



Demayhorne

Church / Overstown
Co. Wash.
Co. Lipp.

O'Brien



Pillar Stone

at Grants Obrien

Powerstown, N. J.
Co. Lehigh.

(Liff south)

29

FORM A.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

NATURAL FEATURES, ANTIQUITIES, HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.

BARONY OF Iffa & offa coat.

TOWN OR VILLAGE Lisronagh PARISH Lisronagh COUNTY Dublin

TOPOGRAPHY

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

This modern parish is made up of seven ancient parishes i.e. Kilgrat, Kiltegan, Rathronagh, Lisronagh, Donoghmore, Baptistgrange, and Mora or Moorestown. The position of Mora is a curious anomaly; it is an island (situated in) surrounded by the archdiocese of Dublin and separated by Blessington parish from the remainder of Donoghmore & Lisronagh. It is a very extensive parish bounded on the south by the lake, on the east by the river, on the west by Blessington and Balin parish and on the north in the complex fashion mentioned above. Owing to the peculiar nature of its geography and its proximity to Blessington it is a well known fact that its Catholic parishioners hear the Mass at thirteen different churches each Sunday. Donoghmore,

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, 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.

Donoghmore Church.

Foremost among the antiquities of the parish is the ruin of Donoghmore Church situated about 1 mile from the village of Lisronagh. Preserved by the Board of Works, it is said to be one of the finest existing specimens of Irish-Romanesque architecture. In accordance with custom the church is small in size, measuring: nave 39 ft 6 in. x 23 ft 6 in. internally. chancel 12 ft 6 in. x 8 ft 6 in. do. There is provision for the resident ecclesiastic over the chancel. The original barrel vault still remains at a height of 12 feet from the ground. The gables indicate that the roof was high-pitched and lofty, representing the old Irish symbol of the Ark, so notable a feature in the oratories of the Gallarus type. The doorway and windows have inclined jambs characteristic of earlier buildings. The masonry is rubble built in the dovetail system, while the doorway and windows are of the best jointed ashlar. The doorway in the west gable is the most elaborate feature and was of three orders, supporting an outer arch, a sub-arch and a tympanum. The outer order has lost its carved face, the second order is perfect, while the inner order only exists in parts. On this order rested the tympanum bearing which was popularly described as the "Cat and Two Tails," which has disappeared (see account of this object under Kedagh Castle parish of Clane). The detail of the doorway is composed of harmonious blend of native and classic ornamentation, and according to Burke in his "The Town of Blenheim" these is a unique feature in the adaptation of the blossoming sceptre to architectural ornamentation. On the abacus can be seen the interlaced pattern called the double true-lover knot. The pier has a column at the corner adorned with chevron ribbon, and the face of the pier shows a kind of chain work. On the inner order there is fine cable-moulding and a triple leaf ornament of Moorish design (Beattie History Blenheim). Generally speaking Donoghmore is an outstanding example of the advanced stage of culture reached by the Irish people before the Norman invasion. Burke surmises that it was built about 1050 A.D. Donoghmore is claimed to be the Tamenachbuidhe of the Martyrologies in which seven saints were honoured. It is reputed to have been founded by St. Katak, and is mentioned in connection

Continuation of
Topography.

Extensive though it is, it is the only parish in the Diocese which has no heather growing on it. Facing South from Limeragh there is a fine prospect of the fair valley and the mountains skirting it, from the dingles in the west south to the Knockmeal downs and Comeragh, and east to Slievenamon.

→ Irish Comharba (successor)

Antiquities Donoghmore.

with a coast of St Patrick. Its most illustrious ruler was St Taranan, who, afterwards went as a missionary to the continent and settled at Valeriodore or Waser on the Meuse. Here he died on the 30th April, 982, and here his relics are still held in veneration.

There is a right of way to the public.

Giants Grove Pillarstone.

About 9 miles north of Blonmel and slightly to the west of the Connel-loshel road may be seen, on a hill top, a great pillarstone about 10ft high with a cross inscribed on its eastern face. Pillarstones are, of course, pagan in origin, and as in this case were often cross-inscribed and converted to Christian use. Local tradition relates that the arms of Kilmister paraded around the monument for a blessing, before going into battle. There is no right of way but there is no objection to inspection by the public.

Baptist Grange Church.

Situated about a mile to the north of Limeragh, this church was anciently known as Achadhfada and was inappropriate in the town, St John's Dublin, hence its modern name. The ruin, measuring 52½ ft by 17½ ft internally, stands in a large graveyard. The side walls are falling down, but the gables stand. The east window is gone. In the interior, projecting from the eastern gable is what appears to have been a statue support. On the north & south sides can be seen the usual narrow lighting apses. Inside, on the ground, can be seen a circular baptismal font measuring 2 ft in diameter. The stone corbel, which projects from the walls at the western end of the nave, indicates that in former times there was a gallery. Standing over a modern grave near the south east gable is a roughly carved pillar stone measuring 4 ft high x 22 inches by 8 inches. This would appear to be of early Christian origin.

