

Form A.

**I.T.A. Topographical and General Survey**

Natural Features, Antiquities, Historic Associations, Etc.

**Barony of Decies Within Drum**

**Town or Village** *Clashmore*

**Parish** *Clashmore*

**County** *Waterford*

**TOPOGRAPHY**

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

The parish of Clashmore is bounded on the north by the Ph. of Aglish, on the east by the ph. of Ardmore, on the south by the sea, and on the west by the Blackwater and Youghal Bay. The village and surrounding district are very low lying, as the name Clais Mor --- The great hollow or trench --- implies; elsewhere the land is rather hilly, especially on the coastal district and round Ardsallagh.

The only portion of the parish noteworthy from the scenic point of view is the district in the immediate vicinity of the Blackwater. Here the view is indeed magnificent: The river flows serenely along, meandering about the little peninsulas of Ardsallagh on the one hand and Rincrew on the other. The green cool woods slope gently in some places and then again steeply up from the water's edge. Mansions, castles and ruined towers, monuments of former fame and modern prosperity, lie here and there along the banks, and lend to the whole picture a charming, quiet and peaceful air.

The only other view worthy of any note in this parish may be obtained from the hilltop overlooking Monatrea. Here we have a portion of the Blackwater, Youghal Bay broadening out into the Atlantic on the left, the town of Youghal rising on the slopes of the opposite hill and the land on the south stretching out to Knockadoon Head and Capel Island, laid out before us. The view is quite good, especially in the evening when a smoke-blue mist overhangs Youghal town and the hills at the back.

**GEOLOGY**

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

The rock formation is limestone mostly with sandstone and slate in some places. Nothing else worthy of note in this respect.

**MANSIONS, CASTLES AND ESTATES of imposing character**

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

There aren't any mansions, castles or estates in this parish. There are however a few places, important perhaps, from their historic associations:

**Clashmore House**

[now practically disappeared]

was built by the Earl of Huntington. The building, I understand, was never finished. Some of the construction stone, very delicately cut stone, is still to be seen lying about the site, 100 yards north of St. Mochu's Well just outside the village. James Flavin is the present owner of the land in this district.



**D'Loughtane House**, was formerly occupied by the Ronayne Family, and afterwards by families named Allen, and Furlong. At present owned by Michael Norris, Esq., a fairly extensive farmer.

**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.

There aren't any antiquities of importance in this parish. The following, however, may be of some interest to visitors:

## Holy Wells:

**St. Mochua's Well**, outside the village of Clashmore, is situated in a circular walled enclosure. Formerly, Stations were performed here on the 10<sup>th</sup> of February, but these have been long discontinued. The well is still treated by the people with marked reverence and respect. There is a story, quite common in the district, that this well was at one time situated on the opposite side of the village, but owing to some sacrilegious treatment, it was miraculously transformed over-night to its present position! It is surrounded by a walled enclosure.

### **St. Bartholomew's Well**,

is situated on the road-side about a quarter of a mile south of Piltown R.C. Church. Up to about 50 years ago this well was held in high repute and hundreds of people came here to "make their rounds". Of late years very few visit it.



**St. Ita's Well** is situated about 200 yards west of Carthy's Cove. This well is known as Tobar Uacta [pronounced "Tobaruchta"], and was formerly treated with some degree of sacredness. "Rounds were performed here at one time.

**St. Brigit's Well** -- Tobar Brighde -- in Ardsallagh was formerly held in high repute but is not treated with any degree of reverence now-a-days. Situation: about 3 miles north of Youghal, and 200 yards N.E. of Ardsallagh entrance gate.

**St. Columdearg's Well** at Knockaneris. This well is now drained, but a little stream by the side of the fence near the old church ruin is still to be seen. The traditional cure here was for whooping cough.

## Church Sites:

**Knockaneris**: There was formerly a church known as "Cill Coluim Deirg" in this townland. This old ruin has now almost disappeared. Situation: On Lawrence Mergin's land about ¼ a mile west of a point on the main road 1 ½ miles north of Clashmore Village.

The church site at Clashmore village is now occupied by the Protestant Church [Ch. of Ireland] now in ruins. The old cemetery attached to it is of great antiquity, and dates back to the 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> century. I was told that there were at least seven bishops buried here.

