

# Wildlife in Buildings: Linking our Built and Natural Heritage



John Lusby  
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An Chomhairle Oidhreachta  
The Heritage Council



# Wildlife in Buildings



Michael O'Clery



Crossing the Line

# Wildlife in Buildings



# Wildlife in Buildings





Richard T Mills

# Wildlife in Buildings



# Wildlife in Buildings



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann  
Tipperary County Council



COMHAIRLE  
CONTAE AN CHLÁIR CLARE  
COUNTY COUNCIL



Laois County Council  
Áras an Chontae, Portlaoise, Co. Laois



BirdWatchIreland  
protecting birds and biodiversity

Mike Brown



# Wildlife in Buildings



Richard T Mills



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Colum Clarke



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Michael Finn



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Mike Brown  
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# Old Stone Structures

Ben Andrews (rspb-images.com)



Artur Tabor



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## Key considerations for planning changes to a building

- Breeding and resting places of protected wildlife are afforded protection under the Wildlife Acts. Therefore, disturbance to wildlife or their breeding/resting places is an offence.
- A grant of planning permission does not constitute a licence or permission to disturb wildlife or interfere with their breeding or resting places.
- It is the responsibility of the developer and building owner to ensure that wildlife present, and any potential effects on wildlife, are taken into account, and that all works undertaken are within the legal requirements.
- If work is being undertaken on a building, and wildlife is discovered, a National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) Conservation Ranger should be contacted immediately for advice.
- If works are to be carried out which could result in disturbance to wildlife (which may constitute an offence), a derogation licence is required from the NPWS (see below).
- If the proposed activity can be timed, organised and carried out so as to avoid committing offences, no licence is required.



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## When should I seek advice and/or specialist surveys?

Examples of sites where advice and/or specialist surveys are required to inform works include:

- a building which is suspected, or has potential, to be used as a roost by bats (at any time of the year)
- a building which is suspected, or has potential, to be used by protected wildlife (e.g. birds, bats, Pine Marten) for breeding and where the works may affect the species present during their breeding period.

## BREEDING BIRDS

Outside the breeding season for most birds. If no breeding activity, works can be carried out.



Breeding season for most birds.  
Works which could cause disturbance  
should be avoided.

Late nesting species (Barn Owl, Swallow, House  
Martin) may still be breeding. If no breeding  
activity works can proceed.

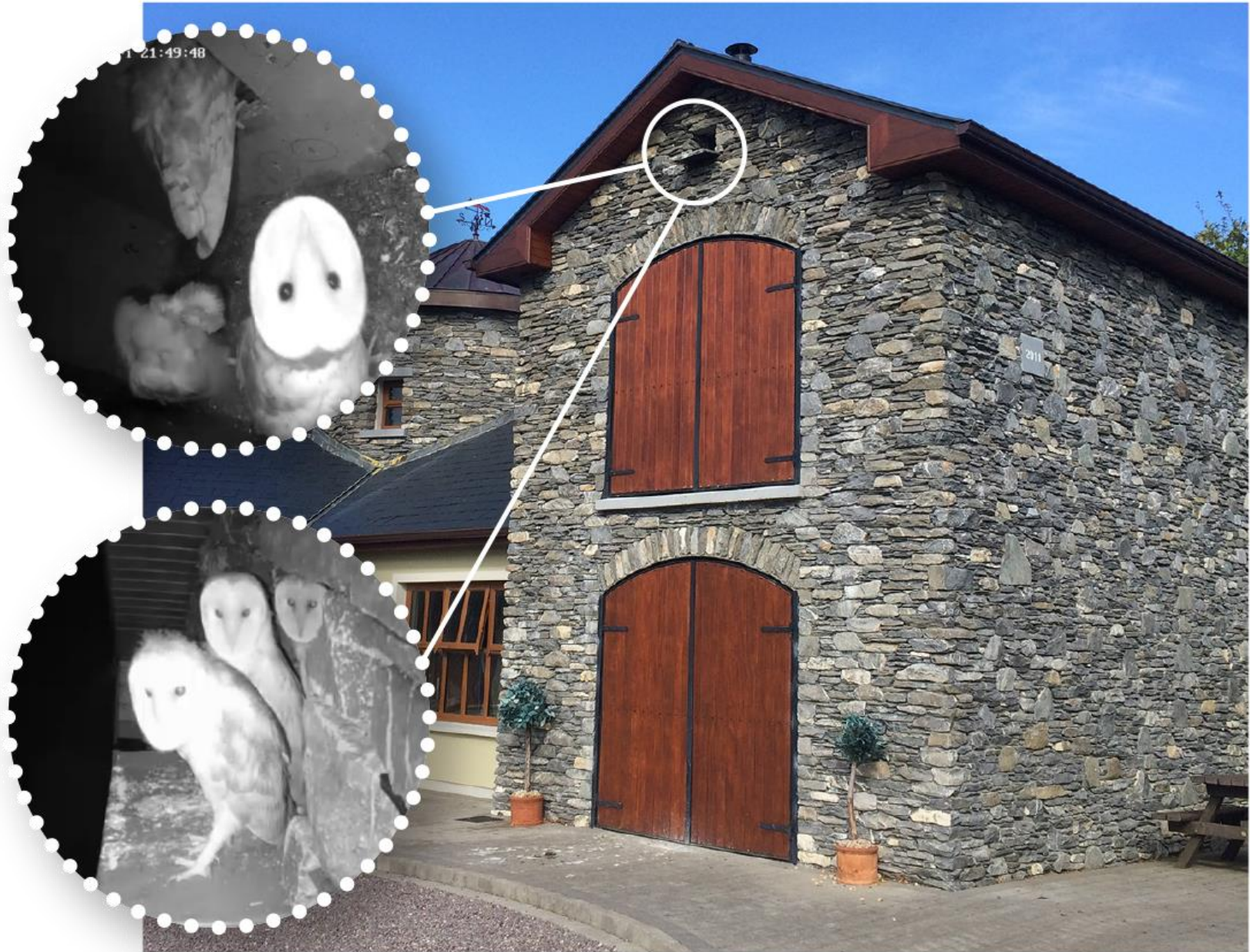


Richard T Mills

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# Thank you

Further resources:

Wildlife in Buildings Guidance document:

<http://docstore.kerrycoco.ie/KCCWebsite/heritage/wildlifebuildings.pdf>

Wildlife in Buildings video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5lQt3C8uI5E&t=555s>