

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

NATURAL FEATURES, ANTIQUITIES,
HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.BARONY OF LOWER DRMONDTOWN OR VILLAGE CLOUGHJORDAN PARISH CLOUGHJORDAN COUNTY TIPPERARY

TOPOGRAPHY

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

The Parish has no features of its own worth recording in this section. From the extreme S.W. portion of the district, in the neighbourhood of Keshagh, and from the point between Bachelwood Golf Course and Cloughjordan there are excellent views of the range of mountains running from the Devilbit to the Gilcomman and Keepes.

See R/W =

GEOLOGY ~~map~~

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

Limestone is the chief geological formation of this district which renders the soil highly productive. Tillage, dairying and cattle raising are conducted on an extensive scale and there are some quarries of excellent limestone. There are also some large bogs of Bogland.

MANSIONS, CASTLES AND ESTATES ~~map~~
OF IMPOSING CHARACTER

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

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.

~~RATHMURLES. In the grounds of Rathmure House, the property of Mrs. Barrett, are a round castle, called Rathmure Castle, and a 13th century church which is situated in the centre of a great moat. The castle is 129' in circumference at the base and about 26' high; only the outside wall remains standing - internally all the interior has disappeared. The four walls of the church enclose an area of about 51' x 23'. The moat is a remarkable one: it consisted originally of 3 rings, two of which are still in existence. An old map suggests that it was once a place of some importance and it is thought that it may actually represent the prehistoric origins of Kesh town. The site is beside a by-road linking the Kesh - Cloughjordan road and the Kesh - Dublin road and is 3 mls. from Kesh. Lying on the ground outside the moat on the north side are two large stones, each measuring about 2' x 3' x 2'; these are known as the "Druid's Stones".~~

⑧ *Paragraph*
Of the historic residences of the O'Hara's at Ordcroney only a tall gabled fragment remains standing. The castle of this family of princes-bishops is situated in a grassy field beside the ruins of an ancient church near the modern R.C. Church of Ordcroney, 5½ mls. N. of Kesh on the road to Bownahone. In the same district, and ½ mls. near to Bownahone, is Ballylusk Castle, a quadrangular tower, also in an advanced state of ruin. Other castles in the parish are those of Cloughalating (2½ mls. S.E. of Bownahone and ½ ml. E. of road to Kesh) and Ballypapple (2 mls. S.W. of Cloughjordan), both extremely ruinous. ⑨ Ballyshilly Castle situated near the Kesh road, 2½ mls. from Cloughjordan has been reduced and is now a private residence.

O'Brien's Restaurant,
Main St.,
Bris.

Duffy
11/9/43.

The Secretary,
Irish Tourist Assoc. Inc.,
Blin.

Sent per
for Fitzpatrick
D. J. Orr
15/9/43

Dear Sir,

I enclose Weekly Report and Expenses Claim
for week-ended to-day.

I need a further supply of all Forms with the
exception of Form B(a) and the plain sheets of
book-leaf.

A difficulty has arisen in connection with
one of the items relative to the survey of
Cloughjordan parish, viz., the identification of

then let me know the result of such an enquiry.
For your guidance, the "possibilities" which I
mentioned are as follows:

1. Small, two-storied house sit. at end of row of
houses in Main St., Cloughjordan, on same side
as Catholic Church; Present occupant, Poth. Gardiner,
previous, a Mr. Powell (ex-N.I.C.)
11. Small two-storied house in row on opposite side
of the Main St. Present occupant, Miss Caruthers,
previous, Sergt. Jordan.

Yours Sincerely,

Martin J. Sheridan.

the birthplace of Thomas McDonagh, the executed
1916 leader. This was positively identified as each
of no fewer than five houses in Cloughjordan
village (the confusion being due, presumably, to
the fact that his family may have lived in one or
another of them at various times). However, enquiries
have narrowed the apparent possibilities down to
two. I thought of getting in touch with some
members of McDonagh's family (Mr. John McDonagh
of Radio Eireann is one, I believe) but as I shall
probably be changing my address fairly
frequently in the course of the next few weeks
this might not be convenient. If you consider
that the matter is one which is worth pursuing
further perhaps you could direct an enquiry to
any of McDonagh's relatives who may seem
likely ^{to be} of assistance in this matter. You could

Rathurles Antiquities

Rathurles House, property of Mrs. Breeton, is about 2 miles north east of Nenagh and about 7 miles south west of Clough-jordan. In the grounds of this residence are the remains of a circular keep. The outside wall ^{is} all that remains and this measures 129 ft in circumference at the base and 26 ft in height.

