

ASB

(Mays W)

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FORM A.

# I.T.A. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GENERAL SURVEY

## NATURAL FEATURES, ANTIQUITIES, HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.

BARONY OF Burrishoole  
TOWN OR VILLAGE Newport PARISH Burrishoole COUNTY Mayo

### TOPOGRAPHY

Brief description of outstanding scenic views in the district, natural attractions, or unusual topographical features.

This is a large parish having a maximum east-west length of 16 mls and a maximum north-south width of 14 mls. It forms the coastal strip along the N. and N.E. sides of Clew Bay. Its best scenic regions are situated at the west and east ends respectively. Around Malteranny, the mountainous district at the west end of the parish affords the best scenic views. Here the high peaks and deep ravines of the southern end of the Nephin Beg range afford a variety of excellent views. At the E. end of the parish in the great fen between Bengorm (1912') & Buckoogh (1935') is the great extent of Lough Felagh. This is well worth a visit.

### GEOLOGY

Brief notes on unusual geological features, such as caves, eskers, etc.

The mountains of all this area are composed of hard quartzites and red sandstones and owing to the hardness of these rocks, the ridges and skylines are characterized by very sharp and angular profiles. Perhaps the most interesting geological feature is the island studded Clew Bay. There are 80 islands of one or more in extent and innumerable smaller ones. Originally the Bay was dryland on which were left, after the ice retreat, a whole lot of small hills composed of boulder clay. All are oval in shape and are called "Drumlins". At some later stage the sea encroached on the land which all became submerged except for the tops of the little hills and these remain now as islands.

### MANSIONS, CASTLES AND ESTATES

#### OF IMPOSING CHARACTER

Location and brief description. Owner. Past associations. Libraries or art collections? Gardens? Open to visitors? Admission charge?

Burrishoole House. - This house is really of little importance or interest beyond the fact that it is an example of pseudo or imitation Tudor architecture. The house is no more than 100 yrs old. At present it is owned and occupied by Mr. Eric O'Malley, best known perhaps for his book Other Man's Wounds. It is situated on the W. bank of the Burrishoole River very near the Burrishoole Bridge. It is built on the site of one of the castles which defended the old harbour and mediaeval town of Burrishoole.