

PAT JESS

In the past harsh physical and social conditions produced low levels of living and high rates of emigration. The subsistence economy was based on agriculture, with some fishing and domestic industry. But although a strong cultural tradition persists, local society is changing.

Since the 1960s this rural area has seen modernisation in farming and in the development of manufacturing industry, as we'll see in the next programme. This programme focuses mainly on agriculture and shows how characteristics from the past combine with elements of modern society in the reproduction of local uniqueness.

To understand the distinctive character of a place as it is now, we need to know about the past: the previous layers with which more recent processes have combined.

[End of recording]