

**Institute of Archaeologists
of Ireland (IAI)
Newsletter
Autumn 2024**

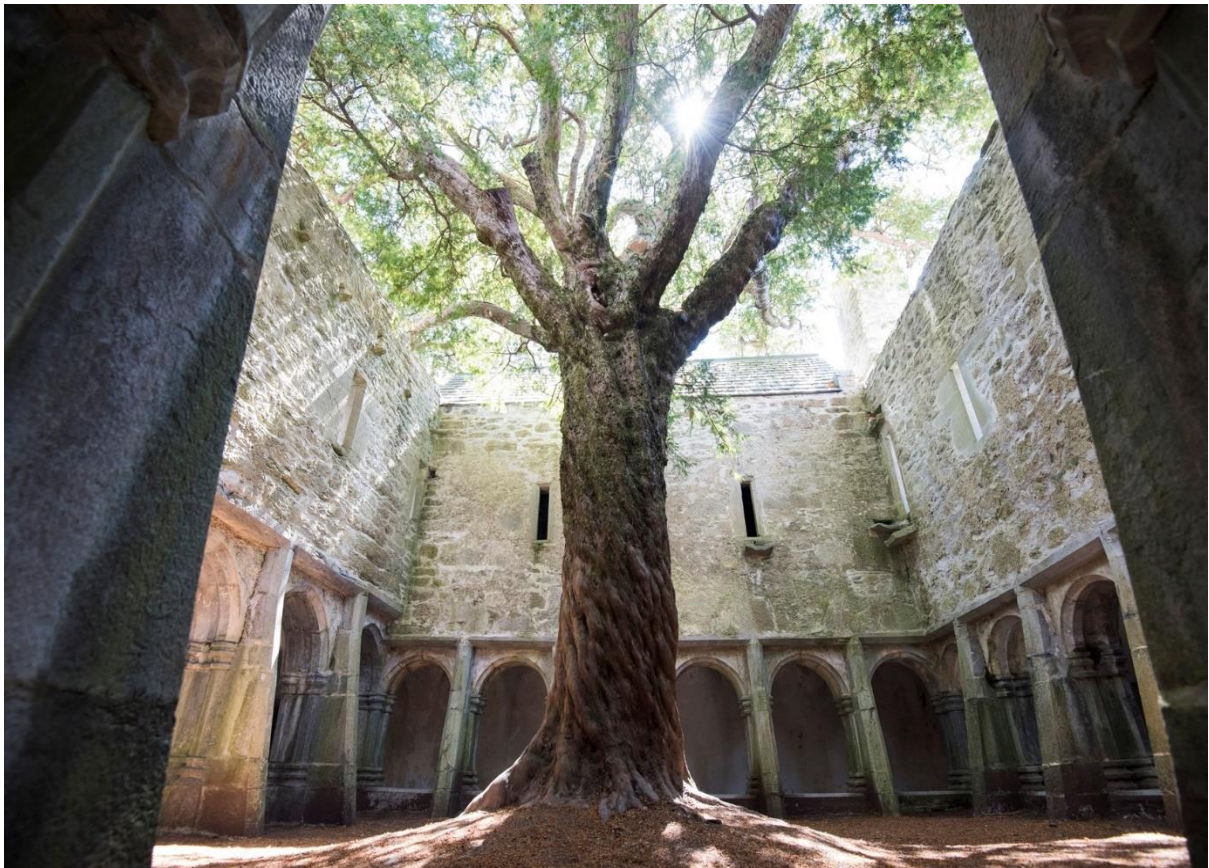


Figure 1: Muckross Abbey. Credit National Monuments Service (NMS)

Dr David Stone

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Welcome from the newsletter editor: Greetings all, and welcome to the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland Autumn/Winter 2024 Newsletter. It's been a busy year for the IAI, and we are happy to highlight the work of the board, and some of the news and activities from the wider membership in this edition. Enjoy!

David

Address from Chair:

Dear members,

I hope our autumn newsletter finds you all well and that you are looking forward to the Christmas break. I am delighted to use this opportunity to update you on the progress we have made on several projects since we met in Limerick last spring, and to announce our plans to hold an EGM on 23 November.

We are, as you know, in the process of producing several core documents this year. To ensure a standard look we have engaged a designer, Hazel Tree Design, and we look forward to sharing the final products with you in the coming months.

The content of our new strategy document, the outcome of our engagement with Mantra Strategy, is now complete and is with our designers. I'd like to thank you all for engaging with Mantra. We hope this document will be our north star, guiding us and helping us to grow in strength and professionalism over the next several years. We will share and discuss the final document at our EGM in November.

Hayes & Co Solicitors have assisted us in redrafting a modern, flexible constitution that brings us into line with the Companies Act of 2014. A draft of this, which has not yet gone to our designers, was shared with you on October 16th. We would ask, that should you want to comment on it, to have your comments with us before November 7th to allow us to consider and potentially reword any pertinent sections. It is essential we have our new Constitution with the CRO this year and ahead of any future funding applications.

The updated Human Remains Guidelines are in the final stages production and are due to go to the designer in the coming weeks. IAPO will be launching them the weekend before our EGM, on 16th November in the Helen Roe, and it would be great to see as many of you as can attend there. This will be the first of the new guidelines and we hope, with the Constitution and Strategy behind us to begin to commission new guidance with renewed vigour in early 2025.

We have continued with our stated mission of engaging with European colleagues in similar organisations and to this end four of us attended the recent EAA 2024 in Rome. We met with representatives of Associazione Nazionale Archeologi (ANA), one of the Italian Institutes, and presented a paper at a session they organised. Plans to start an Association of European Associations are progressing and we plan to have representation at EAA 2025 in Bucharest. We also attended a session organised by DISCO (Discovering the Archaeologists of Europe) who are planning another survey, and Brigid Melloy our PRO is confirmed as the IAI rep on this going forward.

The EGM will be held on 23 November, from in the Helen Roe Theatre, 63 Merrion Square at from 11am 1.30pm. An agenda will be forwarded in advance, but I can let you know that the main items on it will be the presentation of the new strategy document and a final run through and vote on the new Constitution. We are also delighted to announce that Dr Rebecca Boyd, with recently published book 'Exploring Ireland's Viking Towns: Houses and Homes' underarm, will give a lecture (after we provide you with some sandwiches) from 2–3pm. Copies of Rebecca's book will be available for sale and if you ask her nicely, she may even sign a few copies.

On the legislative front, the new Heritage Bill has been enacted and secondary legislation has been and is being drafted. We are engaging with the relevant bodies to ensure that they engage with us as a major stakeholder in this process. Sean Kirwan of the NMS has presented on the bill in Cork (for CCC), online on 18 October for us and will present in person on 30 October in UCD (see the CPD section).

Finally, the next general election will be held no later than March next year and may well happen before then. We plan to write to all political parties with a short list of questions, in a similar way to how we did in advance of the European Elections, but with a more Ireland centric focus; however, should the election happen much earlier, we may not have this opportunity. I would encourage you all to engage with politicians on your doorsteps and in other ways you have; to advocate for heritage spending and ask them what commitments they and their party will make for archaeology and heritage.

Is mise le meas

Dr Ros Ó Maoldúin MIAI

Chairperson

Board Updates 2024:

List of Current Board of Directors

- Dr. Ros Ó Maoldúin (Chairperson) – chair@iai.ie
- James Kyle (Ordinary Member/acting Vice-Chairperson) – vice.chair@iai.ie)
- Dr. Niamh McCullagh (Treasurer) – treasurer@iai.ie
- Breana McCulloch (Hon. Secretary) – secretary@iai.ie
- Maeve Tobin (Membership Secretary) – membership@iai.ie
- Elaine Lynch (Conference Organiser) - conference@iai.ie
- Brigid Melloy (Public Relations Officer) – media@iai.ie
- Deborah Buchanan (Student Representative) - student.rep@iai.ie
- Ed Lyne (Ordinary Member – JIA Convenor) - jiaconvenor@iai.ie
- Dr. Susan Curran (Ordinary Member – RIA Representative)
- Sally Siggins (Ordinary Member)
- Dr. David Stone (Editor IAI News) – newsletter@iai.ie

IAI CPD Co-Ordinator and Administrator

- Dr Niamh Kelly – iaiarchaeology@gmail.ie

Board Vacancies:

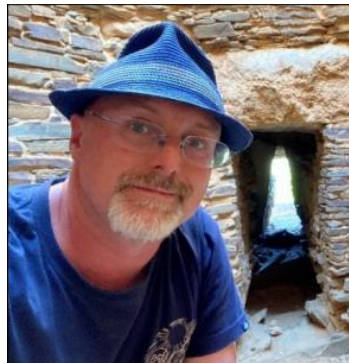
- Vice-Chairperson

If anyone is interested in filling this role, please email iaiarchaeology@gmail.com for an informal discussion on what the role entails.

