claí an Áir 'Bank of the massacre'

Cathair Ó Dochartaigh agus a chuid fear ionsaí tobann ar gharastún Dhoire. Bhí an Dochartaigh ina thaoiseach ar Inis Eoghain agus rinne na Sasanaigh ridire de ar mhaithe lena dhílseacht a cheannacht. Nuair a d'éirigh leis an bhua a fháil ar an gharastún, chuir sé gairm slógaidh chuig clanna Gael eile sa chomharsanacht. Tháinig Seán Mhánais Óig Ó Dómhnaill i gcomhar leis. Ba é Seán Mhánais Óig a lean Aodh Rua Ó Domhnaill, Iarla Thír Chonaill, mar cheannaire ar Chlann Uí Dhomhnaill i ndiaidh Teitheadh na nIarlaí.

Fuair fórsaí na corónach an bhua ar an Dochartach ag Cill Mhic Réanáin agus maraíodh é. Chuaigh Seán Mhánais Óig

PHOTO COURTESY RALPH SHEPPARD



agus an 240 fear a tháinig slán as an chath ar a dteitheadh. Bhí Sir Arthur Chichester, fear ionaid na Sasana in Éirinn, sa tóir ar Sheán agus 60 dá lucht leanúna a theith go Toraigh agus i mí Lúnasa, 1608, cuireadh an t-iomlán acu chun báis nuair a ghabh fórsaí na Sasana iad. Ba iad Sir Henry Foillot, Sir Ralph Bingley agus Captain Gore a bhí i gceannas ar na saighdiúirí agus fuair siad cuidiú ón fhealltóir Maolmhuire an Bhata Bhuí Mac Suibhne.

Tharla an t-ár leath bealaigh idir An Baile Thiar agus An Baile Thoir. Maireann uafás na heachtra sin i logainmneacha na háite: Log Anáil na nDaoine, Fuíoll na bhFear agus Claí an Áir. Gan mhoill ina dhiaidh sin sa bhliain 1609, cláraíodh an t-oileán i Leifear in ainm Rí Shéamais I na Sasana.

Sa bhliain 1653, chuir muintir Chromail garastún ar Thoraigh agus tugadh úinéireacht an oileáin do dhuine dá n-oifigigh, an Captaen John Stafford, mar pháirt dá chúiteamh as ucht urraíocht a dhéanamh ar fheachtas Chromail. De réir an tseanchais, ba iad cuid saighdiúirí Chromail a chur an dlaoi mhullaigh ar léirscrios na mainistreach agus insítear go ndearna saighdiúirí amháin, Aindreas na gCros, iarracht an Chros Tau a bhriseadh.

Tá tuairisc spéisiúil ón am seo fá fhear darbh ainm "John Stewart of Torry," a bhí sa bhliain 1665 ar dhuine de 36 tionónta a bhí ina gcónaí i mbarúntacht Chill Mhic Réanáin, Co Dhún na nGall, a raibh simléar acu ina dteach agus dá bharr sin b'éigean dóibh cáin, ar a dtugtaí "cáin teallaigh," a íoc leis an bharúntacht.

owner of the island in part settlement for his sponsorship of the Cromwellian campaign. Folk memory attributes the final destruction of the monastery to Cromwellian troops and records that one soldier, Aindreas na gCros, attempted to break the Tau Cross.

There is an interesting record from this period of a "John Stewart of Torry" who in 1665 was amongst 36 tenants in the barony of Kilmacrennan, Co Donegal, with a chimney on their house, who paid a tax called "hearth money" to the barony.

Tory Castle

Map Ref: 29

A castle once stood just north of Port an Dúin at the east end of Tory. It belonged to Seán Mánais Óg Ó Dómhnaill at the time of the 1608 massacre and was probably built in the 15th century, though coins from both the 14th and 17th centuries have been found nearby. It is referred to in the Civil Survey of 1654-'56 (the Down Survey) as *"a little castle called the Castle of Tory, commanded by a Governor and a Warde of the State Souldrs"* [sic]. According to the Ordnance Survey Letters for County Donegal, *"Caisleán Bhaloir* [sic] *was a modern square castle of lime and stone built by O'Roarty who was, it seems, some time ago powerful on the island."* (The O'Roartys were erenach rulers on the island until the Brehon laws were outlawed by the British in 1606; see also page 28.) By the 19th century, only the foundations of the castle remained, and nothing of it can be seen today.

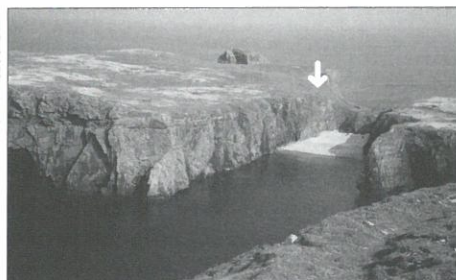
Caisleán Thoraí

Map Ref: 29

Bhí caisleán ina sheasamh uair amháin díreach taobh ó thuaidh de Phort an Dúin, ar an cheann thoir den oileán. Ba le Seán Mhánais Óig Ó Dómhnaill an caisleán nuair a tharla ár na bliana 1608. Táthar den bharúil gur tógadh é sa 15ú haois cé go bhfuarthas boinn airgid ón 14ú haois agus ón 17ú haois cóngarach den suíomh. Seo mar a chuirtear síos air sa Suirbhé Sibhialta, 1654-'56 (The Down Survey): *"a little castle called the Castle of Tory, commanded by a Governor and a Warde of the State Souldrs"* [sic]. De réir Litreacha na Suirbhéireachta Ordanáis do Chontae Dhún na nGall *"Caisleán Bhaloir* [sic] *was a modern square castle of lime and stone built by O'Roarty who was, it seems, some time ago powerful on the island."* (Ba iad Muintir Uí Ramhartaigh a bhí ina n-airchinnigh ar an oileán go dtí gur chuir na Sasanaigh deireadh le Dlíthe na mBreithiún sa bhliain 1606; féach leathanach 28 fosta.)

Sa 19ú haois, ní raibh fágtha ach dúshraith an chaisleáin, ach inniu níl rian ar bith de le feiceáil.

EOIN MACLOCHLAINN



Suíomh Chaisleán Thoraí *Former site of Tory Castle*



lomairí prátaí ón 18ú haois *Contemporary illustration of 18th-century lazy-beds*

Pre-Famine times

Tory from 1700 to 1845

Between 1700 and 1845 the population of Ireland rose dramatically from three to eight and a half million and the west of Ireland was transformed into a thickly-settled small farm area. The population of Tory reached 399 in 1841.

In Tory, sharp population growth was enabled by the potato and the island's turf. The potato was first introduced to Ireland as a garden vegetable in the 1600s. It flourished in thin, nutrient-poor soils and by the early 1700s it was the winter food of the Tory islanders. It quickly became an annual staple, with winter cabbage and summer herring.

Turf provided ready access to cheap fuel, while housing was provided cheaply

Roimh an Ghorta Mór

Toraigh ó 1700 go 1845

Sna blianta idir 1700 agus 1845 tháinig ardú iontach mór ar dhaonra na hÉireann, ó thrí mhilliún suas go dtí ocht milliún go leith. Bhí dlúthdhaonra anois ina gcónaí in iarthar na hÉireann agus feirmeacha beaga acu uilig. Faoin bhliain 1841 bhí daonra de 399 ina gcónaí ar oileán Thoraí.

Chuidigh an práta agus móin an oileáin leis an mhéadú ard a tháinig ar an daonra. Tugadh an práta go hÉirinn i dtús báire sa 17ú céad mar ghlasra garraí a bhí in inmhe fás i gcréafóg bhocht thanaí. Go luath sa 18ú céad, ba é an práta bia geimhridh bhunadh an oileáin. Roimh i bhfad, ba é an práta an bia a ba thábhachtaí i rith na bliana, i gcuideachta cáil geimhridh agus scadán samhraidh.

Bhí an mhóin saor agus furasta a fháil. Baineadh úsáid as ábhar áitiúil a bhí breá saor fosta do thógáil tithe - clocha do na ballaí;

using local materials - stones for walls; tempered clay for floors; 'wreck' timber for rafters; and oats, grass or reed for thatch. There was no shortage of labour, and hand-tool cultivation, using spade, sickle and scythe and the garden-like technique of iomairí (lazy-beds), predominated.



Sean iomairí prátaí *Disused lazy-beds on Tory*

The carrying capacity of the island was further increased by the 'rundale-and-clachan' system, a pattern of farming and settlement first described in Scotland which became universal on the poorer lands of the west of Ireland in the pre-Famine period.

Rundale and clachan

Land-holding was organised communally under the rundale system. Families lived in small, clustered settlements or clachans (bailtí) beside arable infields and common grazing lands or outfields.

A tiny, walled vegetable garden (garraí) lay adjacent to each farmhouse, and the cluster of houses was surrounded, on the best available land, by the cultivated infield. Every farmer worked several plots of land in the infield, each no more than

EMER MAGEE

créafóg shuaite do na hurláir; adhmaid raice do na ractaí; agus coirce móinéir, féar nó feagacha don díon tuí. Bhí neart lucht oibre ar fáil agus bhaintí úsáid as uirlísí láimhe - spád, corrán agus speal - fá choinne an churaíochta a dhéanamh, in iomairí den chuid is mó.

Bhí rud eile ann a chuidigh le cumas acmhainne an oileáin,

sé sin an córas clachan agus rondála, stíl cónaithe agus feirmeoireachta a tugadh faoi deara in Albain a chéaduaire agus a d'éirigh iontach coitianta ar an talamh a ba bhoichte in iarthar na hÉireann roimh an Ghorta.

Rondáil agus clachan

Bhí na gabháiltais talaimh eagraithe go comhchoiteanta faoi chóras na rondála. Chónaigh na teaghlaigh béal dorais lena chéile i gcruinneagáin bheaga nó clachain (bailtí) in aice le garpháirceanna de thalamh curaíochta agus coimíní de thalamh féaraigh níos faide amach.

Bhí garraí glasraí, a raibh claí thart air, ag taobh gach uile theach feirme agus thart timpeall an chlachain, ar an talamh ab fhearr, bhí an gharpháirc churaíochta. Bhí cúpla leadhb talaimh, gan ceann ar bith níos mó ná ceathrú acra, ag gach feirmeoir lena chuid prátaí agus coirce a fhás. Ní raibh cead claíocha ar bith a thógáil ar an tsála go raibh talamh curaíochta gann go leor. Gach uile



a quarter of an acre, growing oats and potatoes. No walls were allowed in the infield, as arable land was in short supply. Plot ownership was rotated annually by the king to ensure that each farmer had a fair share of the land. The fertility of the infield was nurtured using manure, peat and sods.

Livestock was grazed collectively during the summer in the outfield, which was separated from the infield by a sturdy wall. The animals could be grazed on the infield in winter, to manure the soil.

Tory is unique in retaining the rundale system until quite recently, and the rundale field pattern is still clearly evident today.

Mounting pressures

The settlement pattern was essentially complete in 1836. The Ordnance Survey map of that year shows the island's two settlements or bailtí, An Baile Thiar and An Baile Thoir, with much the same size and distribution of houses as today.

The rising population forced a new dependence on tillage at the expense of pasturage, and the islanders had to reclaim land in the outfield to provide for the increased numbers. The demand for manure intensified, leading to a frantic search for alternative fertiliser sources, including lime and seaweed.

bhliain, d'athraíodh an rí úinéireacht na leadhbacha talaimh ó dhuine go duine le déanamh cinnte go bhfaigheadh gach feirmeoir a sciar cothrom den talamh ab fhearr. Tugadh aire i gcónaí do thorthúlacht na garpháirce agus rinneadh í a leasú le haoileach, móin agus scaitheanna.

Bhíodh na hainmhithe go léir ar innilt i gcuideachta a chéile i rith an tsamhraidh amuigh ar an choimín a bhí deighilte ar shiúl ón gharpháirc le balla breá láidir. I rith an gheimhridh, d'fhéadfadh na hainmhithe a bheith ag innilt sa gharpháirc ar mhaithe leis an chréafóg a leasú.

Tá Toraigh ar an áit dheireanach a choinnigh córas na rondála in úsáid go dtí ar na mallaibh agus tá patrún rondála na bpáirceanna le feiceáil go hiontach soiléir i gcónaí.

An córas faoi bhrú

Bhí an patrún clachain críochnaithe go hiomlán sa bhliain 1836. Taispeánann léarscáil na Suirbhéireachta Ordanáis na bliana sin dhá chlachan, nó dhá bhaile an oileáin - An Baile Thiar agus An Baile Thoir - tuairim is an mhéid chéanna agus an dáileadh tithíochta céanna is atá iontu i láthair na huaire.

Ach de bharr méadú sa daonra, bhí gá le níos mó curaíochta agus níos lú aird a thabhairt ar innilt. B'éigean do mhuintir an oileáin talamh garbh ón choimín a thabhairt go míntíreachais sa dóigh go mbeifí in inmhe níos mó daoine a chothú. Bhí éileamh níos mó ar aoileach agus b'éigean foinsí leasa eile a aimsiú, aol agus feamainn ina measc.



Garpháirc feanchruthach ag An Baile Thoir
Fan-shaped infield at An Baile Thoir

The islanders kept their livestock on the more fertile infield from October to March, but the animals had to be removed by St Patrick's Day, the start of farming operations. Animals continued to intrude, however, and eventually the king intervened, banning pigs and geese from the island to prevent damage to crops.

Infield

Map Ref: 26

A rare surviving example of an infield is found on Tory in An Baile Thoir. Almost untouched by the passage of time, it contains enclosed gardens close to the clustered dwelling houses; a parquet-floor arrangement of unenclosed strips in a fan-shaped infield; and a head wall around the infield, separating it from the degraded commonage of the outfield – the cumulative result of despoliation of sods to replenish the infield. (See picture, above, and Plate 6.)

Choinnigh na hoileánaigh a gcuid ainmhithe istigh sa gharpháirc ó Dheireadh Fómhair go mí Mhárta ach chomh luath is a tháinig Lá Fhéile Pádraig, aimsir thús na feirmeoireachta, cuireadh na hainmhithe amach. Mar sin féin, thiocfadh ainmhithe isteach sa churaíocht agus sa deireadh rinne an rí eadráin agus chuir sé cosc le muca agus géacha ar bith ar an oileán feasta sa dóigh nach millfí na barra.

Garpháirc

Map Ref: 26

Tá sampla annamh de gharpháirc le fáil sa Bhaile Thoir i dToraigh go fóill. Is fíorbheagán athraithe a tháinig ar an pháirc seo ina bhfuil na garrantacha iata taobh leis na tithe clachain; leadhbacha gan claíocha socrúithe macasamhail urlár iontlaise i ngarpháirc feanchruthach; agus ceannbhalla thart ar an gharpháirc a dheighilt amach ón choimín – áit a bhfuil drochbhail ar an talamh de bharr an méid scaitheadh agus fóda a baineadh as ar mhaithe leis an gharpháirc a leasú.



