

11

HEADSTONE

Michael Dugdale - 1831

A fine mid-19th century headstone which bears a set of blacksmith's tools carved in relief. These consist of a hammer and pinchers, crossed over each other on the right hand side of the IHS and an anvil on the left hand side.

Reference: GA-SMDO-0011.
GPS: 53° 16' 6.1824" N, 9° 3' 23.3136" W



42

LEDGER

Moriertaugh FitzPatrick - 1723

This very fine example of a heraldic slab shows the conjoined coats of arms of Mutragh Fitzpatrick and Ellen Browne showing a lion and a dragon in combat above the escutcheon. A scroll for a motto occurs below the oval escutcheon.

Reference GA-SMDO-0042
GPS: 53° 16' 5.9448" N, 9° 3' 24.48" W



54

LEDGER

John Tierney - 1796

There is a fine example of a late 18th century ledger stone. The carving of the IHS and cross are enclosed within a heraldic shield. The carving of the sun to the right and moon to the left within the shield represents life and death.

Reference: GA-SMDO-0054
GPS: 53° 16' 6.2832" N, 9° 3' 25.0704" W



74

LEDGER

Ty? - 1752

This is one of the earliest mid 18th century stones, recorded in the graveyard. There are three lines of text carved in relief visible on the ledger. The style of carving is similar to that recorded on headstone GA-SMDO-0029 and ledger GA-SMDO-0040.

Reference: GA-SMDO-0074
GPS: 53° 16' 6.9564" N, 9° 3' 24.4404" W



77

CARVING

Alter Tomb Panel – 17th century

A panel from an altar tomb or box tomb now installed in the porch. It shows the Crucifix flanked by images of Mary the Mother of Christ and what seems to be St. John. The carving is a folk art style typical of the early 17th century period.

Reference: GA-SMDO-0077
GPS: 53° 16' 6.2184" N, 9° 3' 21.546" W



St Mary's Claddagh | Reilig Seipéal Naomh Mhuire

The Dominican Friary at Claddagh was built on the site of an early church of St. Mary's on the hill, which was a 13th century foundation associated with the Premonstratensian Canon's of Tuam. In 1488, the site which was then vacant was granted to the Dominicans by Pope Innocent VIII who gave them license to construct a Friary. An extensive Friary is shown on the 'Pictorial Map of Galway' of the 1660's. In 1493, James Lynch Fitzstephen added a choir at his own expense. The site survived the suppressions of Henry VIII and Edward VI. In 1570 after it had already been 'lately dissolved', it was granted to Galway Corporation. By 1629, there were still four Dominicans Friars, five professed clerics and some novices there. The Dominicans remained in the area or returned to the site at various stages in the 18th century despite the Penal Laws. There was a small church on the site in the 18th century. In 1494, the Franciscans were granted leave by the Pope Alexander VI to annex the Chapel of Our Lady. It is unclear if this ever happened.

The Penal period Church is shown on several paintings and engravings and survived into the 19th century when it was replaced in the 1880's by the present church. The graveyard was once far more extensive. In the 1930's, a large number of headstones were laid flat and a garden with paths was laid out. Many other monuments were taken up and placed against the walls of the cemetery. In the early 2000's some of the funerary monuments were temporarily uncovered during a FAS scheme but were covered over again. The survey recorded all monuments which have remained overground and these are listed on the website. A 17th century tomb fragment with the Crucifixion, St. Mary and St. John is in the porch and several architectural fragments from the site are in the priory. This includes a keystone from a chimney piece which is typical of Galwegian sculpture. It was originally in Kirwins Lane in the Slate House Nunnery. The keystone which bears the symbols of the passion initials S.L. and A.K. and the date 1515 was given to the Dominican Fathers by the late John Faherty who owned the Kirwins Lane Premises when they were demolished in the 1950's. In the graveyard several other carvings can be seen in the boundary wall on the Fairhill side.

