

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

NATURAL FEATURES, ANTIQUITIES, HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.

BARONY OF Cornells Lower

TOWN OR VILLAGE NONE PARISH Cappagh COUNTY Limerick
RURAL PARISH.

TOPOGRAPHY

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

A good view of the very ^{topographical features.} uninteresting Limerick plain can be got from the 231st road junction Crag between Cappagh and Ballinacorra — see Ordnance Sheet 17). The distant mountains of Tipperary, Clare, & Kerry show up on the horizon, while the nearby Knockferusa's "Fairy Peak" stands like a sentry guarding the Southern County approaches.

The road surfaces in above parish are good, but offer very little inducement to sightseers, the sporting tourist, picnickers, cyclist, or pedestrian. It has no unusual topographical features

GEOLOGY

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

No unusual geological features, Limestone Craggs stand the northern part of the Parish

MANSIONS, CASTLES AND ESTATES OF IMPOSING CHARACTER

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

"Nantinan House" — 1 mile west of Cappagh, (4 miles from Rathkeale) has no special architectural features. There is a neat entrance gate, ornamental trees bedeck the short winding avenue. The entrance hall presents a weird appearance, the floor is littered with the skins and raised heads of lions and other wild animals while antlers cover the walls. The present owner — Dorothea Bongers — is the well known Limerick writer, aged about 70, she still rides with the Limerick hounds. She does not encourage visitors, and has very little good, or encouraging to say for Irish Tourist prospects

"Kilbehy House" — 3 miles ^{WEST} of Cappagh — the one time residence of Martin Haverly the historian, is a small residence, with a nearby ^{SMALL} R.C. Church erected by the historian and his Italian wife. The Church is now in disrepair and unused, with the door broken down

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.

"Cappagh Castle" described by Mr Leach as a late XV century castle, five story tower, with two enclosures (Survey by West 405 B)

There must have been two Castles as well as two enclosures.

No. 1. - now a ball alley - measures 66 x 21. Has a parapet wall on top, with an eastern angle tower

No 2 - only the north, and about 10th of the East wall remains

The height of the walls is 72^{ft} with a flag staff on top. The section shows 5 slitted windows, and a trefoil two lighted square

one on 4th floor. There is a latrine or sewerage square hole with exterior opening at north side, which seems to connect all floors.

A chimney, kernway arch, and missing stairs, can be traced in surviving section. The Keep (or No 2 section) measured 40' x 27'.

The surrounding walls are hexagonal, and the remnants still show traces of an eastern guardroom with protecting loop, or shot holes.

Mr Fitzgerald - the present owner of the castle - says he has made a study of the ruins, and examined the many learned ^{visiting} Archaeologists and Antiquarians during those years. He says the professional experts differed in their diagnosis re the age, history & architecture of his "Talent". Briefly he gave a collected history. Originally built by Dermott Fitzhenry, The Geraldines put up additions. Malby - under General Sir Hurdess walls demolished the castle. (Will send snap)

Cappagh Graveyard & Church

Church measures 57 x 13 x 11 high. Has well splayed two light East window, also a western single one. South wall has three windows and Doors. The latter measures 6 x 3 1/2 and has a pointed arch, with a broken holywater font inside. Tombstones are strewn all over the old church, and brambles & bushes make the surrounding cemetery impossible to walk in, or to discover any important tombstones.

40 Post Office,
Rathkeale,
Co. Limerick
23/5/44

D. Barry Esq.

Sec J. T. A

14 Upper O'Connell St.
Dublin.

Dear Sir

Herewith Forms for Cappagh Parish.
You will please note the omission to include
Forms C. & E. is due to the fact that those
Forms are unnecessary for above Parish.
As there are no Halls, Amusements, or Hotels.
Coolcappagh Parish Forms will follow
in the course of a few days.

Faithfully yours
Raeph Lucas

The Palatines
"CAPPAGH PARISH"

As there is still a fairly strong remnant of the Palatine Settlers in Cappagh Parish it may be of interest to record briefly their history as given to me by the Rector of Castle town — The Rev Mr Fenney M.A.

"In 1709 some 5000 German residents of the Palatine were persecuted and driven from their homes by the French under Louis XIV. Queen Anne who was reigning monarch of England at the time, gave them shelter until 1770 when they were transferred to Ireland and planted or located south west of Rathkeale. Each Palatine was allowed 8 acres of land at 5/- per acre per year. To encourage them, the Government paid the first five years rent, supplied ^{each} them with a musket called at a "Queen Anne Piece" and embodied them in the Yeomanry of the Country, and styled them the "True Blues" — or German Fusiliers, they were commanded by a Captain Brown. John Wesley in his rambling missionary work came over and preached to them in Ballingarrane (Cappagh Parish) and Adaro. There is a very neat (small) Wesleyan Church at Ballingarrane."

