



## Árainn Mhór

# Nasctha le hOileán na mBéabhar Twinned with Beaver Island

Cuma thruamhéalach ar theaghlaach de bhí go bhfuil ag teip ar a n-iarrachtaí prátaí a fhás, c1845

Le caoinhead ó Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann

Family gazing in despair at their ruined potato crop, c1845

Courtesy of National Library of Ireland

## Litir ó Cheanada

Bhí Charlie O'Donnell i measc an líon ollmhór oiléánach a chuaigh ar imirce go hOileán na mBéabhar ar Loch Michigan nuair a díshealbhaíodh leath de dhaonra Árainn Mhór i rith an Ghorta Mhóir. Chuirfeadh sé litreacha abhaile ag iarraidh ar oiléánaigh eile dul ar imirce: 'Cosúil le hÉirinn – ach níos fíorr'.

Ní dhearna 350 lonnaitheoir Oileán na mBéabhar dearmad ar na traidisiún a bhí acu sa bhaile – an iascaireacht, a dteanga, a gcreideamh, a logainmneacha. In 2000 nascadh Oileán na mBéabhar le hÁrainn Mhór.

## A letter from Canada

*Charlie O'Donnell was one of many islanders who emigrated to Beaver Island on Lake Michigan after half the population of Árainn Mhór was evicted during the Great Famine. He wrote home to encourage other islanders to emigrate: 'Just like Ireland, only better'.*

*The 350 Beaver Island settlers retained the traditions of home – their livelihood of fishing, their language, their faith, their place names. In 2000 Beaver Island and Árainn Mhór became twin communities.*



The Potato Diggers, 1912, le Paul Henry

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The Potato Diggers, 1912, Paul Henry

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## 'Pluais an tsléachta'

Chuaigh thart ar 70 oiléánach ar foscadh sa phluais chun éalú ó shaighdiúirí Protastúnacha i rith Éirí Amach na hÉireann 1641. Níor tháinig oiléánach ar bith slán.

## Oíche dhorcha, cheomhar

Sa bhliain 1935 bhuail bád i gcoinne carraige agus d'iompaigh sé béal faoi. Oileánaigh óga a bhí ag filleadh ó bheith ag baint prátaí in Albain agus a dteaghlaigh a chuaigh chomh fada le hAilt an Chorráin le casadh leo ba ea an 20 paisinéir ar bord. Fear amháin a tháinig slán.

## 'The cave of the slaughter'

*Around 70 islanders sheltered in the cave to escape Protestant soldiers during the Irish Rebellion of 1641. No-one came out alive.*

## A dark, foggy night

*A boat hit a rock and overturned in 1935. Its 20 passengers were young islanders returning from the potato harvest in Scotland and their families who had met them at Ailt an Chorráin (Burtonport). Only one man survived.*

Mórshiúl na sochraide ag déanamh a shláín ón seipéal chomh fada leis an reilig, 1935

Le caoinhead ó Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann

The funeral procession from church to graveyard, 1935

Courtesy of the National Library of Ireland



1 Caith nóméad ag smaoineamh ar na heisimircigh nuair a shroicéann tú leacht cuimhneacháin Oileán na mBéabhar.  
Think of the emigrants at the Beaver Island monument.

2 Siúil mórritheall an oileáin agus ná lig áilleacht an tí solais nó na lochanna tharath.  
Walk round the island taking in the lighthouse and lakes.

3 Caith súil siar ar chultúr an oileáin trí chuairt a thabhairt ar an gCultúrlann.  
Delve into the past and experience island culture at An Cultúrlann.

