

Moore Hall



The Georgian mansion of Moore Hall was built in the 1790s by George Henry Moore. It was designed by the Waterford architect John Roberts. It was burnt down in January 1923 in the aftermath of the civil war and the picture above shows what remains of the hall in 2011.

On this website, you can read an account of how George Henry Moore's horse "Coronna" won the Chester Cup in 1846 and how some of the money from this win was used to import flour to feed his tenant farmers during the famine. http://loughcarra.org/subject_content/history/western_people.pdf

We uncovered a newspaper clip from The Freeman's Journal 1809 (courtesy of the Irish Newspaper Archives) announcing that Moorehall was to let. The piece refers to the house as "new, and in perfect repair, commanding a beautiful view of Lough Carra..." it goes on to say that the "furniture will be sold by private contract". You can read the full piece here http://loughcarra.org/subject_content/general_info/media_articles/moorehall_to_let.pdf

George Augustus Moore 1852 - 1933 was a prolific novelist and Art critic. His cremated remains are interred on Castle Island, Lough Carra.

The website of the Moore Literary Conventions www.moorehall.com provides information on the Moore family and the history of Moorehall.

The website <http://www.moorehall.net/> provides information on Moore Hall and Lough Carra. There are several short video clips including one on Castle Island. There is also an interactive guide of the hall and grounds (including layout of the walled garden) <http://www.oreillydesign.com/moorehall/housmain.html> and pdf copy of the book "The Moores of Moore Hall" by Joseph Hone <http://www.oreillydesign.com/moorehall/moores-moorehall-part1.pdf> <http://www.oreillydesign.com/moorehall/moores-moorehall-part2.pdf>

On the Mayo Library website you will find the Irish Tourist Association Survey and under the heading of historic houses and burial places there is an account of Moore Hall and the history of the Moore family :

<http://www.mayolibrary.ie/en/LocalStudies/IrishTouristAssociationSurvey/BurriscarraBallintober/HistoricSites/PDFDocument,10539,en.pdf>

There are some interesting pictures of the exterior and interior of Moore Hall ruins on the website Abandoned Ireland <http://www.abandonedireland.com/Moorehall.html> from the book "Abandoned Mansions of Ireland" by Tarquin Blake which was published in October 2010.

Three areas at Moore Hall are used at various times of the year by a population of Lesser Horseshoe bats *Rhinolophus hipposidero*, the cellar of the main house, one of the outbuildings and an underground passage. The site is of international importance and is one of the most northerly locations for this bat species in Ireland.

"In July 1995, more than 200 Lesser Horseshoe bats were recorded at this site and more than 100 were counted in winter 1995/96. There was a decline in numbers to a low of 36 in June 2009 due to deterioration of the Coach House roof. Refurbishment to the Coach House reversed this decline and numbers of bats increased to 128 in June 2010. Numbers in the winter roost declined from 576 in January 2009 to 88 in January 2010, possibly due to severe weather conditions during winter 2010." (extract from NPWS site synopsis)

You can read more about the bat population at Moore Hall on the National Parks and Wildlife Service website : <http://www.npws.ie/protectedsites/specialareasofconservationsac/moorehallloughcarrasac/>
<http://www.npws.ie/media/npwsie/content/images/protectedsites/sitesynopsis/SY000527.pdf>
and Bat Conservation Ireland website:
http://www.batconservationireland.org/php/bats_lesser.php

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