

ANTIQUITIES

Page 5

Abbeys, Castles, Fortresses, Round Towers, Early Churches, Sculptured Crosses, Stone Circles, Ogham Stones, Cairns, Souterrains, Pillar Stones, Cromlechs, Forts, Raths, 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.

Inverlough Church - Round Tower.

Situated in the Vicarage of Inverlough about 5 miles N.E. of Castlebar on the main Castlebar - Dúnfreen road.

It is uniform in design, duly orientated, with spacious chancel and side wings. It has, apparently, being subjected to some medieval restoration, but from its plan and style it is clearly of an earlier date than the chancels of the 12th Century & 13th Century. The chancel was lighted by three round-headed or Romanesque windows. There are three more down the aisle, and all the windows are arched. The eastern doorway has a double arch, one depressed in early Romanesque style. Joist-Loles just above the windows extend all around this main portion of the building. The north wing

(Plain sheets of foolscap paper to be used, if necessary, for recording additional information). see page 5

Parish: Turrough.

Barony: 1.

CARRA.

Geology (Contd)

fold which joins the Ox Mountains. The west side is bounded by a large irregular mass of quartzites and slists. The scenery is bold as Porton, on the neck separating Lough Cor for Lough Cullin, and is very picturesque, resembling that of Connemara Lakes.

Antiquities

Turrough Church - Round Tower (Contd)

is entered by a wide archway of primitive style. In the upper portion there are three rectangular windows with flag lintels and post-loops run around under the level of the windows; in the lower part there is looking eastward a mullioned rectangular window with a rounded loop of plain style. The window looking northward is opened like the rest and round-leaved. The south-wing is modernised; the entrance

see page 4

arch and South window are of carved
 stone, but the three rectangular windows
 in the upper portion over the porch - Lokes
 are of the same size and style as those
 in the North wing. There is here a recess
 for an altar of an ancient host, and two
 small Lokes for altar requisites and a
 carved holy-water stop. This wing has
 been used as a place for a mausoleum
 for the Fitzgerald family. Near the mentioned
 window inside the church is the large
 crucifixion slab, and outside inserted in
 the western wall is a small panel in
 which the cross is in alto-relievo, and
 the figure on the cross again in relief
 and two raised figures on a level
 with our Davison's figure. The date,
 1025, is on the under edge. The 'o'
 is very plain, but slightly worn, and
 the whole panel is very ancient in
 appearance. The window has a well
 moulded ornate hood quite different
 from the other hood - moulding on
 drip - stone on E side. See page 50

Parish: Turrough.

Barony: -

Area.

The Round Tower which is a prominent feature of the landscape with its conical roof 70 ft high, stands on the south-west angle of the church. It tapers upwards in the usual style with mathematical precision. Four windows with inclined sides ending in a round-lead are situated under the coping of the roof, and a similar window is seen over a square doorway near the angle of the south wing of the church. There are square loop-holes at intervals in the exterior sides. It is stated that Turrough belonged to the end of the thirteenth or beginning of the fourteenth century - both church & tower from the similarity of the masonry and of this style and proximity are apparently local.

Thomas through Connacht in 1749 under Rev. Hon. Wm. Burdon describes the tower as

found "This Tower is Seventy feet high,
 and exceeds in diameter the Generalities of
 this kind of building since the diameter
 within is nine feet, the walls five feet,
~~thus~~ thus the whole diameter is nineteen
 feet. The door is fourteen feet from the
 ground and out of reach for measuring.
 The church seems more modern, as has
 the date 1625 on it. It is built facing
 the Tower, both of basaltic stone. It
 lies in the Parish of Culla five miles
 from Castlebar." The first mention of
 Durlough is that spoken by Rice Han
 (see Impartial Life of St. Patrick) and refers
 to Durlough (St. Patrick's well) were
 also about a church founded by St. Patrick
 — the church was a bone of contention
 between Aengus and Tuan for hundreds
 of years. There is no trace of this
 church now. The reference is "Patrick
 came to the County of the Corcu-Tenre
 see page 15

Parish: - Turolough.

Barony: - CARRA.

to the well of Din in which he baptised
 many thousands and so founded three
 churches." Apart from tradition the first
 authentic reference to Turolough is found
 in the Annals of Clonmacnoise. In 1210 "There
 was a great Convocation of the Clergie of
 Connaught before the bishopp of Twayme, to
 make constitutions, for the taking away the
^{Termon} ~~TERMINE~~ lands ^{OR} ~~of~~ ^{Coarb} ~~of~~ ^{Coarb} lands, and annexing
 them to the bishoppicks of the diocess where
 they lay, where the towarb of St. Patrick,
 the towarb of St. Brandon, the towarb of
 St. Quellan, and the towarb of St. Feline
 with many others appeared. This charge
 gave rise to disputes - Felix O' Ruadain,
 arch bishop of Tuam complained that the
 arch bishop of Armagh & Eugene M. Gillivick
 had deprived him of his churches among
 them being Turolough "built and
 consecrated by his predecessors." The
 See page 8

dispute about Turlough and the other
 eight Patrician foundations was referred to
 Pope Innocent III and his successors,
 Honorius III decided "that Tuar had not
 being despoiled of the bishoprics, and as to
 the churches it was declared that the
 archbishop of Tuar had only episcopal
 rights in them and must not usurp
 any others." The dispute continued and
 under 1241 he died in the Annals of Loch
 Lein the following :- "Peace was made by
 the Council of Patrick with the three bishops
 of Connaught, and with the other bishops
 likewise, on account of Patrick's land in
 Connaught. The dispute between Thomagh
 and Tuar was finally settled with regard
 to the except Turlough church lands in
 1351 when Fitzralph, the Primate, by
 the authority of Pope Clement VI given
 at Avignon, made an exchange of
 lands with the Connaught prelates.
 See page 8.