The land on which the Palatines are located is certainly not the best in Cappagh Parish. They keep a reserved respectability, and their law abiding characteristics deserve them the description "where the Palatine resides no Garda are required." It seems remarkable that in their 174 years residence in Cappagh and adjoining parishes they never got absorbed into the local community, and that they still retain their different characteristics, habits, and their original German names.

The R.C. Church, "Church of Ireland" & Wesleyan are located within half a mile radius of Ballingarrane Railway Station.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

SPORTS AND GAMES

BARONY OF Cornell Lower

TOWN OR VILLAGE Cappagh PARISH Cappagh 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 DEEL Nearest point to town (distance) RATHKEALE - 4 MILES.

KINDS OF FISH HELD:

Brown Trout, white Trout, some Salmon

AVERAGE WEIGHT OF:

Salmon 10^{lb} Sea trout 1^{lb} Brown trout 3/4^{lb}

BEST SEASONS FOR:

Salmon Mar, April, May Sea trout May, June, July Brown trout Feb to October
PALE May, June, July may best month

SUITABLE FLIES:

Salmon Jack Scott, Thunder Lightning, Lemon Grey, Black doctor, Silver Grey, Olive Grouse, etc
 Sea trout Fancy Sandy Flies
 Brown trout Olive Grouse, Brown Rail, Purple Rail, Olive Quill, Olive dun, Silver & Green Rail etc

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

Preserved stretches with names and addresses of Proprietors:

The Askeaton & Rathkeale Anglers Association would supply all information - Mr Turill, Askeaton is Secretary, The Fee for membership is 5/-

Anglers should be advised to contact the Secretary before fishing The Deel River

Owners of boats for hire, and charges per day:

None required

Convenient angling centres (where accommodation is available):

Rathkeale

Local Angling Club The Askeaton Anglers Assoc Membership Fee 5/-

Secretary (and Address) Mr Turill, Askeaton, Co. Limerick

SEA ANGLING

Brief notes on fishing grounds :

NONE.

Kinds of fish to be caught :

NONE.

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

NONE.

Bait available locally ? Fishing tackle ?

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

GOLFING

Name of Club *NONE* No. of holes

Situation and brief description of course :

NONE

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..... *NONE.*

Under which rules?..... *—*

Situation of course..... *—*

HUNTING

Hounds which hunt in the district :

Foxhounds *The Limerick Foxhounds occasionally hunt in Cappagh.*

Harriers *The Stonehall Harriers* " " " "

Beagles

COURSING

Name of Club..... *NONE.* Meeting held annually? *NONE.*

GREYHOUND RACING

Name of Company..... *NONE*

Races on (nights)..... *—*

SHOOTING

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

There is no shooting worth mentioning in Cappagh Parish,

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

No preserves available.

Shooting Club..... *NONE* Secy..... *—*

CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING

Name of Club..... *NONE* Competitions held?..... *NONE.*

ROWING AND SAILING

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

NONE.

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..... *NONE.*
 Hurling..... *NO CLUB.*
 Handball..... *Yes.* Handball alley? *Yes? in Cappagh Castle.*
 Soccer..... *NONE.*
 Rugby..... *NONE.*
 Cricket..... *NONE.*
 Hockey..... *NONE.*
 Bowls..... *NONE.*
 Bowling (on public roads)..... *NONE.*
 Lawn Tennis..... *NONE.* Kinds of courts..... *NONE.*
 Croquet..... *NONE.*
 Billiards..... *NONE.*
 Badminton..... *NONE.*
 Table Tennis..... *NONE.*
 Bridge Club..... *NONE.*
 Other games or recreations (inc. " Cross Roads " dancing)..... *NONE.*

ATHLETICS AND CYCLING

Name of Club..... *NONE.* Events held under rules of..... *NONE.*
 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.

The only event held in Cappagh Parish is the Pilgrimage to Saint James's well at Nantinan on 25th July each year. "The Blessed Well" is covered over, in a neglected condition, and little patronized. Promoters..... *No regular promoters.*

DATE *May 23rd 1944*

(Signed)

Ralph Lucas
Surveyor.

