|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Reference No.** | **Description** |
| **ITA/1** | *MAYO WEST* |
| **ITA/1/1(1-96)** | *Parish*: Achill Island *Barony:* [None given – Burrishoole] *Includes:* Under geology mention of an amethyst quarry. Major Freyer’s guest house, Corrymore House, stands on the site of the dwelling of the “infamous Captain Boycott”. There was a tomato farm at Bunnacurry run by Michael Gallagher. Spinning was still widespread in the cottages, Michael MacGreal of Askil “does weaving for the locality in winter”. The shooting of grouse at Keel “is forbidden for some seasons to come so as to improve the stock”. St Patrick’s Day was the big annual event on the island “Everyone turns out for a sort of Pattern. The Dooagh and Keel Fife & Drum bands have a sort of Church parade & lead the fun for the rest of the day. There are ‘standings’ set up to sell all manner of goods”. Three villages and six resorts (Keel, Dooagh, Dugort, Ashleam, Dooniver and Dooega) are described in Forms C and D. With regard to accommodation the surveyor wrote that Corrymore House, owned by Major Freyer, was managed in a rather peculiar manner - “The Major wants only young people or those who ‘are young in spirit’ or those to whom he takes a liking. While he does not wish his place to be advertised as a hotel, he is nevertheless anxious that it become known to those who fulfil the above conditions”.Also included are 37 photographs of sites such as St Colman’s knitting industry Dooagh; open air theatre at Corrymore House; Kildownet Castle; megalithic tombs; modern Irish Romanesque church at Achill Sound; Dunbunafahy promontory porch; Tobar Naoimph Colainn at Slievemore; Dooega village; ruins of Coast Guard Signal Tower on east shoulder of Croaghan Mountain; striped fields near the Valley; stone altar of Penal Days at Keem Bay. There are 8 pen and ink drawings of implements such as a turf spade, a four poster bed, a cottage, a cray fish pot, etc.*Surveyor:* M.J.B. O’Kelly*Date:* August 1942*Items:* 33 forms, 17 loose pages, 37 photographs, 8 pen and ink drawings, 1 envelope |
| **ITA/1/2(1-19)** | *Parish:* Aghagower *Barony:* Burrishoole*Includes:* Details of fishing on 13 lakes and rivers.*Surveyor:* Conor O’Brien*Date:* September 1943*Items:* 16 forms, 2 loose pages |
| **ITA/1/3(1-24)** | *Parish:* Aglish/Castlebar, Ballyheane & Breaghwy *Barony:* Carra*Includes:* Detailed descriptions of the town of Castlebar with street map; the French Invasion of 1798; historic sites, including a drawing of the French Hill monument and accounts of local personalities, such as Sir Martin Archer Shea [portrait painter], Charles O’Malley, Archbishop Gilmartin of Tuam, William Brett an expert on church painting, Margaret Burke Sheridan etc. Later note refers to the cinema in Castlebar being destroyed by fire in March 1948.*Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* August 1945*Items:* 8 forms, 16 loose pages |
| **ITA/1/4(1-46)** | *Parish:* Aughaval/Westport *Barony:* Murrisk*Includes:* Description of the progress of businesses in the town of Westport, including the clog factory. Angling details were given and references to grouse and other shooting in the locality. There are references to Finmacool’s grave and to the possibility of James Hardiman, Dr Gilbert of Gilbert and Sullivan fame and Mrs Roberts, mother of Lord Roberts, all having been born in Westport. Also included are photographs of Westport Rectory (built 1798) residence of George A. Birmingham, (Canon Hannay) and of the Church of Ireland, a postcard of Westport House, drawings of Murrisk Abbey and Aughaval Old Church.*Surveyor:* M. Mulligan*Date:* June 1944*Items:* 14 forms, 25 loose pages, 2 photographs, 1 postcard, 3 pages of drawings, 1 envelope |
| **ITA/1/5(1-13)** | *Parish:* Burriscarra *Barony:* Carra*Includes:* Long descriptions of the history and location of old castles and abbeys of the parish with some drawings, Castlecarra, Castlebourke, Ballintober Abbey, Burriscarra Abbey, etc. References to seven Famine graves in Tawnagry, the ruins of Kinury [Kinnewry] House and the ghost of Crotty, Colonel James McDonnell of Carrownacon and the tradition that Sean na Sagart (Penal priest hunter) was buried in Ballintober graveyard. Also information from Joseph Hone’s book about *The Moores of Moorehall* (1939).*Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* Aug 1945*Items:* 3 forms, 10 loose pages |
| **ITA/1/6(1-54)** | *Parish:* Burrishoole *Barony:* Burrishoole*Includes:* Long description of local antiquities including Burrishoole Abbey and Rockfleet Castle. Burrishoole House is described as an “example of pseudo or imitation Tudor architecture” no more than 100 years old, home of Ernie O’Malley. Descriptions of amenities in the town of Newport and the seaside resort of Mallaranny and of the folk culture of the locality, including folk medicine and the story of Fr. Manus Sweeney. Tourist accommodation available at 2 hotels in Newport and 3 hotels in Mallaranny.Also includes 27 photographs, mainly of Burrishoole Abbey, but also of the monument erected to Fr. Manus McSweeney, St Dominic’s Well, quern stones at Burrishoole House, Rockfleet Castle, etc. 6 pen and ink drawings of Burrishoole Abbey; megalithic tomb, Slievemore, Achill; Liosmore Fort; fort and souterrains in Shanvallyhugh townland; St Dominic’s Well. *Surveyor:* Michael J.B. O’Kelly*Date:* September 1942*Items:* 10 forms, 13 loose pages, 27 photographs, 7 pen and ink drawings, 1 envelope  |
| **ITA/1/7(1-37)** | *Parish:* Clare Island *Barony:* Burrishoole*Includes:* 10 pen and ink drawings of Clare Abbey and Tempull Phadruig on Caher Island and Inisturk Island on butter paper.*Surveyor:* M. Mulligan*Date:* April 1944*Items:* 9 forms, 18 loose pages, 10 pen and ink drawings |
