

About This Place – Kilmuckridge

A Project by Michael Fortune

Below are the notes from the Google Map produced by Michael Fortune between June and November 2015. The Google Map features over 130 sites from around the village. This is a living resource and this is a living document. Please contact Michael if you have any more sites to add, or information to change. Let the conversation begin. Michael by phone on 087 6470247 or by email micfortune@gmail.com

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Proposed Airfield

Ned Kavanagh told me that this long, flat stretch of land was earmarked as an airfield for Major Brian who owned Upton House. One of his family members flew and this would have been a direct way to bring clients to Upton House in its day. Any further information on this appreciated.

52.52959, -6.22099

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Raheen - Ballywater

A fine example of a raheen (ringfort). It has been cleared somewhat but the outline is still clear. In the mid-19th century a farm once stood very close by. The small fields were let into one big field towards the latter part of the 20th century. It's quite a big raheen in comparison to the other ones close by.

52.53607, -6.24765

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Raheen - Ballinoulart

A fine example of a raheen (ringfort). This raheen is interesting as in the old OSI maps we see it had a square perimeter around a rough circle. It is generally accepted that Norman enclosures, of which there are many in the area, were square/rectangle in shape, while the Irish ones were circular. This raheen features both. The small fields that once surrounded this raheen were let into one big field at the latter part of the 20th century. Luckily the raheen was not destroyed even in the face of intensive farming.

52.53304, -6.2325

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Webb's Bog - Local Placename

A place name used by local fishermen when out at sea so that they could identify their location for navigational and fishing purposes. More than likely it was named after a family called Webb who lived nearby.

52.52321, -6.2276

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Tinnacree - Local placename

A place name used by local fishermen when out at sea so that they could identify their location for navigational and fishing purposes

52.52052, -6.23126

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Leary's Lough

Leary's Lough was a sizeable lough of water in its day. It has since been drained. Two townlands actually met on the lough of water - Ballinoulart and Tinnacree. What is nice to note is the local name for the lough is Leary's, or Laoire, in Irish. This is pronounced locally 'Lay-ree' not O'Lee-ry which is a contemporary gentrified pronunciation of the name. Emphasis should be palced on the Lay sound rather than Lee.

52.52136, -6.2336

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Raheen - Dundrum

Site of a raheen (ringfort). It has been cleared somewhat and overgrown with plantation. It is one of a series of raheens close to Dundrum Lane. This lane would have connected with lanes that went to Ballinvunnia and possibly towards Ferns. Ferns was the centre point for this part of North Wexford and this lane/road network connected to

nearby Morris Castle.

52.52301, -6.25392

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Raheen - Dundrum

Site of a raheen (ringfort). Some of its perimeter has been removed however its outline is clearly visible from this google aerial map. It is one of a series of raheens close to Dundrum Lane. This lane would have connected with another lane that went to Ballinvunna and possibly towards Ferns. Ferns was the centre point for this part of North Wexford and this lane/road network would have ran to nearby Morris Castle.

52.5223, -6.25909

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Ballinure Holy Well

Approximate location of holy well associated with church and graveyard. The well is now overgrown but local landowner Ned Sinnott tells me that the spring water still flows.

52.52181, -6.27138

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Ballinure Old Church and Graveyard

This is the site of a ruined church and graveyard. Across the road lies a holy well which provided water to the early Christian settlement. Nothing is visible from standing in the field now, however, if you step back you can see how the current road cuts through the site. Before this road cut through here, one can imagine how the small church was perched on the brow of the hill. The high ditches now obscure this view. The townland might also suggest that a church was there. Ballinure or 'Baile an Iúir' means 'the townland of the yew tree'. Yew trees were popular in Irish graveyards so this may be related to why it is called so.

Below are some notes on Ballinure from logainm.ie

<http://www.logainm.ie/en/52607>

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52.52248, -6.27236

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Boundary between Ballygarrett (Donaghmore) and Kilmuckridge.

This road acts as the dividing line between the parishes of Donaghmore and Kilmuckridge.

52.53466, -6.25504

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'The Berlin Wall'

This was the local name for a boundary wall that was erected between two families. The tongue-in-cheek name also features in a locally penned recitation entitled 'The Berlin Wall'.

52.53335, -6.25688

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Parish Boundary Cross or The Kilannaduff Cross

Site of parish boundary cross. This cross was removed and placed in the old County Museum in Enniscorthy Castle by Father Joseph Ranson. During renovations of the castle it was moved and now resides in the information centre in Ferns Castle. It is known as the Killannaduff Cross in the county archives, as it was located just inside the townsland boundary of Killannaduff. Attached is a photo taken by Fr. Ranson of the cross on site with local man Mickey Hamilton. Growing up, my grandmother Jane Fortune identified the spot where the cross once stood to me. In fact she told me that two stood there. From talking to various people, I was told that the second cross which was

highly ornate has disappeared. What is interesting is that this place name is linked with Kilincooly Church and Graveyard as many local people pronounce this as Kil-ann-cooly rather than Kil-in-cooly as it appears on maps now. The old spelling of Kilanncooly is evident on old OSI maps and Valentine Gills map of the county from c 1811. Both these sites may well be linked to the village of Kilanne in North West Wexford where there is a holy well and church dedicated to St. Ann. Like wise in the townland of Ballyvadden I found out from Beth Young and Ned Kavanagh that there was also a Holy Well dedicated to St. Ann also. This may well be the same saint who left her name in various locations. This was not uncommon and we look at St. Moling we see examples such as St. Mullins, Monamolin, Knockskemolin, Camolin, Tighmolin appear in local placenames.

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52.53317, -6.25747

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Old Road - Visible

Here we can see the old road/lane from the aerial shot.

52.53517, -6.26027

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The Red Brick House

This unusual isolated building stands out in a huge reclaimed field. Needless to say, this was once nestled into a web of smaller fields before the ditches were removed for intensive farming. This is where the Ballinoulart Pipe Band, who took part in the 1798 150th commemorations in 1948 met and practice. The building now lies unused. The house and farm appears in the old OSI maps from the mid 19th century. It once stood in the middle of a lane/roadway that ran from the Ballygarrett/Kilmuckridge road up to Ballinvunna. The lane/road from the Ballygarrett/Kilmuckridge is now gone, however the Ballinvunna section remains and runs to an out farm.

52.53584, -6.2581

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Somer's Cush

A placename used by local fishermen when out at sea so that they could identify their location for navigational and fishing purposes. One interesting placename which survives as a result of this is Somer's Cush. Cush is a word which derives from the Irish word for foot/leg. If we look at logainm.ie. we can see there are townlands in Limerick

and Offaly called Cush (An Chois). In this case, Somer's Cush was a gap in the dunes where the Somers house was and it was here they walked through. All along the East Wexford coast we get this word Cush appearing, in nearby Ballyconnigar Upper we have another area called Cush Gap - a walkable gap in the dunes.

52.51704, -6.23534

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Location of Model Boat Race

It was here that local people used to race locally-made model boats. Aedin Shelley and her mother first told me about this and brought me to the home of John Murphy, Morriscastle, who had a collection of model boats. The boat that John showed myself and Ned Kavanagh belonged to the late Joe O'Brien who made the boat and named it in honour of his mother; 'The Julieann'. Aedin told me that a clearing would be made in Tinnacree bog, with the rushes and reeds cut in order to race the boats. Apparently many of boats lie at the bottom of the bog. What was interesting when uncovering this story was the fact that John Murphy had two other larger model boats which he found when he was a young man. One of the models, named 'Gull, Northampton', was discovered in the sea just off Morriscastle strand and John and some other local lads followed it by boat as it sailed up as far as Cahore. The second model renamed 'The Rusk Lady' was found in two parts over a period of time. Luckily both halves washed up on the strand and John was able to rebuild the model. It was later re-named 'The Rusk Lady' after the local Rusk river and bank.

52.51533, -6.23914

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Site of Old House and 'Cush'

Hard to imagine now but there once stood a dwelling house in the gap that leads onto Morriscastle strand. Aedin Shelley brought this to my attention and also told me that some families had their homes up on sandbanks to the north of the strand and their only way inland was to walk along the strand and then up through the gap. Ned Kavanagh also told me the same story where families would not have direct access to the road and they would use the strand to walk on before they got through the dunes.

52.51436, -6.23954

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Brandy - Local Placename

A place name used by local fishermen when out at sea so that they could identify their location for navigational and fishing purposes.

52.51097, -6.24147

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Morriscastle Gap - Local Placename

A place name used by local fishermen when out at sea so that they could identify their location for navigational and fishing purposes.

