



BARROW HOUSE

ICONIC — IRISH — LUXURY

BARROW HOUSE

A unique Georgian Manor House, a listed Irish Protected Structure overlooking the Atlantic in County Kerry on the west coast of Ireland.

The house, built in 1715, has a rich history of ownership from knights and noblemen to smugglers.

After falling into disrepair, the house was brought back to life by the current owner after a loving top to toe renovation. Now fully restored to her former glory, Barrow House accommodates guests in a luxurious and elegant style, with pristine service set in a breathtaking location.

For centuries Barrow House has proudly featured as an integral part of the landscape across Barrow Bay and looking towards the Slieve Mish Mountains, while it is worlds apart from the mainstream, it's only a 5 minute walk to Tralee Golf Course, a 15 minute drive to Tralee town centre and 30 minutes to Kerry Airport.



HERITAGE

Barrow House is in the
National Inventory of Architectural Heritage.

Barrow,
19

Lancelot McClellan & wife Frances

Lancelot held for

Mr. Hussey 1711

Lan

Thomas William
1750 1790 1794

m.?

James
McClellan & Ouel

Thomas Robert
1830

John Thomas
1745 1747



An iconic property on the Wild Atlantic Way surrounded by beaches and turquoise sea.
The current version of the house built in 1715 and extended in the late 19th century
and now restored to Georgian elegance glamour.

TRALEE FOUNDRY & ENGINEERING WORKS.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED TO THE FIRM.

A B C Code

'Step back
in time
and tread
in the
footsteps of
legendary
inhabitants'



N^o 6286

N^o 6290

Memorials

N^o 6292

Memorials

ROBERT M^c COWEN & SONS.
LIMITED.

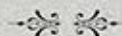
TELEGRAMS
M^c COWEN, TRALEE

NAT. TEL. NO. 3.

Barrow House Georgian Era - Built Circa 1715

The heyday of Barrow House was during the Georgian Era (1714-1830), however there is evidence that there was a house in this location during or after the Cromwellian period (1649-57). Close by is the remains of an ancient church referred to in Papal documents 1302-07 as "Ecclesia of Barun" or the Church of Barun (Barrow). The lands of Barrow were part of the 6,000 acres granted by Elizabeth I in 1587 to Edward Denny for his loyalty following the Desmond Rebellion.

Smuggling of wines and tobacco was a feature of life in Kerry during the 17th and 18th centuries in particular and Barrow was a natural 'rendevouz' for the smugglers with its caves and narrow inlets.



The famous Georgian front elevation of Barrow House can be seen from far across the bay, and was added as part of the structural rebuild and the enlarging of Barrow House somewhere between 1715 - 1760, with a second sympathetic addition to the rear in the late 1800's.

The house remains much the same to this day, with 4 feet thick internal walls still visible, two gable end chimney stacks, historic interior features and sash windows with antique glass panes along with some essential modern comforts added through the years.

Documents show that the house and the estate were passed on through marriage or by sale to owners such as the notorious "Smuggler" John Collis, the Caledonian merchant families of McCowen and onwards into the 1900's to the last Irish Royal family the Fitzgerald's - the Knights of Kerry, who referred to Barrow House as "The Summerhouse".