| **ITA/1/8(1-10)** | *Parish:* Islandeady *Barony:* Carra*Includes:* Under the heading Curiosities information about the Brownes of Rahins and the cenotaph built in memory of Maria O’Donel Browne in 1809.*Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* September 1945*Items:* 4 forms, 6 loose pages  |
| **ITA/1/9(1-11)** | *Parish:* Keelogues *Barony:* Carra*Includes:* Much information about the Bourkes and FitzGeralds and their association with the parish, the village of Ballyvary consisted of 29 households.*Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* April 1945*Items:* 5 forms, 6 loose pages |
| **ITA/1/10(1-28)** | *Parish:* Kilgeever *Barony:* Murrisk*Includes:* Description of a walk from Louisburgh to Old Head and a cycle run to Doo Lough and Delphi (13 miles). 11 forms describe the fishing on the various lakes and rivers, such as Glencullin. Old Head Hotel with 15 bedrooms was one of 3 hotels in the parish. Also includes 5 pen and ink drawings mainly of Kilgeever Old Church.*Surveyor:* M. Mulligan*Date:* May 1944*Items:* 15 forms, 8 loose pages, 5 pen and ink drawings |
| **ITA/1/11(1-14)** | *Parish:* Kilmeena *Barony:* Burrishoole*Includes:* Long descriptions of the antiquities and battles of the parish. Westport Golf course (9 holes) was within the parish boundaries. A letter from M. Mulligan, The Erris Hotel, Castlebar, to ‘Dear Sir’ enclosing the complete survey for Kilmeena (July 1944) and an ink drawing of Kilmeena Old Church is also included. *Surveyor:* M. Mulligan*Date:* July 1944*Items:* 3 forms, 10 loose pages, 1 page of drawings |
| **ITA/1/12(1-15)** | *Parish:* Knock *Barony:* Murrisk*Includes:* Reference to how the pilgrimages to the Shrine have done much for the development of the village. Includes a typed page regarding the conveyance and accommodation of pilgrims at Knock and the inscription from the 1798 memorial in the village. The village had 2 hotels each one providing 4 guest bedrooms.Also includes a pen and ink drawing of the north sidewall of Knock Old Church and 1 photograph of the village of Knock.*Surveyor:* M. Mulligan*Date:* March 1945*Items:* 4 forms, 8 loose pages, 1 drawing, 1 photograph, 1 envelope |
| **ITA/1/13(1-10)** | *Parish:* Mayo Abbey *Barony:* Carra*Includes:* Plenty of information about antiquities largely taken from Rev T. Brett’s *Mayo of the Saxons**Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* April 1945*Items:* 3 forms, 7 loose pages |
| **ITA/1/14(1-17)** | *Parish:* Turlough *Barony:* Carra*Includes:* Reference to Turlough show and gymkhana and a pen and ink drawing of Turlough Abbey window. The village was described as “charming”.*Surveyor:* M. Mulligan*Date:* March 1945*Items:* 7 forms, 9 loose pages, 1 drawing |
| **ITA/2** | *MAYO NORTH* |
| **ITA/2/1(1-9)** | *Parish:* Addergoole *Barony:* Tirawley*Includes:* References to Massbrook Demesne; Castlehill House; the spinning wheel been used extensively; the erection in 1937 of a monument to Fr. Conroy, who was executed in 1798, in the village of Lahardane at the expense of a patriotic parishioner Michael Timony. Tubbernaveen [Tobernaveen] was the birthplace of John McHale (later Archbishop of Tuam) in 1789.*Surveyor:* Conor O’Brien*Date:* October 1942*Items:* 7 forms, 2 loose pages |
| **ITA/2/2(1-5)** | *Parish:* Ardagh *Barony:* Tirawley*Includes:* References to an old church at Castle Gore erected by Colonel Cuffe and only used once; Deel Castle; Rappa Castle; Mr F. Rowlette of Netley Park House, who was master of the North Mayo Hunt Club.*Surveyor:* Conor O’Brien*Date:* August 1942*Items:* 4 forms, 1 loose page |
| **ITA/2/3(1-7)** | *Parish:* Backs *Barony:* Tirawley*Includes:* References to Mount Falcon built in 1876 by the Knox family and purchased “a few years ago” by Major Aldridge; Coolcronan was erected in 1860 by the Knox Gores, its “present owner Mr E.M. Pery Knox Gore now lives in England”; Carramore House was originally owned by the Vaughan family, but was now a guest house the property of Mrs F.E.L. Reid. It contained a library of 3,000 books. There were three dance halls in the parish and a boxing club at Knockmore. There were hotels in the locality at Cloghans, Pontoon and Knockmore.*Surveyor:* Conor O’Brien*Date:* August 1942*Items:* 6 forms, 1 loose page |
| **ITA/2/4(1-12)** | *Parish:* Ballycastle  *Barony:* Tirawley*Includes:* References to caves and puffing holes along the shore line. Films were shown once a fortnight at the dance hall “before petrol restrictions”. There was good sea fishing. Mr Tom McDonnell, Glencalry Lodge, Belderg, owned 8,000 acres of rough shooting and there was some tourist accommodation in the locality. *Surveyor:* Conor O’Brien*Date:* June 1943*Items:* 10 forms, 2 loose pages |
| **ITA/2/5(1-33)** | *Parish:* Ballycroy *Barony:* Erris*Includes:* Reference to scenic views located in the south of the parish, much of the area north of Mallaranny “is a wild and bleak uncultivated moor”. 15 photographs of megalithic tombs, stone crosses and other structures mainly at Castlehill and Claggan; 8 pen and ink drawings of tombs, stone crosses, the church at Fahy and a holy well at Bunmore. References to 3 lodges for hire at Lagduff and Sheeaun from the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and at Shanamanragh Bridge from Mr Barra Ó Bríain, this lodge stands on the site where [William H.] Maxwell lived [author of *Wild Sports of the West* (1832)]. Rock House, Claggan was “once the residence of the Clives who were landlords of Ballycroy and who were relatives of the famous Clive of India”*Surveyor:* M.J.B. O’Kelly*Date:* September 1942*Items:* 6 forms, 3 loose pages, 15 photographs, 8 pen and ink drawings, 1 envelope |
