

## Map

Go to this website; <http://www.placenamesni.org/map.php>

This is a map showing all the townlands in Northern Ireland. To find your area use the zoom buttons and this will make the map larger.

Zoom in and move the map until you find the area where you live- this might take a few seconds to load.

Right-click and print off a map of your area.

Now you can annotate and make notes on this map with the information you have gathered. You can use the back of the page the map is printed on to make further notes. When you are finished fold the map inside this booklet for safe keeping.

Who helped you with this?

Parent/Guardian

Grandparents

Aunts/Uncles

Friend of the family

Other:

Your name:



## Townlands & Fieldnames

Place names tell us a lot about an area like where it is, what happened there or about large features like a river or mountain. Townlands are one of the oldest divisions of land and are unique to Ireland. Approximately 62,000 townlands have been recorded.

Fieldnames cover smaller areas and tell stories of who lived on the land or what the land was or is used for.

Over time a lot of this information can be forgotten, but by asking questions and sharing this information the knowledge can live on. Heritage is an important part of your identity.



CAUSEWAY COAST & GLENS  
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NIEA Northern Ireland  
Environment Agency  
www.ni-environment.gov.uk



Place names change over time as languages change and people move around. For example:

Ballycastle comes from the Irish *Baile an Caisil/Baile Chaisleáin* which means townland of the castle.

Croft (animal field near a house) and Holm (river meadow) come from the Scots.

The fields 'Warren Upper' and 'Warren Lower' in the townland of Bellarena are called this because rabbits lived there and in the 13<sup>th</sup> century the Normans trapped rabbits for meat and fur.

Knowes is a word for hill in Scotland and northern England and 'The Green Knowes' in Knockmult uses this same word showing how language travels.

Where do you live?

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Do you know why it is called this?

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Are there any fields or areas of land near you with names?

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What are these names and why are they called this?

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Have you heard of any places near where you live with unusual names?

Can you find out why they are called this?

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