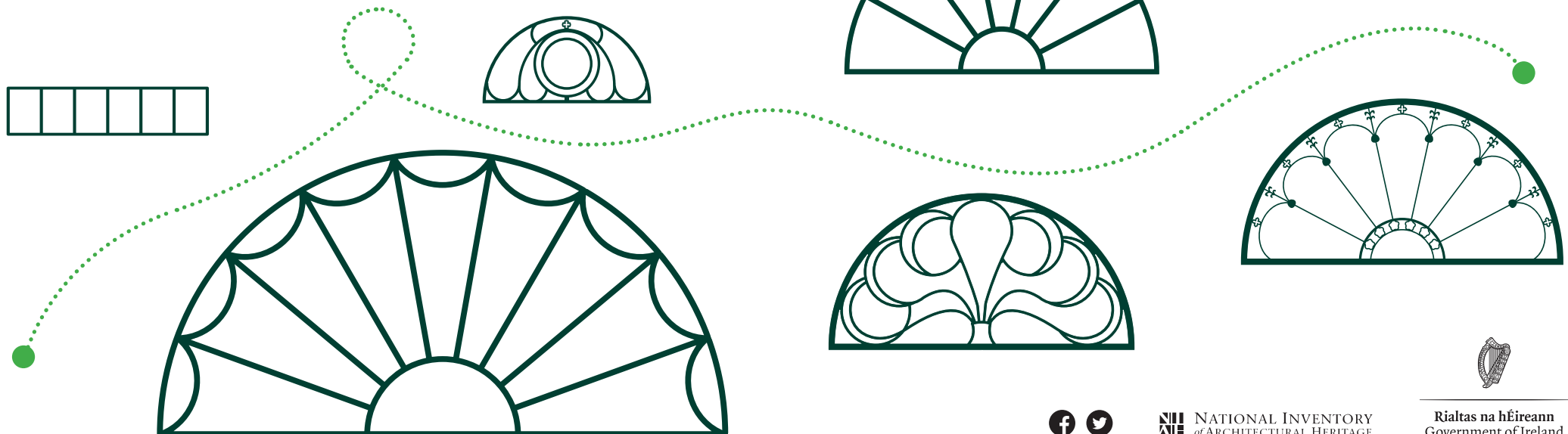


Fantastic Irish Fanlights of Mayo

Ireland has a rich heritage of fanlit doorcases in both urban and rural areas, which range from very simple to extremely sophisticated. Fanlights were designed and made throughout Ireland from the early 18th century to the end of the 19th century. Fanlights, sidelights and their doorcases usually display either Classical or Gothic details. They give houses and many other types of buildings a visual focus. You can read all about the fanlight design families in the Fantastic Irish Fanlights series on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage Facebook page www.facebook.com/www.buildingsofireland.ie/.



Fanlight Design Families

Fanlight designs were made in variations on a number of themes we call families as they are like siblings or cousins and only rarely like identical twins. You will find line drawings of the main design families on the activity sheet that accompanies this trail. Fanlights of all designs were handmade from metals, timber and glass.

This self-directed tour introduces Ireland's lovely legacy of fanlight creativity and practical skills. It is a brief snapshot of the fanlights of this county showing off a few individual highlights.

Please note these buildings are privately owned so view them from the road only.

National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH)

The purpose of the NIAH is to identify, record and evaluate the post-1700 architectural heritage of Ireland as an aid in its protection. The Building Survey, available at www.buildingsofireland.ie is a wonderful source of information on our architectural heritage and is also a valuable education and research tool. You can search over 65,000 records by location or Registration Number – these are the numbers that appear in the captions of the buildings featured on this trail.

Why not give it a try? Learn more about the buildings you already know and love and discover new architectural highlights in your local area.



NIAH NATIONAL INVENTORY
of ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Fantastic Irish Fanlights Tour — County Mayo

Westport

Westport is one of Mayo's best towns for fanlights.