Toraigh thoir ón spéir *Aerial view of east end of Tory*



An Baile Thiar ón spéir *Aerial view of An Baile Thiar*

Plate 2

EOIN MACLOHLAINN



An Baile Thiar ó Scoilt na Sceilig *View of An Baile Thiar from Scoilt na Sceilig*

NICK DUFF



Port an Dúin *Port an Dúin, the port of Dún Bhaloír*

EOIN MACLOCHLAINN



Radharc de Dhún Bhaloir ó Pholl an Bhráthair *View of Dún Bhaloir from Poll an Bráthair*

EOIN MACLOCHLAINN



Saighdiúirí Bhaloir *Balar's soldiers*

COURTESY OF RALPH SHEPPARD



Toraigh ón spéir *Aerial view of Tory*



An Cloigtheach, An Baile Thiar *The Bell Tower, An Baile Thiar*



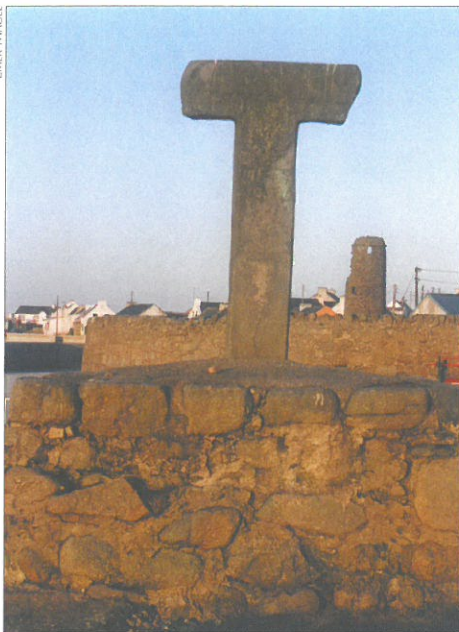
Móirshéisear *Church of the Seven*

EMER MACGE



An Cloigtheach *The Bell Tower*

EMER MACGE



An Chros Tau *The Tau Cross*

FIDEIMA MULLANE



Ulaí Eoin Baiste *St John's Altar*

EÓIN MACLOCHLAÍN



An Baile Thoir *An Baile Thoir*

FROM ORIGINAL BY JIM HOURIHAN



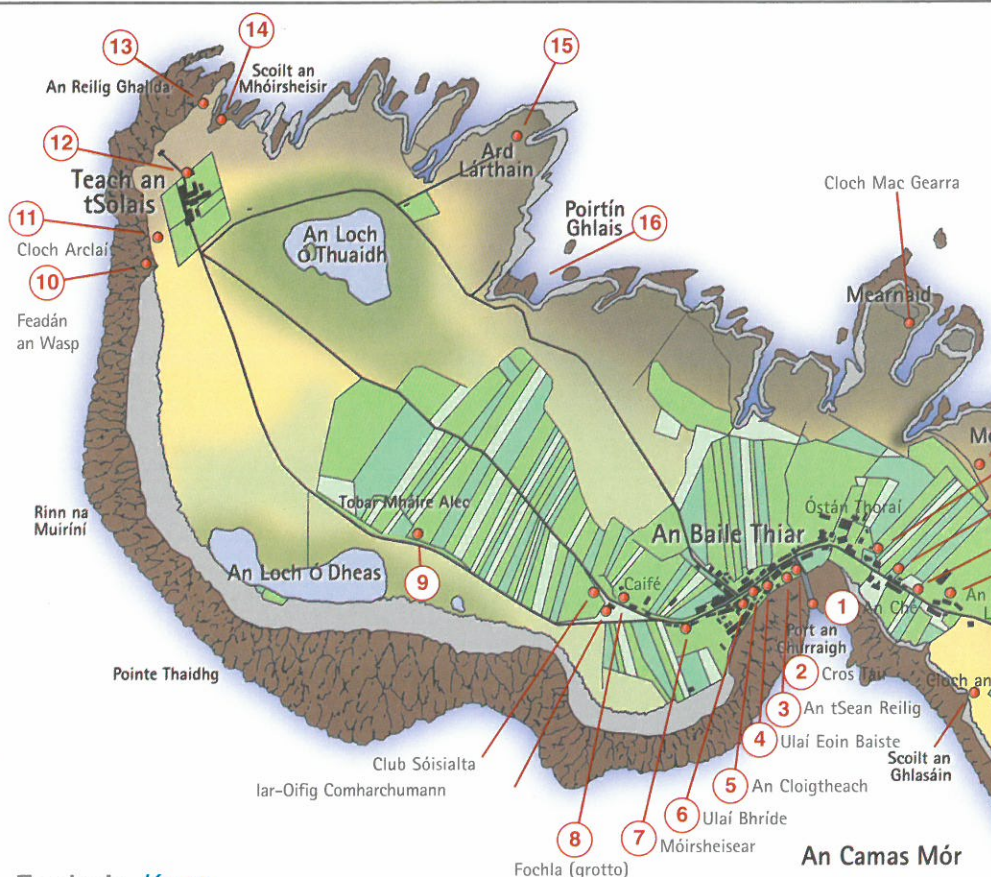
Garpháirc feanchruthach ag an Baile Thoir *Fan-shaped infield at An Baile Thoir*



Ballóga de theach traidisiúnta le beanna maolaithe *Ruins of traditional cottage with rounded gable ends*



Teach traidisiúnta *Tory cottage in vernacular style*



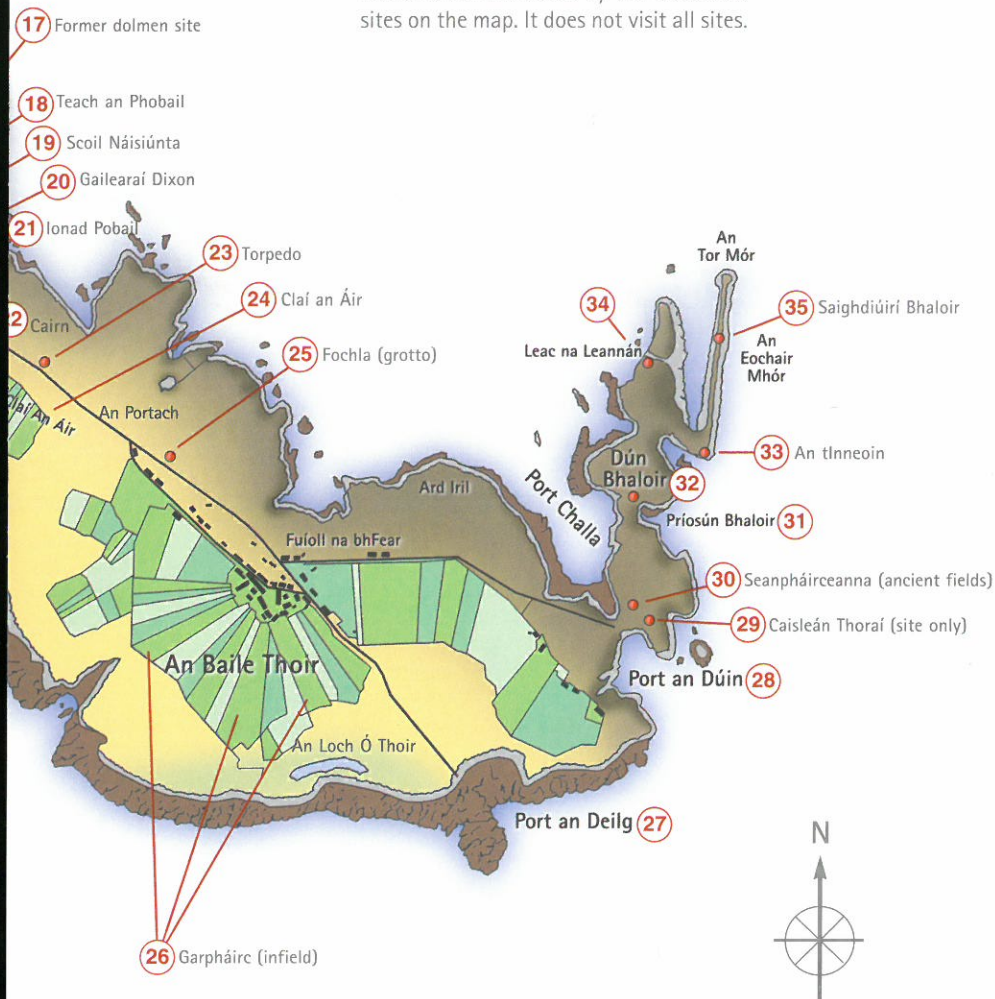
Eochair Key*

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 An Ché | <i>The Pier</i> | 19 Scoil Náisiúnta | <i>The National School</i> |
| 2 An Chros Tau | <i>The Tau Cross</i> | 20 Gailearaí Dixon | <i>Dixon Gallery</i> |
| 3 An tSean Reilig | <i>The Old Graveyard</i> | 21 Ionad Pobail | <i>Community Centre</i> |
| 4 Ulaí Eoin Baiste | <i>St John's Altar</i> | 22 Cairn | <i>Cairn</i> |
| 5 An Cloigtheach | <i>The Bell Tower</i> | 23 Torpedo | <i>Torpedo</i> |
| 6 Ulaí Bhríde | <i>St Brigid's Altar</i> | 24 Claí an Áir | <i>Bank of the massacre</i> |
| 7 Móirseisear | <i>Church of the seven</i> | 25 Fochla | <i>Grotto</i> |
| 8 Fochla | <i>Grotto</i> | 26 Garpháirc | <i>Fan-shaped infield</i> |
| 9 Tobar Mháire Alec | <i>Saunders' Well</i> | 27 Port an Deilg | <i>Port an Deilg</i> |
| 10 Feadán an Wasp | <i>Wasp inlet</i> | 28 Port an Dúin | <i>Port an Dúin</i> |
| 11 Cloch Arclaí | <i>Cloch Aarclaí</i> | 29 Caisleán Thorai | <i>Former site of Tory Castle</i> |
| 12 Teach an tSolais | <i>The Lighthouse</i> | 30 Seanpháirceanna | <i>Ancient fields</i> |
| 13 An Reilig Ghallda | <i>The Foreign Graveyard</i> | 31 Príosún Bhaloir | <i>Balor's prison</i> |
| 14 Scoilt an Mhóirseisir | <i>Scoilt an Mhóirseisir</i> | 32 Dún Bhaloir | <i>Dún Bhaloir</i> |
| 15 Ard Lárthain | <i>Ard Lárthain</i> | 33 An tInneoin | <i>The Anvil</i> |
| 16 Póirtín Ghlais | <i>Póirtín Ghlais</i> | 34 Leac na Leannán | <i>The Wishing Stone</i> |
| 17 Dolmain (iar-suíomh) | <i>Former dolmen site</i> | 35 Saighdiúirí Bhaloir | <i>Balor's soldiers</i> |
| 18 Teach an Phobail | <i>The Church</i> | | |

* Consult the index, page 112, for site descriptions

Toraigh *Tory Island*

The route of Bealach na Gaeltachta (The Gaeltacht Way) follows the roadway in the direction indicated by the numbered sites on the map. It does not visit all sites.



FIDEEMA MULLANE



Tithíocht dhúchasach Thoraí *Vernacular Tory village housing*

EGIN MACLOCHLAINN



An bealach chuig an Teach Solais
The road to the lighthouse

EMER MACGEE



Teach dúchasach *Vernacular cottage*

EMER MACEE



Bothán i dToraigh *Cottage on Tory*

EÓIN MACLOCHLAINN



An bealach chun an Bhaile Thiar, brataithe le bláthanna fiáine *Road into An Baile Thiar, with wild flowers*

EDDIE DUNNE



Traonach ar Toraigh *Corncrake on Tory: this bird species is globally endangered*

FIDEAMA MULLANE



An Loch Ó Thoir *East lake*



Cuan Thoraigh *Tory harbour*



Curacha agus potaí gliomaigh ag Port an Dúin *Currachs and lobster pots at Port an Dúin*



Curach ag céibh an Bhaile Thiar *Tory currach at An Baile Thiar slipway*



Cuirtear bád úr chun farraige *A new fishing boat is launched*

FIDEEMA MULLANE



Curacha Thoraí *Tory currachs*

NÓRLE NÍ DHUBHICHÓN



Teach an tSolais agus an Loch Ó Thuaidh sa gheimhreadh *Lighthouse and the north lake in winter*



Pictiúr le Antain Ó Míonáin *The Lighthouse*, by Antain Ó Míonáin, Tory painter



Pictiúr le James 'Jimí' Dixon *'Mr William Rogers Plowing In Dixon Farm Tory Island - The First Tractor That Ever Came to Tory Island'* (1967), by the late James 'Jimí' Dixon, Tory painter

After the Famine

Tory from 1845 to 1900

Tory was fortunate in escaping the potato blight that ravaged the mainland in the 19th century. The direction of the prevailing winds and the distance from the mainland helped prevent the spores of the fungus from reaching the island. Even during the Great Famine of 1845-1847 the island was not affected.

The size of holdings grew smaller and smaller, however, as under the island's system of inheritance all children had a claim on their parents' land. In 1830, the arable holdings of the island's 49 tenants amounted to 250 acres (100ha), an average of about five acres (2ha) each. The worst excesses of fragmentation were avoided by the abandonment of claims after emigration or marriage. There was a tacit agreement that only a certain amount of land should go into a marriage and then it should come from the side most able to afford it.

The failure of the potato as a food source in Ireland was accompanied by an official onslaught on the rundale system in the belief that only individually-run farms could be run economically. In the 1840s, Tory had a landlord, John Oban Woodhouse, who attempted the consolidation of the fragmented holdings. His actions were encouraged

I ndiaidh an Ghorta Mór

Toraigh ó 1845 go 1900

Bhí an t-ádh ar Thoraigh nach dtáinig aicíd na bprátaí a fhad leis an oileán, an aicíd sin a chreach tír mór sa 19ú céad. Chuir treo na ngnáthghaotha agus an fad ó thír mór cosc le spóir an fhungais a theacht de chóir an oileáin. Fiú le linn an Ghorta Mhóir sna blianta 1845-1847, níor cuireadh isteach ar an oileán.

Ar an taobh eile den scéal, bhí méid na ngabháltais ag éirí níos lú agus níos lú, cionn is go raibh, de réir dlí oidhreacht an oileáin, an ceart céanna ag iomlán páistí ar thalamh a dtuismitheoirí. Sa bhliain 1830, bhí 250 acra (100ha) de thalamh curaíochta roinnte ar na 49 tionónta a bhí ar an oileán, ionann is thart fá cúig acra (2ha) an tionónta.

Mar sin féin, rinneadh barraíocht roinnt a sheachaint de bhrí go dtug baill teaghlaigh suas a gcearta nuair a chuaigh siad ar imirce nó nuair a pósadh iad. Bhí socrú intuigthe ann nach mbeadh ach píosa áirithe talaimh mar spré phósta agus fosta go dtiocfadh sé ón taobh a ba mhó acmhainne.

Nuair a theip ar an phráta mar fhoinsé bia in Éirinn, rinneadh ionsaí oifigiúil ar chóras na rondála mar gur síleadh go n-éireodh níos éifeachtaí le feirmeacha aonaracha.

Sna 1840idí, bhí tiarnas talún Thoraigh ag dlíodóir ó Bhaile Átha Cliath, leasaitheoir darbh ainm John Oban Woodhouse a thug iarracht na gabháltais ilroinnte a chomhdhlúthú. Mar chúltaca aige, bhí Dlí



by the 1837 Poor Law which persuaded landlords to end rundale. Woodhouse, a Dublin solicitor, divided the Tory holdings into continuous strips (“ladder farms”) and tried to prevent any further subdivision of the land. He reduced the number of tenants to 34 by removing one hundred islanders to the mainland.

Woodhouse’s efforts to prevent fragmentation failed, however, as the islanders refused to abandon their system of inheritance. Subdivision of the land continued and the rundale system remained essentially undisturbed.

After Woodhouse came another landlord, Benjamin St John Baptist Joule, a Manchester businessman who bought the island in 1861. Joule wrote that the islanders were well off from the sale of lobster and crab and were well able to afford their rents. But he received little rent from the islanders and none at all after 1872.

The islanders also refused to pay their rates. In 1884, a British gunboat, HMS *Wasp*, was despatched from Westport, Co Mayo, to collect arrears on Tory and Inishtrahull, an island to the northeast. The boat had visited Tory before, including in the spring of 1883 when she ran a mercy mission on behalf of the Quakers (Society of Friends) to bring seed potatoes to the island. In September 1884, the *Wasp* was en route from Sligo to Moville, Co Donegal, where it planned

na mBocht, 1837, a mhol do na tiarnaí talún deireadh a chur leis an rónáil. Rinne Woodhouse na gabhálaí a roinnt ina leadhbacha fada leanúnacha (“feirmeacha dréimreacha”) agus thug sé iarraidh cosc a chur le tuilleadh foroinnt den talamh. Laghdaigh sé líon na dtionóntaí go 34 cionn is gur aistrigh sé céad de mhuintir an oileáin amach go tír mór.

Theip ar iarrachtaí Woodhouse stop a chur le hilroinnt na ngabháltas de bhrí gur dhiúltaigh na hoileánaigh a gcóras oidhreachta a thabhairt suas. Lean foroinnt talaimh ag dul ar aghaidh agus ní tháinig athrú ar bith ar chóras na rondála.

Tháinig tiarna talún eile i ndiaidh Woodhouse, duine darbh ainm Benjamin St John Baptist Joule, fear gnó as Manchain a cheannaigh an t-oileán sa bhliain 1861. Scríobh seisean go raibh neart rachmais ag na hoileánaigh ó dhíolachán gliomach agus portán, rud a d’fhág go raibh siad breá ábalta an cíós a íoc. Ach is fíor bheagán cíosa a fuair sé ó bhunadh an oileáin agus ní bhfuair sé pingin ar bith uatha i ndiaidh 1872.

Lena chois sin, dhiúltaigh bunadh an oileáin a gcuid rátaí a íoc. Sa bhliain 1884, cuireadh long cogaidh de chuid na Sasana, an HMS *Wasp*, ó Chathair na Mart i gContae Mhaigh Eo, le riarastí rátaí a bhailiú ó Thoraigh agus Inis Trá Tholl, oileán eile soir ó thuaidh. Níorbh é seo an chéad uair don long cuairt a thabhairt ar Thoraigh mar in earrach na bliana 1883 thug sí prátaí síl chun an oileáin thar ceann Cuallacht na gCairde. I mí Mheán an Fhómhair, 1884, bhí an *Wasp* ar a bealach ó Shligeach go



An Reilig Ghallda *The Foreign Graveyard*

to take on board police and bailiffs for possible evictions on Inishtrahull, but as it approached Tory it foundered on rocks west of the lighthouse with the loss of 52 lives. All but six of her crew perished. Eight members of the crew were buried in An Reilig Ghallda (the Foreign Graveyard) beside Scoilt an Mhóirsheisir on the northwest shore. After this tragedy no further attempts were made to collect rates or rent from either Tory or Inishtrahull.

The number of tenants increased from 34 in 1845 to 72 in 1857 and the average size of holdings continued to fall, from about 3.5 acres (1.5ha) in 1857 to just three acres (1.2ha) by the end of the century.

