

THE PARISH OF OOLA.

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SITUATION This Parish is situated in the Barony of Coonagh

and is bounded on the north by the Parish of Doon; on the east and south by the Co. of Tipperary and on the west by the Parishes of Tuath Chluigin and Templebrédin.

**NAME.** No ancient Irish authority has yet turned up to prove the original Irish form of the name of this Parish. The people believe that it took its name from the quantity of apple trees formerly produced by the Townland in which the original Church was built. For a similar name see my letter on the Parish of Achadh Abhla, now Aghowl in the Barony of Shilelagh and Co. Wicklow.

No part of the old Church of this Parish is now to be seen nor has been these many years, but its grave yard is still used as a cemetery. It lies at the Village of Oola.

The other remains of antiquity in this Parish are those of two Castles, which would appear to have been erected in the reign of Queen Elizabeth or James I. 428

One of these is in the Townland of Oola; it is a square structure in tolerable preservation measuring about twenty feet square and sixty feet high. The other is in the Townland of Longford, but in bad preservation. It was originally of the same extent and height with the Castle of Oola, but it is now destroyed down to the height of about twenty feet.

For the correct names of forts and other minor features in this Parish, see Field Name Book.

The Village of Cullen called in Irish Cuilleann O'gCuanach (i.e., Cullin in Coonagh) is said to be partly in this Parish, but its name is not set down in the Field Name Book, from which I conclude that the Ordnance Survey looks upon it as entirely in the Co. of Tipperary. It will, however, be found that it belongs to the Barony of Coonagh and Co. of Limerick. 429

Examined by me.

J. O'Donovan.