

**I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY**

**NATURAL FEATURES, ANTIQUITIES,  
HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.**

BARONY OF Coshlea

TOWN OR VILLAGE      PARISH Ardfpatrick COUNTY Limerick

**TOPOGRAPHY**

Brief description of outstanding scenic views in the district, natural attractions, or unusual topographical features.

Ardfpatrick parish has some of the prettiest scenery in Ireland. It embraces the very picturesque range of mountains, the chief peaks of which are Buntrent, Coolfree, Seepin and Bluehook. The highest point of the latter is 1736 feet. To the north of these is the lovely Glenasheen & on western slope is Glenanaan. From the summit of any one, wonderful views of the country may be had, covering <sup>five</sup> counties. To the north & east

**GEOLOGY**

Brief notes on unusual geological features, such as caves, eskers, etc.

lies county Limerick, to south & west county Cork and in the distance to west plainly discernable are the Mc Gillinuddy Reeks. Away to north beyond Link are the long lines of Clare hills & to distant east the Slieve Felin & Silvermines in Tipperary. Most of the local mountains have been planted by the Foresty Dept. and in time will be very beautiful.

**MANSIONS, CASTLES AND ESTATES**

OF IMPOSING CHARACTER

Location and brief description. Owner. Past associations. Libraries or art collections? Gardens? Open to visitors? Admission charge?

Beside Ardfpatrick is a very charming Georgian house known as Sunvale. Owned by Mr John O'Donnell. See picture. It was built in early 18th century by a family named COSBY from whom it passed to the LOWE family, famed for generations as soldiers. The house greatly resembles many of the country houses in France and makes a charming picture in its beautifully wooded park. In the reception rooms, the fireplaces in marble are of really excellent workmanship. There are no works of art or library. In the hall was some very lovely old oak panelling but this has now been painted & its beauty temporarily destroyed. Not open.

## ANTIQUITIES

Abbeys, Castles, Fortresses, Round Towers, Early Churches, Sculptured Crosses, Stone Circles, Ogham Stones, Cairns, Souterrains, Pillar Stones, Cromlechs, Forts, Rathes, Moats, Tumuli or ancient monuments of any kind. Exact location of each with short description, noting condition, etc. Relate local legend or tradition associated with building or object. State if in charge of Office of Public Works. Right of way to public? Admission charge (if any). Name and address of caretaker, or where key is kept.

ROUND TOWERS. On the summit of Ardpatrick beside burial ground and church ruins, the base of a round tower lies. The highest section to east is about 9 feet. Is of very regular masonry. See picture. It is about 60 ft in circumference. No care.

EARLY CHURCH. On Ardpatrick lie the ruins of a fairly large establishment which dated from late 12th century and is believed to have replaced a much earlier foundation. It appears to have been a small monastic settlement. The fields about were divided into small tillage plots, the boundaries of which still remain. An entrenched road led up north side of hill and in a less elaborate form continued down the western slope. This latter is known as "The track of Patrick's leas". Ardpatrick was a very ancient parish and was mentioned continuously from opening of 13th to middle of 17th century. Tradition has it that it was granted to St Patrick on condition that he remove the hill of Beann Fibrailh which lay north of Kilmannane and cut off the view of the hill of Knocklong. It is believed St Patrick's faith was equal to the task and the obstruction disappeared. A cross roads north of Kilmannane is known as the cross of the Lough and is supposed to mark the site of the hill.

The main portion of the building measured about

# Antiquities. I Ardpatrick.

## Early Church.

90 x 25 feet. To the north was a pointed door of limestone which was set in a much earlier & larger door, round headed ~~door~~ on outside & flat inside. To the west was a small wing, the foundations of which only now remain. The building throughout was of large irregular stones. The western gable had antae which projected about five feet. To the east was a vaulted passage (pointed). The ruins lie in a very old burial ground and are in bad repair. No care & repair willing.

CAIRN. On the summit of Seefin is a cairn believed to mark the grave of Oisín. Of loose stones and nearly levelled. A short distance to east of this is a group of rocks known as "Carraig na nUisce" where the last wild boar in Ireland is supposed to have been killed.

SACRIFICIAL STONE. On the lands of Mr R. Connolly at Dorthostown is a large flat topped boulder. It is roughly circular and would be about seven feet in diam. About 2 ft at highest point. In it are three deep cups connected by channels. (See picture) The smallest would be about 10 ins in diam & 6 ins deep, the second would be about 12 ins in diam & 12 ins deep & the largest would be about 15 ins in diam & 18 ins deep. Very little is known about it but the general belief is that it was a place where sacrifice was offered. The cups are certainly of human agency.