Current and New Board Members:

Over 2024 there have been some changes to personnel on the board of directors of the IAI, with a number of individuals completing their terms and new members taking their place. The board would like to extend its sincerest thanks and appreciation Dr Alan Hawkes (JIA Convenor) and Robyn Kelly (Honorary Secretary) for their work for the organisation and we wish you all the best in the future. We would also like to welcome Ed Lyne (Ordinary Member – JIA Convenor) and Breana McCulloch (Hon. Secretary) to the board and we look forward to working with you during your terms.

Dr Ros Ó Maoldúin (Chairperson): Ros joined us as Acting Chair in June 2023. He has been a full member of the Institute for over 20 years and previously served as Membership Secretary and Conference Organiser. He is a Senior Project Manager and Head of Publications with Rubicon Heritage - where he is currently overseeing the reporting and publications for several large infrastructure projects. He completed his PhD in 2015 and on Exchange in the Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age in Ireland and has a broad range of research interests. Details of some of his archaeological publications can be found on <https://independent.academia.edu/RosOMaolduin>



James Kyle (Acting Vice Chair/ Ordinary member): James is a licence eligible archaeological site director and senior project manager with Archaeology & Built Heritage Ltd. with over 25 years' experience in all aspects of archaeological projects and sites in Ireland. He has been a licenced site director since 2007, with additional expertise in the specialist analyses of animal bone, clay pipe and glass artefacts from excavated sites. He holds a Bachelor of Sciences degree in Zoology with Marine Zoology from the University of Wales and a post-graduate Higher Diploma in Irish Archaeology from University College Cork. He is the former Chairperson and long-standing board member of the Institute and also the current Chairperson of the Archaeological Branch of Unite the Union. James has lectured both nationally and internationally on archaeological standards and practices and he is the current head judge of the Archaeological Achievement Awards, which recognise the best aspects of the archaeological industry in Great Britain and Ireland. James is also a member of the European Association of Archaeologists and has previously been a member of the EU's COST-Arkwork initiative, a multidisciplinary, international team of researchers and experts examining the production and uses of archaeological knowledge and how to maximise its positive impact on society



Dr Niamh McCullagh (Treasurer): Niamh has a BA and an MA in Archaeology (University College Cork), an MSc in Forensic Archaeology and Crime Scene Investigation (Bradford University) and a PhD in Forensic Archaeology (Queens University Belfast). Niamh joins the board as a Forensic Archaeologist specialising in the search, location and recovery of human remains in a forensic context with over 23 years' experience as an archaeologist and 17 years' experience as a specialist. Her work and research focus on homicide in Ireland and on improving the search for the remains of homicide victims that have been disposed of in a clandestine manner. She has worked nationally and internationally on both current and historic cases and has assisted government providing advice and in drafting legislation. Niamh's current and previous roles include Senior Forensic Archaeologist to the Independent Commission for the Location of Victims Remains, Forensic Archaeologist to the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation, Forensic Archaeologist and Search Specialist with An Garda Síochána. Niamh is also qualified in the delivery of Expert Witness testimony.



Dr Niamh Kelly (CPD Coordinator and Administrator): Dr Niamh Kelly joined us in 2022 as CPD Coordinator and Administrator. Niamh has worked in archaeology for over a decade. She completed her PhD with the UCD School of Archaeology in 2020 which focused on coarse stone tool technology from Ireland and the Irish sea region and the roles they played in defining task, self, culture, and ritual. She has worked as a stone tool specialist for commercial archaeological companies and as a researcher on numerous projects across Ireland, Britain and wider Europe, including the North Roe Felsite Project on the Shetland Islands, the Mesolithic in Mar Lodge in the Scottish uplands, and Priniatikos Pyrgos in Crete. Niamh also has over ten years' experience teaching at third level and most recently was the coordinator of the adult education programme in Cultural and Heritage Studies based at the National Print Museum in Dublin.



Brigid Melloy (Public Relations Officer): Brigid completed her BA in Creative Writing with Archaeology and Celtic Civilisation in 2020 before completing her MA in Landscape Archaeology in 2021, both at the University of Galway in 2021. During her time as a student, she served as the vice-auditor and then auditor of the Archaeology Society. She joined AMS as a report writing archaeologist shortly after graduation and has since worked on post-excavation and final reports for a variety of excavations, method statements for licence applications, and several community archaeology projects.



Maeve Tobin (Membership Secretary): Maeve joined the IAI in 2008 and has served on the board as Membership Secretary for over four years (2018-2021 and 2023-present). She has worked in commercial archaeology since 2004 and is now an Osteoarchaeologist and Senior Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Consultant with IAC Archaeology. With over 20 years' experience in the identification, excavation, and analysis of human skeletal remains she has analysed and reported on inhumation and cremation burials from over 90 sites. Maeve also produces Archaeological Impact Assessments for EIAR on large-scale infrastructure, commercial and residential developments throughout Ireland. She is a member of several organisations including the ClfA, EAA, and IAPO; and is the current News Editor for Archaeology Ireland.



Deborah Buchanan (Student Representative): Deborah graduated from the University of Leicester in 2019 with an MA in Archaeology and Heritage and completed an MSc in Hunter-Gatherer Archaeology at UCD in 2023. She subsequently started a PhD in January 2024 at the School of Archaeology at UCD, looking at the chaîne opératoire of Moynagh Points to gain a better understanding of what they are and how they were made. She would love to hear from our student members so that I can better represent their perspectives on the board.



Dr Susan Curran (Ordinary Member – Royal Irish Academy Representative): A relative latecomer to archaeology, Susan studied archaeology at University College Dublin, acquiring BA (2010) and MA (2012) degrees before securing an IRC Government of Ireland postgraduate scholarship to pursue a PhD in archaeology (awarded 2020). Susan's main research interests include landscape archaeology, remote sensing (primarily lidar & geophysics), GIS, and early medieval Ireland with a particular focus on early medieval settlement and society. These interests combined to form the basis of her PhD thesis which applied remote sensing techniques (lidar & geophysical survey) to explore early medieval settlement within case study areas in counties Roscommon, Leitrim, and Monaghan. Over the course of her studies, Susan developed a particular interest in geophysical survey, participating as a volunteer in several survey projects (as well as excavations) and later working as a geophysical surveyor in the commercial sector for almost four years. Susan is currently working as a Project Archaeologist with the Discovery Programme.



Elaine Lynch (Conference organiser): Elaine Lynch has worked in the archaeological sector for over 17 years in both the commercial sector and on research excavations, including field and post-excavation work. In 2011 she completed an MPhil in Archaeology from University College Cork, where my research entitled 'A study of Grooved Ware in Ireland'. In recent years, she has been focusing on her specialism and producing prehistoric pottery reports. She has worked on a range of illustrations over the years from digitising site plans to artefact illustrations, a number of which have been published. For the past two years, she has joined the Field Monument Advisor Programme in Co. Clare. She also holds and excavation licence.



Dr David Stone (Newsletter editor): David continues as our newsletter editor in 2024. He is a Project Archaeologist with The Discovery Programme Centre of Archaeology and Innovation Ireland (CAII) and environmental archaeologists specialising in the analyses of plant macro remains. He holds a bachelor's degree (Hons.) in Archaeology from the School of Archaeology (University College Dublin) and a Master of Studies (MSt) in Archaeology from the University of Oxford. He was awarded his PhD in 2021 (UCD), where he led an archaeobotanical research project focusing on the Late Antique and Islamic period agriculture in Azerbaijan. His research was awarded the Máire de Peor award for best thesis submitted to the College of Social Science and Law in 2022. David is also a Fulbright Ambassador, a former Fulbright scholar and the recipient of the Fulbright-Creative Ireland Museum Fellowship at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington DC. His research interests revolve around the use of environmental archaeological techniques to inform archaeologists about agricultural practice, diet and landscape change in the past.