| **ITA/2/6(1-4)** | *Parish:* Ballysakeery *Barony:* Tirawley*Includes:* References to Rosserk Abbey in the care of the Office of Public Works, the lack of local shops, Cooneal Dramatic Society, Protestant families and a Presbyterian Church at Mullaghfarry.*Surveyor:* Conor O’Brien*Date:* May 1943*Items:* 4 forms  |
| **ITA/2/7(1-6)** | *Parish:* Belmullet *Barony:*  Erris*Includes:* Description of Belmullet as comparatively modern town “a thriving, prosperous market town and a rising watering place”. Reference to good sea angling; a small golf course, no club house; flapper race meeting at Carn, parish of Kilmore, run by Belmullet Race Committee.*Surveyor:* Conor O’Brien*Date:* August 1943*Items:* 5 forms, 1 loose page |
| **ITA/2/8(1-18)** | *Parish:* Crossmolina *Barony:* Tirawley*Includes:* Description of the village with a population of about 700, situated on the banks of the River Deel. “On entering the village for the first time a visitor is impressed by the old world wheel-pump” which until recent years was the “sole water supply for inhabitants”. The installation of a public sewerage system was deferred owing to the War. “The village is sadly lacking in recreational facilities, the sole public or social entertainment consisting of an occasional dance at the parochial hall”. Descriptions of Errew Abbey, Gortner Abbey, Knockglass and Inniscoe, the property of Major M. Pratt includes reference to the avenue known as the “French Walk” connected with 1798. 4 photographs of Errew Abbey and the shrine at Abbeytown. Reference to fishing on the Deel River. Lough Conn “is an exceptionally good fishing lake and the boatmen will be found to be particularly helpful”. A 53 lb pike caught by Mr John Garvin, Cloghans, Ballina in July 1920, was a record catch for Ireland and Great Britain. A village known as Rake Street was situated 3 miles from Crossmolina.Also includes a letter from Conor O’Brien, Anglers Nest, Crossmolina, to the Secretary of the Irish Tourist Association re a correction to the information supplied re angling (17 Oct 1942).*Surveyor:* Conor O’Brien*Date:* September 1942*Items:* 7 forms, 6 loose pages, 4 photographs, 1 envelope |
| **ITA/2/9(1-8)** | *Parish:* Kilcommon-Erris *Barony:* Erris*Includes:* Description of this North West corner of Co Mayo as “perhaps the most isolated and unexplored (by the tourist)”. References to frightfully bad roads, old mine workings and magnificent cliffs, caves and stone monuments, beautiful strands. “The western side of the parish is a Gaeltacht area; the natives being fluently bi-lingual”. Fishing is the main industry - very good fishing in the rivers and in the sea, currach charge per day from 10/- to £2. Lord Digby held the fishing rights on the River Muingnabe. Very good shooting -particularly for grouse, snipe, duck, teal and wild geese. Hand ball alleys were located at Inver, Gortmellia and Gortmellis Strand and a flapper meeting at Glengad in June. “At Carrrowteige and Pullathomas, over twenty girls are employed at each of the ‘Lace Schools’, relics of the Congested Districts Board’s efforts to relieve distressed areas; the schools are now controlled by the Gaeltacht Industries Branch, Department of Lands. Principal products of the schools are knitwear and crochet work”. Also “The spinning wheel is now in general use since the war commenced. Prior to that the craft had almost been forgotten”. *Surveyor:* Conor O’Brien*Date:* July 1943*Items:* 7 forms, 1 loose page |
| **ITA/2/10(1-4)** | *Parish:* Kilfian *Barony:* Tirawley*Includes:* The surveyor wrote “This parish contains very little of interest to the tourist and in the scenic sense, holds few attractions”. The keep at Rathroe got a write up under antiquities.*Surveyor:* Conor O’Brien*Date:* November 1942*Items:* 4 forms |
| **ITA/2/11(1-9)** | *Parish:* Killala  *Barony:* Tirawley*Includes:* A description of Killala as “now devoid of its old time industrial and commercial prosperity and during the past thirty years, since the improvements to the channel allowed ships to proceed right upstream to Ballina quay, the fortunes of Killala have been on the wane”. Now a little town of derelict old warehouses. Cill Alaithe was a splendid residence on the outskirts of the town “erected about 50 years ago by a member of the Gore family, now owned by Mr A.K. Miller of Derry. The house is large, containing about thirty rooms in all”. A long description of Moyne Abbey is included. The surveyor writes that the original house at Palmerstown was destroyed by fire when the French forces passed in 1798. The present house was the old coach house and stable erected in the 16th century. Also that Castlereagh was acquired by the Land Commission in recent years and the huge mansion demolished. Many other antiquities and historic sites are described including an account of the landing of the French in 1798. References to townspeople engaged in cockle picking and in the northern portion of the parish, carrageen was collected. Good fishing was available in the locality and an annual regatta was usually held in June.*Surveyor:* Conor O’Brien*Date:* May 1943*Items:* 5 forms, 4 loose pages |
| **ITA/2/12(1-8)** | *Parish:* Kilmore Erris  *Barony:* Erris*Includes:* Long description of the peninsula under topography heading. The parish was comprised of the entire Mullet Peninsula. References to the area around Fallmore in the south west being a true Gaeltacht district; the ruin of Bingham Castle (evacuated by the family in 1925) and the toy factory at Elly Bay where 130 girls were employed. Most men living along the shore were employed in fishing and currachs were easily hired. Belmullet Hospital was actually in the parish of Kilmore. The Dudley Arms Hotel had 10 bedrooms, served by 1 dry lavatory and no baths “clean house but reputation only fair”. Mr Stephen Keane with a boarding house at Fallmore got a much more favourable write up.*Surveyor:* Conor O’Brien*Date:* September 1943*Items:* 5 forms, 3 loose pages |
