

(Mayo East)

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY**NATURAL FEATURES, ANTIQUITIES,
HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.**

[BARONY OF

Gallen

TOWN 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. It runs stretches south-west from Lough Gillin's southern shore, to Knocknasreen at its 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 a half-mile in width. Here there are 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 drumlin-like or hog-backed character. This drift area is suitable for tillage and is not hard to work for the most part. On Lough Gillin's southern shore is a narrow band of green granite formation - the extension eastwards of the finely large irregular granite area lying to the west close south of this narrow band is a great belt and out of this rises a small rock 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 Dukes of Marlborough.

The ruins are of a plain-fashioned house, two storey, about 45' long by 16' wide internally, with a central rear passage and flanked by a small one-storey addition to one gable. Nearly are the remains of a small private chapel, ^{T shaped} ~~muscopar~~ and of internal dimensions - nave 24' by 12' and very short transept 8' 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 Marlborough who died at Marlborough Nov. 1888.

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1799. may the good God be merciful to his soul.
Requiescat in pace. —

According to the book "An Irish Gentleman" by General Maurice Moore, C.S., which deals with the life of George Henry Moore; his travel; his reading; his politics....

Pages 1 to 3. "It is related that a descendant of Sir Thomas Moore settled in Mayo and acquired lands near Killala, and it is known that in the time of William of Orange, George Moore of Killala held the title of Vice-Admiral of Connacht; his son and grandson were living in Ashbrook, near Strand Abbey, in 1777, for there is a deed and a tomb of that date.

".... we have few records of these people....."

"John Moore of Ashbrook married Jane Lynch Athy of Kinnville, and thus came into alliance with the "Lords of Galway" who had large and prosperous trading interests in Spain. Their son George, King of an adventurous spirit, joined one of the houses in Alicante made a great fortune, married an Irish-Spanish lady, one of the Penal laws refugees..... returned to Mayo in the last quarter of the eighteenth century and built a fine Georgian house on the shores of the beautiful Lough Corrib." [This is Woodhall]

"He had a long and prosperous life but in old age fortune deserted him, his eldest son John.... joined the French under Napoleon in 1808 after the victory of Waterloo John Moore was elected President of the Republic of Connacht but... a few weeks later was taken and dragged to Athlone for trial and then.... was exonerated

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to Corkobar. Weak and sleekless, he was driven along the road, and died before his trial began.

"His brother George was a philosopher and historian of the school of Gibbon..... He wrote a "History of the English Revolution" - the lives of Cardinal Alberoni and a history of the French revolution. his wife ... a grand-daughter of the first Earl of Altencourt. Of this marriage there were three sons."

The book goes on to give the lives of these three sons but principally dealing with George Henry Moore (1810-1870) who was famous in Irish politics and famous for his roustaboutism and his loves. The other two brothers Augustus, and John, sustained fatal injuries while on horseback in the field.

Colonel Maurice Moore and George Moore, the famous authors, were sons of George Henry Moore. Their lives are connected with Marshall, as Ashbrook was apparently allowed to fall into decay after the death of George Moore (who built Marshall) in 1799. Traditionally he is said to have requested burial at Ashbrook, which residence he used for a time although the chief house was Marshall. Thus, his George Moore of Ashbrook was the great-grandfather of George Moore the novelist; whose brother, Colonel Maurice Moore, is the author of the book quoted from above.

The Capt. George Moore, in memory of whom there is a slab in Templemore old church (sic antiquities), is difficult to place in the family history, and is not dealt with in Colonel Moore's book. Family motto is - "Festis cedens redire non potest".