



#MyValuedPlaces Information Sheet

Please retain a copy for your records

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for participating in the #MyValuedPlaces mapping exercise. This information sheet sets out the background and purpose of the exercise, outlines its key elements, and underlines the importance attached to confidentiality and acquiring the informed consent of participants. Contact details are provided for the project research team and the Maynooth University Ethics Committee at the end should you require further information.

#MYVALUEDPLACES

The #MyValuedPlaces exercise involves the identification of places valued by the public via a web-based mapping tool. **The Derry City & Strabane District Council and the Donegal County Council areas in the North West of Ireland are the geographic focus.**

The exercise complements landscape character and other assessments completed by central and local government in Northern Ireland and County Donegal in recent years. However, online mapping is a medium through which diverse communities can potentially participate in the assessment and inventorying of cultural landscapes, and this exercise provides an opportunity to test this premise and the mapping tool in the local context. Furthermore, gathering peoples' perceptual values of the landscape arguably provides a better basis for decision-making and the sustainable management of cultural heritage.

The exercise consists of two main elements:

- Identifying special places and why they are valued – a series of value statements are provided on the relevant screen for this purpose – in addition to places negatively perceived by participants and the place they most strongly identify with
- Answering a number of socio-economic questions concerning age, gender, educational background etc. – note that your name and address will not be requested

The results of the exercise will be available online through the project website (see over) with the data analysed, mapped and discussed in subsequent research publications.

REINVENT PROJECT¹

The #MyValuedPlaces exercise forms part of the two-year European Union-funded REINVENT Project advanced by researchers from Maynooth University concerning the management of heritage in contested cross-border contexts, with a particular focus on the North West of Ireland.

The project seeks to improve public participatory practices in cultural heritage management through the application of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) to mapping heritage on a cross-border basis. More specifically, the creation a public participation GIS (PPGIS) methodology and mapping tool seeks to capture a plurality of heritage values ascribed by

¹ The REINVENT Project is funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 705697.

Information Sheet

diverse communities in the North West at different spatial scales. Ultimately, the knowledge generated will inform cultural heritage management policies and practices and support the enhanced public participation in local heritage inventorying processes. Further details are available on the project website: <http://reinvent.maynoothuniversity.ie>

CONFIDENTIALITY

Your participation in the #MyValuedPlaces exercise is anonymous, with no names and contact details sought, and information provided in the questionnaire will not be traceable back to individual participants. Any information that might potentially identify you as a participant, particularly in relation to sensitive issues, will not be used in published research outputs. However, please refrain from adding anything in the comment boxes that might potentially lead to your identification.

The data collected during the exercise, including information relating to age, gender and other personal details, will be handled, securely stored and disposed of, in a manner consistent with the Data Protection Procedures of Maynooth University, which are fully compliant with Irish, UK and EU data protection laws.

INFORMED CONSENT

It is established academic practice to seek the informed consent of participants before engaging in research projects. Participation in the #MyValuedPlaces exercise is voluntary and you can withdraw at any time without prejudice.

Before proceeding to complete the exercise you must tick the box at the bottom of the Your Consent section online to confirm that you have read and understood this Information Sheet and assent to the terms under which your participation is governed.

The Maynooth University Social Research Ethics Sub-Committee has vetted and approved the #MyValuedPlaces process outlined above as well as the online consent form. Please direct any questions to the research team below.

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If, during your participation in this study, you feel the information and guidelines that you were given have been neglected or disregarded in any way, or if you are unhappy about the process, please contact the Secretary of the Maynooth University Ethics Committee at research.ethics@mu.ie or +353 (0)1 708 6019.

Please be assured that your concerns will be dealt with in a sensitive manner.