Sally Siggins (Ordinary Member): Sally is an archaeologist and tour guide. She has worked as a guide at Carrowmore in County Sligo since 2019 and was promoted to Head Guide in 2023. She has recently been appointed to the Heritage in Schools panel. Sally completed a BSc (Hons) in Applied Archaeology at the Institute of Technology, Sligo (now ATU) in 2016 and a Certificate in Local and Regional Guiding, Tourism at ATU, Donegal in 2021. She has volunteered at three of our Archaeofests (2014-2016). Sally is passionate about community archaeology and is currently serving as the President of Sligo Field Club.



Ed Lyne (Ordinary Member – JIA Convenor): Ed graduated from University College Dublin in 1999 with a bachelor's degree in Archaeology and History and started working in development-led archaeology the same year. In 2002/2003, Ed undertook a master's degree in landscape Archaeology, focussing his thesis on landscape parks. He became licence eligible in 2005. Directing a wide range of excavations across Ireland over the next few years, Ed would later work for a time with the School of Archaeology in UCD, before moving to Denmark in 2010, where he worked for the Museum of Copenhagen, the National Museum of Denmark, and later Roskilde Museum across several substantial urban excavations. Returning to Ireland in 2017, he worked for two years in archaeological consultancy before taking up a position as Resident Archaeologist with Cork County Council's National Roads Design Office, where he has been involved in the management of the N22 Baile Bhúirne to Macroom Project, and the M28 Cork to Ringaskiddy Project, among others.



Breana McCulloch (Hon. Secretary): Breana has worked in commercial archaeology for 15 years, with experience ranging from desktop-based studies to full-scale archaeological mitigations, as well as traditional land use and community-based studies. She has a BA Anthropology from the University of Alberta, Canada and a MES from Lakehead University, Canada where she focused on the spatial analysis of a significant Paleoindigenous site. As an EIA archaeologist she currently focuses on Cultural Heritage Impact Assessments, Environmental Impact Assessments and in-field surveys.”



Reports from the Board

CPD Coordinator update (Dr Niamh Kelly).

It has been another busy year for the IAI, and we are delighted to have had the opportunity to work with so many professionals both within and outside our sector who have supported the delivery of our 2024 programme. One of our CPD programme strengths is our network of partnerships which we continue to work with year to year. These partnerships allow for collaborative approaches to common challenges and needs within the wider sector and provide the basis for many of our CPD sessions. Our 2024 CPD programme has continued to develop strategic links through in-person and online training and has included partnerships with The Discovery Programme, National Monuments Service, iCAN/ NMI, Governance Ireland, Archaeology and Built Heritage, UCD School of Archaeology among others. This year our CPD programme included:

- Pottery CPD (Dublin) with Clare McCutcheon, Saturday January 20th, UCD School of Archaeology, Dublin.
- Pottery CPD (Limerick) with Clare McCutcheon, Saturday February 3rd, Great National Southern Court Hotel, Limerick
- Archaeology of St Annes Park with James Kyle, Tuesday February 13th, Online
- Discovery Programme / TII ALS Machine Learning Project with Anthony Corns and Susan Curran, Wednesday February 28th, Discovery Offices Merchants Quay, Dublin.
- Recent Research and Excavations at Emain Macha with Patrick Gleeson, Tuesday March 3rd, Online
- 3D Artefact Modelling with Gary Dempsey, Friday May 24th, UCD School of Archaeology, Dublin
- Board Governance Training with Paul White, Saturday June 15th 2024

January of this year saw the conclusion of our in-depth Pottery CPD with Clare McCutcheon, with the final two in-person sessions taking place in Limerick and Dublin. For any who missed out on these sessions, we hope to have the digital recordings of our online sessions available to view via our website in early 2025. At the beginning of the summer, we made a back catalogue of recorded CPD sessions available to view to our members. While the selection is limited for now, we plan to continue to add sessions as we have videos professionally edited. At the moment, we have eight lectures available including ones from Niall Colfer, Barry O'Reilly, Steve Davis, Jane Byrne and Ian Sanders. All members can access these past CPD sessions, by logging in via the IAI website and selecting CPD Video Talks in the Members Menu.

As we look towards our Autumn/Winter CPD line up we have a number of upcoming sessions confirmed including:

- Historic and Archaeological Heritage Act CPD, Sean Kirwan, Friday October 18th, Online
- Historic and Archaeological Heritage Act CPD, Wednesday October 30th, UCD School of Archaeology
- Writing & Presentation of Online Content, Lorna Elms Thursday November 7th, Online
- Copyright & the Ethical Use of Online Sources, Lorna Elms Thursday November 7th, Online
- Discovery Programme / TII ALS Machine Learning Project with Anthony Corns and Susan Curran, Wednesday November 27th, Discovery Offices Merchants Quay, Dublin.

While not all of these have been formally advertised, if any member would like to express their interest in attending, please drop an email to iaiarchaeology@gmail.com. Similarly, if you have any suggestions on upcoming CPD programmes you would like to see the IAI host, please get in touch. We are currently putting together our 2025 programme and input from members is always warmly received.

As a closing note, we would like to offer our thanks to all the trainers and participants who have taken part in our 2024 CPD programme to date. We would also like to give a special thanks to the UCD School of Archaeology for providing a venue for a number of our CPD sessions this year. Finally, the IAI would like to offer its sincere thanks to our core funder for 2024 the National Monuments Service for their continued support of our CPD Programme. Without their financial support, our CPD Programme would not be possible.



Figure 2: Clare McCutcheon leading her Pottery CPD in Limerick.

Heritage Week 2024: For this year's Heritage Week, we partnered with IAI members Marie-Therese Barrett, James Kyle and David McIlreavy as well as IAC Archaeology, Dublin City Council and Archaeology and Built Heritage to deliver our 2024 programme.

Dr Marie-Therese Barrett delivered our annual Heritage Week lecture on Tuesday, August 20th titled 'Drumclay: What do the trees say?'. Dr Marie-Therese Barrett completed her doctoral thesis on the chronology of Drumclay crannog, Co. Fermanagh, using tree-ring analysis. She is also a senior research archaeologist for IAC Archaeology and has worked on the post-excavation project for Drumclay. Her presentation was based on the results of her research which achieved an absolute chronology by combining different forms of chronological data including tree-ring analysis, radiocarbon dating, wiggle-match modelling and the identification of a 14C spike. This online lecture outlined some

of the results of this multifaceted approach to chronology and how it has revealed the pace at which the site developed. The chronology provided not just a construction date for the site, but also untangled the stratigraphic record revealing a narrative of construction and occupation on a year-to-year basis. We were delighted to have over 40 in attendance on the Tuesday evening and our sincere thanks to Marie-Therese for an excellent and comprehensive talk.

The IAI were also delighted to collaborate on two walking tours in Dublin for Heritage Week. Our first walking tour was led by license eligible archaeologist, David McIlreavy of IAC in a Heritage Week collaboration between IAI, IAC Archaeology and Dublin City Council. David's walking tour introducing the history and archaeology of Newmarket Square, Dublin, based largely on research and excavation work carried out by IAC. The tour included a visit to the recently completed NIDO Student Accommodation building which incorporates elements of the former Watkins Brewery site partially excavated in 2022. This tour took place on Wednesday, August 21st.

Our second walking tour and final Heritage Week event of 2024 was a guided visit of the community excavation in St. Anne's Park. James Kyle, excavation director and current board member of the IAI, delivered this community excavation tour which detailed the work completed to date on the St. Anne's Park Community Archaeology Project. This project is coordinated on behalf of Dublin City Council by Archaeology and Built Heritage Ltd and the excavation focuses on uncovering the remains of the now-demolished 19th-century mansion formerly owned by the Guinness family. The tour took place on Saturday August 24th at 12pm.

Both of our walking tours were warmly received, and we welcomed very positive feedback from the attendees of both. Given the plethora of options available each year during Heritage Week, we were delighted that both of our tours were fully booked out with long waitlists for cancellations. We look forward to continuing with walking tours and our online lectures for Heritage Week 2025.



Figure 3: David McIlreavy leading his walking tour of Newmarket, Heritage Week 2024 (photo credit James Kyle)

Treasurer update (Dr Niamh McCullagh)

The Institute's finances continue in good health. Our 2023 accounts were signed and filed by the Chair and Treasurer in April 2024. This year we did not secure Heritage Council funding due to a change in their requirements for Directors. We have since rectified this in our upcoming constitution rewrite and will once again be eligible to apply for Heritage Council funding. Thank you to the management of Niamh Kelly we have been able to limit the impact this has had on the members and on the delivery of CPD in 2024. We invested considerable funds in the future proofing of the Institute this year through the strategic plan and the rewrite of the Constitution and our Articles of Association. We look forward to presenting the results of this investment to the membership in due course.

