

A scenic landscape of a green valley. In the foreground, a stone dam with a white metal truss bridge spans across a calm lake. The water reflects the surrounding greenery. The middle ground is filled with a dense forest of trees in various shades of green and yellow. In the background, rolling green hills are visible, with a few dark spots that appear to be cows grazing in a field. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

# Glenasmole Roads

*Patrick Healy*

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# Glenasmole Roads

*by*

*Patrick Healy*

including notes on Killakee, Upper Dodder River,  
Firhouse Road from Old Bawn to Cherryfield  
and an appendix of placenames and field names  
collected by Tomás Maher and pupils of  
Glenasmole National School

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GLENASMOLE ROADS

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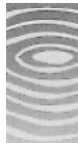
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## *Introduction*

*by Mayor Eamonn Maloney*

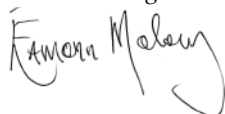


**S**OUTH Dublin County is fortunate to have Glenasmole, an area of outstanding natural beauty with its varied and rich heritage within its boundaries. We are most fortunate also, that the Glenasmole written about by Paddy Healy in 1960 is still largely unspoiled and intact.

For those of us who know Glenasmole, this book provides an opportunity to renew our acquaintance with the area. For those not aware of the heritage of Glenasmole the book has the potential to surprise readers as they become aware of their rich birthright revealed along Glenasmole Roads. Awareness of this rich legacy is a first step to ensuring that the area remains unspoiled for future generations.

We are particularly fortunate to have gifted to us the writings and photographs of the late Patrick Healy who carefully collected and described the history and topography of the area and presented it in a scholarly yet clear fashion so that everyone can understand and enjoy the immense value of the area.

*Ar Dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.*



**Eamonn Maloney**  
*Mayor of South Dublin County*  
**August 2006**

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

### *Editor's Note*

The material in this book is taken from a manuscript which was written, rewritten and updated in the period 1950 - 1985. Much of the material appeared in a Patrick Healy article *The Valley of Glenasmole* read to the Old Dublin Society on 15th March 1954 and subsequently published in the Dublin Historical Record in 1961. Most of the photographs used in the book are from the author's slide collection.

Minimal editing has been carried out to reflect more recent developments and changes. Imperial measurements have been used throughout the publication.

1 inch = 2.54 centimeters (0.0254 meters)

1 foot = 30.48 centimeters (0.3048 meters)

1 yard = 91.44 centimeters (0.9144 meters)

There are 12 inches in 1 foot, 3 feet in 1 yard and 1,760 yards in a mile.

### *Crest of South Dublin County*



The Crest or Coat of Arms of South Dublin County reflects the ancient history of the area, its geographical features and the work of the County Council. The motto "Ag seo ár gCúram –This we hold in Trust" is an admonition to value, to preserve and to develop the economic, social, environmental, cultural and heritage assets of the area both for our own time and for future generations.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

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THANKS are due to a number of people. Firstly, to the late Paddy Healy for his meticulous research, his informative writings and his important collection of slides and photographs which have formed this book. Initial access to Paddy's collection of manuscripts and slides was graciously facilitated and supported by a number of people, most notably Michael Fewer and Con Manning. Síle Coleman of the County Library in Tallaght was a great support in preparing the book for publication. John McAleer is responsible for its professional design and layout.

The greatest debt is owed to Peter Healy who in the sharing nature of his late brother Paddy, gave access to Paddy's papers so that others could share Paddy's great knowledge and deep insights. Rob Goodbody and the Irish Times kindly granted permission to reproduce *Paddy Healy – An Appreciation*.

Thanks to Tomás Maher and the pupils of Glenasmole National School who permitted the inclusion of a list of placenames and field names they had collected.

We are grateful to the board of the National Library of Ireland for permission to reproduce a photograph on page 41 of people praying at St. Colmille's Well in 1954. A map drawn by Paddy Healy based on an Ordnance Survey map is reproduced on page 3 courtesy of Ordnance Survey Ireland.

*Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir.*



## *Paddy Healy An Appreciation*



**P**ADDY Healy, archaeologist, local historian and friend, has died after a long life devoted to Ireland's past. Through his work on archaeological excavations in Dublin city and elsewhere, his meticulous collection of information, his support of various societies and his encouragement to younger generations, his influence has been widespread and invaluable.

Born in Canada in 1916 of Irish emigrant parents, Paddy moved with his family to Dublin at the age of five. After schooling in Haddington Road and Marino, he studied building construction in Bolton Street College, where his subjects included land surveying and technical drawing; both were to prove important in his later career. After graduation he worked as a silkscreen printer in Modern Display Artists while he took night classes under Sean Keating at the National College of Art.

During the Emergency Paddy served in the Army, then worked as a painter and decorator for a time. An important change came in 1949 when he joined the staff of the Land Commission as a surveyor. After eight years he moved to the Forestry Division, again as a surveyor.

In 1952 he began to attend Professor Seán P. Ó Riordáin's lectures in archaeology in University College Dublin as an occasional student. He joined the UCD Archaeological Society, becoming its vice-president, and his contact with the college led him to work as part of Professor Ó Riordáin's team on the excavation of the Rath of the Synods at Tara during his annual holidays. In 1967 he joined Breandán Ó Riordáin's team on the second excavation at High Street in Dublin. At this stage Paddy made a major decision to abandon the security of his job with the Forestry Division to work full-time on archaeological excavations. He went on to work on excavations at Winetavern Street in 1969, Christchurch Place between 1972 and 1979, and from 1976 in Fishamble Street.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

When the work on the Wood Quay site became controversial, Paddy stood firmly on the side of archaeology. His quiet but determined manner was a great source of encouragement to his colleagues as he sat in on the site, and he was the author of a poem written about the controversy and sold to raise funds for the campaign.

During the 1970s Paddy Healy acted as a contract archaeologist providing advice and working on excavations. Most importantly, he provided lists of monuments and sites of archaeological interest in County Dublin in the mid-1970s to assist in the preparation of the County Development Plan and the area action plans which preceded the development of the western new towns of Tallaght, Lucan/Clondalkin and Blanchardstown.

Over the years he wrote papers and articles for a variety of publications, including several in which he described for the first time monuments and artefacts which he had discovered. Some of these were early grave slabs from the Rathdown area of south Dublin and north Wicklow and these became the topic of his MA thesis presented to NUI Galway under the supervision of Professor Etienne Rynne.

Paddy, in turn, was the subject of a publication when 29 colleagues and friends contributed papers in his honour for publication in a book, *Dublin and Beyond the Pale*, edited by Con Manning.

Among the organisations to benefit greatly from his membership were the Old Dublin Society, the Royal Society of Antiquaries, the Dublin Archaeological Society, Friends of Medieval Dublin, the Irish Architectural Archive and the Rathmichael Historical Society.

Paddy Healy was laid to rest on December 11th last in the cemetery at Mount Venus in the Dublin Mountains, close to historical and archaeological sites that he had investigated and overlooking the city which he had loved so much.

**R.G.**

*Irish Times*, Monday 21st January 2001

A scenic landscape of a green valley. In the foreground, a stone dam with a white metal truss bridge spans across a calm lake. The water reflects the surrounding greenery. The middle ground is filled with a dense forest of trees in various shades of green and yellow. In the background, rolling green hills are visible, with a few dark spots that appear to be cows grazing in a field. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

# Glenasmole Roads

*Patrick Healy*

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A scenic landscape of a green valley. In the foreground, a river flows through a lush green valley. A white metal truss bridge spans across the river, supported by stone pillars. The background features rolling green hills with scattered trees and a few cows grazing in the fields. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

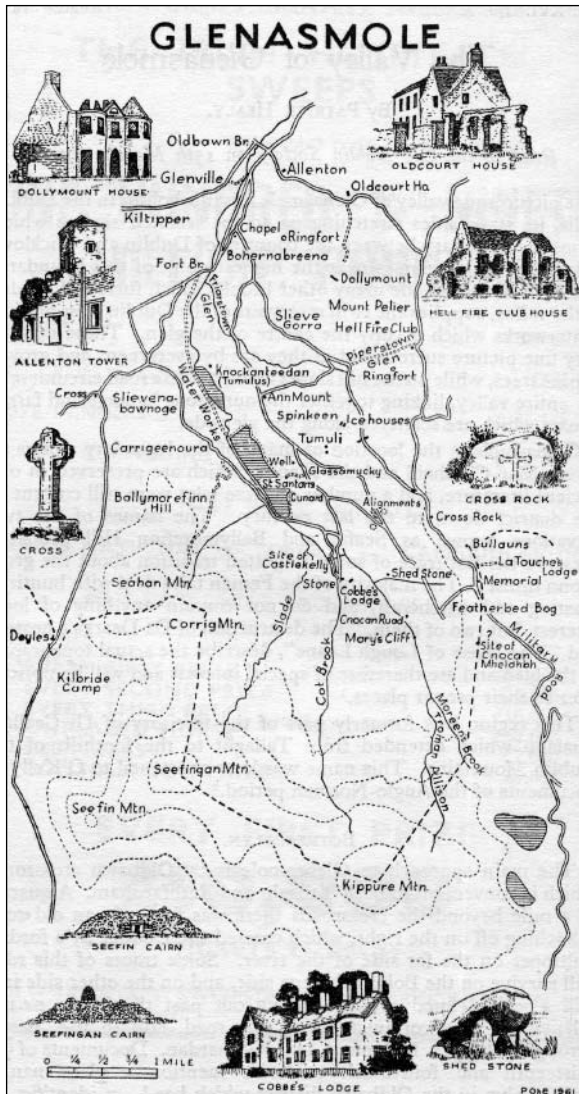
# Glenasmole Roads

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# GLENASMOLE ROADS



Map of the Valley of Glenasmole drawn by Patrick Healy based on Ordnance Survey Map by kind permission of Ordnance Survey Ireland Permit No. 8234.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

The continuation of this road, still in use, passes through Kiltipper, Ballymana and Killinarden. Documents of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries mention a place named Bohercolyn in the Old Bawn district which has been identified as comprising Ballymana, Killinarden and parts of the adjoining townlands and would appear to indicate that the old road passing through this area was part of the ancient Slighe Cualann, one of the main roads from Tara.<sup>3</sup>

About the year 1800, a man named Murphy was swept away with his horse and cart when trying to cross the ford in the dark during a flood and shortly after this the bridge was built at Old Bawn and linked up with the road to Tallaght.<sup>4</sup> The ford however appears to have continued in use for many years as the connecting road from the new bridge to Glenville was not made until the middle of the nineteenth century.<sup>5</sup> The bridge, which was a three arched structure, suffered as a result of frequent floods which undermined the foundations and had to be replaced about 1840 by a bridge of one span only. On maps dating from the early part of the nineteenth century, Glenville is named Glynville and the building which was then the residence is now used as an out office, a new house having been built nearer to the road.