52.5129, -6.23967

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Rusk - Local Placename

A place name used by local fishermen when out at sea so that they could identify their location for navigational and fishing purposes. Name would more than likely come from the exit of the Rusk river into the sea which was nearby. The old Rish Bouy is now on display outside The Hook Lighthouse.

52.50937, -6.24285

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Harry's River - Local Placename

A place name used by local fishermen when out at sea so that they could identify their location for navigational and fishing purposes.

52.50796, -6.24315

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Coastguard Cottages

Here was the original location of the coastguard cottages. The entrance piers and one of the houses still survive. The local people called these coastguards 'the gobbies' and I have been told they got this nickname due to many having English accents. Many of the coastguards were ex-British Navy and many of their children would have went to the local school. They would certainly have had such foreign accents to many locals, who would have had slow, drawn out North Wexford accent. Many can be found with this accent today, however, this accent is quickly disappearing and even local children have picked up Dublin or learned Anglo-American TV accents. The coastguard houses were burnt down during the War of Independence by the local cell or the IRA along with help from Volunteers from Ballygarrett. We can read the accounts of this burning in the witness statement accounts from the 1950's in the Military Archives. Lar Redmond's witness statement is well worth a read.

52.51282, -6.24262

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The Hungry Grass - Famine Site

Aedin Shelley and her mother told me about this story. They both spoke of an area now covered over by a car park which was locally known as 'The Hungry Grass'. Aedin told me that as young children they were always warned to stay away from this area as 'strange things' would happen them and if they walked across this grassy area, they'd 'get hungry'. 'The Hungry Grass' is a term which I came across whilst working in Mayo some years ago where it is also called "An Féar Gortach". It is generally believed to be a site/field associated with the famine. In Mayo, as in Aedin's story, if you walked onto the grass you'd automatically get pains of hunger and starvation. One way of counteracting this is to bring some food and drink with you and leave it on the hungry grass as you pass through it. It is generally believed that someone died or was buried in this spot of grass during the famine. It is not surprising the story survived. The coastal areas of this part of Wexford were not valued by the local landlords or bigger farmers and it was hear that the poorest of the area would have lived. In the Fodach, an area of wetland and dunes, just north of Ballinoulart, I've been told that up to forty thatched houses once stood there. Now there is nothing. Here, like Morriscastle I'm sure, the poorest people would have lived on this border of land and sea. Amazing how, with the advent of tourism and the use of the sea for recreation, that the opposite occurred and land by the sea became the trophy for many. I'm glad this story survives as it highlights a different time and re-frames the lives of those who once lived here. I hope that people visiting the area are aware of some of the history of the place and that the beach

wasn't always a place for picnics and fish and chips.

52.51428, -6.24075

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Site of Battle

This story interests me. It is weaved with personal accounts, superstition and possibly some historic facts. Aedin Shelley brought us to this lane and told me that one night after coming home from a local niteclub (that might say enough for some...) that she heard shouts, screams and the banging of metal off in the distance. She alludes to the fact that these ghostly sounds were the echoes from a battle that was once fought here and not the sounds of the post-niteclub row off up in the village. I heard of this account from another few people from the area. Growing up in Ballygarrett we were always told that a great battle was fought in a place called The Fodagh (near Ballinoulart) when Cromwell was marching to Wexford. The exact details of these stories are lost in time, however there is more than likely some truth, somewhere.

Folklore and superstition often survive in places where incidents took place. I've often recorded stories about a stretch of road where someone was killed and a horse would not pass it unless the person said or did something. In Monart, outside Enniscorthy, there lies a grave of a Yeoman called Rennells who was killed at the Battle of Vinegar Hill. Local folklore has it that lights - and in particular lights in the form of a pike - were seen by people passing his grave late at night. Whether you believe it or not is another thing, my point being, that certain sites retain these stories for a reason. In the case of 'ghost battles' or 'battle sounds' being heard, this is something which crops up in folklore around Ireland and beyond. Getting to the details of when and where this battle took place is the hard one. Could it be linked to the similar folklore in nearby Ballinoulart? I'm not sure, probably not. The fact that the story survives is great though and this should not be underestimated.

52.51314, -6.26326

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Morriscastle Bridge

This bridge too seems to be something of a legend in the area. Aedin Shelley and John Murphy told me a string of accounts relating to the supernatural regarding this bridge. The most common is that of the banshee sitting on the bridge while we get other stories of cars crashing on it and sounds being heard. Again, its up to you to believe it or

not, but bridges are something that crop up a lot in rural folklore in Wexford. These little bridges that crossed small streams or rivers were important structures in the rural landscape. Many existed when the roads were just tracks and in nearly every village these were named and used as local landmarks. Some were named after a family that lived nearby, some by the townland name and more simply by their scale, 'The Big Bridge', etc.

When I visited 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th classes in the local school, I was surprised and delighted to hear that the pupils had various stories about the bridge and the banshee 'apparently' appearing there.

One thing which crops up time and time again in Irish folklore is how people attribute stories to these man made structures, raheens became places where the fairies lived, old houses were homes to ghosts and it seems bridges in Wexford were connected to our banshee stories. The classic story in North Wexford involves the banshee sitting on the bridge, combing her hair and using the water as a mirror. Lennon's Bridge in Ballygarrett and Ballyscough Bridge on the way to Oulart are two examples of this.

52.51377, -6.26409

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Site of Old Gate Lodge - Upton House

Here is the site of the original Gate Lodge. The road to the Gate Lodge and onto Ballygarrett changed in the mid-1840's. You can see this clearly on the old OSI maps and the road can be seen in the aerial OSI photos from 2000.

52.51657, -6.27825

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Old Road to Upton House Gate Lodge

In the OSI maps we can see an old road that ran from the village to Upton House Gate Lodge. Some time later, a new road with accompanying wall was built to the west of the old road. This is evident from the earlier maps. The process of mapping began just before the Great Famine of the 1840's and when it was re-mapped again, the new road and wall appears. Beth Young told me that her great great grandfather was involved in the planting of the trees that ran down the inside of the wall. See attached photo. Mary Farrell also pointed out that the lone Chestnut tree in the village was part of a larger grove which was across from Boggans Pub. Again you can clearly see this in the later OSI maps. If you look at the corner of the wall you can see a recess for the village pump. This wall route has also since changed and that has been removed. If you look closely the old road, pre-wall building, we see the road was in

Upton, while if we look at the map with the new wall, we see the wall actually runs along the townland boundary of Coshier. Likewise the Gate Lodge was moved. Why would someone move the road? It is a good question. Possibility to create more privacy, away from the gate lodge and the public road? Maybe the other location was more suitable. I don't know why, but the evidence is there.

52.51617, -6.27985

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Old RIC Barracks

This is the site of the old RIC barracks. Although a private house now it once housed the local Police force. Like many barracks in rural Wexford, it was targeted during the War of Independence. When we read the Witness Statements given by local men involved in the War of Independence, notably in the accounts of Lar Redmond and Joe Quinsey, we read how they were given orders to burn the barracks. Their accounts explain how the Kilmuckridge Company of the IRA combined with members from neighbouring Ballygarrett company to burn the barracks down in 1922. Here lies a slight confusion. The barracks must not have been completely destroyed in this fire. From talking to one local man, he told me that during renovations, they could find no evidence of fire damage. I'd suspect that it must not have been burnt completely and that's why the building still stands. This seemed to be the case with a few barracks in Wexford. In the case of the old RIC barracks in Galbally, near Bree, it too was burnt and is now a private dwelling. Please see link to Witness Statements here.

52.51374, -6.2802

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Old Trees

Beth Young told me that her that her great-great grandfather sowed all the oak trees in Upton and that his first cousin, a man by the name of Bennett, was game-keeper in Wells. She was unsure exactly how many 'greats' he was, but she knew he came from Galway to Wexford. From doing my research I have identified that the trees would have been planted when the wall was built, during famine relief work.

52.51385, -6.28259

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Ranson's Bakery

Here is the site of what is known locally as 'Ranson's Bakery'. It was a private house and also a bakery in its day. Much folklore surrounds the building.

52.51346, -6.28279

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Site of Village Pump

The village pump was once sited here. it was built into the wall which was built during famine relief work. On the OSI map which was made after the famine wall was built we can see the little indention in the wall with 'P' marked on it to indicate the pump. The wall has since been changed and the pump removed.

