

I

Lifford South

FORM A.

(21)

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

NATURAL FEATURES, ANTIQUITIES,
HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.BARONY OF KILNAMANAGH~~TOWN OR VILLAGE~~ HOLLYFORD PARISH KILCOMMON COUNTY TIPPERARY

TOPOGRAPHY

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

Hollyford lies on a Tipperary/Dungannon road, which is known as Anglessea Line, amidst very charming scenery. Mountains rise on all sides, yet, land of which these mountains is composed is of a rich and deep quality. From summit of Laghtacfin, 1425 feet, glorious views to all points of sky may be had. Stretching from E to W. the country from Kilkenny to Limerick lies before you. Comparatively near and looking very beautiful are the Galtees, west of which lies the Golden Vale, right to Shannon's bank. Most of the Shannon's course may be traced from Forres to Lough Derg, over the intervening hills, the whole presenting a most fascinating picture. This view lies to W. to S/E. peeping from behind the Galtees is Sleive-na-man.

GEOLOGY

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

GEOLOGY.

Land is mainly of limestone quality with an occasional pocket of sandstone and conglomerate rock. Hills smooth. NO caves.

MANSIONS, CASTLES AND ESTATES

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.

CROMLECHS.

On the lands of Wm Gaffis, ²⁰~~BARNAMENNY~~^E, Near Cross, five hundred yards from latter place and on southern slope of Maugher Shieve is a large megalithic tomb, in good state of preservation. (See picture) Running E & W. It is in two sections. Eastern chamber is about 12' x 4' x 4½' high. Formed by three huge slabs in N. side & one long slab and three short ones in S. East end open. Covered by three colossal slabs. At west end is a 6 ft square chamber, partly covered by two slabs, which are supported in centre by two slender columns. It would appear that tomb was originally earth covered as a good thickness of same still rests on top, and at sides surface slopes up to walls of tomb. All about tomb and easily traced are remains of a stone ring, close on 50 yards in circumference.

STANDING STONE

About 200 yards N. of above and on side of mountain road leading up to farm houses on Maugher Shieve, is a standing stone 8 feet high & about 18 ins square, leaning slightly to N. See picture. Both these monuments are approached via this mountain road & are very conspicuous. In receipt of no care.

CROMLECH.

On land of Wm CARR, LOUGHBAACK, a short distance to south of Kilcommon, is a broken meg. tomb. Sides remain but covering gone. Outside measurements are 27' x 9' approx. Running N & S., the S. end is composed of one huge column, 9' x 3' x 3'. Sides formed by slabs of varying sizes. (Plain sheets of foolscap paper to be used, if necessary, for recording additional information). Leading to grazing field. No care. bould on west 111

Antiquities.CRIMLECH SITES

Two cromlechs once stood on N. slope of Knockbrittas hill, which lies W. of Anglessea Line, two miles W. of village of Kilcommon and four miles S. of Rear Cross. There is absolutely no trace of these now. Mention is made in O.S. Map. Sites reached from old road leading from Kilcommon to Cappamore.

MONASTERY SITE.

Church yard adjoining modern R.C. church at Kilcommon is the site of an ancient monastery. There is absolutely no trace of same now. A field adjacent to church yard is still called "PRIARSFIELD"

FORT.

In the land of Denis Treacy at LOSSET, about one mile N/W - across country - from Hollyford is a well preserved fort. In the fosse lies a large slab of stone about 8' x 2' x 2'. I was told this stone was once in an upright position.

STONE CIRCLE

On the summit of LAGHTSEEFIN, 1425 ft., is an irregular circle of stones. Of the flag type, the outline is not complete and formation may be natural. This mountain overlooks Hollyford.

CAIRN.

On the summit of Claugher Slieve, 1464 feet, at Rear Cross is a mound of stones referred to as a Cairn. The mound, however, was formed by people who used frequent a pattern held on summit in the days gone by. Part of the ceremony was, that every person should carry up a stone, hence the accumulation. The reason is not known, as pattern has long since been abandoned.

HISTORIC SITES.ROADS WITH A HISTORY.