### **Execution of the Kearneys**

In one of the fields beside the ford is the spot where the three Kearneys were hanged in 1816. These three men, a father and two sons, Peter, Joe and Billy Kearney, were convicted of conspiracy to murder John Kinlan, an employee of Ponsonby Shaw of Friarstown. The Kearneys had been heard to say that they would finish Kinlan whenever they got the chance and when the latter disappeared one night after a shot had been heard, the Kearneys immediately came under suspicion. Kinlan's body could not be found but a hatchet was located near Kearney's house with blood on it and hair that resembled Kinlan's.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

After their conviction for the murder of Kinlan, the Kearneys were escorted from Kilmainham by a troop of Dragoons to this field where three gallows had been erected. Thousands of the country people had assembled to witness the execution and their sympathy would appear to have been all on the side of the convicted men. When the executions were over the bodies were taken back and buried in Kilmainham Jail.<sup>6</sup>



*Kearney's House at Piperstown in 1976.*

The Kearney family took an active part in the revolutionary movements of that period. William Kearney, one of the sons, who kept a public house in Bohernabreena, had been out fighting in 1798. After the failure of the 1803 Rising, Robert Emmet and some of his comrades took refuge in Kearney's house. They were hiding in the attic when the house was surrounded by soldiers and yeomanry under Mr. Latouche and Mr. Shaw. These two gentlemen entered the house and Mr. Shaw was about to climb the stairs when Mrs. Kearney dissuaded him, by assuring him that it was unsafe.

This was literally true, as one of the men was lying on the floor of the attic with his finger on the trigger of his blunderbuss waiting for a head to appear. The military then left the house without further trouble.<sup>7</sup>

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

According to Malachy Horan, Kinlan was land agent to Ponsonby Shaw, and a hard man on the tenants, so it would appear in the circumstances that his murder was probably done from both political and agrarian motives. In the year 1933 a skeleton was found in a sandpit near Tallaght which was believed to be the remains of the murdered man.<sup>8</sup>

### **Bohernabreena**

Further along towards Glenasmole the road passes through Bohernabreena. This townland name, translated as "The Road of the Hostel" had led such scholars as O'Curry and MacNeill to believe that this was the location of Dá Dearga's hostel which is so dramatically described in the old saga *The Destruction of Dá Dearga's Hostel*. According to Henry Morris, however, this placename simply described the road which led to the hostel and the hostel itself was located at the head of the glen, near the source of the Dodder. He makes a very strong case as far as topography and place-names are concerned but fails to justify the building of a hostel in such a remote area.



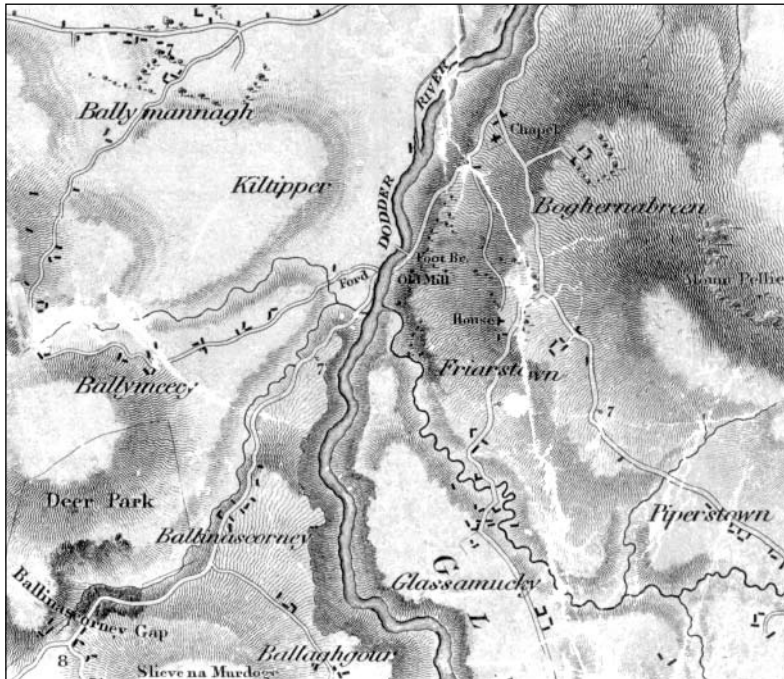
*A ring fort situated in a field 400 yards east of Bohernabreena House.*



## GLENASMOLE ROADS

Four hundred yards to the east of Bohernabreena House there is a fine ring fort in a field of furze with a spring of water beside it. It is 30 yards in diameter and surrounded by a bank. The area inside is levelled and bears evidence of having been tilled at some distant period.

The straight portion of road leading to Fort Bridge over the Dodder was built about 1922 to avoid the steep rise past Bohernabreena Chapel. This chapel, which is dedicated to St. Anne, was built in 1868. When it was exactly a century old it became the Parish church for the newly created parish of Bohernabreena.



*Duncan's Map of 1821 showing a footbridge and ford where Fort Bridge is now located*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

Fort Bridge, over the Dodder, was built soon after 1821 and on Duncan's map published in that year there was a ford shown at this point with a footbridge beside it. Below the bridge is a very deep hole in the river bed known as the sheep hole, into which the water is precipitated over a high weir. A quarter of a mile below the bridge there was formerly a petrifying spring, that is, the water contained a quantity of carbonate of lime, which, trickling through the moss and grass transformed them into hard stone. This spring can no longer be located and may have been diverted when the new road was made.<sup>9</sup> Hancock, in his history of Tallaght, 1876, states that he took blocks of this stone for rockeries. Some years ago, on a visit to Sally Park, Hancock's old home, blocks of this stone could still be seen lying about the garden.



*Fort Bridge, built after 1821 replaced a ford and a footbridge.*

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### Friarstown Glen

Beside the bridge is the entrance to Friarstown Glen, a picturesque defile containing a rivulet which rises near Piperstown. This is part of the demesne of Friarstown, or Friarsland as it was formerly called. Down to the time of the Reformation the Friars Minor of Dublin held land here, which was at that time granted to the Luttrell and Talbot families.<sup>10</sup>

At the end of the eighteenth century this demesne was occupied by Ponsonby Shaw, brother of Sir Robert Shaw of Bushy Park. He expended a large sum of money on improving the grounds and constructed walks, grottoes and waterfalls. He also made an artificial lake by building a dam about 40 feet high across the glen. Shortly after it was finished the dam burst and destroyed all his improvements. Another owner, Captain Bayley, later repaired it.<sup>11</sup> There were remains of the bridges and the dam. The lake silted up and the area was used as a refuse dump. The dump closed in 1997 after 22 years operation.



*Friarstown House in 1977.*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

The old house occupied by Shaw still stands. It is in poor condition. It had been much altered in appearance by the enlarging of the windows and the pebble dashing of the outside. The back of the house and out-offices still retain much more character and some of the coach houses still display their old Georgian Gothic adornments.



*Outhouses at the rear of Friarstown House in 1977.*

### **Bohernabreena Water Works**

Just beyond Fort Bridge is the entrance to the water works. These reservoirs were constructed between 1883 and 1887 for the dual purpose of supplying Rathmines with drinking water and of ensuring a constant supply of water to the many mills along the River Dodder. There were at that time forty-five mills served by the Dodder water, of which fifteen were flour mills, the remainder consisting of paper, paint, cardboard, cotton, saw, glue and dye mills, as well as distilleries, breweries, malt houses, foundries, tanneries, and a bacon curing factory.<sup>12</sup>

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

The works consisted of two impounding reservoirs, the upper or clear water reservoir and the lower or mill-owners' compensatory reservoir. The gathering ground consisted partly of bog-land which comprised the mountainous area around Castlekelly and partly of stony land free from peat which lay on both sides of the lower end of the glen. It was from the latter area that the clear water was collected into the upper reservoir for drinking purposes. The peaty water off the former area bypassed the upper reservoir in an artificially constructed channel. At the upper end of the mill-owners' compensation reservoir there was a gauge which permitted 1,500 cubic feet of water per minute to pass into a pipeline through which it was conveyed into the natural river channel below the lower dam. The surplus water was diverted into the lower lake where it could be held until such time as it was required.<sup>13</sup>



*Entrance to the Water Works in 2006.*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

For about a mile from the entrance gate the road through the water works follows the winding river and after passing a gate and lodge enters a wooded area below the lower dam. From here on the road skirts the edge of the lower reservoir which is surrounded by trees growing right down to the waters edge. At the upper dam the road divides, a branch following each bank of the upper reservoir. At the upper end they emerge close together at Castlekelly, two and a half miles from Fort bridge.



*Upper Lake showing the valve house and dam.*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

### Castlekelly

This district was visited in 1837 by Eugene O'Curry in connection with his work for the Ordnance Survey. In the course of one of his letters he makes the following reference to Castlekelly: "I met an interesting old man at the bottom of the glen from whom I collected the subjoined list of local names. His name is William Rafter, Uilliam Ó Rachtabhra, he is now 84 years old with all his faculties in full vigour and with more activity and buoyancy of spirit than his son, a man of about 50 years of age. He was born and bred in the old Castlekelly, on the foundations of which his house is built, and part of the old wall of which may be still seen in the gable of the house. He speaks as good Irish as ever I heard spoken, as does his sister Una. He says that 40 years ago very few spoke English in this glen, except the Dublin car men, very few men of 40 years of age, even now, in the glen that don't understand though they don't speak the Irish." O'Curry gives a number of names in Irish and English which he took down as spoken by the people of the glen.<sup>14</sup>



*The house which was occupied by William Rafter in 1837.  
Courtesy of Tomás Maher.*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS



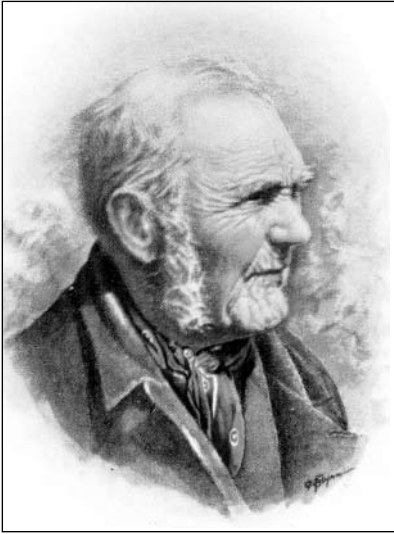
*Castlekelly Village in 1976.*

The question of how long this Irish-speaking colony survived in Glenasmole has been ably dealt with by Donn Piatt in some articles which appeared in *Feasta* in 1952. He claims that Irish was spoken down to the end of the nineteenth century, and in support of this he quotes the case of a man named Doyle, living in Bohernabreena in 1900, who stated that he used Irish when he was at school, and also a report that when the new chapel at Bohernabreena was opened in 1870 the first sermon was preached in Irish, it being the language used in the district. He also quotes the case of an old woman named Byrne, living in Kimmage about 1930, who was suffering from pneumonia. While her mind was wandering she spoke rapid but disjointed Irish, but on recovery, stated that she had no Irish, but had spoken it as a girl, living in the Dublin Mountains.<sup>15</sup>

As against this Malachi Horan who was born in 1850 knew no Irish, nor did he ever hear it spoken locally. Another old man who died at Old Bawn in 1926, aged 90 years, never heard local people speaking Irish, but often heard it from farm labourers from Co. Meath harvesting in the district.



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*Malachi Horan of Killinarden  
who dictated his memoirs  
“Malachi Horan Remembers”  
to Dr. George A. Little.*

*The memoirs were first carried  
in the Dublin Historical Record  
and later published as a book.*

The site of the castle of the placename “Castlekelly” was pointed out to me many years ago by a local man who called it O’Kelly’s Castle and associated it with the Captain O’Kelly who discovered and trained Donnelly for his famous bare-fisted fight with Cooper on the Curragh in 1815. This site is now occupied by a farmhouse and is directly north of the point where the Dodder joins the Cot Brook through an artificial channel which was part of the water works scheme. The occupier of this house had no knowledge of the castle but was aware that the place was occupied by Rafter’s in the nineteenth century. A thorough examination of the house and out offices failed to discover any evidence of old walls or masonry but this is understandable as the O.S. map of 1843 shows that none of the present buildings existed at that time. The three brooks which form the river Dodder converge here at Castlekelly, the Slade flowing from Glassavullaun, the Cot brook from Castlekelly Bog and the main stream from Glassamucky Brakes.

