

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

NATURAL FEATURES, ANTIQUITIES, HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.

[BARONY OF] COENAGH

TOWN OR VILLAGE PALLASGREEN PARISH PALLASGREEN COUNTY LIMERICK

TOPOGRAPHY

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

Pallasgreen lies amidst good rich land close to the border of Tipperary. The country to south & west is of a very hilly nature but has at the same time good rich soil. Away to south clearly discernible are the Galtee Mountains & away east is the Slieve Felim range, both presenting pretty scenes. The parish is sparsely wooded but is never-the-less picturesque in its own way.

GEOLOGY

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

In a roadside quarry at NICKER was to be found great quantities of basalt columns similar to those at Giant's Causeway but they have now been wiped out due to crushing for road making. Representations for their preservation were unheeded. More perhaps may lie in the portions still uncovered.

MANSIONS, CASTLES AND ESTATES

OF IMPOSING CHARACTER

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

DERK. Situated 2 miles south of Pallasgreen is the lovely old house & demesne of Derk. Limerick Co. Co. Limerick. It has been in the possession of the family for many generations. An ancestor Heffernan Co. Limerick is believed to have been the first Catholic J.P. in Ireland. The house dates from early 18th century & is a very fine building, standing in a splendidly timbered park which is extremely well kept & comprises most excellent land. There are some fine old family portraits & furniture. There is a small library. In the Hall hangs the sword of Colonel O'TOOLE, with which he captured the colours of the French forces at the battle of BALLINATRUCK. In the dining room hangs his portrait. O'TOOLE was a Cavalry Officer & an ancestor of the Co. Limerick family. The house is surrounded by large well kept gardens. The land at the moment is to a large extent under tillage, producing splendid crops of corn. No part of the property is open to public.

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.

CASTLE.

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.

KILDUFF CASTLE. On the lands of Mrs Dillon beside Pallasgreen & adjacent to main road are remains of the above castle, which was once held by the O'HURLEYS, in conjunction with their castle at Knocklong. Some time prior to its destruction it was in the hands of the Trustees of the Erasmus Smith Fund. (Which was begun about 1669) The castle was about 50 x 40 ft & was of fine stone with an attic portion. The south & west walls remain to their full height, with chimney in each. On top ~~of~~ ^{stones} there are remains of some fine limestone fireplaces & well cut windows & openings throughout. (See picture). No care.

PALLAS CASTLE. This stood slightly to south of Old Pallas village & a short distance to west of MOAT. Only foundation now traceable. On the moat itself is the trace of a stone building which might have been a small castle or stone house.

TEMPLEBRADEN OR BALLYNEETY CASTLE. This castle stood right beside Sansfield's Rock & must have been in existence when Sansfield blew up the siege train there. There is no trace now but the field is known as the castle field.

PALLAS MOAT. This fine relic of ancient times lies near Old Pallas & is on a bit of commonage beside passage leading to house of Mrs Nora RYAN, CLOUGHADREEN. It is in very good preservation. About 30 feet high, 60 in diameter at top & about 300 feet in circumference at base. On the top are foundations of a small castle or stone house. In receipt of ^{no} care whatever & subject to trespass by cattle etc., as a result of which the sides are being worn away.

FORTS. (Plain sheets of foolscap paper to be used, if necessary, for recording additional information). Throughout the parish are a small number of forts, mainly of small dimensions & of no outstanding features.

CHURCHES.

PALLAS. In the well kept burial ground at Old Pallas are fragments of walls of this early church which was at one time believed to have been the seat of the Bishop of Emly. Features. On its site was erected a post Reformation church also ruined & of which only featureless fragments remain.

TEMPLEBRADEN. In burial ground of this name was the early church of which only foundations now remain, with a 6 ft high stump of the N.W. angle. It was under the control of the Hospital of Aney according to local tradition. Would have been about 60 x 25 feet.

BALLYNACLOUGH. This also stood in a burial ground of that name in the S.E. end of the parish of Pallasgreen & was also believed to have been under the Hospital of Aney. Only fragments of walls remain.

I. T. A. SURVEY.

FORM "E"

BARONY. COONAGH

ACCOMMODATION.

COUNTY. Limerick

PARISH Pallasquane.

VILLAGE. Pallasquane.

HOTELS.

None

GUEST HOUSES.

None.

RESTAURANTS.

None.

DATE 30.9.43.

SIGNED.

P. J. Lynch
Surveyor.

RACING

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

No. of meetings normally held during the year *The nearest race course*
Under which rules? *is at Limerick Junction*
Situation of course *where many meetings are held*
5 miles distant.

HUNTING

Hounds which hunt in the district :

Foxhounds *Seanteen Black & Jaws.*
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 :

Very little shooting in the area, there being no cover. In the sloe lands along the estuary, duck, ~~snipe~~, etc are to be had in small numbers. Snipe plentiful in boglands & marshes etc. Rabbits are plentiful in most regions.

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

The lands of Derk House owned by Mrs Cousins, are preserved but it is not known that any game is to be found there.

Shooting Club Secy

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 *yes.* } *practice field on lands of the*
Hurling *yes.* } *Michael Dillon, near Pallasgreen.*
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 *Pallasgreen A.C.* Events held under rules of *N.A. & C.A.*
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.

Pallasgreen Sports Promoters *Pallasgreen A.C.*
.....

*This year for first time a Sports meeting was held.
It is intended to have one annually in future - in Sept.*

DATE *30. 9. 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 COONAGH

TOWN OR VILLAGE PALLASGREEN PARISH PALLASGREEN COUNTY LIMERICK

Location and brief description. Population 180 approx.