52.51371, -6.28312

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Quinsey's Forge

This is the site of Quinsey's Forge. There were a series of forges in the village, each with their own story to tell. Joe Quinsey was a first cousin of my grandmother, Jane Fortune of Corbally and the Parkannesely. He had an interesting life and is credited locally with is the invention of the mole plough. The mole plough was a devise for creating underground channels in the soil for drainage, a device which was ideal for the heavy Macamore soil. Although locally Joe is credited as being the inventor, an English man called John Fowler, who died in 1864, is recorded as inventing this tool. Perhaps Joe was the first to bring the tool to the area.

Aside from his blacksmithing skills, Joe was also the Captain of the Kilmuckridge IRA Company during the War of Independence. You can read the Witness and Pension Statements about his involvement in this period in the Military Archive. Joe, along with Lar Redmond from Morriscastle, ran the IRA Company along with 5-6 other local men. From hearing and reading accounts, they carried out activities such as fund raising, cutting communication lines, making bombs, felling trees for road blocks and towards the latter stages of the war they were involved in the burning down of the local RIC and Coastguard Station. In fact, one of their homemade bombs was left hidden for decades and it exploded when some local men were doing some work close to where Lar lived.

What was remarkable about Joe was the fact that his brother Tom was a soldier in the British army and fought in the trenches in WW1, while he was the captain of the local IRA company. This is something which comes up a lot in this period of Irish history. Joe later moved to England, died in Bristol and was brought back to Kilmuckridge where he is buried in the old graveyard.

52.51383, -6.2835

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The Lawn - Site of Grove - Lone Chestnut Tree

Mary Farrell told me about this site. When she was growing up she said this was called 'The Grove' as it was covered in trees at one stage. From looking at old maps of the village we can see that these were planted at the time the famine relief wall was built. They do not appear on the maps produced before the road shifted. However on the maps that feature the new wall and road, we can clearly see these trees were planted then. Mary pointed out to me that the lone chestnut tree was part of this grove. If that was the case this tree would be approximately 180 years old. Could this be the case?

52.51351, -6.28372

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Rusk River Bridge - divide between The Ford and Kilmuckridge

This is the bridge that divides The Ford from Kilmuckridge. Growing up in neighbouring Ballygarrett, most people, especially older people, always referred to this place as 'The Ford'. In fact it was pronounced 'fuu-rd' rather than the 'fo-rd'. The emphasis was placed on the 'u' sound that the 'o'. A 'ford' is a crossing in the river and the pronunciation is possibly old english.

Kilmuckridge was the name of the townland where the present day Church of Ireland Church stands. Like the pronunciation of The Ford, people from the Ballygarrett side of the village always pronounced, and still do, Kilmuckridge as 'Kilmuckrish'. This is closer to the Gaelic name. In Valentine Gill's map of Wexford from c 1811 we see he has the spelling as 'Killmocrish'. Sometime after 1811, the spelling changed to Kilmuckridge. It seems unusually late for such a dramatic anglicisation of a placename to occur.

In Valentine Gills map, he too refers to the present day village as The Ford also. I've been told by a few people, that The Ford became known as Kilmuckridge due to the movement of Kilmuckridge Post Office to the present site of the chipper across from Boggan's Pub. Although technically in The Ford, the Kilmuckridge name travelled with the Post

Office and it became widely used then. Joe Hammel told me that his family's cinema, which was just up from his public house, was called The Ford Cinema.

52.51327, -6.28373

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The Old Post Office and The Ford Placename

This movement of the post office from its site in Kilmuckridge (opposite the Church of Ireland) across the river to what was technically The Ford, saw the demise of The Ford name and rise in the general classification of the area as Kilmuckridge. To be fair, having two villages with two different names side by side would surely have been confusing.

So the post office moved from across from the Old Graveyard to this site opposite Boggans pub and as it was the postal address, The Ford name went into decline. In another twist, this post office too closed down and the post office is now technically back in Kilmuckridhge in Hammels supermarket complex. I'm not sure if many people know this, but an even older post office date from the mid 1800's was across the road from where it is today. Its great to see the name The Ford live on. Long may it last.

52.51351, -6.28415

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Old Creamery

This is the site of the old creamery. A local landmark, it closed when the new creamery/farm supplies shop opened in the 1980's.

52.51356, -6.28498

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Old Ford Cinema

Hidden underneath the curved corrugated roof was one of the villages hidden cultural gems; The Ford Cinema,

owned and operated by the Hammel family. Stepping inside with Joe was like walking into the past. The building is complete with authentic cinematic feel; the sloped floor, the projection room, the screen, the panel ceiling. You could almost see and hear the pictures roll. This was a cultural centre point for all the people in the village and surrounding community in the 50's and 60's. My own father recalled to us as children cycling to the 'pictures in the Ford'. Working in the area of film, I've always been fascinated with the role of small local cinemas and the bringing together of people for a shared communal experience. This is definitely one of the village's best-kept secrets and a strong piece of the villages culture and heritage. Joe told me the first two films shown in it in 1944 were 'Thunder in the City' and 'eddings Are Wonderful'.

52.51296, -6.28405

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Iconic Design Houses

These houses have always caught my attention. Wexford County Council built a variety of styled houses since the late 1800's. The classic 'two up - two down', which my grandmother lived in, can be seen throughout the county and a few examples still survive outside the village. These were mostly singular houses with approximately one acre of land and with a pig house out the back. The houses at the back grotto were built in small clusters in villages and towns mostly. One such row still survives in Gorey and in Castlebridge. I find these buildings contemporary in their look. I walked along this row of houses with Ned Kavanagh one day and was delighted to see some were still in their original design. I'm not sure exactly when these were built but I'm guessing 1950's. I'd love to find out more, so please help with this. The village once had numerous thatched houses, however these have since fallen down. It is great to Breen's home across the road from the Catholic Church in such good condition. I do lament at the loss of all of these thatched houses, especially since other villages such as Kilmore Quay in South Wexford use theirs as a tourist attraction.

52.5115, -6.28464

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The Grotto and The Road Behind It

Ned Kavanagh told me a funny account, how one night there was a huge electrical storm and some of Ranson's cattle were killed in it. The dead cattle were buried in the road behind the grotto and as a result the road sank in parts and that's why the road still always has potholes. It's a funny little story and I'm sure artistic license is being used.

52.51154, -6.28536

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Site of Old Pump

This was the site of the village pump for Kilmuckridge. The Ford had its own built into the corner of the wall between the Upton and Morriscastle road.

52.51084, -6.28611

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Old Pump and Prayer Location

Joe Hammel has had an Undertaker business since he was a child. He was born into the business and so too now is his son. Joe told me about the De Profundis Prayer which was an old tradition practiced in Kilmuckridge and Ballygarrett. The Latin prayers were said in a particular spot as the funeral procession made its way to the church and leaving the church towards the graveyard to bury the dead. In Kilmuckridge, it stopped at The Crosses and the last man known to say it locally was Johnny Downey. In Ballygarrett as the funeral made its way to Donaghmore graveyard, it stopped at the what is now Peg's Bar. The man to say it there was Johnny Sinnott. Joe also told me that his grandmother would bring out a special candle when this prayer would be said.

Joe also told me of another burial custom from the Ballygarrett area where a small bag, which he described as the size of a tea bag, which contained fine white clay was left on a coffin before being buried in Donaghmore. Only in Donaghmore did he see this being done and he recalled hearing from gravediggers later on, that the little bag of clay would still be on the coffins years after when they'd open the grave again for another burial. He doesn't know where the clay came from and remembers it being left on the coffin in the church and once the new graveyard opened in Ballygarrett it was never used again.

Joe and Beth Young also told me about when the first mortuary was built in the church in 1937. The mortuary was built so that people of lesser off backgrounds could be waked in the church. This was a awful practice, which I've seen repeated throughout Wexford where people of money and stature had a full funeral service whilst those of lesser or no means wouldn't even have the local priest attend. If they were lucky, someone would say a few prayers for them at the grave. The little rhyme still survives to this day which highlights this inequality and shows how mass

was only performed for those with available funds to do it.

'High Money, High Mass. Low Money - Low Mass. No Money - No Mass.'

Although it might be hard for some people to accept this now, it was widely practiced and certainly wasn't very Christian. Joe told me that the first person to be waked in the mortuary was Nanny Lacey's mother. Nanny was a neighbor of my mothers in Coolatrindle.

Below is what I found when searching for the De Profundis.