## Cobbe's Lodge

Just above Castlekelly the Dodder passes along the boundary wall of the house known as Cobbe's Lodge. A large area about here, including Castlekelly, Glassamucky and Killnasantan was formerly church property and was, in 1755, leased by Dr. Charles Cobbe, Archbishop of Dublin, to his son Thomas.<sup>16</sup> He let this portion to George Grierson, the King's Printer, who built the house about 1792 and called it Heathfield Lodge. Grierson also resided for a time at Rathfarnham House, formerly Loreto Abbey, Rathfarnham.



*Cobbe's Lodge also known as Heathfield Lodge in 1984.*

After Grierson's death Heathfield Lodge was occupied by his three daughters who were great travellers and who used to bring back numerous curiosities, which they collected during their travels. They altered the house into a Swiss Chalet with a deep thatched roof and a balcony around it of carved woodwork. They filled the house with skins of wild beasts, antlers and other mementoes and planted the gardens with many rare plants and the magnificent rhododendrons which still surround the house.

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They also took a great interest in the local peasantry and introduced woodcarving in the Swiss style among the people of the Glen. Specimens of this work are still to be seen in the house. The Grierson brothers, George and John often stayed here and they travelled in a specially constructed vehicle fitted with what were then considered as powerful headlamps, to aid them along the narrow and twisted road. These two men were the founders of the *Daily Express* newspaper.

Early in the nineteenth century this beautiful mansion was destroyed by fire and the contents completely lost, the occupants having to take refuge in an adjoining barn. It was later rebuilt by George Grierson on plans drawn up by himself. Over the door is a tablet inscribed:

*Heathfield Lodge. George Grierson Esq. 1812*

Just inside the boundary wall where it adjoins the road to Castlekelly Bog there is a large granite boulder known as Finn McCoolé's Stone. The Griersons had a marble slab let into it which bore the following inscription:

*Finnakoom one of the Irish Giants carried  
this stone on his shoulder from the opposite  
Mountain on April 1st 1444. He was 9 feet  
7 inches high and weighed 44 stone*

This slab was removed towards the end of the nineteenth century but the mark where it was fixed can still be seen on the stone.<sup>17</sup>



*Finn McCoolé's Stone.  
The mark where a  
plaque had been  
affixed can be clearly  
seen.*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

About 1857 the house came into the possession of Charles Cobbe Esq. D.L. J.P. of Newbridge House, whose representatives occupied it down to the end of the century.<sup>18</sup>

### **The Shed Stone**

The Dodder flows along the eastern boundary of the demesne where it is joined by a small stream coming down from the Featherbed Bog. On the northern bank of this stream, at a point 300 yards up from the Dodder, is a large rock raised up on three smaller ones, known locally as the Shed Stone and said to mark the position of a buried treasure.<sup>19</sup> Although this has the general appearance of a prehistoric dolmen or portal tomb, it is obvious on close examination that the supporting stones are actually three pieces of one stone which must have been split by the weight of the larger one above. These three fragments are not placed to form a chamber or enclosure which is one of the chief characteristics of a prehistoric burial place. It would appear therefore that the unusual arrangement of these stones is purely fortuitous. The height is about 4 feet.



*The Shed Stone*

## Upper Reaches of the Dodder

Above Heathfield Lodge the river flows along the bottom of a deep gorge and the banks sloping steeply at both sides are overgrown with holly, ivy and mountain ash. About half a mile further up there are two large mounds on the very brink of the stream. These were noted by O'Curry who considered that they were partly artificial. The name he got for them was "Cnocán Ruad" or "Little Red Hill", probably from the colour of the bracken in the Autumn time. Just above these mounds the fall of the stream is very steep and it forms a number of deep pools connected by cascades of water, which become regular torrents in wet weather. The name given to O'Curry for this part was "Ail Máire" or "Mary's Cliff".<sup>20</sup> It is about this place that the well known story about St. Patrick's hospitality is told as follows:

Oisín in his old age related to St. Patrick stories of the life led by the Fenian heroes of his youth. Being vexed by what he considered a lack of hospitality on the part of St. Patrick, he said to the saint: "I often slept abroad on the hills under the grey dew on the foliage of the trees, and I was not accustomed to a supperless bed while there was a stag on yonder hill." To this the saint replied: "Thou hast not a bed without food, for thou gettest seven cakes of bread, a large roll of butter, and a quarter of beef every day." Oisín rejoined: "I saw a berry on the rowan tree larger twice than thy roll, and I saw an ivy leaf larger and wider than thy cake of bread, and I saw a quarter of a blackbird which was larger than thy quarter of beef." Later on, overcome by remorse, Oisín set out accompanied by a guide to try and substantiate his odious comparisons. On arriving at Glenasmole they found a rowan tree on which was fruit of an enormous size, one of which they pulled and took along with them. A short distance further on they found the glen overshadowed with ivy on which immense leaves were growing, one of which they took and preserved along with the rowan berry. They then proceeded to the Curragh of Kildare where they saw a huge blackbird which they killed with the aid of

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

one of their hounds. Having cut off one of the legs they put it along with their other trophies and returned to St. Patrick who was probably convinced thereby that no offence had been intended.<sup>21</sup>

O'Curry was informed that the giant ivy leaves came from Mary's Cliff, and he was so impressed by the ivy he saw there that he sent some samples of leaves about 9 inches long to the Ordnance Survey Office, along with his report. There is plenty of ivy along this part still, but I have seen none as big as has been described. A short way up from Mary's Cliff there is a hillock on the east bank of the stream, on which O'Curry saw two cairns of stones. This was called "Cnocán Caortain" or "The Little Hill of the Rowan Tree". These two cairns are not apparent at present. A little further on the stream passes by a flat grassy patch, surrounded by steep heatherclad slopes. It is joined here by a brook flowing down from Kippure Mountain. This is named "Tromán Allison", or "Allison's Brook", the main stream being now called "Aidin Máire" or "Moreen's Brook". A small stream named "Eas Caorthain Duinn", or "The Cataract of the Brown Rowan Tree", comes down from Glassamucky Brakes, and the junction of the three streams was named by O'Curry "Bun na Trí Tromáin", or "The Bottom of the Three Streams".<sup>22</sup> John O'Donovan, in a note preserved in the Ordnance Survey memoranda, states "Tromán is the elder or bore tree. Srothán is a stream, I don't believe that tromán is a stream".<sup>23</sup> It is of interest to note that what is now the Cot Brook, was named "The Dodder" by O'Curry and that he applied the name "Moreen's Brook" to the whole stretch from Castlekelly to Kippure mountain, as also does Duncan in his map of 1821.

We will not proceed any further along Moreen's Brook now but will return to it later, in connection with the story of Dá Dearga's Hostel.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

### Cunard

On the hillside above Castlekelly and parallel to the river Dodder is the road which forms the boundary between Cunard and the Brakes. A narrow and steep road rises from Cunard village and near to where the two roads join, the old maps show a group of four circles of stones. These are not to be seen now but there are many boulders scattered over the area and there is some doubt if these circles ever existed.

On the lower side of the Glassamucky Road are a number of unusual structures consisting of rows of large stones set on edge. Each row is about 10 yards long and has a slight hollow along the upper side and a low bank above this. Each end of the hollow is closed by a large slab. There are three of these structures in a row with a space between each and two more, slightly lower down the hill. It is not known for what purpose these were erected and there does not appear to be any local tradition related to them.<sup>24</sup>



*Cunard Village in 1976.*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

A short distance above the road is an ancient hut platform with a retaining wall of large boulders and a circular level area where a hut of some sort would have been built. The age of this is unknown but other hut sites in Glenasmole which have been examined were found to belong to the stone age. In the valley below is the village of Cunard, a group of farm houses picturesque in their irregularity and about half a mile along the road is Glassamucky, overlooking the upper lake and the tiny burial ground known as St. Anne's.

### St. Santan's

This old graveyard is approached by a narrow and twisted laneway, which is closed at the upper end by an iron gate bearing a cross. The correct name of this site is Kilmesantan, the church of Santan, a bishop who is mentioned in the *Book of Leinster* which describes him as a son of the king of Britain. *The Annals of the Four Masters* record in 952 the death of Ceanchomraic, Abbot of Cill Easpuig Sanctan.<sup>25</sup> In 1216 Pope Innocent III confirmed it with its



*Glassamucky in 1976, St. Anne's burial ground is visible right of centre.*



## GLENASMOLE ROADS

appurtenances to the See of Dublin and it was constituted a manor from which the Archbishop received rent from the tenants and profits from the demesne land. From 1270 however there were no profits owing to the incursions of the Irish and in 1276 it was necessary to employ John de Peter with five armed horsemen and fifteen followers, as well as the bailiff and posse of Clondalkin to keep the peace in the mountains of Kilmasantan. In 1294 the church was returned as waste and early in the following century the manor was reported as being in the Irish territory and worthless.<sup>26</sup> An enquiry of 1547 mentions the curate's stipend and repairs to the chancel in connection with the Rectory of Killnasantan and in 1672 there is a reference to repairs to the church of Glassnininby als Templesaunton als glassmocy, so it would appear that the church was in use down to this period.



*St. Anne's burial ground overlooks the upper lake.*

In the centre of the burial ground are the remains of the church which lie approximately north-east and south-west. The only portion standing is a part of the south-east wall. However, the position of the foundations can still be traced among the graves. The inside width of the nave was 16 feet 4 inches and the walls were 3 feet thick. The nave was approximately 36 feet long and the

## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*Remains of St. Santan's Church*

chancel 12 feet. There are no remains of door or window openings and no cut stone work lying about the ruins, which might help to date the building. The existing fragment is built of irregular uncoursed masonry.

Beside the gateway is a massive stone font 3 feet square and 2 feet 4 inches high. The basin for the water is only 11 inches deep and there is a draining hole in the front. A large piece is broken away from the back. Many years ago a local gentleman attempted to remove this font to his own land. His men, having put a chain around it, yoked it to two horses and tried to draw it away. First the chains broke, then the swingbar and finally one of the horses fell and broke his leg, which put an end to the project.<sup>27</sup>



*Font at St. Anne's graveyard.*

In recent years a Mass has been celebrated at St. Anne's burial ground on a Sunday close to the 26th July, the feast of St. Anne.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*Early Christian Cross which was in St. Anne's burial ground.*

In recent years a certain amount of cleaning up has been done in the burial ground and loose stones gathered together in heaps. In the course of this work a small simple cross of a very primitive type was found, which may well date back to the early days of Bishop Santan's church. Later this cross was found uprooted from the ground by concerned visitors to the graveyard and it was passed to the National Museum for safekeeping.

Near the church ruin is a fine monument erected to the memory of Brother Maurice Collins of Ann Mount which will be mentioned in connection with the history of that establishment.

In a field about 250 yards to the north of the burial ground is St. Anne's Holy Well, from which a strong spring issues and flows down into the reservoir. The well is faced around with a loose stone wall and is overshadowed by a rowan tree. According to a report written in 1843 an annual pattern was held on the Sunday nearest to the 26th July, the feast of St. Anne. The name of Santan was then forgotten and the ruin was called by the local people St. Anne's church.<sup>28</sup> No patterns have been held here within living memory.