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

BARONY OF Cornells Lower

TOWN OR VILLAGE Cappagh PARISH Cappagh COUNTY Limerick

Location and brief description. Population PARISH 551

Cappagh is located 4 miles north of Rathkeale, 2 1/2 S. East of Acreaton.
The River Deel divides the Parishes of Cappagh & Coolcappagh on the South,
and the parishes of Rathkeale, Brough, Adare, Stonehall, & Acreaton make up
its other boundaries. It has an entirely rural population of 551 - Spiritually
catered for by a R.C. P.P. & C.O.I. Rector, (The latter's flock belong to the Valatine
settlers) 3 Teachers supply the educational needs, two small shops feed the
hungry, with no Pub to give drink to the thirsty, or break the monotony, or peace of the Parish.

Is there a Town Hall? NO Location —

Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds. Brief description:

NONE.

Brief comments on water supply and sewerage:

Cappagh Parish is entirely rural, has no village, hamlet, or even
a collection of houses. It has the usual satisfactory scattered Pumps,
& wells, so do not require a piped water supply, and has no use for sewerage

PUBLIC SERVICES

Nearest station Ballingarrane Distance CENTRE OF PARISH Bus? NONE.

Public lighting by—Electricity? NONE. Gas? NONE.

DANCING

Dance hall NONE Proprietor —

CINEMAS AND THEATRES

Cinemas NONE. Pictures shown —
 (nights)

Theatre NONE. Kind of shows —
 (Drama, Comedy &c.)

LIBRARIES

Public Libraries..... *NONE*

Private Lending Libraries..... *NONE*

CHURCHES AND SERVICES

Church *Church of Ireland, Nantivan* Services (Sundays)..... *10.30 A.M.*

R.C. Church Cappagh..... *8.30 & 11.30 A.M.*

R.C. " Kilbeha..... *ONCE A YEAR - DISCONTINUED*

Wesleyan Church Ballingarrane..... *6.30 P.M.*

POSTAL FACILITIES

Location of Post Office..... *at Ballingarrane*

Business (? M.O., Telegraph, Telephone)..... *Letter office only*

BANKING

Banks..... *NONE*

SPORTS AND PHOTO SUPPLIES

Sports Dealers..... *NONE*

Photographic Stores..... *NONE*

SWIMMING POOLS AND BATHS

Swimming Pool?..... *NONE*..... Location..... *—*

Public Baths?..... *NONE*..... Location..... *—*

SOCIAL CLUBS, CULTURAL SOCIETIES, &c.

Social Clubs..... *NONE.*

Cultural Societies..... *NONE.*

INDUSTRIES AND HANDCRAFTS

Industries..... *NONE.*

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

NONE.

PUBLIC MONUMENTS

(Brief description ; inscription to be quoted)

NONE.

IMPORTANT PUBLIC BUILDINGS

(Give brief notes on architectural features)

Church of Ireland, Nantunan near Gothic Church. The usual small type, R.C. Church, Cappagh " " " Gallery, Nice Altar, built 1839, and replaces another R.C. Church (now gone).
R.C. Kilbela - a very small, dilapidated, broken doored, Church built 1849 by the historian Martin Hevelij - whose wife was an Italian.
Ballingarrone "Cecilian Church" A very neat small Gothic Church.

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Cappagh N.S. a neat looking 3 Teacher School.

HOSPITALS

Nearest Limerick - 20 miles

FAIRS AND MARKETS ; HALF-HOLIDAY

Monthly fairs and markets..... *NONE.*

Weekly market day..... *NONE.* Half-holiday..... *NONE.*

GARAGES AND PETROL STATIONS

NONE.

CONVEYANCES FOR HIRE (Owners) :

Taxis..... *NONE.*

Motors (Touring)..... *NONE.*

Boats (State type)..... *NONE.*

Bicycles..... *NONE.*

Caravans..... *NONE.*

Horses..... *"*

CAMPING SITES

(At principal holiday resorts)

Location *NO OBJECTION BY ANY* Landowner.....
LANDOWNER TO CAMPING,
"FREE"

Local Improvements Committee..... *NONE.*

Secretary..... *NONE.*

DATE *May 23rd 1944*

(Signed) *Ralph Lucas*

Surveyor.

HISTORIC SITES

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

NONE OF ABOVE IN PARISH.

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.

Please see Mansions, Castles & Estates

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.

None.

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.

None of above in Parish.

CUSTOMS, PATTERNS, ETC.

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

St John's Holy well one mile ~~north~~ west of Cappagh (near Nantinan) Is covered like a Beehive. Has an annual Pilgrimage on 25th July. No emblems of piety around the well, no cures claimed. Pilgrimage dying out.

DATE May 23rd 1944

(Signed)

Ralph Lucas

Surveyor.