



Ballybooby
Island

Remains of Ruacoe
Castle.



Church Records

Frederick O'Brien

Ballylooby Parish

ORATE PRO AB
 PELAGIUS
 VICTORIUS
 DODORUS
 INGHILIO
 DUDARIO
 TROOIO
 ACCEDERE
 TROOIO
 TROOIO

Pacque on Wall
of old Ruin (O'Brien)
Commemorating
Dr Keating
Subscribed

For

W. J. Keating
W. J. Keating
W. J. Keating



o cwmniugad Sheatpŷm Chêrtim
an leac rō

I an dŷme do bamo eagna
fearaid Eipeannm a cōm annrŷp
aoi i nŷaedilŷ aŷur i laidm
ŷur an raŷarŷ lān cŷraibŷteac
ioðan ŷnŷuŷŷteac ŷeanmniad
aðia ceam ŷoŷiceadail aŷur ŷp eagna
aŷur ŷoibeur aŷur ŷeultann an
ŷolair do clann na nŷaedail



EC LAPIS IN MEMORIAM COLLOCATUS EST
GODFREDI KETYNGE SACERDOTIS FIDEI
VINAE PROPUGNATORIS INVICTI AUDITORIS
AMENARUM ARGUTI LIBRORUM VETERUM
CRUTATORIS SUBTILIS: CUIUS EX ORE
ANQUAM EX FAVO HODIERNI SERMONIS
ADELICI RORES MELLITI PROFLUEBANT
E QUEM OB MULTAS PRO FIDE PASSIONES
VNO IN COELIS CORONATUM CREDIMUS. TE
GODFREDE PRECAMUR UT NOSTRI PATRIAEQUE
ELICI ORATIONE CORAM DEO RECORDEIS.

Lombstone to
Dr Keating
Julius O'Brien
Ballylooby
Parish



LAUDIS MEMORIA NE PEREAT
WILLMI JOANNIS BRENNAN, S.T.
WATERFORD 1871-93 ARCHIEP CASSILUS 1877-9
TEMPORIBUS CALAMITOSIS. TOT TANTISQ
ORIBUS UNDIQUE OPPRESSUS. TRANQUILI
E AC FIDE INTREPIDA PER XX. PLUS ANN
IA SACRA OBIBAT. HOC MONUMENTUM
STRUCTUM EST SUMPTIBUS AUSPICIISQ
OCIATORUM AD CAUSAM PROMOVENDA
OLIVERII PLUNKET CUJUS ERAT
ONSTANS ET FIDELIS AMICUS.

Fombstone to Dr
Boenran (Surveyor
Brien)

Tubrid
Ballylooby Parish

(Lipp South)

4

FORM A.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

NATURAL FEATURES, ANTIQUITIES, HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.

BARONY OF Giffa & affa West.

TOWN OR VILLAGE Ballylooby PARISH Ballylooby COUNTY Liffey

TOPOGRAPHY

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

Stretching across the eastern outlet of the broad, Galtee-Knockmealstown valley where it merges with the plains of Liffey lies the parish of Ballylooby. The terrain is undulating and by contrast with the mountains north & south, the rich well-sheltered pasture lands and tillage-lands strikingly ^{portray} the Eva Mary Kelly's description - 'Sweet Liffey'. The district is intersected by a maze of winding white-washed roads, bounded by

GEOLOGY

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

none

MANSIONS, CASTLES AND ESTATES OF IMPOSING CHARACTER

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

none

ANTIQUITIES

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

1 Roosca (Ruscoe). ~~Castle~~.

Four miles south west of Bahr and four miles south east of Ballyloahy on the lands of Mrs Bondon of Roosca is to be found this ruin. In Anglo-Norman structure it was built by the Lords of Bahr as a strategic outpost on a commanding height, within clear view of Bahr, Rehill, Adfrinan, Ballygrace, and Boughloher, ^{Rehill & the} ~~the~~ ^{two} last ~~four~~ mentioned being similar outposts. Its last inhabitant was James Butler, kinsman of Lord Bahr, ~~whose~~ who took part in an attack against the Commonwealth forces at Golden in 1641, and who was transplanted to Bourmont on the evidence of his kinsman Walter Butler of Boughbreedy. The castle like its neighbours surrendered to Samuel Brownwell during his advance from Youghal. Although not preserved the walls of the building are still standing at their original height. At the foot of the steep incline on which the castle is built there is the entrance to an underground passage, which local tradition asserts, runs all the way to Bahr. Mrs Bondon (the owner of the land) states that in company with some British officers from the Garrison at Bahr, he explored this passage for about a mile in 1919. "We had not come to the end and we were satisfied that the general direction was towards Bahr," states Mrs Bondon. There is no right of way to the public, but Mrs Bondon will raise no objection to visitors provided they keep the entrance gate to this land closed.