PSALMUS 129: DE PROFUNDIS (Latin) — to be said while processing to the refectory

De profundis clamavi ad te, Domine: Domine, exaudi vocem meam: Fiant aures tuae intendentes, in vocem deprecationis meae. Si iniquitates observaveris, Domine: Domine, quis sustinebit? Quia apud te propitiatio est: et propter legem tuam sustinui te, Domine. Sustinuit anima mea in verbo eius: speravit anima mea in Domino. A custodia matutina usque ad noctem: speret Israel in Domino. Quia apud Dominum misericordia: et copiosa apud eum redemptio. Et ipse redimet Israel, ex omnibus iniquitatibus eius. Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto. Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

PSALM 129: DE PROFUNDIS (English) — to be said while processing to the refectory

Out of the depths I have cried to Thee, O Lord: * Lord, hear my voice. Let Thy ears be attentive * to the voice of my supplication. If Thou, O Lord, wilt mark iniquities: * Lord, who shall stand it? For with Thee there is merciful forgiveness: * and by reason of thy law, I have waited for Thee, O Lord. My soul hath relied on His word, * my soul hath hoped in the Lord. From the morning watch even until night, * let Israel hope in the Lord. Because with the Lord there is mercy: and with him plentiful redemption. And he shall redeem Israel * from all his iniquities. Glory be to the Father and to the Son, * and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, * world without end. Amen.

52.51088, -6.28619

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Dempsey's Forge

This is the site of Tom Dempsey's Forge. His son Ger Dempsey is the father of local hurling legend, Tom Dempsey.

52.51433, -6.28551

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The Frog Locke - Local Placename canoe

Local placename. The name survives in local memory and Ned Kavanagh and Peg O'Connor told me about this. The Frog Locke features in the poems of Tom Ryan also. The Frog Locke is now covered by a carpark.

52.5089, -6.28326

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The Dasher's Hill - Local Placename

The name survives in local memory and Ned Kavanagh and Peg O'Connor told me about this. The Dasher's Hill also features in the poems of Tom Ryan also. Any idea who or what were The Dashers?

52.50768, -6.28257

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Kelly Byrne's Hill - Local Placename

Peg O'Connor told me about this name. Like most placenames, it was derived from a family who once lived there.

52.50524, -6.28074

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Motte (Possible Pre-Norman)

This is one of the villages overlooked sites. It sits quietly overlooking the whole village. There is a similar mound in Blackwater and it too is called The Motte. However, it more than likely had an earlier pre-Norman settlement on top. Questions arise as to whether it is man-made or not, but it is hard to imagine building something of this scale by

hand. It's possibly a glacial deposit. Peg O'Connor told me that when she was younger she used to play on it and it dipped down in the middle on its top. I can't hazard a guess as to how old it is, but I'm sure it would have been a pre-Norman site. It has a small river source running nearby, which will take you to Tinnaberna. One story I heard whilst doing this project was of a small canoe discovered on a riverbed and no sooner was it discovered but it was buried back up again out of fear of archeologists moving in. I've heard stories like this repeated in Blackwater and it makes me shudder to think how many other stories there are which I have not heard. This was an important site and the vantage offered from its top would have been used by any settlers who walked this area before us.

- 52.50407, -6.2836

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© Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

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The Moat Gate - Local Placename

Peg O'Connor told me about this gate. Peg grew up in Killincooly and like many people walked the roads to school and mass. So, landmarks like this wrought iron gate would have been big things in the journeys of these people. Needless to say, it gets its name from the Motte which is in the field behind it. What is striking is that the gate caught my eye a few times as I was going up and down that road and was delighted to hear it was a feature of Peg's childhood and how it played a part in the lives of the people who passed by it.

52.5043, -6.28026

© Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

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Mickey Redmond's Turn - Local Placename

Peg O'Connor told me about this name. Like most placenames, it was derived from a family who once lived there, in this case Mickey Redmond.

© Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

52.50219, -6.28099

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Mary Ann's - Local Placename

Peg O'Connor told me about this name. Like most placenames, it was derived from a family or person who once lived there.

52.49956, -6.28273

© Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

Barney's Hill

Peg O'Connor told me about this name. Like most placenames, it was derived from a family who once lived there. In this case the mans name was Barney Doyle.

52.49765, -6.28188

© Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

St. Machain's Well/St. Mokeen's Well

This is a lovely covered well. Dedicated to Saint Machain or sometimes spelt Saint Mokeen. Ned Kavanagh told me that Machain/Mokeen was a brother of St. Kevin's from Glendalough. One of the main reasons the well is still with us today is the fact that it was covered by a concrete housing back in 1921. This prevented it from becoming overgrown and lost, like many other wells in the area. Peg O'Connor told me that it was her father Andy Byrne that built the roof over this well - only for him, who knows if the well would still be in use today.

Water from the well was used for cures for eye and wart problems. Water was taken from the well and placed in three little wart stones in the graveyards and on the warts in question. Nine Our Fathers, nine Hail Mary's and nine Glory be to the Fathers were then said and this was done for nine days.

Fr. Seamus de Val points out that the name of this well may have derived from the same Machain/Mokeen that gave Kilmacanogue its name. Kilmacanogue - Cill Mocheanóg meaning 'the Church of Mocheanóg'. As stated earlier, many of these early saints left their mark in numerous spots. (If we look at St. Moling we see examples such as St. Mullins, Monamolin, Knockskemolin, Camolin, Tighmolin etc.) The nearby church was possibly named after Ann who left her mark in nearby Killannaduff and at a small holy well in Ballyvadden.

• © Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

Killincooly Graveyard

This is one of the village gems. This graveyard has been familiar to me since childhood as some of my own family are buried here. The graveyard and its adjoining well have been used for centuries. The water from the well is supposed to be a great cure for eye ailments and warts. The graveyard is home to the most unusual wart stones I've seen. The three smaller stones have been replaced, however the base is original. The original stones were stolen or went missing.

Water from the well was used for cures for eye and wart problems. Water was taken from the well and placed in three little wart stones in the graveyards and on the warts in question. Nine Our Fathers, nine Hail Mary's and nine Glory be to the Fathers were then said and this was done for nine days. Fr. Seamus de Val sates that patterns used to be held at this well on the 28th of September up until roughly 1815.

The base caught my attention, as it is such an unusual shape. It looks like it could have served another purpose over the years. For example, the wart stones in Screen and Blackwater are almost identical and it has been suggested that they were the bases for wooden crosses and once the wood disappeared and rotted, the base became sacred. In Taghmon there is a cross where the water runs down the cross and sits in the base; it is here that people dip their fingers for a cure.

Fr. De Val also states that the graveyard was taken down in 1795 and the stones used to build the new church in Litter in following year.

The graveyard holds many local people but John Mangan is probably the most well know. He was a weight thrower and held many world records in his time. In fact, local people tell me that some of these records have never been beaten. I have identified the site where John came from and will go into more detail about him in that section.

The site has changed somewhat over the years. In the c1840's OSI maps, we can see that a Mill Race cut across the graveyard field and there must have been a small bridge over this. This is difficult to imagine as it is such a flat site but from examining the maps, Ned Kavanagh and a few others identified its route. This Mill Race ran to the nearby Dunphy's Mill. Part of the Mill Race ran by the right hand side of the graveyard and the wall is considerably higher here.

The church, it seems, stood on the left hand side as you enter the graveyard. Another thing which Peg O'Connor pointed out to me was that it was always pronounced Kill-Ann-Cooly rather than Killincooly. If we look at the old Valentine Gill maps from 1811 we see this Killancooly spelling appear. As stated in the Killannduff Cross section, this place name is more than likely named after the same woman, Ann. This same Ann is also possibly the same Ann

from Kilann in North West Wexford.

52.49544, -6.28214

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Haughey's - Local Placename

A place name used by local fishermen when out at sea so that they could identify their location for navigational and fishing purposes. This is a relatively new placename which has been derived from a house which Charlie Haughey built there back in the 1980s. The house was much talked about in its day; its size and scale had not been seen locally before. Needless to say, its size was an advantage for people out in the sea as it was a clear and identifiable landmark.

52.49489, -6.25896

© Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

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The Puck's Hole - Local Placename

A placename used by local fishermen when out at sea so that they could identify their location for navigational and fishing purposes. The Puck's Hole is an impressive site and looks like a huge chunk has been taken out of the high sandbank. Ned Kavanagh told me that it gets its name from the puckawn goats that were grazed by local people. According to Ned, the goats were walked down the strand and would graze in this communal grazing ground. The other possibility is that it's to do with the Irish word Púca/Pooka for ghost. Any suggestions welcome.

