

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

NATURAL FEATURES, ANTIQUITIES,
HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.BARONY OF Small CountyTOWN OR VILLAGE Fedamore PARISH Fedamore COUNTY Limerick

TOPOGRAPHY

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

From the top of Fedamore Hill a very pretty scene unfolds itself beneath you. Rich pasture lands known as the Graun Bawn meadows through which the Cameque River winds its way are studded with well kept farm houses. To the south are the historic ruins of Gluroga Castle & Abbey. Countryside is very bare of trees. Land is of limestone quality.

GEOLOGY

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

To the east of Fedamore in the region of ROCKSTOWN are natural motes which were fully availed of by the Normans who built a strong castle there. Rocks would appear to be of volcanic origin & rise sheer out of rich land which shows no other signs of rock formation for a considerable distance around. Natural steps led to summit of mote, which is about 50 feet high.

MANSIONS, CASTLES AND ESTATES
OF IMPOSING CHARACTERLocation and brief description. Owner. Past associations. Libraries or art collections?
Gardens? Open to visitors? Admission charge?

The only mansion in parish worthy of mention is Kilheacon House: the home of Mrs R. O'Kelly. House which is Georgian (built in latter years of 18th century) is of dressed limestone with brick surrounding most of the windows. Inside, the house is most elaborately ornamented and appointed. The ceilings throughout are by Italian artists & are of most beautiful design & workmanship. The entrance hall which is oval shape has by far, the most beautiful ceiling. The stairs which is of very lovely design rises from the centre of house, lighted by dome. All about is a balcony from which the bedrooms open. The ceilings of this balcony are most elaborately ornamented, and are vaulted. The doors on ground floor are considered the most beautiful in the country, being Sheraton.

Height of 2nd & 3rd storeys combined; also vaulted. There was a fire place on 3rd storey in northern corner.

ANTIQUITIES

Abbeys, Castles, Fortresses, Round Towers, Early Churches, Sculptured Crosses, Stone Circles, Ogham Stones, Cairns, Souterrams, 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.

EARLY CHURCHES

FEDAMORE. Fedamore was originally known as Gortnaren. It is a very old parish & about 1185 was granted to Magio Abbey. From Records it is known that parish ^{church} was dedicated to St John Baptist about 1410. In 1740 the ruins were pulled down & stones etc used to build the present Protestant church, which is now unused. In the grave-yard which surrounds Protestant church are tombs of John broker, Ballinagard, 1717, aged 93 & John Heart 1741.

FANNINGSTOWN. Less than two miles north of Fedamore, off road to Limerick is Fanningstown grave-yard in which is a ruin of a church said to have been erected by the Knights Templar. Foundations 38 x 16 feet only remain.

KILPEACON. Five miles south of Limerick on old road to Croom is Kilpeacon, where stood an early church. Early records show that Kilpeacon was de Burgo property and then KYLPYCHAN, and during opening years of 14th century Richard Ford was pastor. Dedicated to St Bevan circa 1410. Late in 17th century church & surrounding property were granted to Sir W. King, shortly after which old church was pulled down & present Protestant church built in its stead. Within memory, some very old steps were uncovered in grounds of present church. The nave of present Protestant church was built about 1690 by Sir W. King. The tower was built by E. Griffiths Villiers in 1759, who followed King in occupation of Kilpeacon. In the grave-yard surrounding church are monuments to Sir W. King 1706; Westropps of Atty Flynn & Griffiths Villiers. In Kilpeacon demesne, near church is site of a well known as St Patrick's well, near which was found a golden shell. Well is presently surrounded by a house & water is pumped therefrom to Kilpeacon House. NO fetters, rounds or like take place there.


Kilpeacon House continued.

(FEDARE.)

Kilpeacon House was built by E. Griffiths Villiers & was completed in 1799. From the Villiers family it passed to family named Gavin who in turn sold to Major R. O'Kelly in 1927, whose widow now resides there. It is five miles south of Limerick on old road to Broom. There is no library & while it houses some very good old pictures, none of them could be called treasures. There is a very fine suite of original Chippendale in dining room of which Mrs O'Kelly is very proud. The house is not open to visitors but Mrs O'Kelly would not mind showing people through. The garden is used only to supply needs of household & is not open to public. About 400 yds north of house is foundation of Kilpeacon Castle, where Sir W. King, a Mayor of Limerick used to reside.