| **ITA/2/13(1-16)** | *Parish:* Kilmoremoy  *Barony:* Tirawley*Includes:* Description of the town of Ballina on the banks of River Moy as “the chief and largest town in Mayo” although Castlebar was the County Town. Ballina’s industrial awakening was temporarily hindered by War conditions. “The Urban Council recently acquired site for a Public Park, nicely situated on the western bank of the River Moy; but the place is now divided into vegetable plots during the emergency”. Belleek Manor and its splendid demesne of over 6,000 acres had recently been sold to Mr J. Frank Beckett, Ballina.Also includes 2 photographs of the main door Belleek Manor and of a cromlech near Ballina railway station. Sporting amenities included a golf course of 9 holes; a Boat Club which “may be almost termed defunct”; a Gaelic football club; tennis; billiards; badminton; table tennis; an athletic and cycling club and a coursing club. 14 schools and colleges are listed for the parish. There was a Public Library (Carnagie) and 5 private libraries including that of Mr John Clarke, P.C., O’Rahilly Street with 400 books [Jackie Clarke Library]. Fishing rights were mainly in the possession of the Moy Fishery Co. Extensive accommodation was available in the town in hotels and guest houses. The foundation of St Muredach’s Cathedral was laid in 1829 as a result of the endeavours of John MacHale, Coadjutor Bishop of Killala. Under customs and patters there are references to celebrations on St John’s night with huge bonfires and fancy dress. Also local belief that the seventh son in a family has a natural cure for ringworm. *Surveyor:* Conor O’Brien*Date:* August 1942*Items:* 5 forms, 8 loose pages, 2 photographs, 1 envelope |
| **ITA/2/14(1-8)** | *Parish:* Kiltane /Bangor Erris *Barony:* Erris*Includes:* Under geology the surveyor wrote that “several huge and devastating landslides have been recorded in the mountainy (sic) regions of Bangor”, in particular he refers to those which occurred in 1817 and 1931. Good sea and river fishing in the locality; a flapper meeting was held at Geesala strand and there was excellent shooting. Some of the shooting rights were owned by the Shaen Carter family and by the Jamesons at Sheskin. Three dance halls were recorded - two were in fact parochial halls at Bangor (new) and Geesala owned by the Church and Michael Conway’s hall at Doohoma. The County Library had a depot at Bangor Erris. Gaeltacht Industries Lace Schools (knitting and crochet work) at Bangor and Geesala, about 20 girls were employed in each school. 25 guest rooms were available in the parish and some fishing/shooting lodges could be hired. A curiosity was the musical bridge at Bellacorick, by tapping a stone of a few pounds weight along the northern parapet of the bridge a “full octave is sounded”.*Surveyor:* Conor O’Brien*Date:* August 1943*Items:* 7 forms, 1 loose page |
| **ITA/2/15(1-13)** | *Parish:* Lacken *Barony:* Tirawley*Includes:* References to the beautiful scenery and to the gazebo on the hill behind Castlelacken. Castlelacken, a ruin, was once the residence of Sir Charles Knox. Sea fishing employed large numbers and an extensive list of named persons with boats for hire is given. The gathering of seaweeds, such as carrageen and kelp, was a lucrative employment for the poor of Kilcummin. Weavers in parish were John Clarke, Cloonalaghan and Mrs Coleman, Rathlackan. There were many traditions associated with St Patrick in the locality. There were a number of eyesores in the district, such as the very dilapidated homes at Kilcummin and Rathlacken, some the surveyor describes as “hovels… Undoubtedly poverty prevails at Kilcummin and is probably responsible for a great deal of the squalor”. Also includes a letter from C. O’Brien, Attyreech, Westport, to S. Fitzpatrick, I.T.A. Dublin, enclosing a sketch of the Humbert stone at Banagher. His weekly report, expenses claim and completed roll of film No 10 are no longer with the letter. *Surveyor:* Conor O’Brien*Date:* June 1943*Items:* 4 forms, 9 loose pages |
| **ITA/2/16(1-6)** | *Parish:* Moygownagh *Barony:* Tirawley*Includes:* References to Owenmore, the residence of the Misses Knox, erected about 1830 by the Orme family. Another mansion house, Glenmore, was taken over by the Land Commission “in recent years” and the house and some of the lands had passed to Mr John Hegarty. Belville, a large house near the church at Ballyglass formerly owned by the Orme family, was purchased “some years ago” by Mr MacDonald, Kilfian. It was unoccupied. The surveyor writes that there was a popular belief among the local people that the house was haunted.*Surveyor:* Conor O’Brien*Date:* October 1942*Items:* 5 forms, 1 loose page |
| **ITA/3** | *MAYO EAST* |
| **ITA/3/1(1-22)** | *Parish:* Annagh  *Barony;* Costello*Includes:* References to the remnants of a church at Holywell and the foundation of a church in Aghamore parish by St Patrick in 440 AD, some miles from Holywell. The history of the Augustinian Abbey at Ballyhaunis is given and reference made to the martyrdom of Rev Fulgentius Jordan OSA Prior of Abbey in 1642. The Queally chalice, which was lost and found in 1890 in a Dublin pawnshop and given to the Abbey in 1938, is noted. The Abbey was the burial place of two O’Gara brothers who both became Archbishops of Tuam. Ballyhaunis appears to have been a prosperous little town with a cinema showing 5 nights weekly, 2 banks, a registered hotel, golf club and a boxing club with a “strong and enthusiastic membership”. Includes a photo of the Bracklaghboy ogham stone courtesy of Mr Jordan National Teacher, Aghamore, Ballyhaunis [this photograph was actually found in the file for the parish of Kilbeagh]. *Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* September 1944*Items:* 6 forms, 15 loose pages, 1 photograph |
