

(Limerick N.E.)

7

FORM A.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

NATURAL FEATURES, ANTIQUITIES, HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.

BARONY OF Loshlea

TOWN OR VILLAGE / PARISH Bulgaden COUNTY Limerick

TOPOGRAPHY

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

The parish of Bulgaden lies east of Kilmallock & north of Kelfinnane and is mostly comprised of territory gently sloping south to Ballyhoma Mountain & east to Slieve Reagh. In scenery there is nothing of note other than a good view of the distant Galtees & the mountains already mentioned. **GEOLOGY** *Brief notes on unusual geological features, such as caves, eskers, etc.* own way is quite pretty.

MANSIONS, CASTLES AND ESTATES

OF IMPOSING CHARACTER

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

See pencil note re this site and place it first
in the list of antiquities.

ANTIQUITIES

H. J. M.

Abbeys, Castles, Fortresses, Round Towers, Early Churches, Sculptured Crosses, Stone Circles, Ogham Stones, Cairns, Souterrains, Pillar Stones, Cromlechs, Forts, Rath, 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.

TUMULI. At Bush, Kilfinane, are the sites of 19, or perhaps more, pre-historic burial mounds & earth works. On the lands of Mr. G. Abin & on western slope of Slieve Reagh. Many of these were excavated some years ago & amongst the finds were urns, drinking vessels, axes, spear heads & ornaments. The sites were again closed in & are now completely overgrown with grass etc.

CHURCHES. In Emly Greenan burial ground is site of church dedicated to St. (C)olla. It is now completely levelled but is believed to have dated from end of 12th century. About 150 yds to north is the well. See bastions, patterns, etc.

FANSTOWN. In the old burial ground of Fanstown is the site of an early church, of which only fragments now remain. Measured approx. 40 x 20 ft.

CASTLES. At Fanstown, in farmyard of Mr. Coloney is the splendid old castle of FANSTOWN. A ^{measuring} ^{on plan} ^{and containing} ^{the} ^{of which is} ^{9 ft is} ^{There are bartizans high up on the} ^{and these are} ^{in very good condition, & the details of which are very perfect.} ^{bartizans to E & W sides} ^{Roofs of ~~bartizans~~ were vaulted & supported by well carved & laminated} ^{arches of limestone. ^{and in each of bartizans were three look-holes opening} ^{from} ^{the} ^{them} ^{Entrances to these have well carved jambs} ^{of limestone. In ^{the} north wall of 3rd floor is a beautifully carved} ^{fireplace, picture of which see. Door to E was round, ^{headed on the} outside &} ^{painted inside. Most likely a 16th century castle. Besides fireplace also} ^{mentioned, were a number of others of plain design. In 3rd floor was a well} ^{carved window of 3 lights. The entire building is in good preservation. The Fan} ^{were associated with the castle up to opening years of 18th century. No call.} ^{the name number of small objects to E & W sides, none of which}}

(Plain sheets of foolscap paper to be used, if necessary, for recording additional information).

Antiquities at Cush.

Could
on back

On the S.W. slope of Cush mountain and just on the "cultivation line" is an extensive complex of earthworks, burial mounds and ancient fields. The site was excavated in 1932-34 by Dr S.P.

O'Riordan, then of the National Museum and now Professor of Archaeology at University College, Dublin. The excavations covered a very extensive area and brought to light many facts of prime importance to Irish Archaeology.

The monuments on the site ~~are~~ were 2 large groups of conjoined ring-forts, a group of 3 Tumuli or burial mounds, and a system of ancient fields.

The ~~site~~ ^{site} was shown to have been the holding of a farming community dating in origin to the end of the Middle Bronze Age (approx. 1000 yrs B.C.) and continuing in occupation ~~well into~~ all through the Late Bronze Age and well into the early Iron Age, the habitation having been finally abandoned ~~about~~ about 400 A.D.

The Ring-forts were not primarily of a military character, but formed merely a defensive protection for the community against the hostile attacks both of humans and wild animals.

Each earthen fort surrounded a group of dwellings - small huts of various type and also formed a protection for the cattle and other domestic animals in time of danger. In addition, each fort was pro-

with at least one ⁽²⁾ souterrain (in some cases 2 or 3) which was probably used for storing the valuable possessions of the community and as an underground refuge for women & children during enemy attacks. Each souterrain was provided with a number of ^{ventilating shafts} ~~air vents~~ ~~which~~ ~~made~~ ~~them~~ ~~more~~ ~~habitable~~, which enabled the air to circulate freely through the passages and chambers thereby rendering them more habitable.

