

(Lipp South)

FORM A.

# I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

## NATURAL FEATURES, ANTIQUITIES, HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.

BARONY OF Giffa and offa West

TOWN OR VILLAGE Ballyporeen PARISH Ballyporeen COUNTY Limerick

### TOPOGRAPHY

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

In the extreme South-Eastern corner of Limerick, where it adjoins  
Dorset, Limerick and Waterford lies the Parish of Ballyporeen. Bounded  
on the north by the Galtees and on the South by the  
Knockmealdowns, it covers the western portion of the great  
valley dividing these ranges.  
As would be expected the scenery is delightfully  
varied: ~~the~~ the quaint easygoing countryside, through which  
the little river Suag pursues its winding course on its way

### GEOLOGY

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

Mitchelstown Caves on lands of Mrs Mulcahy of  
Boolagarran Ballyporeen.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles due north of Ballyporeen  
 $1\frac{1}{2}$  South East from Skeemasinka junction on the main Dork-  
-bushel - Dublin Road. By far the largest cave in these Islands.  
Mitchelstown Caves were accidentally discovered by quarrymen in 18'33.  
They were completely explored and surveyed by the French  
Speleologist, M. Martel in 1895. Mrs Mulcahy will act as guide

### 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.

For full survey see

PRIA 1908 - -

paper of Hill, Broderick

8 Rule



## 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.

Two forts on the lands of Mrs Maloney Kiltankin Ballyporeen. Situated on the summits of two knolls about 400 yards apart. They include the remains of an outer circular wall enclosing a space of about 60 - 70 feet diameter. No other visible evidence. Tradition has it that there was an old church in this neighbourhood, and the translation of the place name 'Kiltankin' would seem to verify this.

The owners of the land have no objection to visitors provided they first seek permission.

ANTIQUITIES. Contd.

verify this.

The owners of the land have no objection to visitors provided they first seek permission.

HISTORIC SITES.

In his "History of the United Irishmen" Madden relates that 2 miles west of Ballyporeen, the north Cork Militia under the Earl of Kingsborough, were skirmished and held up for 2 days, when on their way to Wexford in 1798. There is no evidence of the existence of United Irishmen here. Neither is there any local tradition regarding the engagement. I was therefore unable to establish anything additional or in support of Madden's Statement, in the time at my disposal.

SPAS OR MINERAL SPRINGS.

Spa situated at southern end of Ballyporeen village on land owned by Mrs Ml. Sweeney of Glenacumea, Ballyporeen, and with free access. Could obtain no definite information as to its curative properties. Was of local repute about 100 years ago. Has gone completely into disuse, and would need to be cleaned.

Date. 18 July, 1942. (Signed) Wm. O'Brien.



### Topography.

to the Linn: the bare wind-swept moors of the Knockmealdowns to the south: the terraced, evergreen-wooded slopes of the Galtees in the north. And dominating the whole panorama Galteemore (3015 ft) towers majestically against the northern sky.

### Geology.

and for the modest sum of  $\frac{2}{16}$  the tourist can spend an interesting day exploring immense chambers and tortuous passages for a mile and a-half underground. There are numerous rock-formations - stalagmites, stalactites ~~etc~~ etc, and Mrs Mulcahy will point out the Houses of Lords, Commons, Speakers Chair, Kingston Gallery and many other finds. Finally there is the 'Enchanted Stream' over which nobody returns. Mrs Mulcahy relates the story of the old fiddler who had the temerity to cross over, and she will direct your attention to the sound of the fiddle still playing in the enchanted distances beyond.

A couple of hundred yards away, on the lands of Mrs Denis English, is the entrance to the 'Old Caves', much more extensive in every way, but, so the experts say, geologically not so interesting as they do not contain the unusual rock-formations. The time of their discovery is unknown. They have interesting associations with Irish history. It was here that the 'white knight' of Kilbenny placed his kinsman, the 'Ingán' Earl of Desmond, and then betrayed him, more than 300 years ago. It is also told locally, although not verified, that Geoffrey Keating was in hiding here while he was 'on the run'.