FORT.

On the summit of Fitzgerald's hill between Clontarf town and Ardpatrick and beside the newly erected waterworks is a fairly well preserved fort. About 40 yards in diam & twenty feet high from bottom of fosse. To the east appears to be the remains of a surfaced ridge across fosse & perhaps was an entrance.

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O'Sullivan Beese camped at Ardpatrick for some time after his battle with de Bury in the region of Clontarf.

CURIOSITIES. I Ardpatrick

At Ballingaroo North on lands of Mr John Keating are two boulders known as Oscar's and Lisin's rocks. Local tradition has it that father & ~~son~~ son, one day engaged in friendly contest to test their strength. Both threw rocks of similar size from the summit of the nearby hill. One went slightly further than the other. It is not known who was the victor.

A group of rocks west of Black Rock mountain are known locally as Castle Philip. There never was a castle in the vicinity but when viewed from Glenanear their formation greatly resembles a ruined castle. Lisin is supposed to have wandered much about there.

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The names of the three legendary giants are commemorated in this area. Seefin mountain commemorates Jim; Glenasher commemorates Lisin and at Mount Russell a short distance to the west is "Leaba Oscar" or Oscar's Bed, an irregular ellip. Tomb. See Effin.

P. J. D.

Chapel of Ease, Glenasheen. known as PARTICLES CHURCH.

At Glenasheen is a quaint little church (Protestant) presently being dismantled. It was originally a cottage dwelling and during the famine period a huge pot of "stir-a-bout" was always kept on the boil there by the Oliver of Castle Oliver (Now known as Clonoduff). The famine stricken people came from far & near to partake of the welcome food. Its supply of course was subject to the usual "conditions" of the time. A hill two miles due west across the mountain is known as Dead Man's Hill as many people collapsed & died there from undue exertion after eating excessively at the cottage. The house later became a school where the children of those who accepted the "conditions" were taught. About 80 years ago it was converted into a chapel of ease for the use of the residents of Clonoduff and very handsomely fitted up. In this use it continued up to some years ago. See picture. It was one of the prettiest little churches I have seen during my survey & it is a source of regret that it must be dismantled but it was necessitated by the continuous vandalism which went on there. The very quaint windows were burst in with stones, valuable rails were torn up & battered, the stairs leading to pretty help, destroyed & the bell dragged from its moorings. From the north & east, to public road it presented a very lovely picture but due to high trees & close proximity of a high wall it was impossible to get a picture from this angle. The picture supplied is from the west. Glenasheen is one of the loveliest spots in Ireland.

# I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

## SPORTS AND GAMES

BARONY OF Coshlea

TOWN OR VILLAGE / PARISH Arpatie R. COUNTY Limerick

### ANGLING (Fresh water)

*If there is only one river or lake in the parish this form (B) will suffice. For additional waters Form Ba to be used.*

RIVER OR LAKE / Nearest point to town (distance) /

#### KINDS OF FISH HELD :

/

#### AVERAGE WEIGHT OF :

Salmon / Sea trout / Brown trout /

#### BEST SEASONS FOR :

Salmon / Sea trout / Brown trout /

#### SUITABLE FLIES :

Salmon /

Sea trout /

Brown trout /

State if angling is—"entirely free"; "free except on preserved stretches"; etc.

/

#### Preserved stretches with names and addresses of Proprietors :

/

#### Owners of boats for hire, and charges per day :

/

#### Convenient angling centres (where accommodation is available) :

/

Local Angling Club / Membership Fee /

Secretary (and Address) /

**SEA ANGLING**

Brief notes on fishing grounds :

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.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Kinds of fish to be caught :

.....  
.....

Owners of boats, type of boats, and charges per day :

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Bait available locally ?..... Fishing tackle ?.....

Representative of B.S.A.S. or other sea angling Assn.....

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**GOLFING**

Name of Club..... No. of holes.....

Situation and brief description of course :

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.....  
.....  
.....

Name of Professional.....

Is there a clubhouse on course ?..... Licensed ?.....

Green fees (Visitors) : Per day..... Per week.....



**RACING**

(Including " Point-to-Point " and " Flapper " meetings)

No. of meetings normally held during the year.....  
Under which rules?.....  
Situation of course.....

**HUNTING**

Hounds which hunt in the district :

Foxhounds *Seanteen Black & Tan*.....  
Harriers.....  
Beagles.....

**COURSING**

Name of Club..... Meeting held annually?.....

**GREYHOUND RACING**

Name of Company.....  
Races on (nights).....

