

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

NATURAL FEATURES, ANTIQUITIES,
HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.BARONY OF Upper OrmondTOWN OR VILLAGE Silvermines PARISH of the Silvermines COUNTY Tipperary

TOPOGRAPHY

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

Embracing the three ancient parishes of Kilmore, Dolla & Ballynaclogh the parish of the Silvermines extends from a point little ~~of~~ over a mile south of Nenagh away to the summits of the mts. of the Silvermines range. The Nenagh-Kimerick Rly. line runs just inside its western boundary & in the North east the main Nenagh-Thurles road forms the boundary which, from Killeary cross-roads runs south along the borders of Toomevara & Templemore parishes to the northern slopes of the mountains. The extent of the parish North-South is about 6 mls & E.W. over 7 mls. (Contd. P. 3)

GEOLOGY

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

The Silvermines:

Around the village of the Silvermines on the northern slopes of the mountains are the now disused workings of mines which produced silver, lead, gold, iron and other minerals. They were extensively prospected in 1942 for oxides for paints etc. They were first worked in 14th cent (see "Historic Sites") The rest of the district north of the mountains is predominantly a black limestone one

MANSIONS, CASTLES AND ESTATES

OF IMPOSING CHARACTER

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

Kilboy House, seat of Lord Dunally (Baron)

Four miles south of Nenagh on the road to Tipperary is Kilboy House, seat of Lord Dunally. The house, a large square built Victorian style mansion was burned down in 1922 & rebuilt a few years later. It is situated in a picturesquely wooded demesne containing a beautiful artificial lake, a through which are many lovely avenues. The demesne is not open to visitors. It is well supplied with game. No notable art or library collection - most of the old family documents were lost in the fire. The present is the 4th Baron Dunally - the title was acquired at the time of the Act of Union. The family is descended from Col. Henry Prety a former governor of Benbow and an influential Cromwellian officer who acquired the estates of John O'Kennedy of Dunally. (See Antiquities "Dunally Castle") Col. Prety (now Pittie) retained his lands through the Restoration period by giving evidence against the Regicides. He had his grant renewed at this period and it included the Silvermines worked by a "Silver refiner" named Thos. Powell (last Lord) Ormond 7:161-3.

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.

Old Church of Ballinaclogh:

Just over 3 miles S.-E. of Newagh in the graveyard attached to the Protestant church at Ballinaclogh is a fairly well preserved old church ruin (see plan herewith). It is rectangular divided into choir and nave by a wall in which is a semi-circular arch; dressed with cut sandstone, measuring about 12 ft. wide by 12 ft. high. The choir measures about 22 ft. x 18 ft. The E. window, about 2 ft. x 8 ft., has a rectangular cusped head of limestone & was divided into two lights by a mullion which is missing. It is round arched on the inside. There is only one other window in this portion of the church - a small single light window, similar in style to the E. window ~~which~~ and placed near the E. gable in the S. wall. The nave is about 6 ft. wider than the choir and about 56 ft. long. Near the east end of it are two small windows similar ^{to the} ~~one another~~ in the choir opposite one another. The doorway is pointed & in the S. Wall $\frac{2}{3}$ of the way from the choir-arch. Opposite the door is a narrow gap where the ~~the~~ wall is broken down to ground level. The walls are about 3 ft. thick and though thickly coated with ivy are in fairly good condition. The gables are high & pointed & there seems to be a small belfry on the west one. The graveyard attached is a mixed one the church being situated in the Catholic portion.

This appears to have been the parish church of the old manastic parish of Ballinaclogh. Mr. Gleeson in Hist. Ely O'Connell Territory p. 484 says: "This church would have been built by the Irish Columban monks of Keshbeg before the year 1050." His only ground for the theory is the round-arch. The church was attended by the monks of Tyone abbey & the windows are similar to those of Tyone (Parish of Newagh). At what period after the Reformation the church was taken over is not known but in the "Civil Survey of Tipperary, 1654-56," (Published by Stationery Office Vol II, p. 259) there was a church at Ballinaclogh at that period.

Ballinaclogh Mill & Castle:

Across the road from Ballinaclogh Church, in the grounds of a residence, the property of Col. Bayly, Bayly Farm, Newagh and occupied by Mrs. Callaghan are the traces of the stump on an old castle, a large rectangular building adjoining it & nearby the ruins of an ancient mill.

(See Page 4 over)

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

Topography (contd.)

