

## Clara Church and Graveyard

Townland: Churchclara  
 Parish: Clara  
 Ownership: KK Co.Co.  
 Rothe House No: TG14  
 BG No: 202  
 RMP No: 20-17-02  
 Geolocation: E 657786, N 656373 (ITM)  
 52.655473, -7.145892 (WGS 84)  
 Recorded by: Rita Harte  
 Survey Date: Mid 1970s

### Foreword:

The ancient parish church of Clara now in ruins was dedicated to St. Colman. There are records that relate to it in 1230, the Chancel is believed to date from an earlier time and the Nave was probably constructed in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. An Ogham stone is inserted in the east wall on the outside to serve as a sill to a window. The inscription on the Ogham stone has been translated as '[The monumental stone] of *Toisechan, grandson of Ma-Cor*'. There are monuments in both the church and graveyard to families with long associations with this area – for example the Shortalls, Byrnes of Clara Castle & Conegar, the Whites, Blanchvilles, Sanphys and Keeffes (Carrigan, Vol. III, p 353).

### Abbreviations:

- R Right hand side facing Church from gate  
 L Left hand side facing Church from gate

### Inscriptions

Name	Tomb No.	Inscription
Blanchfield R.	1	(3 <sup>rd</sup> row from front right) Erected by Mary Blanchfield in memory of father James Blanchfield Esq. Clifden died 18 <sup>th</sup> April 1835 aged 75 and her mother Joanna Blanchfield alias White died 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 1802 aged 35, also her brother Patrick Blanchfield Esq. J.P. died 12 <sup>th</sup> June 1867 aged 69 years.
Byrne (1) L.	2	(Wall plaque inside Church) Antony Byrne late of Clara Castle died 15 <sup>th</sup> Aug. 1810 aged 85, also the remains of his brother and sister Matthew & Anne Byrne. Also his son Michael died 30 <sup>th</sup> July 1835 aged 73, and Mrs Mary T. Whyte relict of Michael Whyte, Dunbell died February 19 <sup>th</sup> 1912 aged 80, and Anne Byrne died 9 <sup>th</sup> April 1918 aged 85 daughters of Antony Byrne of Conegar.

Byrne (2) L	3	(In Church) Erected by Michael Byrne Conegar in memory of Antony Byrne of Clara Castle died August 15 <sup>th</sup> 1810 aged 85, and Matthew and Anne Byrne, also Michael Byrne died 30 <sup>th</sup> July 1835 aged 73, and Eliza Byrne died 1 <sup>st</sup> October 1862 aged 86, also Antony Byrne, Conegar died 22 <sup>nd</sup> February 1889 aged 85, also Tony Byrne died 13 <sup>th</sup> January 1884 aged 41, and his son John Byrne died 26 <sup>th</sup> May 1910 aged 19. Above Michael died 6 <sup>th</sup> January 1916 aged 77. Mary C. Byrne died 30 <sup>th</sup> January 1930. His wife Mary died January 15 <sup>th</sup> 1944 aged 88, Bridget Byrne died 8 <sup>th</sup> February 1946, her husband Antony died 16 <sup>th</sup> July 1969 aged 86.
Carrigan (1) L.	4	Erected to memory of John Carrigan, Grouhtabeg died 17 <sup>th</sup> June 1927 aged 82, his wife Anne Carrigan nee O'Keefe died 17 <sup>th</sup> February 1928 aged 82. His son Peter died 17 <sup>th</sup> November 1943 aged 71. Nicholas died 12 <sup>th</sup> April 1945 aged 65. Patrick died 26 <sup>th</sup> June 1950 and daughter Kate Donovan, Condonstown died 19 <sup>th</sup> January 1953.
Cody (1)	5	(Right of Church) Erected by David Cody, Parliament St. Kilkenny in memory his father William Cody, Blanchville died April 16 <sup>th</sup> 1849, also mother Margaret Cody alias Whelan died 27 <sup>th</sup> ---- 1885, his brother John Cody died 3 <sup>rd</sup> October 1895 and 6 of his children died young. David Cody died 11 <sup>th</sup> August 1925 aged 76, his wife Bridget died 28 <sup>th</sup> Sept. 1942 aged 82. Elizabeth Cody died 4 <sup>th</sup> February 1945.
Cody (2)	6	(Right of Church) Erected by Mrs John Cody, Blackmill St. Kilkenny in memory of her father Patrick Cody died 1850 aged 60 and her mother Mary Cody died 25 <sup>th</sup> December 1878 aged 80 and her sister Margaret McDonnell died 1858 aged 30. Her sister Anne died 1853 aged 15. Her daughter Katie Cody died November 1887 died November 1887 aged 17 years. Her husband John Cody died 25 <sup>th</sup> April 1891 aged 84. The above Mary Cody died January 1 <sup>st</sup> 1914 aged 88. Her daughter Mary Lennon nee Cody died March 28 <sup>th</sup> 1922 aged 70.
Costelloe R.	7	(Right of Church) Erected by Johanna Costelloe alias Tynan in memory of husband Laurence Costelloe died June 11 <sup>th</sup> 1833 aged 48 also 3 of his children died young. His father Walter Costelloe died 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 1817.
Farrell	8	(4 <sup>th</sup> Row) Here lies Simon Farrell died 2 <sup>nd</sup> August 1767.
Croake	9	(2 <sup>nd</sup> Row, front gate) In memory of Matthew Croake, Kilmogar, died 16 <sup>th</sup> November 1903, his wife Mary died October 1894, also their son Michael and his wife Ellen who died 1 <sup>st</sup> May 1908 and 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 1911. Erected by their loving children.
Harte R.	10	(Against rear outside wall of Church) Erected by Catherine Harte, Church Clara in memory of father Martin Keefe died 31 <sup>st</sup> December 1818 aged 72, also her mother Mrs Mary Keefe