**SHOOTING**

Brief notes on shooting areas, stating kinds of wild fowl or game, and if free shooting is available :

*There is good shooting to be had through parish of Ardpatrick. Pheasant, grouse, Partridge & Woodcock plentiful. Rough shooting for snipe, curlew, grey & green plover. all free with the exception of lands hereunder.*

If preserved, give names of landowners or lessees and addresses :

*Sunnvale Property. Mr John O'Donnell  
Sunnvale, Kilfinane.*

Shooting Club..... Secy.....

**CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING**

Name of Club..... Competitions held?.....

**ROWING AND SAILING**

Rowing or yacht clubs, with address of club-house.

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.....  
.....

**GAMES AND RECREATIONS**

Name of Club or Committee concerned with the following :  
(In each case give location of sports ground or recreation hall)

Gaelic Football.....

Hurling *Junior Hurling Team. Practice field at Banemore.*

Handball..... Handball alley?.....

Soccer.....

Rugby.....

Cricket.....

Hockey.....

Bowls.....

Bowling (on public roads).....

Lawn Tennis..... Kinds of courts.....

Croquet.....

Billiards.....

Badminton.....

Table Tennis.....

Bridge Club.....

Other games or recreations (inc. "Cross Roads" dancing) *cross Roads dancing on a platform at Glenashlee.*

**ATHLETICS AND CYCLING**

Name of Club..... Events held under rules of.....

do. ....

**ANNUAL EVENTS**

Give list of annual events held in the town or parish, naming promoters (Clubs, etc.) in each case. Include pilgrimages and patterns.

..... Promoters.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

DATE *18.8.43*

(Signed) *P. J. Lynch*  
Surveyor.

# I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

## AMENITIES AND GENERAL INFORMATION. TOWNS AND VILLAGES (Other than Seaside)

BARONY OF Coshlea

TOWN OR VILLAGE / PARISH Arapatrick COUNTY Limerick

Location and brief description. Population /

Arapatrick lies five miles south of Kilmallock and two miles west of Kelfinnane at northern foot of Seefin Mountain. The parish is comprised of rich land, well tilled. In the centre is the hill of Arapatrick on which is situated ancient church, ruins, broken round tower or old burial place, with the well of St. Patrick nearby.

Is there a Town Hall? / Location /

Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds. Brief description:

/

Brief comments on water supply and sewerage:

There is an excellent font of water at Arapatrick Cross, beside church. No sewerage.

### PUBLIC SERVICES

Nearest station Kilmallock Distance 5 miles Bus? Kelfinnane 2 miles.

Public lighting by—Electricity? / Gas? /

### DANCING

Dance hall / Proprietor /

### CINEMAS AND THEATRES

Cinemas / Pictures shown (nights) /

Theatre / Kind of shows (Drama, Comedy &c.) /

**LIBRARIES**

Public Libraries *Branch of County Library at National School, Ardpatrick*

Private Lending Libraries

**CHURCHES AND SERVICES**

Church *Ardpatrick* Services (Sundays) *9 & 11 A.M.*

*Old time all year round.  
Church of Ireland community served by  
Kilfinane & Kilmallock. Both 12 noon  
official time.*

**POSTAL FACILITIES**

Location of Post Office *Ardpatrick*

Business (? M.O., Telegraph, Telephone) *Stamps & P.O., Parcels etc.  
NO phone or graph.*

**BANKING**

Banks

**SPORTS AND PHOTO SUPPLIES**

Sports Dealers

Photographic Stores

**SWIMMING POOLS AND BATHS**

Swimming Pool? Location

Public Baths? Location

## SOCIAL CLUBS, CULTURAL SOCIETIES, &c.

Social Clubs

Cultural Societies

## INDUSTRIES AND HANDCRAFTS

Industries

Dairying is the principal industry in the district & at Ardpatriel is situated an up to date creamery producing butter of an excellent quality.

Handcrafts or Cottage Industries (Give names of craftsmen, employer, &c.):

## PUBLIC MONUMENTS

(Brief description ; inscription to be quoted)

## IMPORTANT PUBLIC BUILDINGS

(Give brief notes on architectural features)

R. C. School is a well kept & soundly constructed building at cross of Ardpatriel. Built in 1840's it has lately been re-decorated & outside done in plain cement plaster. It has a plain square belfry, which must have been a pretty feature prior to being plastered.

## SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

United National School at Ardpatriel.

## HOSPITALS

**FAIRS AND MARKETS ; HALF-HOLIDAY**

Monthly fairs and markets.....  
.....  
Weekly market day..... Half-holiday.....

**GARAGES AND PETROL STATIONS**

.....  
.....  
.....

**CONVEYANCES FOR HIRE (Owners):**

Taxis *Edmond de Gath, Cottles town, Kilmarnock.*

Motors (Touring).....  
.....