Within the grounds also is an unusually large fort

Triple-Ramparted

The fort covers an area of approximately two acres and it has been suggested that it may be the site of the original town or village of Nenagh. One of the ~~earthen~~ Ramparts has been almost levelled but is still traceable.

Inside the fort are the remains of a 13th century church now greatly demolished and measuring 51 feet by 23 feet inside.

Outside the fort and on the north side lie two large stones the ~~rough~~ dimensions of each being roughly 8' x 3' x 2'. These are known as the "Devil's Stones" but it is more probable that they are the remains of a megalithic tomb.

The above sites are located beside a by-road which links the Nenagh-Cloughjordan and the Nenagh-Bublin Roads.

Topog.

There are many excellent views to be had, particularly in the Southwestern area near Nenagh. In this locality a slight elevation will command a view of the mountains from the Devil's bit to the east to the Silvermines in the South and the Area Mountains in the South West. ^{These} forms a semicircular barrier ^{impressive and} that is often very charming in the variety of colour. A good Centre from which to survey the majesty of the mountains is that district between Clough Jordan and Beechwood Golf Course.

Occasional glimpses of beautiful Lough Aherg are also obtainable.



I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

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

BARONY OF LOWER ORMOND

TOWN OR VILLAGE CLOUGH JORDAN PARISH CLOUGH JORDAN COUNTY TIPPERARY

Location and brief description.

Population 416

Clough Jordan is situated 7 miles north of Tomeragh and the main Dublin - Limerick road and is 8 miles from Kesh, 10 from Roxboro and 11½ from Bine. A village of a single wide street and a few offshoots, it has no features requiring special mention and its appearance is not above the average. It has a fair situation within sight of the Devil's Den and the Giltannins.

A flourishing whiskey distillery once contributed greatly to the importance of this little town and during the last century as much as from 40 to 60 thousand gallons of whiskey were produced annually.

Is there a Town Hall? No Location See under

Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds. Brief description:

No.

This industry created an amount of prosperity but though it has long since disappeared, the town still presents a neat and cheerful appearance.

Brief comments on water supply and sewerage:

The town is served by an efficient water-supply system but there is no public sanitation scheme in operation.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Nearest station Clough Jordan Distance Nil Bus? Next: Mallow 5 mls.
Public lighting by—Electricity? Yes Gas? No (Dublin - Limerick)

DANCING

Dance hall Y. M. C. A. Main St. Proprietor Y. M. C. A.
R. C. Parish Hall Chairman Rev. Dr. O'Halloran

CINEMAS AND THEATRES None

Cinemas Pictures shown
(nights)

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

LIBRARIES

Public Libraries Branch of Tipperary Co. Library at National School (R.C.)

Private Lending Libraries None.

CHURCHES AND SERVICES

Church R.C. Services (Sundays) 8.30 a.m. 11 a.m. (O.T. May-
November; ~~Nov.~~ Nov.-May)

Ch. of I.

12 noon; Communion Service

Alternate Sundays 9 a.m. (S.T.)

Methodist

12 noon, (N.T.)

POSTAL FACILITIES

Location of Post Office Main St.

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

BANKING

Banks The Munster and Leinster

SPORTS AND PHOTO SUPPLIES

Sports Dealers None

Photographic Stores Judge's Medical Hall

SWIMMING POOLS AND BATHS None

Swimming Pool? Location

Public Baths? Location

SOCIAL CLUBS, CULTURAL SOCIETIES, &c.

Social Clubs *Y.M.C.A. Main St.*

Cultural Societies *None*

INDUSTRIES AND HANDCRAFTS *None*

Industries

Handcrafts or Cottage Industries (Give names of craftsmen, employer, &c.):

PUBLIC MONUMENTS *None*

(Brief description ; inscription to be quoted)

IMPORTANT PUBLIC BUILDINGS

(Give brief notes on architectural features)

The R.C. Church is a handsome modern edifice dating from the beginning of the century.

The Protestant Church was built 100 years ago. Its principal feature is an unusually tall and gracefully tapering spire.

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

National Schools: one Church of Ireland and two R.C.

HOSPITALS *None*

FAIRS AND MARKETS ; HALF-HOLIDAY

Monthly fairs and markets *12th of each month.*

~~Weekly~~ market day *each alternate Wednesday* Half-holiday *Thursday*

GARAGES AND PETROL STATIONS

owners: *John Gower*
Mrs. Margaret Kenny

CONVEYANCES FOR HIRE (Owners) :

Taxis *Hackney-owners: John Gower* *Cloughjordan*
Mrs. Margaret Kenny "
Martin Gleeson "
Peter Sheppard "

Motors (Touring)

Boats (State type)

Bicycles

Caravans

Horses

CAMPING SITES

(At principal holiday resorts)

Location Landowner

Local Improvements Committee

Secretary

DATE *October 2, 1943* (Signed) *Martin Gleeson*

Surveyor.