The roads from Thurles to Newport and from Tipperary to Nenagh are known as Anglessea Road and Anglessea Line, respectively. The following story is told.

During time that Earl of Anglessea was Viceroy, he was on a hunting or shooting expedition in the district. In a sudden and severe blizzard, he was separated from his companions and hopelessly lost. He was taken in by the Parish Priest of Kilcommon and kept till snow had disappeared. The Viceroy was charmed with the Priest and the kindness shown him and before taking his leave asked the Priest, if there was anything he could do for him. The Priest pointed out how badly served the countryside was as regards roads and made certain suggestions. Immediately the Viceroy got back to his post, he put forward proposals for the construction of the above mentioned roads, which in due course were built and called after him.

Locally the section of Line between Ollinstown and Stallyford is known as Sansfield's Route as it is believed Sansfield passed this way on his ride to blow up siege train at Ballyneety. This stretch is extremely pretty - see picture. Steep hills rise on either side of road, by side of which winds a noisy stream, forming pools and mild falls at intervals.

KILCOMMON PARISH

While Kilcommon parish is by far the largest in the Arch-diocese of Cashel/Emly, it is never the less, considered the poorest. Enclosing roughly an area of 140 square miles. It is in form of a rough rectangle 19 x 10 miles. During the last century, in an effort to

enrich the parish, the Arch-Bishop took a slice of good territory in the region of Hollyford from the parish of Annacarty and added same to Kilcommon. The Parish Priest of Annacarty strongly objected (a Parish Priest was Father PRONT) and wrote equally strongly to the Arch-Bishop demanding restoration of his lost territory and describing the "annexation" as the greatest injustice perpetrated since the partition of Poland. The Arch-Bishop refused and forthwith Father Pront resigned his Pastorship of Annacarty, left the Diocese and went to live in Cork. Eventually the Bishop of Cork made him P.P. of Watergrasshill. It was this episode inspired the composer of "The Bells of Chandon" to write under the name of "Father Pront".

FORM "D"
HOLLYFORD.

PUBLIC MONUMENTS.

(1ST CROSS)

CELTIC CROSSES.

7 ndil carmine

atv

Pilib Ó'Scanáin

Parth mac Dub, Cluain Mairnead
cearca den céad dail Cipeann
agus carr mileda Ononac de'n
ceimad b'roga'd

Dogbair na h. Éireann 7 dtrobaid a rann
a fuair bás an 21^o la do mí na Samna 1931
agus aca curra 7 dtampaill na rann

His participation in the struggle for Irish
Independence as a fighter in Easter Week 1916.
As a convict and hungerstriker in British
Prisons, and the unparalleled financial support
which he rendered should merit that the name
of Phil Shanahan be indelibly inscribed

VI

With the best and bravest of
Ireland's Hall of Honour.
No end there he to lives like his
For us he lives always
Bright through our night, a shining star
He lights for us the way.

2nd CROSS.

Erected by
The people of
The surrounding districts
To the memory of
James Joseph Gerard Burke
& Lemmoran, Hollyford
Adj. C. Company 3rd Battalion
3rd Dufferin Brigade, I. R. A.
Killed in action near Golden
In defence of the Irish Republic
29th July, 1922.

Also his comrades in arms who fell in action
In defence of the Republic.

Go Dugaid Dea Suaimneas ar an am
Go saoraid Dea Ceara
O'CURR.

CURIOSITY

In the summit of Laghtseefin, beside Hollyford,
stands a huge, black wooden cross, dominating the
countryside. Erected many years ago by a visitor
from U.S.A. whose people came from the district.
A very conspicuous land mark, it can be seen
for many miles around.

1. J. 2.

HISTORIC SITES

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

DILLON'S GAP.

A very short distance outside Hollyford on Tipperary road is a spot known as Dillon's Gap. Here, during the height of Parnell's fame, John Dillon addressed a colossal meeting, in his support and ever since the place is known locally as Dillon's Gap.

continued on page III of continuation sheets.

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.

TREACY. (soldier and patriot)

While Sean Treacy was born & reared in neighbouring parish of Annacarty, he went to school at Hollyford and is still vividly remembered in the district, where his courage and deeds of daring are much talked of.

