

Redeveloped logainm.ie site launched

Thursday, 12 May 2022: A new version of logainm.ie has been launched today by Jack Chambers T.D., Government Chief Whip and Minister of State for the Gaeltacht and Sport.

The Placenames Database of Ireland (logainm.ie) is developed by the Gaois research group in Fiontar & Scoil na Gaeilge, Dublin City University (DCU), in collaboration with the Placenames Branch (Government of Ireland). The new version encompasses a number of major improvements and additions to its public-facing website logainm.ie. The website has been redesigned to make it a more powerful tool for researchers and for the general public. The main changes are as follows:

- The **data structure** has been enhanced to better handle, for example, overlapping hierarchies, geographies, historic places, hidden names, compound names, name language, and place name element types.
- The **site structure** has been improved (and simplified) and now comprises four main tabs, i.e. SEARCH, BROWSE, GLOSSARY and RESOURCES, with 'search' given primacy.
- **Search results** are now more user-friendly and more comprehensive. Place clusters have an improved layout, and all related results appear as part of the main list of results, after exact matches.
- **Interactive maps** with multiple basemap options (including aerial photography) are now used throughout the site, i.e. in search results, in glossary entries, and in geographical and hierarchical browsing.

In addition to the public website, the toponymy management system that powers Logainm has been completely rewritten and will be made available open source later this year, along with the public website source code.

Speaking at today's launch, **Jack Chambers T.D.**, Minister of State for the Gaeltacht and Sport, said "I am delighted that the Logainm project continues to improve and develop with support from my Department. Placenames are a valuable link between people and the places where they live, and the work of Gaois and my Department's Placenames Branch helps us to value these names and their history, fostering an intimate connection with the Irish language. logainm.ie has helped many of us get to know our local heritage."

Prof. Anne Sinnott, Deputy President DCU, said "It is hugely important that our place names are cherished, recorded and, indeed, used more often. The Logainm project continues to make a significant contribution to this task, making the rich heritage of Irish place names more accessible to researchers and the general public, in Ireland and around the world."

Dr Brian Ó Raghallaigh, Principal Investigator of the project, said "I am so proud of the work that my team in DCU has carried out to bring to life this latest exciting iteration of the Logainm software, which brings state-of-the-art technology to the study of Ireland's place names."

ENDS

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Note to editors

logainm.ie is a public website which provides the official Irish-language versions of approximately 100,000 places throughout the country. It is also a comprehensive management system for the Placenames Branch for data, archival records and place names research. First launched in 2008, the site has had over 2.4 million visitors to date. Students, teachers, journalists, translators, researchers, the public sector and others who need the authoritative Irish form of placenames can find them easily by searching on logainm.ie. The site is also of interest to people worldwide who are interested in the heritage, culture and geography of Ireland. It is developed by the Gaois research group, Fiontar & Scoil na Gaeilge, DCU in collaboration with the Placenames Branch.

This project is funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, with support from the National Lottery.

The Placenames Branch of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media is responsible for undertaking research into the placenames of Ireland in order to provide authoritative Irish-language versions of those place names for official and public use.

Fiontar & Scoil na Gaeilge is Dublin City University's Irish-medium teaching and research unit. **Gaois** is a research group in Fiontar & Scoil na Gaeilge that develops innovative resources to support the Irish language and its heritage.



logainm.ie



An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir,
Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán
Department of Tourism, Culture,
Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

