



Streetlife: A study of Gort town centre

One-day Workshop and Community Brainstorm
Saturday 26th August 10:45am – 4:30pm
Gort Public Library, Gort, Co. Galway

This event is part of a 3-stage research project looking into the use, re-use and under-use of traditional street buildings in Irish towns. We are interested in exploring how the typical terraces of commercial and residential premises that make up the main streets and squares of many of our towns are being used and whether their role has changed through time. What does this mean for the ongoing life of a town, and in the context of environmental sustainability?

TIMETABLE:

10:45am Registration with tea and coffee provided

Theme 1: Gort town centre: change and use
11:00am – 1:00pm

TALK AND PRESENTATION:

Introduction to a recent survey undertaken to record some of Gort's built heritage and introduction to the concept of 'Lynch maps' which are mental maps based on personal perception.

ACTIVITY:

A short walk around Gort to consider our own perceptions of the place; making mental maps as we go which will capture ideas/impressions/observations of the town, its character and way it is inhabited and used.

WORKSHOP/DISCUSSION:

Analysis of our maps; what lends Gort its special character? Have perceptions of the town changed over time? Are there blockages to the re-use of certain building types?

1:00pm – 2:00pm Lunch (light refreshments will be provided)

Theme 2: Breathable materials: Upgrading your traditional building
2:00pm – 3:30pm

TALK:

Traditional buildings and their materials—how they differ to contemporary building construction by Peter Cox, Carrig Conservation and ICOMOS NSCES+CC

PRESENTATION AND DEMONSTRATION:

Insulating and upgrading of traditional building types using appropriate breathable and/or natural materials by Ecological Building Systems

DISCUSSION:

Upgrading of traditional buildings – challenges and solutions

Theme 3: Community conservation measures
3:30pm – 4:30pm

TALK AND PRESENTATION:

Gort town centre Architectural Conservation Area: explanation and objectives by Mairín Doddy, Galway Co.Co. Architectural Conservation Officer

WORKSHOP:

A proposal for coordinated maintenance programme (a street-length gutter cleaning project); the discussion will include the importance of maintenance measures, undertaking collaborative community projects and available sources of funding.

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ICOMOS Ireland



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
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ecological
BUILDING SYSTEMS

An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
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