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## The Field Monument Advisor Scheme

Farmers are the day to day managers of our landscape and are the private landowners of the majority of archaeological sites. Ancient monuments are protected by the National Monuments Act 1930 – 2004, yet recent surveys have revealed damage due to land reclamation and the intensification of agriculture.

In response to this the Heritage Council in partnership with Sligo, Clare, Meath, Louth, Wicklow and Galway County Councils, has initiated the Field Monument Advisor Scheme which is aimed at preserving archaeological monuments located on privately owned farmland.

The objective of each advisor programme is to support landowners in the care of archaeological monuments in their ownership. An advisor in each County helps farmers by providing information on the archaeological field monuments of their land and by contributing to farmer training programmes. Information provided by Field Monument Advisors includes how to care for archaeological sites in farmland as well as details on the type and known date of a site. Farm visits can be spent working through management issues of the archaeology on the farm. Through the farmer's interest and enthusiasm ways to care for archaeological sites can be identified as part of the day to day farming activity.

So if you farm or own land in Counties Sligo, Clare, Meath, Louth, Wicklow or Galway and require information on archaeological monuments contact your Field Monument Advisor or your County Heritage Officer.

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