		alias Purcell died 1 <sup>st</sup> March 1827 aged 69, also 3 of his children Paul, Edmond and Martin Harte who died young.
Keefe (1)	11	Erected by Andrew Keefe of Kilmogor in memory of father Matthias Keefe died 14 <sup>th</sup> December 1862 aged 84, and his mother Elenor alias Quirk died 15 <sup>th</sup> June 1852 aged 68, also their son James died young. Andrew Keefe died 27 <sup>th</sup> June 1897. Martin Keefe died 20 <sup>th</sup> March 1921, Bridget Keefe his wife died 21 <sup>st</sup> June 1935.
Keefe (2) /Keefe	12	(Right side of church) Erected by Martin Keefe of Kilmogor in memory of his wife Margaret Keefe alias Quirk died 9 <sup>th</sup> December 1869 aged 60, also his father and mother Philip and Bridget Keefe and sister Mary. Also above Martin Keefe died 5 <sup>th</sup> May 1880 aged 71, his granddaughter Margaret died 18 <sup>th</sup> May 1895 aged 10. His son Philip died 8 <sup>th</sup> June 1905 aged 57, and his children Andrew died (in America) 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 1923 aged 39. William died 18 <sup>th</sup> September 1928 aged 34. Mary died 11 <sup>th</sup> October 1928 aged 36. James died 23 <sup>rd</sup> January 1931 aged 34. Ellen (his wife) died 17 <sup>th</sup> March 1931 aged 77. John (in Australia) died 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 1935 aged 54 Matthew of John's St. Kilkenny died 4 <sup>th</sup> April 1941 aged 53.
Keefe (3)	13	(At rear church wall) Erected by Philip Keefe in memory of his son Mathew Keefe died February 26 <sup>th</sup> 1808 aged 20 years 11 months and 10 days with 3 more of his children who died young, also Nicholas Keefe died 28 <sup>th</sup> February 1873 aged 73 and his wife Margaret died 16 <sup>th</sup> May 1898 aged 75 and their Grandson Matthew died 28 <sup>th</sup> November 1910 aged 4 years.
Kelly	14	(4 <sup>th</sup> row) Erected by James Kelly of Blanchfields Park in memory of his father Laurence Kelly died 14 <sup>th</sup> May 1847 aged 60, also 2 of his children Daniel and Mary died young.
Kennedy R.	15	Erected by Peter Kennedy of Kilmogor in memory of Grandfather James Brennan died October 12 <sup>th</sup> 1849 and his grandmother Mary Brennan died 4 <sup>th</sup> August 1858, also his brother James Kennedy died September 19 <sup>th</sup> 1892 aged 18. Patrick Kennedy died October 1950. John died 24 <sup>th</sup> February 1957 and above Peter died in America February 1956.
Kerevan (1)	16	(In church) Erected by John Kerevan, New Park in memory of wife Judith alias Harthey died 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 1832.
Kerevan (2) L.	17	(4 <sup>th</sup> Row) Here lies John Kerevan died July 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1750 aged 57.
Keravan L.	18	(4 <sup>th</sup> Row) Erected by John Keravan in memory of wife Anastasia Keravan alias Dowling died December 28 <sup>th</sup> 1794 aged 37 and one of her children. Also the body of Margaret Keravan alias Fleming aged 37 died 1782.

