**Summary text Robeen and Kilcommon**

* **Amenities Hollymount**

Population in 1945 was 210, 40 houses in the village. Little or no amenities listed. There were no schools. The only public building of note was the Protestant church. Catholic services held at Roundfort.

* **Amenities Roundfort**

Population in 1945 of just 50. Village consisted of only 10 houses. Only building of consequence was the Catholic church. Only other amenity listed was Roundfort National School.

* **Antiquities**

There is a substantial list of antiquities in the survey for Robeen and Kilcommon parishes. These include:

Ruins of a number of castles believed to have been strongholds of the Burke family: -

 Robeen Castle; castle ruins in Coolcon, later belonging to the Blake family; castle ruins in Castle Villa; Hags Castle in Lough Carra; foundation traces of a castle in Bellanaloob townland, taken from the burkes by Sir Edward Fitton, first president of Connaught in 1585 and subsequently acquired by Henry Bingham.

Church ruins in annies townland to have been a Benedictine convent established by MacWilliam, de Burgo chief. Subsequently passed to the Franciscans and Augustinians. Suppressed by the 1st Earl of Clanricarde.

Church remnants in Robeen.

Teampleen or 2Little church” in Bellanaloob

Church ruins in Kilcommon graveyard. Probably a parish church.

Remnants of church in Creggawatta.

Brownstown House ruins: - Residence of Browne family. Unoccupied for sixty years prior to the survey.

Frenchgrove house ruins: - Originally residence of the Blake family. Subsequently owned by French and later still by Eager.

Bloomfield House ruins: - formerly the residence of the Ruttledge family. Sold to Land Commission.

Cashel in Newbrook

Fort in Carras

Traces of church in Kiltaugharaun.

Holy wells in Roos and Ballywalter townlands

Model agricultural college at Kilrush, mentioned by Lewis.

* **Curiosities, customs**

There are two items mentioned in the Robeen and Kilcommon survey under the heading of “Curiosities”. A building in Bellanaloob townland resembling a round tower, which is said to have been a windmill or a pigeon house used by Lord Clanmorris and a fifteen feet high monument in a field near Hollymount House. The latter is said to mark the grave of a favourite hunter of Lindsay Fitzpatrick of Hollymount House.

Under the heading of “Customs”, a few calendar, marriage and funeral customs are listed.

* **Historic sites, houses, distinguished personalities**

Under the heading of “Historic houses”, there is an account of the history of Newbrook House, residence of Lord Clanmorris, built by Henry Bingham in the late 1600s.

Noted personalities from or associated with the Robeen – Kilcommon area include the singers Delia Murphy and her sister, Angela; Archbishop Vesey who built a church in Hollymount in 1688 and is buried there and Rev. Porter, also buried in Hollymount, who died assisting Famine victims.

* **Natural features**

The Robeen – Kilcommon area is described by the surveyor as “pleasant if not scenically outstanding”. The landscape is predominantly composed of limestone. He mentions that clay suitable for pottery could be found near Hollymount and that pottery objects were once made there. The main geographical features of the area are the Robe river and Lough Carra.

* **Sports and games**

Sports in the parishes of Robeen and Kilcommon included angling on Lough Carra, River Robe and Carras Lake; shooting, Hollymount G.A.A club and handball.