The distribution of ecclesiastical elements in Irish placenames
Dáileadh eilimintí eaglaisa i logainmneacha na hÉireann
Aengus Finnegan, Brian Ó Raghailligh & Micháel Boleivitus Míchúra
Fiontar, DCU

Introduction
The distribution maps featured on this poster are part of a series of 147 distribution maps which have been created as part of the ongoing development of the Placenames Database of Ireland (logainm.ie). This series of maps illustrate the distribution of commonly recurring elements in Irish placenames. Their development was made possible by a synchronisation project between the logainm.ie database and Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSI) mapping data. Along with this collaborative synchronisation project, the maps are also a further development from a glossary of common placenames elements which was added to logainm.ie in early 2021. The maps were launched on 16 May 2014 as part of the latest redesign of the website, which now features an integrated GIS mapviewer, among a number of other new features. A selection of 9 of the distribution maps, which feature ecclesiastical elements, are displayed below.

Cill 'church' also 'churchyard, monastic settlement or foundation, cell'
Genitive: cille
Occurs in 3182 placenames in logainm.ie

Gráneach 'grange, monastic farm'
Genitive: gráneáil
Occurs in 203 placenames
Most frequently anglicised by translation as abbey. Occasionally as monastery etc.

Disert 'hermitage'
Genitive: diserta
Occurs in 84 placenames
Usually anglicised as desert or desert or cirt
Examples: Disert Nnua/Ennistrow [Co. Roscommon], Disert Mharain [Co. Down]. Often occurs as a single element.

Methodology
These distribution maps are based on automated text searches of the logainm.ie database. Editorial checks have been carried out in case of elements such as cill 'house' and cill 'wood' where a text search cannot distinguish the elements from one another in an inflected form. Editorial checks have also been carried out in case of elements such as corrig, form, archeg, etc. to distinguish the occurrence of these elements as personal names, surnames or qualifying adjectives. As 99% of Irish placenames have their origin the Irish language, the Irish form of the placename is taken as the base form for the purposes of generating these distribution maps. An exception to this is the map of the element glebe (below right). 'Glebe' [Irish: gleibe] is originally an English element, and the spelling glebe occurs consistently in the anglicised form of placenames. Including the English form in the text searches allows for a more accurate representation of the occurrence of this element in Irish placenames.

Excluding surnames, 75.1% of the placenames in the database have an established Irish form (63,874 out of a total of 85,106). In the case of townlands, 69.4% now have an established Irish form (42,489 out of a total of 61,205).

*All maps are based on 75% data coverage

Excluding surnames, 75.1% of the placenames in the database have an established Irish form (63,874 out of a total of 85,106). In the case of townlands, 69.4% now have an established Irish form (42,489 out of a total of 61,205).

This distribution maps are to be considered indicative rather than definitive and should be interpreted accordingly. In almost all cases it will be noted that there is a distribution bias against the northern part of Ireland, this is due to the development was made possible by a synchronisation project between the logainm.ie database and Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSI) mapping data. Along with this collaborative synchronisation project, the maps are also a further development from a glossary of common placenames elements which was added to logainm.ie in early 2021. The maps were launched on 16 May 2014 as part of the latest redesign of the website, which now features an integrated GIS mapviewer, among a number of other new features. A selection of 9 of the distribution maps, which feature ecclesiastical elements, are displayed below.

Cill 'church' also 'churchyard, monastic settlement or foundation, cell'
Genitive: cille
Occurs in 3182 placenames in logainm.ie

Gráneach 'grange, monastic farm'
Genitive: gráneáil
Occurs in 203 placenames
Most frequently anglicised by translation as abbey. Occasionally as monastery etc.

Disert 'hermitage'
Genitive: diserta
Occurs in 84 placenames
Usually anglicised as desert or desert or cirt
Examples: Disert Nnua/Ennistrow [Co. Roscommon], Disert Mharain [Co. Down]. Often occurs as a single element.

Methodology
These distribution maps are based on automated text searches of the logainm.ie database. Editorial checks have been carried out in case of elements such as cill 'house' and cill 'wood' where a text search cannot distinguish the elements from one another in an inflected form. Editorial checks have also been carried out in case of elements such as corrig, form, archeg, etc. to distinguish the occurrence of these elements as personal names, surnames or qualifying adjectives. As 99% of Irish placenames have their origin the Irish language, the Irish form of the placename is taken as the base form for the purposes of generating these distribution maps. An exception to this is the map of the element glebe (below right). 'Glebe' [Irish: gleibe] is originally an English element, and the spelling glebe occurs consistently in the anglicised form of placenames. Including the English form in the text searches allows for a more accurate representation of the occurrence of this element in Irish placenames.

Excluding surnames, 75.1% of the placenames in the database have an established Irish form (63,874 out of a total of 85,106). In the case of townlands, 69.4% now have an established Irish form (42,489 out of a total of 61,205).

*All maps are based on 75% data coverage

Excluding surnames, 75.1% of the placenames in the database have an established Irish form (63,874 out of a total of 85,106). In the case of townlands, 69.4% now have an established Irish form (42,489 out of a total of 61,205).

*All maps are based on 75% data coverage

Excluding surnames, 75.1% of the placenames in the database have an established Irish form (63,874 out of a total of 85,106). In the case of townlands, 69.4% now have an established Irish form (42,489 out of a total of 61,205).