The quality of the land throughout the parish is good, even right up to where it gives way to the heaths on the lower slopes of the mountains, cattle have plentiful grazing. There are many new farms where big estates such as those attached to Kilboy Ho. (Lord Dunally) and Debsborough Ho. (Col. Bayly) were divided by the Land Commission. In fact most of the farmsteads in the district appear to be modern with the exception of some up along the mountain slopes. Three peaks of the Silvermine Mts. are on the parish's southern boundary - Knockaunderrig (1605) being the highest. These brown heath clad hills slope down into a broad flat valley lying between the village of the Silvermines, neatly done to the foot of Knockaunderrig on a gentle slope, and Dolla on the Nenagh-Tipperary road which passes almost through the centre of the parish. In this valley is the beautifully wooded demesne of Lord Dunally and from it the country recedes north in low rolling ridges towards Nenagh.

Cycling south from Nenagh into the parish one has a very comprehensive view of the mountain barrier which divides Tipperary in two. A great irregular wall changing from brown to blue as it recedes to a beyond the Devil's Pitt in the east forms an impressive back-drap to a pleasant landscape.

Cycle-run: From Nenagh to the Silvermines Village via Dolla & Kilboy Ho. (residence of Lord Dunally) & thence over the Silvermine Mts. via "The Step" & down into the lovely Glen of Gloun or Glenalloo (Parish of Killoscally (Newport)) traverse the valley to the western spur of the Silvermine Mts & back to Nenagh via the Newport-Nenagh road. (Distance: about 20 mls. Going up the "step" as the road over the mts from the Silvermines is called, entails wheeling the bicycle for about 1 1/2 mls. but the scenery is really worth it.)

A shorter run to occupy an hour or two would be Nenagh - Silvermines - Dolla - and back either by Ballynaclosh (14 mls) or by the direct road (Tipperary-Nenagh) (12 mls) It takes in Kilmore Old Church; the Silvermines Village; Kilboy Killoy House & Old Church & Ballynaclosh Old Church, castle & mill.

View from Knockaunderrig (1605 ft.)

From the summit of "The Step" (ca "Glen") where the road begins its plunge into Glenalloo it is easy to reach the top of Knockaunderrig. If one walks from the Silvermines Village - advisable if it is not intended to go back to Nenagh through Glenalloo - for a shortcut up the "step" may be taken by way of a steep footpath known as the

The Secretary,
Irish Tourist Assocn.
Dublin.

O'Connell St.,
Borrisoleigh
12/5/45

Dear Sir,

With regard to my
reference ^{of the name of the place} under the heading
of "Historic Houses: Burial
Places" in my report on
the Parish of the Silvermines
I wish to mention that
I now believe, from information
picked up during the week, that
if any reliance be placed in
tradition he came from
the Parish of Upperchurch.

I have been told that
even the site of his birthplace
is pointed out in that
district & there are numerous
stories of his exploits there
although Dist Justice Gleeson
in ~~his~~ his "Last Hours of
O'Connell" quotes authorities
to back those who say he
came from the Silvermines I believe
it safer to call Upperchurch his
birthplace as the tradition seems
very genuine. Yours faithfully
P. V. Tuohy

Topography (contd.)

"mass-path". The path leads up along the rim of a deep defile picturesquely wooded & one looks back over a vast panorama, stretching northwards from the little village in the trees on the verge of the red-brown grand-flats of the mine "washings" immediately below, to a dim distant skyline away off in Co. Galway. Due north in the rich plain ~~is~~ ^{nearby} grey-blue rooftops, clustering round its church towers and ancient keep, contrasting with the light cream of the mallee hospital ~~to~~ just to the right of it. Beyond it the rugged little hills near Kinnisokane break the smoothness of the plain. To the north-west, ~~the~~ a brilliant patchwork carpet slopes upwards to the sombre brown heights of the Anna ~~Hills~~ with the St. Remayn's butts in line peeping over their shoulders. To the north of them sprawls h. Dery snaking away into some hidden recess in the plain towards Potanna. Beyond it in Galway is a soft smooth skyline coming round in a sweeping ~~curve~~ ^{curve} to meet the misty sl. balloons appearing from behind the welter of tossing hills to the east.

