

HERITAGE PLAN 2016-2020





PHOTO: Eoghan Lynch

BANKS OF A CANAL

by Seamus Heaney



Say 'canal' and there's that final vowel
Towing silence with it, slowing time
To a walking pace, a path, a whitewashed gleam
Of dwellings at the skyline. World stands still.
The stunted concrete mocks the classical.
Water says, 'My place here is in dream,
In quiet good standing. Like a sleeping stream,
Come rain or sullen shine I'm peaceable.'
Stretched to the horizon, placid ploughland,
The sky not truly bright or overcast:
I know that clay, the damp and dirt of it,
The coolth along the bank, the grassy zest
Of verges, the path not narrow but still straight
Where soul could mind itself or stray beyond.

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Waterways Ireland would like to acknowledge and thank all the participants in the Heritage Plan Art and Photographic competition. The front cover of this Heritage Plan is comprised solely of entrants to this competition with many of the other entries used throughout the document.



HERITAGEPLAN 2016-2020

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FOREWORD



Dawn Livingstone
Chief Executive

As Chief Executive I am delighted to introduce the Waterways Ireland Heritage Plan. It provides, for the first time, a strategic framework for the integration of built, natural and cultural heritage into the future management of our waterways. I envisage this Plan will provide a platform over the coming 5 years for meaningful and honest engagement with our stakeholders, whom all have the shared goal of protecting this treasured heritage asset.

Our inland navigations transcend social, cultural and political borders and represent a distinctive, irreplaceable legacy. As our inland navigations predate partition, they symbolise the shared heritage of the Island of Ireland. As such Waterways Ireland is ideally placed, as a North South Body, to help bridge the various communities, organisations and Agencies to ensure the sustainable use of this resource.

The navigations under our remit are subject to numerous natural and built heritage designations; a fact that we must be cognisant of in our day to day works. However we view such designations as an asset in the promotion of the waterways. Where else could you navigate within a system that is entirely designated a Special Area of Conservation for the valuable habitats they harbour, moor along the banks of the Killaloe Canal which is an Architectural Conservation Area or visit the unique Celtic Janus figure on Boa Island in Lower Lough Erne. These designations can work to our advantage, if viewed in that light. As Seamus Heaney so eloquently said, the waterways provide a space 'Where soul could mind itself or stray beyond'.

This Plan is very much about looking forward, whilst being mindful of the history that came before us. The past decade has seen unprecedented change, both socially and economically. However, I truly believe that the many actions outlined in this Plan can, and will, be delivered upon. However, the success of this Plan lies very much in greater strategic coordination between the many agencies involved in waterways management.



Waterways Ireland will provide leadership and where we share commonalities we will proactively approach other Bodies to partner and deliver on projects; identification of this shared purpose is key in the delivery and success of this Plan.

PHOTOS:
Left: Photo courtesy of the
Heritage Boat Association
Right: Des Maguire

I wish to see Waterways Ireland empower, support and engage local communities, many of whom are active in the protection and promotion of the waterways. Sustainability will be a key tenet of this Plan. We need to ensure an appropriate balance between the protection of heritage whilst not forgetting the underlying function and history of these navigations.

On behalf of Waterways Ireland I would like to thank all the members of the Working Groups and those who contributed during the various consultation phases for their time and energy to assist in assembling the Heritage Plan. I look forward to taking this journey with you and can assure our stakeholders that Waterways Ireland will give its full commitment to the delivery of this Plan.

With best wishes

Dawn Livingstone
Chief Executive

WATERWAYS IRELAND

Who are Waterways Ireland?

Waterways Ireland is a North South Implementation Body and was established by means of an international treaty made on 8 March 1999 between the British and Irish Governments. The treaty was given domestic effect by means of the North/South Co-operation (Implementation Bodies) (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 and the Britis-Irish Agreement Act, 1999.



PHOTOS:
Bottom left: Katie Reynolds,
below right: Conaire McNeary,
above right: Conor Nolan, above
left on page 7: Harry Reid.





We are the navigation authority for approximately 1,000 km of navigable waterways, comprising:

- the Barrow Navigation
- the Lower Bann Navigation
- the Royal Canal
- the Erne System
- the Shannon-Erne Waterway
- the Grand Canal
- the Shannon Navigation

What do we do?

Our statutory function is to manage, maintain, develop and restore specified inland navigable waterways, principally for recreational purposes. In July 2007, our remit was extended by the North-South Ministerial Council to include responsibility for the reconstruction of the Ulster Canal from Upper Lough Erne to Clones.

At an operational level, we have responsibility for navigation channels, embankments, towpaths, adjoining lands, harbours, jetties, fishing stands, bridges, locks, sluices, lock houses, along with buildings and archives. Our work programmes are critical to providing a safe and high quality recreational environment for our customers, whilst also preserving the industrial and environmental heritage of the waterways for future generations. These challenges must be balanced with our objective of increasing recreational activity across all our waterways.

How do we operate?

As a cross-border body, we operate under the policy direction of the North South Ministerial Council and the two Governments, and are accountable to the Northern Ireland Assembly and the Houses of the Oireachtas. At an administrative level, we report to our Sponsor Departments, the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL) in Northern Ireland and the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DAHG) in Ireland.

Funding is provided by grants from money voted by the Northern Ireland Assembly and the Houses of the Oireachtas. 15% of recurrent or maintenance funding is provided by the Assembly in Northern Ireland, and 85% by the Irish Government, reflecting the current distribution of waterways in each jurisdiction. Capital development programmes are funded separately by the jurisdiction where the works are carried out.

IRELANDS WATERWAYS



Map 1: Map of the inland navigable waterways – navigations under the remit of Waterways Ireland are highlighted in bold

INTRODUCTION

Our inland navigations are an invaluable heritage asset for the island of Ireland, as well as environmental, social, cultural and economic assets. They offer users a unique opportunity for meaningful engagement with heritage experienced from the water or on land. They range from spectacular landscapes with rich flora, fauna and historic sites, with evidence of civilisations dating from millennia ago, to the ingenuity of engineers from the 18th century who helped make navigation possible. Knitting all this together is the intangible heritage of the waterways; the folklore, oral history and the present day communities, both on and off the waterway that make the navigations a living heritage in every sense of the word. Given the complexity of interdependent features that form each of the Navigations, they are entities in their own right and are considered as such throughout this Plan.

To ensure the protection and appropriate use of our inland navigable waterways, it is the aim of this Heritage Plan, as developed by the Working Groups and refined through public consultation, that Waterways Ireland, in partnership with its stakeholders,

“Identify and protect the unique waterways heritage and promote its sustainable use for the enjoyment of this and future generations”.

Heritage is often only appreciated from a distance; with people mindful of its fragility. Our navigations allow people to immerse themselves in this heritage and in this way truly appreciate it in a holistic manner. It should be noted that waterways are not static features in our landscape. Our rivers shaped and moulded the landscape since the beginning of time. Man has relied heavily on the waterways from Neolithic times to the present day which shows the dynamic nature of our lakes and rivers. Similarly, our canals created navigations where none previously existed and our navigable rivers were modified to facilitate trade and commerce. Now we see them having transitioned to recreational corridors within a heritage landscape that supports nationally and internationally important habitats, flora and fauna. All can coexist if there is a strong overarching emphasis on appropriate, sustainable use of these resources.

Heritage, in all its forms, should be treated with respect and care but it should also be enjoyed and experienced. Only through appreciation of our built, natural and cultural heritage can we ensure its preservation for now and for future generations. Heritage is also a strong driver for prosperity and regeneration and this Plan hopes to help communities in that journey. Achieving all this through implementation of this plan will require involvement from across all sectors; governmental, NGOs, businesses and local communities. Only through this coordinated approach can we ensure that the waterways remain strong, vibrant places to live, each with its own local distinctiveness, offering a space for the public to stand and appreciate living heritage in all its forms.

While heritage has many interpretations, from legislative to esoteric, what is most important is the meaning of heritage to the individual. Heritage is a key driver in creating a sense of place for waterway communities and the wider population. This was a recurring observation from the Heritage Plan Working Groups who gave generously of their time to develop this strategy. In addition, by raising awareness of various forms of heritage, Waterways Ireland seeks to help these communities engage with the waterways in fostering this sense of place.