Bun an Phobail, Co Dhún na nGall, áit a raibh sé beartaithe póilíní agus báillí a thabhairt ar bord ar eagla go gcaithfí daoine a chur as seilbh in Inis Trá Tholl. Nuair a bhí sí ar tí theacht i dtír i dToraigh, briseadh ar na carraigeacha í taobh thiar de Theach an tSolais agus cailleadh 52 fear. Ní tháinig slán ach seisear. Rinneadh ochtar dá foireann a adhlacadh sa Reilig Ghallda in aice le Scoilt an Mhóirsheisir. I ndiaidh na tubaiste sin, ní dhearnadh iarrachtaí ar bith eile le rátaí nó cánacha a bhaint de mhuintir Thoraigh nó de mhuintir Inis Trá Tholl.

Lean líon na dtionóntaí ag méadú, ó 34 sa bhliain 1845 go dtí 72 sa bhliain 1857, agus mar a gcéanna lean meánmhéid na ngabháltas ag titim, ó thart fá 3.5 acra (1.5ha) in 1857 go dtí trí acra (1.2ha) ag deireadh an chéid.

By 1900 Tory had reverted to a system of farming not unlike the old rundale system which had been particularly well suited to the island, with its scarce supply of arable land and its plentiful supply of rough pasturage.

Life on Tory was exceptionally hard and the people were lured by the prospect of an easier life and a better standard of living elsewhere, especially America. The 1851 census registered a slight increase in the island's population to 402 but the rest of the century was characterised by almost uninterrupted population decline. The population had fallen to 307 by 1911.

Farming

The islanders in the 19th century seldom visited the mainland. They lived a self-contained existence, drawing a simple livelihood from the land and sea and making their own linens, woollens, earthenwares and baskets.

NOELLE NI DHUBHCHÓIN



Cliabh nach bhfuil in úsáid *Tory creel, disused*

Faoin bhliain 1900, bhí córas feirmeoireachta ar ais i dToraigh a bhí iontach cosúil leis an seanchóras rondála a bhí thar a bheith fóirsteanach don oileán de thairbhe go raibh ganntanas de thalamh curaíochta ann ach neart de thalamh garbh féaraigh.

Bhí sé iontach crua ag duine ar bith a bheatha a shaothrú i dToraigh. Mealladh go leor le himeacht thar sáile, áit a mbeadh saol níos fearr acu, go speisialta i Meiriceá. I nDaonáireamh na bliana 1851, taispeántar méadú beag sa daonra go 402, ach i rith an chuid eile den chéad tháinig laghdú leanúnach ar an daonra agus faoin bhliain 1911 ní raibh ann ach 307 duine.

Feirmeoireacht

Sa 19ú céad, b'annamh a thugadh bunadh an oileáin cuairt ar thírl mór. Bhain siad a mbeatha amach go neamhspleách, ag maireachtáil ar thorthaí an talaimh agus na farraige, ag déanamh a gcuid earraí línéadaigh agus olna féin, a gcuid áirthaí próca agus ciseáin féin.

COURTESY PAT CARROLL



Bothán ceann-tuí i dToraigh, 1957
Tory thatched cottage, 1957



The soil was tilled with wooden ploughs, harrows and grubbers shod with iron retrieved from shipwrecks (these tools remained in use right up to the 1960s). Crops of barley, oats and rye were cut with sickle and scythe and threshed with flails. The grain was separated and cleaned in a wight, a tool made of dried sheepskin stretched over a circular wooden frame and riddled with holes.

The islanders raised cattle and sheep to meet their own needs, though some animals were sold to supplement income. Cows were kept for milk and butter and sheep for their wool and the income raised from the sale of lambs. By the end of the 19th century there were over 200 sheep on the island and a herd of ninety cattle. Hens and ducks were kept for their eggs.

There were few wheeled vehicles on the island; most goods were transported on horse-drawn slide-cars that slid along the ground on iron runners.

Poitín-making

The most important crop after the potato was barley, much of which was used for poitín-making, the illicit distillation of malt whiskey. Tory, being remote and storm-ridden, was an ideal location for poitín-making as it was difficult for coastguards to raid the island in winter, when poitín was made. To meet the demand, the poitín-makers imported

Dhéantaí an talamh a shaothrú le céachtaí adhmaid, le cliatha fuirste agus le grafáin a bhí boltáilte le hiarann éadála ó shoithigh a briseadh ar na carraigeacha (bhí na huirlí sí seo in úsáid fiú suas go dtí 1960). Ghearrtaí barr eorna, coirce agus seagal le corrán agus speal agus dhéantaí iad a bhualadh le súiste. Dhéantaí an grán a scagadh agus a ghlanadh i rideal, acra a bhí déanta as craiceann tirim caorach sínta thar fráma cruinn adhmaid agus é lán poill.

Bheathaigh siad oiread eallaí agus caorach is a dhéanfadh freastal ar a gcuid riachtanaí féin, cé go n-íocfaí dornán ainmhithe le cur lena n-ioncam. Tógadh eallach ar mhaithe le bainne agus im, agus caoirigh ar mhaithe lena n-olann agus le teacht isteach a shaothrú ó dhíol uan. Ag deireadh an 19ú céad, bhí corradh le 200 caora ar an oileán chomh maith le ceithre scór go leith bó. Coinníodh cearca agus lachain ar mhaithe lena gcuid uibheacha.

Ní raibh mórán feithiclí le rothaí orthu ar an oileán ag an am sin. Bheirtí earraí ó áit go háit ar charranna a raibh sleamhnáin iarainn orthu sa dóigh go bhféadfadh siad sleamhnú thar an talamh agus iad á dtarraingt ag capaill.

Déanamh poitín

I ndiaidh an phráta, ba í eorna an barr a ba thábhachtaí de bhrí go mbaintí úsáid as an chuid is mó den bharr i ndéanamh poitín, stíleireacht aindleathach d'uisce beatha. Cionn is go raibh an t-oileán scoite doineannach, bhí Toraigh thar a bheith fóirsteanach do dhéanamh poitín de thairbhe gur dheacair do na gardaí cósta sciurd a



additional barley from as far afield as Connacht, in the west of Ireland.

The exacting demands of poitín-making on fuel helps to explain the depletion of Tory's bogs by the early 20th century. By 1896, the islanders had to be allocated an alternative source of peat on Bloody Foreland.

Fishing

Owing to the island's thin soils and exposure to sea breezes, the islanders were not self-sufficient in farming: they supplemented their diet with fish, shellfish and edible seaweeds.

The seas off Tory held abundant stocks of cod, herring and mackerel, though the islanders did not exploit the commercial possibilities until the end of the 19th century. They fished for their own needs only, using hand-lines baited with limpets which were let down from cliffs or from the shelving rock platform on the south shore to catch rockfish and pollack.

Towards the end of the century the islanders began long-line fishing, trailing lines of baited hooks behind their boats to catch bream, wrasse, cod, haddock, ling, turbot, plaice, skate and eels. Watchers positioned on the cliffs would direct the boats to passing shoals, indicated by the presence of diving seabirds.

dhéanamh ar an oileán sa gheimhreadh, an t-am a dhéantaí an poitín. Bhí an oiread sin rachairt ar an phoitín gurbh éigean tuilleadh eorna a cheannacht isteach chun an oileáin ó chomh fada ar shiúl le Connachta.

Ar ndóigh, bhí gá le cuid mhór breosla tine do dhéanamh poitín agus is dócha gurbh é sin ceann de na cúiseanna le hídíú portaigh Thoraí go luath sa 20ú haois. Sa bhliain 1896, b'éigean do mhuintir Thoraí a theacht amach go tír mór lena gcuid móna a bhaint i gCnoc Fola.

Iascaireacht

Cionn is go raibh créafóg an oileáin tanaí agus nochtaithe do ghaoithe na farraige móire, níor leor an fheirmeoireacht le bheith beo uirthi. Ar an tséala sin, chothaigh siad iad féin fosta le hiasc, iasc sliogáin agus cineálacha éagsúla d'fheamainn inite.

Bhí flúirse éisc le fáil san fharraige thart fá Thoraigh, leithéidí trosc, scadán agus ronnach, cé nár shaothraigh na hoileánaigh na féidearthachtaí tráchtála go dtí deireadh an 19ú céad. Rinne siad an oiread iascaireachta is a dhéanfadh cúis dá riachtanaisí féin. Bhaintí úsáid as doruithe láimhe ar a mbíodh baoití bairneach agus ligtí iad seo síos san fharraige ó na beanna nó ón ardán scairbheach ar an chladach theas ar mhaithe le saíain agus deargógaí a cheapadh.

Thart fá dheireadh an 19ú céad, thosaigh iascairí an oileáin ar tharraingt doruithe fhada, ar a mbíodh duáin agus baoití, ar chúl a gcuid bád agus cheapadh siad gabhánaigh, balláin, troisc, cadógaí, langaí, turbaird, leitheogaí, sciataí agus eascannaí. Bhíodh daoine ag faire ó bharr na mbeann le treoir a thabhairt do na hiascairí cá háit a raibh na báirí éisc de réir



Cuan Thoraigh san 19ú céad agus iascairí ag a gcuid bádaí *Tory harbour in late 1800s with fishermen at their boats*

The fishermen used landmarks - stone cairns on prominent headlands - to find the positions of their favoured fishing grounds. The intersection of lines-of-sight marked the best spots. Many of these cairns can still be seen today.

Lobster-fishing developed rapidly. Though the islanders didn't eat lobster, they identified an overseas market for this seafood and exploited the abundant stocks around their shores.

Large fish and lobster catches were landed and the surplus sold on the mainland. Fish was also traded with passing steamers. By 1893, every Tory household was earning £15 annually from the sale of whitefish and lobster, a large sum in those days.

mar ba léir ó na héanacha mara ag sciurdadh anuas ar an uisce.

Ba ghnách leis na hiascairí comharthaí talún - cairn chloch ar rinn ard - a úsáid fá choinne suíomh na háiteanna iascaireachta ab fhearr leo a aimsiú. Mharcáil trasnú na línte radhairc na háiteanna ab fhearr. Tá mórán de na cairn sin le feiceáil go fóill.

Tháinig borradh mór ar iascaireacht gliomach. Cé nár ith muintir an oileáin gliomaigh, d'aithin siad go raibh margadh thar lear don bhia farraige seo agus rinne siad dúshaothrú ar an flúirse gliomach a bhí thart ar a gcladaí.

Tugadh lastaí mór éisc agus gliomach i dtír agus díoladh an farasbarr ar tír mór. Lena chois sin, dhíoltaí iasc le longa a bheadh ag seoladh thart leis an oileán. Faoin bhliain 1893, bhí gach uile theaghlach i dToraigh ag saothrú £15 in aghaidh na bliana ó dhíolacháin gliomach agus iasc geal, airgead mór an uair sin.

Fishing boats

The islanders fished from currachs, their light, native paddling boats. The Tory currach evolved from the rounded coracles used for fishing on rivers such as the Boyne.

The first Tory currachs had a framework of sally-rod laths tied together with horsehair ropes and covered with cowhide. They were small and short and held two men. A paddler kneeled at the prow, with the second man usually on the stern, steering. This style was unique to Donegal.

In later times, currachs were constructed using imported timber laths or green twigs and covered with tarred canvas or tarpaulin. The prow became more pointed, seats were added and paddles were replaced with oars. The islanders never attempted to construct the longer currachs popular in Connemara.

Currachs were of limited use for deep-sea fishing, and as long as the islanders fished from their traditional craft they were unable to develop the fishing potential around them. That came later with the introduction of yawls and motorised vessels in the 20th century.

Currachs are little used today, though a good number can still be seen around the island, near slipways and behind walls, tied down with ropes and gradually

Bádaí iascaireachta

Dhéanadh na hoileánaigh an iascaireacht ó churacha, bádaí éadroma le céaslaí. Bhí curach Thoraí bunaithe ar na curacháin chruinne a mbaintí úsáid astu fá choinne iascaireacht abhann, macasamhail ar an Bhóinn.

I dtús ama, dhéantaí curach Thoraí le cabhail de lataí shaileoige a bhí ceangailte le chéile le rópaí róin agus ansin clúdaithe le seithe bó. Bhí an curach beag agus gairid agus ní raibh áit inti ach do bheirt, fear amháin ar an chéasla agus an dara fear ar an stiúir ar a chúl. Ba i nDún na nGall amháin a cleachtaíodh an stíl seo.

Níos moille ná sin, rinneadh na curacha le lataí ó adhmaid allmhairithe nó ó chraobhógaí glasa agus chlúdóidh iad le canbhás tarra nó tarpól. Cuireadh gob níos géire orthu, cuireadh suíocháin iontu agus baineadh úsáid as maidí rámha in áit céaslaí. Mar sin féin, ní dhearna muintir Thoraí iarracht ariamh aithris a dhéanamh ar na curacha fada a bhí coitianta i gConamara.

Bhí teora leis an méid iascaireachta a d'fhéadfaí a dhéanamh le curach amuigh san fharraige mhór, rud a chiallaigh nach raibh bunadh an oileáin in inmhe an tairbhe cheart a bhaint as an iascach a bhí thart orthu a fhad is a bhí siad ag úsáid a gcurach traidisiúnta. Rinneadh forbairt ar a leithéid sin níos moille nuair amháin a tháinig na geoltaí agus na bádaí innill chun tosaigh sa 20ú haois.

Is beag úsáid a bhaintear as an churach na laethanta seo cé go bhfuil go leor acu le feiceail thart fá'n oileán go fóill, cóngarach de na fánáin nó ar chúl ballaí, iad ceangailte síos le rópaí agus ag lobhadh de réir a chéile as



Curach ó Thoraigh, agus curach á thógáil *Tory curragh, and one being built*

decaying from lack of maintenance or use. Though beautifully hand-crafted and a testament to traditional skills, they have sadly outlived their usefulness.

Seaweed and shellfish

Seaweed, on which the potato thrived, was prized as a fertiliser and the seaweed collection rights or *cearta trá* (beach rights) were immensely important. The shoreline was divided into lots that were rotated amongst the islanders by the king. The size of each lot reflected the size of the owner's landholding.

Each winter, tonnes of 'blackweed' and 'redweed' were amassed on the coast where they were left to rot before being carted inland by horse, to be spread on the infield. The islanders also gathered

siocair nach bhfuiltear ag tabhairt aire dóibh nó nach bhfuiltear ag baint úsáide astu. Deirtear go bhfónann rud a fhad is a mhaireann sé ach, ar an drochuair, tá ré an churaí lámhdhéanta gleoite thart.

Feamainn agus iasc sliogáin

Bhí rachairt mhór ar fheamainn, nó ar fheamnach, mar leas maith prátaí agus da bhrí sin bhí na *cearta trá* thar a bheith tábhachtach. Bhí an cladach roinnte ina sraitheanna feamainne agus dhéanadh an rí iad seo a dháileadh ar bhunadh an oileáin. Bhí méid gach sraith ag brath ar mhéid gach gabhálas.

Gach uile gheimhreadh, chruinnítí tonnaí d'fheamainn dhubh agus d'fheamainn dhearg agus d'fhágtai in aice an chladaigh é le lobhadh sula dtabharfaí ualaí cairte de a fhad leis an gharpháirc chun é a spréadh ar an talamh. Lena chois sin, chruinníodh na



carraigín moss, an edible seaweed valued for its use in jam-making and as a food.

Limpets were plucked from shoreline rocks for use as fish-bait and duck-feed, and even for food. The shells were burnt to produce lime for fertiliser or used in the production of lime paint for white-washing walls.

Kelp-harvesting

Kelp, a large, stalked seaweed also known as mayweed, had a more valuable use. It provided raw materials - potash for dyes, soda for the bleaching of linen and manufacture of glass and soap, and saltpetre for the production of gunpowder.

Kelp-harvesting began in the west around 1700 and became the principal cash crop on Tory in the 19th century. Kelp rods were harvested after the spring sowing and the rods were dried in the sun before being transferred to kilns for burning; this liquefied and solidified the raw material.

Kelp-collecting was labour-intensive and, with Tory's workforce finding more fruitful seasonal employment in Scotland, it came to be regarded as uneconomic. The allocation of shore lots - one of the last formal functions of the king - was discontinued at the end of the 19th century. Kelp-harvesting continues on a reduced scale, though today the kelp's

hoileánaigh carraigín, feamainn inite a thig a úsáid mar bhia agus i ndéanamh subh milis.

Chruinnítí bairnigh ó charraigeacha an chladaigh lena n-úsáid mar bhaoití, mar bhia lachan agus fosta mar bhia daoine. Dhóití na sliogáin le haol a dhéanamh agus bhaintí úsáid as an aol mar leas talún agus chun ballaí na dtithe a ghealadh.

Sábháil na ceilpe

Bhí feidhm níos tábhachtaí ag baint leis an fheamainn mhór ghasach ar a dtugtar ceilp. D'fhéadfaí mórán amh-ábhar a fháil as an ceilp: potais fá choinne dathanna, sóid níocháin fá choinne línéadach a ghealadh agus i ndéanamh gloine agus galúnach, agus saillpíotar fá choinne púdar gunna a dhéanamh.

