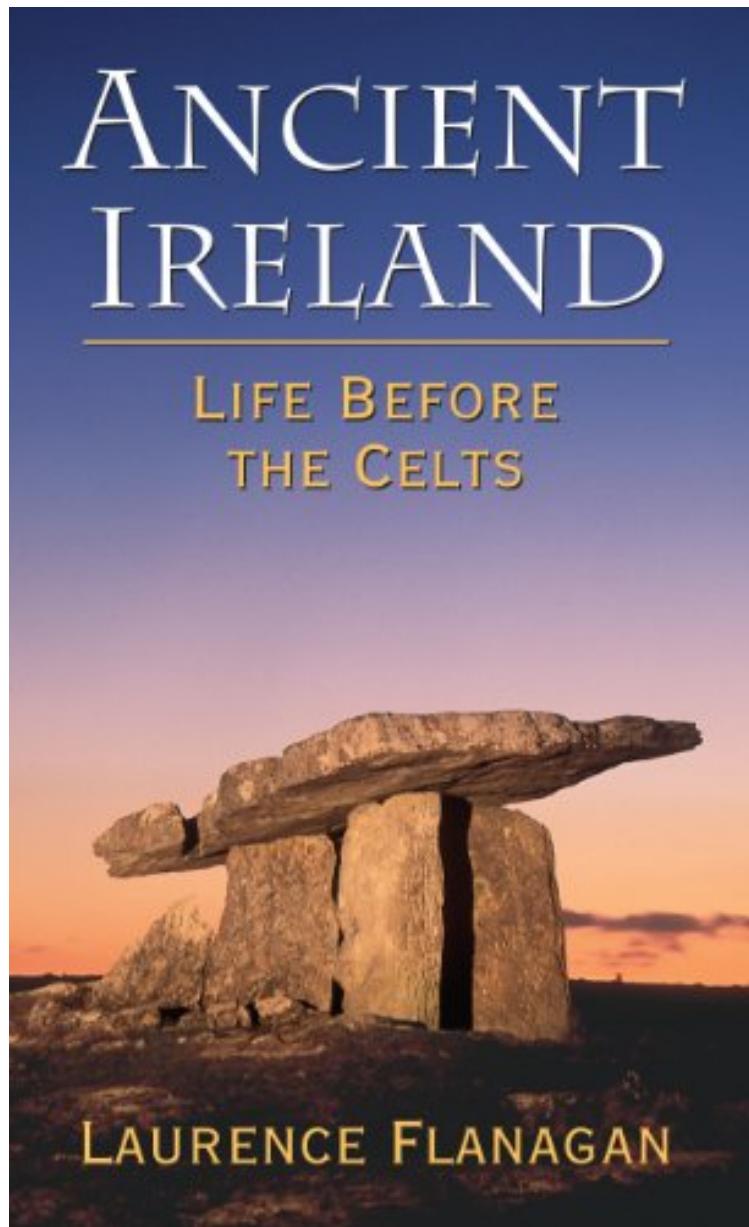


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Ancient Ireland: Life Before the Celts

Laurence Flanagan
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Laurence Flanagan : Ancient Ireland: Life Before the Celts before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ancient Ireland: Life Before the Celts:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Lots of Data from the late 1990'sBy Frank H. Much fascinating detail instead of a comprehensive narrative. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A little bit of knowledge is a dangerous thingBy shumackI was expecting an archaeologists view, and that's what I got - for the first half. His ideas

voiced in the 2nd half got me so angry! Unidentified corpses buried with weapons are "patently an indication of the warrior status of the man whose grave they shared." An early bronze age cremation of a young woman where a "barbed-and-tanged arrowhead was present" suggested as a cause of death rather than a funerary offering becomes "Was the unfortunate woman put to death - perhaps as a woman 'taken in adultery'?" Two headless corpses with a cremated child - pederasts?" Another explicit weapon.....the halberd.....found in a cist ...accompanying cremated bone that, although not identified, can hardly have been other than that of a man" Where did this man learn his history????????? I give the 3 stars ONLY because the archaeology appears sound and is informative, somewhat, on the early stages of Ireland's habitation. The rest is rubbish. 18 of 23 people found the following review helpful. Good but read with caution By Hallstatt Prince This is beautiful book that offers a great deal of information about pre-Celtic Ireland through artifacts discovered and the impressive sites from this period that are still standing and through the archeological record the author gives us some insight as to what this culture (or cultures) looked like. However I do take issue with some of the information presented in this book. There is much debate as to the periods of Celtic invasion and more and more the research in both linguistics and archeology continue to push the dates of Celtic occupation further and further back. The Celts and peoples that existed before pre-Celtic times traded with Ireland along the mid Atlantic trade routes for millennia and the Celtic invasions themselves are believed to have occurred along both the mid-Atlantic route and across the English channel. Please keep this in mind as you read this book. That being said the this book is still a great resource especially if used in conjunction with current credible sources on the topic of the Celtic invasions.

When the Celts first arrived in Ireland around 200 B.C., the island had already been inhabited for over 7000 years. Drawing on a wealth of archaeological evidence and the author's own mastery of the subject, 'Ancient Ireland' returns to those pre-Celtic roots in a bid to discover the secrets of the island's first inhabitants: Who were they? And how did they live? Few accounts of the period are as exhaustively researched; fewer still are as alive with historical insight and compelling detail. At once accessible and comprehensive, 'Ancient Ireland' is an indispensable guide to early Irish civilisation, its culture and mythology.

About the Author Laurence Flanagan is an archaeologist and a former Keeper of Antiquities at the Ulster Museum, UK. He is the author of *A Dictionary of Irish Archaeology*.