| **ITA/3/2(1-10)** | *Parish:* Aghamore *Barony;* Costello*Includes:* A description of Mannin House, owned by Mr Grogan, as ordinary; the original estate was owned by the Beytaghs. The Land Commission when dismantling part of the house found a stone slab relating to Gerald Dillon of Mannin and his wife Ellis. Raith Castle and other antiquities are mentioned. Pike and eels could be caught in Lake Mannin. Also includes a newspaper cutting from the *Irish Press* (1 Sept 1944) re the death of Patrick D. Kenny, one time Fleet Street journalist.*Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughan*Date:* August 1944*Items:* 3 forms, 7 loose pages |
| **ITA/3/3(1-12)** | *Parish:* Attymass *Barony:* Gallen*Includes:* A long description of the antiquities of the parish, including the ogham stone at Corrower. Under Customs and Patterns, the surveyor wrote “There does not appear to be any really traditional cure still practiced in the parish. The old customs are also dying out.”*Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughan*Date:* May 1944*Items:* 6 forms, 6 loose pages |
| **ITA/3/4(1-24)** | *Parish:* Balla and Manulla *Barony:* Clanmorris*Includes:* A description of this large parish, which in general was not one of scenic distinction – low level rolling terrain. Ballinafad Sacred Heart College, a 3 storey edifice except for a modern wing added in 1932, was run by the African Mission Fathers. It was a Blake family residence from 1827-1908. Long descriptions of the Blakes and their connections and of the Lynch Blosses of Balla. References to Doonamoona Castle and other ruins and historic sites including that of a prison in Prison townland. The 1879 eviction of Anthony Dempsey, a Fenian, of Loona More townland is mentioned – this was the most famous eviction case in “Irish eviction annals”. One of the sights of Balla was the reconstruction of the dwelling house of Mr McEllin, a merchant of Main St. The surveyor respectfully suggested that this was an edifice reflecting “the owner’s eccentricity” and as such should not be published in ‘curiosities’ – such publication would probably have repercussions”. It is described as having a “medieval castle frontage in cemented concrete. Flanked by a pair of tall thin towers with many loops… a flagstaff rests on the summit of one of the towers”. The monument to P.W. Nally of Rockstown House, is recorded under public monuments and the “Land League Cottage”, built in one night and straddling 3 estates, as one of the local curiosities.*Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* May 1945*Items:* 6 forms, 18 loose pages |
| **ITA/3/5(1-14)** | *Parish:* Ballinrobe  *Barony;* Kilmaine*Includes:* Extensive details of castle and church ruins in the locality. The old military barracks were burnt in 1922. The parish contained 37 townlands. The parents of Cardinal Gibbons, who was born in Baltimore, USA, came from Partry and he received some of his early education in Ballinrobe. A nine hole golf course at Cornaroya is recorded. A fishing note regarding Lough Carra describes it as a difficult lake to fish as the clear waters make the trout wary of rising to the fly. There were two registered hotels in the town, the Railway and Valkenburgs. Alternatively boarding houses offered plenty of accommodation. Two race meetings were held every year and there is reference to woodcock, partridge, snipe and plover shooting being plentiful. There was a GAA club and operatic concerts were included under annual events. There was a public water supply in the town and a modern sewage scheme was to be put into operation as soon as the “emergency situation eases”. The surveyor noted that Ballinrobe was “easily the most ill-kept town in Mayo – if not in Ireland. There is no semblance of public spirit in the matter of pride in the place. It is doubtful if there are a dozen sound buildings in the town. Streets are left for days & weeks uncleaned after fairs….worst aspects are the many tiny slum thatched hovels that lie in almost all the streets”. He also condemned the accommodation and service provided by the hotels in the town. He gives a description of each street and includes a small map. The parish was the birth place of [Henry] Knox and the burial place of Monsignor D’Alton, Parish Priest of Ballinrobe 1911-1941 and author.*Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* August 1945*Items:* 6 forms, 8 loose pages |
| **ITA/3/6(1-9)** | *Parish:* Bekan *Barony;* Costello*Includes:* Reference to megalithic structures and souterrains. “This parish traditionally claims Friar Jordan, 17th century martyred priest”. Shooting was free throughout the parish and grouse were to be found on the bog areas. Mention of the wren boys on St Stephen’s Day under Customs, Patterns etc. *Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* September 1944*Items:* 5 forms, 4 loose pages |
| **ITA/3/7(1-9)** | *Parish:* Bohola *Barony:* Gallen*Includes:* A description of the village which contained a dozen houses, it was principally an agricultural area. Well known natives of the parish were Martin J. Sheridan, Olympic champion for the U.S.A. at discus and other disciplines and Colonel William J. O’Dwyer who was in the U.S.A. service in Washington. *Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* June 1944*Items:* 4 forms, 5 loose pages |
| **ITA/3/8(1-6)** | *Parish:* Carracastle *Barony:* Costello*Includes:* Description of the parish as limestone country with an abandoned coal mine. There was free grouse shooting and a GAA club. Carracastle village was very small. There was a clog factory owned by Mr Parsons of Charlestown near Charlestown but in the parish of Carracastle.*Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* August 1944*Items:* 4 forms, 2 loose pages |