52.48665, -6.26829

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Raheen - Kilincooly Beg

This raheen (ringfort) sits on an impressive site, with a full 360 degree view of the county. It sits right on the high sand bank and I'd imagine in 100 years time that part of it will be lost due to coastal erosion. It has been carefully

looked after by the owner of the land it sits on, Pat Corrigan, who told me that he'd never touch it. His respect for such a site is commendable. Pat told me the usual stories of people 'meddling with them' and the bad luck that befell them. One observation him and his wife related was that the cattle won't eat the grass on it and will never lie in it. It is accessed by land via a small lane which on the old OSI maps looks like it ran to it. Access via the sandbanks would have been extremely difficult due the height of the sandbank. One of the disadvantages of the soft landscape along this part of Wexford is that sites such as these have been ploughed and destroyed or simply went back into the earth from which they came. This was certainly the case of the clusters of small clay walled thatched houses that littered the east coast of Wexford. Once their owners died or moved away, the houses of clay and straw just fell apart with the weather.

52.48531, -6.27031

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Poul Alley

Poul Alley is an interesting placename and it appears to have been a central point for community activity in this part of Tinnaberna Village. Lt Col. Ryan published a poem, 'Poul Alley' in The Echo newspaper where he recalled it being the site of the local May Bush. The May Bush tradition was strong in this part of Wexford and was erected here and in the village of Kilmuckridge up until forty-five years ago. Mary Farrell recalled to me how she decorated the bush in the village. Poul Alley also seemed to be place where people met and I've heard some people say it was used to play handball in. Ned Kavanagh showed me where he thought Poul Alley was. A poem called Poul Alley was written by local born ex-British and Irish Free State Army man, Tom Ryan. Tom was a relation of Ned's on his mother side and historian Tom McDonald from Clonroche has written extensively on the life of Ryan.

52.48382, -6.27611

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Site of old Salt House

I visited this site with Ned Kavanagh thinking I might find some ruins, but I found nothing. The OSI maps of the mid-18th century show the salt house in ruins. Disappointed, a few weeks later I spoke with Martin O'Connor and low and behold, the hill that leads up from the carpark/beach entrance is known locally as The Salt House Hill. Again, this proves how important local place names are. Armed with this, I discovered there was another salt house in Slade in

South Wexford. The remains of this structure, which is on Slade Pier, had a curved roof and various local people told me that it was used to house salt which was brought into the harbour. This could certainly be the case as Ballinamona was served by the Welsh coal boats which travelled the channel. Salt too could have been brought in here and no doubt it would have been used for fish curing as well as for domestic use. Could this have been the case here? From further research I came across salt houses in South West Wales and they would have harvested their own salt from the sea water. Again, this could have been feasible here also. I'm tending to lean to the idea that it was brought in here from passing boats and stored in this salt-house that once stood on the sand-bank.

52.47586, -6.28053

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'Salt House Hill'

Local placename for the hill. Told to me by Martin O'Connor.

52.47629, -6.2824

© Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

Martin O'Connor's Mill

Meeting Martin O'Connor in his yard was a joy. Martin 'The Miller' O'Connor owns the only surviving mill in the village. There were three more but they have since fallen into ruin; Ballyadam, Hatter's and Dunphy's. The other three mills were run on the one shared source whilst Martins had its own. The Mill Pond is now filled in but it is clearly identifiable. Martin showed us inside the mill as well as the drying chamber to the side. He remembers it being used and it being a centre point for the whole community. The mill wheels have now been given a new lease of life and he has made wonderful garden furniture from them. This is a wonderful piece of our built heritage and it is brought to life by the stories from Martin. On an aside, the 11th of November (St. Martins' Eve) was a day of huge superstition to people along the coast of Wexford. No-one would dare go fishing on this day as it brought bad luck and there are numerous cases of boating disasters attributed to this. One thing which Martin also pointed out to me was that his mill never turned on the 11th of November either. This fear of water on the 11th had seeped into the folklore of millers and it was great to hear Martin had witnessed and followed this belief.

52.47751, -6.29381

Tullacanna Hill and Triangulation Point

This was a remarkable site. It was once the highest point in the village and in recent times the land was sold and it became a quarry. On top of the hill stood a concrete triangulation point used for Ordnance Survey. I'm told that the next nearest point like this was on Oulart Hill. Locally people gathered on top of the hill in 1998 as part of the main 1798 commemorations and a fire was lit on this hill, likewise on Oulart Hill and then another on Vinegar Hill. The Ordnance Survey point seems to have been moved and possibly destroyed during the quarrying of the hill.

What strikes me about such a place is that its place was not marked on the old Ordnance Survey maps and no-one knew the exact spelling of it. Possibly because they never saw it written, only spoken. Peg and Larry O'Connor pronounced the name to me as Tulla-kann-a. So the Anglicised spelling could be Tullacanna or Tullakanna. Either way, from consulting logainm.ie the breakdown comes like this: Tulla coming from *tulach*, hillock and *Uí Chionaoith* from the surname Kenny. The Kenny surname would still be found relatively locally. So - Kenny's Hill. You can read about how Tullycanny in South Wexford was spelt over the years in this link. There is no link to this place name on logainm as it was recorded prior to this.

<http://www.logainm.ie/en/53919?s=Tullycanna>

1608

Tallockenaye (Walt. Nevell)

· Cal. Carew, 33

1630

Tullakennay (Walt. Nevell)

· Inq. Lag., Paragraph 51 C I

1641c

Tullaquay (James Cullen, Walter Nevell)

· Wexford Rebel List 1641, 42

1654–6

Tullakena (Walter Nevell)

· CS (LG), Volume IX, 142

1654

Tulkena...a greate Moore or Turbarry comonly called the Moore of Tullakena...

· CS (LG), Volume IX, 141

1654

the great moore or Turbary of Tullakenae

· CS (LG), Volume IX, 143

1654–6

a foord called Tullakena

· CS (LG), Volume IX, 126

1655–7

Tullekenagh

· DS

1655–7

Tullaghkenagh

· DS Comp. (LG)

1659

Tollekenagyn

· Hore, Volume V, 165

1659

Tallakena

· Gen., 541

1667

Tallakauna (Bishop of Fernes)

· ASE, 139

1668

Tullakena (Nich. Gower)

· ASE, 174

1764

Tullecanna (Rich. Gore)

· Vigors Papers, 306

1774

Tullacanna (Gore-Houghton)

· CGn., Volume 311, 819, Number 207082

1813

Tullycannon

· Léars. Eastáit Cliffe (LG)

1816

Tullycannon

· GJReturn:AL (LG)

1830c

Tullycannow (plot of)

· TAB, Volume 1

1830c

Tullycannow (Cooper's)

· TAB, Volume 1

1830c

Tullicannow (Coopers)

· TAB, Volume 6

1830c

Tullicammow (Siggins)

· TAB, Volume 7

1840

Tullycannon

· Gill Map:AL (LG), Volume 1, 18

1840

Tullycanna

· OD:AL, Volume 1, Page 18

1840

Tullicanna

· Sigin, W.:AL (LG)

1840

Tullicanna

· Rosseter, H.:AL (LG)

1840

Tullicanna

· Freeholders Reg.:AL, Volume 1,18

1840

Tullicanna

· BS:AL, Volume I, 18

1840

Tullicanna

· Bar. Cons.:AL, Volume 1, 18

1840

Tullakennay

· Inq. C I:AL, Volume 1, 18

1840

Tullakenagh

· DS Map:AL, Volume 1, 18

1840

Tullacanna

· Stafford, J.:AL (LG) (BA)

1840

Tullacanna

· GJReturn:AL (LG), Volume 1, 18

1840

Tullacanna

· Co. Treas. Warrant:AL, Volume 1,18

1840

Tullacanna

· CM:AL, Volume 1, 18

1840

Tulaigh Ui Chionaith, 'O'Kenna's hill'

· OD:AL, Volume 1, Page 18

1840

Tallacanna

· Patent:AL, Volume 1, 18

1840

Talakena (Turf Bog of)

· DS Ref.:AL, Volume 1, 18

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52.48194, -6.29207

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Crois na Stogh/Crossnastouc Crossroads - Local Placename

Larry and Peg O'Connor told me this name for the crossroads. Peg and Larry pronounce it as 'Kriss-na-stow' and not 'Cross-na-stuck' as spelt in other places. It is believed that an ancient cross once stood in these locations. Further down the road you have a field called The Cross Field in Ballyvaldon, while in Blackwater there is a cross roads on to way to Screen/Curracloe pronounced Crois-ta-rua and Cross-la-rua.