IAI members can access our accounts here: <https://www.iai.ie/institute-accounts/>

Student Representative update (Deborah Buchanan)

With the new academic year starting things are starting to pick up for student members of the IAI. The most exciting news is that we plan on holding the AYIA conference at UCD this coming March. We have formed a planning committee of students at UCD but would love to hear from students around the island to make sure this is an all-island student event. The current AYIA committee would especially like to hear from students from another university who might like to get involved with the view of planning the next AYIA conference. More details about specific dates and events associated with the AYIA conference will be announced very soon on social media so keep an eye out for that! If there are any students who want to get involved in the AYIA conference or who have anything else, they would like me to bring to the board please email me at deborah.buchanan@ucdconnect.ie.

Membership Report (Maeve Tobin)

There are currently 517 registered members of the IAI. These are 316 (61%) Full Members, 10 (2%) Corporate members, 15 (3%) Associate members, 18 (4%) Graduate/ Early Career members, and 158 (30%) Students. As you can see from the below chart IAI membership has experienced continued growth since 2019, namely in the Full Member and Student categories.

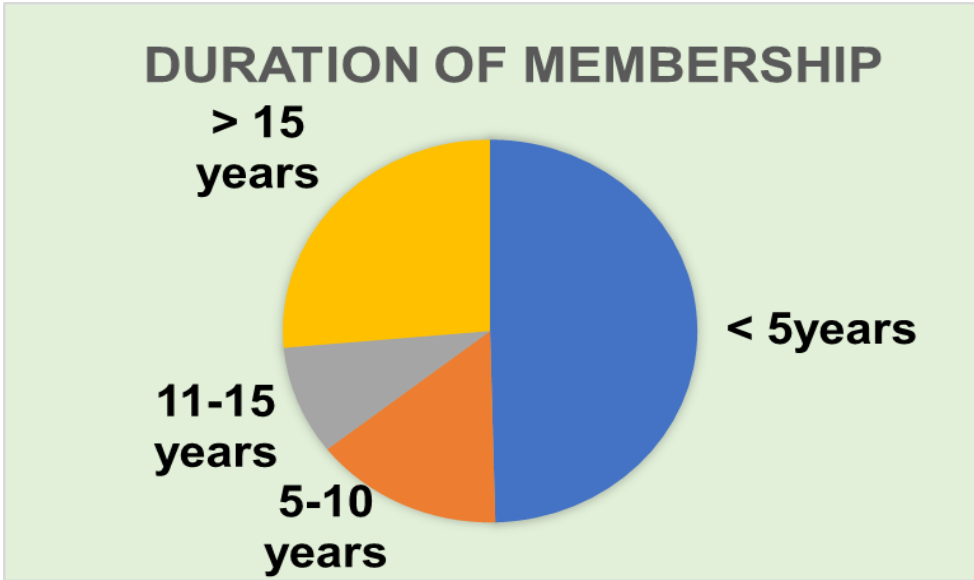
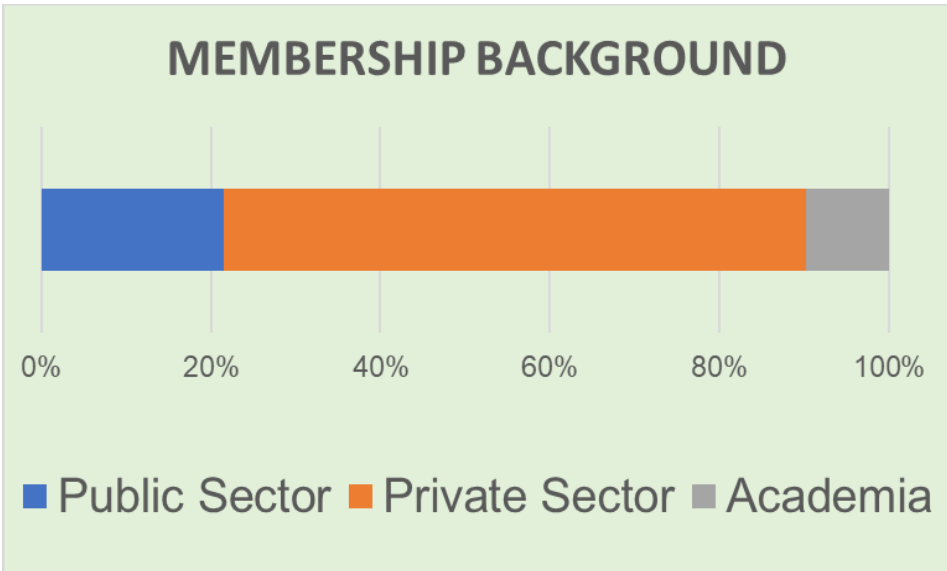
The rise in student numbers can be attributed to the Academic Group Student Initiative. One of the key objectives of the institute has been to increase our engagement with the student bodies across the Island. Student fees are currently €20 per annum, and this was considered to be a deterrent. To this end we approached each of the archaeology departments with reduced rate group academic packages in 2020 and are continuing to do so. Queens University Belfast now offers membership to their current students (c. 150); and we hope to expand this relationship with other universities.

IAI Membership spans the Academic, Public and Private sectors; with the latter accounting for almost 70% of the full member grade. While over half of the current membership have been consistently registered for over five years, it is significant that 125 people have been members for nearly 20 years.

A total of 40 New Member applications were received in the year 2023/2024. A new membership committee was formed in 2023, comprising four full members and the Membership Secretary. The board offer their thanks to those who agreed to volunteer for the coming five-year period, and also to those members who served on the outgoing committee for the previous decade. As mentioned in previous correspondence the payment window for subscription fees has been clarified as three months from the 1st of March, to facilitate efficient administration. We offer our thanks to all the members who have paid their subscription in a timely manner, however, 70 members are still yet to make payment for the current year. Please log in to the website and review your status if you are in any doubt or get in contact directly with the secretary if there is a query over your payment status.

The IAI are phasing out use of PayPal for subscriptions, and instead have organised a recurring subscription option with the existing Stripe provider on our website. To facilitate this move, in the first instance PayPal payments falling after the subscription deadline of 30 June will be cancelled, and over the course of the coming year I will be in contact with anyone who uses PayPal to advise the need to make alternative arrangements from 2025.

On a final note, we need all members to log in to the website and update their role and bio if they wish to be included in the Public Member Register. We need a critical mass of members to engage with this for it to be functional, so please take a few minutes to update your information.



Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland Conference 2025: Elaine Lynch

The IAI Conference is shaping up to be an exciting and informative event for 2025, with the generous support of the National Monuments Service as a key funder. Taking place in Galway city at the Connacht Hotel, the conference will run over two days, Friday 4th and Saturday 5th of April. Archaeology enthusiasts and professionals alike can look forward to a full program featuring a wide range of presentations on topics of archaeological interest. With a focus on the theme *"Fragmented Past: Letting the Light In,"* the event aims to shed new perspectives on recent research, excavations and discoveries, offering fresh insights into Ireland's rich archaeological heritage.

The call for papers will be announced in the coming weeks, inviting contributions from both emerging and established experts. The much-anticipated guest speaker announcement will also follow soon. The IAI's annual general meeting (AGM) is scheduled for Friday at 4 p.m., providing a chance for members to connect and discuss the future direction of the organization.

To add a bit of fun to the proceedings, the annual quiz will take place on Friday night, offering participants a chance to test their knowledge and win some exciting prizes. Tickets for the conference, which include access to all sessions as well as lunch, tea and coffee breaks (there may even be cookies), will be available for purchase in the coming months. Attendees will also have the opportunity to browse and purchase archaeological books and magazines from Wordwell, who will have a stall set up at the venue. Whether you are an archaeologist, a student or simply passionate about the past, the 2025 IAI Conference promises to be an unmissable gathering for the archaeological community.