One ringfort was set apart as a cemetery and in this, ~~and~~ ~~it~~ as well as in the separate groups of 3 tumuli, were found numerous burials and the skeletal remains of many of members of the community. In some of these burials ~~where~~ the body had been cremated and the ashes placed in large decorated urns. Some of the graves also contained small decorated clay pots of the ~~type~~ food-vessel type. These originally contained food offerings for the use of the spirit in the next life. Many other interesting objects and ornaments were also found. (All are now in the National Museum, Dublin)

The ancient fields were grouped along the mountain slope in close proximity to the ~~settle~~ habitations and probably represent a sort of "collective farm" worked as a unit by the whole ~~community~~ community.

The site was probably abandoned because ~~by reason~~ of a change ~~of~~ in the climate. It is known that general weather conditions

③
disimproved in the early years of
the Christian Era. Owing to the
exposed position of the site, high
up on the mountain slope, ~~and~~
open to the west and south west
winds sweeping across the lowland
Simerich plain, continued occupation
must have become well-nigh
impossible. As well, the increasing
wetness of the climate caused the
mountain scrub-vegetation to advance
down the slope and over-run the
ancient fields rendering them
useless for either grazing or tillage,
this forced the occupants to
abandon their ancient home and
move down to new ~~sites~~ and less
exposed sites in the plain.

M. J. OR.

Antiquities.

Bulgadew

(Collected from "Antiquities of the Dist. County, etc." by Prof. S. P. O'Riordan.)
Pages 2, 8, 13, 14, 17, 37 & 41.

Bush, Kilmannane.

As already mentioned there are at least 19 earthen ring forts at Bush & during excavations on a number of them it was revealed that one of the forts was used as a burial place after its use as a dwelling had been discontinued. Many of the burials were in Late Bronze Age urns. The conclusion was that this fort dated from a time slightly earlier than the ^{end of the} Late Bronze Age. An adjoining fort was earlier still. Occupation on this site however continued to 1st century of Christian era.

The main group of forts here were six in number, small, conjoined, with an attached rectangular enclosure. A regular system of ancient fields were found in connection with the forts & was proved by excavation to be coeval with their habitation. The souterrains here (some of them) were roofed partly with stone & partly with wood.

The fort that contained the Late Bronze Age burial had a collapsed souterrain & the position of the urns in relation to this showed that the souterrain was earlier than the burials & had collapsed before the burials took place. In one of the forts a burial in an urn under a large boulder supported on rather small stones, was found.

A cremated burial found under one of the tumuli was just a scatter of the burnt bones on the ground where the cremation took place, and over which the mound had been built. Under another tumulus the cremated bones had been placed in a hole on the cremation site & with them was found a small bone plaque also showing signs of fire, on which was an Early Iron Age ornament.

Antiquities. Bulgaden

(Collected from "Antiquities of the Dist. County side" by Prof. S. P. O'Riordan.)

Pages 2, 8, 13, 14, 17, 37 & 41.

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18. 8. 43

CASTLES.Antiquities.

Bulgaden.

I

Bulgaden. A short distance to east of R. C. Church & 30 yards north of main road is the ruined castle of Bulgaden, presently a filthy cattle shelter. It is about 25 x 20 ft. Only ground story remains. Walls were over 6 ft thick. There were a number of small narrow windows. There were 2 doors in south wall, one leading to ground floor apartment which was excellently vaulted & the other led to stairs which went up through west wall. The last family to be associated with the castle were the Clancy's.

KILBREEDY. (TASOR)

CHURCHES. 1 In an old burial ground near Chartstown is the ruined church of Kilbreedy, dedicated to Saint Bridget. It was an ancient parish & the church was approx 55 x 20 ft. Only fragment of w. gable & some of side walls remain. In a field to north west is a holy well, connected with no special saint but perhaps at one time associated with this church of St Bridget. In roadside. No care.

H.

of Christianity. A white-thorn bush much bedecked with rags stands in burial ground. Beside it are two square slabs of sandstone, one standing on the other. The performance of nine "rounds" at the well & three "rounds" at the slabs of stone ~~is~~ is believed to effect the cure of many ailments. After the completion of the "rounds" a cross must be made on side of upper stone with another small stone special for the purpose. From the continued rubbing great hollows in form of cross have been worn on stone. Many people maintain this latter rite is a survival of a pre-Christian custom when circles were inscribed at conclusion of certain rites. It was introduced into Christian practices in a slightly altered form, the cross being substituted for the purpose. Some well informed people state that slight traces of ~~a~~ circular motions may still be observed on this stone, so perhaps it dates from very early times.