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.

While there are no mineral springs, traces of iron may be found all about Hollyford in streams and rivulets and roadside pools.

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.

SHAFT OF COPPER MINE

A short distance east—about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile—of Hollyford on lands of Mrs Martin Hayes, stands the 40 ft high shaft of a dis-used copper mine. From a distance it looks remarkably like a round tower, which most people take it to be. See picture. It is not known when last this mine was worked. Shaft built of limestone. Adjacent to road.

MASS ROCK.

At LAGHILE, three miles north of Kilcommon, on lands of Patrick Slattery, is a Mass Rock. A huge irregular boulder of sandstone, set into fence, it has a deeply incised cross 6 x 5 ins. On western slope of Claghershine, the actual spot can be seen for very many miles around. A deep valley runs N & S & directly to W. are ^{CUSTOMS, PATTERNS, ETC.} ^{Brief account of old customs, traditional cures, etc., still practised in the district. Pilgrimages to Holy Wells, Shrines, etc. Patterns.} all within view of Mass Rock. Approached by passage which leads to a number of houses in Laghile. In good condition. NO care.

CAVE OF EAMON NA CNUIC.

On southern slope of INCHINSQUILLIB Mountain, in a deep & well covered ravine, on Mulcahy's land, is cave of "Eamon-na-Cnuic". A small cave, now mainly collapsed & entirely overgrown, Eamon used retire here after his raids. Beside cave is a small mound, believed to have been spot where he was first buried. On this mound is a stunted white-thorn, which is supposed not have grown an inch for generations. Eamon was a clerical student, who remained behind after departure of "Wild Geese". Some say his final resting place was soon while others claim he was buried at CARRAGEEN, about two miles to E. Ravine is centre one of three & is most easily approached by a sand passage which leads to house of Mrs Thomas Ryan. Inchinsquillib is two miles west of Hollyford & on north side of old road to CAPPA WHITE.

(Signed)

Surveyor.

DATE

7.5.45.

P. J. Ryan, Dublin.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

SPORTS AND GAMES

BARONY OF KILNAMANAGH.

~~TOWN OR VILLAGE~~ HOLLYFORD PARISH KILCOMMON COUNTY TIPPERARY

ANGLING (Fresh water)

RIVER OR ~~LAKE~~ MULTEEN Nearest point to town (distance) Beside

KINDS OF FISH HELD:

Small brown trout.

AVERAGE WEIGHT OF:

Salmon / Sea trout / Brown trout 4 lb.

BEST SEASONS FOR:

Salmon / Sea trout / Brown trout Flood periods & opening of season.

SUITABLE FLIES:

Salmon /

Sea trout /

Brown trout Standard patterns, grass, etc. Worms after rain. Everything is used.

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

Entirely free.

Preserved stretches, with names and addresses of Proprietors:

These upper reaches of river are not much frequented and only occasionally when water is plentiful are fish of any size taken. The lower reaches of this river, in the region of Amascanty are good. I am told.

Owners of boats for hire, and charges per day:

Convenient angling centres (where accommodation is available):

Shurles

Local Angling Club / Membership Fee /

Secretary /

DATE 5/5/55

(Signed)

A. J. Lynch
Surveyor.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

SPORTS AND GAMES

BARONY OF KILNAMANAGH~~TOWN OR VILLAGE~~ KILCOMMON PARISH KILCOMMON 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~~ Upper Bilboa Nearest point to town (distance) 1 MILE

KINDS OF FISH HELD :

Small Salmon & Brown Trout

AVERAGE WEIGHT OF :

Salmon Fish up to 7 lbs have been taken Sea trout Brown trout 4 oz.

BEST SEASONS FOR :

Salmon Flood periods and before close of season. Sea trout Brown trout Mar. & April.

SUITABLE FLIES :

Salmon Standard patterns according to season, weather & light.Sea trout Brown trout Grouse in different colours best.

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) :

This river, at this point is not much frequented by Anglers. Nearest town is Thurles, 14 miles.