IA Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland

2025 Conference

APRIL

Friday

4th

Saturday

5th

FRAGMENTED PAST: LETTING THE LIGHT IN

Connacht Hotel, Galway City
AGM at 4pm, Friday

CALL
FOR
PAPERS

Image copyright: NMS



Funded by
An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council



NMS

Seirbhís Séadchomharthaí
Náisiúnta
National Monuments Service

Members Articles:

Historic Transitions: Sustainable Transport Infrastructure and TII's New Cultural Heritage Guidelines

Author: Bryn Coldrick¹

¹ Archaeological Management Solutions, Fahy's Road, Kilrush, Co. Clare, V15 C780.

Introduction

At the end of February 2024, Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) published new cultural heritage guidelines for their national road and greenway projects (<https://www.tiipublications.ie/library/PE-ARC-02009-01.pdf>). This paper explains how this will support TII's delivery of more sustainable transport infrastructure, and the principles set out in its Sustainability Implementation Plan [1]. It begins by outlining the role of TII and its sustainability principles. It then provides an overview of the new guidelines and some of its key aspects, including minimising adverse effects and enhancing opportunities for cultural heritage wherever possible, the importance of collaboration and stakeholder engagement, and the dissemination of new knowledge.

The Role of Transport Infrastructure Ireland

TII was established in 2015 through a merger of the National Roads Authority (NRA) and the Railway Procurement Agency (RPA). As outlined in their Statement of Strategy 2021–2025, TII's purpose is 'to provide sustainable transport infrastructure and services, delivering a better quality of life, supporting economic growth and respecting the environment'. Their vision includes being 'leaders in the delivery and operation of sustainable transport infrastructure' and 'ensuring that Ireland's national road and light rail infrastructure is safe and resilient, delivering better accessibility and sustainable mobility for people and goods' [2].

Under the terms of the European Union (Roads Act 1993) (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations 2019, TII acts as an environmental condition enforcement authority for national roads requiring an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). In this statutory role, TII ensures that roads authorities comply with environmental conditions—including conditions relating to cultural heritage—in respect of proposed national roads subject to EIA.

TII also has an important role in the management of archaeological heritage under a Code of Practice for Archaeology agreed with the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs in 2017 [3]. This Code provides a single framework for managing archaeology across all TII-funded projects and balances the need for high-quality transport infrastructure with ensuring the protection of the archaeological resource through appropriate impact assessment and mitigations. In keeping with the Code's requirements, TII assigns a Project Archaeologist to oversee the archaeological elements of each project from inception to completion. These Project Archaeologists are integral members of TII

project teams and have a pivotal role to play by ensuring that consideration is given to archaeology, and other aspects of cultural heritage, from the outset.

TII has the power under the Roads Acts 1993 to 2023 to specify standards in relation to the design, construction and maintenance of national roads and proposed national roads. In fulfilling this role, TII produces a wide range of standards and technical documentation related to its areas of responsibility and makes these available online through the TII Publications system [4]. The new cultural heritage guidelines form part of this suite of publications, alongside other archaeological and associated guidelines published previously by TII and the NRA.

Through the development of guidelines and standards, as well as contracts setting out requirements for archaeological and other cultural heritage services, TII is helping to provide a sustainable model and template for the management of archaeology and heritage in Ireland. Since its establishment, TII has made a significant contribution to our understanding of Ireland's past through the dissemination of the results of archaeological investigations. TII has enabled significant research, be it through their own research initiatives, collaborative projects or by making data publicly available [5]. The outputs from its programme of works allow TII to deliver public benefit through new knowledge creation and opportunities to engage with Ireland's rich heritage. Over the past 20 years, more than €350M has been spent on archaeology in the course of TII project delivery. Over 2,500 previously unrecorded archaeological sites have been discovered, and over 2,600 excavation reports and almost 200 archaeo-geophysical reports have been made available through the open access TII Digital Heritage Collections [6]. In addition, 46 archaeology books have been published about TII projects, 9 of which are online, along with audiobooks and videos [5].

TII's Sustainability Principles

Sustainability underpins TII's Statement of Strategy. It is a core value that is prioritised in decision-making alongside collaboration, innovation, integrity, and a spirit of public service [2]. Through the sustainability goals outlined in this strategy, TII aims to deliver wider societal value and cohesion and has 'committed to becoming a leader in delivering and operating sustainable transport infrastructure in line with Project Ireland 2040, the Programme for Government, the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and the European Green Deal' [7].

TII has set out its sustainability principles, and a roadmap to place sustainability at the core of its activities, in its Sustainability Implementation Plan, published in 2021. The new cultural heritage guidelines reflect TII's commitment to these principles, in particular:

- Sustainability Principle 3: 'Collaborate for a holistic approach', which seeks to develop 'smart and sustainable assets and services through innovating and improving the planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance of the transport network, increasing collaboration and systems thinking to seek mutual gains and mitigate negative externalities' (including impacts on cultural heritage), and

- Sustainability Principle 6: ‘Create total value for society’, which seeks to ‘maintain and enhance the balanced delivery of economic, environmental and social value through robust planning, rigorous appraisal and decisions that prioritise sustainability’ [1].

One of the ways TII is delivering on these principles is by protecting and enhancing cultural heritage wherever possible in collaboration with stakeholders and partners.

How the Cultural Heritage Guidelines will Support Sustainability

Overview

In October 2020, TII commissioned Archaeological Management Solutions to help develop new guidelines relating to cultural heritage impact assessment (CHIA) for projects funded by or carried out under the auspices of TII. The task involved substantial research, consultation, and stakeholder engagement.

The new guidelines, published in February 2024, replace the NRA guidelines for the assessment of archaeological and architectural heritage impacts, published in 2005 [8], [9]. Key drivers behind the new guidelines include:

- the publication and ongoing development of TII’s Project Management Guidelines (PMG), Project Appraisal Guidelines (PAG) and Project Manager’s Manuals (PMM),
- the requirements of the amended EIA Directive (2014/52/EU) and corresponding EIA guidelines [10],
- technological advances, including new remote sensing techniques such as lidar, and
- the proliferation of publicly available geospatial data and widespread use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) as key tools for assessment and data sharing.

The new guidelines outline the value and importance of cultural heritage to society with reference to international treaties and conventions and set out the current regulatory and policy context of CHIA, including the EIA Directive and national legislation.

A major innovation in the new guidelines is the holistic approach taken whereby all aspects of cultural heritage are considered as overlapping values rather than separate entities, with greater attention than before given to intangible heritage. Whereas the previous NRA guidelines considered archaeological and architectural heritage individually [8], [9], the new guidelines address all aspects of cultural heritage collectively.

For the purposes of the guidelines, ‘cultural heritage’ is used as an overarching term encompassing archaeological heritage (i.e. sites and monuments), built heritage (including, but not limited to, architectural and industrial heritage), portable heritage (including, but not limited to, archaeological objects), and intangible heritage (i.e. places and features that are significant due to the values we attach to them which go beyond the physical, such as a place where an historic event took place (e.g. a War of Independence ambush site) or a natural feature with mythological and/or ritual significance (e.g. a

rag tree). The importance of intangible heritage is recognised in the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (Paris Convention) as ‘a mainspring of cultural diversity and a guarantee of sustainable development’ [11]. Both the tangible and intangible aspects of cultural heritage receptors must be considered when carrying out CHIA, particularly when assessing importance.

Minimising Adverse Effects

The new guidelines outline best-practice methods to understand the places through which a TII project passes and avoid/minimise impacts to cultural heritage, where possible, at each phase of project delivery, in line with TII’s PMG, PAG and PMM. These methods are aligned with the Environmental Protection Agency’s guidelines [10] and advice notes [12] for EIA.

The CHIA guidelines specify a four-step approach whereby scope is established, the cultural heritage baseline is analysed, the direct and indirect effects are assessed, and mitigation/enhancement measures are formulated. A hierarchy of mitigation is followed in line with the EIA Directive: avoidance, prevention, and reduction. Where adverse effects are unavoidable, these shall be remedied/offset as far as possible and, as a last resort, through compensatory measures such as archaeological excavation and subsequent reporting and publication of findings (‘preservation by record’).

Enhancing Opportunities

The development of sustainable transport infrastructure plays an important role in enhancing cultural heritage, linking people and places, connecting communities, and providing access to amenities [1]. As well as minimising impacts, engagement with communities and stakeholders involves identifying opportunities to maximise social value in line with TII’s sustainability principles.

