

**Sanitary Services
Mayo County Council**

**Registers of Interments
for Burial Grounds in County Mayo**

M13/

Mayo County Council - Sanitary Services Registers of Interments

Background information:-

The care and management of burial grounds was regulated under the Nuisances Removal and the Diseases Prevention Acts of 1851 and the Public Health (Ireland) Act of 1878 together with amending orders of 1888 and 1929. Thus responsibility for the maintenance of burial grounds progressed through the hands of various administrative authorities as the local government system developed and progressed over the years, commencing with the poor law guardians, the sanitary authorities of the rural and urban district councils and boards of health, and finally to the sanitary services department of the county councils. Furthermore, as civil registration of births, marriages and deaths only began in 1864 we must rely on various churches for records of these events prior to this date.

Burial ground caretakers, acting as agents for the county council, maintain the grounds and the registers according to specified rules and regulations, such as *'A proper Registry Book.... with strong binding and suitable printed pagings, and ruled in columns, with proper printed headings, shall be constantly kept in some convenient place at or near the Burial Ground, and shall be open for inspection at all reasonable times.....the Registrar shall.....cause an entry to be made in the Registry Book, in plain and legible characters, under its proper headings and in numerical order...'*

Mayo County Council Registers of Interments :-

This collection consists of a small quantity of registers, with the earliest recorded interment being in 1913.

As local authority registers were and are maintained by caretakers, generally in their homes, many earlier registers have not been yet recovered by Mayo County Council, furthermore the physical condition of those in its custody varies as a result of this custodial system. In this regard the Council acknowledges the return of a register, by the family of the late Mr Johnston, former caretaker for the Kildownet (Achill) burial ground.

All registers in this collection record identical basic information regarding each deceased person, however there are some discrepancies in the recording of additional information. Many registers record the age, sex and marital status of the deceased together with the number, latitude and/or section of ground of the grave, while others exclude, or include only some of this detail. However, for ease of reference all registers in this collection have been listed, in alphabetical order, under one general descriptive entry.

Availability of further records:-

A small quantity of older Roman Catholic church registers are available on microfilm at the National Library of Ireland. Church of Ireland registers may be found in a number of locations, such as the National Archives of Ireland or the Representative Church Body Library. Reference should be made to 'Irish Church Records' by Raymond Refousse (Flyleaf Press, Dublin, 1992), which gives a full account of the types of records maintained by the Church of Ireland.

The South Mayo Family History Research Centre and Mayo North Family History Research Centre have surveyed and indexed many existing church (all denominations) records together with information extracted directly from gravestones, and will conduct a search of their indexes for a fee.

Patria McWalter
Archivist

Registers of Interments

For Burial Grounds in County Mayo :1912- 1987

- 1912 - 1987 Volumes entitled 'Registers of Interments' maintained firstly by the Board of Health and subsequently by the sanitary services department of Mayo County Council recording details of deceased persons buried in various burial grounds. Details are recorded under headings such as christian name and surname, age, sex, martial status, religious persuasion, occupation or rank in life, last place of residence, situation of grave plot date of death, date of interment, signature of person having management of interment, and signature of registrar.
- February 1947 Achill Sound, Westport.
December 1972 Includes index to deceased. c.30ff
- September 1927 Ballinsmaula cemetery, Claremorris.
October 1956
- 1950 - 76 *Ballymannis*
- October 1933 - Ballyheane cemetery, Castlebar.
January 1963 Includes index to deceased.
4. April 1951 - Belderrig cemetery, Ballina.
April 1966 Includes appended letter from the caretaker, Mr T A Tomas to the County Checker, Castlebar (21 May 1963), appended printed leaflet entitled '*Duties of Caretakers and Registrars of Burial Grounds*', and index of deceased. 2ff
- July 1930-Mar 1991 Bofeenaun Cemetery
5. July 1953 - Bonnifinglass cemetery, Attymass, Ballina.
July 1977 Includes receipt issued by James Ginty, caretaker, on behalf of the Public Health section of Mayo County Council to Major Henry Knoxgoar for grave site for Deriuostffrarch Devis (2ff). 6ff
6. October 1973 - Bunnacurry cemetery, Achill Sound, Westport.
August 1984 9ff
- June 1978 - Churchfield cemetery, [Tourmakeady, Ballinchalla].
December 1979 1f

8. (1912)
February 1913 -
May 1955
Cloghans new cemetery, Ballina.
Includes receipts issued by the Board of Health to
the caretaker in respect of burial ground fees and
receipts issued by The National Bank Ltd to the Board
of Health, together letters from County Council to Mr Martin Clark, cemetery
caretaker, requesting him to make the register and supporting documentation
available for audit.
18 items / 80ff
9. February - 1939 -
January 1983
Elmhall cemetery, Belcarra, Castlebar.
10. *AUG 1909 -*
SEPT. 1987
May 1937
August 1982
Geesala cemetery, Ballina.
28ff
- SEPT. 1934*
MAY 1969
January 1955
June 1958
ISLANDHEAD
Kilcolman cemetery, Claremorris.
5ff
12. January 1935 -
December 1941
Kildownet cemetery, Achill, Westport.
Includes index to deceased.
Closed for conservation
13. March 1935 -
March 1960
Kilfian cemetery, Ballycastle.
12ff
14. February 1935 -
May 1979
Kilgalligan cemetery, Ballina.
15. April 1951 -
September 1972
Kilgeever cemetery, Westport.
15ff
16. (1933-34)
March 1935 -
May 1966
Killasser cemetery, Swinford.
Includes index to deceased.
c.40ff
7. November 1939
January 1986
Killeen cemetery, Westport.
Includes index to deceased.
c.20ff
18. January 1931
February 1973
Kilmaine cemetery.
Includes index to deceased.
34ff

19. February 1973
September 1987
Kilmaine cemetery, Claremorris.
Includes appended letter from the County Checker's Office, Mayo County Council to Ms Tina Forry, caretaker, regarding a forthcoming inspection of 'all receipts, Registers etc', (18 June 1986), letter from County Secretary's office, Mayo County Council to the Ms Forry, (1 July 1987), and appended copy of 'Regulations for Burial Grounds in Mayo County Council Area'.
19ff
20. November 1952 -
March 1958
Kilvine cemetery, Irishtown, Claremorris.
2ff
21. December 1943
February 1984
Kilmeena cemetery, Westport.
Includes index to deceased.
22. February 1938 -
May 1965
Templemary cemetery, Lacken, Ballina.
Includes money order from John O'Malley, caretaker, payable to Mayo County Council (2 November 1949).
8ff
23. June 1966 -
[] 1980
Templemary cemetery, Lacken, Ballina.
6ff
24. May 1969 -
March 1980
AUG. 1957
NOV. 1988
Termoncarra cemetery, [Belmullet].
TOUR MAKE ADS
10ff
25. August 1947
July 1977
Urlaur cemetery, Kilkelly.
19ff