

HIDDEN GEMS AND FORGOTTEN PEOPLE
MAYNOOTH LOCAL HISTORY GROUP



MAYNOOTH POUND

Many of the maps from the 18th and 19th Centuries show a Village or a Town “Pound”. Wandering animals were “impounded” by the Authorities and placed in the designated Town or Village Pound, where they had to be maintained for a designated time, pending reclamation by the owner. If not reclaimed, the impounded animal was then sold by public auction when maintenance expenses were defrayed and any money balance transferred to the Authorities. The appointment of Poundkeepers continued to be made by County Councils up to possibly the 1960’s. Local Authorities now maintain “Dog Pounds” and appoint Dog Wardens.

Maynooth has a very rare example of a surviving Pound which has been mapped since the 18th Century. It is at the junction of Pound Street and Mill Street, on the bank of the Lyreen River and opposite the modern Manor Mills Shopping Centre.