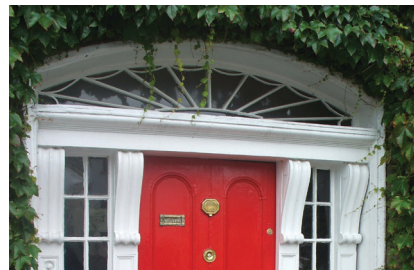
- Both sides of the Mall have lovely designs, such as at the Dower House on the North Mall, now Westport Credit Union, which has an impressive doorcase with an ornate cobweb fanlight, recently repaired.
- On the South Mall head for the last house on the corner with James Street. It has a lacy hub and, very unusually, the four spokes end with tiny scrolls.
- Make your way south towards the Octagon to find a doorway with an elliptical cobweb fanlight tucked into a corner beside the old market house.
- Southeast from here, amidst the other fanlights on High Street, the geometric rectangular fanlights of McGing's shopfront are elaborate versions of a fanlight pattern often found over shop doors.



Dower House, North Mall NIAH 31212052.



South Mall, NIAH 31212069.



Octagon, NIAH 31212082.



McGing, High Street, NIAH 31212146.

Activities

1. Tweet your favourite fanlight photos and tell us the stories behind these old hall doors #fantasticfanlights
2. Kids: fill in the fantastic Irish fanlights colouring page!



Ballina

Ballina has many fine buildings and fanlights.

- On the west side of Pearse Street admire the unusual, recently repaired crossed-swords fan at the Fashion Shop.
- Across Pearse Street is a grand stone terrace with arcaded shopfronts. Nos. 18 and 19 have pretty cobweb fans with double hubs over the shop and house doors.
- Across the Moy, No.1 Abbey Street has a decorative petal design within an arched rectangle – and there is another inside the house. Opposite is a pair of simple cobwebs. Check out all the other fanlights on Pearse Street, Dillon Terrace, Victoria Terrace and Kevin Barry Street.
- North of the town, visit Belleek Castle to see one of the most elaborate fanlights in Ireland. This Tudor-Gothic treasure has a glorious set of petal fans in a wonderful stone doorcase.



Fashion Shop, Pearse Street, NIAH 3120404.



19 Pearse Street, NIAH 31204071.

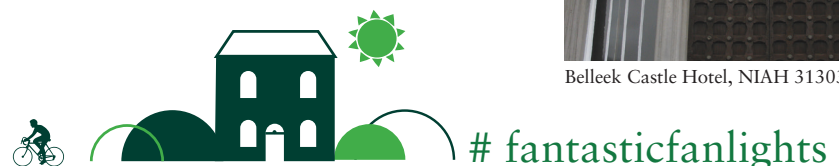


1 Abbey Street, NIAH 31204132.



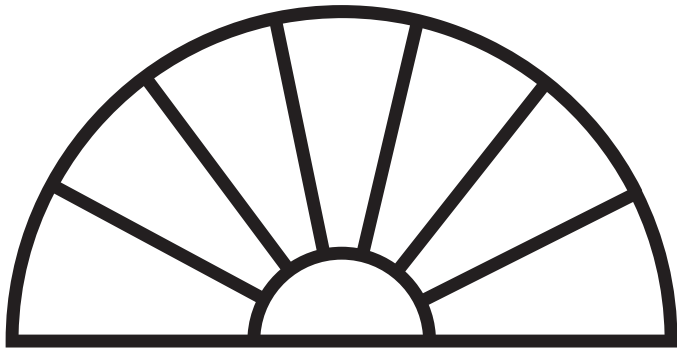
Belleek Castle Hotel, NIAH 31303017.

We hope that you have enjoyed this tour and that you have learned something new about fanlights and about the design and practical skills our ancestors used to create them.