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 ^{nearest} Club TIPPERARY 16 miles No. of holes 2

Situation and brief description of course :

Name of Professional

Is there a clubhouse on course ? Licensed ?

Green fees (Visitors) : Per day Per week 15/-

RACING

(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.....
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:

*Most excellent shooting throughout entire parish from Rear Cross to Hollyford.
Grouse: partridge and woodcock plentiful. Snipe;
all kinds of fowls; curlew in abundance. Duck in
slab-lands & river banks.*

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

Entirely free

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 at Kilcommon; Hollyford & Rear Cross*
 Hurling *yes at Kilcommon; Hollyford & Rear Cross*
 Handball */* Handball alley? */*
 Soccer */*
 Rugby */*
 Cricket */*
 Hockey */*
 Bowls */*
 Bowling (on public roads) */*
 Lawn Tennis *at Hollyford* Kinds of courts *1 Green*
 Croquet */*
 Billiards */*
 Badminton */*
 Table Tennis */*
 Bridge Club */*
 Other games or recreations (inc. "Cross Roads" dancing) *Platform at Millstone, four miles east of Hollyford, on main Thurles/Link road.*

ATHLETICS AND CYCLING

Name of Club */* 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.

Parish Rally organised Promoters *etc. no 2.*
by Muintir na Tire. Sports and Agricultural Show
held at Hollyford on 1st Sunday October.

DATE *57 57 45*

(Signed)

P. J. Lynch
 Surveyor.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

AMENITIES AND GENERAL INFORMATION.
TOWNS AND VILLAGES (Other than Seaside)BARONY OF KILNAMANAGH~~TOWN~~ VILLAGE HOLLYFORD PARISH KILCOMMON COUNTY TIPPERARY

Location and brief description.

Population 90 approx.

Hollyford, four miles west of main Thurles/Limerick road and about 10 miles from former is very charmingly situated in picturesque and friendly countryside. Directly to S.E. rises Laghtreefin (locally known as PIPER) Mountain to a height of 1425 feet. From this peak a most wonderful view may be had to S & E. covering country from Kilkenny to Limerick.

Is there a Town Hall?

NO

Location

Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds. Brief description:

Brief comments on water supply and sewerage:

None.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Nearest station DUNDRAH Distance 7 M. Bus? MILESTONE 4 M.

Public lighting by—Electricity?

Gas?

DANCING

Dance hall

The Hall

Proprietor

Timothy RyanHollyford

CINEMAS AND THEATRES

Cinemas

The HallPictures shown
(nights)Occasionally

Theatre

The HallKind of shows
(Drama, Comedy &c)Comedy, Drama & Concerts
by Travelling Cos & by the
Hollyford Dramatic Class

LIBRARIES

Public Libraries *Branch of County Library in Vestry
of St Joseph's Church, Hollyford.*

Private Lending Libraries

CHURCHES AND SERVICES

R. 6 Church *of St Joseph* Services (Sundays) *10.30*
Hollyford.

POSTAL FACILITIES

Location of Post Office *Hollyford*

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

BANKING

Banks

SPORTS AND PHOTO SUPPLIES

Sports Dealers

Photographic Stores

SWIMMING POOLS AND BATHS

Swimming Pool? Location

Public Baths? Location

SOCIAL CLUBS, CULTURAL SOCIETIES, &c.

Social Clubs

Cultural Societies

Hollyford Dramatic Class.

INDUSTRIES AND HANDCRAFTS

Industries

The chief means of livelihood in this area is dairy farming and at Hollyford is situated a very up-to-date creamery, having auxiliaries in outlying districts.

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

PUBLIC MONUMENTS

(Brief description; inscription to be quoted)

Directly across road from Hollyford Church are two splendid limestone crosses of Celtic design to memory of soldier-patriots of war of independence period. See page V of continuation sheet. Of very excellent workmanship.

IMPORTANT PUBLIC BUILDINGS

(Give brief notes on architectural features)

None.

Church is a small building dating from 1806, entirely without any interesting features.

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

National School for boys at Hollyford
" " " girls " "

HOSPITALS

Nearest at Shules, 10 miles.