Cuireadh tús le sábháil ceilpe san iarthar i dtrátha na bliana 1700 agus sa 19ú céad ba í an ceilp an barr a ba luachmhaire i dToraigh. Bhaintí na slatacha ceilpe nuair a bhíodh curaíocht an earraigh déanta agus d'fhágtáir ar triomú faoin ghréin iad sula dtabharfaí go dtí na háitheanna iad le dódh, próiseas a rinne leachtú agus soladú ar an t-amh-ábhar.

Bhí saothar mhaslach i gceist le sábháil na ceilpe agus de bharr go raibh obair shéasúrach níos proifidí le fáil ag lucht oibre Thoraí in Albain, mheas na daoine nárbh fhiú bacaint léi feasta. Cuireadh críoch le dáileadh na sraitheanna cladaigh - ceann de na feidhmeanna foirmeálta a bhí fágtha ag an rí - ag deireadh an chéid. Mar sin féin, déantar beagán ceilpe a shábháil go fóill ach inniu is san íodaín atá inti do tháirgí



Ceilp á triomú i dToraigh *Kelp rods drying on Tory*



Long-bhriseadh *Wreck of the 'Wasp' - artist's impression*

value lies in its pharmaceutical iodine content. Carraigín moss is no longer harvested commercially.

Salvage

Shipwrecks were valued for their cargoes of coal, flour and timber, and the salvage of their iron and timbers was also pursued diligently. Specially appointed "watermen" kept watch for anything that might be washed ashore, and were able to detect any fishing vessel in trouble at sea. Wreckage items were used to fashion farm tools, pots and hearth tools. Wooden beams and iron-tiled hearths made from salvaged materials can still be seen in some old cottages today.

The names of the rocks and reefs on which ships ran aground – Boilg an Fair Helen, Uaimh an Chotton, Feadán an Wasp – highlight the value placed on shipwrecks in the past. Tales are told of many wrecks, the most famous being the *Jamaica Merchant* in 1744, the *Belfast* in 1811, the *Sirion* in 1847, the *Sisters* in

cógaisíochta atá a fiúntas. Ní bhaintear carraigín feasta ar mhaithe le é a dhíol.

Éadáil

Thuig bunadh Thoraí gurbh fhiú aird mhór a thabhairt ar longa a briseadh ar na carraigeacha de thairbhe a gcuid lastaí guail, plúir, iarainn agus adhmaid. Ba ghnách le "fir uisce," a bhí toighte go speisialta, súil a choinneáil ar an fharrage fá choinne rud ar bith a thiocfadh i dtír agus fosta a thabharfadh faoi deara má bhí long ar bith i dtrioblóid.

Bhaintí úsáid as éadáil ar mhaithe le huirlisí feirme, potaí agus trealaimh teallaigh a dhéanamh astu. Agus go fóill, tá taobhainn adhmaid agus áiteanna tine de leacanna iarainn, a fuarthas ó ábhar éadála, le feiceáil i gcuid de na seantithe.

Léiríonn na hainmneacha atá ar na carraigeacha agus ar na scairbheacha ar ar briseadh longa – Boilg an Fair Helen, Uaimh an Chotton, Feadán an Wasp – an luach a cuireadh i leith longbhristeacha san am a chuaigh thart. Tá go leor scéalta a aithrísítear go fóill faoina leithéidí agus i measc na



1853 and the *Lavinia of Quebec* in 1866. The wreck of the *Fairholm*, which foundered off the southeast coast in 1874, claimed the lives of five of its eleven crew. The remaining six sailors made it safely to shore where they were received with “the proverbial hospitality of the rude but warm-hearted islanders,” as the *Londonderry Sentinel* put it. The most controversial shipwreck was that of the British gunboat HMS *Wasp* in 1884, in which 52 lives were lost (see page 66).

In June 2003 (on Friday 13th, as it happens) the *Cabin Fever* carrying participants in an RTE reality TV show ran aground on reefs off the south coast. Everyone was brought ashore safely and tended to (indeed fêted), but sadly, the boat broke up and was lost.

19th-century cottages

19th-century Tory cottages had uniquely low roofs and gently rounded roof-ridges that preferred minimum resistance to the wind, an ever-present hazard on the flat, gale-swept island. A typical early 19th-century dwelling was a gable-hearth thatched cottage with two rooms: a kitchen and a bedroom. It had thick, dry-stone walls and a floor of beaten earth. There were two entrance doors, one front, one rere, both situated at the far end of the kitchen from the hearth. There was usually a small window to one side of the front door. A chimney-stack rose from the hearth, and the walls were limewashed.

gceann is iomráití tá *The Jamaica Merchant* sa bhlian 1744, *The Belfast* sa bhliain 1811, an *Sirion* sa bhliain 1847, *The Sisters* sa bhliain 1853 agus *Lavinia of Quebec* sa bhliain 1866.

Nuair a chuaigh an *Fairholm* go tóin poill ar chósta thiar theas an oileáin sa bhliain 1874, cailleadh cúigear den chloigeann déag criú a bhí uirthi. Tháinig an seisear eile slán i dtír, áit a bhfuair siad “the proverbial hospitality of the rude but warm-hearted islanders,” mar a dúirt an *Londonderry Sentinel*.

Is cinnte gurbh é an longbhriseadh a ba chonspóidí ná an ceann a tharla den HMS *Wasp*, bád gunnaí móra de chuid na Sasana, ónar cailleadh 52 fear sa bhliain 1884 (féach leathanach 66).

Tithe an 19ú céad

Bhí stíl ar leith i dToraigh sa 19ú céad maidir leis an cineál díon a chuirte ar na tithe. Bhí an díon iontach íseal agus na maidí mullaigh mín cruinn ar mhaithe le héifeacht agus contúirt na gaoithe orthu a laghdú go mór, rud a bhí iontach tábhachtach ar oileán lom a bhí i mbealach na gaoithe go síor.

Go luath sa naoú céad déag, ba teach ceann tuí, áit tine ar an bhinn agus dhá sheomra – cistineach agus seomra leapa – an cineál tí a ba choitianta. Bhí na ballaí déanta de chloch thiubh shingil agus urlár créafóige sa teach. Bhí dhá dhoras ar an teach, ceann amháin ar aghaidh an tí agus an ceann eile ar chúl an tí, iad beirt ag bun na cistine ar shiúl ón tine. Bhí fuinneog bheag ar thaobh amháin den doras tosaigh. Bhí simléar ann don toit agus bhí na ballaí nite le haol.



Sráid an Bhaile Thoir ag deireadh an 19ú haois *Baile Thoir streetscape, late 19th century*

With the increase in family size before the Famine a second bedroom was added at the gable end. This room was set against the hearth wall and warmed by it. Some of these houses are still standing but are now used as byres or storage sheds.

A few farm buildings were located in the outfield, including craws (Irish: cró, transl. pen) where sheep were housed during lambing. A cró was a low, round dry-stone building with a canvas roof. Some can still be seen in the outfields of An Baile Thoir.

Tory hen-houses were corbelled structures similar to craws and built at a distance from the infield in order to safeguard crops. This was feasible because Tory had no foxes.

De bharr an mhéadú a tháinig ar líon na bpáistí i gcuid mhór teaghlaigh roimh an Ghorta, tógadh an dara seoma leapa ar chúl bhinn na tine, rud a chiallaigh go bhfuair an seomra tairbhe as teas na tine. Tá cuid de na tithe seo ina seasamh go fóill ach inniu baintear úsáid astu mar bhóithigh agus mar áiteanna stórála.

Bhí dornán foirgnimh bheaga feirme amuigh sa chianpháirc, ina measc cróite ina gcuirti na caoraigh nuair a bheadh na huain á mbreith. Bhíodh an cró íseal, déanta de chloch shingil agus bhíodh díon canbhais air. Tá cuid de na cróite sin le feiceáil go fóill sna cianpháirceanna atá thart ar An Baile Thoir.

I dToraigh, struchtúir choirbéalta ab ea cróite na gcearc, macasamhaill na gcróite eile, iad suite píosa ar siúl ón gharpháirc sa dóigh nach bhfaigheadh na cearca isteach fríd na barraí. Bhí siad sábháilte go leor siocair nach raibh madaí rua ar bith ar an oileán.

👁 Scoil Náisiúnta Cholm Cille (The National School) *Map Ref: 19*

The first school on Tory was opened in a thatched cottage in An Baile Thiar in 1838. The Educational Census of 1843 listed 69 boys and 44 girls on the school roll – a total of 113 children! The present-day national school was built in An Baile Thiar in 1847. It originally consisted of a single classroom heated by an open turf fire.

Most boys left school at fourteen to work at herding cattle on the mainland, whilst girls remained until they were sixteen or seventeen before leaving to work, mostly as domestics in the "Lagan," as the people of west Donegal called the fertile region stretching from east Donegal into south Derry and Tyrone. Many went on to settle in the north of Ireland or Scotland.

FIDELMA MULLANE



An Scoil *The School*

👁 Scoil Náisiúnta Cholm Cille *Map Ref: 19*

Ba sa bhliain 1838 a fosclaiodh an chéad scoil i dToraigh. Bhí sí lonnaithe i dteach ceann tuí sa Bhaile Thiar. Taispeánann Áireamh Oideachais na bliana 1843 go raibh 69 gasúr agus 44 girseach ar rolla na scoile – 113 páiste san iomlán! Tógadh an scoil atá in úsáid i láthair na huaire sa Bhaile Thiar sa bhliain 1847. I dtús báire, ní raibh inti ach seomra ranga amháin agus é téite le tine oscailte.

D'fhágfadh formhór na ngasúr an scoil ag ceithre bliana déag d'aois le dhul ag buachailleacht eallaigh ar tír mór. D'fhanódh na girseachaí go dtí go mbeadh siad sé déag nó seacht déag sula n-imeódh siad ar lorg oibre, cuid mhaith díobh mar chailíní aimsire ar An Lagan – an t-ainm a thug muintir iarthar Dhún na nGall ar an cheantar mhéith sin a shíneann ó oirthear Dhún na nGall isteach i nDeisceart Dhoire agus i dTír Eoghain. Pósadh agus shocruigh mórán díobh síos níos moille i dTuaisceart Éireann nó in Albain.

I ndiaidh an Ghorta, d'fhan níos mó gasúraí ar scoil go dtí go raibh siad níos sine sna déaga ar mhaithe leis an tuilleadh oideachais a fháil a bheadh de dhíth orthu le bheith réidh dá mbeatha san Oileán Úr.

Cuireadh bail ar an scoil sna 1930idí agus cuireadh píosa úrnua léi sa bhliain 2001.

👁 Teach an tSolais *Map Ref: 12*

Tá Teach Solais Thoraí ar an cheann thiar den oileán. Tógadh é idir na blianta 1828 agus 1832 ó dhearadh a rinne George Halpin,

After the Famine, more boys remained at school into their late teens to obtain the extra education they needed to prepare for life in America.

The school was renovated in the 1930s, and a new extension was completed in 2001.

The Lighthouse

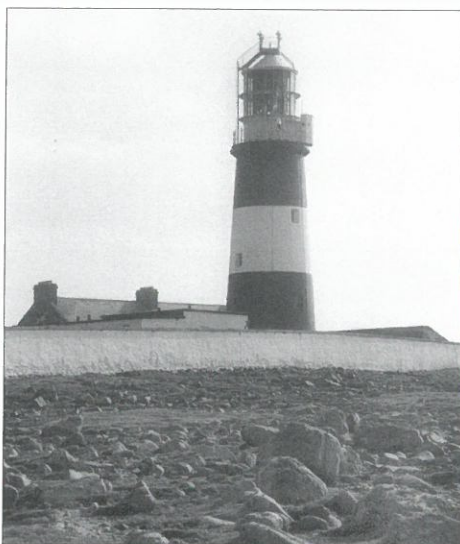
Map Ref: 12

Tory lighthouse, standing at the west end of the island, was built between 1828 and 1832 to a design by George Halpin, a well-known designer of Irish lighthouses. It is an attractive, imposing building, painted in bold black-and-white stripes and surrounded by a boundary wall. The wall was built at a cost to local history, as the island's only megalithic tomb was broken up to provide material for it (see page 20).

It was customary for lighthouse keepers to live in the lighthouse with their family, but in April 1990 the lighthouse was automated and the last keeper withdrawn. R.W.K. Edwards, a lighthouse keeper in the 19th century, wrote a comic novel, *The Mermaid of Inish-Uigg*, describing the life of the lighthouse keepers and their relationship with the islanders.

Tory lighthouse is one of three in Ireland in which a reference station for the Differential Global Positioning System (GPS) is installed. This satellite-tracking system, managed by

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Teach an tSolais *The Lighthouse*

ailtire iomráiteach a dhearaigh formhór na dtithe solais in Éirinn. Foirgneamh maorga tarraingteach atá ann, é péinteáilte i stríocacha dubh agus bán agus claí críche thart air. D'íoc bunadh Thorai go daor as an bhalla seo ar an tséala gur briseadh suas an t-aon tumba meigiliteach a bhí ar an oileán ar mhaithe le clocha a chur ar fáil do thógáil an bhalla (féach leathanach 20).

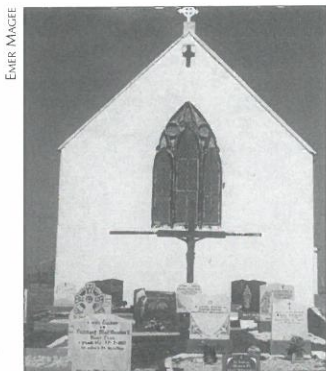
Ba ghnách le coimhéadaithe thí solais cónaí a dhéanamh i dTeach an tSolais lena gclann ach in Aibreán na bliana 1990 rinneadh an teach solais uathoibríoch agus ní raibh gá le coimhéadaí ar bith feasta. Tá úrscéal greannmhar darb ainm *The Mermaid of Inish-Uigg* scríofa ag R.W.K. Edwards, coimhéadaí thí solais a mhair sa 19ú céad, ina gcuireann sé síos ar shaol na gcoimhéadaithe tí solais agus a gcaidreamh leis na hoileánaigh.

the US Department of Defence, allows ships and boats to locate their position at any time. The lighthouse is the property of the Commissioners of Irish Lights.

👁 Teach an Phobail (The Church)

Map Ref: 18

The present-day church, Teach Pobail Cholm Cille (St Colmcille's Chapel), located in An Baile Thiar, was built in 1857-61 to a neo-Gothic design by English architect E.W. Godwin. It was completely renovated by the islanders during World War II. A stained glass window by Beatrice Elvery, depicting the crucifixion, was installed in 1910. Stained glass windows by Patrick Pollen were presented by artist Derek Hill in the late 20th century as a gift to the people of the island in return for their generosity and kindness during his visits (see also page 100).



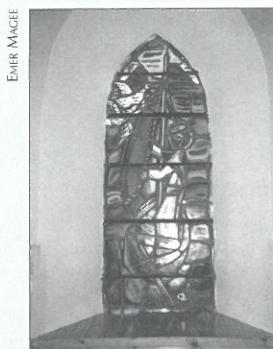
Teach an Phobail *The Church*

Tá Teach Solais Thoráí ar cheann de thrí theach solais in Éirinn ina bhfuil stáisiún tagartha don Chóras Suímh Domhanda (GPS) lonnaithe. Cuireann an córas seo do rianú satailíte, atá á bhainistiú ag Roinn Cosanta na Stáit Aontaithe, chuireann sé ar chumas longa agus bádaí a suíomh a chinntiú ag am ar bith. Is iad Coimisinéirí Shoilse Éireann úinéirí Theach an tSolais.

👁 Teach an Phobail

Map Ref: 18

Tógadh an eaglais atá ar an oileán inniu, Teach Pobail Cholm Cille, idir 1857-61 ar an Bhaile Thiar. Baineadh úsáid as dearadh NuaGhotach a rinne an t-ailtire Sasanach, E.W. Godwin. Chuir bunadh an oileáin iad féin bail iomlán ar an teach pobail le linn an Dara Cogadh Domhanda. Sa bhliain 1910, cuireadh isteach fuinneog de ghloine daite le Beatrice Elvery, a léiríonn Céasadh Chríost. Bhronn an t-ealaíontóir Derek Hill fuinneoga de ghloine daite le Patrick Pollen ar bhunadh an oileáin go mall sa 20ú haois lena bhuíochas a chur in iúl dóibh ar son a bhflaithiúlachta agus a gcartanachta le linn a cuid turais (féach lch. 100 fosta).



Fuinneog ghloine-dhaite
Patrick Pollen window

Years of decline

Tory in the 20th century

The 20th century saw the gradual weakening and eventual collapse of the mainstays of Tory economy.

In 1903, the Congested Districts Board bought Tory from the island's absentee landlord, Joule. The board was established in 1891 to tackle the poor living conditions and lack of employment opportunities in the west.

Fishing

The board set about developing the fishing industry, and for the first time Tory was able to commence deep-sea fishing. Large sail- and oar-powered herring boats were acquired and a pier constructed in Camusmore Bay. A curing station was established, providing women with work, gutting and salting herring.

