

How do I make a submission? How do I tell you what I think?

Everyone's views are considered in drafting the Heritage Plan so anyone can make a submission.

Your submission should include your name, address, contact number and email. State what group you represent and tell us about your groups interests.

The main part of the submission should include details on what aspect of heritage you are interested in and what action you think needs to be taken.

Then, post or email you submission before **12th April** to the Kildare Heritage Office. You can also complete the Heritage Plan Consultation Form which is available, along with other information on <http://www.kildarecoco.ie/new-heritage-plan>:



KILDARE HERITAGE PLAN CONSULTATION 2013

Kildare County Council and Kildare Heritage Forum are beginning the process of writing a new Heritage Plan for County Kildare and would like to hear your views on what actions should be contained in the new Plan.

If you are a member of a community group, tidy towns group, historical society or wildlife group or an individual interested in the heritage of County Kildare you are invited to make a submission to the new Plan by the 12th April 2013.

If you make a submission you are ensuring that the specific views of the people of Kildare are considered in writing the plan. The submissions made will feed directly into the draft Heritage Plan. The draft plan will be put on public display for a period of 5 weeks, during this time the public will be able to comment on its content.



What happens then?

A draft heritage Plan will be written. This plan will be put on public display. You can then see how you opinions or ideas have been taken into account. There will be a public workshop to discuss the Draft Heritage Plan. You can then comment on the draft plan.

Once a final Heritage Plan has been written, it will be presented to Kildare County Council for adoption. We then start carrying out the actions.

If you would like to be informed of the progress of the County Kildare Plan and other Heritage issues in County Kildare fill in this form and return to the Kildare Heritage Officer.



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Comments: _____

What is Heritage?

In the context of the 1995 Heritage Act, the term **Heritage** is considered to encompass **“monuments, archaeological objects, heritage objects, architectural heritage, flora, fauna, wildlife habitats, landscapes, seascapes, wrecks, geology, heritage gardens and parks and inland waterways”**.

Heritage, therefore, can be considered to be our inherited traditions, monuments, objects, and culture. Heritage is both the tangible and intangible. It is how we identify ourselves and define a sense of place.

Heritage includes natural heritage such as flora, fauna geology, wildlife areas, landscape waterways and biological diversity.

It includes built or man-made heritage such as demesne houses, vernacular architecture, monuments, archaeology, heritage gardens and parks.

Cultural heritage can include local history, folklore, traditions, museums, archives, place names and genealogy.



What is a County Heritage Plan?

A County Heritage Plan is a series of actions compiled from input from organisations and individuals who have an interest in the heritage of County Kildare. It is a five year document, which details how heritage in the county shall be managed and protected on a partnership basis. It is an opportunity to identify heritage issues and heritage needs at a local level and to address them locally within a national framework.

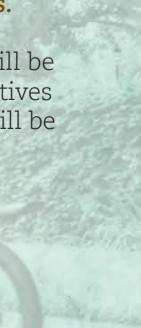
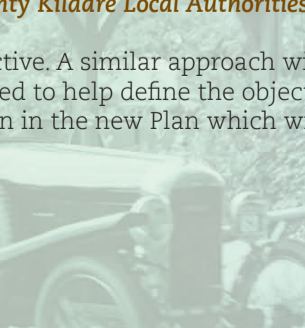
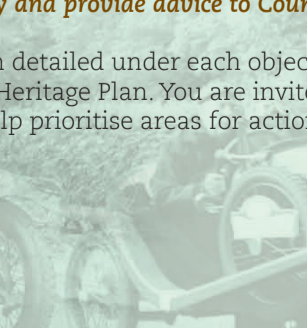
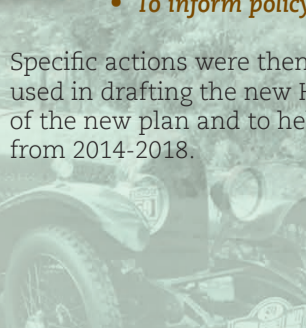
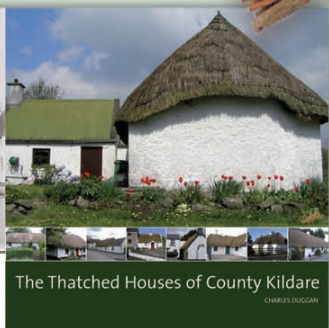
The writing of a heritage plan is overseen by the County Kildare Heritage Forum, which is made up of organisations or individual within the county who work in the area of heritage or have an interest in heritage.