WHY A HERITAGE PLAN?



Inland waterways are a central part of Ireland's transport and industrial heritage, and are themselves made up of different aspects of heritage, including the landscape of which they are a key character element. This heritage is inextricably linked with Waterways Ireland's role and identity. As such we must be cognisant of the historic, cultural and natural inheritance which we are charged with managing, maintaining, developing and restoring. Furthermore, the inland waterways represent a multi-use tourism resource as well as an important amenity for adjacent settlements – a key economic driver for local communities. Finally, and importantly, this living heritage is a shared resource across the island of Ireland. It is on this solid foundation that this Heritage Plan is based.

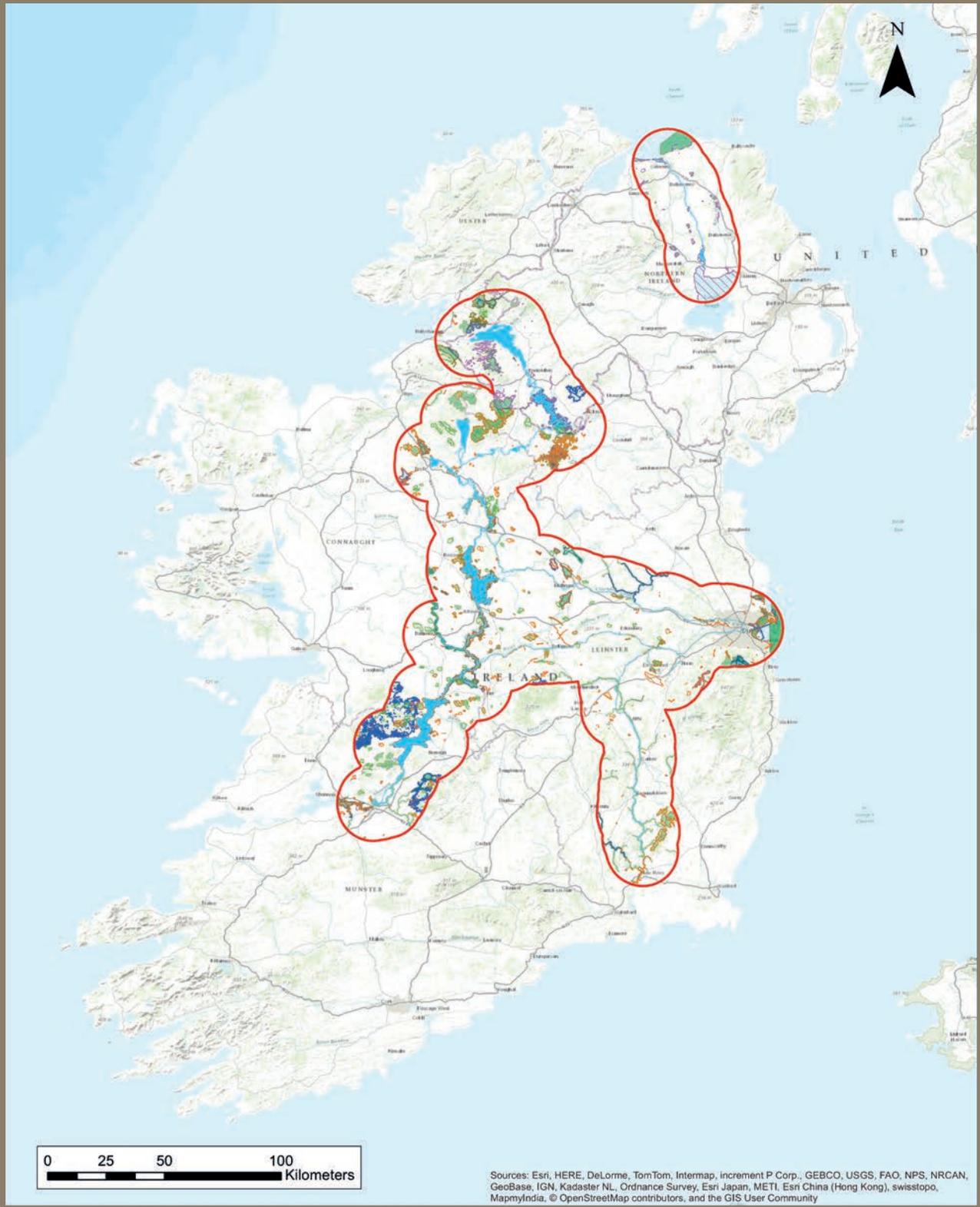
Management of this resource is fundamental to all aspects of our work and informs a wide variety of policies from our Corporate Plan, annual Business Plans, Product Development Studies to the Marketing Strategy for the inland waterways. It also represents Government commitment, North and South, to heritage as outlined in the National Heritage Plan, Northern Ireland Biodiversity Strategy and the National Biodiversity Plan. The heritage of inland waterways should therefore not be seen as a static resource, but one that represents the very heartbeat of our organisation and the community of those who use it.

In preparing this Plan, Waterways Ireland has learned that we need to provide a clear and coherent strategy for the protection and sustainable use of this heritage. This strategy has been informed and evolved throughout the development of this Plan and we are indebted to the many individuals who took time to make submissions and to be involved in the Working Groups as well as to the dedicated and passionate staff within Waterways Ireland who interact with our waterways on a daily basis.

Every action in this Plan is founded on the principle of sustainability, that overarching need to ensure we manage this heritage resource to the benefit of the current generation but not compromising it for future generations. Finally, as the protection of heritage is a shared goal across all sectors, this Plan will be delivered through consultation and in a spirit of partnership.



PHOTOS:
Top left: Boats on the Grand Canal
Bottom right: Gearoid Gibbs



 <p>Waterways Ireland Uiscebealaí Éireann Watterweys Airlann</p> <p>Web: www.waterwaysireland.org e-mail: info@waterwaysireland.org</p>		<p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designated sites within 15 km Navigations NI - ASSI- Areas of Special Scientific Interest RoI - NHAs- Natural Heritage Areas RoI - pNHAs - Proposed Natural Heritage Areas EU - SACs - Special Areas of Conservation EU - SPAs - Special Protection Areas 	<p>Waterways Ireland Heritage Plan</p> <hr/> <p>Designated sites within 15 km of the waterways</p>
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Map 2: Designated sites (SACs, SPAs, NHAs, pNHAs & ASSIs) within 15km of the waterways

HERITAGE ELEMENTS

It should be noted that, whilst heritage features can be broken down into separate categories, in reality heritage, in all its forms, is very much intertwined. Built Heritage for example can provide suitable habitats for bats and birds. In addition, the same structures could be an integral part of local cultural heritage with associated folklore, oral history and present day socio-economic uses. Furthermore, the presence of invasive species which are detrimental to our native flora and fauna also have strong negative impacts on our built heritage, e.g. Japanese Knotweed can seriously destabilise built structures. So, whilst here we are providing examples along our waterways, the heritage resource should be considered in its entirety.

1. HERITAGE BOATS & OBJECTS

Heritage Boats are often the most visual example of waterways with navigation history and can be classed as Floating Heritage. A heritage boat is one that is over 25 years old and is of significance because of its intrinsic construction or because of its association with the commercial, cultural, economic, industrial, military, political, social or other history of the country. Heritage Boats in Ireland are championed by various individuals and groups including the Heritage Boat Association and the Inland Waterways Association of Ireland.



PHOTO: The 76M Heritage Boat

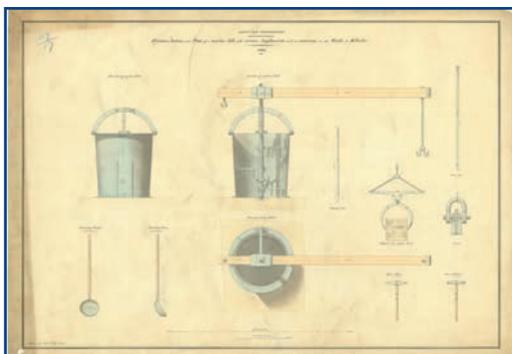


PHOTO: Waterways Ireland Archive Collection

Heritage Objects is a collective term for objects over 25 years old which are works of art or of industry (including maps, engineering drawings, books, documents and other records, including genealogical records) and of cultural importance. Waterways Ireland possess a wealth of such objects (see left) and is in the process of making these available to the public through online resources as well as affording the people to inspect the objects at our Archive in Enniskillen.