From the summit of ~~the~~ ^{east} Knockanberry one looks south into the heart of the Tipperary mountains - round dark brown hills rising out of deep vivid green valleys - cattle & sheep everywhere; even in the heath on the heights where the grass is coarse & dark among the heathers. Across Glenalloo towers Keeper Hill with the gold of furze fringing the grim grey-brown of its scathed slopes surmounted by a conical, ^{little} cap that is a cairn, & rather ruins the mountain air of dignity. Glenalloo, or glann, a lovely glen with a lovely meane curves round the foot of Keeper & skirts the silvermines to widen out into Co. Limerick. ~~Through~~ ^{Through} it the Mulkier river tumbles in its rocky ^{bed} and little clusters of trees half-conceal farmhouses nestling under the green lower slopes of the mountains. In the space between Keeper and Manberslieve, or Mother Mountain which lies to the S. E. of Keeper, the broken skyline of the distant Galtee Mts. is glimpsed. Through the western opening of Glenalloo one has a glimpse of the broad plain ^{with}, far out in it, the Shannon winding down to its estuary where through a filmy haze may be seen Limerick city.

Antiquities (contd.)

The largest of the buildings is referred to by the occupiers as the "Monastery." It is a roofless, many windowed, two-story rectangular building measuring roughly 60 ft from North to South by about 20 ft wide, ~~was~~ obviously some sort of residential structure. The S. gable is missing and ~~the~~ the structure of all the openings, save ^{one} ~~one~~ ^{see Page five}

Antiquities (contd.)

completely destroyed. The one window of which the carved stone framework remains is in the north gable on the second storey and measures about 5ft x 10ft. It is in the pointed style & the outside framework is of worn red sandstone beautifully carved into courses & coming to a point in a round curve so that the head is almost semi-circular. It is thickly entwined with ivy.

Four or 5 yds from the N.W. corner of this building can be traced the foundations of what was apparently a square keep with a few large pieces of grouted masonry in its vicinity.

150 yds to the West is the remnant of an old mill on the banks of the stream which flows past the castle. Only a square corner of the building is standing but the mill race still exists & the foundations of the whole building are traceable.

An important Branch of the O'Kennedy family lived in the castle of Ballinaclogh having wrested it from the Butlers who built it in the 13th Cent. (This explains the "keep") The O'Kennedys subsequently accepted the Butlers as overlords according to the Irish system & historical notices refer to the "Manor of Weyperous do. Ballinaclogh". It would seem likely that this branch of the family had a residence as well as a fortress here & lived in the Norman fashion for they intermarried with the Butlers. The large building known as the "monastery" would appear to be the residence.

In 1592 the O'Kennedys were prominent in the Tyrone Rebellion and the Earl of Ormond captured the castle of Ballinaclogh "killing divers of the O'Kennedys." This war broke the power of the O'Kennedys & Rory O'Kennedy of Ballinaclogh was imprisoned for failing to deliver recruits to the Assizes in 1612, although he was on such good terms with the Earl of Ormond that the Earl relinquished his interest in a mortgage on Ballinaclogh in Rory's favour as a wedding present in 1609. Col. Abbott a Cromwellian soldier secured Ballinaclogh after the Cromwellian was but lost it again on the Restoration, being accused of complicity in the Beckett Plot. It was purchased by John Bayley, forbear of present owner Col. Bayley towards the end of the 17th Cent.

Mist. Ely O'Connell, with reference to the old rectangular building, after dealing with the old church & graves in the Ch. O. S. graveyard, described above, states: (P. 484)

"The second ruin across the road is built in the pointed style, known as the Gothic, the covering of windows & doors being pointed. This style of building was introduced by the foreign monks not many years after 1100 A.D. It follows, therefore, that the ruin at Colonel Bayley's was built by the canons Regular of Tyone abbey, after the older church had become unfit for use at some time between 13th & 16th Centuries: it was a rectory & place of residence of the canons of Tyone abbey."

It is more likely the old manor house of Ballinaclogh or Weyperous. (See Page 4)

The one in Protestants (changed) & the other in O'Kennedy

Antiquities (contd.)

(1654-6)
According to the Civil Survey of Co. Tipperary (Vol II P. 254) there was "the stump of an irreparable castle with a church & one mill" at Ballinaclogh. Except the "monastery" is included as part of the old castle there is no mention of it in the survey which takes into account "thatched cabins."

