

# Brú na Bóinne World Heritage Site





**Voted Ireland's favourite heritage site for the past four years as well as being voted the site of greatest historical importance to Ireland**









## Dowth

Brú na Bóinne

**D**owth is one of the three great passage tombs of Brú na Bóinne. Although as large as Newgrange and Knowth it is less well known and has not been excavated to meet visitors. Constructed in the Neolithic, or Stone Age about 5,000 years ago, the mound is surrounded by a bank of an estimated 115 stones and has two tombs facing northwards. There are smaller tombs in fields to the east and south-west of the large mound.

**Mythology**  
The text of medieval manuscripts known as *Deirdre's Prophecy* tells how Dowth (Dubh) got its name. They tell how the sons of Ireland were commanded by the King to cross together for a day to build a causeway that would reach the heavens. The King's sister secretly begged for the sun to be the bridge so that there would be no wedding day. In time, men on the east of Ireland became exhausted and realised they had been tricked. However, the bridge had been broken when the King and his sister came together. The work on the great mound was abandoned as darkness fell and it was said that the darkness would be the same of other places from that day.

**Archaeologists**  
Excavator George J. Fagan and his team have unearthed a wealth of the original Neolithic artefacts both on and off the mound. About half of the artefacts are made of stone and 15% are made of wood. The most dramatic of these is a collection of 11,000 flint tools, including a large number of flint axes, which were found in the stone of the Dowth.

You are here

Lava of Neolithic period  
around Dowth

**Excavation**  
In 1967, a large party of men began the mound. The work that followed the mound was to be a great success. There are many things that have been found in Dowth. The most important of these are the two tombs. The tombs are made of stone and are built in a way that they can be seen from the outside. The tombs are made of stone and are built in a way that they can be seen from the outside. The tombs are made of stone and are built in a way that they can be seen from the outside.

**Ritual Chambers**  
There are two ritual chambers in the mound within 25 metres of one another. The passages are considerably higher than those found at Newgrange and at Knowth but the chambers are as large and contain some of the biggest stones found at any of the sites.

**Decorative**  
This is the middle of the two tombs at Dowth. There is a 100 stone in the end of the shaft (100 passage) which leads into an almost circular chamber with one stone. The roof of this chamber is a modern concrete one but the original one is still visible. The stone to the right is separated from the main chamber by a 100 stone.

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The passage of this tomb is at present 12 metres long and is divided by three walls. The passage leads into a circular chamber with three side chambers. There is a 100 stone in the end of the shaft (100 passage) which leads into an almost circular chamber with one stone. The roof of this chamber is a modern concrete one but the original one is still visible. The stone to the right is separated from the main chamber by a 100 stone.

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**Brú na Bóinne**  
Brú na Bóinne is the name given to one of the most important archaeological sites in Ireland. It is a collection of three Neolithic passage tombs, Newgrange, Knowth and Dowth, which are located in the town of Sligo. The tombs are made of stone and are built in a way that they can be seen from the outside. The tombs are made of stone and are built in a way that they can be seen from the outside.

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ENTRANCE TO SOUTHERN NEW GRANGE, BOY E VALLEY.



# *IS PALACE ON RIVER BOYNE*



As a place of prehistoric interest, Newgrange attracts visitors from all quarters of the globe, some of whom are seen entering the caves to hear Mrs. Hickey's story of their archaeological history.



Inside the main chamber of the caves a party of visitors, aided by the custodian and guide, Mrs. Hickey, and with the help of candles, search for further sculptured decorations.





Mrs. Edna McFarland-Maloy, Omaha, Nebraska, U.S.A., makes a pictorial record of the writings on one of the hundred slabs which form the kerb surrounding the mound.



Mrs. Anne Hurst and Mrs. McGuinness are interested in the saucer-like stone where, it is said, the ancient kings of Ireland were cremated 2,000 B.C.





NEWORANGE  
DISTRICT 24  
COUNTY OF FREDERICK  
STATE OF MARYLAND





NEWGRANGE

CLOSED TO VISITORS

WORKS IN PROGRESS























# Problems

- **Wear and Tear**
- **Traffic Congestion**
- **Litter**
- **Illegal trading**
- **Security Problems**
- **Inadequate facilities**





# Brú na Bóinne

- **1987- Boyne Valley Archaeological Park**
- **1993 Brú na Bóinne listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site**
- **1997 Visitor Centre opens**



























## Táinig Tuamaí - Tomb Construction

The following steps are involved in  
the construction of the passage and chamber

The first step in the construction of the passage and chamber is the selection of the site. The site must be chosen carefully to ensure that it is accessible and that the construction of the passage and chamber can be completed without any major obstacles.

