

Open House
Limerick

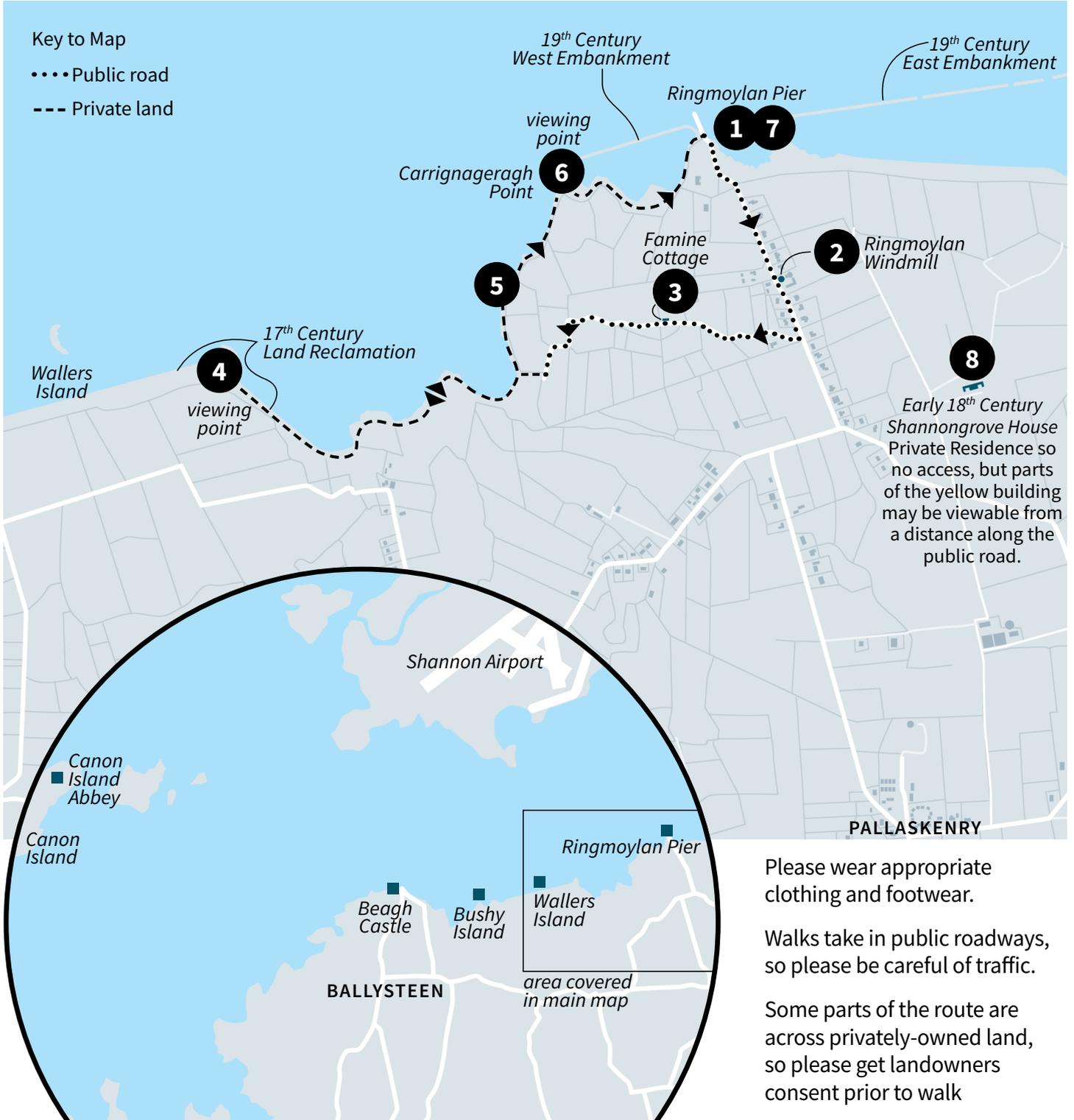
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Ringmoylan

Where Land Meets Sea

Self-guided walk of an ancient and ongoing culture on the Shannon Estuary



#OHL2021

OpenHouse Limerick October 29th-31st 2021
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Where Land Meets Sea