They have never been completely explored. Young makes a reference to their existence in his 'Yours of Ireland'.



## I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

## SPORTS AND GAMES

BARONY OF

Offa + Offa West.

TOWN OR VILLAGE

Ballyporeen

PARISH

Ballyporeen

COUNTY

Lifferry

## 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

Nearest point to town (distance)

KINDS OF FISH HELD :

none

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 :

none

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

Brief notes on fishing grounds :

SPORTS AND GAMES

Kinds of fish to be caught :

*none*

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 ..... 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 one 'Flapper' held in May

Under which rules? Local rules.

Situation of course Different courses in neighbourhood of village.

## 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:

Machine down mountains for a distance of 4 1/2 miles to a point over blacken. Free. Fair grouse shooting. Deer & pheasant also grouse & woodcock on gullies. Shooting area 5 miles x 3 miles free.

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

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 Western Rovers Ballyporeen

Hurling none

Handball Handball Club Ballyporeen Handball alley? yes

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. none

## ANNUAL EVENTS

Give list of annual events held in the town or parish, naming promoters (Clubs, etc.) in each case. Include pilgrimages and patterns.

Promoters none

none

none

none

none

DATE 18/7/42

(Signed)

Wm. Brian

Surveyor.



## I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

AMENITIES AND GENERAL INFORMATION.  
TOWNS AND VILLAGES (Other than Seaside)BARONY OF *Iffa & offa West.*TOWN OR VILLAGE *Ballyporeen* PARISH *Ballyporeen* COUNTY *Lifford*

Location and brief description.

Population *300*

*Almost in the centre of the parish, and astride the bank-blounel road,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles east of Mitchelstown and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of Bologheen, lies the village of Ballyporeen, with its strikingly battered appearance and many ruins that bespeak former prosperity. Originally a settlement by the Earl of Kingsborough, it contained a mill for the manufacture of dye from small potatoes, as the Irish version of the name denotes.*

Is there a Town Hall? *yes* Location *centre of village,*

Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds. Brief description:

*none.*

Brief comments on water supply and sewerage:

*Modern water supply and sewerage.*

## PUBLIC SERVICES

Nearest station *Mitchelstown* Distance  *$4\frac{1}{2}$  miles* Bus? *bank-blounel service passes through*Public lighting by—Electricity? *none* Gas? *none.*

## DANCING

Dance hall *yes (Town Hall,)* Proprietor *Secretary Dance Committee*  
*Dances on Sunday nights.*

## CINEMAS AND THEATRES

Cinemas *none* Pictures shown (nights)Theatre *none* Kind of shows (Drama, Comedy &c.)



## LIBRARIES

Public Libraries *Carnegie Library Service, at Boys National School.*

Private Lending Libraries *none.*

## CHURCHES AND SERVICES

Church *Catholic* Services (Sundays) *9 am. 11 am. 12.30 pm.*

## POSTAL FACILITIES

Location of Post Office *Northern end of village, near church.*

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

## BANKING

Banks *Branch of Munster & Leinster Bank Mitchelstown.*  
*do Provincial Bank Bologheen*  
*on Tuesday each week.*

## SPORTS AND PHOTO SUPPLIES

Sports Dealers *none*

Photographic Stores *none*

## SWIMMING POOLS AND BATHS

*none*  
Swimming Pool? Location

Public Baths? 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

Boys National School

Convent Girls National School (Sisters of Mercy)

## HOSPITALS

none



## FAIRS AND MARKETS ; HALF-HOLIDAY

Monthly fairs and markets *weekly markets.*  
*9 fairs per annum.*  
Weekly market day *Tuesday* Half-holiday *Wednesday*

## GARAGES AND PETROL STATIONS

*Tilling Station - Mrs O'Brien Sons Chapel St Ballyporeen*

## CONVEYANCES FOR HIRE (Owners) :

Taxis *Lawrence O'Sheehy Main St Ballyporeen.*  
*Thos Keohane Knocknagappal Ballyporeen*

Motors (Touring) *none*

Boats (State type) *none*

Bicycles *none*

Caravans *none*

Horses *none.*

## CAMPING SITES

(At principal holiday resorts)

Location Landowner

*none.*

Local Improvements Committee

Secretary

DATE *18/4/42.*

(Signed)

*Wm O'Brien*

Surveyor.



