Introduction to Ireland

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Ireland's History

- Prehistoric
  - To AD 400
- Early Christian
  - AD 400-800
- Viking Invasions
  - 800-1170
- English Rule
  - 1170-1922
- Irish Freedom
  - Since 1922
Prehistoric Ireland

To AD 400
Newgrange

- A burial mound from ~3000 BC.
- A passage grave inside a mound some 35 feet high and nearly 300 feet across.
- The tunnel & inner chamber total about 75 feet long.
The inner chamber is illumined by the sun only around winter solstice, December 21.
Labbacallee

This is one of the biggest wedge-shaped Gallery-Graves in the country. These graves were erected in many parts of Ireland during the Early Bronze Age around 1500 B.C. and are particularly common in the south-west of Ireland. This tomb consists of one large and one small chamber covered by three massive capstones. The burial chamber is surrounded by a stone cairn flanked by further upright stones in a U-formation. Excavation in 1934 produced inhumation burials and fragments of pottery, bone and stone.
Labbacallee

A megalithic wedge tomb from about 1500 BC
Early Christian Ireland

AD 400-800
Rock of Cashel
Seat of the Kings of Munster
Rock of Cashel

St Patrick was here
One of the stone crosses goes back to his time
Viking Invasions

Beginning AD 800
Monasterboice
Monasterboice

The Round Tower was the Irish reaction to the Norse raids on monasteries in the 10th/11th century A.D. These tapering buildings, over 100 feet high, served as watch-towers, belfries, repositories for church valuables and as refuges for the community. The door, normally 15-20 feet above ground, was reached by a movable ladder and the interior was divided into four or more storeys.

The present height of the tower is 110 feet. The level of the surroundings has been raised by burials and the conical cap is missing.

NATIONAL MONUMENT 98
BORD FÁILTE ÉIREANN
426:150
Under English Rule

1170-1922
Bunratty Castle

- Built ~1450
- In the 16th-17th centuries, it was the stronghold of the O'Briens, the Kings (and later Earls) of Thomond.
Charles Fort

- A British fort guarding Kinsale harbor, near Cork.
- In 1601, Spanish troops landed here to help the Irish in their revolt against England.
Muckross House

A 19th century manor house, now a museum
An Irish Cottage

A byre dwelling, both cows & people together
Irish Independence
Since 1922
Abandoned house

Many English killed in rebellion, houses abandoned
Church of Ireland

Discredited w/ freedom
now a cultural center
Irish Climate & Culture
Near the Sea
Near the Sea

- Anywhere in Ireland you are no more than 40 miles from the sea.
- This has a significant moderating effect on the climate.
- So does the warm Gulf Stream.
Mountains
Mountains
Mountains

- Ireland has beautiful mountains.
- Typically, the mountains are around the edges of Ireland, and the plains are mostly in the center of the country.
Lakes
Lakes

- Ireland has an abundance of lakes also.
- The first two of these are near Killarney.
- This one is near Cork.
Farms
Farms
Farms

- Farms in Ireland are mostly small, with distinctive stone or hedge field dividers.
- Due to agricultural policies of the European Union, Irish farmers have done very well.
Livestock

- Ireland is especially good for grazing, with lush grass everywhere.
- The main livestock are sheep, goats and cattle.
Livestock
Livestock
Peat Farming

◆ Peat is a matted turf that is on its way to forming coal.

◆ It is mined & dried in rural areas and used for home & industrial fuel.

◆ It makes a fine, sweet-smelling fire.
Rural Cottages

- This is an example of a typical cottage in the country.
- This one, near Tralee, was renovated by the Murphys, a missionary couple.
Rural Cottages

Thatched house, N of Tralee
Rural Cottages

19th cen cottage, at Bunratty Castle
Towns

- Ireland has the lowest population density in Europe.
- It has many small towns.
- This is Castleisland in SW Ireland, County Kerry.
Castleisland
City of Cork

- This is the city of Cork, the 2nd largest in Ireland (Republic of Ireland).
- At the time of these pictures (1989), its population was about 150,000.
City of Cork
City of Dublin

- Dublin is Ireland's largest city, with over 1 million people.
- It is the capital of the Republic of Ireland.
City of Dublin

St. Stephen's Green
City of Dublin

Trinity College
Churches & Shrines
Shandon Cathedral

Church of Ireland (Anglican), Cork
St Margaret's

Roman Catholic, Cork
Marian Shrine, Ballinora
Marian Shrine, Ballinspittle
Missionaries
BMW Team, Killarney, Tralee

From Left:
John Herrick
Brian Wagner
Bill Doran
Kerry Butram
Tom Murphy
The Wagners, Killarney

From Left:
Unidentified
Brian Wagner
Lori Wagner
Jessie Wagner
John Toome
John's wife
Jeanette Wagner
The McGanns, UFM, Cork

Bob McGann
Karen
Bobbie
Timmy
Stephen
Ashling
UFM Summer Team

Dan Zagone
Jonathan Thar
With
Bob McGann
& son Bobbie
Irish Believers
Richard Tobin

With Bob McGann in front of The Word Bookshop
Brendan Walsh

- Lives in Tralee
- Disabled
- Writer
The Moores

- Live in Ballincollig, near Cork
- He owns a computer business
- Tony
- Heather
- Ruth
- Lynn
Speaking Sites

For my June 1989 visit
Ivy Cultural Center

- Castleisland
- A former Church of Ireland church building
St Colm's High School

Private school emphasizing Irish culture
Connolly Hall

- Labor Union hall
- In downtown Cork
Which Way, Ireland?
Heavy Metal in Cork
Jesus said:
What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?
Which way?
The End

Pray for Ireland!