and Letters Reference to Map.	Names.		Description of Tenement.	Area.	Rateable Annual Valuation.		Total Annual Valuation of Rateable Property.	
	Townlands and Occupiers.	Immediate Lessors.			Land.			Buildings.
					£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
BALLYROE. (Ord. S. 29.)								
1	a	Pierce Chute,	Sir Edward Denny, Bt.,	House, offices, and land,	26 2 25	15 0 0	17 15 0	32 15 0
	b	Timothy Almon,	Pierce Chute,	House and garden,	0 2 1	0 8 0	0 12 0	1 0 0
2	a	Thomas Barton,	Same,	House, offices, and	72 3 24	47 10 0	2 0 0	49 10 0
	b	Michael Fitzgerald,	Same,	House,	—	—	0 10 0	0 10 0
3	a	Bridget Kirby,	Same,	House,	0 0 7	0 1 0	0 4 0	0 5 0
	b	David Barton,	Thomas Barton,	House,	1 0 30	1 6 0	0 12 0	1 18 0
4	a	William Fitzgerald,	Pierce Chute,	House,	0 1 26	0 10 0	0 10 0	1 0 0
	b	Captain Oliver Stokes,	Pierce Chute,	House,	26 3 10	16 0 0	—	16 0 0
BARROW. (Ord. S. 28 & 20.)								
1	A	Timothy Connell,	Same,	House,	0 26	8 0 0	—	8 0 0
	a	James Connell, jun.,	Same,	House,	—	4 0 0	—	4 0 0
	b	Timothy Connell,	Same,	House,	—	3 10 0	—	3 10 0
2	a	James Connell, jun.,	Same,	House,	1 31	1 15 0	—	1 15 0
	b	Timothy Connell,	Same,	House,	—	4 4 0	2 0 0	6 4 0
3	a	James Connell, jun.,	Same,	House,	27	2 2 0	0 10 0	2 12 0
	b	Timothy Connell,	Same,	House,	—	6 0 0	—	6 0 0
4	a	James Connell, jun.,	Same,	House,	0 29	3 0 0	—	3 0 0
	b	Maurice Connell,	Timothy Connell,	House,	—	0 6 0	0 6 0	0 12 0
5	a	John Harman,	John Connell,	House,	—	—	—	9 15 0
	b	James Connell,	Sir Edward Denny, Bt.,	House,	—	—	—	—
6	a	Timothy Connell, jun.,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
	b	Ellen Dowling,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
	c	Patrick Lawlor,	Timothy Connell,	House,	—	—	—	—
	d	John Murphy,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
	e	James Harman,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
	f	Ellen Bungan,	John Collis,	House,	—	—	—	—
	g	Maurice Griffin, jun.,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
	h	Patrick Sheehy,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
	i	John King,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
	j	John Harmon,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
	k	Johanna Devane,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
	l	William Ferris,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
7	a	John Scallion,	Sir Edward Denny, Bt.,	House,	—	—	—	—
	b	Callaghan M'Carthy,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
8	a	Callaghan M'Carthy,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
	b	Callaghan M'Carthy,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
9	a	Callaghan M'Carthy,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
10	a	William Ferris,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
11	a	William Ferris,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
	b	Florence Sheehan,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
	c	Thomas Sheehan,	Florence Sheehan,	House,	—	—	—	—
	d	Patrick Scallion,	William Ferris,	House,	—	—	—	—
	e	John Scallion,	Sir Edward Denny, Bt.,	House,	—	—	—	—
	f	Callaghan M'Carthy,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
	g	Florence Sheehan,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
	h	Timothy Sullivan,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
	i	Edmond Ryal,	Same,	House, offices, and	—	—	—	—
	j	Thomas Almon,	Same,	House, offices, and	—	—	—	—
	k	Edmond Ryal,	Sir Edward Denny, Bt.,	Land,	64 0 21	12 5 0	1 10 0	14 5 0
	l	Thomas Almon,	Same,	House,	—	—	—	—
	m	Timothy Sullivan,	Edmond Ryal & partners,	House,	0 1 17	0 3 0	0 7 0	0 10 0
	n	Vacant,	Same,	House and garden,	0 1 37	0 6 0	0 6 0	0 12 0
	o	Michael Stack,	Same,	House and garden,	11 2 3	6 0 0	—	6 0 0
	p	Honoris Geenan,	John Collis,	Land,	0 1 21	0 4 0	0 10 0	0 14 0
	q	Thomas Almon,	Same,	House and garden,	9 1 28	6 10 0	0 10 0	7 0 0
	r	Johanna Griffin,	Same,	House and land,	48 0 13	34 15 0	20 10 0	55 5 0
	s	Patrick Kelleher,	Sir Edward Denny, Bt.,	House, offices, and land,	0 1 30	0 7 0	0 15 0	1 2 0
	t	John Collis,	John Collis,	House and garden,	—	—	—	—
	u	Honoris Griffin,	John Collis,	House and garden,	—	—	—	—

TRALEE METHODIST SUNDAY SCHOOL
 The annual excursion for the children and teachers of the Tralee Methodist Sunday School took place on Thursday, the 28th inst. and the children, who were not from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. enjoyed themselves thoroughly. Baking and innocent games of several descriptions were provided, and a substantial dinner was partaken of on the strand. In the afternoon, all the visitors proceeded to Barrow House, where tea and fruit were provided, and a very enjoyable day brought to a conclusion.



7



POST CARD.