Boats (State type).....  
.....

Bicycles.....  
.....

Caravans.....  
Horses.....

**CAMPING SITES**

*(At principal holiday resorts)*

Location..... Landowner.....  
.....  
.....

Local Improvements Committee.....  
Secretary.....

DATE *19. 8. 43.*

(Signed) *P. J. Lynch*

# ACCOMMODATION

PARISH Andpatrick

BARONY Cooshea

COUNTY Limerick

TOWN OR VILLAGE \_\_\_\_\_

HOTELS	NUMBER OF				Licensed	REMARKS	RESTAURANTS AND CAFÉS
	Guest Bedrooms	Baths	Lavs. (state kind)	Public Rooms			
<u>None</u>							
<u>None</u>							

GUEST OR BOARDING HOUSES

DATE 19.8.43.

(Signed) P. J. Lynch.  
Surveyor

## HISTORIC SITES

Royal Seats, scenes of historic events—battles, mass meetings, historic festivals, &c. Location.  
Landowner. Historical or traditional notes.

Between Quilient & Coolfree mountains is the Gap of Red Chair & in passing through here in 976 King Malahon was assassinated by Malley & Odonoran. Local tradition has it that a rectangular stone in field to south of Red Chair cross roads (30 yds from road) marks the site of Malahon's grave. It is also believed to lie buried on south side of gap where sun shines all day & that the assassin is buried at a spot on the north side where sun never shines. An ancient warrior, <sup>on horseback</sup> was supposed to have been seen many times passing through this gap in a southerly direction & at one period a fierce encounter took place between about 100 horsemen. Rev. Mr. Clanning spoke some years ago to an old resident who claimed to have witnessed both these horsemen and the battle. There is no mention of a late appearance. See picture of valley.

### HISTORIC HOUSES; BURIAL PLACES

(a) Birth places or one-time residences of distinguished Irishmen or other personalities. Location and description. Present owner or occupant. (b) Burial places of distinguished personalities.

At Glenashen at foot of Seefin mountain is the little house wherein were born & reared the brothers Patrick Weston & Robert Dwyer Joyce. See picture. The present occupant is Mr. Barrett.

A cairn on summit of Seefin is supposed to mark the grave of Uisín.

At Glenamona, S.E. of Coolfree lived Seamus Meade who was supposed to be the best pike maker in Munster. The pike heads were of an extreme hardness & it is believed the waters of a nearby spring were used to temper them. The site of the forge may be traced still but there are no descendants of the smith.

### SPAS OR MINERAL SPRINGS

Spas formerly in use. Location and present condition. Access. Right of way to public?  
Mineral content and curative properties so far as known locally.

Two miles north of Ardpatrick on east side of road (actually on road side) leading to Kilmallock is a very strong sulphur well. On it has been erected a pump (by Board of Health) & it supplies the needs of the neighbouring cottages. The water is used for all domestic purposes.



## CURIOSITIES

Curious objects, structures, monuments, landmarks, sights, etc. For example, Wishing stones or "chairs," freaks of nature (i.e. grotesque rock formations)—in fact, any scene or object which may be regarded as queer, quaint or mirth-provoking. Location and description. Any story or legend to be related.

On summit of Ardpatrick is a spot known as the "Three jumps" marked by three stones. They measured 30, 33 & 36 feet approx. & were made by three members of a family named FITZGIBBON. The take off was from a slight rise of ground. It is not known when these jumps took place.

On the lands of ellie Carver, <sup>Slenanear</sup> on slope leading to Slenanear river is a large rock under which Dizin is believed to have buried the gold mounted bridle of his mare. This mare answered a blast from a horn & was always accompanied by a female hound. From time to time diggings took place about the rock and it would appear an attempt, <sup>which failed</sup> was made to blast it but nothing was found. Locally the rock is known as being Dizin.

## CUSTOMS, PATTERNS, ETC.

Brief account of old customs, traditional cures, etc., still practised in the district. Pilgrimages to Holy Wells, Shrines, etc. Patterns.

On St Patrick's Day there are rounds paid at the Saint's well on summit of Ardpatrick. The well is long since dry. There are no cures attributed to it and the rounds are purely of reverential respect. Site of well lies a short distance N.W. of round tower.

On the lands of ellie Denton a short distance S.E. of Ardpatrick adjoining main road is a well known as St Bridget's well. Cures for many ailments, particularly eye trouble, were attributed to its waters. No special day appointed for visits. Denton is dying out & few now frequent it.

(Signed)

P. J. Lynch  
Surveyor.

DATE 11/9/43.