

F1

FEATURE

Children's Burial Ground

The Ordnance Survey Letters refer to this site as a children's burial ground, though the OS maps name it as graveyard and burial ground. The cemetery is now occupied by 114 memorials dating from the 1860's with no visible remains of earlier graves.

Reference: GA-CAGR-00
GPS: 53° 17' 52.3788" N, 9° 0' 49.6116" W



21

CROSS

J. Commins - 1880

Four priests are commemorated on this Celtic cross which is surrounded by an iron railing. Three are former parish priests of Castlegar parish, Rev. Commins from 1864-1880, Rev. Carolan from 1880-1891 and Rev. Newell from 1908-1912.

Reference: GA-CAGR-0021
GPS: 53° 17' 52.5012" N, 9° 0' 50.4216" W



38

PLAQUE

Stephen Cullinan - 1994

Two plaques flanking the entrance gate commemorate Stephen Cullinan (interred here). Cullinan was a founder member of Macra na Feirme and first editor of the Irish Farmers Journal. The plaques were erected on the 50th anniversary of the organisation.

Reference: GA-CAGR-0038
GPS: 53° 17' 52.5984" N, 9° 0' 50.2416" W



51

LEDGER

Raoul Joyce - 1932

This recumbent stone, dedicated to Raoul and Monica Joyce, is decorated with a plain cross. The details are in high relief, a time consuming technique which relies on removing all the stones' surface and leaving only the desired image behind.

Reference: GA-CAGR-0051
GPS: 53° 17' 52.5084" N, 9° 0' 49.6908" W



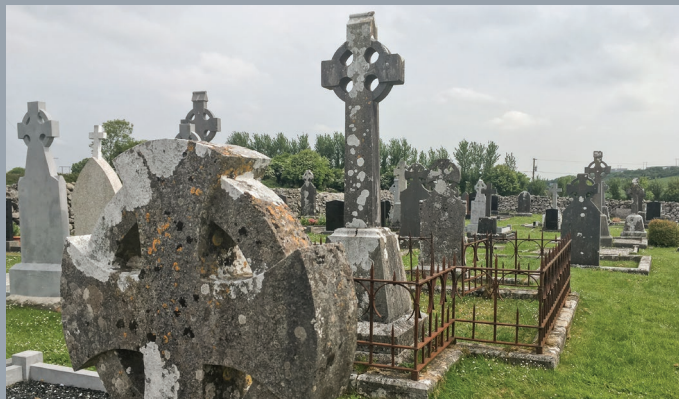
F2

FEATURE

St Columbas Church

A plaque on the western wall of the church remembers Castlegar's first parish priest, Rev. Martyn (who served 1827-1847). The parish priests Rev. Fagan (1921-1929) Mons. Mitchell (1929-1965) and Canon Hyland (1965-1980) are commemorated in the grounds.

Reference: GA-CLBA
GPS: 53° 17' 41.406" N, 9° 0' 46.5516" W



Castlegar | Reilig an Chaisleáin Ghearr

The burial ground in Castlegar is located on the north eastern edge of Galway city, 100 m north-west of the N17 Galway-Tuam road. It is accessed from the road via a footpath. The site is now a modern rectangular cemetery measuring approximately 45 m by 25 m, bordered by a stone wall. Intriguingly, Castlegar burial ground is mentioned in the Ordnance Survey Letter as a children's burial ground (GA082-022) and described as 'Lisheennagarlagh, Lisin Na n-garlach, the lisheen of the children, a burying place', but there are no obvious remains of these early burials. The Ordnance Survey maps name many children's burial grounds. They typically date from the late medieval period. It was common for archaeological monuments such as ringforts and ecclesiastical enclosures to have been reused as for this purpose because they continued to hold some social significance. Interred individuals included not just unbaptised children, but also adult suicides, murder victims, people of unknown religion, and the bodies of shipwrecked sailors. Many of these individuals were traditionally denied the right to a formal Christian burial in a sanctified graveyard or burial ground. The existence of these less formal burial grounds allowed them some dignity in death and allowed those who mourned them somewhere to visit and remember them. There was a children's burial ground in Ballybrit, Terryland and Bushypark, three of the other historic Galway graveyards.

The Roman Catholic parish church of St. Columba (GA082-086), is located 350 m to the south of the burial ground (<http://historicgraves.com/graveyard/st-columba-s-church-and-graveyard/ga-clba>). There are four Celtic crosses, for former parish priests, in the grounds of that church. A mass path connected the church to Ballybrit.

There are a total of 438 names commemorated on 114 memorials in Castlegar. The most frequently occurring family names include Broderick, Fahy, Tully, Ryan and Walsh. For further information on Castlegar see the excellent history of Castlegar parish written by Fr. Padraic Ó Laoi. Fr. Ó Laoi is buried in the priest's graveyard in St Patrick's Church, Forster St. Galway (GA-STPK-0001).