Meath na mblianta

Toraigh sa 20ú aois

De réir a chéile tháinig meath ar na slite beatha a raibh geilleagar Thoraí ag brath orthu agus sa deireadh thit siad as a chéile ar fad.

Sa bhliain 1903, cheannaigh Bord na gCeantar Cúng oileán Thoraí ón tiarna talún neamhchónaitheach, Joule. Cuireadh an Bord ar bun sa bhliain 1891 le haghaidh a thabhairt ar shlite maireachtála bochta na ndaoine agus an easpa deiseanna fostaíochta a bhí in iarthar na tíre.

Iascaireacht

Thosaigh an Bord ag déanamh forbartha ar thionscal na hiascaireachta agus den chéad uair ariamh bhí muintir Thoraí ábalta dhul i mbun domhain-iascaireachta. Fuarthas bádaí móra scadán, idir bádaí seoil agus bádaí iomartha, agus tógadh cé i mBá an Chamais Mhóir. Cuireadh stáisiún saille ar bun, rud a chuir obair ar fáil do mhná ag gutáil agus ag sailleadh scadán.

FIDEEMA MUIHLANE



Curach ceangailte, agus fear ag iascach le spiléad *Currach tied down, and a fisherman longline-fishing*



NOELLE NÍ DHUBHCIONN



An Ché *The harbour - artist's impression*

Eight boats went into operation, each with a crew of eight or nine drawn from an island clan (extended family). At the time, only 80 men between the ages of 15 and 64 lived on the island, so human resources were considerably stretched.

Motor-powered vessels were introduced by the Sea Fisheries Board in the 1930s to exploit 'matje' herring stocks, a new, untapped resource. But these vessels required fewer hands and, when local supplies of herring dwindled and the fish market declined, many islanders turned to labouring in Britain as an alternative source of income.

A seasonal migration pattern developed, with many islanders working in Scotland and England in winter and returning to Tory in summer to fish. There was usually a net loss of young adults, and Tory was left with a disproportionate number of very young and very old inhabitants.

Chuaigh ocht mbád i gceann na hiascaireachta. Bhí foireann d'ocht ar naonúr fear ar gach bád, iad uilig gaolta dá chéile. Ag an uair sin ní raibh ach ceithre scór fear a bhí idir 15 agus 64 bliain d'aois ina gcónaí ar an oileán agus d'fhág sin go raibh ganntanas d'acmhainní daonna ann.

Chuir an Bord Iascaigh Mhara bádaí innill chun tosaigh sna 1930idí ar mhaithe le dúshaothrú a dhéanamh ar stoic scadán 'matje,' acmhainn nár baineadh tairbhe as go dtí sin. Ach ní raibh gá le oiread de chriú ar na soithigh seo agus nuair a d'éirigh soláthar áitiúil na scadán gann agus meath ar mhargadh an éisc dá bharr, chuaigh go leor de bhunadh an oileáin go dtí an Bhreatain ar lorg oibre le teacht isteach eile a shaothrú.

Nocht patrún d'imirce shéasúrach, le mórán de na hoileánaigh ag obair in Albain agus i Sasain i rith an gheimhridh agus ag pilleadh go Toraigh le hiascaireacht a dhéanamh i rith an tsamhraidh. De ghnách, rachadh iomlán na ndaoine fásta óga thar sáile, rud a chiallaigh nach raibh fágtha i dToraigh ach páistí agus seandaoine.

I ndiaidh an Dara Cogadh Domhanda, d'éirigh iascaireacht gliomach iontach tábhachtach. I dtrátha na 1970idí, bhí suas le 18,000 gliomach á gceapadh gach uile shamhradh san fharraige idir Toraigh agus tír mór. Cé go raibh iascach gliomach furasta agus proifídeach, chothaigh sé imirce shéasúrach de bhrí nach bhféadfaí a leithéid a dhéanamh ach amháin sa tsamhradh. Tháinig meath ar iascach gliomach sna 1990idí nuair a thosaigh soithigh ón Spáinn, a raibh trealamh níos nua-aimseartha acu, ag dúshaothrú na ngliomach i bhfarraige na hÉireann.

Following World War II, lobster became the predominant catch. By the 1970s, 18,000 lobsters were being caught each summer between Tory and the mainland. Although lobster fishing was both convenient and lucrative, it encouraged seasonal migration as it could only be conducted during the summer. Lobster fishing declined during the 1990s as better-equipped Spanish boats exploited the resource.

In 1996, only two Tory boats were actively engaged in fishing. At present, there are no fishing boats operating year-round and a large proportion of fish for domestic and visitor consumption is bought in to the island.

Farming decline

Land ceased to mean the difference between life and death as many islanders could now exist on earnings from seasonal migration. The area under cultivation decreased. Most households kept at least one cow to provide milk and butter, but the number of sheep fell from 220 in 1896 to just 31 in 1959.

As the local peat resource became exhausted, islanders began to burn the very sods from the fields. With the destruction of so much pasturage, animals had to be tethered in the infield, further reducing the amount of land available for tillage. Bogs purchased by the Government on Bloody Foreland for

COURTESY PÁDRAIG CARROLL



Ag treabhadh le hasail sna seascaidí
Ploughing with donkeys on Tory in the 1960s

Sa bhliain 1996, ní raibh ach dhá bhád de chuid Thorai ag iascaireacht. San am i láthair, níl oiread is bád amháin ag iascaireacht go lánaimseartha i rith na bliana agus ceannaítear isteach céatadán mór den iasc a itheann bunadh an oileáin agus na turasóirí a thagann ar cuairt.

Meath na feirmeoireachta

Bhí mórán de bhunadh an oileáin ábalta maireachtáil anois ar an méid a shaothraigh siad ó imirice shéasúrach agus ní raibh siad ag brath feasta ar an talamh le bheith beo. Tháinig laghdú ar churaíocht. Bhí bó ag beagnach gach teaghlach fá choinne a gcuid bainne agus ime féin a bheith acu, ach thit líon na gcaorach ó 220 sa bhliain 1896 go dtí nach raibh fágtha ach 31 sa bhliain 1959.

Nuair nach raibh móin ar bith fágtha sa chaorán, thosaigh na hoileánaigh ag dódh túrtógaí ó na páirceanna. Siocair go ndearnadh damáiste den oiread sin talamh féaraigh, b'éigean na hainmhithe a chur ar téad sa gharpháirc, rud a chiallaigh go raibh níos lú talamh curaíochta ar fáil. Cé gur cheannaigh an Rialtas caorán i gCnoc Fola fá

Líon na n-ainmhithe feirme i dToraigh sna blianta 1896, 1959 agus 1995
Farm animal numbers on Tory in 1896, 1959 and 1995

Animals	Total number of animals in:		
	1896	1959	1995
Sheep	220	31	50
Pigs	0	0	0
Cattle	90	111	5
Horses, ponies	45	9	0
Donkeys	8	62	5
Ducks, fowl	663	1,800	600

the people of Tory did little to alleviate the problem. In 1958, only 50 tonnes of turf were brought to Tory, though the introduction of bottled gas helped slow the rate of arable land despoliation.

Though the farm tractor was introduced in the 1960s, the area under the plough continued to decline, and today there are only a few strips of land cultivated and only small quantities of potatoes, vegetables and oats grown.

The farming of livestock declined catastrophically. In 2000, the livestock population consisted of five cows, two calves, four donkeys and approximately 150 sheep. A bull was brought to the

choinne mhuintir Thoraí, is beag ab fhiú é sin mar réiteach ar an fhadhb. Sa bhliain 1958, níor tugadh ach 50 tonna móna isteach go Toraigh. Tosaíodh ag baint úsáide ansin as buidéal gháis agus chuidigh sin le moill a chur ar scrios an talaimh churaíochta.

Tugadh an chéad tarracóir feirme isteach chun an oileáin sna 1960idí. Mar sin féin, lean an méid talaimh a bhíodhas a threabhadh ag laghdú agus inniu ní bhíonn ach dornán leadhb talaimh faoi churaíocht ina bhfástar gráinnín beag prátaí, glasraí agus coirce.

Tháinig meath millteanach ar fheirmeoireacht ainmhithe. Sa bhliain 2000, ní raibh de bheostoc ar an oileán ach cúig bhó, dhá ghamhain, ceithre asal agus tuairim is 150 caora. Tugadh tarbh isteach chun an oileáin ó Longfort in 1998 sa dóigh go bhféadfaí a

island from Longford in 1998 in an attempt to ensure the survival of the island's unique cattle breed, but the effort failed owing to the advanced age of the breed's one surviving cow.

Horses and donkeys

The donkey was hardly known on Tory in the 19th century. The draught animal of choice was the horse or pony as it was necessary for carrying kelp; donkeys could not carry sufficiently large loads.

With the scaling down of kelp-gathering and the replacement of the heavy slide-car with the light wheeled cart in the 20th century, donkeys became the chief means of transport and each household

chinntiú go mairfeadh eallach dúchasach an oileáin. Ar an drochuair, theip ar an iarracht as siocair go raibh an t-aon bhó den chineál sin a bhí fágtha ar an oileán, ró-aosta.

Capaill agus asail

Is fíorbheagán asal a bhí i dToraigh roimh an 20ú haois. Ba é capall nó pónaí a bhí de dhíobháil fá choinne an ceilp a iompar. Ní bheadh asal láidir go leor le lódaí móra a iompar.

Sa 20ú haois nuair a tháinig laghdú ar shábháil na ceilpe agus nuair a tháinig an cairt éadrom le rothaí in áit an charr sleamhnáin trom, ba ansin a d'éirigh an asal tábhachtach mar an príomhchóras iompair agus bhí asal amháin, ar a laghad, ag gach uile theaghlach. Baineadh úsáid astu fosta



Asail Donkey on Tory

kept at least one. They were used for farm haulage, two to a plough.

Horse and pony numbers fell from 45 in 1896 to nine in 1959. There were 62 donkeys on Tory then, but with the continued decline in farming their numbers fell to less than 10 by the year 2000. Some families continued to keep ponies for reasons of sentiment, but none were left by the end of the 20th century.

Housing

At the beginning of the 20th century, the Congested Districts Board sought to improve housing standards on the island, building sturdy one- and two-storey residences. The houses changed the appearance of the bailtí. The old houses were low, curved, thatched cabins while the new houses had pointed slate roofs which offered greater resistance to the wind and required more frequent repair.

le treabhadh a dhéanamh, péire asal ag tarraingt an chéachta.

Thit líon na gcapall agus na bpónaithe ó 45 sa bhliain 1896 go dtí naonúr sa bhliain 1959. Ag an uair sin, bhí 62 asal i dToraigh ach de réir mar a lean an fheirmeoireacht ag meath, tháinig laghdú ar na hasail go dtí go raibh níos lú ná deich gcinn ar an oileán faoin bhliain 2000. Lean corr theaghlach de bheith ag coinneáil pónaithe mar pheataí ach ag tús na mílaoise ní raibh ceann ar bith fágtha.

Tithíocht

Ag tús an 20ú haois, rinne Bord na gCeantar Cúng iarracht caighdeán tithíochta an oileáin a fheabhsú. Tógadh tithe bréatha daingne, cuid le hurlár amháin, cuid eile le dhá urlár. D'athraigh na tithe seo cuma na mbailte. Botháin ísle le díonta cruinneachánacha ceann-tuí ab ea na seantithe. Bhí díonta arda claonta de sclátaí ar na tithe úra, rud a d'fhág go raibh siad níos righne in éadan na gaoithe agus ar an tséala sin, bhí cóiriú de dhith orthu níos minice.



Tithíocht i dToraigh a tógadh ag tús an chéid seo chaite *Early 20th-century housing on Tory today*



An Ché *The Pier*

Bricks, mortar and slate replaced the traditional red granite and straw which had given the cottages an organic feel and local character, but the new houses were built on existing sites, so at least the settlement pattern was unaffected. The small scale and distribution of the new houses gave the bailtí a special character, and they comprise the core of village architecture in Tory today.

The Pier

Map Ref: 1

The island pier in Camusmore Bay was built in 1903 by the Congested Districts Board to help develop the fishing industry. It was enlarged in 1999–2001 to give the ferry independence from the tides.

A new pier was built at Port an Dúin at the eastern end of the island and is used by the ferry when it is unable to dock at An Baile Thiar. There is a restored slipway at Poirín Ghlais,

Cuireadh bríci, moirtéal agus sclátaí in áit an eibhir dheirg agus an tuí traidisiúnta a thug carachtar orgánach agus lóganta do na botháin. Mar sin féin, tógadh na tithe úra ar na suíomhanna céanna a bhí ann cheana féin agus dá bhrí sin níor tháinig athrach ar bith ar an phatrún cónaithe. Thug mionscála agus dáileadh na dtithe úra carachtar ar leith do na bailte agus tá siad mar chroílár in ailtireacht shráidbhailte Thorai an lae inniu.

An Ché

Map Ref: 1

Sa bhliain 1903, thóg Bord na gCeantar Cúng cé an oileáin i mBá Chamais Mhóir ar mhaithe le forbairt a dhéanamh ar thionscal na hiascaireachta. Cuireadh méadú léi idir 1999–2001 sa dóigh nach gcuirfeadh athrú na taoide isteach ar an bhád farantóireachta.

Am ar bith nach dtig leis an bhád farantóireachta a theacht i dtír ag an Bhaile Thiar, baineann sí úsáid as an ché úr a tógadh ag Port an Dúin ar an cheann thoir den oileán. Tá bail curtha ar fhánán ag Poirín Ghlais a ba ghnách a úsáid roimhe seo le



Tobar *One of seven drinking wells on Tory*

formerly used to land supplies for the lighthouse and the Lloyd's signal station at Árd Lárthain, now decommissioned.

👁 Wells

Map Ref : 9

There are seven drinking wells (tobair) on the island, though currently only two are in use. They are all individually named, e.g. Tobar Thomáis, Tobar Nabla, Tober Mary Eoin, etc. They are typically ringed with large stones, and in some cases whitewashed. Tobar Mháire Alec (Saunders' Well), located in the west of Tory, was recently refurbished.

👁 Grottos

Map Refs : 8,25

There are two grottos (Marian shrines) on the island, both well-maintained. One is situated near Caifé an Chreagáin (the Café) in An Baile Thiar – it was built in 1950 and refurbished in 1999. The other, in An Baile Thoir, was built in 1981.

NOELLE NÍ DHUBHCHOÍN



Fochla *Grotto at Caifé an Chreagáin, An Baile Thiar*

hearraí a thabhairt i dtír do Theach an tSolais agus do stáisiún rabhaidh Lloyd's ar Árd Lárthain nach bhfuil ag feidhmiú níos mó.

👁 Toibreacha

Map Ref : 9

Tá seacht dtobar fíoruisce ar an oileán, cé nach bhfuiltear ag úsáid ach dhá cheann i láthair na huaire. Tá ainm faoi leith ag gach uile thobar, mar shampla Tobar Thomáis, Tobar Nábla, Tober Mary Eoin, Etl. Tá ciorcal de chlocha aoilnité thart timpeall ar gach ceann. Ar na mallaibh, glanadh agus cuireadh bail ar Thobar Mháire Alec (nó Tobar Saunders), atá suite ar an taobh thiar den oileán.

👁 Fochlaí

Map Refs : 8,25

Tá dhá fhochla nó grotto (scrinte don Mhaighdean Mhuire) ar an oileán agus iad coinniste go maith. Tá ceann amháin acu suite in aice le Caifé an Chreagáin sa Bhaile Thiar; tógadh é i dtús báire sa bhliain 1950 agus rinneadh athchóiriú air i 1999. Tógadh an ceann eile, atá suite sa Bhaile Thoir, sa bhliain 1981.

Torpedo

Map Ref: 23

A torpedo can be seen midway between An Baile Thiar and An Baile Thoir. It washed ashore during World War II and was defused and erected at its present location, not far from the site of the 1608 massacre (see pages 41-42).

Torpedo

Map Ref: 23

Tá torpedo, nó toirpéad, le feiceáil leath bealaigh idir An Baile Thiar agus An Baile Thoir. Nuair a tháinig sé i dtír in aimsir an Dara Cogadh Domhanda, baineadh an fiús as agus cuireadh ina sheasamh é ar an láthair a bhfuil sé ann go fóill, cóngarach don áit inar tharla ár na bliana 1608 (féach leathanachai 41-42).

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An Torpedo *The Torpedo*

Tory today

The population declined further during the 20th century as migrant labourers, disillusioned with the lack of opportunity on Tory, settled permanently elsewhere. From a low of 250 in 1926, the population rose to 273 inhabitants by 1971, but had plummeted to just 119 by 1991.

The land which over the centuries was the basis of Tory's existence now lies largely redundant. Abandoned ploughs, tractors, boats and other implements of toil are commonplace, poignant reminders of a former industrious way of life.

With the decline in agriculture and fishing, Tory has become increasingly dependent on the mainland. The potatoes, vegetables, milk, butter, fish and clothing once supplied by a self-sufficient economy are now imported, as are turf, coal and gas for fuel.