The pilgrimages take place each year on 3rd August when people come from far & near to join in the homage & devotion to St. Allogha.

The well & burial ground are on lands of Mr. Allogha, and are approached by avenue which leads to house of latter.

D.2.

15.8.43.

of Christianity. A white-thorn bush much bedecked with rags stands in burial ground. Beside it are two square slabs of sandstone, one standing on the other. The performance of nine "rounds" at the well & three "rounds" at the slabs of stone ~~are~~ is believed to effect the cure of many ailments. After the completion of the "rounds" a cross must be made on side of upper stone with another small stone special for the purpose. From the continued rubbing great hollows in form of rows have been worn on stone. Many people maintain this latter rite is a survival of a pre-Christian custom when circles were inscribed at conclusion of certain rites. It was introduced into Christian practices in a slightly altered form, the cross being substituted for the purpose. Some well informed people state that slight traces of circular motions may still be observed on this stone, so perhaps it dates from very early times.

The pilgrimages take place each year on 3rd August when people come from far & near to join in the homage & devotion to St. Mollua.

The well & burial ground are on lands of the Mollony, Earl of Queensland and are approached by avenue which leads to house of latter.

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I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

SPORTS AND GAMES

BARONY OF Coshlea

TOWN OR VILLAGE / PARISH Bulgaden 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~~ Morning Star Nearest point to ^{parish} ~~town~~ (distance) Bordes parish

KINDS OF FISH HELD:

Brown Trout

AVERAGE WEIGHT OF:

Salmon / Sea trout / Brown trout up to 1/2 lb are caught

BEST SEASONS FOR:

Salmon / Sea trout / Brown trout April/May

SUITABLE FLIES:

Salmon /

Sea trout /

Brown trout orange Orange Gause; Dry Fly; Standard Patterns according to season & weather

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

Preserved stretches, with names and addresses of Proprietors:

Kilfinane & Morning Star Anglers Club

This club fishes the only stretch that is any good. River within parish of Bulgaden is not frequented by Anglers from outside areas a poor angling water. The only stretch which is ~~entirely~~ satisfactory is

Owners of boats for hire, and charges per day: held by the club named below. Visitors are however granted free fishing on request.

Convenient angling centres (where accommodation is available):

Kilmallock & Burren

Local Angling Club Kilfinane & M.S. Anglers Club Membership Fee 1/- yearly

Secretary (and Address) Gas Roberts, Bometstown, Kilfinane

Visitors to district are granted free fishing on request

SEA ANGLING

Brief notes on fishing grounds :

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.....
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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.....

.....

GOLFING

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

Situation and brief description of course :

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

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 *Scarten Blue & Daws*.....

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:

(Joint Secs: J. O'Malley & John Dwyane, Hospital, Co. Limerick)

Slieve Ragh gun club shoot over the entire area of Bulcaden & Ballinrana and have the ~~same~~ area strictly preserved. Very good shooting area for grouse & Woodcock. For particulars of the area see "Housie" for Hospital Parish Report.

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

Slieve Ragh gun club, Hospital, Co. Limerick

Shooting Club *Slieve Ragh gun club* Joint Secys *John O'Malley & John Dwyane, Hospital, Co. Limerick*

CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING

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

ROWING AND SAILING

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

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..... /
- 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)..... /
- /
- /

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.....

*Pilgrimage & Pattern at Well of St Colman, near Emly queman,
Burial ground on 3rd August in each year. A very
much frequented spot - vast crowds coming each
year. Emly queman is near Ballinvara Church.*

DATE..... *6. 8. 43.*.....

(Signed).....

P. J. Synel.
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 Bulgaden COUNTY Limerick

Location and brief description. Population /

The parish of Bulgaden/Ballinvara (or Martinstown) lies immediately east of the town of Kilmallock, and stretches to the foot of the Ballypaua Hills. The land is mainly of limestone quality & is noted for the production of good dairy produce. Bloodstock too has been successfully raised there and many of the horses produced have won fame on the racing fields of England.