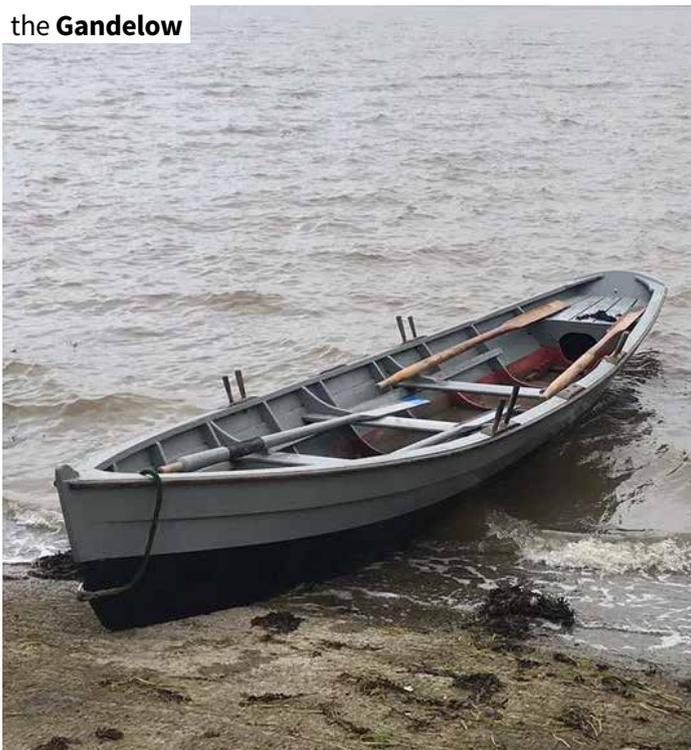
The River Shannon is the genesis of Limerick City. The Shannon Estuary's culture and heritage embodies 'Edge|Embrace', yet it is largely unfamiliar to non-locals. The Estuary is the backdrop to an ancient and ongoing riverine culture that connects communities, countries and counties. Guided walking routes along the southern shore of the Estuary will bring together historians, rowers and swimmers to give insight on this unique place, where we will explore the physical interventions that have shaped the place Where Land Meets Sea.

Irish Boats of the Shannon

The genesis of the **Gandelow** Traditional Irish boat goes back to the 17th Century, and evolved to support the local seaweed harvesting, reed cutting and salmon fishing.

In 2014, at the invitation of the Mayor of Venice, 4 gandelows were taken to Venice to take part in the annual Festa degli asparagi (Asparagus festival). This was also an opportunity to directly compare the gandelow with local Italian boats of a similar design (such as the 's'ciopon'— meaning 'big gun'—or a 'sandolo).

the **Gandelow**



Walk (c.90 min)

1. Ringmoylan Pier and Site of Embankments.

Commenced as part of a Land Reclamation programme c.1838/1839.

2. Ringmoylan Windmill, built on the Bury estate, it would have been worked from the nearby "Charter School" which was also built by Bury. The children of the school were given "work experience" on his estate. Nothing remains of the building that was just south of this windmill. There are references to milling on the Bury estate in the "Diary of Nicholas Peacock, 1740-51". It is interesting to note that "Wind-Milling" gets little to no mention in local history documentation although it had to be a unique practice locally.

3. Derelict Famine Cottage

4. Views of Wallers Island, Bushy Island, Beagh Castle, Canon Island and Shannon Airport.

Bushy Island. A system of beacons and lights was established in the 19th century in the Shannon Estuary to assist boats, whether local fishermen in gandelows or larger freight vessels, making their way to the docks in Limerick City. Some of these navigational aids were located on Bushy Island.

Beagh Castle. This Former fortress along the banks of the Shannon saw at the interface between land and water, with still-present stone interventions between land and sea at this interface. Beagh Castle is said to have been built by the FitzGerald of Desmond as an outpost fortification in the 13th century on the site of an earlier 9th Century Viking fortification.

Canon Island. Home to the ruins of Canon Island Abbey, an Augustinian monastery built in the late 12th century.

5: Walk along the Embankments that were created as part of a Land Reclamation programme c.1838/1839.

6: Carrignageragh Point / Ringmoylan Woods, the site of local pirate culture and plunder! Views of Old Horse Rock Lighthouse

7. Ringmoylan Pier and Site of Embankments.

Return to Ringmoyland Pier.

8. Shannongrove House: Originally the home of the Bury family, Earls of Charleville. The Ordnance Survey record this house as four-storied, built in 1709. Bence Jones dates this house from the early 18th century. Lewis writes that Shannon Grove was the old family mansion of the Earls of Charleville and "now the residence of Bolton Waller" who held the property in fee in the early 1850s when the buildings were valued at £43 and the demesne was over 400 acres. Bought by John Sheehy of Askeaton in 1860 and remained in the possession of his descendants until the mid 20th century. The house is still extant and occupied.