But for a range of private and Government initiatives, the island would probably have been evacuated. A co-operative, Comharchumann Thoraí, was founded in 1977 to develop new enterprises more suited to the changing economy. A public water scheme was put in place and an electricity generator built in the 1980s. The king, Patsy Dan Mac Ruaidhrí, helped establish a successful

Toraigh an lae inniu

Lean an daonra ag titim i rith an 20ú haois de réir mar a chuir na hoibrithe a théadh ar imirce shéasúrach fúthu in áiteanna eile, siocair go raibh siad tuirseach den easpa deiseanna a bhí i dToraigh agus nach raibh an dara suí sa bhuaile acu. Ní raibh ina gcónaí ar an oileán sa bhliain 1926 ach 250 duine agus cé gur ardaigh an daonra go dtí 273 sa bhliain 1971, thit sé arís go mór agus faoin bhliain 1991 ní raibh ar an oileán ach 119.

Tá an talamh a bhí ina chnámh droma leis na cianta do shlí mhaireachtála mhuintir Thoraí fágtha anois gan saothrú den chuid is mó. Tá céachtaí, tarracóirí, bádaí agus mórán uirlísí oibre eile caite i leataobh, iad ina luí thart thall is abhus agus meirg ag teacht orthu. Níl iontu anois ach cuimhní cumhaidhiúla ar shaol atá thart.

Mar thoradh ar mheath na talmhaíochta agus na hiascaireachta tá Toraigh ag brath níos mó agus níos mó ar thír mór. Tá an lá thart nuair a bhí Toraigh neamhspleách agus féinchothaithe. Inniu, ceannaítear isteach ó thír mór na prátaí, glasraí, bainne, im, iasc agus éadaí a ba ghnách bunadh an oileáin a sholáthar dóibh féin, maraon le móin, gual agus gás.

Is dócha nach mbeadh cónaí ar bith ar an oileán i láthair na huairé murab é an réimse de thionscnaimh phríobháideacha agus Rialtais a cuireadh chun cinn. Bunaíodh Comharchumann Thoraí sa bhliain 1977 le forbairt a dhéanamh ar fhiontair úra a d'fhóirfeadh don gheilleagar a bhí ag athrú.



An cuan *The harbour*

school of art which provides a livelihood for a number of local artists (see page 100). A hotel, Óstán Thoraigh, was built by a returned islander and opened in 1994, adding to the long-standing B&B accommodation.

A daily ferry link was established in 1995 and the harbour was extended and deepened in 1999-2001. A subsidised helicopter service is now available for islanders in winter, while long-standing plans for an airstrip are being dusted off and are likely to soon enter the planning process.

Cuireadh scéim uisce phoiblí i gcrích agus tógadh gineadóir aibhléise sna 1980idí. Chuidigh an rí, Patsy Dan Mac Ruaidhrí, scoil ealaíne a bhunú. Tá ag éirí leis an tionscnamh sin go hiontach maith agus tá slí bheatha á cur ar fáil do dhornán ealaíontóirí áitiúla dá thairbhe (féach leathanach 100). Tháinig fear de bhunadh an oileáin ar ais abhaile agus thóg sé Óstán Thoraí, a d'oscail sa bhliain 1994 agus atá ag cur leis an lóistín a bhí le fáil roimhe sin i dtithe aóchta.

Ón bhliain 1995 ar aghaidh, tá seirbhís laethúil farantóireachta ar fáil. Rinneadh méadú agus doimhniú ar an phort idir



An Baile Thiar *An Baile Thiar*

The social life of the island centres around the social club, the only licenced premises other than the hotel; it holds dances and social events. The community centre, built in 1999, accommodates a new secondary school, which is helping to reverse the trend of sending children to the mainland for education. It has four teachers and it enrolled 16 students in 2001. It also houses a gym which, with a stage, doubles as a drama, events and public meetings venue. A new health centre was built in 2002.

1999-2001. Lena chois sin, tá fóirdheontas á dhéanamh ar sheirbhís héileacaptair do na hoileánaigh i rith an gheimhridh agus de réir cosúlachta tá na pleananna do thógáil aerstráice, atá ar na bacáin le fada, á gcur sa phróiseas pleanála gan mhoill.

Tá saol sóisialta an oileáin bunaithe thart ar an chlub sóisialta, an t-aon áit eile diomaite den óstán atá ceadúnaithe le halcól a dhíol.

Lonnaithe san ionad phobail tá an mheánscoil úr atá ag déanamh ar shiúl leis an ghá a bhí ann páistí a chur go tír mór le hoideachas a fháil. D'oscail an scoil sa bhliain 2001 le ceathrar múinteoir agus 16



Perhaps the most significant change has been the building of new houses by Donegal County Council. Improvement of the road has resulted in a linear, eastward extension of an Baile Thiar in contrast to the clustered settlement of old. The population has stabilised and an increase to 169 (94 males and 75 females) was registered in 1996.

The future

The islanders increasingly earn their living from tourism. They recognise that while they no longer depend on farming, the farming tradition is a hallmark of the island's way of life and is worth maintaining and reviving to protect the island's cultural and natural environment.

EU-inspired conservation measures such as the Special Protection Area for birds and the Corncrake Grant Scheme ensure that the island's birds are considered. The Rural Environmental Protection Scheme (REPS) is giving a boost to the last remaining area in Ireland of rundale.

Islanders who abandoned ship when times were bad, and when the Government was actively encouraging people to leave, are now drifting back, many to homes they left 20 or more years ago. They bring with them new ideas and a drive to make the island a more viable home for their children than it had been for themselves.

dalta. Tá giomnáisiam san ionad fosta agus de thairbhe go bhfuil stáitse ann, baineann an pobal úsáid as do dhrámaí, imeachtaí agus ionad cruinnithe poiblí. Tógadh ionad úrnua sláinte sa bhliain 2002.

Is dócha gurb é ceann de na hathruithe is suntasaí ná na tithe úra atá tógtha ag Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall. Siocair gur cuireadh bail mhaith ar an bhealach mór, tá leathnú líneach i dtreo an oirthear tagtha ar an Bhaile Thiar, i gcontrárthacht leis an chlachan a bhíodh coitianta fadó. Tá daingniú tagtha ar an daonra anois agus cláraíodh ardú go 169 duine (94 fear agus 75 bean) sa bhliain 1996.

An todhchaí

Is ó thurasóireacht is mó a ghnóthaíonn muintir an oileáin a n-ioncam inniu agus tá méadú ag teacht ar an tionscal sin. Cé nach bhfuil siad ag brath ar fheirmeoireacht feasta, aithníonn siad gurb é traidisiún na feirmeoireachta an sainmharc do shlí mhaireachtála an oileáin agus ar an tsála sin gur fiú í a chothabháil agus a athbheochan ar mhaithe le comhshaol nádúrtha agus cultúrtha an oileáin a chosaint.

Tá borradh agus biseach ag teacht ar an t-aon cheantar rondála atá fágtha in Éirinn de thairbhe an leas atáthar a bhaint as an Scéim do Chaomhnú Comhshaoil Tuaithe, nó an REPS. Tá beartanna caomhantais an Aontais Eorpaigh, macasamhail Limistéar faoi Chosaint Speisialta do éanacha agus Scéim Deontais an Traonaigh, ag déanamh cinnte de nach dtabharfar neamhaird ar éanacha an oileáin.

They are confident that new opportunities will arise and that they will respond with the same instinct for survival displayed by their ancestors. The king, Patsy Dan Mac Ruaidhrí, is placing his faith in the attractions of the island way of life and in the strong community spirit.

Tá cuid de bhunadh Thoraí, a d'fhág an t-oileán nuair a bhí rudaí go holc agus nuair a bhí an Rialtas ag gríosadh daoine le fágáil, ag teacht ar ais arís le cur fúthu ina gcuid tithe a thréig siad tá fiche bliain ó shin nó níos mó. Tá barúlacha agus smaointe úra acu chomh maith le fonn fuinniúil áit chónaithe níos buaine ná mar a bhí acu féin a chruthú ar an oileán dá gcuid páistí. Tá siad muiníneach go dtiocfaidh deiseanna úrnua chun tosaigh agus go mbeidh an acmhainn mhaireachtála chéanna iontusan is a bhí ina sinsir rompu.

Tá an rí, Patsy Dan Mac Ruaidhrí, ag cur a dhóchas sa tslí mhaireachtála tharraingteach atá ar an oileán agus ins an spiorad láidir atá i measc an phobail.

EOIN MACLOCHLAINN



Sráid an Bhaile Thiar *Baile Thiar streetscape*

Cultúr & Miotaseolaíocht

Culture & Mythology



Cultural life

Placenames

Irish is the first language of the majority of Tory islanders. The lyricism and depth of the ancient tongue can be heard in the islanders' speech, poetry, songs, seanchas (lore) and placenames.

The island has a wealth of placenames, reflecting past divisions of land and the intensive use of the island's resources. They are a vibrant part of the island's cultural fabric.

Plots of land are commonly named after their owners or historical usage, e.g. Páirc Phádaí (Paddy's field), Páirc an Lín (the flax field), Fódacha (grass sods). Each of the cliffs is named separately, e.g. Mullach Maosach (the wet summit), Leac na Leannán (the lovers' stone). Likewise, even the smallest coves have their own name, e.g. Port an Deilg (port of the pin), Póirtín Ghlais (small port of the grey, a reference to a mythological grey cow; see page 106).

Many of the placenames commemorate events in history or mythology. Port an Deilg is believed to have been inspired by the practice (discontinued in the 1970s) of burying citizens from the mainland on Tory, when bodies were wrapped in pinned sheets and the pins thrown into the sea on arrival.

An saol cultúra

Logainmneacha

Is í an Ghaeilge an phríomhtheanga labhartha atá ag formhór bhunadh an oileáin. Tá liriceacht agus doimhne na teanga ársa seo le cluinstitín i gcaint na ndaoine agus ina gcuid filíochta, amhrán, seanchais agus sna logainmneacha.

Tá saibhreas logainmneacha ar an oileán, ainmneacha a léiríonn na cuibhrinn agus na fearainn a bhíodh ann fadó agus an dianúsáid a bhaintí as acmhainní an oileáin. Tá siad fite fuaite go láidir i ngréasán cultúrtha an oileáin.

De ghnáth, ainmnítear píosaí talaimh nó fearainn as ainmneacha na daoine ar leo iad nó an úsáid stairiúil a bhí leo, mar shampla Páirc Phádaí, Páirc an Lín, Fódacha. Tá a hainm féin ag gach uile bhinn agus aill, mar shampla Mullach Maosach, Leac na Leannán, &rl. Mar an gcéanna, tá a ainm féin ag gach port, cuan agus camas, mar shampla Port an Deilg, Póirtín Ghlais (ainmnithe i ndiaidh bó ghlas ón mhiotaseolaíocht; amharc leathanach 106).

Tá mórán de na logainmneacha i gcuimhnhe imeachtaí a tharla sa stair nó sa mhiotaseolaíocht. Maítear go bhfuair Port an Deilg a ainm ó ghnás a bhí ann nuair a d'adhlaic duine ó thíor mór i dTóraigh. Dhéantaí an corp a chornadh i mbraillíní, ceangailte le pionnaí nó dealga. Nuair amháin a bheirtí an corp i dtír ar an oileán chaití na dealga isteach san fharraige. Cuireadh deireadh leis an ghnás sna 1970idí.



Scoilt an Mhóirsheisir *'The cleft of the seven'*

Another interpretation of Port an Deilg looks to mythology: Balor, the king, had demanded the deaths of his grandsons on being warned that he would die at their hands. The newborns were wrapped in sheets, fastened with pins and thrown into the sea - at Port an Deilg.

Several places on the coast are named after shipwrecks, notably Feadán an Wasp (Wasp inlet), west of the lighthouse (see page 66).

The island's placenames were documented by Nollaig Ó hUrmoltaigh in the 1960s. Many are no longer in use and are fast being forgotten as a result of emigration, a reduced dependency on the land and the consolidation of holdings. Many names are known only to older residents and may disappear from use after their passing.

Cuirtear míniú eile ón mhiotaseolaíocht i leith Phort an Deilg fosta: deirtear go ndearna Balor, rí Thoraí, a chuid garmhac a dhaoradh chun báis nuair a tuaradh dó nach bhfhigheadh sé bás a choíche go dtí go maródh a gharmhac é. Chomh luath is a tháinig na linbh ar an tsaol, cornadh braillíní thart orthu, ceanglaíodh na braillíní le dealga agus caitheadh na páistí beaga bochta isteach san fharraige - ag Port an Deilg.

Tá dornán áiteacha thart ar an chósta ainmnithe do shoithigh a briseadh ar na carraigeacha. Is é Feadán an Wasp, ar an taobh thiar de Theach an tSolais, ceann de na cinn is iomráití (féach leathanach 66).

Rinne Nollaig Ó hUrmoltaigh logainmneacha an oileáin a dhoiciméadú sna 1960idí. Ní bhaintear úsáid as cuid mhór dóibh níos mó agus tá dearmad á dhéanamh orthu de bharr go ndeachaigh mórán de bhunadh an oileáin ar imirce, siocair nach bhfuil daoine ag brath an oiread céanna ar an talamh feasta agus

Music, song and dance

There is a vibrant tradition of music, song and dance on Tory and musicians and dancers from far and near visit the island regularly to join in sessions, which last into the early hours.

The island has a tradition of sean-nós or old-style singing going back centuries. Current singers include Willie Mháire Bhillie Ó Dubhagáin and Éamonn Mac Ruaidhrí, who is also an accomplished accordion player, dancer and seanchaí (story-teller).

The island's songs have been documented by Lillis Ó Laoire. They include *Toraigh na dTonn*, *An Chrúibín*, *D'imigh mé le mo Ghrá Bán*, *Pádraig Mac Ruaidhrí* and *Amhrán na Scadán*. Some, like *Níl sé 'na Lá*, are now well-known standards.

The island has a reputation for melodeon and accordion players. Among its finest players are Pól Mac Ruaidhrí and Patsy Dan Mac Ruaidhrí (the king) who plays with a group called Na Gaeil Mire. Patsy welcomes visitors to the island by playing tunes on the pier as the ferry approaches.

Throughout the summer, céilí dances are held almost nightly in the social club, Club na Maighdine Mara, also one of the best spots for traditional music. Tory dancers perform not only the famous

siocair go bhfuil gabhálaí á gcur le chéile. Tá go leor ainmneacha nach bhfuil ar eolas ach ag na seandaoine agus nuair a gheobhaidh siadsan bás, gheobhaidh na hainmneacha bás ina gcuideachta.

Ceol, amhránaíocht, damhsa

Tá traidisiún iontach bríomhar ceoil, amhránaíochta agus damhsa i dToraigh agus tagann ceoltóirí agus damhsóirí ó chian agus ó chongar chun an oileáin go minic le páirt a ghlacadh sna seisiúin ceoil a théann ar aghaidh go maidin corrúair!

Tá traidisiún d'amhránaíocht sean-nóis ar an oileán leis na cianta cairbreacha. Ar amhránaithe an lae inniu, tá Willie Mháire Bhillie Ó Dubhagáin agus Éamonn Mac Ruaidhrí, atá fosta ina sheinnteoir oilte ar an bosca ceoil, ina dhamhsóir agus ina sheanchaí.

Tá amhráin an oileáin cnuasaithe le chéile ag Lillis Ó Laoire. Ina measc sin, tá *Toraigh na dTonn*, *An Chrúibín*, *D'imigh mé le mo Ghrá Bán*, *Pádraig Mac Ruaidhrí* agus *Amhrán na Scadán*. Tá cuid acu, mar *Níl sé 'na Lá*, iontach coitianta anois ar fud na tíre.

Tá clú ar sheinnteoirí an bhosca ceoil agus an mhíleoidéain. I measc na gceoltóirí is iomráití tá Pól Mac Ruaidhrí agus Patsy Dan Mac Ruaidhrí (an rí) a bíos ag seinm le grúpa darb ainm Na Gaeil Mire. Nuair a thagann turasóirí chun an oileáin, cuireann Patsy fáilte rompu agus é ag seinm cúpla port le linn don bhád fartha a bheith ag tarraingt isteach ar an ché.

I rith an tsamhraidh, bíonn céilí ar siúl chóir a bheith gach uile oíche sa chlub sóisialta, Club na Maighdine Mara, atá fosta ar cheann de na



Pól Mac Ruaidhrí ar an bocsa ceol *Pól MacRuaidhrí on the accordion*

Irish sets and reels including lonsaí na hInse, Ballaí Luimnigh and An Cor Seisear Déag, but also dances which are not well-known outside Donegal, including An Maidrín Rua, Maggie Pickie and Tonnaí Thoraí [The Waves of Tory]. These have survived on Tory while largely dying out elsewhere.

Tory has its own version of the eight-hand reel known as An Cor Ochtair and its own local versions of the Lancers and the Quadrilles, called the 'sets.' Set-dancing workshops are held regularly.

háiteanna is fearr do cheol traidisiúnta. Ní amháin go ndéanann damhsóirí Thoraí na seiteanna agus na ríleanna Gaelacha, macasamhail lonsaí na hInse, Ballaí Luimnigh agus An Cor Seisear Déag, ach déanann siad cúrsaí damhsa nach bhfuil mórán iomrá orthu taobh amuigh de Thír Chonaill, ina measc an An Maidrín Rua, Maggie Pickie agus Tonnaí Thoraí. Mhair siad seo i dToraigh cé gur ligeadh i ndearmad iad in áiteanna eile.