2. ORAL HISTORY & FOLKLORE

Oral History & Folklore is often the oldest and most far reaching aspect of our waterways. It encompasses memories and stories passed from generation to generation, often with no existing tangible artefact to corroborate the memory. This is very much an ephemeral resource and needs to be prioritised so these memories and traditions can be preserved for this and future generations.



3. PLACENAMES

Placenames and their continued use and evolution are strongly linked to oral history. Placenames are names afforded to individual fields, parts of fields, small sections of river, urban street names and often hold a clue to why they were originally named. For example, the source of the River Shannon is known as the Shannon Pot. The name derives from the Irish Loch Síodh Linn, meaning 'Lake of the Fairy Pool'. It is where Sionnan, granddaughter of Manannan Mac Lir who was God of the Sea came to eat the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge, which was planted by the Druids. As she began to eat it, the waters of the pool sprang up and overwhelmed her, drawing her down into it to flow out later across the land, thus the River Shannon came into being.

These placenames are being lost with the passing of each generation and offer a unique insight into our navigations.

PHOTOS:
 Above: The Shannon Pot – photograph taken by Gerard Lovett and reproduced under Creative Commons License.

Left: An example of a river placenames mapping project – taken from the Heritage Audit of the Northern River Nore.



4. ARCHIVES

Archives are traditionally thought of as collections of historical documents or records providing information about a place, institution, or group of people. Whilst this is true, this Plan aims to expand the definition of archive to include all contemporary information as well as material generated by the Plan into the future. The picture below shows an excerpt from an original Board of Public Works Toll Book for the Shannon.



5. LOCAL HISTORY

Local History provides a unique and often more detailed insight into the importance of our waterways to local communities and regions. This can often be lost in the evolution of the navigations through the centuries. Examples are the importance of the role that the Shannon played in developing the Irish food industry, the distribution of Guinness along the canals and the evolution of eel fisheries on the Lower Bann. This information is currently being collected by interested individuals, researchers and local history groups. It is the intention of this Plan to engage with such stakeholders and investigate the potential to make this information freely available, and credited appropriately, through the Waterways Ireland website.

6. MONUMENTS

The classification of Monument is one of the most diverse classes in terms of heritage and can include buildings, caves that have been further excavated by man and ritual sites. In short, this means that monuments must have been deliberately created and evidence of their existence must remain, but otherwise they are a diverse group. Whilst in the Republic of Ireland Monuments are primarily considered to be manmade works pre 1700 AD (some post 1700 AD are listed however), in Northern Ireland this distinction does not occur and can include scheduled examples from the twentieth century, e.g. Belfast Shipyard 'Samson and Goliath' cranes. They also do not have to be visible on the surface, as some are known through excavation only. The Sites & Monuments Record (NI) and the Records of Monuments & Places (RoM) are invaluable resources when dealing with this aspect of our heritage.



PHOTOS:
Left: Inis Cealtra Monastery on Lough Derg.
Right: Boa and Lustymore figures on Boa Island (Erne System).

Photographs obtained under Creative Commons Licence with thanks to Jon Sullivan and John Armagh respectively.

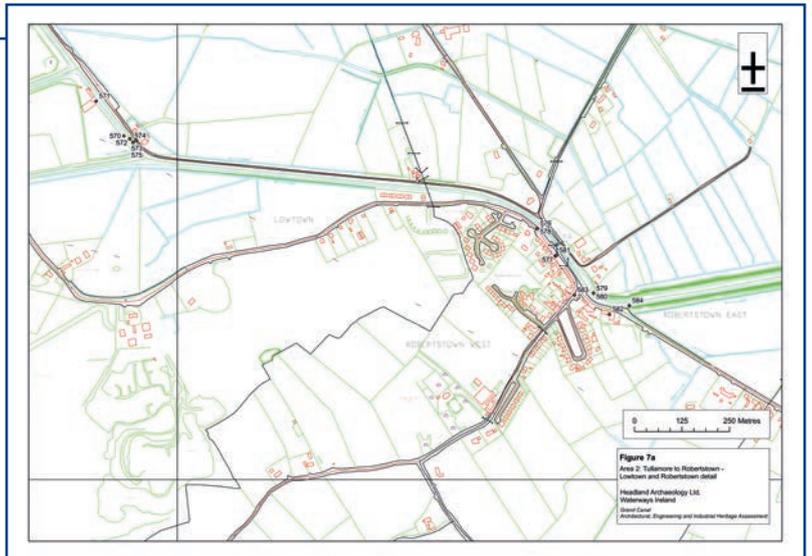
7. ARCHAEOLOGY



Archaeology is the study of past human societies, through the material remains left by those societies and the evidence of their environment. Archaeological remains in the island of Ireland date back millennia from the end of the last Ice Age. Famous archaeological sites located along our waterways include Mountsandel Fort on the Lower Bann (pictured above - reprinted under Creative Commons licence thanks to Kenneth Allen) dating back to 7,000 BC and crannógs in St. John’s Lough on the Shannon-Erne. In the course of its duties Waterways Ireland employs strict archaeological mitigation and has discovered new archaeological finds such as ancient dugout canoes on the Shannon Navigation.

8. ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

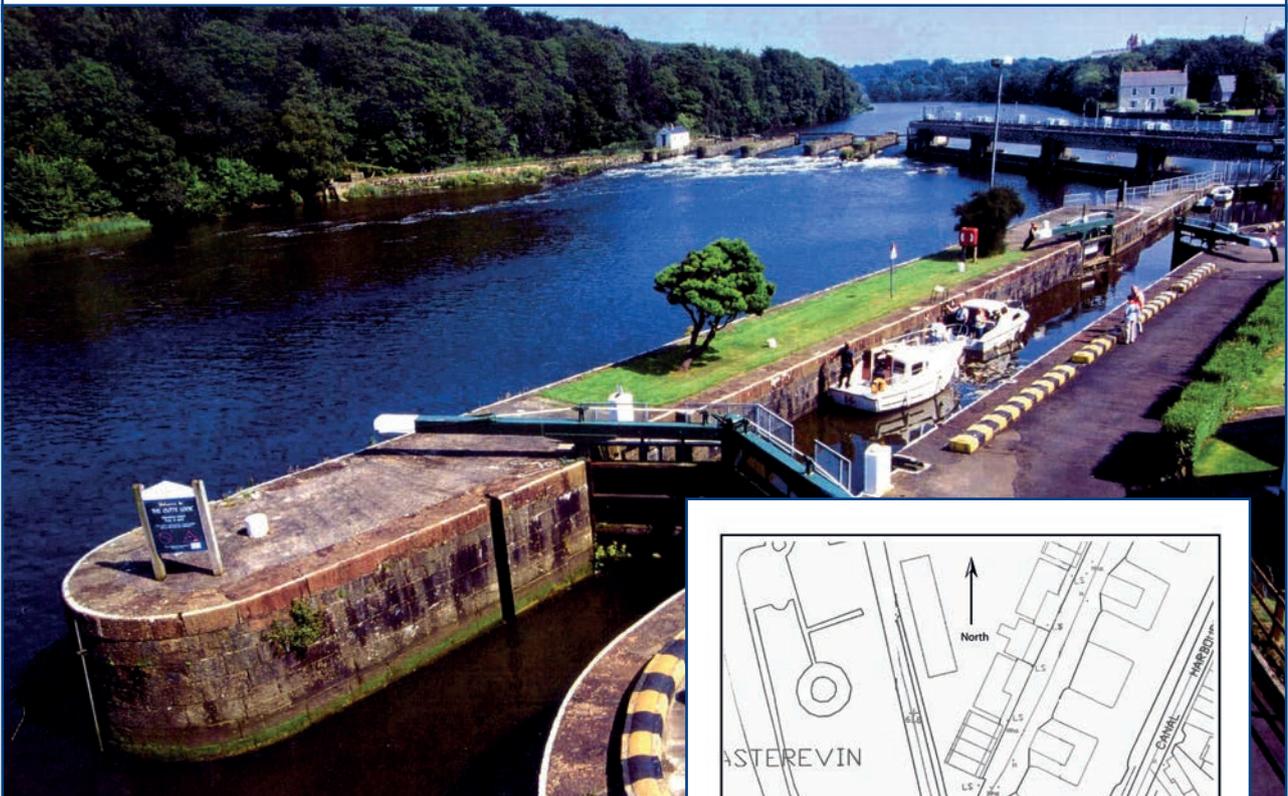
Architectural Heritage consists of traditional and designed structures or buildings and their setting, as well as groups of buildings, including industrial heritage complexes, streetscapes and urban vistas, which are of historical, archaeological, artistic, engineering, scientific, social or technical interest. Statutory protections to safeguard the architectural heritage include Protected Structure, Architectural Conservation Area and Listed Building. Elements within, along or adjoining Ireland’s inland waterways may be subject to these designations. Non-designated features which positively contribute to the distinctive character of the waterway will be treated sympathetically and appropriately. Also within this category is the need to refer to heritage skills and knowledge. Practitioners with the specialist knowledge and skills to maintain and manage the wide range of heritage features that form the material culture of our navigations are in ever greater demand.