| **ITA/3/9** | Missing [this may be just a numerical mistake as no Co Mayo parish beginning with the letter ‘C’ appears to be missing] |
| **ITA/3/10(1-136)** | *Parish:* Cong and The Neale *Barony:* Kilmaine*Includes:* Reference to a nine hole golf course at Ashford and good fishing on Loughs Corrib and Mask, but there was a need to restock Lough Corrib. Good shooting also available in the locality, especially for woodcock, although thousands of acres were the preserve of Lord Oranmore and Browne and Mr Huggard. Ashford Castle, Ryan’s Hotel and O’Connors guest house were all Irish Tourist Board listed. Cong village was described as having “an appearance that is at once unprepossessing and disordered, though quite unnecessarily so”. However the view at the west end of the village “is one of the prettiest sights in the district”. The people were friendly and easy going. There are pages and pages of script describing the topography, geology and antiquities of the parish. Local personalities included Cyril David Dalrymple McLagan, aged 86, the son of a former Archbishop of York and a great fisherman, who had resided at Ryan’s hotel for the “last 25 years”. The teacher’s residence in Cong had been a great gathering place for famous personalities of the 1916 Rising. General George Blake of Garraclone, Abbot Prendergast, George McNamara, Captain Boycott and Sir William and Oscar Wilde are also mentioned. Under curiosities the ‘Gods of the Neale’, the Pyramid and other monuments are described. The Neale Dramatic Club is also mentioned. The surveyor’s original manuscript notes were typed up under the headings - towns and villages; topography; geology; antiquities; ancient customs; historic sites; distinguished persons; mansions; curiosities; angling and other sports and games. Two copies of the typed notes are included, each copy contains 41 pages. There is no Form A for this parish.*Surveyor:* Conor O’Brien*Date:* June 1945*Items:* 3 forms, 51 loose manuscript pages, 82 loose typed pages |
| **ITA/3/11(1-13)** | *Parish:* Crossboyne and Tagheen *Barony:* Clanmorris*Includes:* Reference to the main feature of the area as the demesne surrounding Castle MacGarrett. The estate covered some 2,000 acres and was finely timbered, the seat of Lord Oranmore and Browne. A long description of the Browne family, based on notes provided by Lord Oranmore and Browne and articles in the *Journal of the Galway Archaeological and Historical Society,* is included. Outstanding woodcock shooting is mentioned. Under Industries and Handcrafts there is reference to CastlemacGarrett Industries, makers of poultry houses.*Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* June 1945*Items:* 3 forms, 10 loose pages |
| **ITA/3/12(1-18)** | *Parish:* Kilbeagh *Barony:* Costello*Includes:* References to the town of Charlestown, named after Charles Strickland agent to Lord Dillon, who had the town built in opposition to Bellahy. “The streets are exceptionally clean and the houses are generally neat..”. The surveyor recounts the legend of the ‘Béacaroán’ associated with Barnalyra wood. The Imperial Hotel is condemned as “dusty, shabby, neglected in all rooms”. *Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* August 1944*Items:* 7 forms, 11 loose pages |
| **ITA/3/13(1-18)** | *Parish:* Kilcolman *Barony:* Clanmorris*Includes:* Reference to Claremorris as a busy country town with important rail connections, includes a detailed description of the town with a hand drawn map. Claremorris had three registered hotels and 23 named guest or boarding houses. The history of Ballinasmalla Abbey is given and the Moore memorial. A letter from M.J. Daly to D. Faughnan (11 Aug 1945) re details of Ballinasmalla Abbey is also included. Claremorris was the venue for several Land League meetings, Fanny Parnell addressed a crowd there in 1880 and [Charles Stewart] Parnell in 1891. Sporting amenities included a golf club, GAA club, boxing club and a handball alley. The annual race meeting had not being held at Claremount since 1940, but was “expected to resume later”. An Annual Show is mentioned. No Form A for this parish.*Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* May 1945*Items:* 5 forms, 11 loose pages, 1 letter (2pp) |
| **ITA/3/14(1-11)** | *Parish:* Kilcommon & Robeen *Barony:* Kilmaine*Includes:* Reference to the locality as a limestone area, “fully agricultural and in which horses thrive”. At Hollymount there was a clay suitable for pottery. Hollymount House was the home of Mr J. Loftus - “The house is large but unpretentious”. It had been the home of Lindsey Fitzpatrick until 1922, who founded the annual show. Hollymount contained a single street of about 40 houses, the Protestant Church and a small kirk in repair but unused. The Catholic Church was in the village of Roundfort. The ruins of Brownestown House, a former three storey T shaped plain residence, but “now” without windows, doors or roof, had been uninhabited for about 60 years. The remnants of Frenchgrove House, family residence of a branch of the Blake family and later of French and finally of a man named Eager, a banker of Dublin was in ruins for at least 70 years. The fragments of Newbrook house also remained. Mount Jennings was still lived in by Mr and Mrs J.P. Murphy, the parents of Delia Murphy. An annual race meeting was held at Roundfort and there was a GAA club and handball alley.*Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* June 1945*Items:* 6 forms, 5 loose pages |