Tá a leagan féin den Chor Ochtair i dToraigh le cois a leaganacha áitiúla féin de Rince na Lansaithe agus An Cuadraill, ar a dtugtar seiteanna. Bíonn ceardlann i rincí seit ar siúl go rialta.

Tory art

Tory is synonymous with a cadre of painters known as the primitives who owe their origins to the late Derek Hill, an English landscape and portrait painter. They have followed the naïve style, i.e. primitive or unschooled.

Hill first visited Tory in 1956 and returned often to paint the island and its people. Here he completed some of his best-known works, including: *Tory from Tor Mór*; *The End of Tory*; *Toraigh na dTonn*; *Towards Malin Head*; and *Hiúdaí Whoriskey*.

Ard Lárthain

Map Ref: 15

Artist Derek Hill stayed in a small hut, a former coastal signal station on Ard Lárthain, and his visits inspired a number of islanders to take up painting. They included James 'Jimi' Dixon, his brother Johnny Dixon, Jimi 'Yank' Mac Ruaidhrí, Ruaidhrí Sarah Mac Ruaidhrí and a young Patsy Dan Mac Ruaidhrí, now king of the island.

James Dixon (1887-1970) was the pioneering member of the Tory group of painters and the one who became best-known, and his first meeting with Hill is still recalled. He had been observing Hill at work and remarked that he himself could do better. Hill accordingly offered him the appropriate materials, but Dixon preferred his own. These included household paints, shoe polish and

Ealaín Thoraí

Nuair a labhartar ar Thoraigh, cuimhnítear láithreach bonn ar chaidre péintéirí ar a dtugtar tútacháin agus a raibh Derek Hill, nach maireann, ealaíontóir tírdhreachach agus portráid ó Shasana, ina chionsiocair lena mbunú. Cleachtann siad an stíl bhunúsach, i.e. tútach nó neamhoilte.

Thug Hill a chéad chuairt ar Thoraigh sa bhliain 1956 agus is iomaí uair ina dhiaidh sin a d'fhill sé ar mhaithe leis an t-oileán agus muintir an oileáin a phéinteáil. Ba i dToraigh a chuir sé i gcrích cuid dá shaothar is cáiliúla, ina measc *Tory from Tor Mór*, *The End of Tory*, *Toraigh na dTonn*, *Towards Malin Head* agus *Hiúdaí Whoriskey*.

Ard Lárthain

Map Ref: 15

Ba ghnách le Derek Hill cur faoi i mbothán beag, a bhí ina stáisiún comharthaíochta cósta roimhe sin, ar Ard Lárthain. Spreag a chuid cuairteanna suim sa phéintéireacht i roinnt de bhunadh an oileáin. Ina measc seo bhí James 'Jimi' Dixon, a dheartháir Johnny Dixon, Jimi 'Yank' Mac Ruaidhrí, Ruaidhrí Sarah Mac Ruaidhrí agus stócach óg darbh ainm Patsy Dan Mac Ruaidhrí atá anois ina rí.

Ba é James Dixon (1887-1970) a bhí mar cheannródaí ar an ghrúpa agus an péintéir a b'iomráití. Bítear ag caint go fóill faoin chéad uair a casadh Dixon agus Hill ar a chéile. Is cosúil go raibh sé ag coimhead ar Hill i mbun péinteála agus dúirt sé leis go bhféadfadh sé féin é a dhéanamh níos fearr. Thairg Hill na hábhair dó a bheadh de dhíth air ach b'fhearr le Dixon a rogha féin

Derek Hill *Portrait of Derek Hill*

brushes made from donkey-hair. Hill was impressed with his work, and thus began a long association between Hill and the island's artists.

Dixon's painting was instinctive and intuitive and embraced local themes. His work provides a unique record of changing times on Tory during the 1960s, including *Mr William Rogers Plowing in Dixon Farm, Tory Island: The First Tractor that Ever Came to Tory* (1967); *The First Time the Helicopter Came* (1967); and *Ave Maria: The First Motor Boat on Tory* (1968).

A second generation of Tory painters later emerged and today includes Ruaidhrí L Mac Ruaidhrí, Mícheál Fionnbarr Mac Ruaidhrí, Antain Ó Míonáin and Pádraig Ó Duibhir.

Ard Lárthain *Derek Hill's hut on Árd Lárthain*

d'ábhar. I measc na rudaí a d'úsáid sé, bhí péint tí, blaicín agus scuabanna a bhí déanta as fionnadh asail. Chuaigh a shaothar go mór i bhfeidhm ar Hill agus ón lá sin amach bhí caidreamh láidir idir Hill agus ealaíontóirí an oileáin.

Bhí cuid péintéireachta Dixon instinneach, imfhiosach agus bunaithe ar théamaí áitiúla. A bhuí dá shaothar, tá cuntas sonraíoch ar fáil dúinn faoin dóigh a raibh an saol ag athrú i dToraigh le linn na 1960idí, saothair mar *Mr William Rogers Plowing in Dixon Farm, Tory Island: The First Tractor that Ever Came to Tory Island* (1967); *The First Time the Helicopter Came* (1967); agus *Ave Maria: The First Motor Boat on Tory* (1968).

Sna blianta ina dhiaidh sin, tháinig glúin eile d'ealaíontóirí Thoraí chun cinn agus orthu sin inniu tá Ruaidhrí L Mac Ruaidhrí, Mícheál Fionnbarr Mac Ruaidhrí, Antain Ó Míonáin agus Pádraig Ó Duibhir.

In 1981, Hill donated his art collection and home by Lough Gartan near Churchill, Co Donegal, to the nation. It was developed as the Glebe House and Gallery by the Office of Public Works and opened to the public in 1992. Some of Dixon's work hangs there.

👁 Dixon Gallery

Map Ref: 20

The Dixon Gallery (Gailearaí Dixon) is located in An Baile Thiar in the family home of the late James 'Jimí' Dixon, one of the original group of Tory painters.

The house was purchased in 1984 by Hill and Dorothy Harrison Therman, American author of *Stories from Tory Island*. The gallery was officially opened in 1992. It houses two of Dixon's works, a portrait of Derek Hill

Sa bhliain 1981, bhronn Hill a bhailiúchán ealaíon agus a theach cónaithe, atá suite ar bhruach Loch Gartáin in aice le Mín an Lábáin i gCo Dhún na nGall, ar an náisiún. Rinne Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí forbairt ar an ionad agus sa bhliain 1992 osclaíodh Teach agus Gailearaí an Glebe don phobal. Tá roinnt saothar le Dixon ar taispeáint ansin.

👁 Gailearaí Dixon

Map Ref: 20

Tá Gailearaí Dixon suite sa Bhaile Thiar i dteach cónaithe James Dixon, nach maireann, duine den chéad ghrúpa péintéirí a bhí i dToraí.

Sa bhliain 1984, cheannaigh Hill agus Dorothy Harrison Therman, údar as Meiriceá a scríobh an leabhar *Stories from Tory Island*, an teach agus osclaíodh an gailearaí go hoifigiúil sa bhliain 1992. Tá dhá shaothar de chuid Dixon ar taispeáint ann, portráid de Derek Hill leis an

ANTAIN Ó MIONAÍN



An Baile Thiar trí shúile ealaíontóra *An Baile Thiar - artist's impression*



by Tom Halifax and paintings and model boats by local artists. The curator is Antain Ó Mionáin.

A plaque commemorating Lord Douglas-Hamilton, 'friend of Tory,' is affixed to the outside wall.

The Tory monarchy

Many Irish islands including Rathlin and the Blaskets had a tradition of rule by uncrowned kings. The custom has ceased on all of the islands but Tory.

The current ruler, Patsy Dan Mac Ruaidhrí, was chosen in 1993 and plays an active role in promoting the island. His title is largely honorary, unlike in the past when the king was called upon to manage the affairs of the island, then an isolated and almost self-run entity.

Tory kings did not inherit their title - they were elected for their character and talents, even their literacy. It was the king's task to ensure that local customs were observed, to settle disputes over inheritance and to ensure an equitable division of the land. The rundale system of farming with its rotation of arable land, shoreline, peat reserves and grazing rights required firm management (see pages 46-47, 73-74).

Kings of Tory in the 19th and 20th centuries were usually men whose

elaiontóir Tom Halifax chomh maith le pictiúirí agus mionsamhlacha báid le healaiontóirí áitiúla. Is é Antain Ó Mionáin an coimeádaí.

Tá cloch chuimneacháin in ónóir Lord Douglas-Hamilton, 'cara Thoraí,' greamaithe den bhalla amuigh.

Monarcacht Thoraí

Bhí traidisiún monarcachta ar mhórán d'oileán na hÉireann, Reachlainn agus An Bhlascaod Mór ina measc. Tá deireadh leis an nós sin ar na hoileáin go léir ach amháin i dToraigh.

Ba sa bhliain 1993 a toghadh an rí atá ann i láthair na huaire, Patsy Dan Mac Ruaidhrí, agus tá sé thar a bheith díograiseach ó thaobh poiblíocht a thabhairt don oileán agus é a chur chun cinn. Is teideal oinigh go mórmhór atá ag rí an lae inniu, chan mar a bhí fad ó shin nuair a bhí an rí i mbun bainistíochta ar an oileán, a bhí scoite agus féinchothaithe an uair sin.

Ní tháinig monarcacht Thoraí anuas ó athair go mac - tógadh an rí as ucht a charachtar agus a éirim, a chumas litearthachta fiú amháin. Bhí sé de dhualgas ar an rí déanamh cinnte nach ndéanfaí neamart sna gnásanna lóganta, achrainn fá oidhreacht a shocrú agus a chinntiú go raibh an talamh roinnte go cóir cothrom. Bhí smacht docht de dhíth ar chóras feirmeoireachta na rondála le feiceáil chuige go raibh sealaíocht ar thalamh curaíochta, ar straicí cladaigh agus

occupation placed them at centre-stage in the life of the community. They included schoolmasters, inn-keepers and shop-keepers. Some were popular; others fell from favour during their reign and were broken from their post.

caoráin agus ar innilt déanta i gceart (féach leathanacháí 46-47, 73-74).

Sa naoú haois déag agus sa fichiú haois, toghadh ríthe Thoraí, de ghnáth, ó fhir a bhí tábhachtach i saol an phobail de thairbhe an tslí bheatha a chleacht siad. Ina measc, bhí máistrí scoile, úinéirí thithe leanna agus úinéirí siopaí. Thaitin cuid acu leis na daoine, bhí cuid eile nár thaitin agus briseadh as a bpost iad.

NOELLE NÍ DHUBHCHÓIN



Patsy Dan MacRuaidhrí, Rí Thoraí *King of Tory*, Patsy Dan MacRuaidhrí

Myths and legends

The early history of Tory is lost in the mists of time, coming down to us only through sagas and folk tales. Some sagas are recorded in the ancient annals of Ireland, others are part of the island seanchas or oral tradition. The stories recall extraordinary battles and supernatural events often linked to existing monuments.

According to the 12th-century annals *Leabhar Gabhála Éireann* [the book of invasions of Ireland], Tory was first occupied by Nemedian settlers from Scythia in modern-day Turkey. The Nemedians were ousted by the Fomorians, a group of sea pirates from Carthage in modern-day Tunisia. A Fomorian king, Conan, built a tower - Túr Rí, tower of the king - from which the island possibly takes its name. He was deposed by marauding Nemedians, but the island was soon back in Fomorian hands when the infamous pirate king, Balor, seized power.

The Fomorians harried the coast from their island retreat and the “entire country” fell to their forces after the first battle of Magh Tuireadh (Moy Tura) in Co Sligo. A mainland tribe, the Tuatha Dé Danann, led by Nuada Airgead Lámh (Nuada of the silver arm), and later Lúgh, remmarshalled its forces, and the second battle of Magh Tuireadh saw a terrific slaughter. According to the annals, Balor

Miotaseolaíocht

Tá stair Thoraí chomh sean sin go bhfuil sí caillte orainn i gceo na gcianta bliain. Ach tá na finscéalta agus an béaloideas againn. Tá cuid de na finscéalta luaite in annála ársa na hÉireann, cuid eile a thagann anuas chugainn i seanchas agus i mbéaloideas an oileáin. Tugann na scéalta sin faisnéis fá chathanna iontacha neamhchoitianta agus fá imeachtaí osnádúrtha atá ceangailte go minic le séadchomharthaí atá ar an oileán go fóill.

De réir annála ón 12ú haois, *Leabhar Gabhála Éireann*, ba iad treibh de Chlann Neimhidh ó Scythia, sa Tuirc, a rinne cónaí i dToraigh i dtús báire. Ansin, tháinig na Fomhóraigh, foghlaithe mara ón Chartaigh sa Túinéis, agus chuir siad an ruaig ar Chlann Neimhidh. Ba é Conán, ceann de ríthe na bhFomhóraigh, a thóg an túr - Túr Rí - óna bhfaigheann an t-oileán a ainm. Chuir baicle creachadóirí ó Chlann Neimhidh as seilbh é ach ní raibh i bhfad go raibh an t-oileán ag na Fomhóraigh arís nuair a tháinig an rí míchlúiteach, Balor, i gcumhacht.

D’úsáid na Fomhóraigh dídean an oileáin chun slad agus scrios a dhéanamh ar thír mór agus deirtear go bhfuair siad an bhua ar an ‘tír iomlán’ i ndiaidh a gcéad chath ag Magh Tuireadh i gCo Shligigh. Rinne treibh a bhí ar tír mór, na Tuatha Dé Danann, faoi cheannas Nuadha Airgead-Lámh agus faoi cheannas Lugh ina dhiaidh sin, a bhfórsaí a atheagrú, agus nuair a troideadh an dara cath ag Magh Tuireadh, bhí athrach scéil ann. De réir na n-annála, maraíodh Balor le lámh a gharhmhic féin, Lugh, agus ruaigeadh na Fomhóraigh.



was slain by his own grandson Lúgh and the Fomorians were routed.

The legend of Balor

Balor na Súile Nimhe (Balor of the Evil Eye) was a cyclops who could kill with a glance from his single eye. When the eye became weakened in battle, his men held up his eyelid with ropes and pulleys so as not to lose the advantage of his deadly powers.

Balor worried about a druid prophecy that he would be killed by his grandson. Balor had an only child, a daughter named Eithne, and the druids prophesised that a son of Eithne would kill Balor. In an attempt to escape his fate, Balor imprisoned her in a stone tower on Tor Mór and forbade any man to approach her.

Three brothers of the Tuatha Dé Danann lived on the mainland opposite Tory - Cian the chieftain, Mac Samhthann the sailor, and Gaibhidín Gabha, the swordsmith. Gaibhidín owned a precious milch cow called Glas Ghaibhleann, the white-loined grey cow, which was coveted by Balor. Balor stole the cow from Gaibhidín's forge and brought it back to Tory. Poirtín Ghlais, the port into which he brought his prize, takes its name from the cow.

Cian was sent to Tory to recover the cow, and some time later Balor's daughter Eithne gave birth to triplets. Balor learned

Finscéal Bhaloir

Cioclóip ab ea Balor na Súile Nimhe a bhí ábalta duine a mharú le sracfhéachaint óna shúil amháin. Nuair a d'éireodh an tsúil lag le linn catha, choinneodh a chuid fear an mogall ar oscailt le rópaí agus ulógaí sa dóigh nach gcaillfeadh siad buntáiste a chumhachtaí marfacha.

Bhíodh Balor ag déanamh imní fá thairngreacht draoi a dúirt gurb é a gharhmach féin a mharódh é. De réir an tseanchais, ní raibh ag Balor ach iníon amháin darbh ainm Eithne, agus thuar na draoithe gurb é mac d'Eithne a mharódh Balor. Chun an rud a bhí i ndán dó a sheachaint, rinne Balor príosúnach dá iníon i dtúr cloiche ar an Tor Mór agus chros sé ar fhear ar bith dul ina gaire nó ina gaobhair.

Bhí triúr deartháir de mhuintir Tuatha Dé Danann ina gcónaí ar tír mór díreach os coinne oileán Thoraí - Cian an taoiseach, Mac Samhthann an mairneálach, agus Gaibhidín Gabha, gabha claímh. Bhí bó bhainne fíorluachmhar, ar a dtugtaí An Glas Ghaibhleann, ag Gaibhidín agus shantaigh Balor í. Ghoid Balor an bhó ó chéarta Gaibhidín agus thug leis go Toraigh í, á tabhairt i dtír ag Poirtín Ghlais a hainmníodh i ndiaidh na bó.

Chuaigh Cian go Toraigh chun a bhó a fháil ar ais agus tamallt ama ina dhiaidh sin, rugadh triúr mac d'iníon Bhaloir, Eithne. Fuair Balor amach gurbh é Cian a n-athair agus bhain sé an ceann de gan mórán moille. Chaith sé an triúr naíonán isteach san fharraige.



Poirtín Ghlais *Poirtín Ghlais - 'Little port of the grey [cow]'*

that Cian was the father and he swiftly beheaded him. He then threw the infants into the sea.

