

# The Map Wall

8 Panels on each side fixed to a supporting wall of reinforced concrete and set in gravel next to car parking area.

**Side 1:** Sandblasted relief map including placenames, roads, rivers, lakes and islands.

**Side 2:** A sandblasted copy of the text of John O' Donovan's letter, October 8th 1835.

The font design and digital map work is by the renowned Carton Leverte Design of Rathmullen. Michael McGroarty Stonemasons of Mountcharles sandblasted and installed the work.

**Other Notes:** Bearnasmore Gap is in the heart of Donegal, it is one of the most important and familiar stretches of road in the county. It is a vital transportation and communications link for locals and visitors alike. The County of Donegal has an identity, which is based on its Irish language, culture and location. In 1828, the Ordnance Survey of Ireland began the first ever survey of the entire country and during the orthographic (placenames) survey of Donegal in autumn of 1893; the renowned John O' Donovan walked the county from Inisowen at the northern tip to the county to Donegal Town. Consulting native Irish speakers and the Annals of the Four Masters, he gave us all the current spellings of placenames in the county. During his three-month survey of Donegal Placenames, he wrote regularly to Ordnance Headquarters. These letters are rich in descriptions of the life and topography of the country before the famine. His letter concerning Bearnasmore Gap, written in October 1835 is reproduced on the wall.