## Raths:

There is a large Rath in the townland of Kilmore. The following is Canon Power's description of it [History of the Dioceses of Waterford and Lismore, p130]: "A remarkable ecclesiastical antiquity, which has remained hitherto practically unnoticed, stands on the north boundary of Kilmore Townland. This is a great earth-work --- the largest and best preserved of its kind in the Decies --- enclosing a roughly quadrangular, or rather kidney-shaped area four or five acres in extent. On its outer edge, an embankment, twenty feet high by twenty feet thick, is surrounded by an excavated trench or moat several feet deep in sections, and waterfilled towards its eastern end. Embankment and fosse --- the former considerably worn down and the latter considerable silted up --- are both in a wonderful state of preservation. Its name and local veneration show that our earthwork is of Christian association. On the other hand, strength of the defences and the surrounding fosse, suggest a secular fortress; to this theory again, the site, a lowlying flat seems opposed. Probably the enclosure was originally a chieftain's dun, surrendered later to the Church. Or, it may be, the strong defences were considered necessary even for a religious establishment, wherein the saint and his household were murdered by pirates about 631. He also suggests that the Rath at Kilmore, mentioned above, may have been the site of the ancient sanctuary which the Northmen ravaged.

## Lios's

There are many lios's in this parish on the farms of Edmond Fleming, Creggs, David McGrath, Knockaneris and William Galvin, Coolbagh. In some of these, especially in Flemings, the surrounding ditch and fence are in good state of preservation. I was told that there is an underground passage in Fleming's lios which leads far into the surrounding district. There is no opening here now. All these may

be seen if one travels along the road leading from Creggs Cross Roads up by Mr. N. Dower's farm, and back to Clashmore by the Kilmore Road.

There is also a lios on the farm of Mrs. Cunningham at Ballysallagh, beneath which a long subterranean passage was discovered some years ago. The place is closed now and there is nothing of any special interest.

### Souterrains

There is a souterrain in the townland of Ballindruma on Mr. W. Lenane's farm. It is situated in a field beside the Clashmore-Toor Road, and about 2 miles from Clashmore village. The souterrain is not open and is uninteresting.

### Castles

On the townland of Ballyheeny is the south wall of a castle, but the foundations of the other walls are not traceable. This was probably a Geraldine stronghold. It is situated on the bank of the Licky River about one mile south of Clashmore. [Ballyheeny, i.e. Baile Suibhne, The home of the Earls] For the legend connected with Ballyheeny see Power's Place Names of the Decies, Clashmore Parish Section.

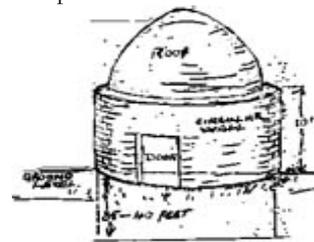
### Ice Houses

There is an ice house in the townland of Kilmaloo about 2 miles S.E. of Clashmore Village. The ice house was constructed as follows:

A cylindrical pit about nine feet radius was dug. Depth about 35 to 40 feet. The pit was lined with bricks, stones and mortar, and the floor was flagged. Immediately around the top of the pit a wall about ten feet high was erected. A space was left in this for a doorway.

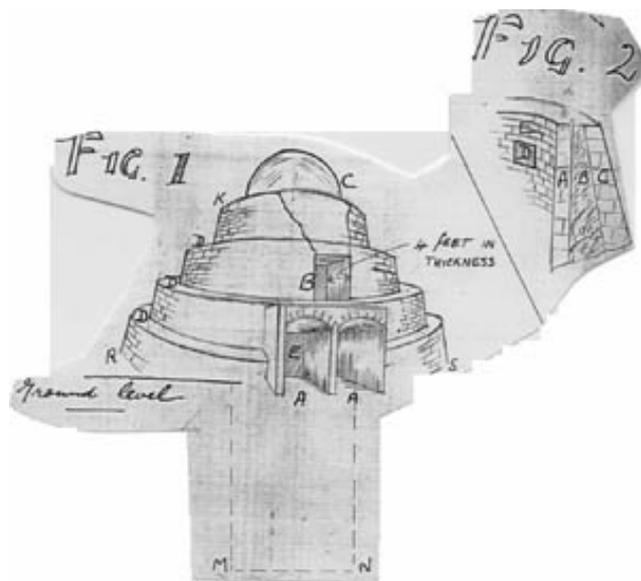
There was a platform about one foot in width on top of the wall. A beehive-shaped roof built round this platform covered the pit. Roof was built of stones and flags covered with a thick coat of clay. There is a small lake about 5 acres in extent within 200 yards of the ice house, and during winter, when the ice lough, as the lake was called, was frozen over, the fish merchants of Youghal employed local people to take loads of ice from the lough and store it in the ice house. It continued here in that frozen state during summer, and was used for fish-packing etc. With the advent of the electric refrigerator these ice houses fell into disuse about the beginning of this century. There are three such houses in this locality. The doorway of the one referred to above is now wall up to prevent animals etc. falling in, but through a small opening may still be seen the excellent workmanship of the structure on the inside.

