

(MCS W)

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FORM A.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

NATURAL FEATURES, ANTIQUITIES, HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.

BARONY OF BURRISHODDLE

TOWN OR VILLAGE Cape Island PARISH Cape Island COUNTY Mayo

TOPOGRAPHY

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

Cape Island lies across the mouth of Coler Bay, with channels each of an approximate width of 3 miles separating it from the mainland on both the north and south sides of the entrance. The island is now $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 miles long, and its breadth has been reduced to Portrakilly $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles. The population is approximately 350. (Continued on Page 2.)

GEOLOGY

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

The dolerite rocks of Cape Island consist of at least five groups together with a few, not too extensive, igneous intrusions. These five series may be divided as follows,

Ballytoohy Series. This series occupies the northern (see page 3).

MANSIONS, CASTLES AND ESTATES OF IMPOSING CHARACTER

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

Topography (Continued). I

The most prominent features of the landscape are two hills, Croaghmore, 520 feet in height, on the western side, and Knocknaveen, towards the eastern end of the island rising to a height of 729 feet. Both hills rise rapidly from the general level of the ground, and are separated by a fairly wide hollow, forming a gap in which connects the comparatively low-lying northern & southern areas. The coast along the north and west is formed of precipitous rocky cliffs rising to considerable elevations. One of these, at ALLAHAN, to the west of Croaghmore, reaches the height of 900 feet above sea level. The island is drained by several small streams. Two of these rise in the watershed occupying the hollow between Croaghmore and Knocknaveen; one, the Boree River, flows northward through KECARROW and MAUM, and the other southward through STRAKE, entering the sea near PITACURRY. The third large stream, the Owenmore, drains the south-eastern slopes of Croaghmore into the sea at DOGHVINAWAL. The drainage of the remainder of the island is by five or six small streams descending from Croaghmore and Knocknaveen, and two flowing through the lowland of BALLYTOOLIN MORE. There are three small lakes

on the undulating ground to the north-west of
Knocknaveen and another in the townland of Naum.
Most of the cultivated land is towards the eastern
end, while the west is exceedingly bare and
sterile. The main source of living for the
inhabitants is farming, while occasionally they
employ themselves in fishing.

Rarely does one see before the eye such a
magnificent panorama of mountain scenery as that
from the summit of Knocknaveen (729 ft.), which
lies towards the eastern end of the Island.
An easy climb of about three quarters of an
hour takes one to the top. To the south-west
is Tully Mountain, Alt na Gaighera, and in the
distance the summits of Bencullagh, Muckanagh
and Ben Gaun in Conemaclaun. Alternatively to
the east to Mullsea Mountains, Sheffry Hills,
and Conical shaped Croagh Patrick renowned
for its famous pilgrimage on "Island Sunday,"
the last Sunday in July. To the east, on a
clear day, may be seen the little islets of
Colons Bay between Westport and Newport.
Sketching from Newport is another fine view

III

This takes in Cushamcarragh, Curraun Peninsula,
 and Achill Island; while below, all around,
 is the rugged Coastline of the Island, ~~with~~ and
 the best white-washed houses of the Islanders.

Geology (continued). triangular promontory, and consists
 of Sandstones, and black and grey shales, often
 slightly indurated, and in part cleaved.

Knockmore Series:— Outcropping more than half the area
 of the Island, these beds enter into the formation of
 Croaghmore and Knocknaveen and most of the ground
 to the South of these hills. A great variety of rocks,
 a few of which are crushed and cleaved, is included
 in this group. Numerous types of coarse-grained
 and fine-grained Sandstones, grey, pink, and
 green-coloured, as well as fine-grained
 conglomerates, calcareous sandstones, and flaggy
 shales, are met with on the line of Knocknaveen.
 Croaghmore is formed of interbedded grey and
 greenish-grey flaggy Sandstones, red and purple
 shale and shaly Sandstone, red Sandstone, and
 greenish-grey pebbly grit. South of the
 Crushed Zone, which runs through the Islands
 of Strake, Kill, and Glen, almost from end
 to end of the Island, red argillaceous

Sandstone is the prevailing rock; but other varieties, as dark slate, red and green sandstone and shale, and greenish grey slate, are also found.

Crushed Zone: - These rocks consist of epidiorite, mica schist, quartzite, and quartzose conglomerate. Harbour Series. This series occupies a small area around the Harbour, in the south-east of the island. The beds consist of grey sandstones, and purple and chocolate sandstones and conglomerates.

Maun Series: - North of the great fault which runs N. N. W. across the island from the northern end of the Harbour strand, a group of red sandstones and conglomerates, the latter containing large rounded pebbles of white quartz, feldspar, and quartzite, extends over parts of the town lands of Kerasow, Maun and Paepookhy. The beds are not of very great thickness.

Cappragowee Series. On the north-west of the island, in the town lands of Cappragowee, Faunglass, Kerasow, and Maun, the series consists of grey sandstones, shales, and calcareous beds, but no limestone. The fossil forms found in this series were

molluscan shells, crinoid stems, indistinct corals,
and plant impressions.

Igneous Rocks - a very interesting band of
igneous rocks runs along the line of the Great
fault or north of Loughmore and Knockree.
The rocks contain, in places, small quantities
of the minerals malachite and copper pyrites. The
great variety of rock-types, which includes serpentine,
dolomite, brookite, lamprophyre, dolerite,
olivine-basalt etc., occurring here is attributable
to successive intrusions of igneous material into
the zone of the fracture.

The only other igneous rocks in the Island are
a few masses of epidiorite exposed in the
neighbourhood of Hill, some minor basic
intrusions in the townland of Ballytohy
Hill and Ballytohy Beg, and a small basic
dike, south of Loughmore, in the townland
of Bunnablaun.

Antiquities

Blissac Abbey (Continued from Form a.). Thomas Dillon,
Chief Justice, 1585, states that "the Dwalace of
Blissac contains a great quantity of land and divers Pris