



## Worksheet B4: The Origins of Maynooth

Do this with Lesson 3.

Put all completed work in your folder.

### Physical Geography

Examine Map 1 (Maynooth and its surroundings, 1860) and the OS Map (Discovery Series No. 50). Look for the range of natural and human influences which contributed to the choice of Maynooth as a settlement site and to its later development.

1. Identify the range of natural geographical features on the maps. List these features.

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2. How would these features have influenced settlement in this area?

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3. List the reasons why this location was considered a suitable site for settlement.

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4. Monasteries were usually built close to rivers in areas with good land. Does this apply to the monasteries in the Maynooth area? Explain your answer.

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**Human Geography**

You will need Map 1 as well as Map 2 (Maynooth, 1757), Map 3 (Maynooth, 1821), Map 4 (Maynooth + Carton, 1939) and Map 5 (Maynooth, 1977).

5. Name Maynooth's three early monasteries. Circle their locations on Map 1.

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6. What effect would the existence of monasteries have had on life in the Maynooth area?

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7. The O'Brien clan once lived in this region. Examine Map 1. Is there still a placename today (perhaps in Irish) which suggest this family's connection? What does the name mean in Irish?

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8. Look at Map 1. Suggest what townlands around Maynooth provide clues to older historical connections.

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9. Look at the location of Maynooth Castle (Map 3). Does the site have a strategic value? What is it?

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10. What is a "castle bawn"? How was it used?

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## NEIGHBOURHOOD, VILLAGE, TOWN, CITY

11. What kind of people would have lived in and around Maynooth in the middle of the eighteenth century? What kinds of jobs might they have had? List as many as you can.

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12. List all of the street names you can find on Map 3.

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13. Where do you think the street names originated?

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14. Look at Map 4. What large building was built close to Maynooth in the eighteenth century?

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15. What impact do you think the Duke of Leinster had on the life of Maynooth?

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16. What transport systems would have been used in the eighteenth century?

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17. The Duke of Leinster was a major shareholder in the Royal Canal Company and was instrumental in directing the canal through Maynooth. A loading bay, known as the Duke Harbour, was built. Locate this on Map 4. What might the canal have been used for? Colour the canal and harbour blue.

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18. The Midland and Great Western Railway Company acquired the Royal Canal in 1845 and built a railway line alongside it. Locate the railway line on Map 4. Why do you think the railway replaced the canal as a means of transport? Colour the railway brown.

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19. What impact would the railway have had on the development of the community?

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20. Find Main Street on Map 4. Where does it lead? Which large building lies at the western end of Main Street?

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21. What influence might the presence of St Patrick's College have had on life in the area?

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22. Which roads and buildings are central to both Maps 4 and 5? Why? Colour these in on Map 5.

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23. Examine Map 5. How have the railway and the canal been incorporated with and connected to the town?

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24. Look at Maps 2 and 5. How has the plan of Maynooth changed over the last two centuries? What have the biggest changes been?

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## Homework

1. Arrange to complete Worksheet B4 outside of class time if you have not already done so.
2. Find Maynooth on a road map of Ireland. Make a sketch map which shows its position in relation to surrounding communities, towns and cities.



## Scrapbook

Dedicate a page/section in your Scrapbook to **Dream Locations**. Using postcards, travel brochures and magazines, collect images from around the world showing dream locations in which to live. Label each image and write a few lines about why you think it would be a “dream”.

## Vocabulary File

Update your Vocabulary File.