Old Church at Kilboj.

a couple of hundred yards from the farda barnacles at the crossroads of Dolla in the demesne of Lord Dunally are the remains of an old church situated in a graveyard reached by a right of way from the public road. The church is 54 ft x 24 ft. & only the east gable appears to be original. It contains a 2-light window, with rectangular cusped head with dividing mullion of sandstone intact, measuring roughly 2 ft x 5 ft. The south wall shows much sign of patching & rebuilding & contains two small slit-like windows. It marks the burial place of the Barons of Dunally. There is no opening in W. gable which has also been reconstructed & the N. wall is almost completely gone. Projecting from the S. wall about 2 ft. from its east end is a small annexe measuring about 20 ft. square. It is obviously of later date though its two 2-light windows are similar in style to the window in the E. gable of the church but they are of carved limestone whereas the stone in the other is sandstone. It contains memorials to some of the family of Dunally.

Kilboj church replaced an earlier church at Dolla, the ~~traces~~ traces of the walls of which were visible in O'Donovan's time but have now disappeared. It served as the parish church of the old parish of Dolla & was probably administered by the monks of Tyone Abbey. "Hist. by O'Connell" states it was built in 13th cent (P. 485.)

Kilmore Church or "Abbey"

at a crossroads about a mile north of the Silvermines & about 4 miles south of Kenagh is the old church of Kilmore locally known as "The Abbey." It is rectangular: 22 ft. long by 25 ft. wide and is of very plain Romanesque architecture. The doorway is in the middle of the W. gable is unusual being about 4 ft wide x 12 ft. high to the top of its round arch. Above it high in the gable is a small square opening. In the E. gable at ground level is a ~~light~~ flat-arched opening about 12 ft. wide by 8 ft. high now built up and another small square window high in the gable. In the north and south walls are round-headed windows without an inward splay built up to the top of the arch. In the south corner of the West gable is a date, 1796, inscribed on a [red. seal]

Antiquities (contd.)

a corner stone about 5 ft. from the ground, in the style of numerals of that date seen on tombstones.

Though F. Gleeson in "Hist. Ely O'Connell" P. 482-3 states this church dates from the 11th cent. his sole ground for doing so is the round arch. The church has the plain, general appearance of a post Reformation ~~church~~ building & ~~it~~ there are signs of eaves of a slated roof which would make 1746 more like the date than 1050. The Cromwellian 'Civil Survey of Co. Tipperary' ^{P. 246} mentions "the walls of an old church." The increase in the Protestant population in consequence of the Plantations which followed this survey probably led to the renovation or reconstruction of this ruin as it now stands.

It is in very good condition.

About 540 St. Odrian of Katteragh (died 548) founded the abbey of Kilmore & it was apparently a rectory of Katteragh Monastery until 13th cent when it came under the Augustinian Monastery of Tyone, founded by the Butlers, & probably remained as such until the suppression of Tyone. "Hist. Ely O'Connell" (P. 483) quotes Colgan, Acta Sanctorum P. 528 giving an account of the rectory to life by St. Senan of "the son of the dynast of the country" at the command of the abbot of Kilmore. The O'Glynes (Gleesons) were Brehens or wardens of Kilmore (Kill-mor-Aradh-tire)

Tullaheady Castle & "Shanaclogh":

About 2 miles S.W. of Nenagh along the Limerick road, on the lands of Mr. Riggs Miller, Tullaheady, Nenagh are the remains of an old castle and a curious old building known as the "Shanaclogh." No right of way to either.

All that remains of the castle is a corner of the walls, badly undermined, and standing about 15 ft high in a road on a hill top.

About 200 yds south of the castle is the "Shanaclogh" ^(see plan herewith.) The main portion is about 38 x 20 ft with walls 6 ft. thick or 12 ft high. The S. wall and most of the E. wall are missing and a great many stones have been prized out of the portions of the walls still standing. Attached to the north-west corner is a small rectangular ~~cell~~ 4 ft x 6 ft with walls about 3 ft. thick & 20 ft high. At ground level is the top of a small arch resembling a gullet or drain but there is no other opening & it seems to have been entered from the top.

This structure is believed to have been part of the castle & was called Cloch a phuca or [see Page 8]

Antiquities (contd.)

Puck's Stone. The castle of Tullahedy is believed to have been built by the Butlers in the 13th Cent. However, it later came into the hands of the O'Kennedys and in the 17th Cent. it was the property of the O'Briens (Mac Brians) of 'ara, which covers the county of the O'Kennedys of Upper Ormond. The O'Briens sold Tullahedy Castle & lands to Dr. Thos. Arthur of Limerick who lost them during the Cromwellian confiscations but recovered them in the Restoration settlement.

"Fact. books of Ormond" 7s. 116, 184, 233, 239, 247.