Map showing Architectural Heritage along the Grand Canal – commissioned by Waterways Ireland in 2007

9. INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE

Whilst industrial heritage is sometimes subsumed into the overarching definition of Architectural Heritage, when speaking specifically about the waterways it is better termed Industrial Heritage. Industrial Heritage refers to sites, structures, plant, machinery and mechanisms associated with the industrial past. It is the physical remains of all types of industrial activity, such as manufacturing, mining sites, and, in this case, transportation infrastructure. The industrial heritage of Ireland’s inland navigations can be found above or below water and includes bridges, lock gates and operating mechanisms, lock keepers’ cottages, quays, cranes, cut-stone water channels with elements such as lock gates, weirs and stone banks often hidden underwater. The picture below shows the Cutts Lock on the Lower Bann Navigation, which forms part of the Industrial Heritage Record. In Northern Ireland, canals are considered to be of regional importance and merit protection through historic monuments or buildings legislation. Ever increasing recognition of industrial features is being afforded to this heritage asset with new guidance being developed such as the Dublin Principles and Guidance on Re-use of Canals and Navigations in Northern Ireland. Often industrial heritage is not visible to the naked eye and Waterways Ireland need to be cognisant of this during their works. Innovative new technologies now allow us to scan beneath the surface of the ground to detect such features.



The map to the right is the result of a geophysical survey at Monasterevin which identified the course of an infilled canal allowing access to the Barrow River.

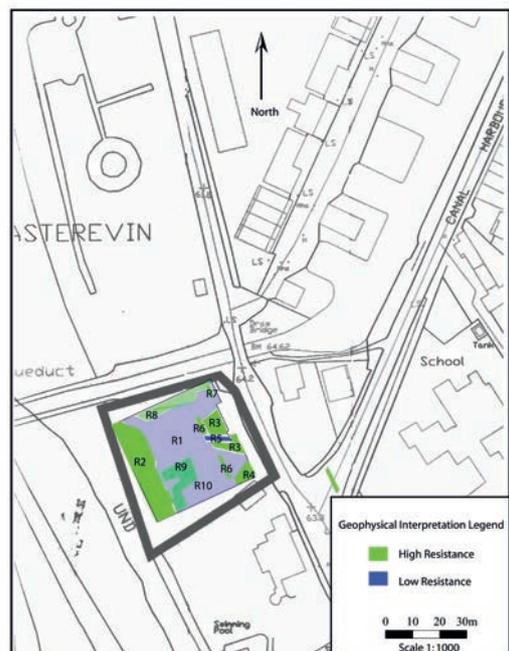


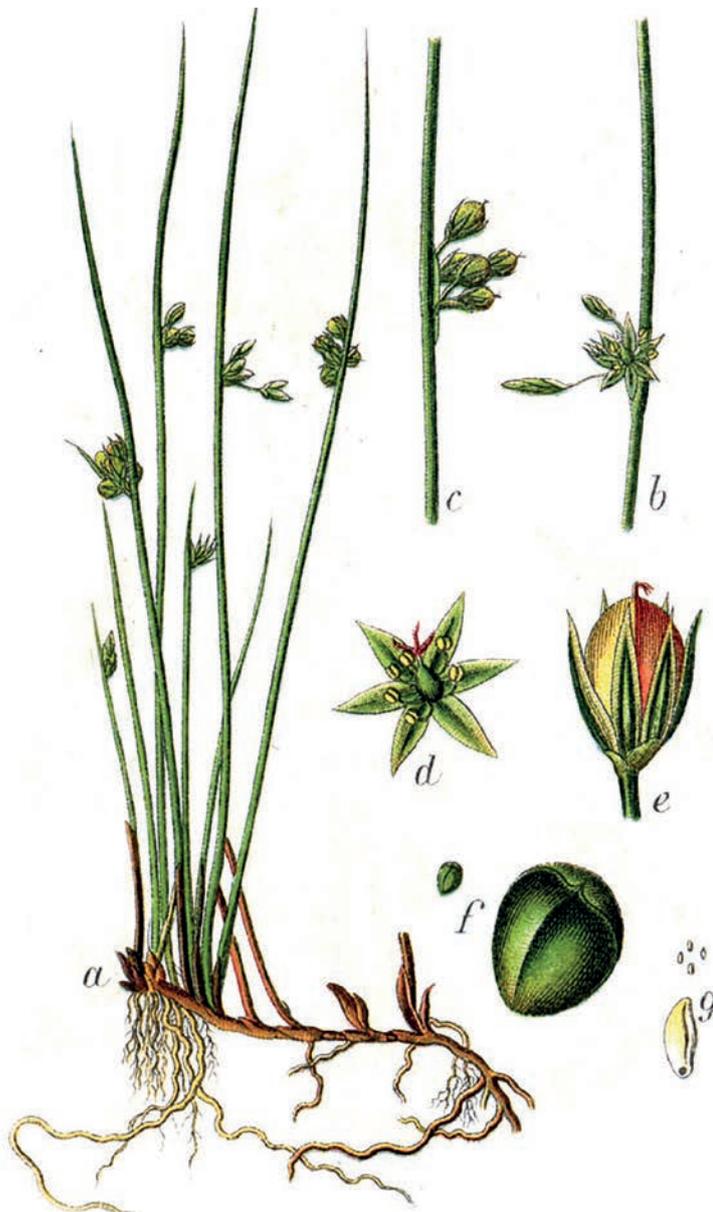
Figure 8. Geophysical interpretation plot of the earth resistance survey results overlain on O.S. map extract 1:1000 (Map extract provided by Waterways Ireland).

10. WRECKS

Wrecks are not uncommon features along the inland waterways and often have rich histories associated with them. Examples include a paddle-steamer wreck of the Lady Lansdowne which sank on January 1st 1868 on Lough Derg. It is the world's oldest surviving paddle steamer and has been afforded the protection of being a National Monument. In stark contrast, the sunken remains of war planes in Upper Lough Erne provide interesting dive sites for local sub-aqua clubs.

11. FLORA

The inland waterways are home to a wide variety of plant life. These include wildflowers, riparian reeds as well as submerged aquatic species. Whilst many are common throughout the island of Ireland some rare and protected species find refuge in the waterways, including Opposite-leaved Pondweed (*Groenlandia densa*). On Lough Allen a species of wetland rush (Thread Rush - *Juncus filiformis*), that had not been previously recorded, was discovered during survey work commissioned by Waterways Ireland in July 2010. A scientific paper was subsequently published in the *Irish Naturalists Journal* by the botanist who discovered the species, Dr Tom Curtis.