		(Rest buried. Tomb propped up by stone)
Kerevan (3) L.	19	(4 <sup>th</sup> Row) Here lies Daniel Kerevan died 4 <sup>th</sup> April 1760 aged 48.
Kerevan (4) L.	20	(4 <sup>th</sup> Row) Erected by Mich Kerevan, Kilbline in memory of wife Margaret Kerevan alias Egan died 18 <sup>th</sup> April 1802 aged 54 also his son John died young.
Kiravan L.	21	(4 <sup>th</sup> Row) Erected by John Kiravan in memory of daughter Catherine Kiravan died 6 <sup>th</sup> December 1782 aged 15.
Kerwin	22	(In church) In memory of Thomas Kerwin, New Park died 5 <sup>th</sup> May 1922 also his wife Bridget Kerwin died 25 <sup>th</sup> Oct. 1922.
Knox	23	(End of Church) Erected by Mrs Bridget Knox, Clara in memory of husband Thomas Knox died 19 <sup>th</sup> March 1893 aged 55, and their children Sister Mary Floka Knox died 18 <sup>th</sup> January 1893 aged 30, also Martin & William died young. Bridget Knox died 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 1928 aged 94. Mary Knox died 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 1941 aged 69. Martin Knox died 22 <sup>nd</sup> October, 1935 aged 56. James Knox died 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 1941 aged 69. Mrs Mary Knox died 13 <sup>th</sup> June 1964 aged 88.
Lanigan	24	(3 <sup>rd</sup> row from gate) Erected by Peter Lanigan, Dunbell in memory of his father-in-law Patrick Sanphy died 5 <sup>th</sup> January 1822 aged 69, also his wife Bridget Sanphy alias Naddy died 8 <sup>th</sup> January 1804 aged 41 and 5 of their children died young.
Lannon (1)	25	Erected by Mr. James Lannon in memory of his son Thomas Lannon died 14 <sup>th</sup> December 1824 aged 8.
Lannon (2)	26	Private P. Lannon Royal Irish Regiment died 26 <sup>th</sup> March 1916 aged 46.
Lawler (1) R.	27	(Right of Church) Patrick Lawler died 26 <sup>th</sup> December 1780 aged 77 Erected by son Andrew Lawler.
Lawler (2) R.	28	(Right of Church) Here lies Edmond Lawler died 10 <sup>th</sup> November 1768 aged 29 years. Erected by his father Daniel Lawler.
Long	29	(In Church) In memory of Thomas Long, Temple Martin died 10 <sup>th</sup> March 1844 aged 73.
Magrath	30	(4 <sup>th</sup> Row from gate, right) Here lies Patrick Magrath died 9 <sup>th</sup> September 1801 aged 45, also 2 of his children, also his brother Thomas Magrath died 27 <sup>th</sup> March 1792 aged 25.
Malone	31	(Right of church at tree)