Historic Burial places contd. Form A 3, 3
to hiding. He was one of the few bishops who did not
leave the country, and in fact he left his charge
only for a short time. That was in 1673 when
persecution was particularly violent. Then he visited
Blessed Oliver Plunkett, his life-long friend, at Asnagh.

It was at Keshill that the Great Archbishop performed
his last recorded episcopal function i.e. an ordination
to the priesthood in 1692. And it was at Keshill
he died in 1693. He was buried in the Tomb of
Geoffrey Keating at Dubrid no doubt at his
own request; and suggested maybe by their
common retreat in the castle and wood at Keshill.

Antiquities contd. 2

Keshill castle. 3 miles due west of Ballybooby on the Burncourt Road.
An Anglo-Norman structure ~~built~~ built by the
Lord's bahir (Butler's) has long since disappeared
and only the foundation can still be seen. There are
underground passages, temporarily closed and it is
in these that an O'Brien is supposed to have
taken refuge. They were also used as a dug-
out by the Irish Republican Army during the
late Anglo-Irish war.

Bostlegraace Castle.

Another Anglo-Norman building, the ruins of
which stand today. Situated on the lands of
bol. Lyabb of Bostlegraace 3 miles east of Bologheen on
the Blonnel road. Nothing is known locally of its
origin or occupants. We find however, that like
Keshill it was built by the Lord's of Bahir
as an outpost and occupied by one of their kinsmen.
After the Cromwellian campaign it was owned
by one - Robert Thornhill, who was tried at the
"General sessions of Assize and Good Delivery for the
Liberties" at Blonnel on the 12th Sept 1663, on the charge
of having looted and sacked the church at
Shanahan on the 1st day of July 1657. The defendant
pleaded not guilty, and the verdict of the Court is

Antiquities.

Battlegrace Castle.

3

is curious enough to be worth quoting. "The Jury returned a verdict of 'not guilty' but the boast upon the oath of several persons worthy of credit that "Robert Thornhill is for a long time of evil fame" bound him to the place". (vide Burke's History of Blount & Baste papers Bodleian Library Vol 68 no 36.)

Whitechurch. 2 miles north east of Ballylooby 3 miles west of Bolin's. Ruins of a Celtic Pre-Reformation church. of plain rectangular shape, and built of rubble, the ruin is completely covered with ivy, but otherwise is in a fair state of preservation. It is not preserved by the Commissioners of Public Works.

Battlegrace (Gullaghston) church. 5 miles south of Ballylooby 2 miles east of Bologheen on the Blount Road.

Survives minus half its South wall in a fair state of preservation. Its plan conforms to a pattern common in the Decies - Choirless, with a pair of side windows, lighting the altar, and a door near the west end. In addition we have here a double-light east window. Its size is also unusually large i.e. 69 ft by 24½ ft. It is completely covered with ivy, and the surrounding cemetery is kept very badly, a fact that makes any kind of examination most difficult. The church ruins is situated on the lands of Bol. Gullagh but there is a right of way.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

SPORTS AND GAMES

BARONY OF

Gha roffa West.

TOWN OR VILLAGE

Ballyloohy

PARISH

Ballyloohy

COUNTY

Kilkenny.

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

Lan

Nearest point to town (distance)

5 miles (Bottlegrace)

KINDS OF FISH HELD:

Brown Trout.

AVERAGE WEIGHT OF:

Salmon

Sea trout

Brown trout

4 lb

BEST SEASONS FOR:

Salmon

Sea trout

Brown trout

Feb to Aug (inclusive)

SUITABLE FLIES:

Salmon

Sea trout

Brown trout

all usual types suitable. } very little fly fishing.
 mostly all poaching down here
 for which no flies are required.
 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:

Convenient angling centres (where accommodation is available):

Kilcoran Lodge Hotel.

J. Baker.

Local Angling Club

none

Membership Fee

Secretary (and Address)

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.....

Under which rules?..... *none.*

Situation of course.....

HUNTING

Hounds which hunt in the district:

Foxhounds

Harriers..... *none.*

Beagles

COURSING

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

GREYHOUND RACING

Name of Company.....