52.48825, -6.29359

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John Mangans' Home place

I visited the home of Maggie Mangan with Ned Kavanagh and was given a tour of the late John Mangan's medals and photos. I had always heard about John but never really realised how much of a local and national figure he was. One of the first things that struck me was a framed song dedicated to John Mangan and written by none other than Séan Etchingham. Séan was a noted writer of songs and was one of the leading figures in the 1916 Rising in Enniscorthy. Séan was from Riverchapel and was the Free States first Minister for Fishing. He's buried in Ardamine and penned many songs in his time. So, needless to say, the exploits of World famous John Mangan caught his attention. From looking at the photos of John rowing and throwing weights, you quickly realise how much of a giant

this man was, physically. In fact, when i mention his name to anyone older, they come out with the same saying 'his records haven't been bet, you know.' In some ways he was their Mohammad Ali, a local superhero.

One striking thing that got me was when Peg and Larry O'Connor told me that the big tree that once stood in the yard of John's home still stands. While the homestead has since fallen down, the O'Connor's decided that this big tree was to remain as a living monument to the man that once came out of that house.

52.48644, -6.30168

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Large Norman Enclosure - Ballymacsimon

Here is the site of what appeared to be an impressive Norman Enclosure. It has since been destroyed - it was recorded in the mid 18th century. This enclosure was square in shape compared to the circular raths/forts/raheens that the native Irish lived in.

Although they are locally described as raheen or raths, they are different than the native Irish ring forts. This site should not be confused with a overgrown area to the immediate south-west of the original site.

It is generally believed that these were built from the 13th century onwards and are dotted along the east coast of Wexford and more than likely were made by Norman settlers. You can see from the old maps that there was a spring and a well nearby. These were essential for any settlements.

52.49227, -6.30964

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Hatter's Mill and Bridge

This was once the site of a mill which was owned by the Hatter family. The mill is now in ruins and the site overgrown. I'm sure certain fragments remain but all standing walls are gone. Ned and Joe Kavanagh told me that the mill wheels are in private ownership locally. I did not visit them, but they assure me that they still exist. The Kavanagh's also pointed out that this was where the local pikemen assembled in 1798 before they marched to take part in the Battle of Oulart Hill. The use of rivers to navigate the county was common in 1798 as many people travelled through the land for safety as well using the rivers as navigational tools.

The small river that powered this mill also powered the nearby mill in Killincooly which was owned by the Dunphy's. Larry and Peg O'Connor also told me that this river bank, which ran from Hatters to Dunphys, was used as a local mass path to Killincooly Church.

52.49705, -6.29159

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Hatters Hill - Local Placename

This is a local place name which gets its name from the Hatter family who once had a mill at the bottom of this hill.

52.50016, -6.29114

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Site of St. Bride's Well - Kilmuckridge

This site lies at the back of Maggie Mangan's farmyard. Peg O'Connor had heard of the well from her mother when she was a child but Ned Kavanagh and other people I'd mentioned it to, never heard of it. It really shows how certain pieces of information can exist within a couple of sources and no-one else in the community know anything about them. Peg called it Bridget's Well rather than Bride's, as it is called in the OSI maps. Fr. Seamus de Val also refers to it as Tobar Bhríde and in nearby Kilnew we have Tobar Mogue and at least two more wells with the surviving Irish fobar in their names.

Maggie told us that the well has since become overgrown and not accessible. Like the well in Ballinure, it appeared that this one was not covered by a permanent structure and this was one reason for its demise. I'm sure with a small bit of work that the spring could be found again and reopened - though I know that's easier said than done too. I'm glad that Peg was able to tell me that she knew of it though.

52.50117, -6.2954

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Dixie's Acre Drinking Well

Dixie's Acre Drinking Well. Peg O'Connor told me this was a popular well used by locals for water.

52.50404, -6.28839

Old Graves of Note and Importance

It must always be pointed out that when people visit old graveyards that aside from the old stone headstones, poorer people would only have been buried with stones or wooden crosses to mark their graves. As a result many are not identifiable. Since the 1950's onwards you begin to notice homemade concrete headstones and crosses. These can be seen on graves in Killincooly and the Old Graveyard. Ned Kavanagh told me of a carpenter from Monamolin, Tommy Johnston, who was known to have made moulds for many of these crosses, which included a recess for a religious statue or the like. I'm much more drawn to these headstones than the formal ones. One thing that really struck me in the old graveyard was one made from the axels of two cars. This was made by Mikey Kinsella the Smith from Monamolin.

In the same graveyard are two of the graves of men who fought in the 1916 Rising and War of Independence. One is for Joe Quinsey, Captain of the local IRA, and James Dempsey who I have been told took part in the 1916 Rising in Dublin. The graves of other local men, including Lar Redmond are in the new cemetery.

- 52.50468, -6.2913

Protestant Church and Graveyard

In the same graveyard is what is known locally as 'the sailors hole'. This is a term used right along the coast here with 'sailors holes' in most of the coastal graveyards, Donaghmore, Ballyvaldon, Ardamine etc. As unidentified bodies would have washed up on the beaches over the centuries, they were quickly buried in un-marked sections of these graveyards. Joe Hammel told me numerous stories of unidentified bodies washing up on beaches, including one of a decapitated body which was found washed up in a bag up near Cahore. In nearby Knocknasillouge there is a 'sailors hole' in scrub at Cush Gap.

- 52.50468, -6.29174

Site of Old Kilmuckridge Post Office

This post office moved to the Ford and as a result the name Kilmuckridge dominated over the older known Ford name.

• 52.50434, -6.29179

© Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

The Market Cross - Local Placename

Larry O'Connor told me that when he was growing up, this cross was always called The Market Cross. As the name suggests, a market used to be held there.

52.5044, -6.29153

• © Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

Sailors Hole and German Pilot

One story which Joe brought to my attention was that of a young German pilot washed up on the beach during the 2nd World War.

Only in the latter stages of research this project did certain pieces of information come together. This is a story of two sides. One involved the body of a young German pilot washed up on a local beach, who was buried by Joe Hammels father and a photo of his grave taken by Father Joseph Ranson survives. The pilot was Geft. Franz Gunther and his five man plane was shot down off the coast as it returned from a bombing raid on the Merseyside area of Liverpool on the evening of September 29th, 1940. Franz Gunther's body was buried in the old graveyard in Kilmuckridge. On a small photo which Fr. Ranson took, the date on the '21st of October 1940' is written on the back. This may have been the day of the burial or the date the photo was taken. Records show, that three of the bodies of the five pilots were washed up on the coast sometime later.

So here is the 2nd part of this jigsaw. The plane that was involved in the shooting down of this bomber was flown by Flying Officer Paul Mayhew from the RAF. I always assumed these were separate instances but from reading the accounts from PJ Cummins' book we read that it was Mayhew who actually brought this plane down.

Joe told me that his father had laid out the body for burial with a cross placed upon the coffin I suppose, when the owner of Upton House, Major Brien, came in and complained that the pilot didn't deserve a cross. The cross remained and the body was buried in the sailors hole. Major Brian was from a pro-British background and it is understandable why he felt this way. What is remarkable was that Fr. Ranson at that time took a photo of the burial site and on it lay what appears to be a laurel wreath and some of the pilots uniform, which included a swastika. That image of the swastika sends shivers down the spines of many and rightly so. To be handed this little photo by Joe and Bridie Hammel was an incredible find. I don't think it had been shown publicly before this and neither myself or Joe knew had linked the stories prior to this.

What did strike me, and this comes with the benefit of time, is that this was a young man, someones son, someones loved one. Joe recalls his name to me - Franz Gunther - and like me, he often wondered should his family be contacted.. I think the good nature in us would have done the same for anyone who arrived in our area. From doing this research we can see that we treated people as people, regardless of what side of the war they were on. Peter Mayhew was looked after; two young that Americans crashed their plane near Killenagh were cared for; likewise two other German pilots who came ashore on a dingy from their crashed plane were given a bed by Fr. Wheeler.

Beth Young told me this story. The two young pilots who she said were approximately 19 or 20 years old were given a bed to stay in locally before being brought to the authorities. Franz Gunther was later re-interred in Glengree in the German War Cemetery in Co. Wicklow.

The photo also highlights what a brilliant mind Joe Ranson had. When he decided to document such an event he knew of its significance and how it would be valued in the future. His Songs of the Wexford Coast collection is another true example of this.

- 52.50467, -6.29157
- © Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

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Ballyadam Mill and Bridge

This was the site of Ballyadam Mill. The river that fed this also fed Hatters and Dunphy's mill. Nothing seems to remain of the mill now.