# I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

## ACCOMODATION AND CATERING.

BARONY OF Liffa voffa West.

TOWN OR VILLAGE Ballyporeen PARISH Ballyporeen COUNTY Liffherry

Hotels	No. of Bedrooms	No. of Bathrooms	Licensed ?
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none

Guest or Boarding Houses

none

Restaurants and Cafés

none

DATE

18/7/49

(Signed)

Mr. O'Brien

Surveyor.

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



## SURVEY/

### BARONY of IFFA and AFFA WEST.

TOWN or  
VILLAGE BALLYPOREEN PARISH BALLYPOREEN COUNTY TIPPERARY.

### TOPOGRAPHY.

In the extreme south-eastern corner of Tipperary, where it adjoins Cork, Limerick and Waterford, lies the Parish of Ballyporeen. Bounded on the north by the Galtees and on the south by the Knockkealdowns, it covers the western portion of the great valley dividing these Ranges.

As would be expected the scenery is delightfully varied; the quaint easy going countryside, through which the little river Duag pursues its winding course on its way to the Suir: the bare wind-swept moors of the Knockmealdowns to the south: the terraced, evergreen-wooded, slopes of the Galtees in the north; and dominating the whole panorama Galteemore (3015') towers majestically against the northern sky.

### GEOLOGY.

Mitchelstown caves on lands of Mrs Mulcahy of Coolagarranroe Ballyporeen.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles due north of Ballyporeen  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles south-east from Skeheenarinka junction on the main Cork-Cashel-Dublin road. By far the largest caves in those Islands, - Mitchelstown caves were accidentally discovered by quarrymen in 1833. They were completely explored, and surveyed by the French Speleologist, M. Martel in 1895. Mr. Mulcahy will act as guide. And for the modest sum of 1/6 the tourist can spend an interesting day exploring immense chambers and tortuous passages for a mile and a half underground. There are numerous rock-formations - stalagmites, stalactites etc., and Mrs Mulcahy will point out the Houses of Lords and Commons, Speakers Chair, Kingston Gallery and many other finds. Finally there is the "Enchanted Stream" over which nobody returns. Mrs Mulcahy relates the story of the old fiddler who had the temerity to cross over, and he will direct your attention to the sound of the fiddle still playing in the uncharted distances beyond.

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They have never been completely explored. Young makes a reference to their existence in his "Tour of Ireland".

### ANTIQUITIES.

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## HISTORIC SITES

Royal Seats, scenes of historic events—battles, mass meetings, historic festivals, &c. Location.

Landowner. Historical or traditional notes.

In his 'History of the United Irishmen' Madden relates that 3 miles west of Ballyporeen, the North Cork Militia under the Earl of Kingsborough, were skirmished and held up for 2 days, when on their way to Wexford in 1798. There is no evidence of the existence of United Irishmen here. Neither is there any local tradition regarding the engagement. I was therefore unable to establish anything additional or in support of Madden's statement, in the time at my disposal.

## 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.

none.

## 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.

Spa situated at Southern end of Ballyporeen village on land owned by Mrs M. Sweeney of Glenacuma Ballyporeen, and with free access. Could obtain no definite information as to its curative properties. Was of local repute about 100 years ago. Has gone completely into disuse, and would need to be cleaned.



## 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

(Signed)

*John Brien*

Surveyor.

DATE

*18/4/42*