



Royal County furnishes home fit for a high king

Ochan, near Navan in Co Meath, offers 8.7 acres of carefully tended grounds and lands and 326 square metres of gracious living space for €925,000



Tina-Marie O'Neill
Property Editor

Named for the alleged burial place of Niall of the Nine Hostages, a legendary high king of Ireland, Ochan in the townland of Durhamstown in Navan, Co Meath is a home fit for a king.

Add the three paddocks that surround the residence, along with the excellent grazing lands, four loose boxes, storage and a tack room, the 8.7 acres of grounds and facilities at Ochan would be the perfect backdrop to provide a new owner with the wherewithal to enjoy a bit of the sport of kings too.

Built in the mid-1970s, Ochan dons the look of a colonial residence by virtue of its stature – a hefty 326 square metres, its symmetrical Palladian architectural approach and the pair of imposing double height exterior columns on either side

of the entrance. Kindly sheltered from the road by a bank of mature specimen trees, a winding drive leads to the striking residence, in which the present owners have lived for the past 26 years.

“Niall of the Nine Hostages is said to be buried close by in what is known today as Faughan Hill at Jordanstown,” said the owner.

“We bought the house in 1995 because of the land around it. Two of our three sons were interested in ponies at the time. We bought this almost as soon as we saw it and it’s been a wonderful home to us.

“We’ve had much happiness here and lots of entertaining, thanks to the easy flow of the internal layout.”

Shortly after moving in, the owner converted the double garage into a granny flat for his late mother, which he now uses as his private office while working



Ochan in Durhamstown in Navan, Co Meath: a striking residence built in the Palladian style in the mid-1970s, is surrounded by 8.7 acres of grounds with three paddocks and excellent grazing lands

“**Niall of the Nine Hostages is said to be buried close by in what is known today as Faughan Hill at Jordanstown**”

from home during the pandemic.

“The following year we extended what was a small orangery into the current garden room and extended the adjacent dining room as well as creating the landscaped gardens, installing the fish pond, the summer house and planting specimen trees and an orchard,” he said.

At the time, the owners replaced all of the windows and external doors and insulated the house. They rebuilt the front entrance, installing electric gates and replaced all of the stud railings about 15 years ago.

Once through the imposing bright red

front door, the entrance hall, although expansive, is welcoming with its stained timber floors and feature staircase.

To the right, the dual-aspect formal drawing room is an exceptional entertaining room. Presented in fresh apple green striped wallpaper, the room is complete with solid timber floors, a feature white marble surround open fireplace, covered radiators, ceiling coving and a centre rose. Double doors open to the garden room at the rear.

This room, which opens to the rear patio and gardens, is suitable for all year around enjoyment, but especially those

long summer days. It has stone floor tiles, full-height arched rear windows a doors and a series of roof lights and built-in storage cupboards.

Adjacent to the garden room is the formal dining room, announcing itself in bright crimson. The room has solid timber floors and is ideally located beside the kitchen.

A true homage to the hub of family life, the country-style kitchen boasts a homely atmosphere with its range of fitted timber base and wall-mounted units, cream worktops and a timber

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