Page 2

Cant. 1114(8)

Parish of Turlough.

Barony of

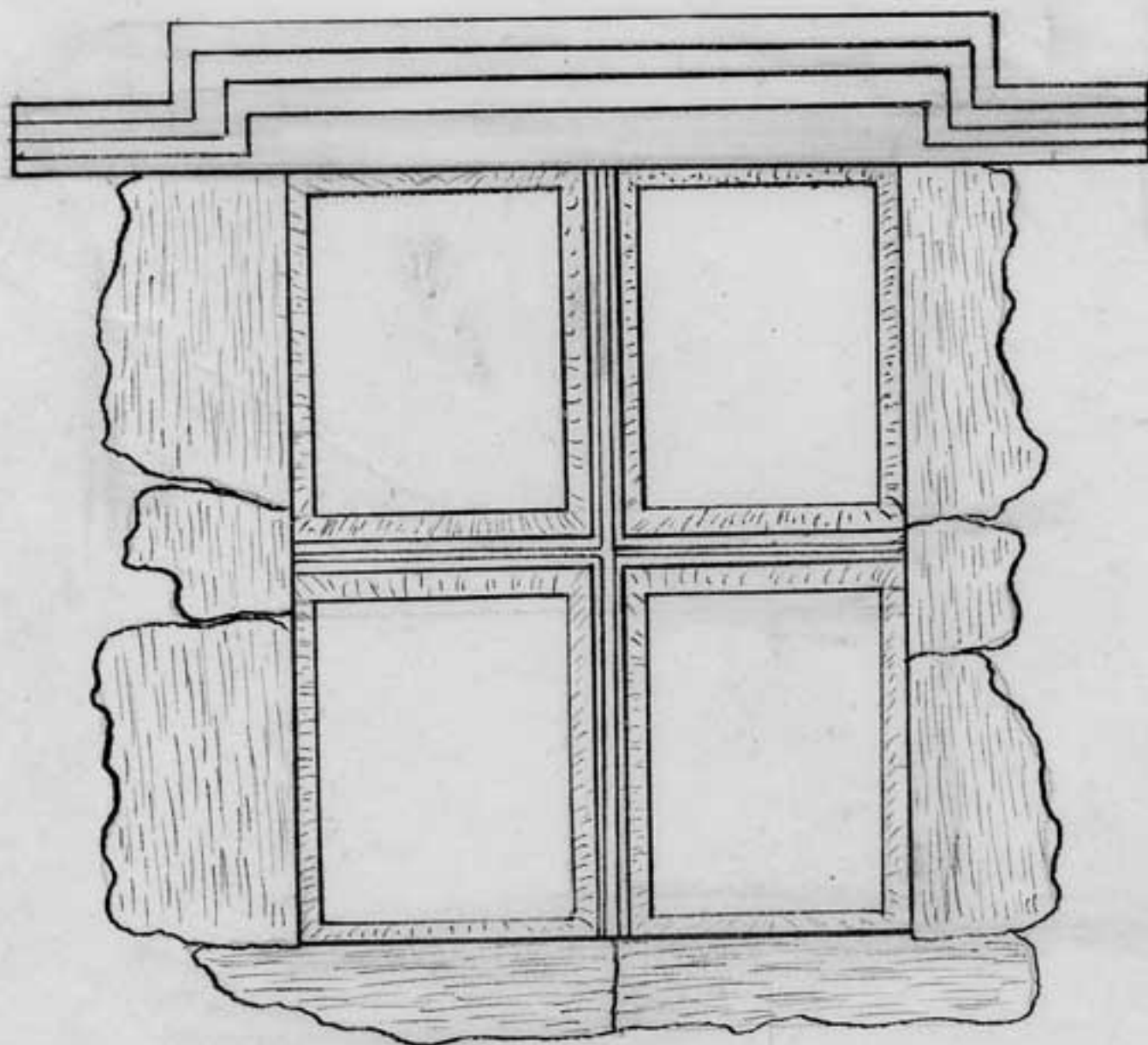
CARRA.

In 1365 Pincate Giles Sweetman appointed a Seneschal or Steward over Patrick's lands in Turlough. The Arch Bishop of Armagh revived his claim in the 16th Century when it is stated he gave Henry Turnor a lease of the Manor of Turlough and the Territory of Tuath Trimm. According to Calendar of St. Pops. Ireland 1633-1647. p. 109. Walter Bourke of Turlough was holding them in 1635 as his inheritance. Thus the Archbishop of Tuam to whom the Archbishopric of Armagh's rights had passed had by the close of the 16th Century parted with all his rights in Turlough. There are a few other historic references to Turlough. By order of Pope Clement 7 in 1306, a valuation of seventy-seven churches in Tuam Archdiocese was made. Turlough was valued at a taxable capacity of £2.0.0. When Arch Bishop Beckin made his visitation in

1888-1889 " Torlacka was voided by

Reason of waste."

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TUROUGH ABBEY.

Nichols.