

# Geophysics, tillage and the ghost ridges of County Galway

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# Methods of assessment

- Maps and printed or archival sources
  - Reports on previous fieldwork
  - Museum records
  - Local anecdotal knowledge
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- Field inspection
  - Aerial reconnaissance
  - Underwater survey
  - Geophysical survey
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- Test excavation

# Ghost ridges

- Broad cultivation ridges occur in every survey
- They typically cover large areas
- Ridges vary in width from c. 2 m to 4 m
- Some groups respect existing field boundaries
- Others clearly pre-date existing boundaries
- They are detectable as anomalies but not by testing