FAIRS AND MARKETS ; HALF-HOLIDAY

Monthly fairs and markets.....

Weekly market day..... Half-holiday *Wednesday*

GARAGES AND PETROL STATIONS

CONVEYANCES FOR HIRE (Owners) :

Taxis *Donal Ryan, Hollyford.*

Motors (Touring).....

Boats (State type).....

Bicycles.....

Caravans.....

Horses.....

CAMPING SITES

(At principal holiday resorts)

Location *Hill sides are availed of by campers and hikers from time to time. no regular sites and no objections raised by land owners.*

Local Improvements Committee.....

Secretary.....

DATE *27 37 45*

(Signed)

P. J. Ryan
Surveyor.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

AMENITIES AND GENERAL INFORMATION.
TOWNS AND VILLAGES (Other than Seaside)BARONY OF KILNAMANAGH~~TOWN~~ OR VILLAGE KILCOMMON PARISH KILCOMMON COUNTY TIPPERARY

Location and brief description.

Population 80 approx.

The village of Kilcommon 14 miles west of Thurles and about 25 miles east of Limerick, lies between a group of hills of the Slieve Felim Range, varying in height from 950 to 1780 feet. Village lies one mile south of main Thurles/Limerick road in a most isolated spot with absolutely nothing to commend it.

Is there a Town Hall? NOLocation

Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds. Brief description:

Brief comments on water supply and sewerage:

None

PUBLIC SERVICES

Nearest station DUNDRAH Distance 12 M. Bus? KILCOMMON CROSS 1 M.Public lighting by—Electricity? Gas?

DANCING

Dance hall Proprietor

CINEMAS AND THEATRES

Cinemas Pictures shown
(nights) Theatre Kind of shows
(Drama, Comedy &c.)

LIBRARIES

Public Libraries *Branch of County Library in National Schools
Kilcommon and Rear Cross.*

Private Lending Libraries

CHURCHES AND SERVICES

{ R.C. Church of St. Patrick *Kilcommon* Services (Sundays) *9 + 12.*

{ R.C. Chapel of Ease *REAR Cross* *10.30 every Sunday
except 1st Sunday each
month when Mass is at 9.30.*

POSTAL FACILITIES

Location of Post Office *Kilcommon*

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

*at Rear Cross is a Sub P.O. for sale of stamps & dispatch of
letters and parcels.*

BANKING

Banks

SPORTS AND PHOTO SUPPLIES

Sports Dealers

Photographic Stores

SWIMMING POOLS AND BATHS

Swimming Pool? Location

Public Baths? Location

SOCIAL CLUBS, CULTURAL SOCIETIES, &c.

Social Clubs

Cultural Societies

INDUSTRIES AND HANDCRAFTS

Industries Mixed farming is main stay of inhabitants of Kilcommon end of parish. Dairying is a small way about Rear Cross. Turf cutting is a very prosperous industry at the moment and in region of LEURAH BRACK, stacks of turf a mile long, border the road.

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

PUBLIC MONUMENTS

(Brief description; inscription to be quoted)

IMPORTANT PUBLIC BUILDINGS

(Give brief notes on architectural features)

R. C. Church, Kilcommon, is a handsome structure about 70 years old. Faced with dressed sandstone, sides are just common plaster.

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Mixed National Schools at Kilcommon
" " " " " " Rear Cross

HOSPITALS

Nearest at Duhallow - 14 miles.

FAIRS AND MARKETS ; HALF-HOLIDAY

Monthly fairs ~~and markets~~ *Third Friday of each month.*

Weekly market day */* Half-holiday *Wednesday.*

~~GARAGES AND~~ PETROL STATIONS

Wm Flannery, Rear Cross.

CONVEYANCES FOR HIRE (Owners):

Taxis *Martin Mc Cormack, Kilcommon*
John Stanley, do.

Motors (Touring)

Boats (State type)

Bicycles

Caravans

Horses

CAMPING SITES

(At principal holiday resorts)

Location Landowner

Local Improvements Committee

Secretary

DATE *5-5-45.*

(Signed)

A. J. Quil
Surveyor.