FOR COMMUNICATION
 Dear Doris, There are no weeds in the garden till uncle got that the tomatoes are fine. We are going to plant out the Sweet Peas on Saturday. The motor looks lovely with hood and screen. Love to all and Laddie Edward

FOR ADDRESS ONLY
 Miss D M'Bowen
 Barrow House
 Tralee
 Co Kerry

MANCHESTER



The property was eventually sold to Nellie Griffiths (née Ferris) a long standing local Irish family many of whom continue to live in the region to this day. In more recent years, a flamboyant American woman Maureen Erde, nostalgic for her childhood holidays in Ireland, kept Barrow House as a golfers guesthouse and before retiring in 1999 published her popular account of restoring and running the house entitled "Help me, I'm an Irish Inn Keeper"

Barrow House has featured in movies and novels, is the subject of whispered ghost stories and has appeared in the headlines of the Irish newspapers for several generations.

It was within these walls that infamous smuggling and shipwrecking and tunnelling plans were hatched, and so it continues... even in the recent history Barrow House was the centre of a smuggling scandal that put the house back in the news once again.



After a sad period of neglect, Barrow's ghosts have been placated, the original features restored and this Grande Dame, this jewel in Kerry's crown has resumed her rightful place dazzling guests, entertaining artists and blackguards, providing seclusion for politicians and lovers and welcoming all pursuers of beauty.

There are fascinating stories to tell about Barrow House and her infamous owners throughout the centuries, ranging from the Cromwell era Denny family through to tobacco smugglers and the Knights of Kerry and a few opportunists in between.



The new book by Barrow House Innkeeper Maureen Erdé.

Barrow House 'innkeeper' launches her first book

By Breda Joy

THE experience of taking over Barrow House — a crumbling, ascendancy mansion outside Tralee — and turning it into a guest house is the inspiration behind a new book, *Help! I'm an Irish Innkeeper*, by Maureen Erdé who was 'discovered' at Listowel Writers' Week. Born in England to Kerry parents, Maureen was sent to stay with her grandparents in the little village of Killenora near Fenit at the age of four for a short period to escape the dangers of the German bombing campaign during World War II. Twenty-eight years later,

she made a return visit to Killenora from her home in the US and the trip totally changed her life. At the end of her two-week holiday, she found herself in the process of becoming the owner of the ruined Barrow House and taking on a huge mortgage.

The transformation of the house, idyllically located right on the edge of the sea, is described by Maureen with great humour in her new book which will be launched at Lis-

towel Writers' Week on May 28.

"The book isn't really *Fawlty Towers* or anything like that and it's not *A Year in Provence*," Maureen told *The Kerryman* this week. "It's just a very unique story of my coming back to Ireland and renovating Barrow House. Hopefully, it's a very funny book."

Maureen Erdé was born in England in 1941. She later emigrated to the US where she married. Bored with the life of a suburban wife, she enrolled as a student nurse at Kansas City General Hospital. She

went on to become the youngest Director of Nursing in a regional medical centre in the US. In 1969, she retired to Ireland with her husband and set about the restoration of Barrow House.

The genesis of her book came about through her membership of the Tralee Scribblers' Group but it was a fortuitous meeting with Kate Cruise O'Brien of the publishing house, Poolbeg, at Writers' Week which set her on the road to becoming an author.

And it's been a long road — three and a half years in all —

from the commissioning of the book to its publication in May.

From the appearance of a black crow in a bedroom to opening days of the guest house, eliciting hysterical screams from a guest who to be pilled with brandy, the book is filled with colorful anecdotes.

The experiences should appeal, in particular, to anyone who has been involved in 'bed and breakfast' business. Fronted with a beautiful illustration of Barrow House, the book sells for 65.99.

Ireland's history is often told by word of mouth and the locals in the area will always have a story to tell, perhaps when you visit you'll hear the one about how a young local girl whilst working as a maid at Barrow House "borrowed" a resident Lady's dress and jewels to go to a local Ceili, much to the delight of the crowd when she arrived by bicycle waving regally.

Maybe you will hear the one about a famous English actress staying incognito at Barrow House who discovered she was nominated for an Oscar.... by an incoming fax...delivered by hand ...from Tralee.

Our guests today still sense the connection of history and glamour of the house,
forever rooted to this land and this special place.

You can learn more about the important role Barrow House played in the most fascinating era of Irish history, deep within in the Kingdom of Kerry – come stay awhile and see what you uncover.