Dr. Jim Higgins, Heritage Officer, Galway City Council.

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An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council

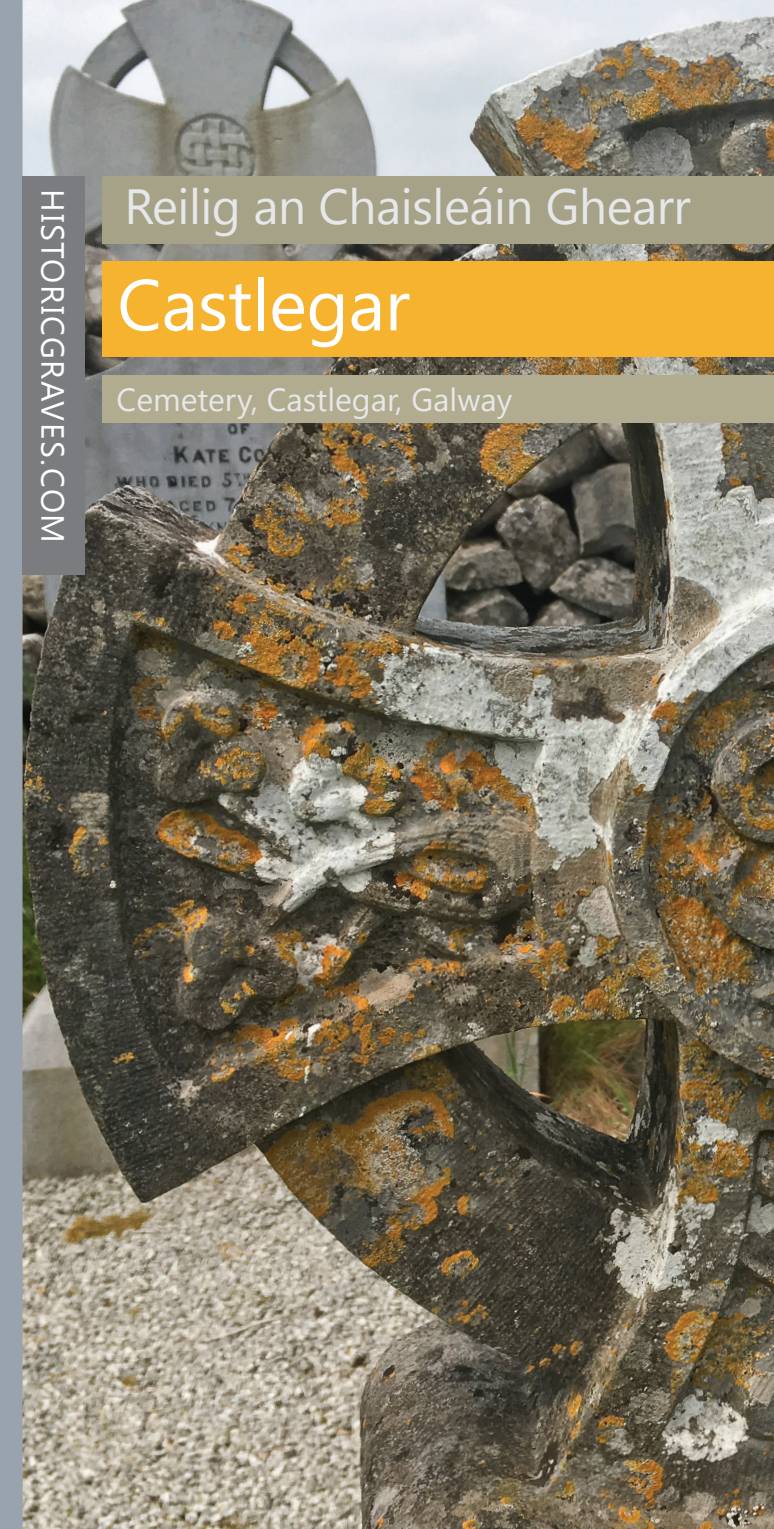


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Reilig an Chaisleáin Ghearr

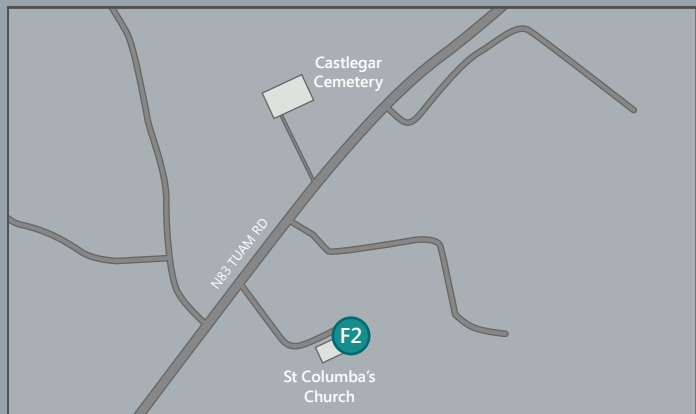
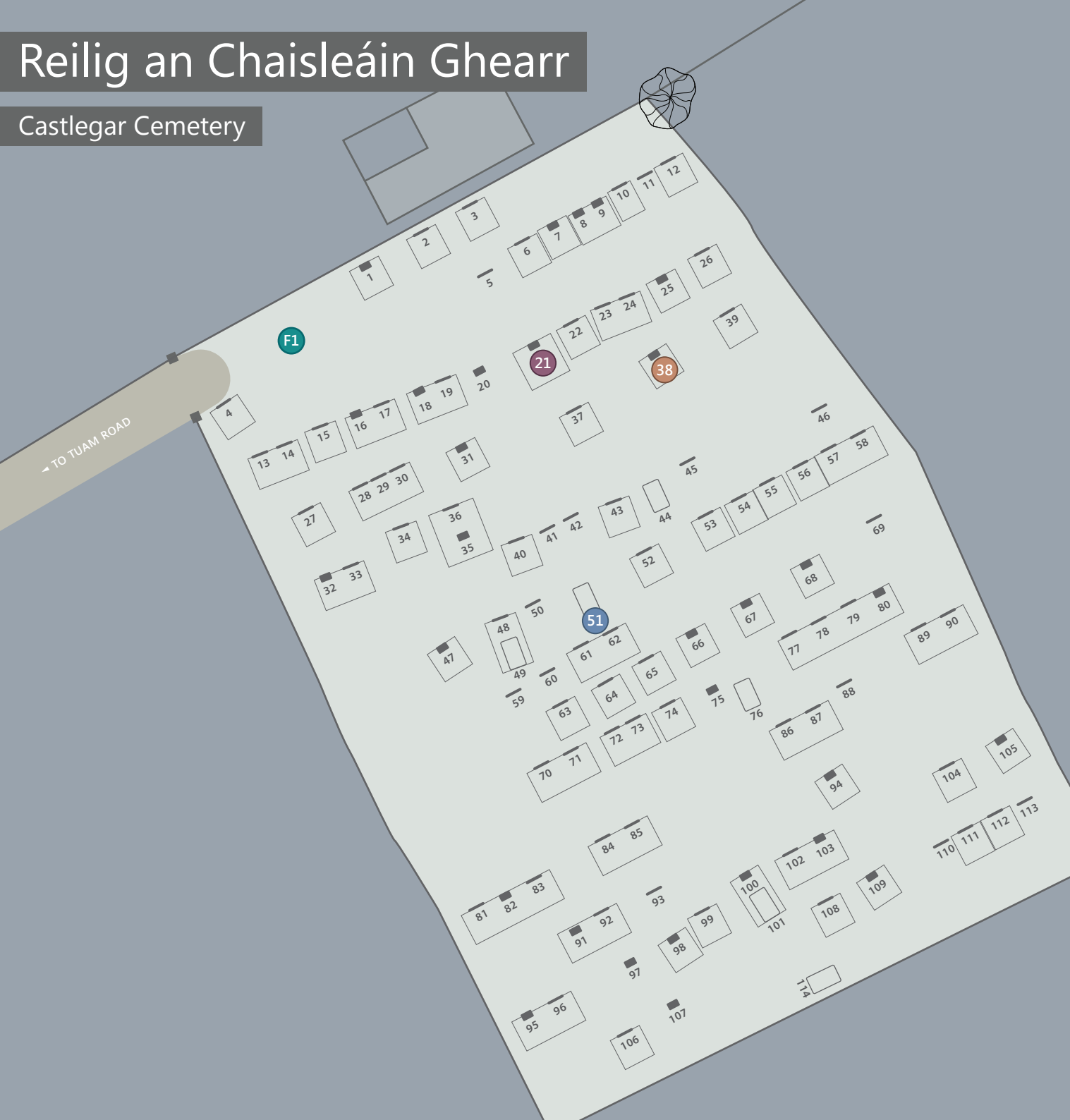
Castlegar

Cemetery, Castlegar, Galway



Reilig an Chaisleáin Ghearr

Castlegar Cemetery



Eolas | Information

As part of Galway City Council's policy of making information on heritage freely available, a summary brochure like this one is being prepared for each of Galway City's 28 areas. These are being printed along with a 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 galwaycity.ie websites. This allows anyone anywhere to research their ancestry and kinship in the Galway area without charge. Copies of the following 16 leaflets; Ballybrit, Bushypark, Castlegar, Castlelawn, Convent of Mercy Forster St. and Francis St., Franciscan Abbey, Forthill, Menlo, Old Ragoon, Poor Clare Monastery, Roscam, St Mary's Dominican, St Patrick's, Salthill Upper and United Methodist Presbyterian are available from the Heritage Office, City Hall, College Rd, 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