The second step is the excavation of the passage and chamber. This is a very labor-intensive process and requires the use of many workers. The passage and chamber are excavated by hand and the walls are lined with stones.

The third step is the construction of the passage and chamber. This is a very complex process and requires the use of many workers. The passage and chamber are constructed by hand and the walls are lined with stones.

The fourth step is the completion of the passage and chamber. This is a very final step and requires the use of many workers. The passage and chamber are completed by hand and the walls are lined with stones.





BRÚ NA BÓINNE GIFTSTORE

**FOR YOUR PROTECTION**



ALL ACTIVITIES ON THESE PREMISES ARE RECORDED BY VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

BRÚ NA BÓINNE GIFTSTORE

**INFORMATION**

## ACCOMMODATION

## RESERVATIONS







# Importance of Site for Tourism

- Nearly 240,000 visitors in 2012
- Approx 135,000 to Newgrange
- 57,000 to Knowth
- Remainder to Centre Only (48,000)



## Importance for Local Economy

- In 1996, 4 full time people working
- Presently OPW employs 30 full time including Guides, Storekeepers, General Operatives and Bus Drivers
- Tourist Information Office/Shop
- Tea Rooms/Cleaning Staff
- 37 permanent staff and 37 seasonal staff not counting maintenance staff at the sites



## Local ties

- **Special rate and priority booking for local B&Bs**
- **Exhibition space for local places of interest**
- **E.g. Ledwidge Museum, Boyne Currach centre, Millmount Museum**
- **Close co-operation with local tourism authorities and Fáilte Ireland**



# Craft in Action





# Craft in Action





# School Play





# *the* Gathering *in the* Centre

Sunday 14th July  
3pm - 5pm

Fear an Tí:  
Shay White



Special  
Lunch  
Menu

Set Dancing  
& Céili



Free Admission  
All Welcome

Brú na Bóinne Visitor Centre

Donore, County Meath: 041 9880300









# Photography Competition





# Drogheda School Exhibition





# Drogheda School Exhibition





# Ardee School Art













# Solstice Draw



















Notice  
The school is open for the summer holidays from 1st July to 31st August. During this time, the school will be closed to the public. The school will be open again from 1st September.



# Senior Citizens' Christmas Party





# Shindig

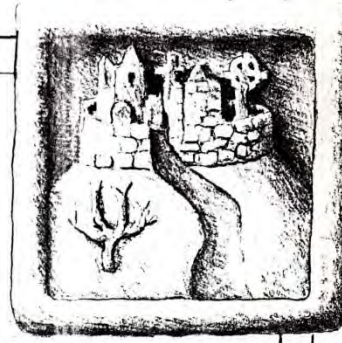




# Historical Society Talks

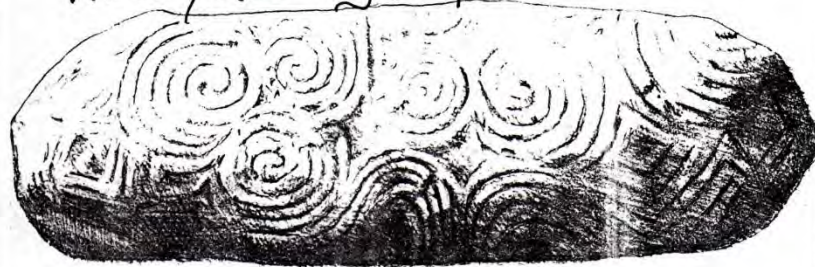






The Mound of the Hostages.  
New Insights into Old Excavations.  
Dr. Muiris O'Sullivan

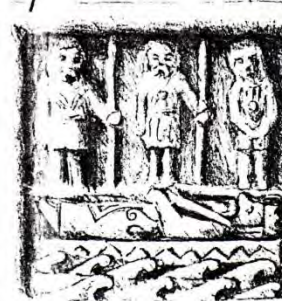
Wednesday, November 3rd.



© Brú na Bóinne ©



8 p.m.





# Nature Rambles





# Wildflower walk





# Brú na Bóinne Football Team









# Boyne Valley Walking Festival











'Farming is the lynchpin of the tourism industry too. The fact that our country has such a beautiful appearance, the patchwork of field and greenery, is thanks to farmers. And the **farmers are very proud of what they do**'  
Eddie Downey Cara magazine Sept 2013