The Current Kildare Heritage Plan

The aim of the current heritage Plan is “to identify, preserve and conserve the built, natural and cultural heritage of the county”. The first County Heritage Plan was published in 2004 and contained the following objectives:

- To facilitate the collection and dissemination of heritage information.
- To raise public awareness, understanding and appreciation of County Kildare's heritage.
- To promote best practice in heritage conservation and management.
- To inform policy and provide advice to County Kildare Local Authorities.

Specific actions were then detailed under each objective. A similar approach will be used in drafting the new Heritage Plan. You are invited to help define the objectives of the new plan and to help prioritise areas for action in the new Plan which will be from 2014-2018.



What has been done already?

An independent review of the existing Heritage Plan was undertaken in 2011 which made a number of recommendations for the new plan preparation. The current Plan contains 85 actions and some progress was made on the implementation of 72 of these actions. Here is a flavour of some of the projects carried out:

Collecting Information:

- A survey of thatched cottages
- Survey of Wetlands
- Survey of Hedgerows
- Habitat Mapping
- Survey of Industrial Heritage
- Kildare Historic landscape Characterisation
- Graveyard conservation plans
- Tree surveys for towns.

Raising Awareness:

- Annual Heritage Week events
- Heritage calendars
- Heritage seminars
- Heritage of the Curragh Seminar
- Newbridge Heritage Trail
- Publications Thatched Cottages of Kildare, Kildare
- Natural Heritage and Inventory of Archaeology Sources

Promoting Best Practice:

- Developers/householders guide to Biodiversity in development.
- Traditional Building and Conservation Skills in Action Exhibition
- Conservation, Management and Interpretation Plan for Castledermot Town Walls.
- Reusing Farm Buildings - Guidelines
- Training course for Kildare museums
- Training course for graveyard maintenance.
- Village design statements

Informing Policy & Provide Advice to Kildare Local Authorities:

- Conservation Statement for Kildare
- Architectural Conservation Area.
- Development of Green Infrastructure maps for towns.
- Heritage training for local authority staff.
- County Kildare Biodiversity Plan

