

Ian Doyle

Biographical note

Ian Doyle is Head of Conservation with the Heritage Council, a statutory agency set up to propose policy for Ireland's heritage. He works on issues such as archaeological legislation, EU projects, research strategies, strategic planning, landscapes and historic towns. He is a member of Ireland's expert advisory committee for the National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage and a member of the Royal Irish Academy Standing Committee on Archaeology. He is a graduate of Trinity College Dublin, University College Cork and the Irish Management Institute.

Title

Cultural heritage and the landscape of Ireland: towards a model of joint management

Abstract

This presentation will describe recent practice in Ireland on managing cultural heritage in partnership with communities and local government. Several case studies will be presented that demonstrate measures to help smaller towns develop through heritage-led regeneration, and, in the rural context, the work of the Heritage Council in supporting collaborative landscape partnerships will be described. The development of community archaeology projects in Ireland has increased in recent years and this can be seen as a democratising of heritage practice. The richness of Ireland's heritage resource is matched by the energy and interest of community groups. Yet, this poses challenges for state bodies to provide initiatives that offer training and participative opportunities. The European Year of Cultural Heritage has provided an important opportunity to reflect on new and emerging practice in Ireland and to promote the value of heritage to much broader audiences.