Dr Jim Higgins, Heritage Office

This project was funded by the Heritage Council and Galway City Council as an action of the Galway City Heritage Plan. The full results of the survey are available on www.historicgraves.com/graveyard/st-mary-s-dominican/ga-smdo

An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council



HISTORICGRAVES.COM

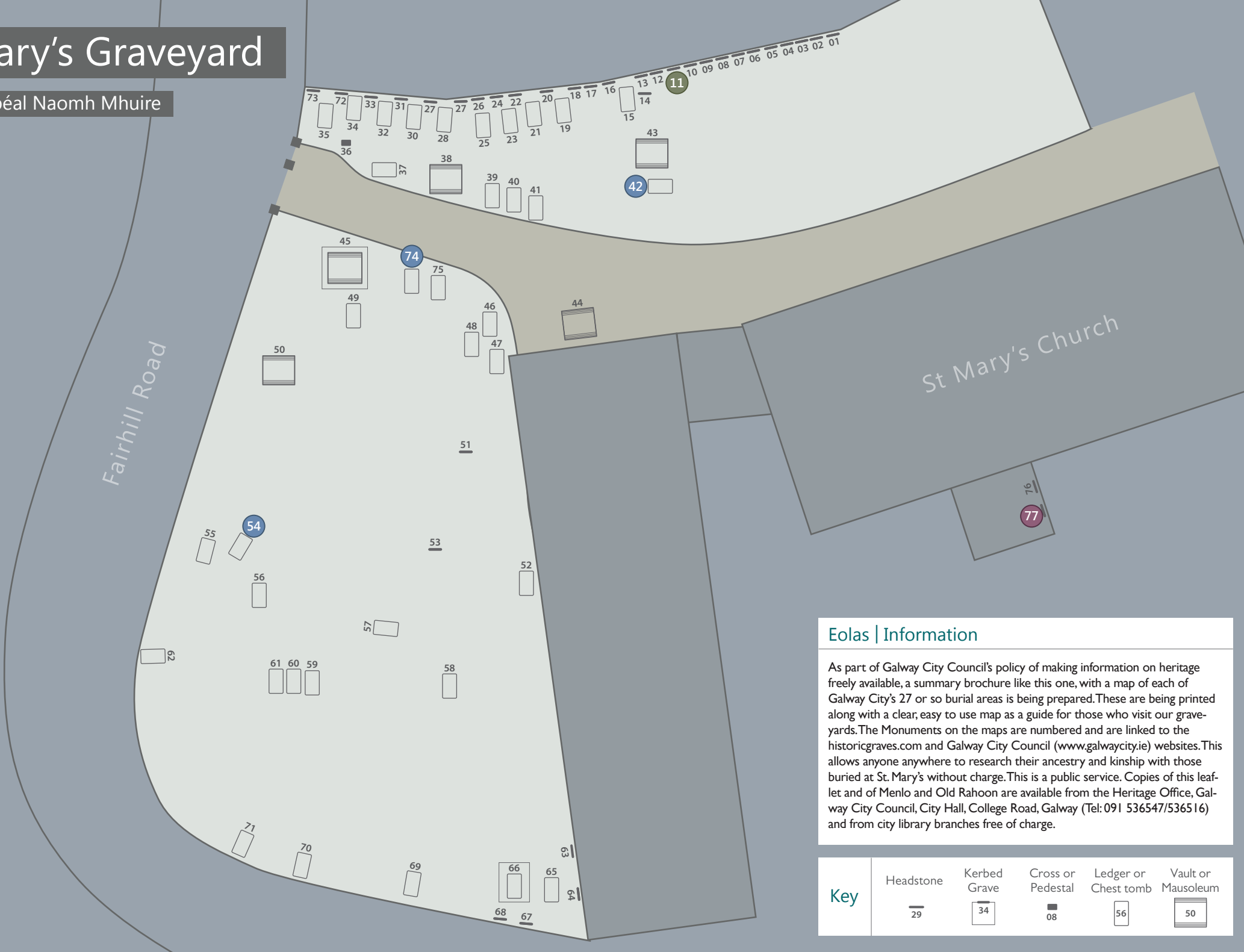
Reilig Seipéal Naomh Mhuire

St Mary's, Claddagh

Historic Dominican Graveyard, Galway City

St Mary's Graveyard

Reilig Seipéal Naomh Mhuire



Eolas | Information

As part of Galway City Council's policy of making information on heritage freely available, a summary brochure like this one, with a map of each of Galway City's 27 or so burial areas is being prepared. These are being printed along with a clear, easy to use map as a guide for those who visit our graveyards. The Monuments on the maps are numbered and are linked to the historicgraves.com and Galway City Council (www.galwaycity.ie) websites. This allows anyone anywhere to research their ancestry and kinship with those buried at St. Mary's without charge. This is a public service. Copies of this leaflet and of Menlo and Old Ragoon are available from the Heritage Office, Galway City Council, City Hall, College Road, Galway (Tel: 091 536547/536516) and from city library branches free of charge.

Key	Headstone	Kerbed Grave	Cross or Pedestal	Ledger or Chest tomb	Vault or Mausoleum
	29	34	08	56	50