FOR SALE
BARROW HOUSE,
TRALEE.
 WITH ABOUT 6½ STATUTE
 ACRES OF LAND,
 FREE OF RENT FOR EVER.

TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC
A U C T I O N
 —AT—
S, DENNY ST., TRALEE,
 —ON—
TUESDAY, 18th JANUARY, 1921,
AT 1 O'CLOCK.

This most desirable and up-to-date
SEASIDE RESIDENCE,
 situated on Barrow Harbour (fifty
 feet from water's edge), contains Lounge
 Hall, Drawing and Dining Rooms, Seven
 Bedrooms, Two Servants' Rooms, Bath-
 room, H. and C.; Large Hot Press, Three
 W.C.'s; Kitchens, Scullery, Pantry and
 Dairy (all tiled). There is an unfailing
 Water Supply and Sanitation is on most up
 to date system.

The Garden, about one acre, is one of
 the most prolific in the South of Ireland,
 and is fully stocked with every description
 of fruit trees and vegetables. There is a
 large Greenhouse with heating boiler,
 flower gardens, tennis lawn and Badminton
 Court.

Out-offices consist of Stables (4 Stalls),
 Garage, Laundry (with boiler and water
 supply), Cowhouse for 6 Cows, 2 Large
 Pigs, Fowl and Apple Houses.

All Buildings are in excellent repair and
 will require no outlay for years.

The Private Oyster Bed adjoining is held
 under special licence from Fishery Board.

The Premises also contain two work-
 men's houses (one with haggard about ¼
 acre).

Private Offers will be received up to
 Date of Sale.

Any further particulars and orders to
 view can be obtained from

THOMAS HUGGARD,
 SOLICITOR,
 8, DENNY STREET, TRALEE



BARROW HOUSE For Sale.

SUBSCRIBER has been instructed by
 Mr. W. H. McCowen to Sell by Public
 Auction,

At his **SALEROOMS, LOWER CASTLE
 STREET, TRALEE.**

On **WEDNESDAY, the 27th MAY, 1925,**
 At the hour of 1 o'Clock.

The House and Premises known as Barrow
 House, together with about 6½ acres of
 Lands, Grounds, Gardens, Tennis Court,
 and Plantations.

The premises will be sold discharged from
 Equities and free of rent for ever.

The House contains 2 Reception Rooms,
 Lounge, Hall, 10 Bedrooms, and all usual
 Kitchen premises. The Out-Offices comprise
 Garages for 3 motor cars, Cow-house, Wash-
 house, Stable, Hen Run, etc. The Garden
 is well known to be one of the best in
 Kerry, and is fully stocked with Fruit Trees
 and Vegetables.

Barrow House is situated on the shores
 of Barrow Harbour, and is about 7 miles
 from Tralee. It is well known as being one
 of the beauty spots of Kerry, and as it is
 in perfect repair and fitted with all up-to-
 date conveniences, this sale presents an
 unique opportunity to intending purchasers.

Orders to view and further particulars
 may be obtained from

Jerh. McSweeney,

Auctioneer, Tralee; or

R. H. HUDSON, Solicitor, Tralee.

2KL

BIRTH.
 On the 22nd inst., in Castle street Tralee, the wife of Mr. Thomas
 Morris of a daughter.

MARRIED.
 June 21, at Trinity Church, Rathmines, by the Rev. L. T. Shire,
 Thomas Edwards, Esq., Avondale, county Wicklow, to Emily, eldest
 daughter of Mr. John Richardson, Blennerville, county Kerry.

DIED.
 At her residence, Dingle, on the 22nd inst., in her 80th year, Mary,
 relict of the late Henry M'Can, Esq., Grand Jury Secretary for the
 county.

On the 21st instant, at Barrow House, the residence of her grand-
 son, Thomas Collis, Esq., at the advanced age of 89, Diana, relict of
 the late Thomas Collis, Esq., and daughter of the first Sir Barry
 Denny, Bart.



Tralee.

IRELAND.



BARROW HOUSE - Three Hundred Years of Living History

SIR EDWARD DENNY

Sir Edward Denny is granted Barrow and a further 6000 acres across Muster.

