Ireland’s Tentative List
Background Considerations

• inventory of important natural and cultural heritage sites
• sites must be of Outstanding Universal Value
• Must meet at least one out of ten selection criteria
• Strategic Objectives of UNESCO’s WHC
  – Credibility
  – Conservation
  – Capacity building
  – Communication
  – Communities
The Tentative List is tentative!

ICOMOS evaluations in 2003–2007

- To inscribe: 53%
- To defer: 25%
- To refer back: 6%
- Not to Inscribe: 16%
• Global Strategy - a balanced, representative and credible World Heritage List.

• 10 criteria for the selection of sites.

• transnational sites

• Integrity

• Serial nominations

• Authenticity
Management Considerations for the historic Environment

- Time
- Cost, management and capacity for research and analysis
  - research (*social, cultural, political, associational History*)
  - recording
  - evaluation (*of condition and potential use and legal and institutional capacities*)
    leading to the Conservation Plan
- options - *for public access and sustainable use*
- planning (*the context, its opportunities and threats*)
- access and design
- interpretation and presentation,
- consensus within the community
- project costs, (*markets, management and business plans and marketing*)
- risks, benefits and sustainability
Expert Advisory Group

• 18 local and international experts
• the main challenges for the Group:-
  – To define OUV
  – To differentiate through making global comparisons
  – To evaluate the integrity and authenticity
  – To understand the urban and rural planning and management of Sites,
  – The dilemma - factors cannot be known at an early stage
  – The process of consulting
Ireland’s World Heritage Sites

- the Archaeological Ensemble of the Bend of the Boyne (1993)
- Skellig Michael (1996)

The discovery of the New Tentative List

- The 1992 Tentative List contained 9 Sites
- 13 sites received serious consideration
- 27 more sites were suggested by different stakeholders
We questioned............

• some sites previously included....
• overall themes....
• the value of these sites ..... 

The job of Expert Group was to identify OUV in the light of the Operational Guidelines and to assist in the consultation, selection and prioritisation of sites to be prepared for nomination.
Clonmacnoise (Cultural) Criteria (iv) and (v).
Clonmacnoise and
The Early Medieval Monastic Sites: Centres of Learning
Inniscaltra
Cultural Heritage: Poulnabrone Portal Tomb (5,500BP)
Image 6: Threats: land abandonment, Megalithic wedge tomb in hazel scrub
The Royal Sites of Ireland, Criteria (iii) (iv) and (vii) Cashel
Ceide fields (Mixed)  
Criteria (iii) (iv) and (v)
Georgian Dublin
Wide Streets Commissioners 1758-1851
Killarney National Park (Natural)
North West Mayo Boglands (Natural) Clara Bog (Natural)

Geomorphology of Clara Bog.
The Blasket Islands (Cultural landscape)
Great Blasket settlement and landing place – deserted since 1954.
The Aran Islands (Cultural landscape)
Conclusion

• Ireland has the most valuable cultural resource
• List of properties which the Expert Advisory Group considers further research is required before the properties could be considered again for inclusion on the Tentative List
  • Aran Islands, Co Galway
  • Birr Castle Demense, Co. Offaly
  • Blasket Islands, Co.Kerry
  • Cork (the emigrants’ story)
  • Lough Gur, Co. Limerick
  • Napoleonic and Cork Military Fortifications
  • Tory Island, Co. Donegal
  • Valentia Tetrapod Trackway, Co. Kerry
• List of properties which the Expert Advisory Group considers do not have adequate outstanding universal value for inclusion on the Tentative List

• Boyne Navigation Canal
• Carrigaphooca Castle Demense, Co Cork
• Clara Bog, Co. Offaly
• Killarney National Park, Co. Kerry
• McCarthy CastlesRinn Duinn and St. John’s Wood, Co. Roscommon
• St. Brendan’s Cathedral and Complex, Clonfert, Co. Galway
• Shannon Corridor
• Irish Walled Towns
The Expert Advisory Group considers that Ireland has the most valuable cultural resource. It is above all valuable nationally. Many parts of this national heritage may now form the basis for Ireland’s Tentative List on the basis of its Outstanding Universal Value, its Authenticity and its Integrity.

For me it has been a great pleasure to help in this most significant process
Thank you!