

(Mayo North)

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FORM A.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

NATURAL FEATURES, ANTIQUITIES, HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.

BARONY OF Erris

~~TOWN~~ VILLAGE Banger-Erris PARISH Kiltane COUNTY Mayo (North)

TOPOGRAPHY

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

A little village at the feet of the mountains of the Nephin Beg Range and set between two dark, rugged hills, Banger-Erris is the chief centre of the extensive parish of Kiltane. Banger is situated approximately in the heart of the parish and the scenery of all that district around about the village and eastward past Bellacerick, comprises mainly wild mountain and moorland. The main Ballina-Belmullet road winds pleasantly through the valley of the Owenmore River from Bellacerick to Banger and river and road, running parallel for several miles, are flanked on either side by tall heath-clad hills, varying in hue from deepest purple to bright green. To the west, the land-locked waters of Blacksod Bay are the boundary and the long coast-line is one almost continuous belt of strand and sandhills. Geesala (Gweesalia) is the most convenient centre for the exploration of

GEOLOGY

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

Nothing remarkable excepting that several huge and devastating landslides have been recorded in the mountainous regions of Banger. One landslide which threatened the whole village of Glencullin, was prominently reported on in the Irish and British presses in 1931; fortunately nobody was injured on this occasion but the entire possessions of one family were lost, cattle included. In 1817, five acres of mountain bog slid down the mountainside at Laragon, sweeping away three houses and several members of one family with two soldiers of a Highland Regiment who had been staying for the night with them. The bodies were discovered some days later in Tullaghaun Bay, about twelve miles distant.

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