Sallins Na Solláin

Sallins, Na Solláin (The Willows)

Sallins, as the Irish name Na Solláin (The Willows) implies, was originally a willow marsh in the watershed of the river Liffey.

The earliest recorded archaeology in the immediate area is on the site of the Primary School on Kerdiffstown Road where Iron Age and early Christian burials were uncovered.

This school sits on a bulge on the Rahandoon Ridgeway, a glacial moraine of sand and gravel that would have been a dry route through the marsh in very early times.

In the Norman period the Geraldines of Maynooth used the ridgeway as a link to their outlier castles in Rathmore and Kilteel.

There are the remains of a Norman Keep in the grounds of 'Sallins Lodge' (adjacent to Sallins Wood and GAA pitch) that would have effectively controlled the 'pass' between waterlogged lands along the Liffey to the west and Morrel/Hartwell rivers to the east.

Sallins, as we know it now, developed in the period between the cutting of the Grand Canal in the middle of the 18th century and the coming of the railway in the 19th century. The construction of the Grand Canal in 1780 connected Sallins to Dublin and a thriving freight and passenger service was established.

By the start of the 19th century a small village had grown around a substantial harbour comprising of dwellings, goods stores, and other commercial premises.

A Grand Hotel for the comfort of travellers was built west of the bridge with stables for the horses that drew the barges.

Railway goods yards and rail workers cottages were constructed to the south of the bridge.

A grain mill and a meat factory were developed providing much needed local employment.

Sallins today, with its busy commuter train station and motorway connection to Dublin, is a vibrant community with over 6000 residents.

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Kildare County Council

Riasc, a raibh crainn sailí ag fás inti ba ea Na Solláin, mar a thugann an leagan Gaeilge den ainm le fios, agus é suite i ndobhardhroím na Life.

Tá na hiarsmaí seandálaíochta is luaithe le feiceáil ar sluiomh na bunscoile ar Bhóthar Bhaile Chairdif mar a nochtadh adhlacthaí ón Iarannaois agus ón luath-ré Críostaí.

Tá an scoil seo suite ar bhoilsc i nDroimbhealach Ráth an Dúin, moiréan gainimh agus gairbhéil, arbh cosán tirim trid an riasc é sna fíor-luath aoiseanna.

Sa ré Normannach bhaineadh Gearaltaigh Mhaigh Nuad úsáid as an ndroimbhealach mar nasc lena gcaisleáin i bhfad amach ag an Ráth Mór agus ag Cill Chéile.

Tá iarsmaí dhaingean Normannach ar thailte Lóiste na Sollán (Sallins Lodge) lámh le Coill na Sollán agus páirc CLG) a smachtaíodh an bearnas idir na tailte síorfhliucha le taobh na Life agus aibhneacha an Mhoiréil/Hartwell ar an dtaobh thoir.

Tháinig forbairt ar Na Solláin, mar is eol dúinn anois é sa tréimhse idir thochailt na Mórchanála i lár an 18ú chéid agus teacht an bhóthar iarainn sa 19ú céad. Cheangail teacht na Mórchanála i 1780 Na Solláin le Baile Átha Cliath agus bunaíodh seirbhís lastais agus paisináera rathúil. Faoi thús an 19ú chéid bhí sráidbhaile beag tar éis fás timpeall ar chaladh substaintiúil mar a raibh tithe cónaithe, stórais d'earraí agus áitribh eile gnó.

Tógadh Óstán Mór ar mhaithe le compord na bpaisinéirí ar an dtaobh thiar den droichead mar a raibh stáblaí do na capaill a tharraingíodh na báirsí.

Tógadh clóis d'earraí an Iarnróid maille le teachíní d'oibrithe an iarnróid ar an dtaobh theas den droichead.

Forbraíodh grán-mhuileann agus monarcha feola - forbairtí a chruthaigh fostaíocht áitiúil a raibh géarghá léi.

Lena stáisiún traenach gnóthach do chomaitéirí agus a nasc mótarbhealaigh go Baile Átha Cliath, is pobal beomhar é Na Solláin mar a bhfuil breis is 6,000 áitreabhóirí.

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