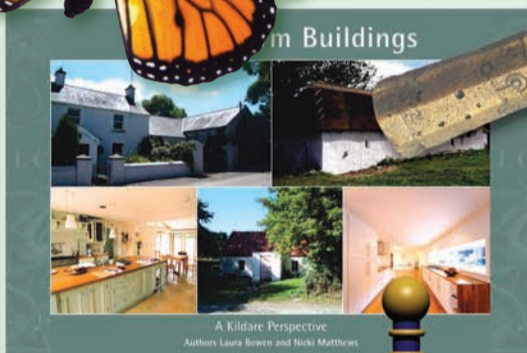
Habitat Mapping



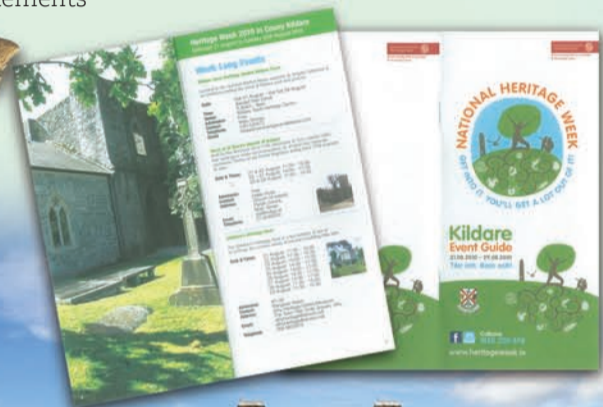
Thatched Cottages Survey



National Heritage Inventory



Reusing Farm Buildings - Guidelines

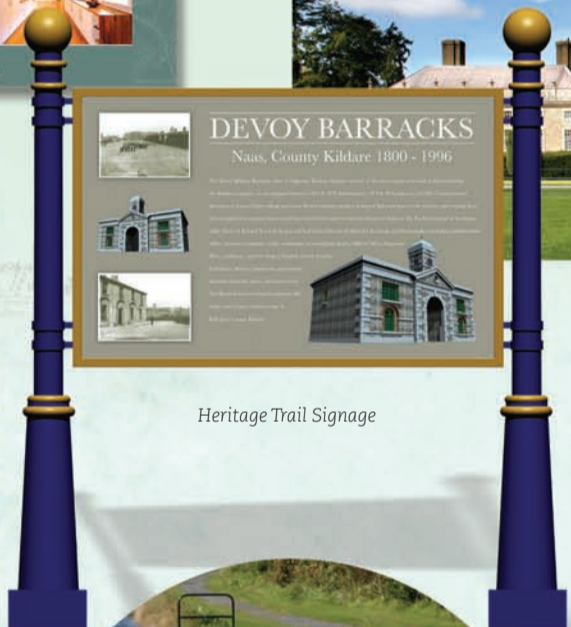


Annual Heritage Week events

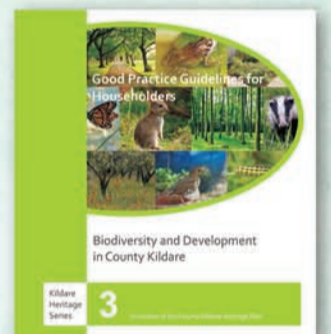
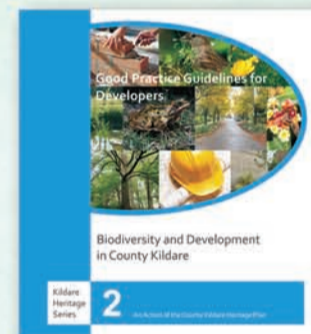
Guide to Biodiversity in development.



Nature Trails



Heritage Trail Signage



Guide to Biodiversity in development.

Why do we want your views?

I am sure you are wondering why should you get involved. We all have the responsibility of looking after Kildare's heritage and helping to make sure it is around for the next generation.

Our Heritage is a link to the past, a reminder of special moments in people's lives, history or culture or it is part of a location's special identity which could bring economic as well as other benefits to the area.

So, if you have an opinion or an idea as to how Kildare's heritage should be promoted, protected, managed, explained then let us know so we can include it in the new County Heritage Plan.

Development of Green Infrastructure maps for towns.



Kildare Heritage Forum....

The Kildare Heritage Forum is a representative partnership group of all organisations in Kildare who work in the area of heritage or have an interest in heritage.

The Forum is responsible for writing the plan and then for carrying out the actions in the new Plan. The current members of the County Kildare Heritage Forum are:

- Kildare Community and Voluntary Forum
- Kildare Leader Partnership
- Kildare Federation of Local History groups
- Irish Peatland Conservation Council
- Bord na Mona
- Coillte
- Forest Service
- National University of Ireland Maynooth
- National Parks and Wildlife Service
- Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht
- National Roads Design Office
- Kildare Education centre
- Castletown House
- Kildare Fáilte
- County Kildare Archaeological Society
- KCC Elected Representatives
- Local History Section of Kildare Library Services
- Environmental Awareness Officer, KCC
- Conservation Officer, KCC
- KCC Planning Department
- KCC Arts Officer
- KCC Architects Office
- KCC Parks Superintendent

We welcome everyone's views and opinions in drafting the Kildare County Heritage Plan 2013.