- 52.5048, -6.30122
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- © Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

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Lost Village - The Field With Twenty Hearths

This story caught my attention as soon as I heard it mentioned. A few people told me it, but Ned Kavanagh brought me to the field. The story goes that when that field was being made into one and ploughed, that twenty fire hearths were pulled up. The story implies and suggests that at one stage twenty poor families lived here on the bare minimum of land. This type of lost-settlement crops up throughout the county. In the Fodach near Ballinoulart we were told as children that there once stood forty houses there. Houses belonging to the poor native Irish who were simply put off their lands and forced to live in small holdings by local landlords.

- 52.50351, -6.31123

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Raheen - Ballyadam

This raheen (ringfort) in Ballyadam has been destroyed. It appears in the old OSI maps of the mid 1800's. From this aerial shot you can make out a shape where the raheen once stood.

- 52.5029, -6.3133

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- © Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

Possible Site of Kilmalony Church and Graveyard

This is another placename which has survived because of local memory. Ned Kavanagh told me about this placename and when I was examining the records on Cremore, here was Kilmalony mentioned. The Kilmalony name suggests a church nearby and various local people, including Ned, Bridie Hammel and Larry O'Connor had heard that there once was an old graveyard and possible church in Cremore. In fact Ned and Larry pointed out on a map where they thought it was. This graveyard was not on the OSI maps from the mid 1800's so I can only surmise that it wasn't being used then or there was nothing left when the lands were surveyed. I'm open to any help with this. All I can go by is what people say and a few people have pointed to this one spot for me.

- 52.50519, -6.31928

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Norman Enclosure - Cremore

This is the site of what appears to be an impressive Norman Enclosure. It was recorded in the mid 18th century. This enclosure would have been square in shape compared to the circular raths/forts/raheens that the native Irish would have lived in. Part of the out walls may still survive in the lanes around the farmyard. The new farm that surrounds this enclosure was probably just developed over the centuries on the old site.

Although they are locally described as raheen or raths, they are different than the native Irish ring forts. This site should not be confused with a overgrown area to the immediate south-west of the original site.

It is generally believed that these were built from the 13th century onwards and are dotted along the east coast of Wexford and more than likely were made by Norman settlers. From visiting logainm.ie I found some interesting information about the name and the people who once lived here. One name appears which Ned Kavanagh mentioned to me: Kilmaloney. Below is how the townland was spelt and who controlled the territory from the 16th century onwards. The name O'Murcho appears first and this is the same O'Murcho who give Morriscastle its name. In 1660 we see that the town's land was named Vremore/Kilmalony. The Kilmalony name suggests a church nearby and local people have told me that there once was a small church and graveyard across the road from this site.

<http://www.logainm.ie/en/53150>

Dates and Owners of Cremore

1584

Krymore (Gerald O Murcho m'Arte ne Killy)

· F, 24, Paragraph 4307

1605

Crimore, Krymore(Gerald Mc Arte ne Kille)

· CPR, 64

1613

Creemore (Geo. Trevillian)

· CPR, 260

1618

Creemore (Donell Evally O'Murcho)

· CPR, 361

1642 c

Cromore (Teige M'Conell [Morchoe])

· Wexford Rebel List 1641, 35

1642 c

Creenemore (Teige O Murchoe)

· Wexford Rebel List 1641, 39

1654

the Turff moore of Krimore

· CS (LG), 43

1654

Krimore (i gcur síos ar theorainn Ballytarsna etc.)

· CS (LG), 53

1654

Krimoe (Teige Morchoe)

· CS (LG), 52

1655-57

Crymore

· DS (P)

1655

Krymore

· DS

1660

Killmolony or Crymore (Teige Murtho))

· BSD (LG)

1660

Creymore (Teige Murchoe)

· BSD (LG)

1663

Crymore (Teige Murthoe)

· Inq. Lag., 3 C II

1668

Crymore (Jo. Warren)

· ASE, 179

1685

Crymore

· Hib. Del.

1839

Crimore

· Inq. C II:AL

1839

Creemore

· Gill Map:AL (LG)

1839

Creemore

· Doran, A.:AL (LG)

1839

Creemore

· Armstrong, Rev.:AL (LG)

1839

Crích mór 'great district'

· OD:AL

• 52.50222, -6.32403

• © Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

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Ballintaggart - Newtown - Local Placename

Here is another place name that I spoke to Ned Kavanagh and Henry Kirwan about. The towns land is now called Newtown, however from talking to various sources, it was known as Ballintaggart or Baile an tSagairt - town of the priest.

When you look at the Downs Survey we see Newtown was recorded as Tanedarr while neighbouring Ballyvadden was recorded as being two towns land, Ballineviden and Ballintegert. The later Ballintegert would most certainly be the Ballintaggart that Ned and Henry spoke off. The name Newtown was obviously the new plantation name given to the area. This happened all over the county and country. While even some of our Gaelic townlands would too have been made up from a series of smaller townlands. This was probably the case here. Luckily our oral history prevented this one from disappearing, possibly because it was associated with a priest and the importance of that and the nearby church and grave yard help preserve it.

52.50829, -6.3155

- © Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

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Mass Bush and Mass Rock

Peg O'Connor and Bridie Hammel brought my attention to this site. Prior to this I was surprised why there were no known penal mass sites in the village. In nearby Blackwater, I encountered at least three. So to find this on the land of Mythen was fantastic. On meeting him, he told me how he was told that an old man used to come and pray there. He was also warned as a child never to meddle with it or cut it down. The tree and rock stand along in the corner of the haggard. They stand alone, away from the ditches. The whitethorn is very old and from a just a visual guess, it would appear to be at least 250 plus years old. This was a very special site and a very private site. This family have respected and retained this wonderful site and we are lucky they have. Please note this site is on private land.

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- 52.51103, -6.33588

- © Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

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Old School House - Newtown/Ballintaggard

On the OSi maps from the mid 1800's we see a school house marked here. I've asked some people and no-one

remembers anything about it. Any information appreciated. Is it Catholic or Church of Ireland? The Kilnamanagh School in nearby Knockskemolin was there at the same time so it may have been a Catholic School.

- 52.51375, -6.32502

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Ballyvadden Horde - Later Bronze Age

Ned Kavanagh took me to this site. It was a marlhole, however Ned said when they were digging the marlhole in 1849 that they found the hoarde. Edward Culleton in his book Early Man in County Wexford has this account. "It was here that the Ballvadden Horde was found in 1849. They were found approx 1m below the surface in a pottery vessel with 'a flag placed over it. Among the objects found were two incomplete socked axeheads, an incomplete socketed knife and an incomplete socketed gouge. These objects are now in the National Museum."

- 52.51765, -6.32622

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Raheen or Motte - Ballyvadden

This maybe a raheen (ringfort) or it could be a built motte. Locals call it a raheen but that is a general term used for forts of different shapes and sizes. It straddled the townlands of Ballygarran/Tinteskin. On the OSI maps we see it is drawn differently than a standard ring fort or that of a square fort. It could be a similar structure to that found in Tinteskin. Beth Young and Ned Kavanagh told me about this and both remember the holy well that was nearby. Ned called this holy well St. Anne's Well, as this is what he heard it called when growing up. It's not marked as a holy well on the OSI maps, however both Beth and Ned stressed that it was. It is interesting to note that here again, the name Ann appears. She appears in Killannduff and Killancooly which are only a few miles away.

52.51824, -6.3213

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St. Ann's Holy Well

Beth Young and Ned Kavanagh told me about this site. Although not marked on the OSI maps, they claim that local people visited the well for cures. It is interesting to note that here again, the name Ann appears. She appears in Killannduff and Killancooly which are only a few miles away.

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- 52.51814, -6.32164

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Gath Alley Bridge - Local Placename

Ned Kavanagh told me the name of this bridge. It may be derived from the Irish for gate, geata. The word alley is an interesting one as in nearby Monamolin we have Buffers Alley and in Tinnaberna we have Poul Alley.

- 52.51573, -6.31312

© Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

Morrissey's Forge

Local forge. No longer in use.

- 52.51549, -6.31498

© Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

Mylie Murphy's Forge

Ned Kavanagh told me this was he forge where Mylie Murphy worked from.

- 52.51605, -6.31046

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Sappers Mark - Crows Foot

On the rock at the bottom of this pier you can see the Sappers Mark clearly. Irish people tended to call them a Crows Foot. There were numerous one around the village but most have been plastered over or the stones removed. These marks were used by the sappers when they were mapping the country in the mid 1800's.