Payment was made at the rate of about six pence for each load of ice taken from the lough.



### Ice-Houses in Clashmore Parish

Fig. 1: The above diagram gives some indication of the structure of the ice house situated on the farm of Sean Connors, in the townland of Garrauneasbog. It is situated on the side of a boreen or by-road about three quarters of a mile north of Kinsalebeg Post Office and so is approached by public Right of Way. It consists of four circular tiers, one above the other, and covered on top by a hemispherical roof. The roof and portion of the building marked in ink have now disappeared. A platform leads round on top of each tier, [marked "D"], the lowest being about 5 feet wide, and the others about 2 feet in width. "A" "A" represent the two arched entrances, and "E" the doorway leading into the ice house at ground level. "B" indicates another doorway which is on a level with the platform over the arched entrances. The



wall at this point is about 4 feet thick. Inside, the ice house consists of a circular pit reaching to a depth of about 35 feet below ground level as indicated by M---N, and is lined with stone, flags and mortar right up to the top tier. Round the wall are several ventilators or drains [marked "D" in Fig. 2], through which the surplus water which remained on the ice was drained. The floor "M---N" was flagged, and a drain ran beneath, which carried away the water when portion of the ice melted. The whole building, both inside and outside, shows very fine workmanship.

The height of the building from ground level to the top of the wall at "K" is about 28 feet. The diameter at ground level, from "R" to "S" is about 57 feet.

Fig. 2: indicates a cross section of the wall of the ice house on Miss Mullins' land in the same townland as above, and about half a mile N. of Kinsalebeg Post Office, on the side of the same boren as mentioned above. "A" indicates the inside "lining" built of stones, flags and mortar. "C" is an outside wall of the same material, and "B" is a layer of clay about 1 foot in thickness in between. The inside wall "A" is about 2 feet thick. This ice house, which is now roofless, is a plain circular building somewhat similar to that situated in the townland of Kilmaloo, a sketch of which I gave in my survey of Clashmore Parish.

Situated about a quarter of a mile from the ice houses on Mr. Connors and Miss Mullins' land is the ice lough, about 4 acres in extent. During Winter, cartloads of ice were taken from the lough and placed or stored in the ice houses. Usually two or three men remained inside the ice house, and as the ice was being thrown in, pounded it with mallets, and so the whole consisted of one solid block. When the ice was required for fish packing, etc., men were let down in a basket on a rope and pulley, and with pickaxe and shovel removed and placed in the basket the amount of ice required. I met one man who actually worked at this task, though he told me that in his time they had to pull up the rope without the aid of a pulley. Mr. Robert Ronayne, Dr. Ronayne's brother told me that he often saw this work being carried out. A relative of his, a Mr. Robert Ronayne of tinnock, Clashmore Parish, owned the ice house, the diagram of which I give above. The ice house on Miss Mullins' land was owned by a Youghal merchant, a Mr. Richard Carey, and was one of the last to be worked. The house in Kilmaloo townland was owned by a Mr. William O'Neill. This house is situated in Richard Tobin's land, and is the only one now roofed. There is another ice house on the west side of Youghal bridge, in Co. Cork. Your surveyor for that district has probably given you an account of that.



These houses were in use up to 50 years ago approx. About that time, the Irish winters became less severe, and less ice formed on the ice lough. This was the principal reason for the decline of the ice houses in this district. Afterwards ice was imported in blocks in sailing vessels from Norway for fish packing etc. That was about the period 1886-1890. The importation of ice from Norway continued up to the time that the first ice machine was made in Cork. Before the advent of ice-packing, fish for export were soaked in vinegar when being packed. Mr. Ronayne thought that the ice houses were built about the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

No. 4 snap of the enclosed film is a photograph of the ice house in Kilmaloo. I will send you, in the course of a week or so, a photograph of the ice house mentioned above [Fig. 1].

This is all the information I could obtain.



