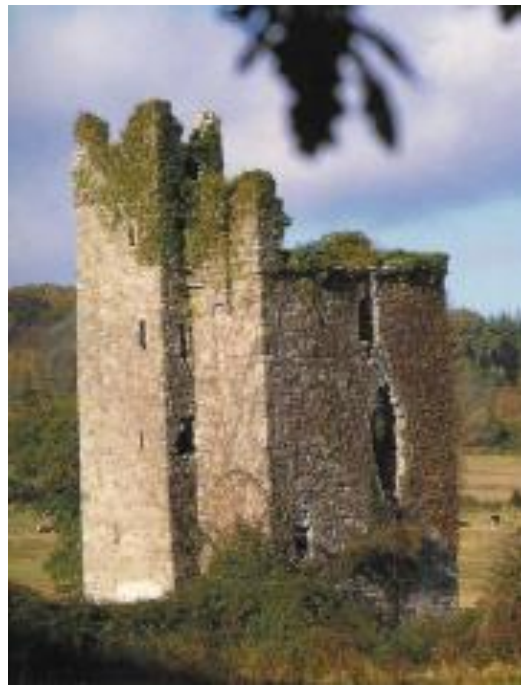


GEORGE BERKELEY

Biography

- Born 1685 in Ireland
- 1728, married the daughter of an Irish judge
- Went to colonial America to open a college. Bought a plantation in Rhode Island with several slaves. Funds for the college never materialized from England, and he returns in 1732.
- 1734, he took part in efforts to create a home for London's abandoned children
- Died 1753 in England



George Berkeley: Subjective Idealism

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FZmz9nkqBt4> (4 minutes)

Philosophy (major ideas)

Believes that nothing exists other than God, finite spirits and their ideas

↳ The world we think we encounter, a physical universe that existed; long before there were any creatures to perceive it, is only an intellectual construction

Mind-independent objects do not exist because it is impossible to conceive of them

↳ This theory denies the existence of material substance and instead contends that familiar objects like tables and chairs are ideas perceived by the mind and cannot exist without being perceived.

God must exist in order to cause our ideas of sense.

Our ideas must exist in God when not perceived by us

To be is to be prepared

God accounts for the uniformity of nature and its continued existence when no finite mind perceives it