TII is transitioning from a traditional focus on building national roads and motorways to maintaining, optimising, and improving the existing network and overseeing the development of active travel infrastructure such as greenways. Active travel is the first consideration under the modal hierarchy set out in the National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland (NIFTI), while the building of new infrastructure is the last intervention to be considered [7]. This transition will bring new opportunities for users to engage with cultural heritage, which is acknowledged to contribute to wellbeing, social cohesion, and community identity. TII recognises that as we look to the future and transition to net-zero, we must also remain connected to the rich heritage we have inherited from the past. Avoidance of adverse effects wherever possible in project design and delivery is still a priority, but so too is identifying opportunities for engagement experiences, where appropriate, within the parameters of the project. Greenways that follow disused railway lines, allowing users to passively engage with historic infrastructure such as bridges, is one example of how TII projects can deliver added social value [13].

Collaboration and Stakeholder Engagement

The new CHIA guidelines emphasise the importance of interaction and collaboration between specialists throughout the design and environmental evaluation of TII projects, as required under the EIA guidelines [10]. For example, interaction between cultural heritage professionals and landscape professionals is needed to coordinate landscape and visual impact assessments and setting assessments for cultural heritage receptors. Coordination with the project's biodiversity specialist is important for ensuring that archaeological test excavations do not encroach onto sensitive habitats. Conversely, cultural heritage professionals need to be aware of any mitigations for other environmental factors that could impact cultural heritage (e.g. woodland planting impacting an archaeological site).

The guidelines also promote engagement with stakeholders beyond the project team as TII recognises that stakeholder engagement is essential to meet project objectives and connect sustainability principles with outcomes [7]. In the context of cultural heritage, stakeholder engagement includes statutory consultation (e.g. with the National Monuments Service and local authorities), public consultation with affected communities, and consultation aimed at accessing local knowledge. Engagement with landowners and residents brings opportunities to harness folk memory and other forms of local knowledge, helping to gain a better understanding of place, which is essential to good design and sustainability [7]. Community narratives can be incorporated into significance assessments and dissemination outputs alongside archaeological findings to achieve a more holistic understanding of the receiving environment and the likely effects of a project. Giving people the opportunity to engage with their local history and heritage contributes to better mental health, social cohesion, and community identity.

Knowledge Creation and Sharing

TII places a particular focus on ensuring that heritage works are delivered to a high standard and that the results are accessible to different audiences, from local communities to international researchers. This paper has already summarised some of the ways TII's programme of works contributes to our understanding of Ireland's past through dissemination of archaeological findings. To ensure such legacy creation is continued, a major focus of the new guidelines concerns the collection and sharing of cultural heritage data, including geospatial datasets and mapping, which are essential to ensuring that environmental commitments are honoured during project implementation.

Archaeological consultants who were not involved in the design and environmental evaluation phases are often engaged to oversee the archaeological requirements of a project post-consent, and will be relying on high-quality data to undertake their work successfully. High-quality data collection and presentation are also important for ensuring that new knowledge is disseminated into the public domain. As well as adding to our understanding of previously recorded cultural heritage sites, 'new' sites may be identified through the research, surveys and consultations carried out for the CHIA. Ensuring that such information is properly archived, and made publicly available, where feasible, adds to the public benefit delivered by this work.

Conclusions

Since its establishment, TII has shown leadership in the delivery of sustainable transport infrastructure through best-practice cultural heritage management, innovation, and knowledge creation. The new cultural heritage guidelines will help build on this important legacy and deliver on TII's sustainability principles by ensuring that projects continue to avoid or minimise adverse effects on cultural heritage wherever possible and that new knowledge generated is made available for the public benefit. As TII embarks on its historic transition to the development of active travel infrastructure as part of our journey to net-zero, projects will also bring new opportunities to engage with Ireland's rich heritage. The new cultural heritage guidelines will make an important contribution to achieving these aims.

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Cup-marks in County Wexford- A recent discovery at Tombrack

Authors: Barry Lacey & Clare Busher O' Sullivan

In late 2020 in the townland of Tombrack north county Wexford a new 'cup-marked stone' was discovered. The find is significant as previously there existed only two recorded examples of rock art in the entire county. A cup-marked stone refers to a panel that features cup-marks and no complex or abstract motifs associated with other rock art traditions. In Ireland the cup-mark is incorporated into both Megalithic and Atlantic rock art traditions. The continuation of the motif's use in Ireland after the fourth millennium BC could account for its presence on standing stones, boulder burials and later stone monuments (Cuppige 1986). The Tombrack example showed evidence of exposure for a significant length of time. Photogrammetry carried out on the panel revealed approximately 30 cup-marks and its likely dates to the third millennium BC.

A clue in Folklore

The Schools Folklore Collection of the 1930's contains an interesting reference from the nearby Tombrack school. It reads 'In Ralphs Hill field there was an old graveyard and about 20 years ago a headstone was dug up. The field is tilled now.' The 'hill field' is the same in which the cup-marked stone was discovered with no evidence of a graveyard on the site. While it should be treated with caution it may not be beyond the realms of possibility to suggest that this discovery was perhaps rock art. Interestingly with regard to this theory is the fact that the nearest rock art, located at Clone Church, exists upon a stone repurposed in recent times as an unmarked grave marker (National Folklore Collection, 15940, p326).

Townland name evidence

Toponymy, the study of place names, may offer a tantalising association regarding the townland name Tombrack. In Ó Cruaíoch's 'The Townland Names of County Wexford' the name is (2016, 1167) stated as referring to a ridge, mound, tumulus or hillock. While its geographical setting as an elevated location would ascribe to this description perhaps the mound or tumulus element may relate to a man-made feature, now long gone. Context of the discovery The original context in which the cup-marked stone originated is unfortunately not known, its discovery being made after the construction of the home. It may have originally been only partially exposed with a majority of the boulder hidden beneath the surface that was disturbed during ground works. Likewise, it may also have been incorporated into the boundary between the field and the roadside and was disturbed while opening of the entrance.

Conclusion

This is undoubtedly an exciting discovery for Tombrack and for Wexford, as it is the largest and one of only two cup-marked stones discovered in Wexford and contributes greatly to the county's archaeological record.

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Duchas.ie - The Schools Collection



Figure 4: Tombrack cup-marked stone.

Members News:

Irish Stone Axe Project: Digital Collection Now Online.

Contributors: Prof. Gabriel Cooney, Anthony Corns, Dr Bernard Gilhooley, Dr Rob Sands, Dr Stephen Mandal, Dr David Stone, and Dr Lesley Davidson.

The Irish Stone Axe Project (ISAP) Digital Collection was recently deposited in the Digital Repository of Ireland (DRI) this year. The ISAP Digital Collection is currently a catalogue of 366 axe heads, including scaled photographs, artefact drawings, and petrological thin section images of samples recorded as part of the Irish Stone Axe Project (ISAP). ISAP was an innovative project funded by the Heritage Council and the Irish Research Council, that established a database of stone axe heads across the island of Ireland. The ISAP database contains over 21,000 records, making it the most comprehensive archaeological database about a specific kind of archaeological artefact in Ireland, and an important resource for international research. Major collections of stone axe heads are held in the National Museum of Ireland and National Museums of Northern Ireland (Ulster Museum) with both institutions making an important contribution to the project.

Professor Cooney commented 'I am delighted that this digital collection has now become a publicly accessible resource. It ensures that the data from the Irish Stone Axe Project is safely held in a long-term archive and is available for the wider public and researchers to use.'

The collection adheres to the FAIR data principles meaning that it is Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable. Each object in the collection is available through a Creative Commons license and has been assigned a Digital Object Identifier (DOI). This enables the collection to be openly used with, and integrated into, further academic research and non-academic pursuits while being properly cited and reshared.

