



Cé Thamhnach an tSalainn

Mountcharles Pier



"kay-HOWnuck-a TAL-lin"



Bealach isteach chuig an mianach ag cairéal Thamhnach an tSalainn
Mine entrance to Mountcharles quarry



Garraí an tsalainn

Is é an bhrí atá leis an logainm Tamhnach an tSalainn 'garraithe glasa an tsalainn'. Baineadh salann as an tsáile ag na loig salainn chun scadán a chaomhnú.

Is de ghaineamhchloch na háite a tógadh an cé ar mhaithe le deiseanna oibre a sholáthar agus daoine a spreagadh le tabhairt faoin iascaireacht i rith an Ghorta Mhóir. Nós neamhghnách go maith ba ea gur faoi thalamh a rinneadh mianadóireacht na cloiche seachas i gcairéal. D'iompair capaill ualaí chomh fada leis an rálcheann nó chomh fada leis na báid ghaile a bhí ag feitheamh.

Field of the salt

Mountcharles was originally called Tamhnach an tSalainn, the 'green fields of salt'. Salt was extracted from sea water at the salt pans to preserve locally caught herring.

The pier was built of local sandstone to provide work and encourage fishing during the Great Famine. Unusually the stone was mined underground rather than quarried. Horses pulled loads to the railhead or to awaiting steamers.

An slua faoi dhraíocht ag Seumas Mac Manus
Seumas Mac Manus holding his audience spell-bound

Ba i dTamhnach an tSalainn a rugadh an scríbhneoir agus an seanchaí Seumas Mac Manus (1868–1960). Bhí an-tóir ar an ábhar a scríobh sé faoi bhéaloideas agus seanscéalta na hÉireann, i Stáit Aontaithe Mheiriceá go háirithe. Maireann sé i gcuimhne na ndaoine go háirithe mar gheall ar an nós a bhí aige scéalta a insint ag an gcaidéal uisce sa bhaile, áit a mbíodh slua páistí bailithe thart air.



- 1 Tabhair cuairt ar Thobar Beannaithe Turas, tobar atá suite ar bhrúach Loch Naomh Peadar agus atá níos sine ná an Chriostaíocht.

Visit the Turas Holy Well, older than Christianity, on the shore of St Peter's Lake.

- 2 Tabhair suntas den chloch ón gceantar áitiúil a úsáideadh nuair a bhí Eaglais an Chroí Rónaofa á tógáil.

Admire the local stone used in building the Sacred Heart Church.

- 3 Lean Bealach 56 ó chaidéal an bhaile de shiúl na gcos nó léim ar an rothar.

Walk or cycle Route 56 from the village pump.

Seumas MacManus (1868–1960) writer and seanchaí (storyteller) was born in Mountcharles. His writing on Irish folklore and legend gained him popularity especially in the USA. He is remembered especially for his storytelling at the water pump in the village, where children gathered to listen to him.



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