*St. Anne's Holy Well*

## **Glassamucky**

On the high ground above the village of Glassamucky there is an ancient burial site. In 1953 James Brindley, Professor of Geology, University College Dublin noticed the existence of prehistoric sites while engaged in a geological survey. Later that year they were described by him to the Archaeological Society of the University during a visit to the area. All that was then visible were two small low burial mounds on a flat area south of the summit. This is actually in Piperstown, in the part of that townland that comes down in a point above St. Santan's church and is 75 yards from the townland boundary. It consists of two mounds, the larger of which is 20 feet in diameter and 2 feet high. It is enclosed by a kerb of stones, of which about six are visible and is overgrown with heather. A smaller mound, 9 feet in diameter and 1 foot high lies 60 feet to the south. Here also, six or seven kerb stones are in position. A short distance away, to the north, are two smaller mounds, but those are very slight and may not be artificial.

Between Glassamucky and Piperstown village is a high summit which commands a magnificent view to the north, west, and south. This hill was named on Rocque's map of 1760 "The Bishop's Hills" but it is known locally as "Spinkeen", a name which signifies a view point.

## **Ann Mount**

About half a mile further down the glen the road passes on the right the old girls' schoolhouse situated on a height and sheltered by a plantation of fir trees. A few hundred yards further on, at the corner of the road to Piperstown is the farmhouse named Ann Mount, well known in the nineteenth century as a monastery for Carmelite lay-brothers.

The monastery of Ann Mount was founded in 1821 by Maurice Collins and John Stewart, who, distressed at the lack of education among the children of the locality, leased these premises from

## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*Roque's Map of 1760 showing the "Bishop's Hills."*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

Charles Cobbe, the landowner, and with a few other brothers set about establishing the monastery and school. These men were brothers of the third order of Carmel, and although the history of that order records the foundation of such a school in Dublin at the beginning of the nineteenth century and of St. Joseph's monastery at Clondalkin in 1813, we are told nothing about Ann Mount or the brothers who laboured there.<sup>29</sup>

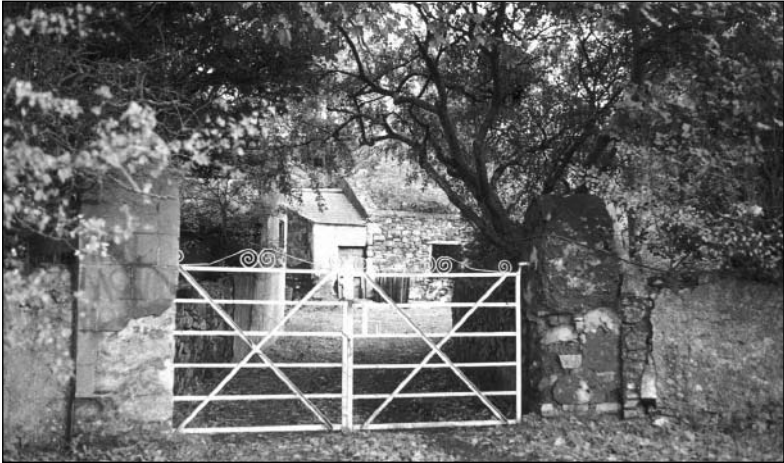


*Ann Mount*

Maurice Collins appears to have been a local man. A number of families of this name are recorded in the Cobbe Estate records back to 1763 and the Christian name Maurice occurs several times in that period. These brothers got no help from the Board of Education but had to depend on voluntary contributions to keep the school open. In addition they conducted a guest house for visitors, provided they brought their own provisions or ordered them beforehand.<sup>30</sup>

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

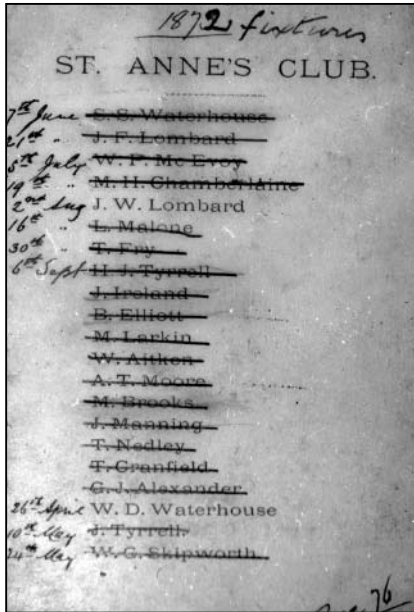
The monastery consisted of a range of thatched buildings around an enclosed yard and included the dwelling place of the monks, the schoolhouse, oratory and guesthouse. On each pier of the entrance gate was a stone cross. According to the law at that time, the Prior had to become the proprietor of the premises as a religious community was not allowed to hold property. Collins, who was described as the Prior, died in 1865 at the ripe old age of 94 years and his place was taken by John Stewart.



*Entrance to Ann Mount.*

About this time a social society known as St. Anne's Club used to meet here for dinner on Sundays and spend the fine evenings playing quoits and other games. According to a contemporary writer many of its members were more famous for their musical, facetious or gastronomic achievements than for their athletic endeavours.<sup>31</sup> A fixture card for the year 1872 lists among the members, J.F. Lombard, S.S. Waterhouse, M.H. Chamberlaine, T. Fry, H.J. Tyrell, J. Ireland, B. Elliott, M. Brooks, T. Nedley, T. Cranfield and G.J. Alexander, all names well known in the professional and commercial life of the city.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*A fixture card for St. Anne's Club.*

A story is related concerning a farcical wrestling match between two members, Dr. O'Leary, M.D. who was well known for his diminutive size, and Dr. Meldon who was a huge man. Dr. O'Leary fell and broke his leg and had to be brought home with the injured limb tied up with an umbrella.<sup>32</sup>

At this time there were only a few brothers left and when John Stewart died in 1887 little effort was made to continue the community life. Although a new pavilion had been built, the school was no longer

conducted. The building was later used as a barn. A disastrous fire damaged the oratory and other buildings and from 1891 the chapel was no longer used.<sup>33</sup> Brother Kearns was the last survivor of this devoted band and he continued to occupy the premises and work the farm. He eventually married Sarah Williams and in 1895 the place passed to his widow. It passed in 1925 to the O'Riordans who occupied it down to recent years.

Many of the old people in the locality could still recall the monks of St. Ann's Monastery, the guesthouse presided over by Brother Paul and the oratory where Mass was celebrated every Sunday. The social parties were also remembered, especially the difficulties they experienced in getting the carriages up and down the steep hill at Friarstown and how they used to throw down coppers to the scrambling children.



## GLENASMOLE ROADS

The last phase of Ann Mount as a guest house has tended to eclipse its earlier history as an education centre and with the passing of the old folks there will be little to remind the coming generations of the work of these Carmelite brothers. The monument in St. Anne's graveyard, however, to those who know of its existence, will ever stand as a reminder of Maurice Collins and his companions. This memorial is inscribed as follows:

*Erected by a few friends as a*

*token of respect to*

*Maurice Collins*

*For 44 years Prior of St. Anne's Monastery*

*who died 31st Jan 1865 aged 94 years*

*and his religious*

*Andrew McGuirk died 13 Nov 1842 aged 46 years*

*John Farrell died 27th Jan 1854 aged 67 years*

*Patrick McGuirk died 16th Oct aged 69 years*

*Mathew Kelly died 22 June 1873 aged 68 years*

*John Stewart died 17th April 1887 aged 93 years*

*For 16 years Prior of St. Anne's.*

GLENASMOLE ROADS



*Memorial in St. Anne's burial ground to Maurice Collins and his companions who lived at Ann Mount.*

## **Knockanteedan**

From Ann Mount the road continues to descend for half a mile to a bridge which crosses the upper end of Friarstown Glen. Below this road and overlooking the lower dam of the water works is a grassy mound 6 feet high and 30 yards in diameter. It is composed of earth with some stones and appears to have been dug into in several places and the soil piled about in irregular heaps. In one of these excavations part of a large rock has been exposed. This mound was formerly known as Knockanteedan but that name is now no longer remembered.

## **Piperstown**

To the east of Glassamucky the ground rises up steeply towards Piperstown. In 1953, as previously mentioned under Glassamucky, Professor Brindley of University College Dublin had noticed the two small low burial mounds on a flat area south of the summit. The hill was at that time covered with a thin layer of peat and a deep growth of heather. In 1960 an extensive mountain fire stripped most of the hillside of both peat and heather and left it as a barren waste of gravelly soil. This burning revealed the presence of at least thirteen other prehistoric sites previously hidden under the heather.

These sites fall into two distinct groups. Along the top edge of the steep ground were eight small burial cairns some with remains of kerbs. Scattered over a level area east of the cairns were seven well defined hut sites, most of which had a stone edged hearth in the centre of the floor. These were reported to the National Museum and Mr. Etienne Rynne undertook to investigate the sites with the help of voluntary labour.

He first excavated one of the hut sites where worked flints were to be seen on the surface of the ground. The outline of the hut was roughly rectangular and was defined by lines of stones. The hearth was rectangular in shape, edged by a well fitted stone kerb

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

and contained soil which had been burned to a deep red colour. There were two small pits in the house, both filled with stones, soil and charcoal, which had probably been used for cooking purposes.

Scattered about the floor were over 600 flakes of flint, waste from the manufacture of flint implements, showing that this hut had been occupied by a flint worker and probably dated back to the late Stone Age, 4 to 5 thousand years ago. A number of flint implements were also found. Another hut site excavated was less well preserved and produced only 23 pieces of flint.

One of the burial cairns was also excavated and was found to cover a small pit, at the bottom of which was a deposit of cremated bone and one flint flake. This deposit was lying on a deep bed of charcoal. After examination the soil and stones were in every case returned as far as possible to their original position. This group of sites is unique in that it illustrates both the living conditions and the burial customs of one small community from a very remote period.



*Partly destroyed cairn in Piperstown.*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*Piperstown cist burial site.*

From Piperstown a mountain road ascends to join the Featherbed Road. At several points along this road and also on the adjoining moorland are curious structures consisting of deep rectangular excavations lined with masonry and surrounded by low banks. In the nineteenth century this particular area was well known for its ice industry. This was at a time before ice could be artificially made and it had to be collected during frosty weather and stored in pits for use during the summer. These pits were large and deep and were lined with masonry. They were enclosed by a sod bank and roofed with thatch. Around each building were shallow ponds on which the ice formed. The ice was collected and conveyed to the house in wheel barrows by local men who were paid three shillings and six pence per day and each man had charge of a certain number of ponds from which he had to rake in the ice and deposit it in the ice house. These ice houses were in use down to the end of the nineteenth century.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

At the present time, the western slope or the hill over Piperstown is locally known as Slieve Gorra, a name which may at one time have been applied to the entire hill.



*Ice house sites in Piperstown.*

The mountain ridge which forms the boundary of Glenasmole is comprised of the following summits, Mount Pelier, Killakee Mountain, Featherbed Bog, Kippure Mountain, Seefingan Mountain, Corrig Mountain, Seahan Mountain, Ballymorefinn Hill, Carrigeenoura and Slievenabawnoge. The nearest of these mountains to Bohernabreena is Mount Pelier which can be reached from Oldbawn by the Oldcourt Road.

## Allenton and Killinenny

On the south west side of Old Bawn crossroads stood a very old house named Allenton with its gable towards the road. This house was occupied about the middle of the eighteenth century by Sir Timothy Allen who was Lord Mayor of Dublin in 1762. The present house was built early in the eighteenth century onto an existing house, forming an angle with it. The earlier part was later demolished but the remains of it can still be seen in the farmyard.