Dunally Castle:

On a rocky ledge on the lower slopes of Knockaunderry Mt. in the townland of Garryard about a mile and a half west of the Silvermines Village are the scant remains of Dunally Castle, an important O'Kennedy stronghold. The situation is picturesque, two mountain streams tumbling down through rocky chasms on either side of the high rock. Only an irregularly shaped column of masonry on the verge of a sheer drop of 50 or 60 ft. marks the site. A hundred yards south of it is the old Dun (Dun Mill) ^{the foot of the cliff} which gives the Castle its name. A ~~stone~~ ^{lane} leads up to it from the road between the Silvermines & Challice crossroads. On the lands of Mr. C. O'Meara (senr.) Garryard, The Silvermines.

Page 10
 Built by the O'Kennedys about the 14th Cent. they held it until the Cromwellian campaign when it was granted to Col. Henry Prethy (ancestor of hd. Dunally - see "Mansions, Castles, Estates") It was from Dunally that Hugh O'Kennedy, brother of John, the owner a Col. in the Confederate armies, fell on the Silvermines during the 16th Rising (see "Historic Sites") Col. Henry Prethy was in possession of Dunally Castle after the Williamite wars when it was besieged & taken by a party of Rapparees. The Col. is supposed to have been thrown from the top of the Castle but escaped unhurt. According to Lewis a written account of the siege, by the Col. himself, was in possession of the Pristie family but this must have been destroyed when Hilbooy House, residence of hd. Dunally was burned in 1822. Col. Prethy's (Pristie's) ~~successors~~ successors removed from Dunally Castle to Hilbooy Castle 3 miles away where Hilbooy House now stands.

Ballycabill Castle.

On the lands of Mr. Pat. Ryan, Ballycabill, there are a few blocks of masonry marking the site of Ballycabill Castle. This castle was occupied by Sir Thos. Meredith [see page line]

Antiquities (contd.)

In 1641 and it was to this castle that the English of the Silvermines fled on being warned of the impending Irish attack by John O'Kennedy of Dunally Castle. They were persuaded to return later & the attack then took place in which a number lost their lives. Some of the refugees entrusted their belongings to Meredith's steward Carter, who robbed them and joined the rebels. According to a deposition of one of the refugees Carter "being an Englishman was later murdered by them (rebels)" as she credibly heard. (Last Lords of Ormond Ps. 72-75.)

Other Castles of which very little trace remain were at Tillamoygan (O'Kennedy) a mile N. of Dolla crossroads; Bawn (O'Briens of Ana) 4 mls. S. of Henagh on Limerick Rd; and Cappasee (O'Briens) 5 mls. S. of Henagh on Newport Rd.

~~Two miles S.~~

Dolmens: Two miles south of Henagh on the Newport Road on the lands of Mr. Willie Fogarty, hiscenhall is ~~an old~~ the much disturbed remains of an old megalithic tomb. ~~The~~ the stones are so much broken & disturbed that it is not easy to determine its exact type. This also applies to the "Giant's Grave" on the lands of Mr. John Collins, Coolcen, Silvermines.

There are a number of ancient forts in the ~~parish~~ ^{parish}. There is a peopery of them in the Ballynechoy and Ballycabill districts.

Historic Sitts (contd.)

led through the Silvermines and not Henagh as they do now. An account of the mines in 1641 says they were worked as Royal mines. They yielded in royalties alone £800 per annum and that there were maintained there besides natives "500 Englishmen and divers strangers brought from all nations to improve it." In the rising of that period the workings were destroyed by the revolting O'Kennedys, Gleasons & O'Briens. John O'Brien of Dunally, after a party of English had been ambushed by the Irish, warned ^{the English residents} that the mines would be attacked & advised them to "go off with their belongings to safety. Some went to ^{sheneich} others to Ballycabill Castle (see Thos. Meredith's Antiquities P. 8) after some time when things appeared quiet the mining folk returned & the attack took place. Accounts of the number killed ~~men,~~ women & children vary from 38 to 14. They were buried in a "water ditch". O'Donovan places this ditch "near a spiny well at a point 16 chains N.E. of Kilmore old church." It was then called "Clais na nGall" (the pit of the foreigners.) (See Page Ten)

Historic Sites (contd)

There is still a spring well and a "water ditch" along the roadside where O'Donovan poils out on the lands of Mr. McCutcheon, Kilmore House, the Silvermines. At the instigation of the Confederation of Kilkenny John O'Kennedy (a confederate colonel) of Dunalley castle, had the perpetrators executed. His brother Hugh who led the attack was not executed and according to some of the depositions sent mail a drowned himself a week after the incident. (last books of Ormond P. 72-80.)

