

TOWER ON MULLAGH HILL





THE
FOLLIES TRUST

The Follies Trust exists to encourage – across the island of Ireland – the conservation and restoration, in their original setting, of: follies, grottoes, mausolea and monuments, garden buildings and other structures of beauty or historic, industrial and architectural significance. These eccentric structures – or follies – are part of the fabric of our history but because they appear to serve no useful purpose are too often regarded as expendable.

Tower on Mullagh Hill, Tullamore, Co Offaly.

The tower stands on top of Mullagh Hill and is said to have been built by Francis Sadleir, (1774-1851) Provost of Trinity College, Dublin, who lived at nearby Mullagh House. It is a cylindrical structure, built as a folly – or a viewing tower – or possibly both – in the 1820s and is located south-east of the site of Mullagh House. The tower is a drum within a larger drum with the mural stair rising between the walls of both. Now it stands in the centre of an agricultural landscape, yet it is a reminder of a past era and is a protected structure and part of Offaly's architectural heritage.

Over time it was in need of conservation and in 2014 the Follies Trust, the Follies Trust, working with Offaly County Council and the owner, was able to conserve it with funding from the Built Heritage Job Leverage Scheme and the Follies Trust.

www.follies-trust.org

The Follies Trust is registered with The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC 101116

Photographs: Tower after conservation ©Rachel McKenna