

ANTIQUITIES

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

Kiltane Abbey.

About three miles west of Banger, to the left of the road leading to Geesala, is the old disused graveyard of Kiltane, in which are the ruins of the old Abbey named Cill tSeadna, now Kiltane. The history of this ruin seems clouded in obscurity but it is believed to be a seventh century foundation. I understand that this is the Kiltane which, with Cill Orlann and Cill Eanna, was erected in one night. As usual with most of the old graveyards in this part of Mayo, it is impossible to properly inspect any old remains because of the impenetrable tangle of tall nettles and undergrowth but so far as I could judge, the building was about thirty feet long or upwards of forty feet and about eighteen feet wide. The roof of course, has disappeared but the east gable and both side walls are almost intact. The latter are about fourteen feet high and the west gable has disappeared completely. There is one high, slit-like window in the standing gable and a smaller one on the south wall. The burial ground and ruin are in the care of the Board of Health, the caretaker being Mr Michael MacAndrew, Kiltane.