

(Mayo 1886)

17A/31(1)

FORM A.

I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

NATURAL FEATURES, ANTIQUITIES,
HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.BARONY OF CastellTOWN OR VILLAGE Ballyhenris PARISH Annagh COUNTY Mayo

TOPOGRAPHY

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

The parish extends from 2 miles west of Ballyhenris to the county boundary (Mayo/Roscommon) 3/4 to 4 miles east of the town. The county line forms the parish boundary for most of its eastern and north-eastern limit. The parish runs 2 miles north of Ballyhenris and 2 miles south of it.

Generally the parish is not interesting. The soil is one of rolling hills green-topped and tilled, low ridges backing flatter areas; stretches of bog with low and few tiny lakes; and a few larger lakes. Of the latter, principal are Ward Lake, Shallow and Seed Field, Laker Lake and Begins Lake. What tree growth there is is of a stunted variety. The town of

GEOLOGY

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

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Ballyhenris lies on a limestone area. The parish itself is all of limestone, drift or peat covered, except for a portion towards the south and south-east of the town which takes in part of a belt (isolated) but runs east through Callinagh and is altogether about 7 miles long and 1 to 2 miles wide. This belt is of Old Red Sandstone.

Principal geological feature in the area is the presence of many small eskers and stream eskers. These sand and gravel ridges sometimes are shaly and shaly, as again seen in low ridges sometimes broken across bar with.

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.

Topography Page 2.

Ballyhenris is a busy centre on the little Aghora River (or Ballyhenris R.). The town is neat enough and stands on a crossroads; of interest are its Augustinian Abbey on the hill directly overlooking the town, its well-kept convent and its fine Gothic church.

Views are not frequent. One place gives the best view is from the Blacklaghoy Agham Stone on the hill a near view is obtained of Ballyhenris to the south with a wide stretch beyond and to the east and west of it of rolling country - green fields and innumerable homesteads. Just to the east is Island Lake and directly north of it, Manner Lake. On the eastern shores of both loughs, the hills of Aghamore rise up from the water's edge. Further east are Loughs Cabers and Toghers and far away to the north is Duffin Pass. North west are the slopes of these Slieve and far away to the west is Crough Patrick with attendant peaks. This view point is about 2 miles from Ballyhenris. Other trips from the town are: Holywell 2 miles - Blacklow (county boundary) 4 miles - Church Peck 2 miles.