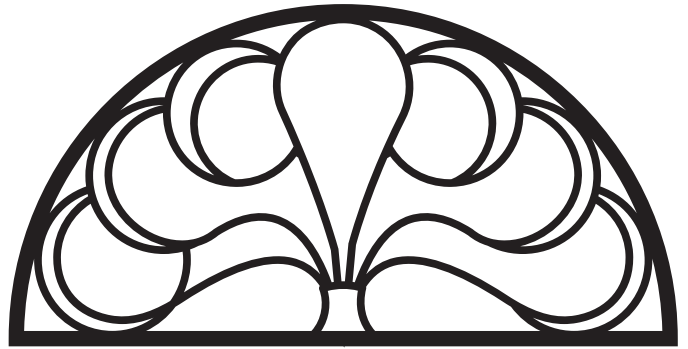


Fantastic Irish Fanlights

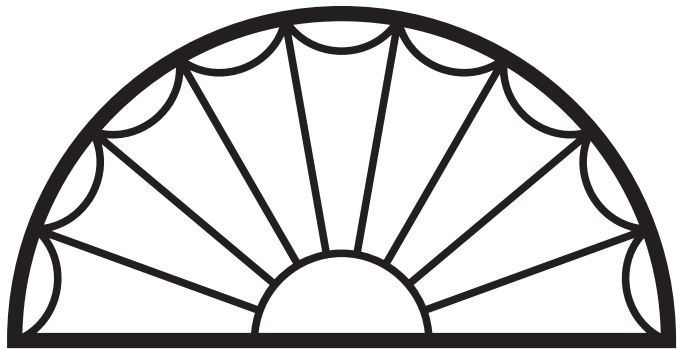
Colouring fun #fantasticfanlights



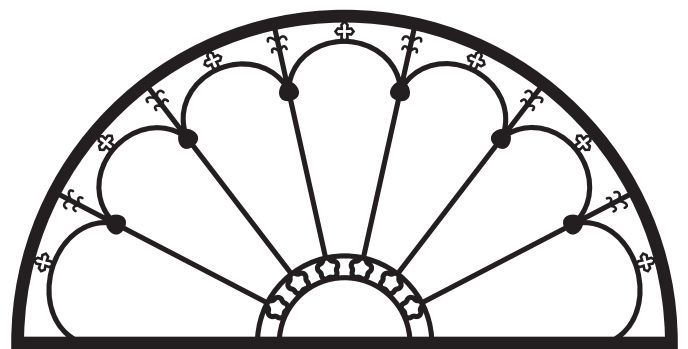
This is the basic radial design with hub and spokes.



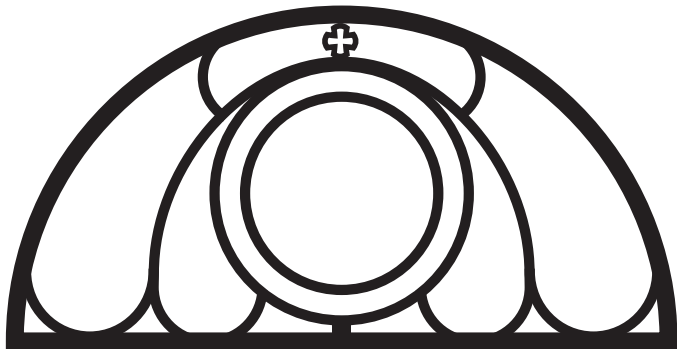
This is a floral design like a bouquet of flowers and leaves.



This is a cobweb design, made by adding concave loops to the radial design. It can have several sets of cobweb loops.



This is a petal design, made by adding convex curves to the radial design. It can have several sets of petal curves.



This is a teardrop design, made using circles and curves that are shaped like tears.



This is called a mouthorgan design, as it looks like a mouthorgan - or a set of teeth!

1. Tweet your favourite fanlight photo and tell us the stories behind these old hall doors. **#fantasticfanlights**
2. Kids: are there typical fanlight designs in your area? Send us your drawings of interesting fanlights and we'll show them in our fanlight fanmail on Facebook.

The NIAH team is happy to receive photographs of your fanlights, or any other building, to help improve our knowledge of the built heritage of Ireland. Post to our Facebook page, or write to niah@chg.gov.ie.

