**Text Summary Annagh**

* **Accommodation**

Accommodation and catering facilities listed for the parish of Annagh include the Central Hotel Ballyhaunis and a few boarding houses and restaurants.

* **Amenities and general information.**

This section of the survey for Annagh parish lists the various amenities in Ballyhaunis town, population at the time, 1123. Under the heading of “Important public buildings” there are detailed descriptions of St. Patrick’s church and the church of the Augustinian Abbey. Included in the list of amenities are 3 dance halls, cinema and branch of Mayo library service in the parochial hall, national school, Convent of Mercy and Vocational School. Also, there are brief notes on the water supply and sewage system.

* **Antiquities**

There are numerous antiquities described in this section of the survey for Annagh parish:

* Remnants of a church in townland of Holywell. May have been a Franciscan church built on site where St. Patrick reputedly built a church. Close by is a holy well, Tobar Mucna, also associated with St. Patrick
* Ogham Stone at Bracklaghboy. The surveyor also included a photograph of this.
* Megalithic structure at Grallagh, apparently a burial chamber.
* Lios in Bargarriff
* Souterrains in Brackloon and Carrowkeel
* Island Castle: situated in Island townland. Scacely deserving of the name “Castle”. Believed to have been built by a branch of the MacCostello clan in the 17th century.
* Cave townland: a mound which is supposed to be the burial place of a cholera victim during the Famine.
* Gurteen: remnants of a burial chamber discovered by Ballyhaunis Historical and Archaelogical Society in 1933.
* Kilmannin townland: there was supposed to have been a church erected by St. Patrick and subsequently replaced by a Franciscan church. However, no traces remain. There is a children’s burial ground nearby.
* Augustinian Abbey: surveyor outlines the history of the abbey from its foundation by Jordan Duff MacCostello in 1348. It was burned by Cromwellian soldiers in 1649. The church was restored in 1937/38 by Rev. Fr. Mansfield. The establishment of the monastery marked the beginnings of the town of Ballyhaunis. Included here are mentions of two carved stones and the Dunmore or Queally chalice.
* **Historic sites**

Listed here are some notable figures associated with Ballyhaunis. These include:

* Rev. Fulgentius Jordan, prior of the Augustinian Abbey, martyred in 1642, and buried in the Abbey.
* Bernard O’Gara, Archbishop of Tuam, resided in the abbey and erected a memorial to his father in 1739. There are brief notes on the history of the O’Gara family.
* Lord Dillon, who converted to Protestantism in 1769 in order to hold onto hislands, is buried in the abbey.
* William Burke of Murrisk Abbey resided in the Augustinian Abbey in 1770. He was author of “The Lament for Murrisk”
* Rev. J. O’Neill was prior of the abbey in 1811
* Bishop Heavey of Cairins, Queensland, Australia was born in Ballyhaunis.
* **Curiosities, customs, patterns**

Included in this section of the survey for Annagh parish are the following:

* Holy stone of Carrowkeel and the beliefs associated with it.
* Grave stone with inscription in the Augustinian Abbey cemetery
* Patterns at Tobar Mucna and in Ballyhaunis. The latter to commemorate the founding of the Augustinian Abbey.
* Various customs and superstitions relating to births, marriages and deaths.
* **Natural features**

This section contains a brief description of the landscape of Annagh parish, which is described as “scenically, not very interesting”. The main geological features are several small lakes and eskers.

* **Sports and games**

Sporting attractions in Annagh parish include angling on the Aglora river and on Baheer and Island lakes and shooting in various areas. There is mention of a race meeting which used to be held at Tooraree, but discontinued by the time of the survey. Sports clubs mentioned are Ballyhaunis Boxing Club and Ballyhaunis G.A.A. Club.