Thread Rush – *Juncus filiformis*.
This picture is reproduced courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

12. FAUNA

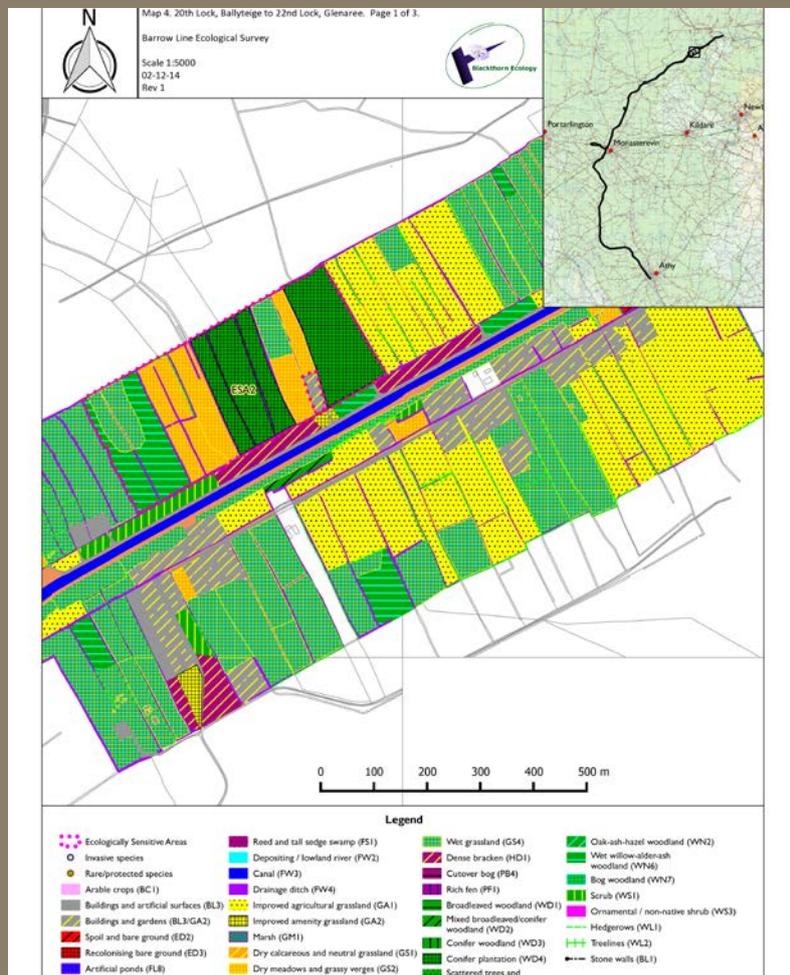
Birds, fish, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, insects and other invertebrates all require strong ecological corridors to traverse the landscape and to seek shelter and forage for food. The rivers, canals and lakes under our remit are important ecological resources for all of our wildlife. The waterways provide refuge for Nationally and Internationally protected species, including bats, otters, freshwater crayfish and lamprey. On the Lower Bann eels are still fished commercially, one of the last commercial eel fisheries in Europe. The distribution of the rare fish Pollan (pictured below) has now been confirmed in Lough Derg, Lough Ree and Lough Allen, with the latter discovery resulting from fieldwork commissioned by Waterways Ireland.



13. HABITATS

Habitats are defined as the natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism. The waterways comprise a number of different habitats and it is this diversity of habitat types, often within a narrow corridor, that makes them vitally important for wildlife and requires careful management to allow wildlife and recreation to coexist.

Habitat Map of the Grand Canal Barrow Line.



14. ECOSYSTEMS

Ecosystems include all the living things in a given area, interacting with each other and also with their non-living environments. Examples of ecosystems along the waterways include aquatic ecosystems (canals, rivers and lakes), forests and grasslands. Ecosystems are fragile and require careful management, particularly in the case of artificial systems like canals, to ensure they continue as healthy environments for fish, insects and plants.

Picture of Duck Mussel (*Anodonta anatina*) in an aquatic ecosystem (photo taken as part of an Ecological Assessment undertaken for Waterways Ireland by EcoFact Ltd on the Barrow Navigation).



15. LANDSCAPES

The European Landscape Convention describes landscape as an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors. The definition is wide ranging and includes land, inland water and marine areas. It concerns landscapes that might be considered outstanding as well as everyday or degraded landscapes. Each of the waterways provides a rich and diverse landscape, ranging from the lakes of Lough Erne, the Grand Canal connecting Dublin to the Shannon (picture below), to the rolling hillsides of the Barrow Navigation.

The Northern Ireland Landscape Charter (2014) and the National Landscape Strategy for Ireland (2015) were developed in recognition of the European Landscape Convention. The aim of the Convention is to establish principles for protecting and enhancing the landscape while positively managing its change.



PHOTO:
Aerial shot of the Grand Canal
(Dariusz Radusewski)

16. GEOLOGY

Geology can often be overlooked as it underlies all other natural landscape components such as habitats and ecosystems. However, geology is extremely important as it directly influences everything that lies above it. There are several important geological features adjacent or within short reach of the inland waterways such as the Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark in County Fermanagh, Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark in County Clare and the famous Causeway Coast in County Antrim. In addition, geology forms the backdrop of several scenic waterway routes such as the Deep Sinking on the Royal Canal.

Drawing by Édouard-Alfred Martel of the underground river in Marble Arch Caves, with caption, as published in *The Geographical Journal*, 1897.



UNDERGROUND RIVER AT MARBLE ARCH, IRELAND.
(Lent by the French Alpine Club.)

PHOTO:
Eugene Ryan



STRATEGIC AIM & OBJECTIVES

The overarching aim of this Plan is “to identify and protect the unique waterways heritage and promote its sustainable use for the enjoyment of this and future generations”.

To achieve this aim the Heritage Plan will deliver a series of actions that were developed through the consultation process. These actions have been categorised under four Strategic Objectives that cover partnership and collaboration, promoting awareness and community engagement, integrated management and developing heritage as a core value within Waterways Ireland. These objectives are listed below:

- Objective 1: Fostering partnerships to continue building waterway heritage knowledge through storing information, undertaking research and developing best practice.
- Objective 2: Promoting awareness, appreciation and enjoyment of our waterway heritage with a focus on community engagement.
- Objective 3: Promoting the integrated management, conservation, protection and sustainable use of the inland navigable waterway asset.
- Objective 4: To develop Waterways Ireland as a heritage organisation committed to achieving the aim of this plan.

Under these objectives seventy four actions have been formulated and structured to ensure they can be delivered upon with a particular emphasis on a partnership approach. Specific agencies, groups or individuals have not been specifically identified at this stage to deliver specific actions but will be identified throughout the course of the delivery of the Plan.

ACTIONS

Objective 1: Fostering partnerships to continue building waterway heritage knowledge through storing information, undertaking research and developing best practice	
Action	Description
1-1	Carry out an audit of the waterways heritage resource, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • collate heritage information gathered by all heritage stakeholders, including private collections, the National Archives and other agencies, including Waterways Ireland; • identify gaps in research; • develop a plan of action to address these gaps, through the Heritage Plan process; • develop a Heritage Inventory and Directory for waterways heritage information.
1-2	Commission Landscape Character Assessments of various stretches of waterway.
1-3	Instigate a community-led Placenames Project to include local authorities, Placenames Northern Ireland, Placenames Database of Ireland and other relevant agencies/organisations.
1-4	Develop a pilot Waterways Oral History Project in consultation with the Oral History Network of Ireland.
1-5	Update habitat, flora and fauna information along the waterways under our ownership every 7 years.
1-6	Build a database of digital images by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scanning existing collections in partnership with local communities, relevant agencies and organisations; • supporting heritage-focussed photographic surveys.
1-7	Work in partnership with other Government Agencies, thus leading to a co-ordinated and integrated approach to heritage awareness.
1-8	Investigate the use of open source mapping and Information Communication Technology (ICT) for data collection, recording, mapping, preservation, promotion and dissemination of heritage resources and materials.
1-9	Assist groups who undertake projects specifically targeted at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preserving old heritage boats, heritage objects and navigational infrastructure; • the hosting of workshops to preserve associated traditional skill sets; • collecting information on traditional inland waterways vessels and navigation related terminology.
1-10	Work with Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland Arts Council and other groups to strengthen the ties and benefits of creative projects focussed on the inland waterways.
1-11	Investigate the development of conservation programmes on selected heritage sites/hubs, under the ownership of Waterways Ireland, that will be carried out according to the principles of best practice and publish the proceedings and results.
1-12	Work and liaise with the LEADER Local Action Groups, EU Life Programme, Heritage Lottery Fund, Heritage Council, and other grant making bodies for the protection, promotion, delivery and development of heritage projects.
1-13	Work in collaboration with state agencies involved in conservation as well as local authorities (in particular their Heritage, Biodiversity & Architectural Conservation Officers) as well as the Museums, Arts Offices and Libraries to develop best practice projects and promotion of the inland waterways.
1-14	Collate and make accessible waterways related environmental and heritage information from published reports including Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs), Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) and Natura Impact Statements (NIS)/Habitats Regulation Assessments (HRAs).
1-15	Develop and foster links between Third Level Institutions, local authorities and local communities, which will benefit local heritage and assist in the delivery of this Plan.
1-16	Work with Government Agencies to ensure the underwater archaeological heritage asset is protected and promoted as an integral part of the waterways experience.