Silvermines' Soup Kitchen.

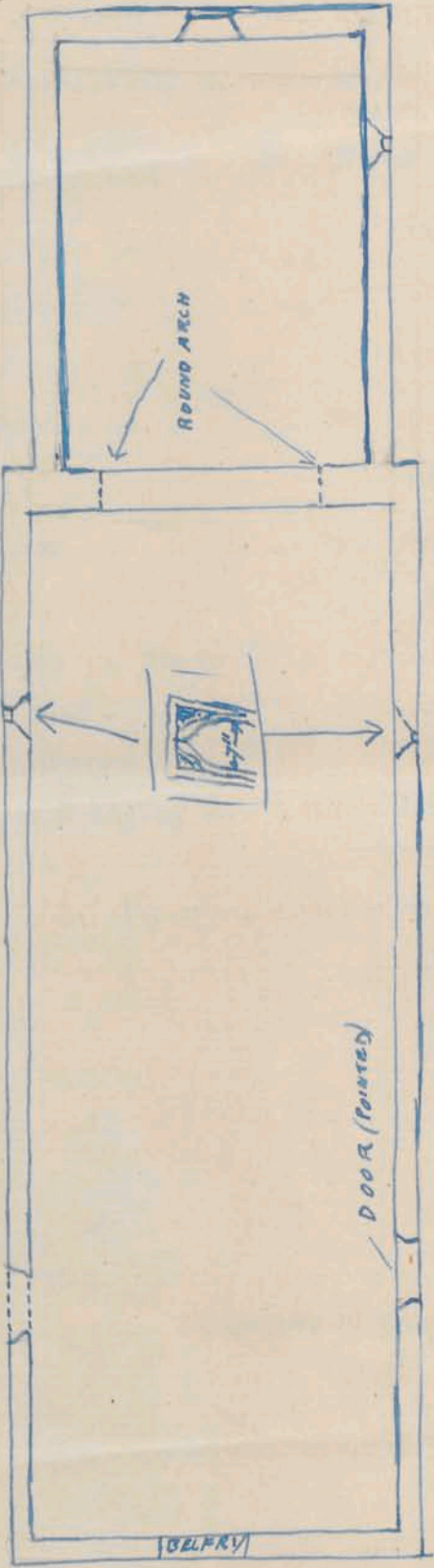
The walls of an old hospital or workhouse surround the smithy of Mr. Tom Kennedy, blacksmith, the Silvermines. During the Famine years there was a boiler in what is now called the Soup Kitchen where coal etc. was given out to the people of the district by the Lord Dunalley's steward or agent.

Ballycattil Mass Rock.

Three miles south of Nenagh and within 200 yds of Ballycattil cross roads is ~~the~~ a site where mass was said in the Penal days. By an old whitethorn bush, on the rim of a semi circular depression in the ground, is a roughly built table of large stones. One huge stone on top has a circular bowl-shaped depression about a foot in diameter which is said to have been used as a Holywater font. It is on the lands of Mrs. Hannah Ryan, Ballycattil, Nenagh.



BREAK IN WALL

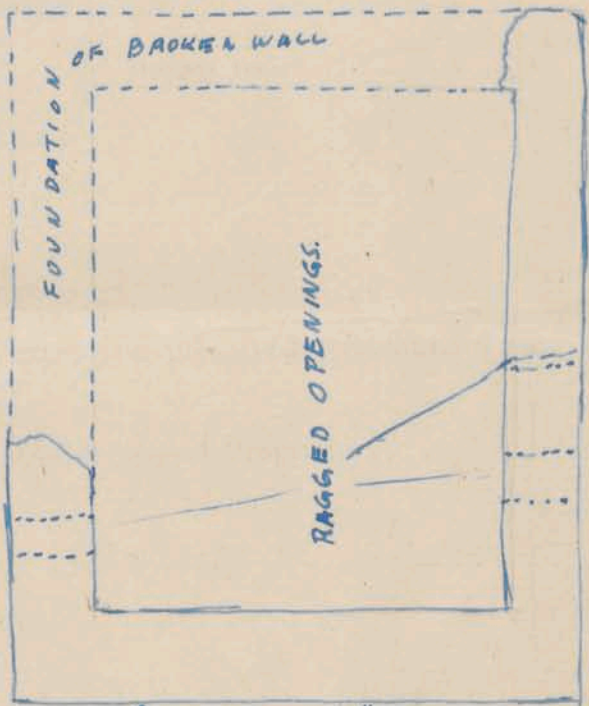


ROUND ARCH

DOOR (POINTED)