Castles.

This castle
is in a good
state of
preservation
but is in
want of
repair
whatever.

ROCKSTOWN. One mile south of Balbrinney village off main road to Bonff (from Limerick) on the lands of Col. Basil Roche-Kelly (of Island More, broom) is the very fine old castle of Rockstown, dating from early 16th century, when it was held by one of the Bourkes of Clanwilliam. In middle of 17th century it passed to Captain G. Ingoldstye of Ballybricken castle or court (which see, in Survey of Ballybricken Parish) It is built on a natural mote which is about 50 feet high & the castle itself is 60 feet high. Square tower of fine stones. 26 x 24 feet inside. 1st & 3rd stories vaulted. Perfect (winding) stone stairs in southern corner, leading to roof. Bartizans on N. & E. corners on second storey & on south wall on top storey. All about ~~is~~ a parapet with loop-holes slanting downwards. On 2nd & fourth stories passage ways lead from stairs thro' centre of east wall to small apartments, also in centre of wall & in floors of these apartments are square holes of about 2 feet from which is a sheer drop to ground through centre of wall. At ground level there is an opening of 3 x 4 feet, to outside. The windows are of various designs & those on top storey differ from the rest. All the narrow lights have round leaded splays (one stone) Top storey has pointed lights with hood moulding & ornamented shandrels. East window (of two lights) on this storey is of three recessed orders, pointed () in this wise, with hood moulding & ornamented shandrels. The door on south is round headed, of two stones.



At south side, inside door to left was a small apartment, with vaulted roof, while over this was another apartment of similar size but was the height of 2nd & 3rd stories combined; also vaulted. There was a fire place on 3rd storey in northern corner.

CASTLES

FANNINGSTOWN. Only foundations of this castle remain. It is said to have been by Earl of Thomond.

SKOOL. (or SKULE) Only foundations remain. Alleged to have been built by King John about 1210, which is same date as King John's castle at Limerick. It passed from Earls of Desmond through hands of Parsons, Hurley (family of Archbishop Dermot Hurley) and Ormsby to Capt Ingoldsby of Ballybricken castle.

FEDAMORE. The Earls of Desmond had a castle near Fedamore, supposed to be at castle quarter but there is now no trace of it except a slight trace of foundation. It passed to Earls of Thomond when Desmonds were outlawed.

GLOGHADDOLEERTY. The rock of Gloghadoolerty & fort remain only. Castle was said to have been built on rock. No trace now.

GARRYELLAN. Lord Kingston had a castle here about 1667. Only fragments of foundations remain.

BALLYEA. Desmonds had a castle here. Passed to Thomonds. No trace now.

KILDERRY. O'Callaghan who was slain in rebellion of 1641 had a castle here. No trace now.

KILPEACON. Sir W. King held this castle. Situated just outside boundary wall of Kilpeacon church. Was a large castle judging by foundations. Heap of masonry is all that now remains of it. It is thought that stones were used to build Kilpeacon house during closing years of 18th century. Castle was accidentally burned down in 1776.

Antiquities contd.

III

Cromlechs, forts etc.

Cromlech at Badgerfort. On the lands of Mr Patk Moloney at Badgerfort, to left of avenue leading to house, is a defaced dolmen or cromlech. This is was within the outer ring of a large fort now practically gone. Nearby is a small earthwork & some distance to west of this latter are the remains of a fort.

There are numerous forts throughout the parish but none worthy of mention or notice.

The following are but a few:-

One on lands of Mr Collins at Kilsarkin,

Two O'Brien near Telamore,

One at Bloghadoderty, near rock of that name,

One on O'Brien's land at Doyl's Cross, Dinnstown,

Several remains on lands of O'Brien family at Danningstown,

One on lands of Mr Clifford at Kilderry,

One on Skule hill & one nearly in Carrane on land of Mr Conway.

