

## ANTIQUITIES

Abbeys, Castles, Fortresses, Round Towers, Early Churches, Sculptured Crosses, Stone Circles, Ogham Stones, Cairns, Souterrams, 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.


TURIN CASTLE In Turin. Patrick Geaney's. No right-of-way. Not in charge of O. P. W. [which is unfortunate, since the heavy masonry masonry with in time, leave this substantial antiquity a wreck. The ground floor is used as stabling.]

The building is of the high rectangular tower type of fortress. It remains, externally, approx. 45' x 35' and is perhaps 55' high.

There are two entrances to ground floor: one in the east gable, of dressed limestone, pointed arch, 6' high and 4 1/2" wide; the other in the north curtain, a wide, plain, vaulted doorway now broken at joints. This north wall has a ground floor thickness of almost 8'.

North entrance gives access to a vaulted chamber which is 21 1/2' x 18' by about 20' high (but cut stone corbels some 10' from the floor mark the floor line of a room over - access to it being by a doorway in an east partition wall). The west chamber wall (which is the castle's west curtain) is 6' 9" thick and has a wide plain vaulted embrasure, 8' high, 7' wide and 4' deep, with sill 2 1/2' above floor level. Contains a cut stone pointed loop 36" x 2 1/2" in splayed inner jambs.

The south curtain, near east partition, holds a similar embrasured loop.

The partition wall is 38" thick. In it is an opening into adjacent chamber. The opening, of cut stone, is shaped thus , being 16" high by 8 1/2" wide. At north-east angle, in partition wall, is a pointed limestone doorway 6' high and 4 1/2" wide and jambed on its eastern jamb face. Just outside this doorway and in the north-east castle angle is the spiral staircase which is well preserved except for a few treads broken and missing near the top flight. — The ground floor south-east angle has a small chamber some 7' 9" x 6' 8" x 9' high, entered by a low, rectangular, plain doorway. It is lighted by a small, circular cut stone opening through the castle's east wall whose pointed entrance has the chamber on its left. There is a stone window in the doorway's jamb at ground level which seems to have formed a window head - on it is a small carved face. (Stone is 27" x 15" x 9").


The spiral stairway is lighted by slit apertures at the different steps. It is 14 1/2" wide, rises 7 1/2"; wide and 15".

The first floor has but two rooms. One directly over the ground

(Plain sheets of foolscap paper to be used, if necessary, for recording additional information).

space between partition and east curtain - entered from stairway by a pointed, brown limestone doorway  $5\frac{1}{2}' \times 27\frac{1}{2}''$ .... the other being R. (floorless) room with vaulted ceiling, over the large ground floor chamber, and entered through a pointed limestone doorway through partition wall, from its stone-floored neighbour whose dimensions are  $16\frac{1}{4}' \times 8\frac{1}{4}' \times$  about 9' high, vaulted and having a cut stone loop  $39'' \times 3\frac{1}{2}''$  with splay head and an iron, wider loop in its north wall. There is a deep recess in the corner where partition wall meets the south curtain.

Second floor has two doorways, one of which, a plain, rectangular one, gives entrance to a stone-floored chamber which again occupies the space between partition and east curtain. It has an eastern splay loop,  $45'' \times 5''$  and has the corbels of the wooden floor above of the chamber above it - this being vaulted. The other doorway of the second floor goes into the castle living room whose floor is the vaulting over the large ground floor chamber. The living room is approx.  $22\frac{1}{2}' \times 18'$  and its ceiling, some 12' up, rests on the corbels which yet remain, the room above being vaulted over.

Just to the right of the living room entrance, in the north curtain, is a deep embrasure,  $6\frac{1}{2}'$  wide and almost 12' high (to ceiling). Its small space is broken but has underneath a series of small wall recesses averaging  $10'' \times 10'' \times 14''$  deep whose floors each protrude in a flat stone about 6" forming footbeds.  To the left right of this a pointed lead limestone doorway leads into a mural passage in the north curtain. The passage is  $37''$  wide and about 9' high and at its end has a further series of small recesses. A small loop looks out north. The passage's end is a light partition wall dividing it from a small mural compartment near the NW angle which is  $6' \times 4\frac{1}{2}'$  by 7' high, with a small pointed doorway into it from the living room. Its loop is ivy-cloaked as are many of the openings elsewhere. Near this compartment end in the west curtain is the usual embrasured loop. Also in west wall, near south curtain, is a wide, plain-featured, damaged fireplace whose hearth is 4' above the floor. The south wall has also an embrasured loop.

