**Summary Text Kilbeagh**

* **Accommodation**

One hotel and three boarding houses in Charlestown and one boarding house in Bellahy are listed in the Kilbeagh survey. Judging by the comments, the surveyor was not impressed by the standard.

* **Amenities Charlestown**

Charlestown at the time of the Kilbeagh survey had a population of 550. The surveyor comments that “the streets are exceptionally clean, and the houses are generally neat”. Items of interest in this section include the listing of one public library, (Carnegie branch) and two private lending libraries; 2 dramatic societies – Little Theatre Club and St. James’ Dramatic Club; Henry’s Mineral Water Company. There is a brief architectural description of St. James’ Church.

* **Amenities Bellahy**

In contrast to Charlestown, the houses in Bellahy are described as “…ill-kept and untidily fronted and there are the tumbledown ruins of at least half-dozen buildings”. Also, there was no public water supply even though Charlestown did have this facility. The population is given as 175. The only amenity listed is a garage with all other services being located in Charlestown.

* **Antiquities**

This is the most substantial section of the Kilbeagh survey with a comprehensive listing and description of the antiquities of the parish. These include:

* + Church ruins in Bellahy: - Built over a hundred years prior to the survey and served the area until the parish church was built by Charles Strickland in Charlestown.
  + Ruins of former parish church in Temple graveyard. This church served the parish prior to the church in Bellahy.
  + Cairn in Killeen townland.
  + Children’s burial ground in Killeen.
  + Cairns in Carn townland
  + Cashel remains in Carn townland
  + Cashel in Barnacogue
  + Standing stone in Barnacogue
  + Souterrain in Barnacogue
  + Cairn with chambers in Barnacogue
* **Charlestown history**

This is a brief account of the circumstance leading to the building of Charlestown by Charles Strickland, agent of Lord Dillon. Prior to this, the village of Bellahy was the market centre of the area but this all moved to Charlestown when the new town was built, leading to a decline in the fortunes of Bellahy.

* **Customs**

This section of the Kilbeagh survey lists local calendar customs, funeral and wedding customs and folk cures.

* **Legends**

Here is related the legend of the Béiceadán, a headless ghost seen in Barnalyra Wood. Also a legend associated with Cnoc Ruadh, a hill near Charlestown. This concerns the killing of a French soldier in 1798.

* **Natural features**

This section contains a description of the landscape and geology of the parish of Kilbeagh. The most noteworthy aspects of the landscape are the views to be obtained from the highest point of the parish at Lurga.

* **Sports and games**

The only sports listed in this section of the Kilbeagh survey are shooting, fishing in Sonnagh River and Killaturley Lake and Gaelic games (Charlestown G.A.A Club).