Races on (nights)..... *none.*

SHOOTING

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

*Kilcoran Lodge Hotel shooting rights of 1000 ^{acres} of rough shooting
on galtees, grouse, pheasant, partridge.
free shooting to guests.
The shooting on Knockmealdown
grouse - deer. Game not very plentiful.*

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

*Kilcoran Lodge Hotel - tenant.
Irish Land Commission - Landlord.*

Shooting Club..... 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 Ballylooby G.A.A. Hurling Club.

Handball yes no club. 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)

Dancing platform at Kilcoran Cross on Belier-hutchestown road 2 miles north of Ballylooby.

ATHLETICS AND CYCLING

Name of Club Ballylooby Events held under rules of H.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.

Athletic Sports held on 29/6/42 Promoters Ballylooby Sports Committee
on 29th June each year.

DATE 8/8/42

(Signed)

W. J. O'Brien

Surveyor.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

AMENITIES AND GENERAL INFORMATION.

TOWNS AND VILLAGES (Other than Seaside)

BARONY OF Iffa voffa West.TOWN OR VILLAGE Ballylooby PARISH Ballylooby COUNTY Lifford

Location and brief description.

Population 80

The little village of Ballylooby is situated 4 miles South-West of Balin on the balin-bogheen road. Situated in a hollow and on the banks of a stream, it includes four shops, a Catholic Church, a National School and a Garda Barracks and Creamery.

Is there a Town Hall? no. Location

Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds. Brief description:

none

Brief comments on water supply and sewerage:

Modern water supply & sewerage.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Nearest station Balin Distance 4 miles Bus? look, blannet servicePublic 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 Barnegie Library Service National ~~the~~ School.

Private Lending Libraries none.

CHURCHES AND SERVICES

Church Ballylough Services (Sundays) 11.30 am
Bottlegrace. 10.30 am

POSTAL FACILITIES

Location of Post Office Ballylough

Business (? M.O., Telegraph, Telephone) yes.

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.....Lifford Products Ltd Bostlegrove - 5 miles south of Ballybooley

Egg, poultry, fruit & herbal dealers.

Industry started in 1939 by Col. Lynch. Old flour mill has been renovated and is now used as a factory. Constant employment for about 50 people. Own electric power from water.

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

Ballybooley Boys & Girls National Schools.
Bostlegrove do do.

HOSPITALS

do

FAIRS AND MARKETS ; HALF-HOLIDAY

Monthly fairs and markets..... *none*

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

GARAGES AND PETROL STATIONS

none

CONVEYANCES FOR HIRE (Owners) :

Taxis..... *none*

Motors (Touring)..... *none*

Boats (State type)..... *none*

Bicycles..... *none*

Caravans..... *none*

Horses..... *none*

CAMPING SITES

(At principal holiday resorts)

Location..... Landowner.....

Local Improvements Committee..... *none*

Secretary.....

DATE *8/8/62* (Signed) *W. J. J. J.* Surveyor.

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I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

ACCOMODATION AND CATERING.

BARONY OF Gffa roffa West.

TOWN OR VILLAGE..... PARISH Ballyloshy..... COUNTY Meppery.....

Hotels	No. of Bedrooms	No. of Bathrooms	Licensed ?
<u>Kilcoraw Lodge Hotel.</u>			
<u>5 miles west of Bala's</u>			
<u>on main back road.</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>yes</u>
.....			
.....			
.....			
.....			
.....			
.....			

Guest or Boarding Houses

none

Restaurants and Cafés

none

DATE

8/8/42

(Signed)

W. B. M. M.

Surveyor.

(Plain sheet of foolscap to be used if space here is not adequate)

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.

Gulbride Graveyard is situated about 3 miles due south of
Ballylochy on the bogtegrace road. Here lie buried

1. Rev Eugene O'Duffy O.S.F
2. Rev Dr Geoffrey Keating D.D.
3. Most Rev John Brennan S.F.L.

Eugene O'Duffy, a famous preacher in Irish, was
Pastor of Gulbride, in 1844, and is best remembered for his
famous metrical satire on Miles Melvath, apostate
archbishop of Cashel, written about 1577. He cooperated
with Geoffrey Keating in the building of the mortuary
Chapel at Gulbride the ruins of which are now
preserved. The plaque over the entrance to the chapel
reads:-

66 4-15 + Maria
O'ate, Pro anab 9 p. eupniz: Dubh uic. de tyband; 1-2 Oct

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 to Holy Wells, Shrines, etc. Patterns.

none

adjacent to the burial ground at Tubaid
is a Holy well — "St Ciaran's well". There is now
no special pilgrimage to it, and nothing is known
of its locality.

(Signed)

Wm. H. Jones

Surveyor.

DATE

13/8/42.