- □ 52.5162, -6.3105

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World War Two Plane Crash

Here is an incredible World War Two story from this area. Only in the latter stages of research this project did certain pieces of information come together. This is a story of two sides. One involved the body of a young German pilot washed up on a local beach, who was buried by Joe Hammels father and a photo of his grave taken by Father Joseph Ranson survives. The pilot was Gefr. Franz Gunther and his five man plane was shot down off the coast as it returned from a bombing raid on the Merseyside area of Liverpool on the evening of September 29th, 1940. Franz Gunther's body was buried in the old graveyard in Kilmuckridge. On a small photo which Fr. Ranson took, the date on the '21st of October 1940' is written on the back. This may have been the day of the burial or the date the photo was taken. Records show, that three of the bodies of the five pilots were washed up on the coast sometime later.

So here is the 2nd part of this jigsaw. The plane that was involved in the shooting down of this bomber was flown by Flying Officer Paul Mayhew from the RAF. I always assumed these were separate instances but from reading the accounts from PJ Cummins' book we read that it was Mayhew who actually brought this plane down.

To add further to this story. The young Mayhew kept a diary of his crash and his family published this some years ago. Here we can read who greeted him when he crash landed, what he was fed and where he was brought to. What is further tragic in this long story is Mayhew escape from the Curragh Camp back to England to take part in the war. However, a year later, he too was killed. The Irish Air Corp bought Mayhew's plane from the British Government and the plane was used for decades afterwards.

Please see attached links.

- [52.52216, -6.30851](#)

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Raheen - Ballygarran/Tinteskin

This may have been a raheen (ringfort) or perhaps a built motte. Its difficult to say from the old maps. It straddled the townlands of Ballygarran/Tinteskin. The fields around it have been let into one since it was mapped back in the mid 1800's. On the OSI maps we see it is drawn differently than a standard ring fort or that of a square fort. It has been destroyed and nothing remains. A little stream nearby would have been the water source for the settlement. Below are some notes on the how Tinteskin name has developed and changed over the centuries.

<http://www.logainm.ie/en/53021?s=tinteskin>

- 52.51573, -6.29698

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Site of old Hurling and Football Field

This field, belonging to Hammels, was used locally for field days and gatherings. I was told it was also used for playing hurling and football matches. The use of particular fields for hurling and football has always interested me. Fields where neighbours met on a Sunday to play or where a few chaps would strike up a game. From conducting projects like this in Blackwater, Screen, Curraclloe, Ballymurn and Castlebridge I have come across many fields that were used for this purpose. A field at Ballyfarnoge Cross, near Screen, was one such field, the carpark in Ballinesker beach was another. Tinnaberna Green was one closer to home that I've heard of football and games being played on. One thing that struck me over the years was the lack of a dedicated GAA field in the village. I know the Buffers Alley pitch belongs to the parish, but a pitch closer would too be an advantage.

52.51149, -6.28701

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Old Road - Borders of Newtown and Ruanmore

Beth Young told me about this one day. She remembers walking the road/lane as a child. It ran the course of this ditch. From the old maps from the mid 1800's we can see houses on the lane, however its since overgrown and not in use

- 52.51841, -6.31166

- © Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

Site of Castleannesley Castle

Castleannesley shares a common name with the towns land I grew up in; Parkannesley in neighbouring Ballygarrett. Needless to say, Annesely was not a native name and we can see through the Downs Survey, the Annesley surname arrived in this area in c 1841 when Arthur Annesley arrived. In fact, Annesley was granted large tracts of land down as far a Curracloe and up to Camolin. If we look at the records from 1618 we see the area was known as Ballicaslane. The town of the Castle. Possibly the castle of O'Morchoe. (Or now Maurice Castle) However, the Castleannesley story is identical to what happened in Ballygarrett. When Annesley took over he borrowed the already existing castle name and put his name at the end, become Castleannesley. In Ballygarrett he took the old place name An Parc More and put his stamp on that too, resulting in Parkannesley. (Park More meaning big field) To give him credit at least he built upon a name that already existed in the area, unlike names such as Newtown which replaced Ballintaggart completely. Mind you many of our counties new housing estates and houses have done the same over the past few decades. On an aside. the big debate between Castleannesley and Parkannesley for years has been, 'which towns land did Napoleon's horse come from?' In Ballygarrett we grew up with the believing it came from Parkannesley and the Ballygarrett horse even had a name, Charger. A while back, I read that the Wexford claim was being contested with another village in Cork. I'm sure he had a few horses to be fair, but where they came from is the question. Here is some info on the name from logainm.

1618 Ballicaslane (Francis Annesley) · CPR, 358 1743 Castleannesley otherwise Castletown (Annesely) · CGn., Volume 110, 507, Number 79029 1764 Castle Annesley (Wm. Clifford) · Vigors Papers, 306 1785 Castle Annesly otherwise Maurice Castle (Will. Clifford) · 'Will Abstracts', Analecta Hibernica 17, Volume 206 1789 Castle Annesley orwise Maurice Castle · CGn., Volume 487, 123, Number 312146 1807 Cast. Annesley · Stat. Survey Map (LG) 1836 Castle Annesley · Rental Book:WCA, Volume WCA/P47 (Map) 1840 Castleannesley · OD:AL 1840 Castle Ansley · Roche, R.:AL (LG) 1840 Annesley · CM:AL

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52.51258, -6.25515

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O'Coghlan Homestead -Argentinian Connection

Although somewhat well known in and around Kilrane, the Argentinean connection to the Kilmuckridge/Ballygarrett area wasn't publicly known at all. Although the Ballygarrett/Kilmucridge connection to Texas has been documented and remembered, this area has been forgotten. The Argentinean connection with Ireland is sizeable with the biggest concentration of people leaving from the midlands counties of Offaly, Westmeath and then Wexford. The shipping records of the time detail the families that went out and what was surprising when reading the records, the

Wexford people nearly always included their townland and village, whilst this didn't seem as common with other counties. Below are a list of names that went out. The largest two surnames from the Kilmucridge and Ballygarrett were Kavanagh and Coghlan. The family names have almost all survived and a photographer friend of mine from Limerick, Maurice Gunning has documented many of the Irish-Argentines over the past decade. The Coghlan family must have done well in their new country and in Buenos Aires, there is an affluent area of the city called Coughlan which boast its own train station, it too bearing the name. Ned Hammel of Castleannesley told me that one of the Coghlan descendants visited him in the 1980's and they had an emotional meeting. The Coughlan man, who had very little English, was overcome by the fact that he was back where his ancestors had come from. I can only imagine from reading accounts and from direct stories from people who have worked with these people that they felt an incredible bond and affiliation to Ireland. When working in Rosslare in 2007, I recorded the song The Kilrane Boys which was sung by local singer Phil Berry and it details all the local families from that part of the county that went out in the 1830's. It is great to see that song still survive in that part of the county. In the old Kilrane graveyard I was also taken to a grave of a young Murphy girl who died when on holidays back to Wexford from Buenos Aires with her family in the late 19th century. It is a strange site to see a grave in Ireland with a Murphy surname on it and it reads, died in Wexford, native of Buenos Aires. Eduardo Coghlan's produced a massive study of the Irish who went out in the 1980's His work details ism 4,348 Irish settlers and this is commonly referred to as Los Irlandeses en la Argentina: Su Actuación y Descendencia (Buenos Aires, 1987) Local names from this area that went out seem to be Coghlan, Somers, Sinnott, Redmond, Murphy, Fortune, Kavanagh, Doyle, O'Brien, Walsh and MacLoughlin. Please see links below for further information.

<http://www.irlandeses.org/passenger.htm>

<http://www.irlandeses.org/settlers.htm>

52.51274, -6.2574

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Site of Morris Castle

This site is one of the most important in this part of the village. Although virtually nothing survives now, it was once the location for a famous Gaelic family castle. The castle which was documented in the mid 19th century as in ruins, once stood in this location with a commanding view of the coast line. The name Morris is a variant of the popular Murphy name or O'Morchoe. The Murphy name is strong and plentiful in North Wexford, South Wicklow and East Carlow and the family held control of their lands up until the Plantations. In fact there are many Murphy family names still surviving in the area and most probably, some of these families would have links to the Murphy's who once controlled this area. I was told by Ned Kavanagh that the cut stone from this old castle was used in the construction

of the Protestant Church in Kilmuckridge. The castle would appear to have been built on the top of what is now the disused quarry. Stone quarries weren't that plentiful in the area and placing the castle here would have made perfect building and defensive sense. The castle was demolished by Wexford County Council in 1936 much to the outrage of many including the county historian of the time Kathleen Browne. The castle was referred to as the 'Ould Castle' which indicates Annesleys was the later edition. Kathleen is quoted as saying "what Annesley's of 1666 left undone, the Wexford County Council of 1936 finished."

© Information by Michael Fortune, 2015

52.51909, -6.25499

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Written and compiled by Michael Fortune, Nov. 2015