BELFRY

PLAN OF BALLYNACLOGH CHURCH



12ft high

10ft high

TOP OF ARCH AT GROUND LEVEL



SHANACLOGH - M. TULLA HEADY CASTLE

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

SPORTS AND GAMES

BARONY OF Upper Ormond

TOWN OR VILLAGE The Silvermines PARISH of the Silvermines COUNTY Tipperary

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 None 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

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

Brief notes on fishing grounds :

SPORTS AND GAMES

NAME OF PLACE Upper Grouse

PARISH The Parish of St. Andrew

COUNTY Highland

ANGLING (fresh water)

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

Kinds of fish to be caught :

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

Average weight of fish

Best seasons for fishing

Suitable flies

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

Preserved stretches with names and addresses of proprietors

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 :

Name of Professional

Is there a clubhouse on course? Licensed?

Green fees (Visitors) : Per day Per week

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

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

BARONY OF Liffey Ormond

~~TOWN OR VILLAGE~~ The Silvermines PARISH The Silvermines COUNTY Tipperary

Location and brief description.

Population about 150.

Situated at the foot of the mountains 5 miles due south of Nenagh
The Silvermines Village, of about 50 houses on either side of a steeply sloping
street which opens on to the red gravel flats of the old mine workings, has,
due to its environs, and appearance quite unlike the average Irish village.
At the top of the street is a disused Protestant church in a clump of trees with the
plainly built Catholic church behind it. The houses are substantial and
most of them are about 2 or 3 storeys high. Young beech trees planted at
the instigation of Rev. Fr. Enright, P.P. add to the beauty of the village.

Is there a Town Hall? none Location —

Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds. Brief description:

none.

Brief comments on water supply and sewerage:

Water Supply: One pump.

Sewerage system: none.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Nearest station Nenagh C.P.R. sta. Distance 5 miles. Bus? Nenagh side.

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 *Branch of Carnegie lending library in Silvermines National School.*

Private Lending Libraries *none.*

CHURCHES AND SERVICES

Church *Catholic Church* Services (Sundays) *8.30 & 11 a.m.*

Ballinacorney Ch. O. I. (4 1/2 m.) *10.30 a.m.*

POSTAL FACILITIES

Location of Post Office *In Village*

Business (? M.O., Telegraph, Telephone) *Full Business.*

BANKING

Banks *None.*

SPORTS AND PHOTO SUPPLIES

Sports Dealers *None*

Photographic Stores

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)

none
.....
.....

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

none
.....
.....

HOSPITALS

none
.....
.....

FAIRS AND MARKETS ; HALF-HOLIDAY

Monthly fairs and markets *Fairs 13th May & 8th June*

Weekly market day *None* Half-holiday *Wednesday*

GARAGES AND PETROL STATIONS

None

CONVEYANCES FOR HIRE (Owners) :

Taxis *Mrs. Kate Collins, Dulla, near*

Motors (Touring) *None*

Boats (State type) *None*

Bicycles *None*

Caravans *None*

Horses *None*

CAMPING SITES

(At principal holiday resorts)

Location Landowner

Local Improvements Committee

Secretary

DATE *7/5/05*

(Signed) *A.V. Turley*
Surveyor.

ACCOMMODATION

PARISH *The Simonsville*

BARONY *Upper Comond.* COUNTY

Tippahary

TOWN OR VILLAGE

The Simonsville

HOTELS	NUMBER OF				LICENSED	REMARKS	RESTAURANTS AND CAFES
	Guest Bedrooms	Baths	Lavs, (state kind)	Public Rooms			
							<i>None</i>
	<i>No Accommodation</i>						

GUEST OR BOARDING HOUSES

DATE *7/5/45*

(Additional Forms to be used if necessary)

(Signed) *P. V. Tandy*
Surveyor

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 None

Harriers None

Beagles None

COURSING

Name of Club None Meeting held annually?

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:

The preserves of Lord Dunally around the Silvermines & Dolla & Col. Bayly in the Ballinacloyh area abound with game. Pheasant, Partridge, woodcock. Grouse & hares abound on the northern slopes of the Silvermines where Lord Dunally has also preserves. There is plenty of free shooting however. It is an excellent district for shooting.

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

Lord Dunally, Hilby House, Dolla.
Col. Bayly, Bayly Farm, Meneagh.