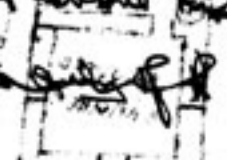
The third floor consisted of the <sup>wooden</sup> ~~plaster~~ <sup>plastered</sup> vaulted rooms (2) over the living room and its companion below and to which doorway pointed, (one destroyed) gave entrance from the stairway at a slightly higher level, a small pointed entrance gave to a mural passage situated in the north wall and directly <sup>into</sup> the mural belfry in the living room beneath.

The stairs at this point are damaged but it is possible to climb to the top of the castle which appears to have had some further construction above this level but whether parapet or compartments is impossible to tell due to a dense mass of ivy which clothes the top.

History: of the continued history of Kilmac Castle has seems to be but little account. In general it may be said that the parish of Kilmaine was a stronghold of the Burkes or De Burgo family the progenitors of which was Fitz Aldelm De Burgo who in the 12th century obtained grants in Connaught. For centuries the Burkes held sway in Mayo and Galway. Kilmaine lands were rich and local tradition says that the parish held fifteen Burkes fortresses. Occupier of Kilmac Castle in 1570/74 is given as Walter Mac Donnell. A document of 1586 has the signature of Walter Jonyu of Tournai. The name Jonyu is a corruption of Mac Seoirin later Englished to Jennings - Mac Seoirin being a Burke nick-name.

KILLERNAN CASTLE. In Killernan, land of Patrick Igge. The right of way, not in charge of D.P.W. <sup>is a public road</sup>  
 Ruins consist of two side walls and one gable. Internally is 26' x 21'. The north gable has a ground floor embrasured cut stone loop 34" x 5 1/2". The embrasure is 9' high and 7 1/2' wide. Entrance is rounded at head. The first floor has a broken embrasure with broken eyes. The upper floor has an embrasure with a double light eyes, each round headed and of cut stone.

The castle had its first floor some 15' above present ground level as shown by rubble. Second floor some 9' above this and the top compartments were some 10' high. Fragments of a good portion of the vaulted roof survives.



The west curtain wall has a broken loop embrasure similar to that of the north gable. The east curtain wall has a ground floor embrasure similar to that in the west wall. Its first floor has two embrasures each with a cut stone (limestone) round lead loop. Its vaulted flag has an embrasure with a smallish chamfered opening as inserted. A gendarme opens near the ground on the east face near north wall. The gendarme is a square tower built to the top floor. The east wall interior is a broken subject to a fact of the same depth - it had a mural passage at the right.

External height of castle approx. 40'

History: the local account except that it was a Bunkel stronghold but that some two hundred years ago it was occupied by a family called Blake. There is the story of a duel fought around that time near the castle, between a man named Miller of Milford near Kilmaine, and another called Brown. The story goes that Blake called from his castle window that the survivors must come to breakfast with him! Miller was shot and fell dead on arriving home.

1570/74. A Richard Bayne Jonyn is listed as the castle owner. In 1579 Lord Edward Fother the new President of Connaught under Elizabeth. This Milleriden castle, in the presence of the queen's edict to root out Catholicity. The castle remained Catholic throughout the centuries.

REC'D OFF CASTLE. In 1840 Hugh. No right of way. In the charge of O.P.W.

A rectangular building 35' x 20 1/2' (ext) by 20' high. upper parts destroyed. The ground floor has a small chamber 12' x 12' x 12' high. Its gable has a broken loop in an embrasure 6' wide by 7' high with sill 3' above the floor. Other gable has a plain rectangular doorway and height of 9' high. Sill 8" x 12 1/4". Each small has a loop embrasure.



The curtain wall of the castle seems to be missing. The stairway is set in the corner outside the chamber doorway. 12 steps remain and lead to the first floor on the vaulted room below. Here it is grass-grown but portions of the walls exist to a height of 7' of history here is little. Cregduff was another Bunker stronghold. John took Cregduff in the same year as he took Killeenaw (1571). The last the Jays was here, in possession of Cregduff.

Bellisnahuny Castle. In Bellisnahuny townland which is situated in the parish of Shrule but which belongs to Kilmaine. Lands of J. Kenney and J. Gaynard. The right of way not in charge of O.P.W.