1-17	Produce policy papers and “best practice guidelines” on heritage topics to ensure consistency of approach along all the inland navigable waterways under our jurisdiction, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Landscape Policy in line with the European Landscape Convention to inform the siting of new navigational infrastructure; • Biodiversity considerations in site development and site management; • Protection of Archaeology and Built Heritage during maintenance and capital works; • Develop a guidance document on the illumination of the waterways; • A literature review of International heritage best practice relating to inland waterways.
1-18	Make information freely available on invasive species of flora and fauna along the waterways.
1-19	Collect information on the history of leisure and recreation activities on the waterways.
1-20	Investigate the potential of partnering with educational institutions to encourage waterways related research.
1-21	Develop a History of the Navigations in 100 Objects in conjunction with other agencies and community groups.

Objective 2: Promoting awareness, appreciation, and enjoyment of our waterway heritage with a focus on community engagement

Action	Description
2-1	Implement an annual ‘Waterways Ireland Heritage in the Community’ grants programme.
2-2	Work with other agencies to support the interpretation of the waterways heritage resource through the development of websites, social media and apps, and where appropriate heritage leaflets and brochures.
2-3	Promote the Green Maps System along the waterways to strengthen local sustainability networks and promote healthier, greener choices.
2-4	Support the community & voluntary sector and other agencies in undertaking research and promoting events to celebrate local heritage in order to foster a ‘sense of place’ and pride in the inland waterways.
2-5	Use new technologies to bring heritage to a broad audience (e.g. social media, smart phone applications, NFC (near field communication), etc.).
2-6	Support communities in undertaking local environmental initiatives along the waterways.
2-7	Through partnership with other agencies and initiatives digitise historic records and materials relating to the waterways and make available to the public in line with best practice.
2-8	Develop a digital media ‘Heritage Slot’ streamed on the Waterways Ireland website and social media page.
2-9	Improve/provide signage and interpretation along the waterways, in cooperation with local authorities, on heritage features which are accessible to the public in a measured and sustainable way to ensure it does not negatively impact on the setting.
2-10	The intangible historical heritage value, or story, of each waterway will be developed collaboratively by a community of users.
2-11	Support educational programmes including the Eco Schools and Green Schools Initiatives.
2-12	Maximise the promotional opportunities offered for heritage, by heritage events, such as: European Heritage Open Days, Heritage Week, Biodiversity Day, International Water Week, Tree Week, Engineers Week and other themed event programmes.
2-13	Improve awareness of the scientific, industrial and transport heritage of the waterways.
2-14	Investigate the development of a Loans & Dissemination Policy so waterway related archival material and artefact held by Waterways Ireland can be loaned to museums and other institutions to enhance awareness and appreciation of this heritage resource.

Objective 3: Promoting the integrated conservation, management, protection and sustainable use of waterway heritage resources

Action	Description
3-1	Ensure the ecological integrity of the waterways is maintained through continued involvement in Water Framework Directive (WFD), both at National Steering Group level and River Basin Management Groups.
3-2	Only native species of Irish provenance to be used in Waterways Ireland landscaping schemes.
3-3	Continue to develop the potential of our natural, built and cultural heritage in a positive manner to develop sustainable heritage amenities i.e. walking trails, cycling routes and blueways etc. including investigating partnerships to promote links with other public access routes such as pilgrim routes, mass paths, way marked ways, famine walks etc.
3-4	Pilot the development of a Shannon Transport Heritage Trail.
3-5	Promote the implementation of the biodiversity and heritage measures in initiatives such as the Tidy Towns, Best Kept & Golden Mile/Golden Way Awards.
3-6	Investigate the development of a 'Love your Waterways' Special Award under competitions including Tidy Towns and Best Kept Competition.
3-7	Work with local authorities to support the development and implementation of green infrastructure strategies and the achievement of green infrastructure objectives by local authorities, in recognition of the importance of the inland waterways as green corridors to local towns and villages as well as compliance under Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.
3-8	Work in partnership with relevant agencies and local angling groups in order to maintain the inland waterways under our jurisdiction as sustainable fisheries.
3-9	Raise awareness on light pollution and the impacts of artificial lighting on wildlife, built heritage and enjoyment of nature.
3-10	Continue to promote Leave no Trace.
3-11	Work with the relevant Government Agencies on implementing invasive species legislation to protect the ecological integrity of waterways under our ownership.
3-12	Encourage appropriate re-use of historical buildings; including community asset transfers and leases to local service providers.
3-13	Encourage an integrated, measured approach to heritage interpretation at all heritage sites that is sensitive to the special significance of the place (i.e. promote built, natural and cultural heritage aspects of all sites where possible).
3-14	Submit biodiversity information collected via commissioned surveys to the Centre for Environmental Data and Recording (CEDaR) and the National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC).
3-15	Roll out targeted towpath maintenance regimes along the waterways to encourage pollinators in support of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020.
3-16	Develop co-operative projects with adjacent Borough and County Council and relevant Government Agencies to accomplish shared heritage objectives.
3-17	Develop a Code of Conduct for visitors to heritage sites.
3-18	Undertake, in conjunction with other Agencies and stakeholders, an analysis of selected waterways to ensure the resource is not being undervalued in terms of its natural, architectural, archaeological and built heritage.
3-19	Support efforts to promote heritage-related sustainable tourism and eco-tourism, both domestically and abroad, and seek to meet the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas standards.
3-20	Undertake, where particular sensitivities arise, an assessment of zoning and management protocols at sites of heritage value.
3-21	Investigate the botanical history and significance of the Royal Canal and Grand Canal, in collaboration with relevant partners.
3-22	Undertake an assessment of the potential opportunities presented by disused or utilised buildings (e.g. lock houses and canal stores) to formulate an achievable strategy to find viable long term uses.
3-23	Ensure that the repair and conservation of the historic structures and buildings of the waterways is carried out using appropriate materials and methodologies that is guided by professionals with relevant expertise and experience.

Objective 4: To develop Waterways Ireland as a heritage organisation, committed to achieving the aim of this plan	
Action	Description
4-1	Produce Heritage e-zines to highlight progress with the Heritage Plan and related Heritage issues.
4-2	Promote the Waterways Ireland Heritage Plan by hosting an annual public event to showcase local waterways projects and provide an update on the Waterways Ireland Heritage Plan.
4-3	Create a dedicated space on the Waterways Ireland website for all waterways related heritage information.
4-4	Develop a Heritage awareness programme with the Waterways Ireland Visitor Centre.
4-5	Continue to develop information and training for Waterways Ireland staff, contractors, operators and community groups to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • good environmental practice with regard to working alongside or within the waterways; • hedgerow and tree care and management; • heritage legislation and best practice.
4-6	Promote the development of a Waterways Heritage in Schools Programme.
4-7	Ensure the Heritage Plan, and any information generated through its implementation, is accessible to all and widely available.
4-8	Identify barriers to migratory fish and other wildlife and seek to implement mitigation measures such as retrofitting culverts, bridges and weirs into future capital and maintenance works in partnership with relevant organisations and agencies.
4-9	Seek to further develop and enhance the Waterways Ireland archive with the appropriate infrastructure and service.
4-10	Develop a Waterways Ireland Invasive Species Strategy & Biosecurity Framework.
4-11	Investigate the provision of targeted traditional skills training for staff and make spaces open to the public/interested groups, where possible.
4-12	Develop an education programme for Waterways Ireland staff on all aspects of waterways heritage including built, natural, archaeological and historic navigational infrastructure.
4-13	Ensure adequate expertise is available to develop and facilitate the conservation of the waterways heritage resource.
4-14	Investigate the development of an Apprenticeship Scheme programme to ensure traditional waterways skillsets are not lost.
4-15	Designate an individual in each Section to actively liaise with appropriate partners, State Bodies and non-statutory stakeholders on matters of heritage interest. Continue to work proactively with community groups in the delivery of projects of mutual interest. For all new capital works a prescribed list of stakeholder consultees will be invited to make comment at the earliest stages of project appraisal and design.
4-16	Waterways Ireland to engage works with all appropriate partners to ensure the delivery of applicable International, EU and National legislation including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Habitats & Birds Directive; • INSPIRE Directive (2007/2/EC – Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community); • Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive; • Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive; • Wildlife Order (NI) 1985; • Wildlife and Natural Environment Act (NI) 2011; • Environment (NI) Order 2002 (as amended); • European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 and 2013; • Wildlife Acts 1976 to 2000; • Fisheries Act (NI) 1966, as amended; • Fisheries (Consolidation Act) 1959, as amended; • Inland Fisheries Act 2010; • National Heritage Plan; • National Biodiversity Plan; • Northern Ireland Biodiversity Strategy. The delivery of these regulations will be balanced with the continued use of the waterways as working recreational facilities and navigations.