Shooting Club The Silvermines Gun Club Secy Mr. Gerard Kennedy
Traverstown, Dolla.

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 *Dolla Gaelic G.A. Club (Junior) (ground at Dolla)*

Hurling *Dolla G.A. Club. Juniors & Seniors. (ground at Dolla)*

Handball *no club* Handball alley? *The Silvermines Village.*

Soccer *none*

Rugby *none*

Cricket *none*

Hockey *none*

Bowls *none*

Bowling (on public roads) *none*

Lawn Tennis *Ballinacloph Tennis Club.* Kinds of courts *1 Grass court & 1 "The Fair" Ballinacloph*

Croquet *none*

Billiards *none*

Badminton *none*

Table Tennis *none*

Bridge Club *none*

Other games or recreations (inc. "Cross Roads" dancing) *There is a dancing "deck" at the "Green Gates" midway between the Silvermines and Dolla.*

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.

May Day in The Silvermines Promoters *Lord Dunally*
there is a fair once a year *advantices & collect*
a sheep fair & it is a "cala day" *Tolls.*
in the locality.

DATE *7/5/45*

(Signed) _____

P. V. Tuohy
Surveyor.

HISTORIC SITES

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

The Silvermines

all around the Silvermines village are traces of the now almost vanished workings of mines in which, as far back as the 14th Cent., silver, lead and lead were obtained. Along the village on the slopes of Knockaundering Hill are acres of a reddish sandy gravel, the waste from the mines, on which are situated an old square tower with a high chimney, called the "engine house"; large sheds; and the tumbled-down remains of another old building known as the "counting house." In a gully to the south-west of the village are some mine shafts still open where the mines were prospected in 1942 for oxides. The present village of the Silvermines was once a thriving mining town and a big centre of population than perhaps. Old maps show that all the important roads

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. [See Page nine]

Eamonn a' Cyac:

According to some authorities the romantic "Eamonn a' Cyac," student for the priesthood, Jacobite soldier, Rapparee & Gaelic poet was a native of the Silvermines district. There is not, however, the slightest trace of any tradition now alive associating him with the district. There is a tradition that he was born at Upperchurch, near Borrisoleigh, & buried either at Doon, Co. Kimerick or Kilmamagh, Pomeroy. His name was Eamonn a' Riam, "a poor dispossessed gentleman from the Silvermines in Upper Ormond who, having no castle or hall would win his bride in a Miss Comerford, an heiress from Danganmore, Co. Kilkenny."—(Last Lords of Ormond, p. 7 Gleason, chap. XIV p. 202.) a Rapparee he served as an officer in the Jacobite armies and after the Treaty of Limerick attached himself to Galloghly O'Hogan and other famous rapparees who preyed on the Planters in North Tipperary. It is said that he was "killed by treachery" but the details are not known. Portion of his youth was spent on the Continent studying for the priesthood. His best known poems are: "Eamonn a' Cyac," "Ceann Dub a' Gleanna" and "Sa Cuid Stairi Deas." ("The Spirit of Tipperary" an anthology published by "The Gaelic Guardian" edited by: Pádraig Mac Donnchadha)

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.

CUSTOMS, PATTERNS, ETC.

Brief account of old customs, traditional cures, etc., still practised in the district. Pilgrimages

The "Fair o' the Mines" to Holy Wells, Shrines, etc. Patterns.

There were formerly 4 fairs in the Silvermines village—1st May; 8th June; Sept 12th & Oct. 25th. They were principally goat & sheep fairs. Only the 1st two are now held. The May fair is a big event in the locality & a few people in the district miss it. It is a sort of celebration of the putting in of the crops & is something in the nature of a pattern. The whole district throngs the tiny village apparently with the object of drinking as many pints as possible.

St. Patrick's Well: at the rear of the residence of Mrs. Egan at Ballycabill cross roads is a spring (now a drinking place for cattle) reputed to be a holy well, though there is now no sign of devotion of any kind at it. The legend goes that St. Patrick converted a Druid who lived in Ballycabill fort nearby and baptised him at the well. After St. Patrick's departure other Druids beheaded the convert at the well. A depression in a large stone beside the spring is said to be the mark of the converted Druid's neck and, a long white streak in the stone, the slash of the sword. A well marked "Tobin" on the maps in the townland of Ballycabill (i.e. rather) Ballycabill ~~has~~ has no reputation as a holy well.

(Signed)

P. V. Tuley

Surveyor.

DATE

7/5/45