A rectangular building internally 18' x 25' with part of south east corner missing. Externally 30' x 40' high. Walls 3' thick. A distinct base-castle. Had a vault roof of which fragments are adhering to walls. The west curtain has an embrasured loop 4' x 5' in an embrasure 7' x 4'. The first floor has an embrasure with a rectangular eyes (plain) and near the north gable is a rectangular recessed opening. The north gable has an embrasured loop on ground floor - similar to that of west curtain - further up is a rectangular eyes. The east wall has another ground floor embrasure and a first floor rect. eyes. The remains of the south gable show no eyes. The window-embasures seem to have been rebuilt (or built up) to form the smallish rectangular openings now visible.

History: Another Bunker castle. Occupied in 1570/74 was William Bunker. In 1578 occupied by Walter Bunker.

Local tradition ascribes the castle to one of four brothers who built four castles in the district. His name (Malachukill) queen) was Heneen O'Qualey - the townland being said to derive its name from him. The Irish name is possibly a Bunker nick-name.

BALLYBOCKRATH CASTLE In Ballybockrath, land of P. Brennan.  
This was a square (20) fortress which is now completely  
filled up to its height of about 15' by the stones from its  
destroyed upper walls. No right-of-way.

Another Burke castle. Occupied by Walter Mac Tomys  
in 1570/74. Thomas Burke owned it in 1578. Local  
tradition gives its owner as one of the four "O'Qualey"  
knights - his name being Baccen O'Qualey - perhaps  
Baccin - the same one.

ELLISTON CASTLE. In Elliston Park. Miss. Macmillan.  
No right-of-way. Not in charge of O.P.W.

All that remains is a wall which is broken but which is  
25' high and 25' wide. It is a thick and a garden  
opening runs upwards through it. Its front face height  
has a mural passage 7' high and 2 1/2' wide. There are some  
loop holes which give light to the stairway all of whose steps  
are gone. The castle had a vault roof.

1570/74 Occupier was Richard Mac Tomys. In 1578  
Walter Burke owned Elliston Castle - as well as Ballybockrath.

BUNNACROVER CASTLE. In Bunnacrover, Michael Gonnally's.  
No right-of-way. This was a 30' square fortress. All that  
remains is a wall some 20' long by 20' high and around  
it the piled debris of the rest of the building.

A Burke castle. Owned in 1586 by Mayler Burke of  
moneylender from a document signed by him.

CREEMORE CASTLE. In Creemore. T. Maughan, the R.O.W.  
remains except for a bit of wall (walled) 20' high and 10' long.  
A Burke fortress. 1570/74 owned by Edmund Boy Mac Tomys.  
In 1592 a garrison was placed in Creemore.

CLOHANS CASTLE - In Cloughmore lands. ...  
The castle has disappeared ...  
All that remains are a few large fallen blocks of masonry.  
A ruined castle 150 ft. ...  
... in the north through south ...  
... 256 sq. miles ... Cloughans Castle.

KILQUIRE CASTLE - In Kilquire - in Fort Vale. John Kilgallon's.  
Totally destroyed. Only debris ...  
The castle ... 1586 by ...

KILKEERAH CASTLE - In Kilkeeran. John Ryan's. ...  
This is not a castle ruin but rather the remains of a single-story  
residence, rectangular and perhaps 40' long by 18' wide, only  
a gable remains and some wall pits near it. Also there is a  
small building, possibly an outbuilding.

... the castle was ...  
... while crossing a lake  
... the river who was also  
... had account given very bad  
... to the Clived brothers.

KILKEA ABBEY - ...  
The church ...  
The nave was some 65' long and 25' wide - the north  
transept was longer than the south.  
All that remains now are the south transept, the west gable  
gable, and the broken ruins of the north transept.  
The nave gable has a plain rectangular doorway.

is a splay window having single light with eye head of chamfered limestone, partially vaulted up but about 5' high by 15" wide. The gable is steep pitched and perhaps 20/35 high.

The north transept is larger than its companion. It is (internally) some 37' x 15' and its walls remain for the most part, to a height of 12'. Its ground floor has many niches & a depth of several feet - niches (with stone) of its first floor are built 3' above present ground level. Its ground floor west wall has into it a set of in splayed framework. A window of cut limestone remains of this wall at its greatest height north side. The fragments of a window plain eye head west curtain. The east curtain is badly broken.

A plain arch gives from nave to south transept which is about 15' high. Its windows are 15' high and its gable somewhat less in height than the nave gable. Its gable has a splayed window of two lights, finely cut - head mould - and simple eye heads - each light about 5' x 8". The window is a small window. In it, and on the ground below, are several skulls - due to a practice of placing the skulls in the persons as they were unburied to make way for further burials in the transept. The east wall has a broken window of a window somewhat smaller than that of the gable but with similar lights and head mould.