HOW THE PLAN WILL BE DELIVERED

Finance

This Plan has been developed in a manner that provides for a variety of actions, ranging from in-house delivered actions to those that have a high cost and will most likely be achieved through partnership or funding from other/several agencies. However, Waterways Ireland is conscious that this Plan has been developed by Waterways Ireland and there is a commitment to deliver on all of the actions proposed.

Waterways Ireland also recognises the tremendous amount of community support that exists along the waterways and the extent of voluntary work that currently takes place. We envisage that by strengthening ties with these groups and offering supports, both administrative and financial, this energy can be harnessed and will be key in delivering a number of actions in the Plan. Throughout the Working Group sessions Waterways Ireland was overwhelmed by the generosity of spirit and commitment to help deliver this Plan over the 5 years and we will endeavour to meet this ground swell of support with a similar level of commitment from the organisation.

What must be borne in mind is that finances and volunteers alone will not deliver this Plan. There is a need for a shift in focus within Waterways Ireland. We need to engage with new technologies, to be innovative in our thinking and our practices so that heritage will benefit. We also need to publicise the good practices that we undertake so that others may learn from our experiences and also that we open ourselves to honest and constructive criticisms so we can develop into the organisation of excellence we seek to become.

PHOTOS:
Top: Ann Mari O'Reilly
Bottom: Marie Kearns



Monitoring & Reporting

A core element of this Plan was the development of realistic targets. Achieving these targets within the 5 year timeframe of this Plan will require dedication, necessary finances and a willingness to accept change. We will rely on other agencies to help us deliver larger actions. With that in mind, a number of the larger actions were developed to ensure there was shared purpose amongst ourselves and other stakeholders – through partnership projects we can achieve far greater end results than through working alone.

Reporting and reviewing actions will be key to maintaining the necessary momentum to deliver on the Plan. Waterways Ireland are committed to providing stakeholders with updates via a dedicated Heritage Plan e-zine and through hosting a Heritage Plan Open Day each year where Waterways Ireland staff will engage with stakeholders in a meaningful way. In this way we can learn of the achievements of the relevant groups along the waterways from year to year and see how partnerships can be fostered to deliver on actions. It will also hold Waterways Ireland to scrutiny with regard to the rate of implementation of the Plan.

APPENDIX I: RELEVANT EU DIRECTIVES, DOMESTIC LEGISLATION & INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

EU Heritage Legislation	
Planning & Built Heritage	SEA Directive 2001/42/EC (Strategic Environmental Assessment) EIA Directive 1985/37/EEC (as amended) (Environmental Impact Assessment)
Archives and Record Management	European Communities Act, 1972 (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations 1998 INSPIRE Directive (2007/2/EC – Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community)
Natural Heritage	Birds Directive (Council Directive 79/409/EEC) Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC) Freshwater Fish Directive (Council Directive 78/659/EC) Water Framework Directive (Council Directive 2000/60/EC) Environmental Liability Directive (Council Directive 2004/35/EC)

International Conventions	
Archaeology	European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta Convention), 1997
Architecture	European Convention on the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada Convention), 1997 Burra Charter adopted 1999 Nizhny Tagil Charter for the Industrial Heritage, 2003 Joint ICOMOS-TICCIH Principles for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures, Areas and Landscapes 2011 (The Dublin Principles)
Natural Heritage	Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne Convention), 1979 Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention), 1979 Agreement on Conservation of Bats in Europe (Bonn Convention), 1993 Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention), 1971 Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), 1974 Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) (Bonn Convention), 1996 International Tropical Timber Agreement 1994, (1996) Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy
Culture and Natural Heritage	UNESCO Convention for the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage ICOMOS Charter for the Interpretation and Preparation of Cultural Heritage Sites
Landscape	European Landscape Convention, 2000

Republic of Ireland Legislation	
Planning & Built Heritage	National Inventory of Architectural Heritage Act (NIAH) 1999 Planning and Development Act, 2000 Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 Heritage Act 1995
Archaeology & Archaeological Objects	National Monuments Act 1930 and subsequent amendments of 1954, 1987, 1994 & 2004 National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997
Heritage Objects, Museums, Archives & Records Management	National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997 Local Government Act, 1994 National Archives Act, 1986 Data Protection Act, 1988 Freedom of Information Act, 1997
Natural Heritage	Wildlife Acts 1976 to 2012 Fisheries (Consolidation) Act, 1959 Fisheries (Amendment) Act, 1999 Flora (Protection) Order, 2015 European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 and 2013
Landscape	Local Government (Planning and Development Acts, 1963-1999) Planning and Development Act 2000

Northern Ireland Legislation	
Planning, Archaeology & Built Heritage	Historic Monuments and Archaeological Objects (NI) Order 1995 Planning (NI) Order 1991 Protection of Wrecks Act (1973)
Heritage Objects, Museums, Archives & Records Management	Museums and Galleries (NI) Order 1998 The Public Records Act (NI), 1923 Disposal of Documents Order, 1925 Data Protection Act 1998 Freedom of Information Act 2000
Natural Heritage	Wildlife and Natural Environment Act (NI) 2011 Wildlife (NI) Order 1985 Environment (NI) Order 2002 (as amended) Habitat Regulations 1995 (as amended)
Landscape	Nature Conservation and Amenity Lands (NI) Order 1985 Amenity Lands (NI) Act 1965

APPENDIX II: PLAN DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE

Plan Development Timeline	
Oct 2014	Pre Plan Online Questionnaire launched
Jan 2015	Results of consultation published
Feb – Mar 2015	Working Groups members invited to partake in Plan development process and workshops held as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Shannon – 26 February, 2015 • Grand & Royal Canals (Rural) – 3 March, 2015 • Grand & Royal Canals (Urban) – 4 March, 2015 • North Shannon & Shannon Erne – 11 March, 2015 • Erne / Lower Bann – 24 March, 2015 • Barrow Line & Barrow Navigation – 26 March, 2015
April – June 2015	Draft Plan (Aim, Strategic Objectives and Actions) prepared with Senior Management
May 2015	Launch of the Heritage Plan Art & Photographic Competition
July 2015	Draft Aim, Strategic Objectives and Actions sent for consultation to working groups and comments incorporated, where appropriate, into Plan
Aug 2015	Draft Heritage Plan released for 12 week Public Consultation on 15 August, 2015
Sept – Oct 2015	A series of public consultation days held throughout the waterways <p>ENNISKILLEN: Saturday 12 September, 2015 from 12-5pm at the Waterways Ireland HQ .</p> <p>PLOUGHING CHAMPIONSHIPS: Thursday 24 September, 2015 at the Waterways Ireland stand at the National Ploughing Championships</p> <p>TULLAMORE: Saturday 26 September, 2015 at the Grand Canal Offaly Floating Festival</p> <p>DUBLIN: Wednesday 30 September, 2015 from 12-8pm at the Waterways Ireland Visitor Centre, Grand Canal Dock</p> <p>CARRICK ON SHANNON: Wednesday 7 October, 2015 from 2-7pm at St. Georges Heritage Centre, Carrick on Shannon</p> <p>LEIGHLINBRIDGE: Thursday 15 October, 2015 from 2-7pm at the Lord Bagenal Hotel (Gallery Room)</p> <p>In addition the public were invited to contribute via telephone conversations and/or pre arranged meetings at the Waterways Ireland Western Regional Office in Scarriff, Co. Clare</p>
Oct 2015	End of Heritage Plan Art & Photographic Competition and award of prizes
Nov 2015	Deadline for Public Consultation – 6 November, 2015 Final Draft Plan issued to Senior Management – 20 November, 2015
Dec 2015	Plan amended, where appropriate, to reflect feedback from public consultation
Jan 2016	Plan adopted by Waterways Ireland