1547 - 1600



*Learn, curious reader, ere you pass,
What Sir Edward Denny was:
A courtier in the chamber,
a soldier in the field;
Whose tongue could never flatter,
Whose heart could never yield.*

SHERIFF OF KERRY

William Collis Esq.
& 3 generations of Collis Family

1715 - 1870

A lifetime lease of Barrow is granted to William Collis Esq 15th May 1715.

Improvement of the House and grounds begin
The Son, John Collis built Barrow House.
1723-1725

The High Sheriff of Kerry was the British Crown's judicial representative in County Kerry, Ireland from the 16th century until 1922.

McCOWAN SCOTTISH MERCHANTS **1870 - 1925**



Robert McCowan -
Merchant prospers in Barrow
10 years of wealth and opportunity trading in Tralee.



1925 - McCowens leave Ireland after the Irish uprising and go back to England and Scotland.

RICHARD HUDSON & MARGARET HUDSON

McCowan family solicitor buys Barrow House.

1925 - 1940

Tralee Lady Still Missing

THERE is still no news of the whereabouts of Mrs. Margaret Hudson, wife of Richard H. Hudson, solicitor, Leebrook, Tralee, who drove unaccompanied to Brandon Point last Tuesday week.

When the car was still at Brandon Point on Tuesday night, her absence was reported and despite a search which has been carried out since then, she has not been located.

A shoe which was found, has been identified as belonging to the missing lady.

Mrs. Hudson is a Yorkshire lady, who has resided in Co. Kerry since her marriage about 25 years ago.

Mr. Hudson is solicitor to Tralee Urban Council.

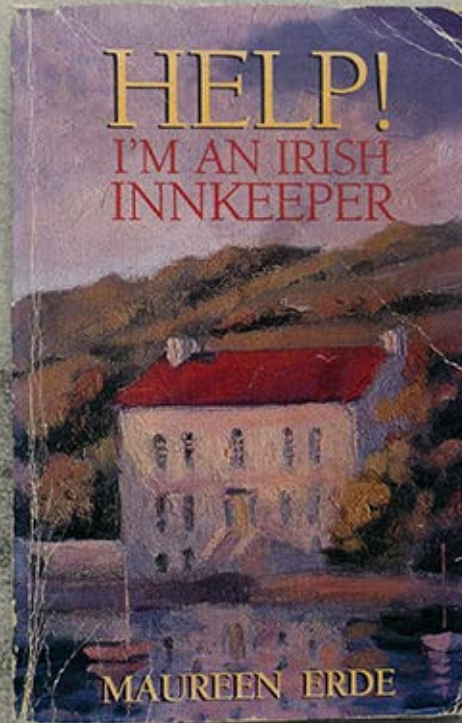
1986 -1999

Irish American returns to former childhood holiday home, Learns that Barrow House is for sale Restores Barrow House and runs it as a Guest house and publishes "Help Me I'm An Irish Inn Keeper"

SIR ARTHUR HENRY BRINSLEY FITZGERALD

4th Baronet of Valentia,
22nd Knight of Kerry.

1885 - 1967



XAVIER McAULIFFE

1999 - 2010

Buys Barrow House and restores the property to a resort Estate. Barrow House firmly on the map as a premium Country house & Guest house

DARAGH McDONOGH

2016 - Present day

Buys Barrow House at auction in 2016. Restoration commences.

NELLIE & JAMES GRIFFITHS

1954 - 1970

Local Kerry couple emigrate to USA and Nellie begins working at Lincoln Electricity, the couple purchases Barrow House and remain for a further 10 years in USA. In that time they entrust the care of the property to Nell's local relatives, the Ferris family.

Barrow House enters a period of vacant occupancy languishes for several years. Misuse and occupation by squatters



Local Area Historical Landmarks.

Fenit, Tawlaght and adjacent townlands are rich in historical landmarks including numerous medieval ringforts some with underground passages still intact.

Fenit Within:

Castle, Church, Chapel and 3 possible Stone enclosures.

Fenit Without:

2 Stone enclosures.

Tawlaght:

2 Ring forts, Souterrain, 4 Stone enclosures, 2 further possible enclosures.

Kilfnora:

Church & Graveyard.

Ballyea:

Stone enclosure.

Knocknanarney:

Stone enclosure, and 1 further possible enclosure.