### Historic Sites

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

There is a townland here known as Buallagh. A battle is supposed to have taken place here long ago. I could get no definite details or information on this matter.

### Historic Houses; Burial Places

**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.**

### 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 in Clashmore.

**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 mith-providing. Location and description. Any story or legend may be related.

None

Customs, Patterns, Etc.

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

None

Date 26-9-42

(Signed) Micheal O Domhnaill  
Surveyor.



Good fishing is available in Youghal Bay, round Mangan's Bay, Calisore Bay, Carthy's Cove and Whiting Bay. The portion of the River Blackwater bounding this parish may be included in this section. The Rights of this river from Cooneen to Youghal are the property of the Duke of Devonshire, and a 3 pounds license from the Board of Fisheries, and a 7 pounds license from Old Strancally to the Youghal Bridge, and a 10 pounds license below the Bridge [to the Greenpark Hotel] payable to the Duke of Devonshire are necessary for salmon fishing in this area. Agent for the Duke: Gerald Fitzgerald, esq., Lismore Estate Co., Lismore. Rod and line fishing is scarcely ever carried on in this portion of the Blackwater.

Kinds of fish to be caught:

Salmon, Plaice, Sole, Whiting, Mackerel, Lobsters, Herrings, Salmon only, and very rarely sea trout in the Blackwater.

Owners of boats, type of boats, and charges per day:

There are some boats available in Youghal. The only man in this parish who owns a boat which may be hired is Maurice Moylan, Calisore Bay, Monatrae. He has a sailing boat and charges 1 pound per day for parties.

Bait available locally? Youghal

Fishing Tackle? Youghal

Representative of B.S.A.S. or other Sea Angling Assn. No

**Golfing**

No golf in this parish. There is a potting green connected with Monatrae Hotel, which visitors are allowed to use.

Name of Club

None

No. of holes

Situation and brief description of course:

None

Name of Professional None

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 None

Under which rules? ----

Situation of Course ----

**Hunting**

Hounds which hunt in the district:

Foxhounds West Waterford Pack. Four or five meets per annum. Principal meet on St. Stephen's Day.

Harriers None

Beagles None

**Coursing**

Names of Club

None

Meeting held annually?

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**Annual Events**

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

Some County Championship Matches [Football]  
Club

Promoters Clashmore Football

No Patterns in this parish now. Clashmore people  
Usually attend Ardmore Pattern [24<sup>th</sup> July]

Date 26-9-42

(Signed) Micheal O Domhnaill  
Surveyor

No Form C.

Form D.

**I.T.A. Topographical and General Survey  
Holiday Amenities and General Information. (Other than Seaside)**

**Barony of Decies Within Drum**

**Town or Village** *Clashmore*                      **Parish** *Clashmore*                      **County** *Waterford*

**Location and brief description of town or village.**                      **Population** 120

The village of Clashmore is situated seven miles N.E. of Youghal [by road] and about 14 miles S.W. of Dungarvan [by road]. It is situated in a valley, and on the whole, is rather uninteresting to the visitor or tourist. The roads for the most part are good, tho' hilly. The village has four licensed premises, a number of smaller shops, a post office, a creamery in which in addition to the ordinary business and trade in milk etc. corn is crushed and rolled for local farmers. It has also a R.C. Church and formerly a Church of Ireland existed here but this is now in ruins, a Garda Station and a dispensary. The principal past-time is Gaelic Football which is played to a large extent. Formerly there was a distillery here, and the old chimney stack is still standing and in a good state of preservation. Whiskey was distilled here about 150 years ago, the last owner being a man named Dennehy. The old cemetery in the village should interest visitors [See Antiquities Section]



**Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds:**

No gardens, parks or recreation grounds.

**Recreation Hall:** The local creamery manager, Mr. Matthew Collins sometimes provides a hall in which concerts, meetings are held. Concerts are also held in the local National School occasionally.

**Brief comments on water supply and sewerage:**

There is a good water supply in the village. Some householders have water laid on. There is a fair sewerage scheme.

**Public Services**

Nearest station	Youghal	Distance	8 miles	Bus	None at present
Public lighting by gas in the village.	Electricity?	No public lighting.		Gas?	No electricity or

**Dancing**

Dance Hall	There is no dance hall in Clashmore. Dances, usually for parochial benefit, sometimes held in N.S. Also card games, 45 principally, fairly frequently held.	Proprietor	-----
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**Cinemas and Theatres**

Cinemas	None	Pictures shown	---- (nights)
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Youghal nearest place 7 miles distant.

