

## THE PARISH OF IVERUS. 1

**SITUATION.** This Parish is situated in the north of the Barony of Kenry. It is bounded on the north and west by the River Shannon, south by Askeator Parish and on the east by the Parish of Kilcornan.

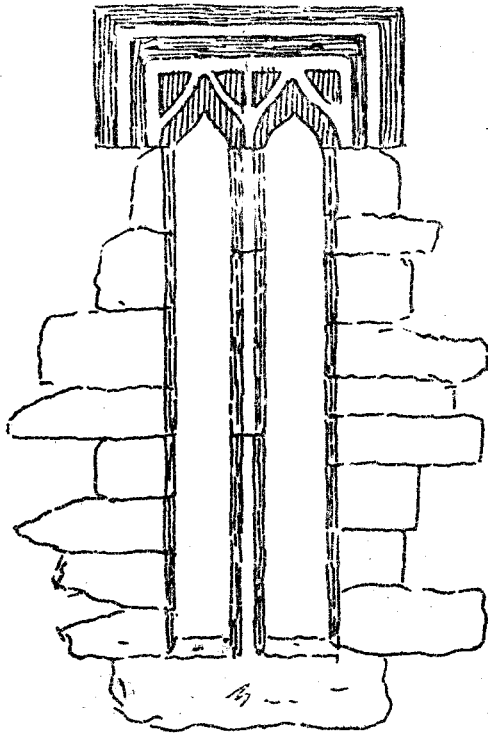
**NAME.** The name of this Parish is not of ecclesiastical origin, but borrowed from that of an ancient Irish tribe located in this Parish. Of this tribe O'Heerin wrote as follows:-

Do ghabh O'Bearga an bhruain ghil  
Tuath O'Rosa is réim saidhbhir.

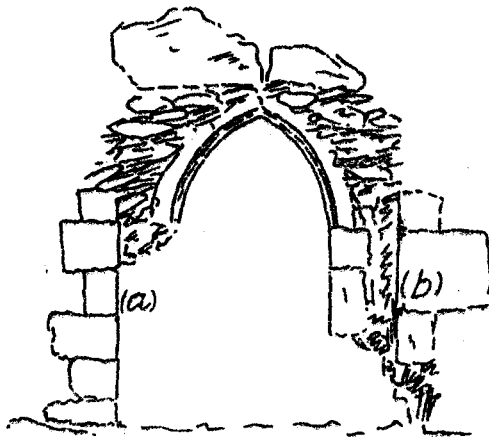
Iveruss, the present anglicised form of this name, is formed from Uibh Rosa, the ablative plural form of the name.

In the Townland of Beagh are the ruins of an old Church (called Beagh Church) of which the walls are almost perfect with the exception of the southern part of the east gable, which is slightly injured, particularly on the inside. It is fifty seven feet long by twenty two feet in breadth. On the middle of the east gable about five feet from the ground there is a window in two parts, which on the outside is about seven feet high by one foot eleven inches, each part being about eight and three quarter 2 inches in width. On the inside it is much wider and has a very flat arch on the upper part. It is formed of grey lime stone similar to that used in the walls. The annexed sketch will give you an idea of the external appearance.

On the south side wall seven feet from the east gable there is a window four feet high by six inches on the outside, where it is shaped similarly to one of the divisions of the above window. On the inside it is square and considerably wider. The doorway is on this wall at the distance of nineteen feet from the west gable. It is about seven feet high by three and a half in breadth; from (a) to (b) is six feet four inches in breadth. This doorway enters the wall eleven inches. The annexed sketch shows its present appearance on the outside.



*Window on the East Gable  
Beagh old Church.*



*Doorway, Beagh old Church*

The west gable and the north side wall are featureless. The walls, which are parapeted, are about thirteen and a half feet in height, the parapet being in some places three feet, and in others about eighteen inches high. They are three feet in thickness and built of small and large stones, with lime and sand mortar. The west gable and a little of the side walls adjoining it are covered with ivy.

The graveyard attached to this Church is still in use. No Patron Day or Saint is remembered in this Parish.

The old inhabitants say that there was a burial place for unbaptised infants and strangers in Milltown Townland, but its site can scarcely be traced now.

Beagh Castle stands in ruins on the bank of the River Shannon **4** about half a mile north of the old Church, and in the same Townland. It measures twenty three feet by seventeen feet inside and consists of three stories. The first or ground story is vaulted. The floor over this is the only one now remaining. There is a winding stair-case in the south east corner. The walls, which are thickly covered with ivy, are about fifty feet (or?) high and built of limestone of a light grey colour, with lime and gravel mortar. Attached to the west of this Castle is an additional building called in the Name Book a "Battery". The tradition among the old inhabitants is that Beagh Castle was erected and anciently possessed by the Fitzgerald family.

The antiquities of this Parish were examined and described by Mr. O'Keeffe.

J.O'D.

"A.D. 1145. Madm mor le Coblach (Connachd air Cobhlach na Mumhan et Gall Luimne ag Buinne na Beithe for Fionain."

- Chronicon Scotorum.