APPENDIX III: WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

Working Group Members		
Aughney	Tina	Bat Conservation Ireland
Bankhead	Judith	Rivers Agency
Bayly	Robbie	Heritage Boat Association
Becker	Colin	Inland Waterways Association of Ireland
Bergin	Helena	Fingal County Council
Blackford	Jenny	Waterways Ireland
Boland	Donal	Industrial Heritage Association of Ireland
Brady	Karl	Dept of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht
Broughan	Dermot	Inland Fisheries Ireland
Burke	Colm	Heritage Boat Association
Burns	Seamus	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Burt O'Dea	Kaethe	Community Representative
Caffrey	Joe	Invasive Species Expert
Cargill	Phil	Waterways Ireland
Cassells	Brian	Inland Waterways Association of Ireland
Cogan	Rebeccah	Leitrim County Council
Connelly	Tony	Ballyconnell Heritage Group
Conroy	Eric	Grand Canal Group
Corcoran	Brian	Inland Waterways Association of Ireland
Corry	Julie	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council
Coughlan	Joanne	Irish Landscape Institute
Crane	Kate	Queens University
Crean	Philip	Barrowline Cruisers
Crean	Orla	Barrow Way Bike Hire
Cronin	Dick	Clare County Council
Cronin	Maura	Oral History Network of Ireland

Working Group Members		
Daniel	John	Royal Canal Amenity Group - Enfield
Doherty	Dennis	Electricity Supply Board
Donoghue	Brian	Enfield Angling Club
Donovan	Tom	Invas Biosecurity
Douglas	Stephen	Waterways Ireland
Duffy	Una	Heritage Lottery Fund NI
Dwane	Cathy	Heritage Boat Association
Errity	Jean	Waterways Ireland
Fallon	David	Bord Na Móna
Fenner	Aine	Community Representative
Finn	Ifty	Waterways Ireland
Finney	Kathryn	BirdWatch Ireland
Fitzpatrick	Michael	Community Representative
Fitzsimons	Mike	Inland Fisheries Ireland
Gibbons	Eileen	Electric Bikes Trails
Gilligan	Eddie	Butterfly Conservation Ireland / Community Representative
Gilligan	Nathy	Office of Public Works
Goggin	Brian J	Waterways Historian
Gorman	Aileen	Rathangan Tidy Towns
Goulding	Cormac	Inland Fisheries Ireland
Greer	Gareth	Rivers Agency
Gunn	Michael	Community Representative
Hamilton	Mervyn	Waterways Ireland
Harmey	Niall	National Parks and Wildlife Service
Hartigan	Kay	Tree Council of Ireland
Horgan	Eamonn	Waterways Ireland
Kay	Martin	Voice of the River/ Community Representative
Keffel	Arthur	Inland Waterways Association of Ireland

Working Group Members		
Kennedy	Matthew	Royal Canal Amenity Group
Kiedrowski	Krzysztof	South Dublin County Council
Kiernan	Louise	Longford County Council
Kinahan	Mick	Inland Waterways Association of Ireland
Kingston	Mike	Inland Waterways Association of Ireland
Loughlin	Bridget	Kildare County Council
Lowery	Joe	Waterways Ireland
Mackey	Charlie	Heritage Boat Association
Martin	Paul	Heritage Boat Association
McAnulty	Paul	Northern Ireland Environment Agency
McCarney	Chris	Blackwater Regional Partnership
McCarroll	Caroline	Waterways Ireland
McCormack	Patricia	Inland Waterways Association of Ireland - Carrick Branch
McGirr	Katrina	Waterways Ireland
McGrath	Garret	Waterways Ireland
McGuire	Congella	Clare County Council
McHugh	Sarah	Fermanagh Heritage Forum
McIntyre	Thérèse	Oral History Network of Ireland
McLoone	Paul	Inland Fisheries Ireland
McLoughlin	Irenie	South Dublin County Council
McMorrow	Eamon	Waterways Ireland
McNerney	Eimear	Electricity Supply Board
Mee	Alan	Golden Eagle Trust
Minchin	Dan	Lough Derg Science Group
Minogue	Ruth	East Clare Heritage
Mitchell	David	Mary Immaculate College
Moloney	Mike	Waterways Ireland
Murphy	Paula	Carlow County Council
Murray	Colm	Heritage Council

Working Group Members		
Nally	Annette	Waterways Ireland
Nolan	Rosanna	Waterways Ireland
O'Brien	Martin	Mullicháin Cafe
O'Connell	Arlene	Carlow County Council
O'Donnell	Padraig	National Parks & Wildlife Service
O'Neill	Tom	Limerick County Council
O'Neill	Pat	Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society
O'Rourke	Eileen	Carlow Tourism
O'Sullivan	Joe	Waterways Ireland
Pedlow	Amanda	Offaly County Council
Reilly	Nuala	Waterways Ireland
Ryan	Dave	Irish Landscape Institute
Scott	Lorcán	National Parks & Wildlife Service
Stinson	Dr Davy	Lough Erne Wildfowlers Council / Federation of Irish Salmon & Sea Trout Anglers
Tiernan	Manus	Waterways Ireland
Tigwell	Mary	Lakelands Angling Club
Tisdall	Jack	Erne Anglers Angling Club
Treacy	Paula	Waterways Ireland
Turner	Richard	DCAL Inland Fisheries
Walsh	Alma	Offaly County Council
Ward	Ann Marie	Cavan County Council
Whiteside	Lesley	Community Representative
Wilson	Ruth	Antrim Borough Council
Winder	Nessa	Community Representative

APPENDIX IV: WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED ON THE DRAFT HERITAGE PLAN

In addition to the many valuable comments and discussions held throughout the final public consultation events the following written submissions were received. Prior to this final consultation phase invaluable contributions were provided on the draft Plan by the Working Group Members.

Organisations / Groups	Individuals
An Taisce – The National Trust for Ireland	Colin Becker
Association of Architectural Conservation Officers	David McFarlane
Ballyboughal Hedgerow Society	Francis O’Dowda
Bawnboy Heritage	Frank Browne
Carlow Barrow Users Group	John Faulkner
Carlow County Museum	John Leech
Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM)	Kathleen O’Sullivan
Electricity Supply Board (ESB)	Lesley Whiteside
Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Michael Mullally
Galway County Council	Pat Fitzgerald
Hedge Laying Association of Ireland	Shane O’Brien
Heritage Boat Association	Turlough O’Brien
Heritage Council	
Historic Monuments Council	
Industrial Heritage Association of Ireland	
Inland Fisheries Ireland	
Irish Landmark Trust	
Inland Waterways Association of Ireland	
Lagan Canal Trust	
Leave No Trace Ireland	
Leitrim County Council	
Lough Derg Anglers Association	
Lough Derg Science Group	
Louth County Council	
Newry and Mourne District Council	
Department of Arts, Heritage & the Gaeltacht	
National Parks & Wildlife Service	
Rathangan Tidy Towns	
Rivers Agency	
Royal Canal Amenity Groups	
Royal Canal Park Community Association and the Rathborne Community Association	
Save the Barrow Line Committee	
Waterford County Council	
Woodlands of Ireland	

Waterways
Ireland

Environment & Heritage
Scarriff, Co. Clare
+353 (0)61 922141

www.waterwaysireland.org
heritageplan@waterwaysireland.org

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