*Allenton House*

The remains of a strongly built rectangular building with a small tower attached to it could also be seen in the yard. The tower is now behind a high fence but old photographs show it to be about 10 feet square with a doorway on the ground floor and two openings on the first floor, now built up.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

When O'Curry visited here in 1837 he was able to identify the site with a place mentioned in the Martyrologies as Cill na n-Ingen, now Killinenny, where there was a monastery founded by the four daughters of MacLair. The existence of this monastery was then remembered in tradition and the site of the burial place pointed out in a small square field near the house. An ancient walnut tree which stood in the garden had been cut down by the owner Mr. Cotton a few years earlier.<sup>34</sup> Prior to its sale, Allenton had been occupied by the Muldoon family for over a hundred years. On 1st January 1984 the front was torn down and the house has since been demolished.



*Killinenny Tower, circa 1950 was located at the rear of Allenton House. The remains of the tower can be seen today in Allenton Housing estate.*



## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*Rear of Allenton House, circa 1950 showing the remains of an earlier house to which Allenton was attached.*

### **Oldcourt House**

Half a mile further on is the site of Oldcourt House, part of which dated from the eighteenth century. It was occupied by the Magranes throughout the latter half of the nineteenth century. Although it was in a bad state of repair it was occupied down to 1950 when the roof was removed and the walls demolished.



*Oldcourt House, circa 1950.*

## St. Colmcille's Well

A short way further on at a road junction is the entrance to Orlagh College and in a field opposite is the ancient well of St. Colmcille. This holy well had been venerated locally from time immemorial but was little known outside the district. About 1917 as a result of the interest shown in the well by Father Michael Hughes of Orlagh, a committee of local people collected funds for a statue of St. Colmcille which was designed by Mr. Joseph Tierney and executed by Mr. Deghini. The well was cleaned out by local men.



*St. Colmcille's Well.*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

Pilgrimages were first organised during the conscription threat in 1918. Hundreds of people attended, where they were addressed by Professor Eoin McNeill, Dr. McKenna of Tallaght and Father Hughes. The attendance increased each year and in 1921 the stone canopy was erected by local men working in their own time to the design of Mr. Coakley, a local architect.



*Man and girl praying, St. Columcille's Well, Ballycullen, Co. Dublin WILf3[54] courtesy of The National Library of Ireland.*

Some years ago there was an ash tree growing beside the well upon which were nailed all the medals left there by pilgrims. The trunk of the tree was encased for about 6ft high with these



*Field Cross in a field at the rear of St. Colmcille's Well.*

religious emblems which covered the bark like fish scales. This tree fell some time around 1960. In a field behind St. Colmcille's Well is a granite field cross probably erected in the 1860s. It is one of many erected about this time as a precaution against cattle plague, probably in the form of foot and mouth disease. There are other field crosses in the district at Kiltipper, Tymon North and at Firhouse near the City Weir.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

### Orlagh

The old house named Orlagh was built by Mr. Lundy Foot about 1790 and was at first called Footmount. He was one of the family who founded the firm of Lundy Foot & Co. Snuff Merchants, whose warehouse stood in Essex Gate. He was a magistrate and was instrumental in bringing about the conviction of the Kearneys in 1816. He was afterwards fired on and received desperate injuries from which he recovered but was ultimately assassinated in 1835 at his estate in Rosbercon, New Ross. Orlagh was bought the following year by Carew O'Dwyer, a member of the legal profession, who extended the house and built a banqueting hall. The place was next let to a family named Brodie for a time and about the middle of the nineteenth century passed into the hands of the Augustinian Order and is now a retreat and conference facility run by the Irish Augustinian Friars.



*Orlagh is now a retreat and conference facility.*

## Dollymount House

The next estate to Orlagh was Mount Pelier House or Dollymount as it was originally named. The only surviving part of the house is the tower known as Carthy's or McCarthy's Castle. This house was built by Lord Ely towards the end of the eighteenth century and consisted of a long two storied frontage facing north-east, at each corner of which was an arched entrance. The rooms contained marble chimney pieces and stuccoed ceilings and over the hall door were the arms of the Ely family in cut stone. Stretching out from each of the gateways was a long low range of buildings terminating at each end in a three storied tower with battlements and pointed windows. Behind the house were extensive outbuildings, barns, stables and haggard, and a plantation of trees covered the slope of the hill behind. After the house had been abandoned as a residence by the Ely family it was let to a tenant who cut down the trees and treated the house with such neglect that it soon became uninhabitable.



*Dollymount House or Mount Pelier House, circa 1950.*

The place had been a ruin for over a century when, in 1950, what remained of the house was demolished and the materials removed. Only the tower at the western end is now standing along with some out offices and in the haggard are sixteen large circular platforms, said to be for the purpose of ricking hay or straw, and a number of long arched structures about 4 feet high.<sup>35</sup>

## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*The western flanking tower of Dollymount House which is now known as Carthy's Castle or McCarthy's Castle. Note the sixteen large circular platforms, said to be for ricking hay or straw.*

### **Mount Pelier**

About half a mile to the south-east and perched on the summit of a green rounded hill is the ruin popularly known as the Hell Fire Club. This was built by the Right Hon. William Conolly, Speaker of the Irish House of Commons, shortly before his death in 1729. It was situated in the centre of an extensive deerpark and was probably used only as a temporary residence. The house consisted of two large rooms and a hall on the upper floor with large windows facing towards the city. There was a small loft over the parlour and hall. On the ground level was the kitchen, servants' quarters and stairs to the upper rooms. There were also two small apartments in the return behind the hall. The hall door was reached by a lofty flight of stone steps and at each side of the house was a room with a lean-to roof which may have been used for the stabling of horses. There appears to have been very little accommodation for sleeping quarters.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

Before the house was built a large cairn stood on the summit of the hill. Conolly is said to have destroyed this when he built the house and when the roof was blown off in a great storm sometime later, this was attributed to the work of the devil, in revenge for the desecration of the cairn. Conolly, however, not to be outdone, built a new roof composed of large stones set edgeways and the interstices filled with smaller stones and mortar. This great arched roof is still in excellent condition, as is the vaulted ceiling of the ground floor despite the fact that the house has been a ruin for over two centuries. Repairs were recently done around the window openings which will make it safe for another two centuries. The only official record of the occupation of this house is the announcement in July 1751 of the death at Mount Pelier of Mr. Charles Cobbe, the elder son of the Archbishop of Dublin.<sup>36</sup>

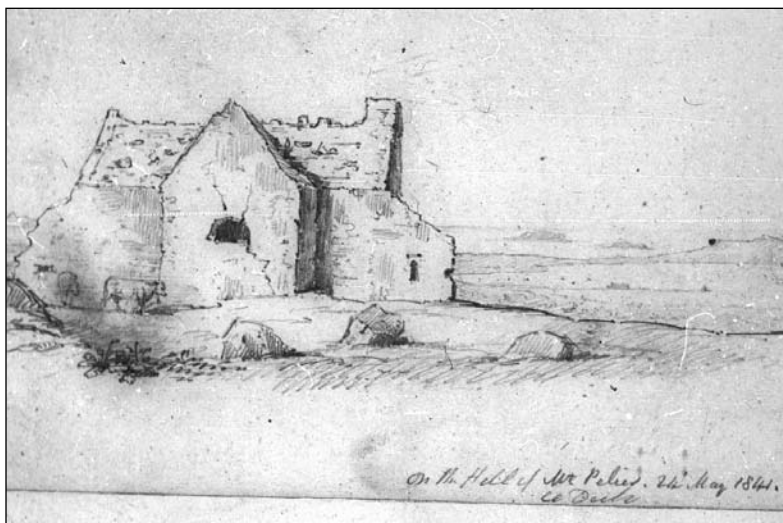


*The Hell Fire Club.*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

While the place is popularly known as the Hell Fire Club, there is no evidence connecting it with the Hell Fire Club, which usually met in the Eagle Tavern on Cork Hill in Dublin city. Towards the end of the century when Lord Ely was building his great mansion lower down the hill, he is said to have used the cut stone work from this building.

A drawing by Sir William Betham shows the house as it stood in 1841 and illustrates very clearly how little it has changed in 165 years. It was visited in 1779 by Austin Cooper, the antiquary who noted that the house was out of repair. He described the remains of the cairn and said that the limits of it had been composed of large stones set edgeways. In the centre was a large stone 9 feet long and 6 feet wide lying flat. This report is of special interest as it would appear from it that up to 1779 the central chamber had not been disturbed, the large stone apparently being the capstone.



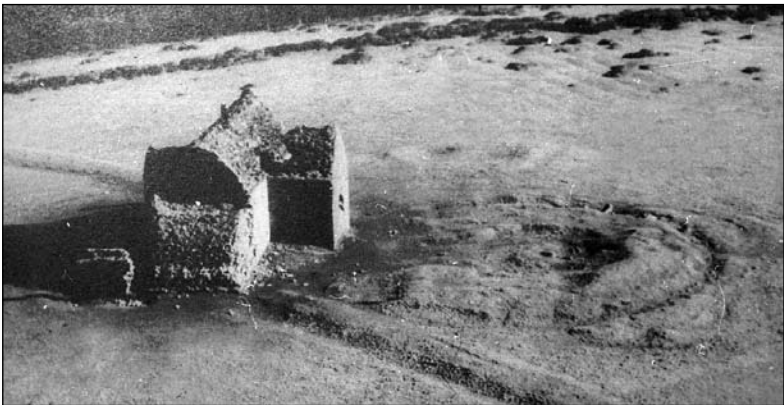
*Drawing of the Hell Fire Club executed by Sir William Betham in 1841. The drawing shows that it has changed little in 165 years.*



## GLENASMOLE ROADS

The remains now consist of a low ring 26 yards in diameter with a trench where the kerb stones were removed. The centre is cleared out completely but a couple of broken stones mark the position of the central chamber.<sup>37</sup> The present name of this hill is Mount Pelier, which was introduced by Conolly when he built the lodge and which has completely superseded the original Irish name of the hill. It has been suggested that it may be identified with a hill named *Suide Uí Ceallaig* or *Suidi Celi* which is mentioned in the *Crede Mihi* of the twelfth century. This was situated in the district known as *Uí Ceallaig Cualann* which included the northern portion of Glenasmole and Mount Pelier is certainly the most prominent elevation in this area.<sup>38</sup>

Joseph Holt, the insurgent general, records in his memoirs that in July 1798 during the retreat of the rebels from Co. Meath he passed safely through Dublin and spent the night in the haunted house on Mount Pelier. In spite of his perilous situation he was deeply impressed by the beauty of the sunrise as seen from this position. He sent a message to his brother who lived in Chapel House, Bohernabreena, requesting a loaf of bread, some cheese and a pint of whiskey.<sup>39</sup>



*An aerial photograph of the Hell Fire Club. The outline of the cairn which sat on top of Mount Pelier can clearly be seen at the right of the picture.*



*This standing stone marks the upper limit of a huge circular enclosure.*

## Standing Stone

On the eastern slope of the hill where the well trodden footpath leads down towards a farmhouse there is a large pointed boulder about 8 feet high. This area is now covered with trees but before these were planted an aerial photograph was taken which showed this stone to mark the upper limit of a huge circular enclosure which was clearly defined in the photograph but was not so obvious on the ground. The undergrowth beneath the trees is now so dense that it is quite impossible to see anything.