		Erected by Patrick Malone of Kilmogar in memory of wife Catherine died 26 <sup>th</sup> March 1845 aged 50, also her daughter Margaret Malone died 10 <sup>th</sup> June 1850 aged 19.
Maxwell	32	(Near Church) Erected by Bridget Maxwell alias Cullenan in memory of husband John Maxwell died August 1812 aged 58 and 2 of their children died young, also Martin Cullinan father to Bridget died 1774 aged 32.
Morrissey	33	(At Church door) Erected in memory of Kathleen Morrissey alias Dalton formerly of Kilmogar died 4 <sup>th</sup> November 1920 aged 56. John O'Malley died 17 <sup>th</sup> June 1927. Patrick Dalton, Kilmogar died 15 <sup>th</sup> July 1928. Vera O'Malley died 18-10-1933. Agnes O'Malley died 28-1-1934. Josie O'Malley died 9-3-1934 daughters of above John O'Malley. Mai O'Malley died 13 <sup>th</sup> March 1943.
Mullins	34	(Beyond Church near Boundary wall) Erected by John Mullins, Warrington in memory of wife Mary Mullins died 14 <sup>th</sup> January 1883 aged 50 also 6 of his children died young. Patrick Mullins, Warrington died 4 <sup>th</sup> April 1918. John Mullins died January 31 <sup>st</sup> 1937 aged 36.
Naddy L	35	(4 <sup>th</sup> Row) Erected by Martin Naddy of Graig in memory of wife Bridget Naddy alias Kerwin died 19 <sup>th</sup> December 1816 aged 30.
O'Connell	36	(Against end wall of church outside) In memory of William O'Connell, Clifden died 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 1901 aged 70, also his wife Mrs Bridget O'Connell died 4 <sup>th</sup> January 1897 aged 60, also their son Michael O'Connell died 16 <sup>th</sup> February 1894 aged 18, also their son William O'Connell died 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 1927 aged 56, and 2 children died young, also Patrick and Mrs Mary O'Connell of Sart.
O'Keefe	37	(Wall plaque) Erected by Philip O'Keefe, Church Clara in memory of his father Nicholas O'Keefe died 28 <sup>th</sup> February 1873 aged 75, also his mother Margaret O'Keefe died 16 <sup>th</sup> May 1898 aged 75. His son Matthew died 28 <sup>th</sup> November 1910 aged 4. His son Nicholas died 24 <sup>th</sup> October 1918 aged 17. His sister Mary died 14 <sup>th</sup> March 1928 aged 81. The above Philip died 1 <sup>st</sup> February 1950 aged 71. His grandson David died 22 <sup>nd</sup> August 1955 aged 3½.
O'Farrell	38	(4 <sup>th</sup> Row) Erected by Mathew O'Farrell of Walkin St. Kilkenny in memory of son Thomas O'Farrell died 16 <sup>th</sup> May 1871 aged 27 and 4 of his children who died young. Also his brother Thomas died 12 <sup>th</sup> August 1842 aged 27 and above Mathew O'Farrell died 8 <sup>th</sup> August 1883 aged 73.
Sanphy (1)	39	(3 <sup>rd</sup> Row) Erected by Anistacia Sanphy of Holdenstown in memory of her husband Henry Sanphy who died December 12 <sup>th</sup> 1818 aged 68. Also her daughter Mary Sanphy died December 25 <sup>th</sup> 1795 aged 11 years, also son William

		Sanphy died 6 <sup>th</sup> March 1802 aged 11 years.
Sanphy (2)	40	(4 <sup>th</sup> row at Path.) Erected by Henry Sanphy of Ballaredden in memory of father William Sanphy died March 12 <sup>th</sup> 1817 aged 70.
Sanphy (3)	41	(3 <sup>rd</sup> Row) Erected by Patrick Sanphy in memory of his wife Bridget alias Naddy died January 12 <sup>th</sup> 1804 aged 40 with 2 of her children.
Sanphy (4)	42	(End of Church) Erected by Michael Sanphy, Ballyredden in memory of his father Richard Sanphy died October 25 <sup>th</sup> 1862 aged 84, also his sister Johanna Sanphy died August 12 <sup>th</sup> 1852 aged 24. Also his daughter Margaret who died young. Also his daughter Julia Sanphy died August 31 <sup>st</sup> 1876 aged 9. The above Michael died December 5 <sup>th</sup> 1887 aged 72.
Sanphy (5)	43	(End of Church) Erected by Richard Sanphy of Ballyredden in memory of wife Mrs Margaret Sanphy alias Rice who died 5 <sup>th</sup> April 1830 aged 54, also their daughter Mrs Anastatia Aylward alias Sanphy of Ballylowra died 22 <sup>nd</sup> September 1890 aged 76.
Shea	44	(Wall at Church) Erected by Ann Shea, Clara in memory of parents Thomas Shea died 16 <sup>th</sup> March 1844. Mary Shea alias Shea died 21 <sup>st</sup> April 1865. Also their children Andrew died 1842. Daniel died 6 <sup>th</sup> March 1851. James died 10 <sup>th</sup> November 1851. Mary died 12 <sup>th</sup> November 1852. Philip died 10 <sup>th</sup> April 1855. Thomas died 13 <sup>th</sup> August 1858. Margaret died 13 <sup>th</sup> April 1868. William died 12 <sup>th</sup> July 1870. Kate died 8 <sup>th</sup> January 1879. John died 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 1885. Ellen died 10 <sup>th</sup> April 1898. Anne died 11 <sup>th</sup> December 1904.
White (1)	47	(In Church) Erected by Kyran White in memory of father James White died October 1820 aged 85 also his mother Elizabeth White alias Purcell who departed (no date carved) also his son John died young.
White (2)	48	(In Church) Here lies Martin White died May 27 <sup>th</sup> 1788 aged 49, also his daughter Elenor died 25 <sup>th</sup> December 1795 aged 14, also Mary White wife of above Martin died 14 <sup>th</sup> ---- 1813 aged 71.
White (3)	49	(3 <sup>rd</sup> row from gate) Erected by Mary White, Kylebeg in memory of husband Martin White died 8 <sup>th</sup> December 1873 aged 53, also his father James White died 26 <sup>th</sup> December 1872 aged 84, also his mother Mary White nee Tobin died July 7 <sup>th</sup> 1866 aged 76, and his sister Judith Millea nee White died 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 1893 aged 73, also the above Mary White died 14 <sup>th</sup> January 1901 aged 69 and their son James White died 1 <sup>st</sup> January 1912 aged 46.
White (4)	50	(1 <sup>st</sup> tomb at gate) Erected by Nicholas White of Holdingstown in memory of wife Bridget