P.D.K.L.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

SPORTS AND GAMES

BARONY OF Small County

TOWN OR VILLAGE Ledamore PARISH Ledamore 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 banogue Nearest point to ^{village} town (distance) under one mile.

KINDS OF FISH HELD :

Brown trout only.

AVERAGE WEIGHT OF :

Salmon None Sea trout None Brown trout about 2 lbs.

BEST SEASONS FOR :

Salmon None Sea trout None Brown trout April / May

SUITABLE FLIES :

Salmon —————

Sea trout —————

Brown trout Orange Gause, Greenwells & Long etc.

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

Preserved stretches, with names and addresses of Proprietors :

—————
—————
—————
—————
—————
—————
—————
—————
—————
—————

Owners of boats for hire, and charges per day :

None.

Convenient angling centres (where accommodation is available) :

Limerick bridge - 6 miles to North.

Local Angling Club None Membership Fee —————

Secretary (and Address) None

SEA ANGLING

Brief notes on fishing grounds :

Dotted lines for notes on fishing grounds.

Kinds of fish to be caught :

Dotted lines for kinds of fish to be caught.

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

Dotted lines for 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 Limerick Golf Club No. of holes 18

Situation and brief description of course :

The above club situated at Ballyclough is 3 miles from Fedamore on road to Limerick.

Name of Professional Mr Wm Daly

Is there a clubhouse on course ? yes Licensed ? yes

Green fees (Visitors) : Per day 2/6 Per week 12/-
Per month 20/-

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 Limerick County Hounds (Master - Mrs Alexander, Adas)

Harriers Limerick Harrier Club (Joint Master - Mr D. Shaw & Mr A. McDonagh)

Beagles /

COURSING

Name of Club Fedamore Coursing Club Meeting held annually? December

GREYHOUND RACING

Name of Company None nearer than Limerick City

Races on (nights) Friday & Saturday at Limerick Track 8.15 P.M. (from 17th March until end of October)

SHOOTING

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

Rough shooting to be had free on Ballycullane Bog & Orange Bogans, duck, snipe & geese. Pheasants are to be found throughout the parish in odd numbers. Plover abundant throughout the countryside as also rabbits.

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

The lands of Mrs R. O'Kelly, Kilpeacon House, are preserved, as also are those of Mr John Kelly - Conway of Fedamore House.

Shooting Club None Secy /

CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING

Name of Club None Competitions held? /

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 yes. senior team. no regular practice ground.
Handball Ball Alley in village Handball alley? yes.
Soccer None
Rugby None
Cricket None
Hockey None
Bowls None
Bowling (on public roads) None
Lawn Tennis None Kinds of courts —
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 —
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.

Fedamore Causway collecting Promoters Fedamore Causway Club.
(collecting held annually in December on the lands of Mr
John Beahan, Mortgagor, Fedamore.)

DATE 9th Oct 1942.

(Signed)

P. J. K. Lynch
Surveyor.

Antiquities contd

I

6 churches.

ROCKSTOWN. On the lands of Col B. Roche-Kelly of Broom. Under shadow of Rockstown castle to which it must have been a chapel of ease. One mile south of Ballynety village. It is in an excellent state of preservation although it receives no expert care. The Roche-Kelly family built a vault inside western end & made use of the existing door. A new door was then opened in northern side in which there is an iron gate. The windows are similar to those described in Rockstown castle, which see. The church is of 15th century architecture. The church was restored & used for Protestant worship after Cromwellian settlement by the Ingoldsby family who received large tracts of land in the district. Since that time no native of Fedamore parish has been buried there. The chancel of church & churchyard seem to have been monopolised by the Barry family who settled at adjoining parish of Rockstown about 1670. All tomb stones bear the name of Barry.

It was impossible to photograph the ruin as it is entirely surrounded by high trees.

The church is surrounded by a small grave-yard.

I.O.K.P.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

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

BARONY OF Small County

TOWN OR VILLAGE Fedamore PARISH Fedamore COUNTY Limerick

Location and brief description.

Population 150 approx.