Is there a Town Hall? / Location /

Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds. Brief description:

/

Brief comments on water supply and sewerage:

/ (From centre of parish both Kilmallock & Elton would be five miles distant. From western part of parish the former would be only 2 miles & from eastern end Elton would be only 1 1/2 miles.)

PUBLIC SERVICES

Nearest station KILMALLOCK & ELTON Distance 5 miles Bus? Kilmallock

Public lighting by—Electricity? / Gas? /

DANCING

Dance hall / Proprietor /

/

CINEMAS AND THEATRES

Cinemas / Pictures shown (nights) /

/

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

BARONY. *Coshlea*.....

COUNTY. *Limerick*.....

TOWN OR VILLAGE.....

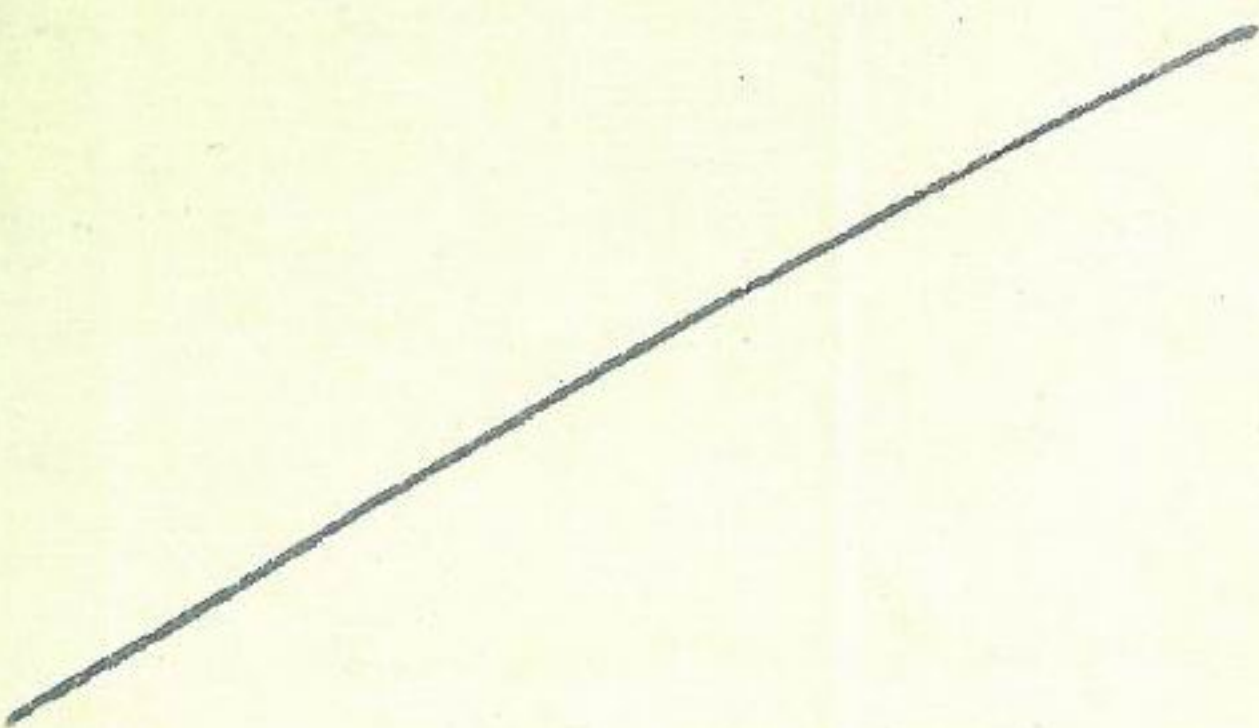
<u>HOTELS</u>	No. Guest Bedrooms	No. of Baths	No. of Lavs.	No. Public Rooms	Licensed	<u>Remarks</u>
<i>None</i>						
<u>Guest or Boarding Houses</u>						
<i>None</i>						

P. J. Byrne

6. 8. 43.