## Piperstown Glen

Immediately to the south of Mount Pelier is Piperstown Glen, a steep defile lying directly east and west. There is an old footpath through this glen from the Military road above Killakee to Piperstown village. At the eastern end of this defile is a small reservoir, built to supply Killakee House, the residence of Lord Massy, lower down the hill. This spot has been much altered by the destruction of a picturesque lodge and the widening of the road which necessitated the felling of some fine timber. Just above the reservoir is a domestic ice house with an ovoid brick-lined chamber which performed, on a small scale, the function of the larger ice houses in Piperstown. At the other end of the glen there is a large rock in the bank over the road where it is said the piper used to sit while he played for the open air dances in the old days.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

On the high ground at the southern side of the glen is a large ring fort with a single bank and ditch 36 yards in diameter . It is now concealed in the forestry plantation. Nearby on a small summit there is a small ring feature which may mark a prehistoric burial.

### **The Military Road**

About half a mile further south the Military road winding its way up from Killakee House creeps over the rim of Glenasmole and follows a course along the very skyline until it drops out of sight again over the Featherbed Pass. This road was constructed by the Military in 1802 for the purpose of opening up the Wicklow Mountains for the rapid movement of troops. The road traversed the highest and most inaccessible parts of the mountains and strong barracks were built at intervals for the accommodation of the soldiers.

After passing through a plantation the Military road is joined by the bog road from Piperstown, already mentioned. Just five hundred yards from this junction there is a small gravel pit on the east side of the road, known locally as the Sweep's Pit. Here, on the upright face of a rock is a cross with expanded terminals, said

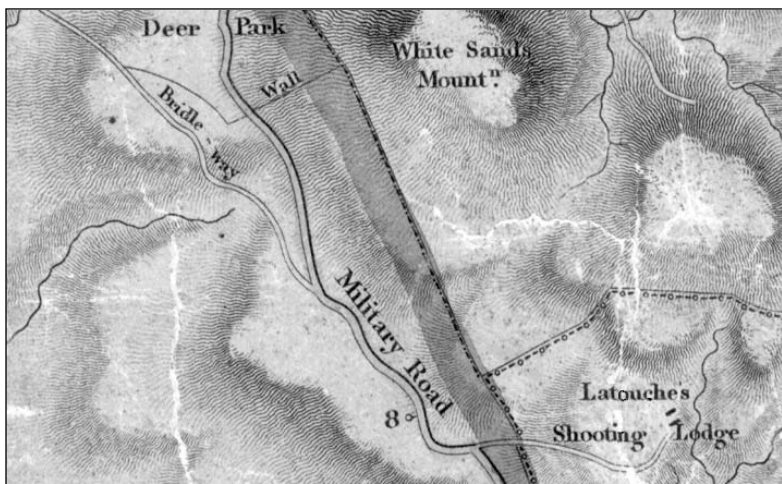


*Sweep's Rock with an incised cross with expanded terminals.*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

to mark the place where the body of a sweep was found. He had been overtaken by a snowstorm when on his way to Glencree to clean the chimneys of Glencree reformatory. This type of inscribed cross with expanded terminals, is of a type commonly used in early times which may indicate an earlier origin for the carving.<sup>40</sup>

About half a mile further on, another gravel pit can be seen on the same side and adjoining it is the track of an old overgrown avenue leading out across the bog. It continues for about a quarter of a mile and terminates at a grassy patch on which is a pile of stones and rubble. This is the remains of Latouche's shooting lodge and is so named on Duncan's map of 1821.



*Duncan's Map of 1821 showing "Latouche's shooting lodge".*

A short way further on stood a Celtic cross erected as a memorial to Captain Noel Lemass whose body was found here on 12th October 1923, in the aftermath of the Civil War. He had been abducted on the previous July 3rd and his fate was unknown until the guards, acting on information, discovered the remains here about 20 yards from the road.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*Original Celtic cross memorial to Captain Noel Lemass.*

Behind the cross is a stone faced bank marking the boundary between the counties of Dublin and Wicklow. This bank runs towards the north and after crossing the old avenue to Latouche lodge turns off sharply to the east. At this corner is a large boulder in which are three artificial hollows of the bullaun type. Two of these are unusual in being flat bottomed, somewhat like the inside of a small tub, and are 18 inches in diameter.<sup>41</sup>



*Granite memorial slab to Captain Noel Lemass, 2006.*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*Large boulder with three artificial hollows of the bullaun type.*

### **Featherbed Bog**

The Military road next crosses the boundary into Co. Wicklow and commences the long descent into Glencree valley. From this point the county boundary extends away southward, almost in a direct line towards the top of Kippure Mountain. This boundary was marked by a bank and ditch some time in the eighteenth century and in 1940 a new road was constructed for a mile and a half along the mearing, as far as where it is crossed by Moreen's Brook, to open up the bogs for turf cutting.

O'Curry described what he called a moat, named "Cnocán Mheidhbh", on the edge of Featherbed Bog through which the boundary ditch passed. It had been cut through to a depth of five feet but no burial was revealed. It is rather surprising that when the road was constructed nothing of this burial mound was discovered. The exact location unfortunately was not marked on the map but it was very likely on top of the high gravel ridge over which the bog road passes 700 yards from the Military road.<sup>42</sup> This bog road is locally known as "Moat Road".

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

There is at present in the National Museum, a weavers comb made of horn which was found in Glassamucky bog. It is the only one of its type ever found in Ireland and is believed to be of Iron Age date.

In the adjoining townland of Powerscourt Mountain in 1941 a bronze dagger 10.5 inches long was found about 4 feet below the surface. It was in the possession of Lord Powerscourt.<sup>43</sup>

Another interesting find was made in Old Bolies which lies east of the Featherbed Bog. This was a small wooden vessel of pre-Christian date which was found by the army turf workers during the war.<sup>44</sup>

What must surely be the most valuable object found in these bogs was reported in the Dublin papers of 1788: "Last week as some labourers belonging to Mr. O'Dogherty of Glannasmole were cutting turf, one of them discovered a gold crown at about 4 feet deep. It is about seven inches in diameter and weighs 11 ounces. It is perhaps the crown of some provincial king before the introduction of Christianity. There are several figures raised on it but no such thing as a cross."<sup>45</sup>

### **Dá Dearga's Hostel**

At the end of the bog road, according to O'Curry, there was another moat on the brink of Moreen's Brook, but no remains of this can now be seen. It has been suggested by the late Henry Morris that this was the site of Dá Dearga's hostel, and the place certainly fits in with the description given in the ancient literature.

Conaire Mór, King of Ireland, and his retainers were travelling southward along the Slighe Cualann. They decided to spend the night in Dá Dearga's Hostel, and were guided thence by MacCeacht who declared that the road they were following continued until it passed through the house. Conaire and his

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

company were made welcome at the hostel, and supplied with food and accommodation for the night. It happened that a party of pirates under Ingcel were sailing along the coast when they saw the lights from Dá Dearga's house shining through the wheels of the chariots which surrounded it. With the help of spies they discovered who was staying in the Hostel, and decided to plunder it that night. They landed on the coast and made their way across country until they surrounded the hostel. Conaire and his party put up a strong defence and the hostel was thrice set on fire, and thrice put out again. The robbers having been driven back, the king called for a drink, but no liquid could be found, although we are told that the Dodder flowed through the house. MacCeacht was ordered to get water, and having fought his way through the robbers outside, proceeded to go the rounds of all the rivers of Ireland seeking a cup of water. In the meantime, those inside the hostel decided to try and break through the encircling robbers. Just at that moment Conaire, being completely overcome with his great thirst, expired of a burning fever. The rest of the company having broken through the besiegers, and the hostel being deserted, the robbers entered and cut off the king's head. When MacCeacht returned with the drink of water he found the king dead, and his friends either killed or scattered.<sup>46</sup>

Mr. Morris points out that the only part of the Dodder above Rathfarnham which can be seen from the coast is this place where the river rises high up on the county boundary. The name of the stream, Moreen's Brook, he considered to be the eclipsed form of bruidin following a preposition and an article as "Ag an mbruidin". The name Bohernabreena was of course the correct description for a road starting at Old Bawn and finishing up here at the source of the Dodder.<sup>47</sup>



## GLENASMOLE ROADS

### Summits in the Area

The ridge which stretches from Kippure Mountain to Ballinascorney Gap has always been a popular one with Dublin walkers. This entails a journey of eight miles over some of the roughest terrain in the county, through an area remote from civilisation. No one could have foreseen the construction of a first class road into the very heart of this wilderness or the erection of one of our main television and radio transmission masts on the summit of Kippure Mountain, 3,473 feet above sea level.

The slopes of Kippure are covered by a turf bog over 6 feet deep which has been cut by the weather into a number of great furrows conspicuous even from a great distance. The summit had been denuded of turf and is composed of stones and granite sand. The top of the mountain was distinguished by a pile of stones erected as a survey mark by the O.S. This was replaced around 1930 by a concrete pillar to define this major trigonometrical station.



*Summit of Kippure mountain prior to the erection there of the radio and television mast.*

## Seefingan Mountain

The next summit to Kippure is Seefingan, two miles away to the north-west. This mountain has a broad level summit covered with coarse grass and heather on the western edge of which is a large cairn of granite stones, 80 yards in circumference and 12 feet high. No kerb stones are visible but they are probably buried beneath loose stones fallen from the cairn. It is fashioned into a number of sheltered nooks by the summer visitors but does not appear to have been opened.



*Cairn on the summit of Seefingan Mountain.*

## Seefin Mountain

One mile to the south-west lies Seefin Mountain on the top of which is one of the most interesting monuments in the neighbourhood. The cairn is 80 feet in diameter and 10 feet 6 inches high and is surrounded by a kerb of stones, up to five feet in length and set end to end. In the centre is a stone-lined chamber 13 feet by 6 feet. This is built in the usual manner of large slabs, each one overlapping slightly the one below, so that the chamber gets narrower towards the top where it can be closed with one large slab. The covering stone in this case has been removed and the chamber half filled with loose stones thrown in by visitors.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

In 1931 a party under Professor MacAlister cleared out the loose stones and revealed the original entrance passage, 23 feet long and very low and narrow. There were two recesses on each side of the chamber and one at the end. No finds were made during the work. There were two recesses on each side of the chamber and one at the end. On one of the stones below the hole in the roof and near the north west corner is a carved symbol, considered to represent a human hand, and on the highest point of the uppermost roofing stone is a tiny cross with circular terminals. This was considered



*Cairn on the summit of Seefin Mountain.*

by Professor MacAlister to be an early Christian symbol, but it is possible that it was cut to form a seating for some instrument in connection with the Ordnance Survey. No finds were made during the excavation.<sup>48</sup> On the fourth and fifth stones on the right of the entrance passage as the visitor enters, there is carved decoration of Bronze Age type consisting of triangles and lozenges of the type usually associated with this class of tomb.<sup>49</sup>

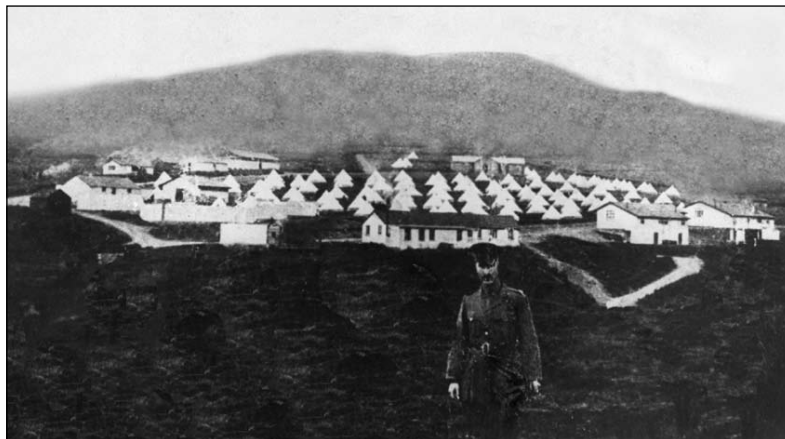
## GLENASMOLE ROADS

### Corrig and Seahan Mountains

A mile and a half to the north of Seefingan Mountain, along a broken and hummocky ridge, is the rounded summit of Corrig Mountain. In the valley to the west of this ridge is Kilbride Camp and rifle range while to the east the extensive mountain townland of Glassavullaun stretches away to the upper reservoir at Castlekelly. Corrig is not marked by cairn or tumulus but a small square pillar inscribed W.D. was put there by the military to mark the limit of Kilbride camp.

