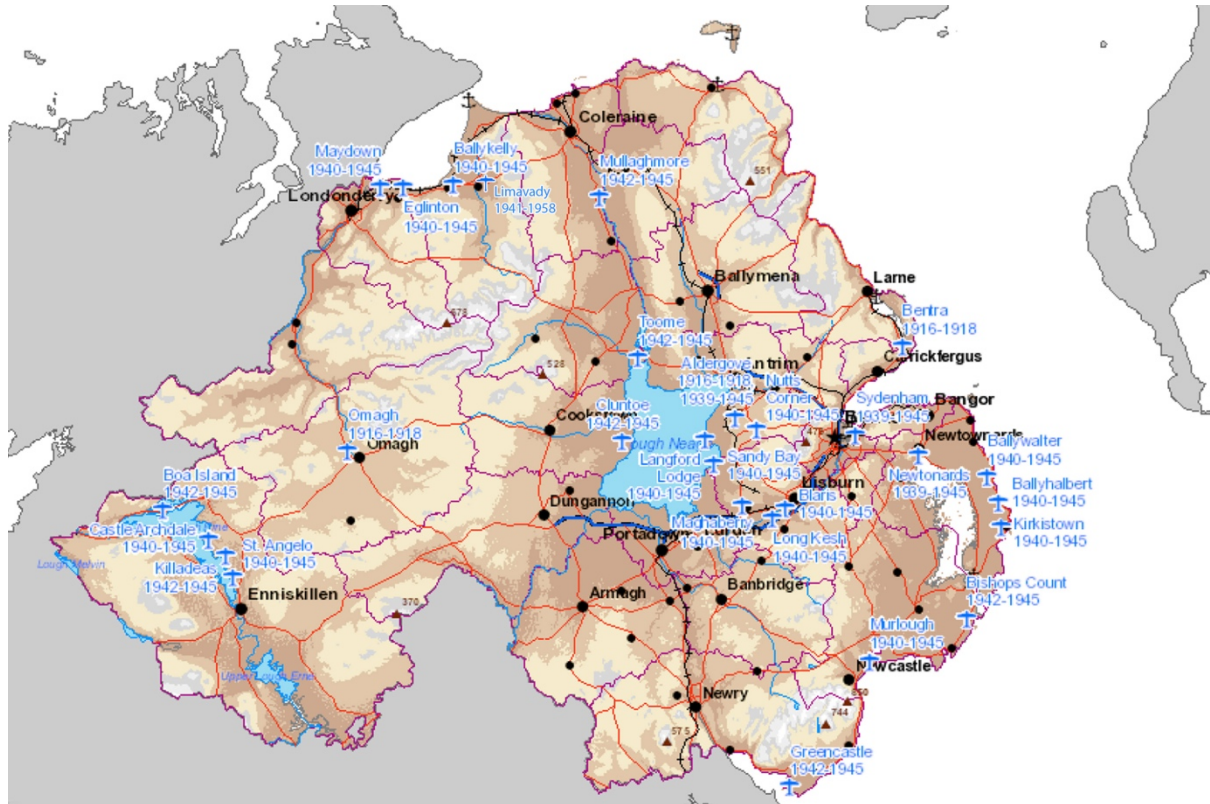


Laura Wing



Our familiar landscapes are often forced to alter through World Wars and conflicts. It can result in leaving a unique imprint, in which these can represent either it's accomplishments or defeats. The development of military aviation sites increased dramatically during the Second World War for all of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Presently, some of these military sites still stand today as they intertwine as past and present. Often stuck in time, with no formal classification as a heritage site, neither conserved nor regenerated, its fate often lies with Mother Nature.

This body of work began as a response to RAF100 (The Royal Air Force Centenary), reflecting on 100 years of service. Wing's initial intent was mainly concerned with the geographical placement of Royal Air Force Stations within Northern Ireland. After realising how many airfields were commissioned during First World War and Second World War (not all used just by the RAF), she started to investigate the airfield infrastructures that were left behind. Her approach to categorize the types of structures such as Hangars, Control Towers helped to achieve a snap shot into the physical remnants and their current state.

By using archive and recent aerial imagery it was also possible to see how these airfields, their runways leave a lasting imprint, some only faint but still present. It is not possible to preserve all sites but by capturing them, a digital record is created and with this record we can help to preserve their legacies.

Artist Biography

Laura Wing has worked as a photographer for 11 years and is currently undertaking a MA in Photography. Having been a keen aviation photographer for some time, Laura has spent nearly 2 years investigating these heritage sites along with the history they present. This body work will take form as part of her MA, as she hopes to engage with audiences to collectively reflect on the fundamentals of World War history and to investigate the best ways to keep these histories alive.

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Wartimeni.com Scott Edgar

Northern Ireland War Memorial Museum

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Controltowers.co.uk

ww2ni.com

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