

## How can you contribute?

- ◆ Simply take a photograph of a sporting site and upload it with information to: [www.irishsportingheritage.com](http://www.irishsportingheritage.com)
- ◆ Alternatively, if you have information on any aspects of Ireland's sporting heritage (photographs, programmes, architectural plans or stories), relating to sites that are local, national, well-known or obscure please upload it to: [www.irishsportingheritage.com](http://www.irishsportingheritage.com) or contact:

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Tennis Club, Grosvenor Square, Rathmines, Dublin



# IRISH SPORTING HERITAGE

**Boston College-Ireland**  
42 St Stephen's Green  
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[www.irishsportingheritage.com](http://www.irishsportingheritage.com)



Funded by  The Department of  
Arts, Sport and Tourism  
An Roinn  
Ealaíon, Spóirt agus Turasóireachta

Ireland's sporting landscape is ever changing. This project will identify and record that change over one hundred and fifty years.

## Sporting Heritage



Shamrock Rovers' former ground in Milltown which was sold to developers in 1987

Heritage is that which is passed down from preceding generations. It is part of the history and tradition of societies. Sport has been, and remains, one of the constants in the lives of Irish people. It provides the central locations of belonging and common ritual and sustains a sense of community, locality and nationhood. So integrated is sport into daily life that its significance in Ireland's heritage is often overlooked.

## The Irish Sporting Heritage Project

This project aims to compile an inventory of Ireland's built sporting heritage, existing and historical, over the last 150 years. It will identify sports of all traditions and social classes. No such inventory currently exists yet re-development and changes to land usage are destroying a rich nineteenth and twentieth century legacy. The site of the first All-Ireland Hurling Final became the home of a Tesco supermarket in 2008. There are proposals to sell Dalymount Park and Landsdowne Road is under significant redevelopment. Health and Safety guidelines have also necessitated the development of new sports stadiums. It is therefore important to record the disappearing and disappeared sites where sports have been played.

Sport is promoted by Fáilte Ireland and other agencies as central to tourism and wealth creation and this project will provide a vital pool of information for the promotion of a key part of the island's heritage.

The project will produce an online searchable database for use by the general public. Users will be able to search the database by sport and by county.



Memorial at Milltown, built by supporters of Shamrock Rovers



Housing estate on the former grounds

## Project Aims

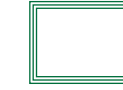
- ◆ To record Ireland's built sporting heritage existing and historical.
- ◆ To acknowledge architectural innovation in design from previous eras.
- ◆ To celebrate sporting sites as important social spaces in the history of the island.
- ◆ To identify the sports of all traditions and social classes.
- ◆ To record all types of sporting associations: work place clubs, private clubs, school sports, professional and amateur teams, and parish, town, county and national clubs.
- ◆ To embrace those places where sporting legends were made and to record the spaces where they have been commemorated.
- ◆ To promote an understanding that sport has and will continue to play a central role in the history of Ireland and its people.



Shamrock Rovers' grounds in Tallaght, opened in 2009

## The Project will Produce:

- ◆ A database and inventory of all sporting sites in Ireland, 1850-2010.
- ◆ A searchable website for public use.
- ◆ A receptacle for photographs, architectural plans, maps and other images of the changing usage of sporting sites.
- ◆ Books on Ireland's sporting heritage.
- ◆ Radio and print-media output.
- ◆ Outreach activity which will engage members of the public.
- ◆ Educational activity: working with schools and museums to enhance an understanding of the historical significance of sport.



TO

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The Department of  
Arts, Sport and Tourism  
An Roinn  
Ealaíon, Spóirt agus Turasóireachta

Funded by

Send us your top three sporting sites in Ireland.

We want the What? Where? Why? - You are contributing to the searchable public

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Email: \_\_\_\_\_

My top three sporting sites in Ireland are:

1.	What	_____
	Where	_____
	Why	_____
2.	What	_____
	Where	_____
	Why	_____
3.	What	_____
	Where	_____
	Why	_____