About half a mile to the west of Corrig is Seahan Mountain and from the saddle between these two summits a grassy cart track leads downward into Glenasmole.

On the top of Seahan are two large cairns. The eastern one is seventy feet in diameter and has an almost complete kerb of granite stone up to six feet long. It has been partly removed and in the centre is an opened chamber with a huge cap stone and the remains of a passage leading in from the north. The other cairn is 75 feet in diameter and 15 feet high and does not appear to have



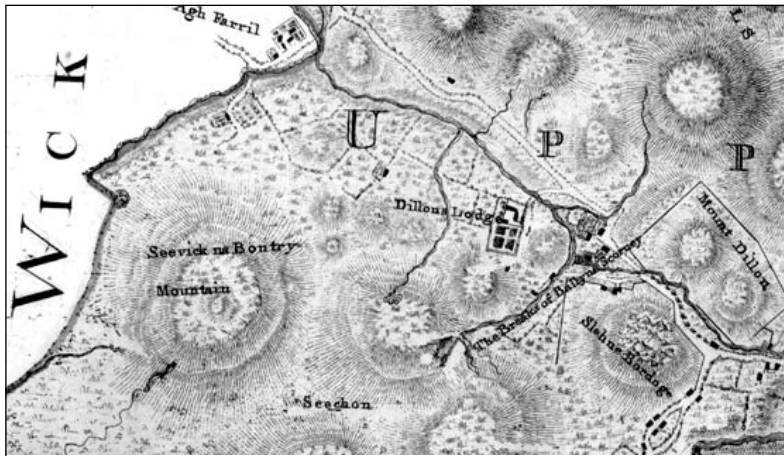
*Kilbride Army Camp in the early 1900s.*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

been opened. No kerb stones are visible but they may be covered with stones fallen from the cairn. Both of these monuments were built on the stony surface of the mountain top, apparently before the growth of peat which now covers the mountain to a depth of about 5 feet.

Fifty yards to the south west are the remains of a chamber built of large stones and about 9 feet square. There is a slight trace of an enclosing mound 20 feet in diameter and 2 feet high.

On the Down Survey map of 1655 and on Rocque's map of 1760 this mountain is named "Seavick na Bontry" or the "Seat of the Widow's Son" and maps of the early part of the last century call it Slieve Baun, or the white mountain. It is now known only as Seahan.<sup>50</sup>



*Rocques Map of 1760 showing Seahan Mountain named as "Seavick na Bontry", "The Seat of the Widow's Son".*

From this mountain the county boundary runs westward until it crosses the road near Kilbride Camp. Just at this point and on the Dublin side of the boundary is a farmhouse which is the highest dwelling house in Ireland, 1,400 feet above sea level.<sup>51</sup>

## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*This farmhouse is the highest dwelling in Ireland.*

To the north of Seahan lies a long ridge which comprises the rather inconspicuous summits of Ballymorefinn Hill and Carrigeenowra and which terminates in the steep little hill named Slievenabawnoge. Just below the summit of Carrigeenowra there is a small ring fort with a low bank of soil and stones which is known locally as the Dane's Grave. It is very high up for a permanent dwelling and may have been built as a shelter or booley for those who stayed on the mountain with the stock during the summer months.

### **Ballinascorney**

A short way further, and on the Ballinascorney side of the ridge, is a small ring barrow which would have been formed to mark the position of a prehistoric burial. It has a low mound in the centre which has been partly dug out.

The top of Slievenabawnoge is also marked by a low grassy mound with a hollow in the centre. Directly below this hill is Ballinascorney Gap, at the top of which is a massive stone cross which was erected about the middle of the nineteenth century.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*Ballinascorney Ring Barrow.*

According to Malachy Horan, it was in memory of a man who was smothered under a load of hay,<sup>52</sup> but a short note written in 1843 states that it was put up by or in memory of Mr. Trent, the local landowner, about 7 years previously.<sup>53</sup>



*Large stone cross, Ballinascorney.*

In a sheltered valley to the south of this cross stand the walls of Ballinascorney House, once the residence of Dr. O'Rahilly. This house was built in the eighteenth century as a hunting lodge by the Dillons of Belgard and was first known as "Dillon Lodge". It then stood in the middle of a deer park of about 80 acres.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*Ballinascorney House in the 1970s. The house is now in ruins.*

At the end of the eighteenth century it was occupied as a residence by the Bagenal family and it was to here that Robert Emmet and his party first fled after the failure of their insurrection in 1803. They did not remain long but moved on to a more secure hiding place with the Kearneys of Bohernabreena.

The next owner was Gerald Tench who held the post of Registrar in the Four Courts. He was paralysed and moved around the house in a wheel chair. The next occupier was Major Knox, the proprietor of the *Irish Times*. He entertained lavishly here and music was supplied by his own band which was recruited from the staff of the *Irish Times*.

Lying between the Glendoo Valley and the Military Road where it passes over the Featherbed Bog is an elevated area, comprising the three summits of Killakee, Cruagh and Glendoo Mountains. This area is best explored from the Military Road and entails long undulating foot slogging but no steep climbing. There are no ancient features on any of these summits. The northern boundary of this area is defined by a mountain road from which magnificent views can be obtained over the city and suburbs of Dublin.



## **Killakee Estate**

In the sheltered valley north of this is the Killakee Estate, now the property of the Coillte. After the Norman invasion Killakee was granted to Walter de Ridleford. In the thirteenth century it passed to the Crown but was of no value due to the attacks of the Irish tribes. Killakee was later granted by Henry VIII to Sir Thomas Luttrell. During the seventeenth century these lands were forfeited by the Luttrells and granted to Dr. Dudley Loftus. The population of Killakee was at that time recorded as twenty-one.

Early in the eighteenth century the estate passed to Speaker Conolly and later in that century to Mr. Luke White, a Dublin bookseller, from whom it descended in the female line to Lord Massy.

Lord Massy was descended from Hugh Massy who came to Ireland in 1641 to suppress the rebellion and held lands at Duntrileague, Co. Limerick, as well as at Caher and Mitchelstown. The last Lord Massy to live here was Hugh Hamon Charles George, 8th Baron Massy. He was declared bankrupt in 1924 and was evicted from his house. Being ill with paralysis at the time he was carried out on a stretcher while the bailiffs looked on. He was allowed to occupy one of his own gate lodges, Beehive Cottage, where he resided with his wife and son until his death in 1958.

He seldom visited the city but occupied his time looking after the cottage, while his wife worked in the Hospitals' Sweep Office. He spent much time collecting fuel from his own woods which he transported in a small hand cart.

The house was demolished about 1943, the lands were divided by the Land Commission and the woods were taken over by the Forestry Department.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

Within the estate are many magnificent trees and rivulets cascading down through rocky gorges. There is a fine avenue of monkey puzzle trees which leads to the site of the house. Walled gardens mark the site of the orchards and glasshouses and beside the stream is the ruins of a watermill which was used to power a sawmill. Within this forest are some of the finest woodland paths in the country.



*An avenue of monkey puzzle trees led to Kilakee House. The trees are now in Lord Massy's Woods.*



*Kilakee House*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*Beehive Cottage where Hugh Hammon Charles George, 8th Baron Massy lived out his days after eviction from Killakee House.*

On a summit over the stream are the remains of a wedge tomb dating from the late stone age (about 4,000 years ago). This consists of an enclosed chamber built of large flat stones with an entrance facing the west. There is a revetment wall enclosing the chamber and probably a kerb of stones now concealed from view. The chamber would have been roofed with large slabs and covered over with a cairn of small stones, all of which have been removed to build the stone wall which runs across the front of the tomb.



*Kilakee Wedge Tomb*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

A more detailed account of the Massy family can be found in *If Those Trees Could Speak* by Frank Tracy, published by South Dublin Libraries in 2005.

### Mount Venus

Further down the hill from Killakee is the entrance to Mount Venus, which was burned down in 1913. The house is now demolished but the farm yard and out offices still survive, all of which are vaulted in stone. The house was occupied by the O'Dwyers in the latter half of the nineteenth century and by the Taylors down to the time it was burned down in 1913. George Moore, the writer, brings Mount Venus into his book *Hail and Farewell*. He visited the house in 1886 when he was thinking of renting it. In the grounds is a huge portal tomb.



*Entrance to Mount Venus*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*Mount Venus portal tomb.*

### **The Dodder below Friarstown**

The river Dodder could justly be described as the lifeline of the parish of Tallaght. It rises at the highest point in the parish on Kippure mountain, flows through the valley of Glenasmole and follows a course through the centre of the parish to Templeogue where it enters the parish of Rathfarnham. This river and its tributary streams supplied water for farming, industry and drainage for land. During floods however it carried everything before it and demolished bridges and weirs throughout its course. Down to the year 1798 there was no bridge crossing the Dodder higher up than Rathfarnham but fords existed at Templeogue, Firhouse and Oldbawn, which were impassable in wet weather. Bridges were built at Templeogue in 1798, at Old Bawn in 1800 and at Friarstown about 1822. The three arched bridge at Old Bawn was undermined by frequent floods and replaced in 1840 by a single span bridge. The floods caused serious damage to the lands which they overran and great quantities of gravel and silt were

## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*Old Bawn bridge*

deposited over a wide area. This was found to be suitable for road construction and was drawn away to such an extent that the river level was lowered thereby. In 1846 the Drainage Commissioners straightened the river from Firhouse downwards which enabled much wasteland to be reclaimed. The construction of the waterworks at Glenasmole in 1887 finally brought the annual floods to an end. The excess water which flowed from the hills in wet weather was retained in the reservoirs and let out at a regular rate during dry periods.



*Sandbanks composed of deposited sand and gravel downstream from Old Bawn bridge.*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

### **Bawnville**

Beside the Old Bawn Road was a pretty cottage name Bawnville which in the nineteenth century was occupied by James Walter Furlong who was on the sporting staff of the Irish Independent. His two daughters Mary and Alice made names for themselves writing poetry. Mary was a nurse and died of typhoid in 1898 while nursing in Co. Roscommon. Alice Furlong was a singer as well as a poet who only started writing poetry in 1893. A sample of her poetry is the following verse on Glenasmole . . .

*In the heart of high blue hills  
Where the silence thrills and thrills  
In the Valley of the Thrushes  
From the golden low furze bushes  
On the mountain winds light feet  
Comes a perfume faint and sweet*

(from the *Cabinet of Irish Literature*)



*Bawnville House*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

### **Firhouse Road**

Running northwards from Old Bawn crossroads is the Firhouse Road, leading to Firhouse and Butterfield Avenue. There are several old houses on this road. Allenton and Killinenny have already been described on pages 37 to 39. Ellenborough is beside the crossroads, and Killinenny House which was near the Dodder, was demolished about 30 years ago. It was a large Georgian farmhouse.



*Killinenny House*

In the village of Firhouse is the Carmelite Convent which was established here early in the nineteenth century. The house dated from the eighteenth century and was bought in 1800 by Mr. James Johnston, who later sold it to Mr. Beresford Burson. He was succeeded by his son-in-law, Mr. Smith. This house was demolished and replaced by a new convent building in 2003.



## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*The eighteenth century Firhouse Convent building was replaced by a new convent building in 2003.*

The most interesting house in the village is Sally Park which was the home of William Domville Handcock, the author of the *History and Antiquities of Tallaght*. The house was purchased by his grandfather in 1796, and previous to that had belonged to the Earl of Clanwilliam. In compiling his history he made use of notes on the area left by his grandfather. The house is now a nursing home.



*Sally Park*

## City Weir and Bella Vista

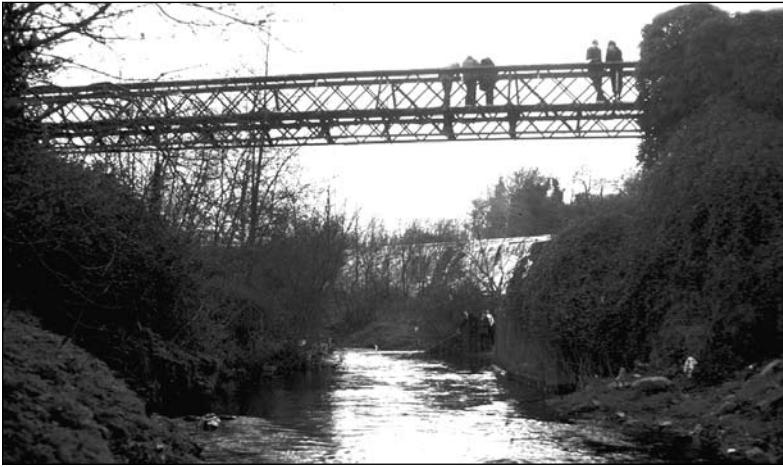
Opposite to Sally Park is an old passage leading down to the Dodder where there was in former times a ford now replaced by a foot bridge. Here also is the City Weir.



*City Weir*

The City Weir was built in the thirteenth century to convey water from the Dodder in order to supplement the water of the Poddle River which supplied Dublin with drinking water. It was believed until lately that the citizens had built this in 1244, but recent research has shown that it was built by the monks of St. Thomas's Abbey in Thomas Street at an earlier date and altered by the citizens in 1244 to increase the flow of water. In normal states of the river almost all of the water was turned into the watercourse. This explains why the ford was located below the weir, in the almost dry river bed. There were sluice gates to control the water. From 1845 when the Dodder was straightened and deepened there was a precipitous drop of 20 feet into the river bed where the ford had been. For many years after this, the only way for pedestrians to cross during a flood, was the dangerous one of wading along the top of the weir. A plank bridge was next put up by subscription, but was soon washed away and a lattice bridge was erected about 1860.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*Lattice bridge erected about 1860, this bridge was replaced by the present structure when a new bridge was built by South Dublin County Council and opened in 1995.*



*The engine house of Bella Vista mill.*

The first mill of many mills on the city watercourse was Bella Vista which survived in part down to about 40 years ago. The driveway and bridge which existed then appeared to be part of the old passage along the Dodder. The gate lodge also survived to within the last few years when it was demolished to make way for the roundabout at Balrothery. It stood on the opposite side of the road, facing the gate and was

exceptionally picturesque. It was described by Maurice Craig as “an exciting incident in an otherwise uninteresting road”. All that survives of the mill is the mill’s engine house.

## Field Cross

Nearby is a granite cross standing in a field. It bears the date 1867 and, as already mentioned in association with the field cross near St. Colmcille's Well, was one of the many erected about this time as a precaution against cattle plague, probably in the form of foot and mouth disease. In addition to the cross adjacent to St. Colmcille's Well there are similar field crosses at Kiltipper and Tymon North.



*Field cross at Firhouse*

## Delaford

A short distance further on stood until recent years, one of the most attractive houses in the county. Delaford had started life in the eighteenth century as a carman's inn, and was then known as Clandarrig. It was a two storied house and stood on the roadside. It was taken about 1800 by Councillor Bermingham who altered the line of the road in order to create a lawn in front of the house. He also built a single story extension in front containing a hall and two large reception rooms. It was rounded at each end and had an excessively wide hall door. He altered the name of the house to Springfield.

In 1820 the house was bought by Mr. B.T. Ottley of the Office of Public Works who had changed the name to Delaford. He also extended the house by building a three storey addition to the back. The house and grounds were always kept in fine order down to the time that it was sold for housing development in the 1970s.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

The developers Messrs. McNerney made every effort to protect the house from damage by building up the door and windows, but the vandals made such a wreck of the place that it had to be demolished.



*Delaford, circa 1960. This side view of Delaford clearly shows the three phases of development.*

### **Cherryfield**

Opposite to the front gate of Delaford there was a narrow passage leading down to another ford beside the paper mill at Bella Vista. A short distance further on is another narrow lane which was formerly the main road and leads to the ford which was used by all traffic before Templeogue bridge was built in 1798. This leads down behind a house named Cherryfield which in the eighteenth century was called Cherrytree. The river bed at that time was of immense width and the water ran in shallow channels through the gravel. As already mentioned, the river was straightened and deepened in 1846 and it would now be quite impossible to cross it, although this was still possible by means of stepping stones as late as 1912.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*Cherryfield, circa 1960.*

Below Cherryfield the river forms a number of great loops and comes very close to the road at a spot known as Pussy's Lep, where a massive stone abutment has been erected to prevent further erosion. The water forms a deep pool here and was formerly a popular swimming place with boys of the neighbourhood.

The west bank of the Dodder from Old Bawn to Templeogue has been covered in Patrick Healy's book *All Roads Lead to Tallaght*.

### **Author's Acknowledgements**

These few notes on Glenasmole have covered as far as possible everything of interest in the glen, on the surrounding mountains and on nearby roads. The preparation has entailed a considerable amount of research and a considerable amount of field work. It is to be hoped that it has been of some interest and has given as much pleasure to the readers as it has given to the collector.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*Old Firhouse Road in 1992, looking eastwards towards Ballycullen Road.*



*In 2001, Spawell Bridge opened. The bridge is very close to the line of the path which led to the ancient ford of Templeogue.*

## GLENASMOLE ROADS



*The new Carmelite Monastery at Firhouse was opened in 2003. The building on the right served as Firhouse National School 1869-1955.*



*The ancient character of Sally Park had been preserved, especially the stabling and farm yard. The outhouses were demolished to make way for the realigned Firhouse Road.*



## Appendix I — Footnotes

- 1 Hancock. *History of Tallaght*, p. 82.
- 2 Price. "Powerscourt and the Territory of Fercullen", *J.R.S.A.I.* 1953, p. 130.
- 3 Price. "The Manor of Bothercolyn," *J.R.S.A.I.* 1944, p. 107.
- 4 Morris. "The Slighe Cualann", *J.R.S.A.I.* 1938.
- 5 Ordnance Survey *Sheet No. 21 (6")*, 1837 ed.
- 6 Hancock. *History of Tallaght*, p. 74.
- 7 Dickson. *The Life of Michael Dwyer*, p. 396.
- 8 Little. *Malachi Horan Remembers*, p. 43.
- 9 Hancock. *History of Tallaght*, p. 130.
- 10 Ball. *History of the County Dublin*, Part III, p. 38.
- 11 Hancock. *History of Tallaght*, p. 73.
- 12 Stephenson. "Mills on the Dodder", *Dublin Historical Record*, Vol. 12, p. 93.
- 13 Dixon. "The Rathmines Waterworks", *Handbook of the Dublin District*. 1908, p. 392.
- 14 O'Curry. *Ordnance Survey Letters*, p. 46-48.
- 15 Piatt. *Feasta* 1952.
- 16 *Cobbe Estate Documents* in National Library.
- 17 Hancock. *History of Tallaght*, p. 80.
- 18 *Thom's Directory* 1850-1900.
- 19 MacNeill and Dix. "Dolmen at Glenasmole", *J.R.S.A.I.* 1926, p. 122-123.
- 20 O'Curry. *Ordnance Survey Letters*, p. 76-77.
- 21 Hancock. *History of Tallaght*, p. 83.
- 22 O'Curry. *Ordnance Survey Letters*, p. 76-77.
- 23 O'Donovan. *Ordnance Survey Memoranda*.
- 24 I am indebted to Professor James Brindley of U.C.D., for drawing my attention to this monument and to the tumuli in Piperstown townland.
- 25 Price. "Antiquities and Place Names", *Dublin Historical Record*, Vol. II, p. 121.
- 26 Ball. *History of the County of Dublin*, Part III, p. 38.
- 27 Hancock. *History of Tallaght*, p. 78.
- 28 *Ordnance Survey Memoranda*.

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

- 29 *Cobbe Estate Documents* in National Library.
- 30 Fitzachery. "The Dodder", *The New and Dublin Lanthorn*, 1901.
- 31 Handcock. *History of Tallaght*, p. 76.
- 32 Henderson in *Evening Herald*, 27th March, 1915.
- 33 *Valuation Office Records*.
- 34 O'Curry. *Ordnance Survey Letters*, p. 72-73.
- 35 Handcock. *History of Tallaght*, p. 89.
- 36 *Ibid.*, p. 86.
- 37 Price (Ed.). *Austin Cooper's Diaries*, p. 43.
- 38 O'Foghludha. "The Irish name of Terenure", *Dublin Historical Record*, Vol. XII, p. 64.
- 39 Croker (Ed.). *Memoirs of Joseph Holt*, Vol. I.
- 40 I am indebted to Mr. Liam Price for directions as to the location of this rock.
- 41 Price. *The Place Names of County Wicklow*, Part V, p. 301.
- 42 O'Curry. *Ordnance Survey Letters*, p. 76.
- 43 Price, "Miscellanea," *J.R.S.A.I.* 1941, p. 152.
- 44 *Talks for the Troops* (Archaeology).
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## GLENASMOLE ROADS

### Appendix III

Liosta logainmneacha agus ainmneacha páirceanna i nGleann na Smól a bhailigh Tomás Maher agus daltaí bailíodh ó Bhunscoil Ghleann na Smól.

List of placenames and fieldnames in Gleanasmole collected by Tomás Maher and pupils from Glenasmole National School.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Irish Version</u>	<u>English Translation</u>
Garadoo	Garrdha dubh	Black Cultivated Plot
Sleecora	Sliabh Corrach	Rough Mountain
Cleestalk	Claí Stáca	Fence of Stakes
Pladavore	Plodach Mhór	Great Slushy or Muddy Place
Munvore	Móin Mhór	Big Bogland
Lockin (Lane)	Lochán	Pond (Lane)
Farnawolla	Fearann an Bhólaigh	Land of the Cattle
Cora Caol	Cora Caol	Narrow Weir
Aill Mhór	Aill Mhór	Big Cliff
The Ling	An Linn	The Pool
Mungorives	Móin Garbh	Rough Bogland
Morgawn	Mongán	Overgrown Swamp

## GLENASMOLE ROADS

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Irish Version</u></b>	<b><u>English Translation</u></b>
Allagour	Aill an Ghabhair	Cliff of the Goat
Ceapóg	Ceapóg	Little Green Plot
Moonatubber	Móin an tobhair	Bogland of the Well
Carraig (Mountain)	Carraig	Rock (Mountain)
Annaleckey	Abhann an leice	River of the Flat Stones
Sruans	Srutháin	Streams (wet place)
Spinkín	Spincín	Little Pinnacle or Crag
Askanair	Easca an Aoire	Hollow of the Shepherd
The Ord	An Aird	The Height



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Átha Cliath Theas



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