The village of Pallasgreen lies 10 miles from Limerick on road to Tipperary, in the heart of a fertile country, famous for its dairying & fattening qualities. Good roads lead from all points, seven miles east is Limerick Junction with its lovely race course & important railway yards. Is a well kept village having good houses & some fine shops.

ten

Is there a Town Hall? / Location /

Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds. Brief description:

/

Brief comments on water supply and sewerage:

/

PUBLIC SERVICES

Nearest station PALLASGREEN Distance adjacent Bus? S.R. daily thro' village
Public lighting by—Electricity? / Gas? /

DANCING

Dance hall The Brook Hall Proprietor Cornelius Ryan
Pallas green.

CINEMAS AND THEATRES

Cinemas Brook Hall Pictures shown occasionally
(nights)

Theatre Brook Hall Kind of shows occasionally plays, concerts etc as presented.
(Drama, Comedy &c.)

LIBRARIES

Public Libraries *Branch of County Library in National School at NICKER*

Private Lending Libraries

CHURCHES AND SERVICES

R.C. Church *NICKER* Services (Sundays) *8-30 & 11 A.M.*

.. *TEMPLEBRADEN* *9-30 A.M.*

Old time throughout year.

Church of Ireland

PALLASGREEN *12 Noon official time.*

POSTAL FACILITIES

Location of Post Office *PALLASGREEN.*

Business (? M.O., Telegraph, Telephone) *all branches.*

BANKING

Banks

SPORTS AND PHOTO SUPPLIES

Sports Dealers

Photographic Stores

SWIMMING POOLS AND BATHS

Swimming Pool ? Location

Public Baths ? Location

PALLASGREEN PARISH.

BARONY OF COONAGH.

At Ballyneety, Pallasgreen, is a spot known as PALATINE STREET, owing to the fact that a small number of Palatines were settled there about the same time as the settlements were made elsewhere in the county. There are no descendants of them there now & with the exception of the name of place, no relics. Palatine street is in a sudden hollow between DERK and TEMPLEBRADEN church.

FORN
"D"

PALLASGREEN PARISH
BARONY OF COONAGH.

POSTAL FACILITIES, ETC.

At little village of Old Pallas with a population of approx 90, is a sub post office for the sale of stamps & postal orders. It is here the fairs listed on FORN "D" take place.

Old Pallas lies one mile to south west of village of Pallasgreen, and was at one time a prosperous village but has now lost all its trade to its more progressive rival on the main road. Old Pallas is built in form of a large square, with weigh-house etc in centre.

There are no further services or facilities to be mentioned

P. J. 2.

30/9/43

FALLASGREEN.

Built about the R.C. church at NICKER, is a group of about 30 newly-built, working class houses.

This forms a very pretty little village on side of KNOCKSEEFIN hill, and all are well kept.

There are two old established shops nearby but there are no facilities to be reported.

The population of this village of NICKER would be about 100.

P. J. Lynch
20/9/43.

FAIRS AND MARKETS ; HALF-HOLIDAY

Monthly fairs and markets *Sept 16; Oct 16; Nov 24; Jan 1; March 10. (The Sept & March fairs are practically extinct)*
Weekly market day *-----* Half-holiday *Wednesday*

GARAGES AND PETROL STATIONS

*Edmond O'Sullivan, Pallasgreen
Petrol & Repairs*

CONVEYANCES FOR HIRE (Owners) :

Taxis *Michael Ryan, Pallasgreen.
Patrick Dillon do.
Mrs Banfield, Old Pallas, Pallasgreen.*

Motors (Touring) *-----*

Boats (State type) *-----*

Bicycles *-----*

Caravans *-----*

Horses *-----*

CAMPING SITES

(At principal holiday resorts)

Location *-----*

Landowner *-----*

Local Improvements Committee *-----*

Secretary *-----*

DATE *30.9.43.*

(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.

In the field at back of TEMPLEBRADEN Church, Ballyneety, Pallasgreen is Sansfield's Rock (see picture) about which the siege train of King William III was camped, while on its way to Limerick. It was here that Patrick Sansfield blew up the entire lot & made good his escape. The password he had learned from a soldier's wife whom he assisted on his journey thither. The rock is a most conspicuous land mark & lies adjacent to the road. (see separate note)

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.

Derk House was the residence of Steffeman Consideine who was believed to have been the first Catholic J.P. The Consideine family were noted for their adherence to the old faith. It is also believed to have been the home of Colonel O'TOOLE who distinguished himself at Battle of Ballinamuck by capturing the colours of the FRENCH forces. Derk is presently in the hands of Mrs E. Consideine widow of the late Captain Talbot Consideine, and is in most excellent condition. See mansions section.

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.

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.

In the burial ground at Old Pallas is an elaborate table tomb with the following faint inscription in verse.

Here lies dead and gone
Mr Thomas Abjohn
With Anne his dear Wife
And solace through life
May a merciful Saviour
Look on them with favour
And blot out their sins for ever and ever.

The ABJOHNS were an old family in PALLAS but are long since wiped out. There is no date on the tomb stone & it is not known actually when the above lived & died. They were believed to have been craftsmen in the village.

CUSTOMS, PATTERNS, ETC.

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

In the grounds of NICKER church is a very elaborate & beautifully constructed Grotto where services take place regularly during the summer months. It lies, ideally situated at eastern foot of KNOCKSEEFIN. The church is most striking in appearance & has a granite square tower visible for many miles around.

(Signed)

P. J. Lynch
Surveyor.

DATE

30/9/43.