Near the church are some slight remains of the vaulted cells of the monks. The monks garden for recreation was apparently situated off the west gable (see). A portion of this wall some 60' long yet standing. There is also a plain arch entrance and leads it a smaller entrance, leading to the west wall. The wall in front of this has disappeared.

The stone of the transept is very little appears to be known. Six James Ware gives it as having belonged to the church of St. James.

Kill is a Gallican site. It is a Gallican site. It is a Gallican site.



A single portion of church wall stands in John Duddy's of Moongagegh, near the abbey of Kell. It may have been a parish church as Moongagegh was the name of a former parish in this part of the present Kilmaine which also includes Kilmainemore and Kilmainebeg.

Church Ruins in Kilmaine village. Right-of-way. Not in charge of office of P.W. There only - approx.  $45' \times 22'$  <sup>(int.)</sup> of which the north curtain, the east gable, and a 17' length of the south curtain attached to the gable, remain to a height of about 16'.

The gable is  $41''$  thick. It has the remains of an opening some  $55''$  high and  $28''$  wide.

The portion of the south curtain contains a two-light, set limestone, chamfered, window in pointed framework. The window is  $28''$  wide - each light is  $41\frac{1}{2}''$  high by  $7''$  wide. Painted lights with slight tracery over.

In north wall and beside east gable is a plain arched entrance  $9'$  high and  $8'$  wide. The north wall is  $3'$  thick and has a destroyed opening near its western end.

This church, which is thought to have been a parish church, rests on the site of a church erected by St. Patrick. This was called "Miasoir" or "The middle church".

Church Ruins in Kiltewan. Michael Murphy's. No right-of-way. Not in charge of D.P.W.

Externally is  $34' \times 14\frac{1}{2}'$ . A small building of which a portion of a gable, and half of each side wall to a height of  $6'$ , remain.

The gable is  $27''$  thick and has a rectangular doorway  $6'$  high and  $20''$  wide with rough squared limestone jambs.

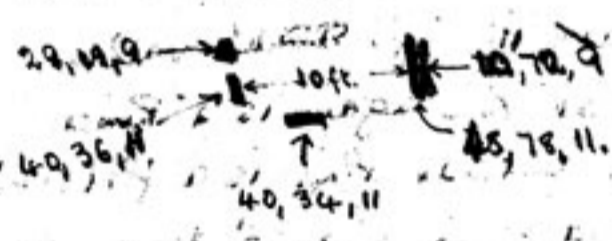
Close by is Tobars Curran. Nothing is known of the church or of the saint.

Megalithic remains in Knocknagety, land of John Hyland to right of way. Apparently the remains of a chambered cairn from which the cairn stones and many of the best stones have been removed. Eight flags, one of which is the main remnant of a chamber which is some 17 feet long and averages 5' wide. The stones average 3' high, 3' long and 9" thick. A few flags outside the chamber still exist but the whole is much covered in scrub and brush and difficult to survey.

Megalithic remains in Ballyhully. No right of way.

James Mc Tighe.

Remnants of chambered cairn which has been denuded of the stones. Chamber stones as follows: no main of height, breadth and thickness - in inches. Chamber 15-10' long.



LISSNATREANDUFF: In Ballymartin. In John Heneghans' to right of way. This is the largest stone fort in Co. Mayo. Has an inner wall with a raised circumscissile vallum which is 385 yards around its top. The next vallum ring is some 20' high and averages 10' in height - the foss between is 10' wide at ground level.

The second foss is 8' wide and the vallum averages 8' in height on its inner side - it is 10' high over the level of the outer foss which is 10' wide - the outer vallum is 6' 5 8" high.



Souterrain in Ballyduffagee. No light of way. Partly closed, but said to contain chambers big enough to stand upon. One said said it was used as a

Souterrain in Clontarf Reg. J. Hyland. No light of way. Single passage type in a fort of 20 yds. diameter.

