**Bekan Overview**

* **Amenities**

Bekan is a predominantly rural parish with just one village, Bekan, which had a population of just 60 at the time of the survey in 1944. Understandably, amenities were very few apart from the catholic church, post office and primary schools.

* **Antiquities**

Antiquities listed in the survey for Bekan parish include:

* Diseart Bekan: - Stone heap in church grounds, Bekan, traditionally believed to have come from the cell of St. Becanus, founder of the parish.
* Megalithic structure in Parthing. Known as the “Cromlech on Greenwood Hill”
* Souterrains in Larganboy, Lassaney and Reask townlands.
* Fort known as “Liosbawn” in Erriff townland.

There is also a description of a megalith in the townland of Feamore, located according to the surveyor on the border of Bekan and Kilvine parishes, though in the Ordnance survey, the Feamore townland is in the parish of Annagh.

* **Customs**

This section of the Bekan survey lists a number of calendar customs and customs associated with births, marriages and deaths. The wakes held in the area are described as “quiet and decorous”. Some other superstitions and cures are also mentioned.

* **Historic sites**

It is claimed traditionally that Friar Jordan, a martyred priest from the 17th century, was killed saying mass in Red Park in Bekan parish. The surveyor notes that Annagh parish also claims this priest.

St. Becanus, founder of the parish is supposed to be buried at Bekan.

* **Natural features.**

Bekan parish is described by the surveyor as scenically somewhat uninteresting. The only features mentioned as belonging or partially belonging to the parish are the lakes Bekan, Mannin and Cullentragh.

* **Sports and games**

The only sports listed for Bekan parish are fishing in Mannin, Bekan and Cullentragh lakes and shooting throughout the parish. There were no sports clubs at the time.

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