The ISAP Digital Collection has received Royal Irish Academy (<https://www.ria.ie/>) funding from the Nowlan Digitisation Grant in 2022. The collection can be accessed here <https://repository.dri.ie/catalog/8623xr528>



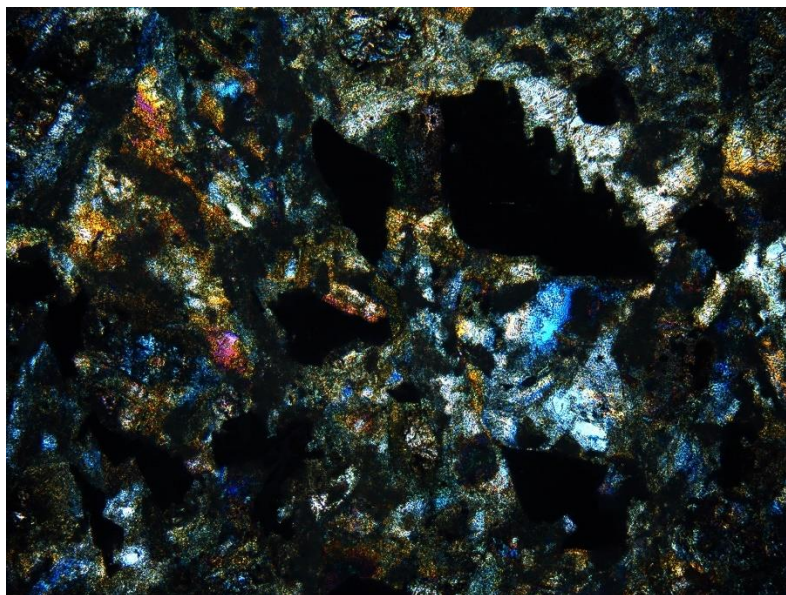
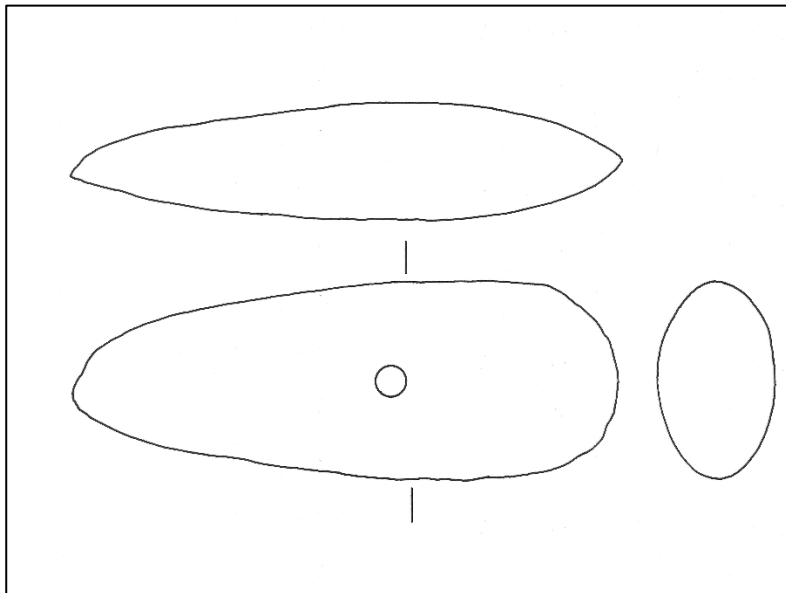
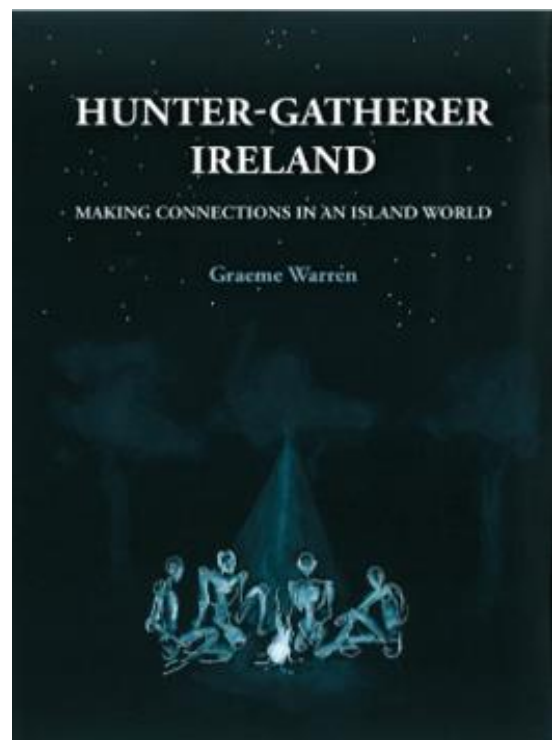
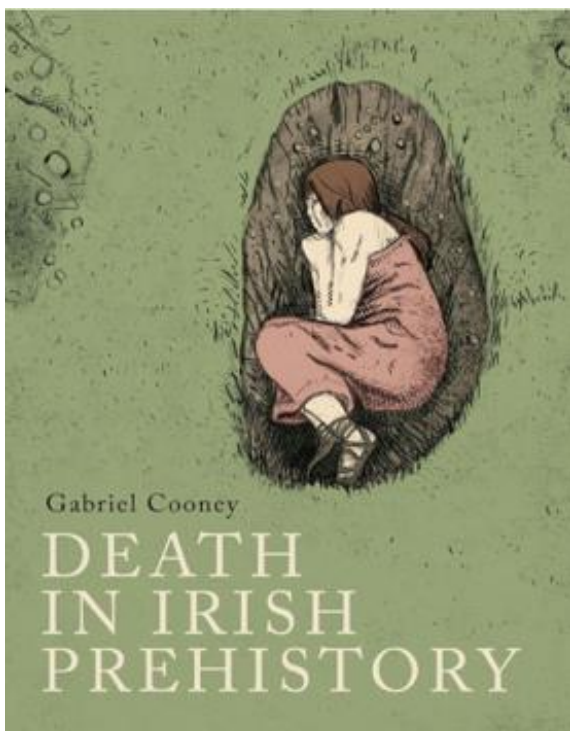


Figure 5: Example of photo, drawing, and thin section image of ISAP Axe 6210.

European Archaeology Association: Book Prize Winners 2024

The IAI board wishes its warmest congratulations to both Prof Gabriel Cooney (Death in Irish Prehistory) & Prof Graeme Warren (Hunter-Gatherer Ireland: Making Connections in an Island World) for their European Archaeology Award book prize 2024 announced recently in Rome. Congratulations on these well-deserved awards!!

Read more about the EAA book awards and reviews of the winning books at: https://www.e-a-a.org/EAA/Navigation/Prizes_and_Awards/Book_Prize_2024_Winner.aspx



The Discovery Programme Centre for Archaeology and Innovation Ireland Frameworks for Archaeological Research (FAR): Project update

Dr Eimear Meagan & Hannah Genders Boyd.

The *Frameworks for Archaeological Research (FAR)* project is an initiative funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and supported by the Heritage Council and the Department for Communities. The over-arching goal of the project is the development of an all-island strategic archaeological research framework in Ireland as a means of better realising the value and impact of individual research projects by connecting them to a wider network of research, practitioners and outlets. It aims to:

- Establish the current state and nature of archaeological research activity, infrastructure and funding across the island.
- Support the identification of gaps in the existing archaeological knowledge base.
- Support the articulation of future research questions and associated infrastructural dependencies.
- Facilitate greater collaboration between all stakeholders including archaeological practitioners, those working in related fields, special interest community groups, and the wider public.
- Embrace external drivers of archaeological activity alongside curiosity and opportunity.

The Frameworks for Archaeological Research team spent the start of the year travelling the length and breadth of the island of Ireland to engage with colleagues across the archaeological sector. In collaboration with the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland, the Discovery Programme held a series of in-person workshops – in Kilkenny, Galway, Enniskillen, Dublin, Mullingar, Cork and Belfast – where they welcomed over 120 practitioners from across the heritage sectors to share their thoughts, insights and experiences. The discussion topics at these workshops were informed by a survey circulated by the Discovery Programme in the final quarter of 2023. This online survey was designed to canvass sectoral opinion on the major challenges and opportunities currently facing archaeological research practices on the island. 233 practitioners responded to this call.

The Frameworks for Archaeological Research (FAR) project began in early 2023, initially focussing on assessing the nature and extent of archaeological research resources generated across the island of Ireland since 1990. The aim of this audit was to create a robust platform from which knowledge gaps and future research directions could be explored. It is also envisaged that the details of the resources documented would be made accessible via an online searchable database as part of the project. The future of the project now includes the development of this database and ongoing research and engagement. The team are focused on engaging with the broader archaeological and heritage communities as we begin the process of collaboratively defining and assembling the emerging strategic framework.



Figure 6: Discovery Programme CEO Dr John O'Keeffe speaks at FAR workshop in Rothe House Kilkenny.

The Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland declares itself an 'Apartheid Free Zone'.