The ancient village of Fedamore (Damains Wood) stands on the side of a sharp hill, six miles south of Limerick city. The original foundation known as Fiadamair dated from latter part of 12th century. Was a possession of the Desmonds from whom it passed to the Thomonds, when former were ^{outlawed}.

Is there a ~~Town~~ Hall? yes Location At cross of Fedamore.
(Glebe Hall)

Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds. Brief description:

None.

Brief comments on water supply and sewerage:

None. There is absolutely no water to be found in Fedamore village. The only supply is from a pump on the lands of Mr Power, half a mile away.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Nearest station Limerick & Broom Distance Both 6 miles. Bus? Service on three days a week during normal times. No service presently.

Public lighting by—Electricity? None Gas? None.

DANCING

Dance hall The Glebe Hall Proprietor Mr H. O'Brien.

CINEMAS AND THEATRES

Cinemas Travelling companies Pictures shown NO pre-arranged
show pictures at the (nights) programmes.
Glebe Hall, from time
to time.

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

LIBRARIES

Public Libraries *a branch of the County Library is situated in National school in Fedamore.*

Private Lending Libraries *None.*

CHURCHES AND SERVICES

R. C. Church *Fedamore* Services (Sundays) *9.30 A.M. & 12 Noon, official time.*
(Only one church in Parish)

6 church of Ireland :- Situated at KILPEACON

12 Noon during operation of summer time & 11.30 during operation of winter time.

POSTAL FACILITIES

Location of Post Office *In village*

Business (? M.O., Telegraph, Telephone) *Letters, parcels 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 *—*

The Camogue river nearby is availed of for swimming.

FAIRS AND MARKETS ; HALF-HOLIDAY

Monthly fairs and markets..... None

Weekly market day..... None Half-holiday Wednesday (only done shops in village)

GARAGES AND PETROL STATIONS

No Garage or Petrol Station, but petrol in tins may be had from Mrs Murphy, Castlequarter. (Near cross of Fedamore)

CONVEYANCES FOR HIRE (Owners) :

Taxis Hackney:- Mr Stephen Gleeson, Post office, Fedamore.

Motors (Touring)..... None

Boats (State type)..... None.

Bicycles..... None

Caravans yes, from Mrs Blenner Harett, ROCKFIELD.

Horses yes, " " " " " "

Full address:- ROCKFIELD, PATRICKSWELL, CO. LIMERICK. Here also is conducted a Riding school. Charges 2/6 per lesson, usually covering one hour. Horses may also be hired for Hunting during season at moderate charges.

CAMPING SITES

(At principal holiday resorts)

Location..... None Landowner.....

County side at large.

Local Improvements Committee..... None

Secretary.....

DATE 9th October, 1942. (Signed) P. J. K. Lynch. Surveyor.

HISTORIC SITES

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

None.

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 Killeason lived Sir W. King who was
mayor of Limerick about the time of famous siege of
that city. (Jordan Roche was mayor during siege) King
is buried at Killeason.

Dates of birth, death?

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

to whom?

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.

The only curious thing about Fedamore is the scarcity of water. There is no spring whatever to be found in or near village & this hardship is believed to have been inflicted on people of Fedamore because of some discountery offered him during a visit to the district. The only pump is about half a mile away (across fields). It would be over a mile to go by road. A story is told that there was once a house in the village where a well sprung up under the hearth stone, but this is not in existence now. This was supposed to have been St Patrick's reward to the one kind woman in Fedamore.

CUSTOMS, PATTERNS, ETC.

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

About 500 yards east of Rockstown castle in hollow of field (property of Col Basil Rock-Kelly) near drinking pond for cattle, is a rock known as Carrig-an-Affin for which the people of district have great reverence. When the old church at Rockstown (distinct from Rockstown) was destroyed after penal enactments during reign of Queen Anne, Mass was regularly celebrated at this rock, for a long number of years. When the laws were relaxed a very poor church was erected in a quarry near Ballybricken & this event was commemorated by the Ballybricken Chalice, which was presented to church by parishioners. Visits of respect are paid to above rock.

(Signed)

P. J. K. Lynch.

Surveyor.

DATE 12/19/42.