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

Public Libraries There is a branch of the County Library in the local National School.

Private Lending Libraries: None

**Churches and Services**

Church: Clashmore R.C. Church Services (Sundays) 8.45 and 11.00 a.m. Old time

Piltown R.C. Church 9.00 o'clock old time

**Postal Facilities**

Location of Post Office Main Street, Clashmore.

Sub-office in Piltown, 4 miles from Youghal

Business (M.O., Telegraph, Telephone) Clashmore P.O.: M.O., Telephone, Telegrams, Pensions, Postal Orders, Stamps

Etc. Sub-office: Public telephone, Old Age Pensions and Stamps.

**Banking**

Banks None

Sports and Photo Supplies, &c.

Sports Dealers None

**Photographic Stores** None

**Swimming Pools and Baths**

No swimming pools or baths. People swim in the Blackwater, at Whiting Bay and a number of smaller inlets, principally Carthy's Cove.

**Swimming Pool?**

**Location**

**Public Baths?**

**Location**

Social Clubs, Cultural Societies, &c.

Social Clubs None

Cultural Societies None

**Industries and Handcrafts**

Industries Farming and salmon fishing are the principal industries of this parish. Farming is carried on a large scale, and there is quite a lot of tillage. Salmon fishing is an important industry, and practically the only source of income of some of the poorer people living on the banks of the Blackwater.

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

None

**Public Monuments**

(Brief description; inscription to be quoted)

There is a plaque on the roadside about one furlong south of the Piltown National School, erected to the memory of Seumas O Cuain who was killed in 1921. Inscription reads:

"I ndil chuimhne ar Sheumus M. O Cuain, Eochail, do mharbhuigheadh le gallaibh 10adh Bealtaine, 1921 in aois 19 bliadhna. R.I.P.

Oglaig a Eachaill abhi 'na bpriosunaigh trath do thog an lead so."

**Important Public Buildings**

(Give brief notes on architectural features)

None

**Schools and Colleges**

Clashmore N.S. (Mixed)

Piltown N.S. (Mixed)

Tinnock N.S. (Mixed)

Ballycurrana N.S. (Mixed)

**Hospitals**

There is no hospital in the village. There is a dispensary here. M.O.: Dr. James Ronayne, Ardsallagh. Open Tuesdays and Fridays 11.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. Mid-wife: Mrs. W. Glavin, Coolbagh.

**Fairs and Markets; Half-Holiday**

Monthly Fairs and Markets	None		
Weekly market day		No special day	Half-holiday
Wednesday			

**Garages and Petrol Stations**

None

**Conveyances for Hire (Owners):**

Taxis	Thomas Connell, Clashmore
	Patrick Hunt, Clashmore

Motors (Touring)	None
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Boats (State Type)      The fishermen living on the banks of the Blackwater ferry passengers across. There is no special or official ferry here. A motor-boat runs regularly every hour during summer from Ferry Point to Youghal. There is no less frequent ferry here during the remainder of the year.

Bicycles	None
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Caravans	None
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Horses	None
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**Camping Sites**

(at principal holiday resorts)

**Location:** No official site. Arrangements may be made with some land-owners for pitching camps on their property.      **Landowner:**

Local Improvements Committee: Branch of the Parish Council  
Secretary: -----

Date: 26-9-42

Signed: Micheal O'Domhnaill  
Surveyor

Form E.

## I.T.A. Topographical and General Survey

Accommodation and Catering

### Barony of Decies Within Drum

Town or Village *Clashmore* Parish *Clashmore* County *Waterford*

Hotels	No. of Bedrooms	No. of Bathrooms	Licensed?
Monatrae Hotel	20	1	Yes 'phone 28

Youghal

(5 miles S. of Clashmore village.

Prop. Mrs. O'Donovan.

Tennis, Croquet, Potting green and

Table tennis. A.A. I.T.A., R.I.A.C.

Home farm produce, fruit, vegetables etc.

7 minutes' walk from Ferry Point.)

#### Guest or Boarding Houses

There are no guest or boarding houses. Michael McGrath, Mayfield, Ferry Point, Youghal, has a house to let. It contains 3 bedrooms, sitting room and kitchen. No water laid on.

#### Restaurants and Cafés

Monatrae Hotel.



View of Distillery Chimney Stack at  
Clashmore Village

Date: 26-9-42

Signed: Micheal O'Domhnaill

Surveyor