Juverna Press, Ltd., Dublin.

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SPORTS AND GAMES

BARONY OF LOWER ORMONDTOWN OR VILLAGE CLOUGHJORDAN PARISH CLOUGHJORDAN COUNTY TIPPERARYANGLING (Fresh water) na*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 :

.....

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.

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Preserved stretches with names and addresses of Proprietors :

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Owners of boats for hire, and charges per day :

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Convenient angling centres (where accommodation is available) :

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Local Angling Club..... Membership Fee.....

Secretary (and Address).....

SEA ANGLING

Brief notes on fishing grounds:

Kinds of fish to be caught:

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 Beechwood Golf Club No. of holes 9

• Situation and brief description of course:

The course is situated at Beechwood, 1/2 m. from Kesh by the Ballingarry road. The surroundings are pleasant and the course has the advantages of a dry outcrop and a varied terrain.

Name of Professional None

Is there a clubhouse on course? Yes Licensed? Yes

Green fees (Visitors): Per day 2/6 Per week 10/-
(2nd by introduction)

RACING *now*

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

No. of meetings normally held during the year.....

Under which rules?.....

Situation of course.....

HUNTING

Hounds which hunt in the district:

Foxhounds *The Omond Hounds*.....

Harriers *The Newry Harriers*.....

Beagles *-*.....

COURSING *now*

Name of Club..... Meeting held annually?.....

GREYHOUND RACING *now*

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:

The area includes very large tracts of bog and cutaway bog situated principally in the Mohree, Ballynarin, Coolnamunnin, Ballycapple and Cloonen districts. Birds are extremely plentiful and partridge nest in order of numbers followed by pheasant; there are few grouse. Free shooting can be had where permission is forthcoming and land is not preserved.

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

Captain Whitford, Mohree House, Cloughjordan

Mr. George Dunn, Ballynarin House,

Mr. Butler, Munster and Kinsale Banks, Cloughjordan.

Shooting Club *None*..... Secy. *-*.....

CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING *now*

Name of Club..... Competitions held?.....

ROWING AND SAILING *now*

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 *None*

Hurling *Cloughjordan Senior Hurling Team ("The MacDonaghs") Field at Cloughjordan*

Handball *None* Handball alley? *"*

Soccer *"*

Rugby *"*

Cricket *"*

Hockey *"*

Bowls *"*

Bowling (on public roads) *"*

Lawn Tennis *"* Kinds of courts *"*

Croquet *"*

Billiards *Y.M.C.A. Hall at Main St. Cloughjordan*

Badminton *do.*

Table Tennis *"*

Bridge Club *"*

Other games or recreations (inc. "Cross Roads" dancing) *"*

"

"

ATHLETICS AND CYCLING *none*

Name of Club */* Events held under rules of */*

do. */*

ANNUAL EVENTS *none*

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

Promoters

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DATE *October 2, 1913*

(Signed) *Martin J. Glasiechan*
Surveyor.

HISTORIC SITES ^{map}

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.

Long Norbury. John Tolson, Lord Norbury ("The Hanging Judge") was born at Beechwood Park, Kesh, in 1745. The details of his life are too well known to need recapitulation, but one of his judicial achievements may be mentioned as not uncharacteristic of his career on the Bench: during the trial of John Magee for libel, in 1813, Daniel O'Connell asserted that of one hundred individuals tried before Norbury in the course of one circuit, ninety-eight were capitally convicted and ninety-seven hanged. The mansion, now used as a farm-house, is situated 4 miles from Kesh. Entrance off the Ballingarry road. Present occupant, Mr. McManus.

A dramatic contrast with Norbury cases is provided by that of Thomas MacDonagh, the executed 1916 leader who was born at Cloughjordan in . The house locally indicated as his birth-place is a small two-storied residence, now occupied by Mr. Poth. Gardiner, situated in the main street not far from, and on the opposite side of the road from, the Garda station.

SPAS OR MINERAL SPRINGS ^{map}

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 ~~may~~

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.

CUSTOMS, PATTERNS, ETC. ~~may~~

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

(Signed) Martin J. Sheridan
Surveyor.

DATE Oct 2. 1943