| **ITA/3/15(1-24)** | *Parish:* Kilconduff *Barony:* Gallen*Includes:* Descriptions of souterrains and cairns and includes a photo of Meelick Round Tower. Records that Brabazon Park House, was then owned by the Sisters of Mercy and run as a dairying and poultry school. A 9 hole golf course was available in the locality and there were two registered hotels and one boarding house. Partridge were widespread in the district. Sporting amenities included GAA, handball, tennis, billiards, badminton, table tennis, boxing and athletics. There was a public water system in the town of Swinford but test results [included] from the Department of Pathology, UCD, showed that the water was very contaminated. Amenities included a cinema, dance hall and there was public lighting supplied by electricity.*Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* July 1944*Items:* 7 forms, 15 loose pages, 1 photograph, 1 envelope |
| **ITA/3/16(1-13)** | *Parish:* Kilgarvan *Barony:* Gallen*Includes:* Reference to the parish being on the border with Co Sligo. Cairn Dermot and Grainne’s Bed were in Carrowcrom along with other stone structures and souterrains. Bonniconlan was a small village with a GAA field. Oatlands House, a plain 2 storey building owned by Mr McAndrew, was the site of a house built by one of the O’Dowds, famous ruling chieftains. Local opinion was that some of this house was probably part of the house mentioned in Lewis [Samuel Lewis *Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (1837)].*Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* May 1944*Items:* 5 forms, 8 loose pages  |
| **ITA/3/17(1-25)** | *Parish:* Killasser *Barony:* Gallen*Includes:* A long description of the antiquities of the parish, including two photographs of the horned cairn in Cartronmacmanus and the dolmen at Prebaun. Also a ground plan of the horned cairn and other antiquities with a description of a penal day carved cross in the possession of Mr Patrick McGloin, Callow. Regarding fishing in the Callow lakes the surveyor wrote - “ There is no use fishing Callow lakes without the ‘Butcher’ fly: it is the best there is for these lakes….After month of May Callow lakes offer night angling as the trout, for some reason or other, do not take well until then”. He concludes his report with the following - “Despite the mountainous nature of a large portion of the parish, hardly any of the old customs or cures survive”.*Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* May 1944*Items:* 5 forms, 17 loose pages, 2 photographs, 1 envelope |
| **ITA/3/18(1-16)** | *Parish:* Killedan *Barony:* Gallen*Includes:* Reference to the parish as a limestone area of low lying hills. Ballinamore House was a square, solidly constructed 3 storey building, purchased by the Order of St John of God, a teaching and nursing order, in 1936 from the Irish Land Commission. The house was for generations the home of the Ormsby family. Includes a newspaper cutting relating to a public meeting held with regard to the installation of an efficient water supply in the town of Kiltimagh (*Western People* 16 Sept 1944). Also reference to a crannog in Carrigeen Lake. Short write ups about Miss Lottie McManus, novelist, who had lived at Killedan House; Gene Tunney, one time world heavy weight champion; James Kelly, born in Kiltimagh, emigrated to USA and became world champion handball player and Dr Sean Lavan, an athlete who represented Ireland at the Olympics in Paris in 1924 and in Amsterdam in 1928. Killeadan townland was the birthplace of Anthony O’Raftery circa 1784. Kiltimagh had a very long street with about 75% of the houses having water and flush sanitation. There was a town improvements committee. *Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* July 1944*Items:* 5 forms, 9 loose pages, 1 cutting, 1 envelope |
| **ITA/3/19(1-13)** | *Parish:* Kilmaine *Barony:* Kilmaine*Includes:* Reference to the parish containing land which was “possibly the best in Mayo..” The townland of Ballisnahyny “is completely isolated” from the rest of the parish of Kilmaine, being surrounded by townlands of the parish of Shrule. The parish had connections with St Patrick. Long descriptions are given of many old, mainly Burke, castles and their traditions, church ruins and other antiquities. Drawings of floor plans of Turin Castle are included. Kilkeeran Castle was not a castle but the remains of a single storey residence. “Tradition says the castle was owned by eleven brothers called Elwood who were drowned while crossing a lake which was beside their home, a piper who was also in the boat was saved. Local account gives very bad reputations to the Elwood brothers”. The description of Killernan Castle includes reference to the Browne [of the Neale] and Miller [of Milford] duel [1748]. A windmill in Ardkill was “Built by Denis Browne 1787”. This area was not good for fishing or shooting. An annual show was held. Kilmaine village contained about 40 households. The water supply was not satisfactory and there was no sewage system. Holy Trinity, the Protestant church, was erected in 1860 but there were no services. There was a tombstone in Holy Trinity churchyard to Charles Watkin Roberts of Lackafinna, Cong, who died in 1907 and to his wife Annie, “who is said to have been a sister of Earl Lloyd George”. Cloghans House was the residence of General Arthur C. Lewin, known as the “Flying General” because of his love of aviation. He landed his plane on Ballinrobe racecourse when flying home. *Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* July 1945*Items:* 3 forms, 10 loose pages |
| **ITA/3/20(1-24)** | *Parish:* Kilmovee  *Barony:* Costello*Includes:* Reference to Tavraun House, a plain, 2 storey house, the owner was Mr Walsh. Sir Henry Doran of the Congested Districts’ Board had lived there for some years at the beginning of the 20th century. The house was “Once the residence of the O’Gradys of Tavraun, whose family vault is in Urlaur Abbey. The O’Gradys were landed people but evidently truly Irish and well spoken of and popular in the district”. A long description of Urlaur Abbey and its history, culled from details of a lecture given by Fr Ambrose Coleman at the pattern revival of Urlaur in Aug 1914 is given. Includes 2 photographs of Urlaur Abbey, burial place of The Costello. Memorial stone to Arthur George Costello died 21 Jan 1891 last dynast and Baron de Nanglo. There was some boarding house accommodation in Kilkelly, a small country town of about 70 houses.*Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* Aug 1944*Items:* 7 forms, 14 loose pages, 2 photographs, 1envelope |