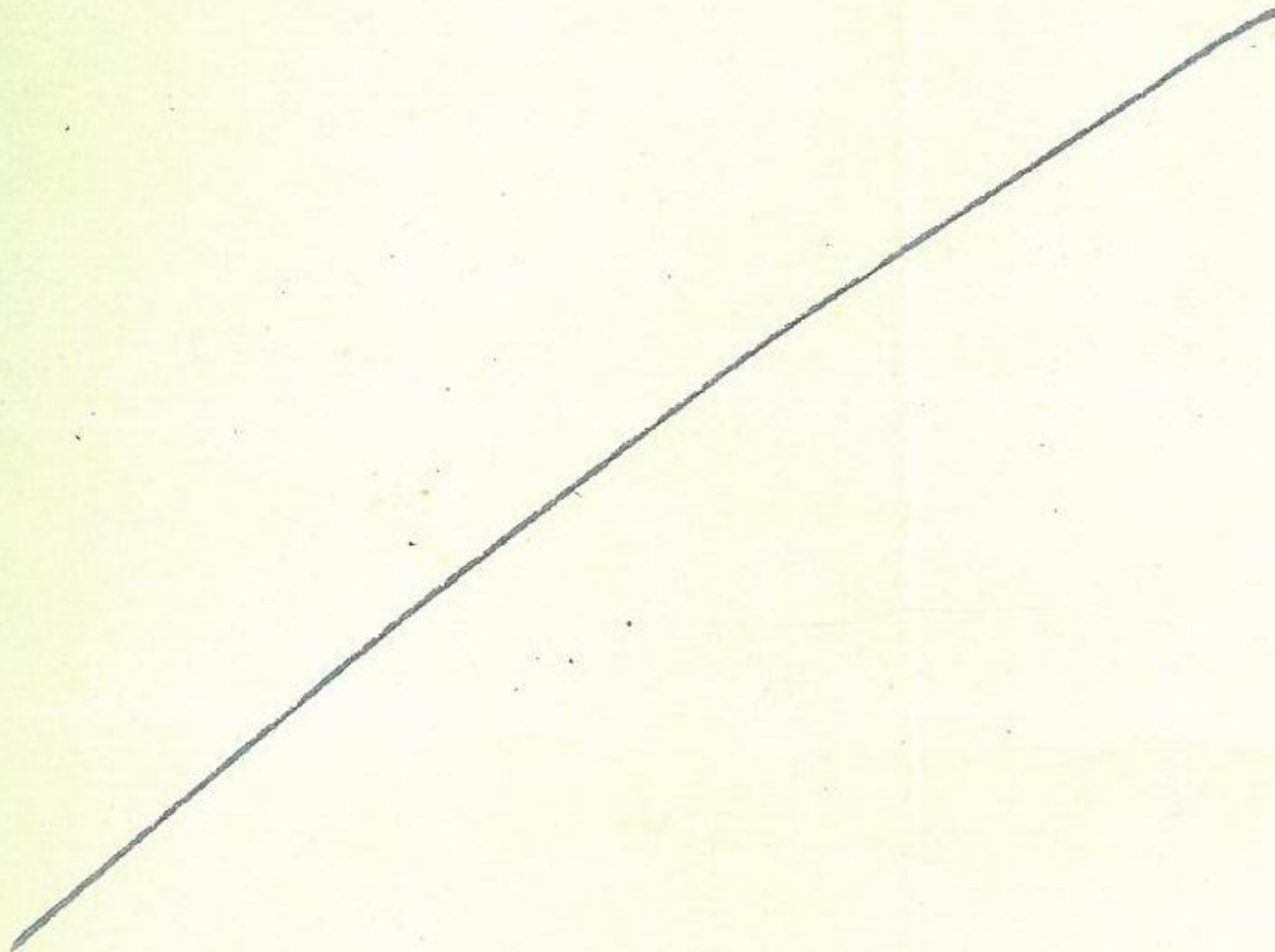
HISTORIC SITES

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



HISTORIC HOUSES ; BURIAL PLACES

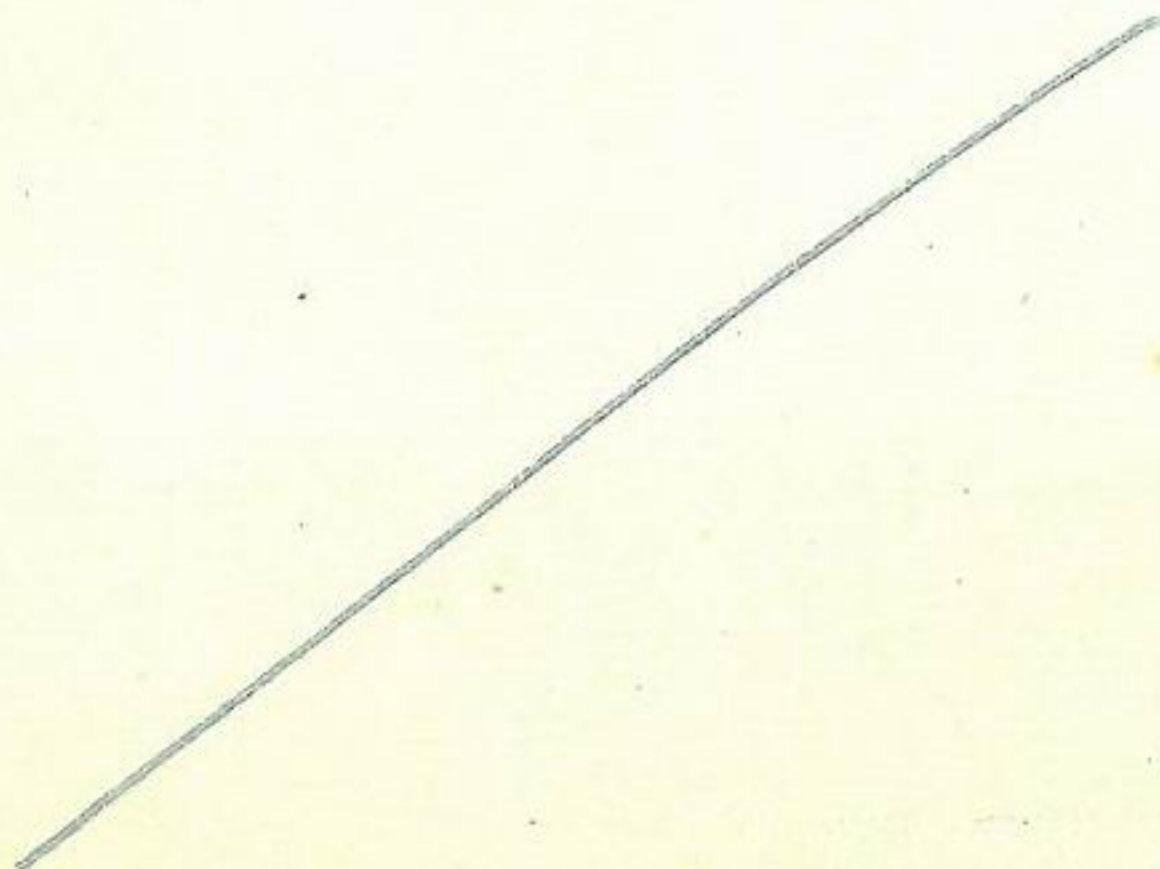
(a) Birth places or one-time residences of distinguished Irishmen or other personalities. Location and description. Present owner or occupant. (b) Burial places of distinguished personalities.



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.

every angle.



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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.

"TOBER CEANN MOR" At Ballinoreena, Knocklong, on roadside adjoining land of the O'Learys is the well known by above name. It is a most powerful spring & winter & summer gushes forth in great strength. The following is legend concerning it. In the opening years of the 3rd century King Cormac mac Airt sought to impose on Ulster, the cattle revenue of a second province. This, the Ulster King refused & so Cormac got his Druids to dry up all the wells & rivers of the countryside so that cattle & men were dying of thirst. The Ulster men refused to yield & sought the aid of Elagh Ruith, the great Druid of Valentia. He promised to relieve them on certain conditions which were readily granted. When he came he shot an arrow into the air at the same time telling the Ulster men that a great spring & a rushing torrent of water burst up wherever the arrow would fall. This promise was verified & a rushing torrent of water burst up. Tober Ceann Mor is believed to be that spring. It is on the northern slope of Slieve Reagh. A very full account of this legend was given with **CUSTOMS, PATTERNS, ETC.** on Parish of Knocklong which please see. **Knocklong was surveyed early in May last.**

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

On lands of the O'Learys, Emly, Queenan, 150 yards north of Burial Ground & close to left bank of Morning Star or Samair River is well of St Aldna. Aldna is believed to have been born in 554 & called after the Sun-god "Luagh". The Samair nearly, in pre-Christian times was considered one of Ireland's three sacred rivers whose waters had healing powers & where rites similar to those still practised in the East, were carried out. The Well is originally supposed to have been situated beside the site of "Luagh" church in the burial-ground but owing to the fact that a woman washed her child in it, it removed to its present position. This belief would indicate that the bathing tradition persisted for long after the introduction

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

DATE 15. 8. 43.