		White alias Holahan died 14 <sup>th</sup> August 1824 aged 61.
Whyte (1)	51	Here lieth Margaret Whyte died 7 <sup>th</sup> May 1759 aged 15 years also Thomas died May 5 <sup>th</sup> 1758 aged 8 years.
Whyte (2)	52	(3 <sup>rd</sup> Row) Here lieth Michael Whyte died 28 <sup>th</sup> September 1772 aged 75 also his wife Joan Whyte alias Quirk died 18 <sup>th</sup> June 1773 aged 60.
Whyte (3)	53	Pray for Michael Whyte, Dunbell died 7 <sup>th</sup> April 1889 and his children also interred here viz. Ellen Whyte died 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 1873. Joseph Whyte died 4 <sup>th</sup> August 1883. Catherine Whyte died 16 <sup>th</sup> October 1900. Mary Whyte died 24 <sup>th</sup> December 1924. Margaret Whyte died 27 <sup>th</sup> March 1925. Teresa Whyte died 21 <sup>st</sup> July 1941. Thomas Whyte died 29 <sup>th</sup> January 1950.
Carrigan (2)	54	(In church at wall between Nave and Chancel) Erected by Kate Carrigan, Clarabricken in memory of Julia Carrigan died October 30 1882 aged 67 and James Carrigan died 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 1897 aged 84. Patrick Carrigan died 10 <sup>th</sup> December 1907 aged 19. Nicholas Carrigan died 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 1909 aged 50. Martin Carrigan died 30 <sup>th</sup> October 1918 aged 19. John Carrigan of Croghtabeg died 26 <sup>th</sup> April 1924 aged 38. Julia Carrigan died 11 <sup>th</sup> May 1934 aged 45. Mrs Kate Carrigan, Clarabricken died 29 <sup>th</sup> July 1940 aged 84. Johanna Carrigan died 30 <sup>th</sup> October 1882 aged 68. Joseph Carrigan died 19 <sup>th</sup> June 1967 aged 76.
Cass	55	(Right of Church) Erected by Patrick Cass of Kilkenny in memory of his mother Anne Cass alias Pembroke died November 21 <sup>st</sup> 1858 aged 82 and his sister Margaret Cass died 4 <sup>th</sup> ----- 1833 aged 28. Also his sister Bridget died 7 <sup>th</sup> May 1861 aged 51, also his brother Nicholas who died young.
Morres	56	(Tomb table in Church) Here lies Mr. James Morres, his wife Mrs Margaret Morres alias Byrne, also their son Mr. Richard Morres and daughter Mrs Rice alias Morres, mother of James Rice of Kellymount. Here also lies Mrs Rice alias O'Brien wife of James Rice, their son and daughter Richard and Mary Rice and Margaret Rice. Erected by the above Mr James Rice died 15 <sup>th</sup> December 1788. Here also lies James Rice died 10 <sup>th</sup> December 1813.

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