

(Mayo East)

FORM A.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

NATURAL FEATURES, ANTIQUITIES,
HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.BARONY OF GallenTOWN OR VILLAGE Strade PARISH Templemore COUNTY Mayo

TOPOGRAPHY

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

This parish is, in outline, like an elongated and flattened figure 8, the lower loop being smaller than the upper. The area stretches south-west from Lough Lelina's southern shore, to Knockacrow at the opposite parish end, a distance of perhaps 7 miles. At its widest the area is hardly more than 3 miles. Its narrowest portion is in the south-west where it is not much more than an half-mile in width. There lies one the three 'island' townlands

GEOLOGY

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

The area is almost totally of drift-covered limestone - the drift area rising up in a succession of low long-sloped hills which sometimes have a hummock-like or hog-backed character. This drift area is suitable for tillage and is not hard to work for the most part. On Lough Lelina's southern shore is a narrow band of igneous gneiss formation - the extension eastwards of the fairly large irregular gneiss area lying to the west close. South of this narrow band is a great tract and out of this rises a small belt of metamorphic character - mica schist etc.

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 of imposing character)

at Ashbrook, land of James White, are the ruins of Ashbrook, once the residence of the ancestors of Mooshall.

The ruins are of a plain-featured house, two stories, about 45' long by 16' wide internally, with a central rear porch and flanked by a small one-story addition to one gable. Nearby are the remains of a small private chapel, ^{T-shaped} ~~crossed~~ and of internal dimensions - nave 24½ by 12' and heavy short transepts 9' wide. A pointed plain arch recess held the altar. In one of the transepts is an horizontal tombstone with on it the inscription - Here lies the body of Geo. Moore Esq. of Ashbrook and Mooshall who died at Mooshall 40. 11. 11.

of Knockascaw, Doogary and Aughaliska which form the lower loop of the parish. These townlands are almost completely cut off, by the interjection of Keelogue and Mohale parishes, from the rest of Templemore.

For the greater part the area is a pleasant rolling country of green slopes and long low hills. The main Rosford/Castles road enters the parish on the north at Ballylahan bridge which in itself is a landmark with its many arches and its long narrow main road extension which makes the bridge appear double its length. The R. may run beneath and forms the parish boundary for a portion of its length. Just beyond Ballylahan bridge the ruin of Ballylahan castle is a feature of the landscape. A mile further on is Strade, a small scattered village whose high church dominates the scene and forms a keen contrast to the older abbey ruins just below it. The little river Strade winds through the village to the bay. Beyond Strade the landscape is one of low green hills.

The inland townlands are of a rugged semi-mountainous character, situated as they are on the lower western slope of Slieve Harrow. From the high ground here fairly good views can be got of Keplin and the Portloman hills in the north, with Cough Cullin, the lowlands between and to the south the little lake of Ramisco in near view and beyond it the trees of Belle and the plains of Mayo. The view is partially obscured by high ground to the west and east. Easiest way to enter this part of the parish is through Kallymore from Strade, 5 1/2 M.

A townland of the parish goes to Cough Cullin's shore. The view from here (Pollagh) of the waters of the lake, the Portloman hills and Portloman directly across, with Portloman and Drummin woods, is attractive. Strade is 1/4 M. from here. This area has a small bogland tract.

Parish of Temp. mass. Razony of Galles
Addendum. Topography.

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View from southeast in Co. Kerry: (near Strada village).
To the west the line of the East Mayo mountains with the
conical peaks of Co. Wick. In between, a broad stretch
of lowland with wooded belts. Hence and to the north-west
the Neolin range with Neolin hills dominating. There is a
glimpse of Co. Wick hills, and the Portlow hills stretch away
to the west with further off the Gullough hills dotted with
homesteads. To the north the Gosford hills, with Burren
hill in view. North east the Killarney foot hills
with Co. Wick predominant. Lowland to the east and
a glimpse of two Co. Wick mountain peaks. (View S. is blocked).