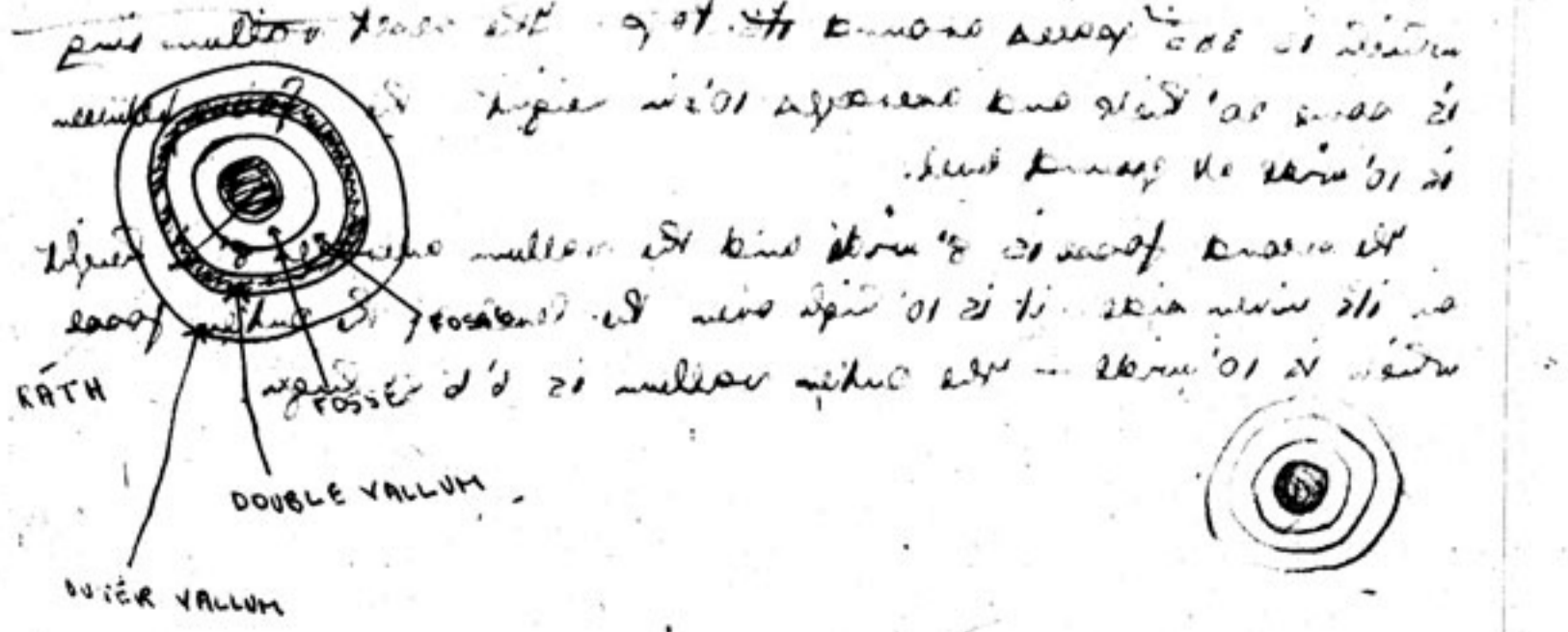
Souterrain in P. Hyland. Single passage type.

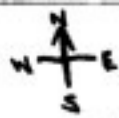
Souterrain in P. Hyland. Single passage.

Souterrain in Ballyhenry in C. O'Donoghue's. Single passage.

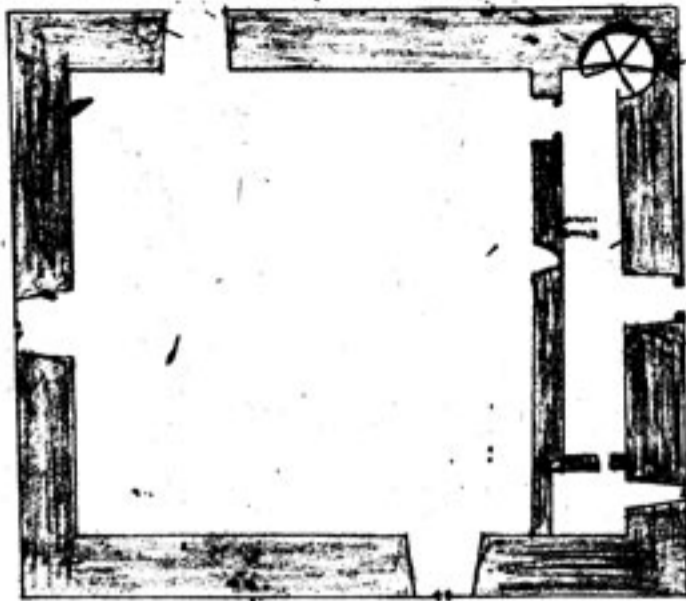
Souterrain in Kilquinn. Michael Hayes. Checked at mouth but said to contain a sizable chamber.