In January 2024, the IAI issued a public statement in support of Palestine, its people, its archaeologists, and its heritage '*The Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland (IAI) call for an immediate ceasefire and end to the siege in Gaza, in support of Palestine, its people, its archaeologists, and its heritage – Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland*'. Subsequently, at our Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in April, the membership voted to further show solidarity with Palestinians by becoming an 'Apartheid Free Zone' a grassroots initiative aiming to make Ireland an apartheid free zone.

This involves:

- Supporting the principals of the BDS movement,
- Adhering to guidance from the BDS movement in boycotting Israeli products and services,
- Boycotting products and services of international companies that profit from Israeli human rights abuses,
- Opposing collaboration, either directly or through international collaborations, with Israeli institutions or organisations that have not publicly recognised the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people as enshrined in international law, including the three basic rights in the Palestinian BDS Call and
- IAI publicly declaring itself an Apartheid Free Zone, in line with the principles of the BDS Movement and signing up to the Irish Apartheid Free Zones initiative.

The IAI board encourage other Irish and International organisations to follow our move.



The Institute Archaeologists of Ireland at EAA Rome 2024

The Institute of Archaeologists (IAI) was represented at the recent European Association of Archaeology (EAA) conference in Rome by our Chair Dr Ros Ó Maoldúin, where he presented a talk (Ros O Maolduin/ Niamh McCullagh) titled 'Archaeological Research on the Island of Ireland – A Sectoral Survey'. Ros discussed the IAI's vision to have a vibrant and sustainable archaeological profession that actively contributes to the protection of our archaeological resource, which in turn contributes to the social and economic well-being of the entire community. This paper provided an updated overview of the archaeological profession in Ireland, drawing on recent surveys and strategies including Archaeology 2030 (NI) Archaeology 2025 (RIA) and the findings from an ongoing survey and development strategy commissioned by the Institute of Archaeologists and conducted by Mantra Strategy (2024) and DISCO (Cleary & McCullagh 2012-2014). It sets this within the context of the legislative framework in both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, and the complexities which that can entail.



Figure 7: Dr Ros Ó Maoldúin speaking at EAA Rome 2024.

George Eogan Memorial Prize

Congratulations to board member Deborah Buchanan on her award of the inaugural George Eogan Memorial Prize from the Meath Archaeological and Historical Society'. Deborah's research focuses on Moynagh points and the prize supports a visit to examine examples of these lithics from Edinburgh and Shetland.

Research Grants/Scholarships

Fulbright Ireland: New Fulbright-Heritage Council Professional Award to the USA!

The Fulbright Commission in Ireland and the Heritage Council have come together to offer a unique opportunity for an Irish scholar or professional to travel to the U.S. to research or lecture at a higher education institution or organisation in the field of cultural heritage. The new Fulbright-Heritage Council Professional Award was launched as part of the 2025-2026 Fulbright Irish Awards. Professionals with at least five years' post-qualification experience or a PhD or Professional Doctorate in the cultural heritage sector are invited to apply for this opportunity to study or research in the areas of museum practice, archival practice, digital preservation, traditional skills preservation, material conservation, folklife and oral history. The deadline for the Fulbright-Heritage Council Professional Award closes on **31st October 2024, at 4pm**. The Fulbright Program in Ireland annually awards grants for Irish citizens, and E.U./U.K. citizens resident in the Republic of Ireland for 5+ years, to study, research, or teach / lecture in the U.S. and for Americans to do the same in Ireland. Visit the Fulbright website for eligibility criteria and application details.

If any IAI members want to know more about Fulbright opportunities, board member Dr David Stone is a Fulbright Ireland Ambassador and is happy to answer questions your questions.



Figure 8: Chief Executive of the Heritage Council Virginia Teehan and Executive Director of the Fulbright Commission Dr Dara FitzGerald. Photo credit: The Heritage Council.

Upcoming Conferences/ Events

The Irish Association of Professional Osteoarchaeologists (IAPO): RSAI Helen Roe Theatre, Saturday 16th November, 9am and 2pm.

The Irish Association of Professional Osteoarchaeologists (IAPO) aims to promote contact, collaboration and discussion between professional osteoarchaeologists in Ireland, to raise standards within the profession and to discuss and find solutions to problems affecting osteoarchaeology in Ireland. The current Committee comprises Maeve Tobin (Chair), Clare Mullins (Vice Chair), Glenn Gibney (Secretary), Denise Keating (Meetings Organiser), Linda Lynch (Treasurer) and Philippa Barry (Assoc. Member Rep). The group meets annually to share recent research and discuss any common issues, and we welcome new members who are osteoarchaeologists practicing in the field of archaeology. Three grades of membership are available depending on level of experience: Student, Associate and Full Member. This year IAPO are organising a seminar between 9am and 2pm on Saturday 16th November in the Helen Roe Theatre in the RSAI to share recent research. The programme will include leading osteoarchaeologists discussing their findings of significant commercial archaeology and forensic archaeology projects. The event will be free to attend and open to any interested parties, with light refreshments during the mid-morning break. Tickets will be available through Eventbrite in the early Autumn and a programme will be circulated to IAPO members in due course. If you are interested in joining IAPO or finding out further information about the Seminar please email: contactiapo@gmail.com.

Obituaries: We remember several archaeologists who had links with the institute who sadly passed away over 2023 and 2024.

Janet Farrington Remembered: The archaeological community was greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Janet Farrington in December 2023, following an illness. Janet studied archaeology and history at University College Dublin from 1996 to 1999, where she was a popular, outgoing presence and a hard-working and talented student. As well as being an enthusiastic member of UCD's Archaeological Society, she also spent one of her college summers as an integral part of a small team on a community project in Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow, researching the history and archaeology of the town and its environs.

Having completed her bachelor's degree, she entered the world of professional archaeology, working for an extended period on sites in County Clare, before later joining the Laughanstown crew on the Southeastern Motorway Project in South Dublin. Here she honed her archaeological skills on site, before going on to take up the role of finds coordinator for this large multi-period series of sites and continued working into the post-excavation phase. Janet was a very popular figure on site, always happy to engage in a friendly chat as she went about her work. Her outgoing personality, cheerful nature and winning smile ensured she was a much-liked member of the crew, through 2000 and into 2002. Subsequently, Janet undertook a master's degree in landscape archaeology at the UCD School of

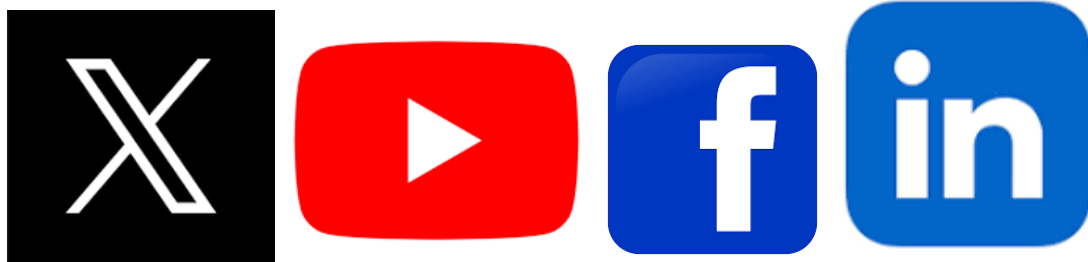
Archaeology from 2002 to 2003. Her thesis, titled *The Enigma of the Cursus Monument in Ireland: The Reality of Cursus and Cursus-like Monuments in an Irish Context*, demonstrated her considerable ability to write and research, all the more impressive as she balanced her studies with motherhood - her much adored son Rhys was very young at the time. Staff and master's classmates alike will have many happy memories of Janet from this second stint in the corridors of Belfield. Ultimately, Janet decided to pursue a career outside of archaeology, and went on to excel in other fields. Those of us who were lucky enough to study and work with her in the late 90s and early 2000s, will always remember her fondly for her kind heart, her good humour and infectious laugh. Janet will be greatly missed by all who knew her, particularly those closest, and we extend our sincere sympathies to her family and friends.



Figure 9: Janet Farrington & Janet in the SoA UCD 2002 (B&W).

IAI Social Media

For news, updates and information on the activities of the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland follow us on X (@IAIarchaeo), Facebook (@InstituteOfArchaeologists), or YouTube (Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland IAI).



Submissions for the Spring/Summer 2025 Newsletter

Finally, if you have an interesting story, research project, books, picture or upcoming events that you would like to share and highlight to our membership please contact us at iaiarchaeology@gmail.com

Thank you and we wish you all continued success in 2024 and 2025!

I mise le meas!

David