| **ITA/3/21(1-11)** | *Parish:* Kilvine *Barony:* Clanmorris*Includes:* Reference to the parish bordering counties Galway and Roscommon. The ruins of Doonmacreena Castle are described. The Castle was once the residence of the Blake family, of whom the most illustrious was Dr Anthony Blake, Bishop of Ardagh and later (1761) Primate of Ireland. The best brown trout flies for the Robe River were March Brown, Hare’s Ear, Cochy Bondhu, Black Gnat and Yellow Sally. Pike and eels could be caught on the Dalgan River. Ballindine had 4 boarding houses, one of them was registered. It belonged to Miss Duffy. The population of Ballindine was 245 persons while Irishtown had a population of 80. 500 yards north of the village of Irishtown was the site of the first Land League meeting in 1879. Parnell addressed a meeting in Irishtown in April 1891. There were traditions associated with St Patrick and St Meidhin in the locality. Irishtown was universally known as such but was mapped and sign posted under the name Dry Mills.*Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* May 1945*Items:* 6 forms, 5 loose pages |
| **ITA/3/22(1-11)** | *Parish:* Shrule *Barony:* Kilmaine*Includes:* Reference to Shrule as the most southerly parish in Co Mayo, bounded by the Black River. Includes a letter from Donal A. Faughnan, c/o Garda Toal, Shrule, Co Galway to the General Manager, Irish Tourist Association, Dublin, re fishing, castles and longevity in the parish of Shrule (8 Aug 1945). The surveyor gives details of many old castles, such as Shrule, Ballycurran, Kinlough, Moyne, Morocha with diagrams and of church ruins. The ruins of Dalgan Park are mentioned. Once a fine mansion which contained about 50 rooms, it was stripped of its roof and fittings “about a year ago”. The house and lands were bought from the Maynooth Mission to China by Messrs McDonagh, timber merchants, Galway. Ballycurran House was vacated by the Clerkins “about 30 years ago” and the house burnt down. It was bought by Colonel Bedington of Ower, who was killed in England “during recent war”. Shrule village situated on the Galway/Mayo border and on the main Ballina to Galway route, was famous for the battle between Sir Edward Fitton President of Connaught and the Burkes of Mayo in 1570 and for the massacre of Shrule in 1641.*Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* July 1945*Items:* 5 forms, 5 loose pages, 1 letter |
| **ITA/3/23(1-33)** | *Parish:* Templemore  *Barony:* Gallen*Includes:* A description of the ruins of Ashbrook, once the residence of the O’Moores of Moorhall “The ruins are of a plain-featured house, two storey, about 45 ‘ long by 16 ‘ wide internally, with a central rear portion and flanked by a small one storey addition to one gable. Nearby are the remains of a small private chapel…” containing the tombstone of George Moore of Ashbrook and Moorehall died [11] Nov 1799. The surveyor quotes the history of the Moores from Colonel Maurice Moore’s book *An Irish* *Gentleman*. Three photographs of Straide Abbey with a long account of its history, including photograph of Michael Davitt’s grave. Also 2 pages of drawings of the ground plan of Straide Abbey and of features in the Abbey, such as windows and ornamented flags. With regard to recreation the surveyor wrote - “A game sometimes played is that of pitching horse-shoes on to an upright road (otherwise the principal recreation in the area is “pitch and toss” which all the younger people indulge in, with sometimes heavy betting)”. The village of Straide had a population of 49; water was obtained from spring wells. A long account of Straide’s connection with Michael Davitt is given. He was born there in 1846 and buried there in 1906. The memorial inscriptions from the O’Donnell vault beside Straide Abbey are recorded, the roof of the vault had fallen in. *Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* June 1944*Items:* 6 forms, 21 loose pages, 2 pages of drawings, 3 photographs, 1 envelope |
| **ITA/3/24(1-20)** | *Parish:* Toomore  *Barony:* Gallen*Includes:* Reference to Healy’s Hotel, Foxford, which was not yet registered. The hotel sign was down and the surveyor wrote - “From what I know and have experienced the owner only accommodates people when he feels like doing so”. There were also 2 boarding or guest houses in the town. The town had a piped water supply, electricity and a branch of the Carnegie Library. There was a school of music for the benefit of the Providence Woollen mill workers and their families. The Admiral Brown Memorial Hall was erected in memory of Admiral Brown, father of the Argentine Navy. Three drawings from Toomore and Glendaduff graveyards are included. Under the heading distinguished personalities there are accounts of Admiral Brown, born “somewhere in Foxford, the exact place unknown”, on 22 June 1777 and Agnes Morrogh Bernard, Sister of Charity and founder of the Providence Woollen Industry. The decoration of the town for the feast of Corpus Christi “…deserves mention. Due to the supervision of the Sisters of Charity – the town of Foxford is perhaps one of the best decorated towns in Ireland on this occasion”. The surveyor goes on to describe the planting of shrubs, moss ropes, bunting etc.*Surveyor:* Donal A. Faughnan*Date:* May 1944*Items:* 7 forms, 10 loose pages, 3 pages of drawings |