Antiquities Kilgrat.

All that remains here are a fragment of the south side wall and a rude square font with basin and drainage hole. It is surrounded by a modern graveyard, and is situated not far from the modern church of Booterstown. There is no right-of-way to the public.

Moortown

This ruin measures, internally, 80 ft long by 29 ft (more) 19 ft chancel. It has a unique feature in a square tower, which springs from the junction of the nave & chancel. All the windows and door have disappeared and the walls of the nave are in a state of dilapidation. The ruin is situated in an open field off the Blomel-bohel road about 4 miles from Blomel. This ruin dates from the medieval period and was originally under the patronage of St Nicholas of Myra.

Waginstown Church

Situated to the west of the Blomel-bohel road, about 8 miles from Blomel only the east gable of the ruin now remains at the western end can be seen a castellated annex which is reputed to have been the priest's residence.

Other Church Sites.

There are many other early church sites in this extensive parish, but hardly any other of the buildings remain except a few scattered stones. The principal sites are Keltogan (scattered stones) Rathernan (no remains, Protestant church on site) Lisronagh (no remains) Miltown Britten, called locally, Teanpuill doia, (no remains), Carriglen-Sharvagh, (no remains) Ballygambler (no remains) Kilmore (no remains), Killest, (no remains) Ballynattine (no remains).

Lisronagh Castle.

All that remains of this castle is the plain rectangular keep measuring approximately 25 ft x 36 ft by 60 ft high. The vaulted first floor still remains and it appears that the 2nd floor was gabled. This ruin is situated on the Blomel-Lethard road alongside Lisronagh. It is not preserved and there is no right of way, although no objection will be made to inspection by visitors. The structure is Anglo-Norman in character, but I have not got any history in connection with it, except that it was occupied by the O'Leary family.

Note Lisronagh

On the opposite side of the Blomel-Lethard road from the castle is the site of Lisronagh. Originally high and conical

Antiquities Lismagh Note

it was destroyed about the middle of the nineteenth century by a local farmer who discontinued only ~~while~~ horse died suddenly. The diameter of the root is 768 ft. It is surrounded by a ditch 3ft wide by 8ft deep. of the Bailey only the north & west sides have been preserved. There is no right of way but inspection may be made. It is not preserved.

The Billetree Rathronan.

This ancient tree is situated about 2 miles from Glenties on the Tetham road at the junction leading to the parish priest's residence. It is an ash tree of considerable dimensions showing signs of decay. It is at least 600 years old and local tradition connects it with Ragan Ireland. It is not preserved.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

SPORTS AND GAMES

BARONY OF

Offa & Offa Court.

TOWN OR VILLAGE

PARISH

*Greenstown
Kieronagh*

COUNTY

Lifford

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

Liff

Nearest point to town (distance)

*See form Ba
boundary of parish*

KINDS OF FISH HELD :

Trout Salmon

AVERAGE WEIGHT OF :

Salmon

20

Sea trout

Brown trout

15 lb

BEST SEASONS FOR :

Salmon

Feb - May

Sea trout

Brown trout

Feb - May

SUITABLE FLIES :

Salmon

Winstons, Sea Blue, Jack Scott, Black Doctor, Goldfinch.

Sea trout

Brown trout

Greenwell's Glory, Various Olive, March Brown, Pale & Black Huet, Red Spinner.

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

Free except on preserved stretches.

Preserved stretches, with names and addresses of Proprietors :

*blunee to Sir Thomas' Bridge miles. Proprietor
Sir Morris' Widow.*

Owners of boats for hire, and charges per day :

none.

Convenient angling centres (where accommodation is available) :

blunee.

Local Angling Club

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 ? *none* Fishing tackle ?

Representative of B.S.A.S. or other sea angling Assn.

none

GOLFING

Name of Club *none* No. of holes

Situation and brief description of course :

Name of Professional *none*

Is there a clubhouse on course ? *none* Licensed ?

Green fees (Visitors) : Per day Per week

RACING

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

No. of meetings normally held during the year *Powerstown Park*
(see survey blannel)

Under which rules?

Situation of course

HUNTING

Hounds which hunt in the district:

Foxhounds *Liffesing Foxhounds*

Harriers *blannel Harriers*

Beagles *none*

COURSING

Name of Club Meeting held annually? *Powerstown Park*
(see blannel)

GREYHOUND RACING

Name of Company *none*

Races on (nights) *none*

SHOOTING

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

none of any importance

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

not preserved, but permission to shoot over
land must be obtained from local farmers

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Shooting Club *none* Secy.

CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING

Name of Club *none* Competitions held?

ROWING AND SAILING

Rowing or yacht clubs, with address of club-house.

none

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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 Maronagh G.A.A. Football Club
Lowerstown G.A.A. Football Club.

Hurling none.

Handball none. Handball alley? no

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.

none. Promoters none.

none.

none.

none.

none.

DATE 24/10/42

(Signed) H. B. B. B.

Surveyor.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

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

BARONY OF Iffa cappa East
TOWN OR VILLAGE Lisronagh PARISH Lisronagh COUNTY Lifford

Location and brief description.

Population 30

Lisronagh was once a flourishing town, and we read that Henry IV granted exemption from taxes to the priest and commons for the building and rehabilitation of their town burnt by the "Gigards". The ancient town has however disappeared and all that now remains is the name plus a church, a school, a couple of shops and a corrugated-iron dance hall, with the ruins of an old castle and the site of a note nearby. Situated on Blonnel-Lifford Rd 5 miles from Blonnel.

Is there a Town Hall? NoLocation Opposite Catholic Church

Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds. Brief description:

none.

Brief comments on water supply and sewerage:

none.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Nearest station Blonnel Distance 4 miles Bus? Blonnel Lifford Service
Public lighting by—Electricity? none Gas? none

DANCING

Dance hall Yes Proprietor Lisronagh Hall Committee
Redmondstown Dance Hall Redmondstown Hall Committee

CINEMAS AND THEATRES

Cinemas none Pictures shown (nights)

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

LIBRARIES

Public Libraries *Bornegie Library at Lissomagh National School,*

Private Lending Libraries *none*

CHURCHES AND SERVICES

Church *Catholic Lissomagh* Services (Sundays) *9am O.T. 7 10.45 am,*
do Lower town *O.T. alternate Sunday*

POSTAL FACILITIES

Location of Post Office

Lissomagh

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

Telephone

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

Branch of Countrywomen's Association in parish

INDUSTRIES AND HANDCRAFTS

Industries

none

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

none.

PUBLIC MONUMENTS

(Brief description; inscription to be quoted)

Two miles west of Blonnel by the side of Main Blonnel Waterford road
a white marble slab surrounded by a small floriated cross.
Bearing the following inscription: "Erected in proud memory of Volunteer Seamus
O'Keefe B. Coy, 5th Battⁿ 3rd Liff. Brigade I.R.A. The faithful Republican
Sentinel who was killed here at his post by Crown Forces 5th February 1921
"So renowned" sea thorn as a saint."

IMPORTANT PUBLIC BUILDINGS

(Give brief notes on architectural features)

none.

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Thoroughagh Boys & Girls National School

Boys' school

Rathkeeran

St. Joseph's Industrial School Thornycroft, run by the Brothers of
Society.

HOSPITALS

none.

FAIRS AND MARKETS ; HALF-HOLIDAY

Monthly fairs and markets *none*

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

GARAGES AND PETROL STATIONS

none

CONVEYANCES FOR HIRE (Owners) :

Taxis *Van Burt. Donoughmore Keshonagh*

Motors (Touring) *none*

Boats (State type) *none*

Bicycles *none*

Caravans *none*

Horses *none*

CAMPING SITES

(At principal holiday resorts)

Location *none* Landowner

Local Improvements Committee *none*

Secretary

DATE *24/10/42*

(Signed)

W. J. O'Brien

Surveyor.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

ACCOMMODATION AND CATERING.

BARONY OF Iffa & Offa East.

TOWN OR VILLAGE none. PARISH Powertown & Lisronagh COUNTY Likierary

Hotels	No. of Bedrooms	No. of Bathrooms	Licensed ?
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<u>none.</u>			

Guest or Boarding Houses

<u>none.</u>			

Restaurants and Cafés

<u>none</u>			

DATE 24 Oct '42

(Signed)

Handwritten Signature

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.

none

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.

William Archer Butler.

Was Born at Annerville Blonnel, (off the Blonnel - Waterford road
in the Parish of Rosserstown, residence now owned by Mrs Beal).
Butler wrote several philosophical works and also a contributor
of (Irish) poems and essays to Irish magazines including
the Dublin University Gazette. He was appointed Rector of Ray
ho Donegal in 1842 and died ^{there} in 1848.

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.

St Nicholas' Holy Well Woodstown.

Situated near the church ruin at Woodstown this well was once the scene of special devotion and a pattern which has however long since died out.

Halfpenny Well.

Situated in Bachellogh near Disrernaigh this is a holy well about whose origin nothing is known. In the old days pilgrims made an offering of a halfpenny which was placed in a stone basin still to be seen, hence the present name.

(Signed)

Thos. Brien

Surveyor.

DATE

24/10/42