Lissodeige:

5 Ringforts, 1 Enclosure, 3 possible Souterrains, 1 Midden.

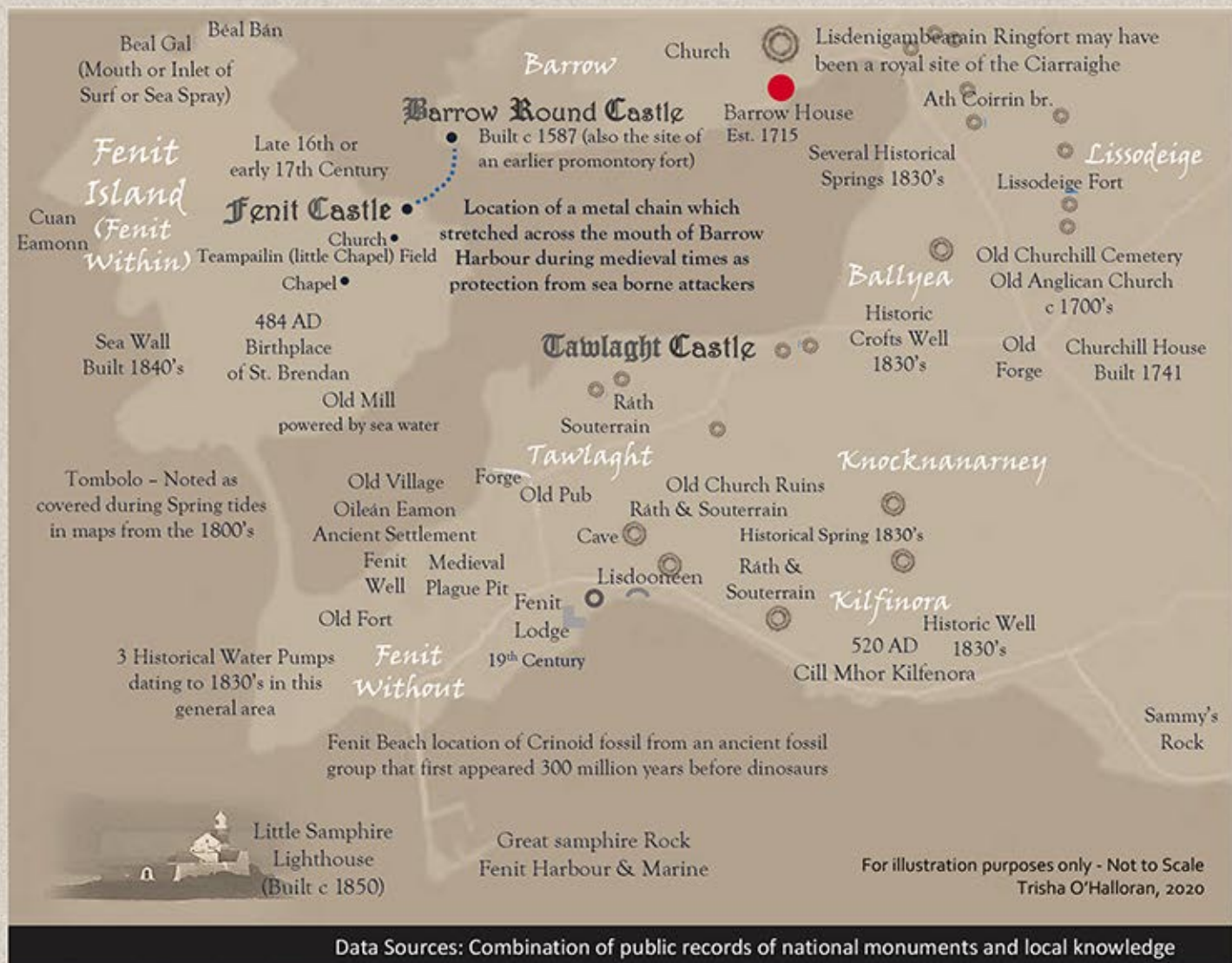
Barrow:

Castle, Promontory Fort, Church, Ringfort, Ecclesiastical remains, 5 Stone enclosures, Cashel Site, 2 Souterrain, Burial Grounds, 1 additional possible enclosure.

● Barrow House.

The above listing is abstracted from the 'Record of Monuments and Places', County Kerry' National Monuments and Historic Properties Service, 1997.

Note: Respect private lands when exploring.





BARROW HOUSE / BARROW WEST / TRALEE / COUNTY KERRY / IRELAND



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