Large fort in Ballyhenry. One in. No light of way. Partly closed, but a good portion of the stone fort. It is 8' over R inside fosse that includes its enclosing vallum also 8' high. R. second fosse has a 10' high double vallum. i.e. Here is only a slight fosse. Outside this again is a fosse whose vallum is some 10' high. Outside this is a flat ditch centred some 3' above outer ground level and 20' deep. R. edge of which has a slight vallum and portion of a ring of flag earth embedded which strengthened it. There are many holes showing the fort.



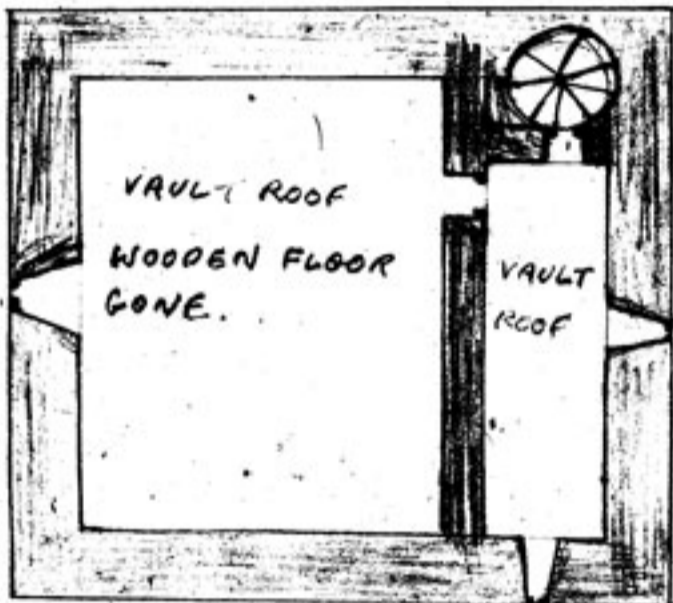


TURIN CASTLE. [KILMAINE PARISH. CO. MAYO (1713/1908)]

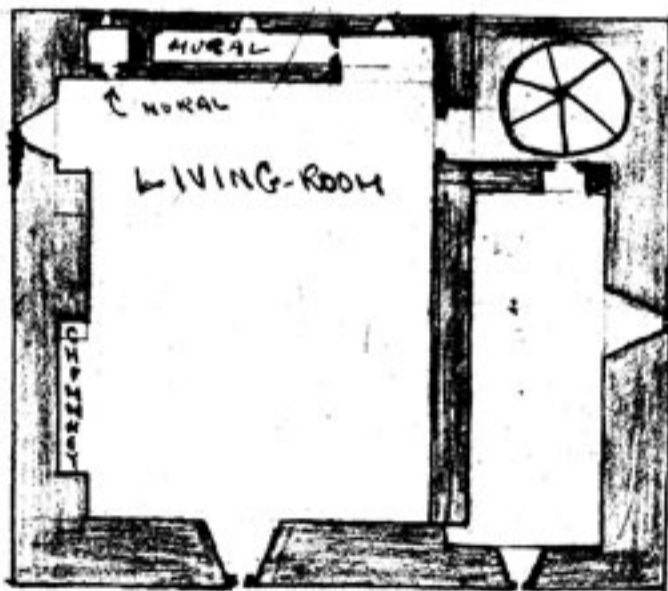


STAIR TURRET IS 7' WIDE.

TURIN CASTLE. ROUGH DIAGRAM — GROUND FLOOR PLAN. (NOT TO SCALE)



FIRST FLOOR — ROUGH DIAGRAM.



SECOND FLOOR PLAN.



2ND FLOOR

Kilmaine, Co. Mayo.

(Extracted from list filed with Faughnan's letter of 13/9/45. No 6)

"Bunnacrower bas., also called moneycower, which was its old name" (note taken from Journal of Galway A. & H. Socy. Vol III (1903/4) p. 84. By M. Blake)

Theobald Burke of moneycower in 1636. His son John settled at Kill, Co. Kildare after 1660. His grandson, John Burke, of Kill, Palmerstown moneycower (which he got back in 1751 into family possession) was h.t. for Naasbrough for many years. Became Baron Naas in 1776 + Viscount Mayo of moneycower in 1781 + Earl of Mayo 1785. Died 1790. Present Earl of Mayo is his direct descendant."