Eithne's eldest child, Lúgh, was rescued and when he came of age he built himself a fort, Dún Lúiche (Lúgh's fort; or Dunlewy) at the foot of Errigal mountain on the mainland. Lúgh knew that Balor had murdered his father Cian, but Balor remained unaware that Lúgh was his grandson. While visiting Gaibhidín's forge, Balor bragged about killing Cian and his sons. Furious, Lúgh drew a glowing rod from the furnace and plunged it into the back of Balor's head and out through his basilisk eye. The slopes ran red with Balor's blood. Gleann Nimhe (the Poisoned Glen) near Dún Lúiche (Dunlewy) got its name from the vile liquid that spewed from his eye.

Sábháladh an leanbh a ba shine, Lugh, agus nuair a tháinig sé i méadaíocht thóg sé dún dó féin faoi scáth an Earagail san áit ar a dtugtar Dún Lúiche inniu. Bhí a fhios ag Lugh gurbh é Balor a mharaigh a athair ach ní raibh a fhios ag Balor go raibh Lugh ina ó aige.

Uair dá dtug Balor cuairt ar chéarta Ghaibhidín, bhí sé ag maíomh as an éacht a rinne sé nuair a mharaigh sé Cian agus a chuid mac. Ar mire, tharraing Lugh bior deargthe ón tine agus sháigh isteach i gcúl cloigne Bhaloir é agus amach fríd a shúil nimhe. Doirteadh cuid fola Bhaloir ina sruth. Deirtear go bhfuair Gleann Nimhe i nDún Lúiche a ainm ón leacht nimhiúil a tháinig as a shúil.

Tá insint eile ar an scéal a deir go ndeachaigh Lugh go dtí cúirt Nuadha, rí na Tuatha Dé Danann, agus le chéile gur chuir siad slua na bhFomhóraigh faoi chois ag



In another telling of the tale, Lúgh presented himself to the court of Nuada, king of the Tuatha Dé Danann, and together they met and crushed the forces of the Fomorians at Magh Tuireadh. One of the three gods of craftsmanship, Goibniú the smith, fashioned a lightning weapon which Lúgh hurled through Balor's baleful eye, slaying him.

Lúgh was the Celtic God of Light and the divine father of Ireland's most famous mythological hero, Cúchulainn. He gives his name to the August harvest festival of Lúghnasa.

Colmcille's arrival on Tory

Accounts of how Colmcille converted Tory to Christianity are legion. According to one story, Colmcille competed with rival saints for the honour of converting Tory. It is said his claim was supported by God, who opened the waters of Tory Sound so he could walk across to the island.

In a second telling, Colmcille and his rivals, Beighhile and Dubhthach, failed to reach agreement as to which one would go. The three stood atop Cnoc na Naoimh (hill of the saints) near Machaire a'Rabhartaigh (Magheraroarty) - a hill on the mainland now marked by a large cross - and cast their staves as far as they could. Beighhile's staff fell in Baile An Teampaill near An Fál Carrach (Falcarragh), while Dubhthach's fell on

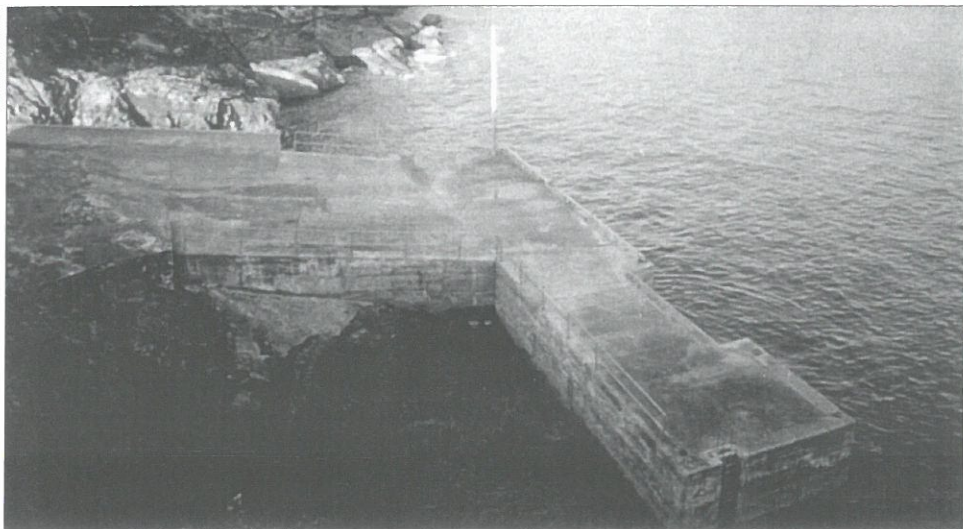
Magh Tuireadh. Rinne Goibniú, duine de na trí déithe ceardaíochta, sleá ar a dtugtaí an Ga Solais agus chaith Lugh an ga fríd shúil nimhe Bhaloir, á mharú.

Ba é Lugh Dia Ceilteach an tSolais agus athair diaga ag Cúchulainn, an laoch is iomráití i miotaseolaíocht na hÉireann. Is ó Lugh a thagann ainm na míosa, Lughnasa (Lúnasa), mí ina ndéantaí ceilúradh ar fhéile an fhómhair ina ómós.

Teacht Cholm Cille go Toraigh

Is iomaí scéal atá ann faoin dóigh ar iompaigh Colm Cille muintir Thoraí chun na Críostaíochta. In insint amháin, deirtear go ndeachaigh Colm Cille in iomaíocht le naoimh eile le feiceáil cé acu a gheobhadh an onóir le Toraigh a thabhairt chun na Críostaíochta. Maítear go dtug Dia cuidiú dó agus gur oscail sé bealach fríd an fharraige sa dóigh go dtiocfadh le Colm Cille siúl isteach go Toraigh.

De réir an dara scéil, deirtear nach raibh Colm Cille agus a chomhghleacaithe, Beighhile agus Dubhthach, ábalta a theacht ar réiteach maidir le cé acu a rachadh go Toraigh. Sheas an triúr acu ar bharr Chnoc na Naoimh in aice le Machaire Uí Rabhartaigh - cnoc a bhfuil cros ard ina sheasamh air inniu - agus chaith siad a gcroisíní chomh fada is a thiocfadh leo. Thuirling croisín Bheighhile i mBaile An Teampaill cóngarach don Fhál Carrach agus thit croisín Dhubhthaigh in Inis Dhubhthaigh, oileán beag in aice le hInis Bó Finne. Chuaigh croisín Cholm Cille chomh fada le Toraigh, áit ar thit sé ar chnoc Mórard agus bhí sé de cheart aige a eaglais a



Port an Dúin, cuan beag taobh le Dhún Bhaloir *Port an Dúin, a small harbour beside Dún Bhaloir*

Inis Dhubhthaigh (Inishdoo), a small island beside Inis Bó Finne (Inishbofin). Colmcille's staff landed on Tory, on the hill of Mórad, and accordingly he won the right to build his church there. Dubhtach and Beighbhile founded churches where their staffs fell.

Cloch an Chú (The Hound's Rock)

Cloch an Chú (The Hound's Rock) is said to mark the spot where Colmcille first set foot on Tory.

When Colmcille reached the coast, Oilill, the king of the island, would not allow him to land. Colmcille said all he needed was a plot the size of his cloak on which to found a monastery. Oilill relented, but when Colmcille placed his

bhunú ansin dá thairbhe. Bhunaigh Dubhtach agus Beighbhile eaglaisí san áit inar thit a gcuid croisíní.

Cloch an Chú

Deirtear go marcálann Cloch an Chú an spot inar leag Colm Cille a chos ar oileán Thoraí den chéad uair.

Nuair a shroich Colm Cille cósta Thoraí, ní thabharfadh Oilill, rí Thoraigh, cead dó a theacht i dtír. Dúirt Colm Cille leis nach raibh de dhíth air ach píosa beag talaimh comh mór lena chlóca chun mainistreach a bhunú. Thoiligh Oilill, ach nuair a leag Colm Cille a chlóca ar an talamh, spréigh an clóca go draíochtach go dtí go raibh an t-oileán uilig cumhdaithe aige. Chuaigh an rí ar steallaí mire agus dhreasaigh sé cú fiáin fíochmhar sa naomh. Sheas Colm Cille ar charraig, rinne sé Comhartha na



Rian coise Cholm Cille ag Port an Churraigh
Colmcille's footprint at Port an Churraigh

cloak on the ground it magically spread over the island. Enraged, the king set a savage hound on the saint. Standing on a rock, Colmcille made the Sign of the Cross and the dog fell over dead. Awed by his unearthly powers, Oilill promptly converted to Christianity. The dog's paw marks are visible on the rock to this day at Scoilt an Ghlasáin, near the harbour pier. It was here also that Colmcille turned three pagans into rocks – the Trí Mic Uí gCorra - as they leapt into the sea in an attempt to swim to shore. The three rocks are visible from the mainland, behind Owey Island.

Some say Colmcille came ashore at Port an Churraigh and point to what appears to be a footprint in a rock, beside the harbour pier (see picture, above).

Croise agus thit an cú marbh ar an láthair. Chuir sé seo uafás agus iontas ar Oilill agus ghlac sé leis an Chríostaíocht lom díreach. Tá marcanna crúb an chú le feiceáil go fóill ar an chloch atá ag Scoilt an Ghlasáin i ndeas do cé an phoirt. Deirtear gurbh é ón áit sin fosta a rinne an naomh carraigeach de thriúr págánach – na Trí Mic Uí gCorra - nuair a thug siad léim san fharraige ag féacháil le snámh go hÁrainn. Tá na trí carraigeacha le feiceáil go soiléir ón tír mór, ag gobadh san fharraige i gcúl Oileán Uaighe.

Deir daoine eile go dtáinig Colm Cille i dtír ag Port an Churraigh, áit a bhfuil marc mar a bheadh rian coise ar chloch in aice an ché.

Cloch Mac Gearra

Tá Cloch Mac Gearra le feiceáil ar bheanna Mhearnáda os coinne An Baile Thiar. Deirtear gur fear a bhí ann agus go ndearna Colm Cille cloch de.

De réir an tseanchais, bhí Colm Cille amuigh ag spaisteoireacht maidin Domhnaigh amháin nuair a casadh Mac Gearra air. Bhí Mac Gearra i ndiaidh a bheith ag iascaireacht, rud nac raibh ceadmhach ar an Domhnach, agus bhí mála mór éisc á iompar ar a dhroim aige. D'fhiafraigh Colm Cille de an raibh iasc ar bith aige agus d'fhreagair Mac Gearra go bréagach nach raibh. Ar an toirt, thiontaigh Colm Cille ina chloch é agus tá sé greamaithe san áit sin ar fad, ag dreapadh Mearnaid lena mhála éisc ar a dhroim (féach an pictiúr, leathanach 111).

Mac Gearra's Rock

Mac Gearra's Rock, located on the cliffs of Mearnaid opposite An Baile Thiar, is said to be a man turned to stone by Colmcille.

According to this legend, Colmcille was out walking one Sunday morning when he met Mac Gearra. Mac Gearra had been fishing, which was prohibited on Sundays, and was carrying a large bag of fish on his back. Colmcille asked him if he had any fish. Mac Gearra lied and said he had none. Colmcille immediately turned him to stone and he remains rooted to the spot to this day, climbing Mearnaid with his bag of fish on his back (see picture).

Móirsheisear (shrine of the seven)

According to legend, the shrine of Móirsheisear commemorates six men and a woman who were found dead in a currach which washed ashore at Scoilt an Mhóirsheisir (cleft of the seven) on the island's northwest coast.

Colmcille ordered that the bodies be buried together and an oratory built over the grave. The morning after this was completed the woman's body was discovered lying on top of the grave. She was duly reburied, but the next morning her body re-appeared. Colmcille realised the woman was a saint and ordered that she be buried separately, to the west of the church. Her resting place is known as the Nun's Grave.

DARA MAC AOIDH



Cloch Mac Gearra *Mac Gearra's Rock*

Móirsheisear

De réir an tseanchais, tá uláí an Mhóirsheisir mar leacht cuimhneacháin ar sheisear fear agus bean amháin a fuarthas marbh i gcurach a tháinig i dtír ag Scoilt an Mhóirsheisir ar chósta thiar thuaidh an oileáin.

D'ordaigh Colm Cille iad a adhlacadh in aon uaigh amháin agus aireagal a thógáil os a cionn. An mhaidin arna mhárach fuarthas corp na mná ar uachtar na huaighe. Rinneadh í a adhlacadh san uaigh athuair ach an mhaidin ina dhiaidh sin bhí sí ar uachtar arís. Thuig Colm Cille ansin gur naomh a bhí inti agus dúirt sé gur chóir í a chur in uaigh léi féin. Tugtar Uaigh na Mná Rialta ar an áit a bhfuil sí curtha.

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Visitor Information

Getting there

A ferry service is operated by Turasmar Teo with daily ferry sailings from Bun Beag (Bunbeg) and Machaire an Rabhartaigh (Magheraroarty). For details contact: Turasmar Teo, Tel: (07495) 31320 / 31340/31991, (07491) 35061, Fax: (07495) 31665

Accommodation

Hotel: Óstán Thorai, 14-bed, bar, restaurant, Egon Ronay Award 1997, (07491) 35920

Bed & Breakfast:

Graceanne Duffy (Bord Fáilte-approved), An Baile Thoir, (07491) 35136

For other B&B accommodation, contact the Co-op for details (see contact details below).

Public facilities

Creggan Restaurant, An Baile Thiar, (07491) 35856

Craft Shop, An Baile Thiar, (07491) 35507

Club Sóisialta (Tory Social Club), (07491) 65121

Dixon's Art Gallery, An Baile Thiar, (07491) 65420

Bicycle Hire, An Baile Thiar, (07491) 65614

Tory Diving Centre

Tory has a diving centre which caters for the experienced and not-so-experienced diver. Contact: Dive Tory (Toraigh Faoi Thonn), Big Strand, Tory Island, Co Donegal Tel: (07491) 35920 / 35282

Fax: (07491) 35613 E-mail: divetory@eircom.net

Local Conservation Ranger

Pat Vaughan (Head Ranger), Glenveagh National Park Tel: (07491) 37090

Bealach na Gaeltachta (The Gaeltacht Way)

A section of the Bealach na Gaeltachta walking route in County Donegal is found on Tory. Contact: GaelSaoire, FREEPHONE 1800 621 600, website: www.gaelsaoire.ie

For further information, or for details on any of the above facilities or services, contact:

Comharchumann Thorai Teo (The Co-op)

Oileán Thorai, Na Doiri Beaga

Leitir Ceannainn, Co Dhún na nGall

Tel: (07491) 35502 Fax: (07491) 35866

E-mail: ccthorai@tinet.ie

Eolas don Chuaiteoir

Ag teacht go Toraigh

Cuireann Turasmar Teo seirbhís farantóireachta ar fáil. Seolann bád laethiúil ón Bhun Bheag agus ó Mhachaire an Rabhartaigh. Tuilleadh eolais: Turasmar Teo, Fón: (07495) 31320/31340/31991, (07491) 35061, Facs: (07495) 31665

Lóistín

Óstán: Óstán Thorai, 14-leaba, bear, bialann,

Duais Egon Ronay 1997, (07491) 35920

Bia & Leaba:

Graceanne Uí Dhufaigh (aitheantas Bhord Fáilte),

An Baile Thoir, (07491) 35136

Eolas breise ar lóistín: déan teangabháil le Comharchumann Thorai Teo (féach thíos).

Áiseanna Poiblí

Caifé an Chreagáin, An Baile Thiar, (07491) 35856

Siopa Ceardaíochta, An Baile Thiar, (07491) 35507

Club Sóisialta (ceadúnaithe), (07491) 65121

Gailearai Dixon, An Baile Thiar, (07491) 65420

Rothair ar Cíos, An Baile Thiar, (07491) 65614

Ionad Tumadóireachta Thorai

Tá ionad tumadóireachta i dToraigh a dhéanas freastal ar thumadóirí oile agus ar fhoghlaimeoirí. Teangabháil: Toraigh Faoi Thonn, An Trá Mór, Toraigh, Co Dhún na nGall Fón: (07491) 35920 / 35282, Facs: (07491) 35613, divetory@eircom.net

Saoiste Caomhantais Áitiúil

Pat Vaughan (Príomh Shaoiste), Páirc Náisiúnta Ghleann Bheatha Fón: (07491) 37090

Bealach na Gaeltachta

Tá Bealach na Gaeltachta, cuid de bhealach siúlóide i nDún na nGall, le fáil ar Oileán Thorai. Teangabháil: GaelSaoire, FÓN SAOR 1800 621 600, [suíomh idirlíon: www.gaelsaoire.ie](http://www.gaelsaoire.ie)

Le breis eolais nó sonraí ar na háiseanna nó na seirbhísí seo thuas, den teangabháil le:

Comharchumann Thorai Teo,

Oileán Thorai, Na Doiri Beaga,

Leitir Ceannainn, Co Dhún na nGall

Fón: (07491) 35502 Facs: (07491) 35866

E-phost: ccthorai@tinet.ie