#### I.T.A. Topographical and General Survey

Natural Features, Antiquities, Historic Associations, Etc.

## Barony of Coshmore and Coshbride

Town or Village Tallow Parish Tallow County Waterford

#### **TOPOGRAPHY**

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

One of the finest views in this district may be obtained from Tallow Hill, 592 feet above sea level. To the south is the valley of the Bride. This river, meandering about on its' course to the Blackwater, is very picturesque. Round about the Hill, the land is very thickly wooded. To the north is the thickly wooded country round Lismore, and further the Knockmealdown Mountains rise clear and blue and form a pleasant background to this charming scene. The main road from Lismore to Tallow is also very picturesque: The trees growing along its sides give it an air of peace and quiet; in some places they meet overhead, forming very beautiful archways, and the road looks more like a private avenue through some well-kept demesne rather than a public way.

#### **GEOLOGY**

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

There are no unusual geological features in this parish. The rock formation in the valley of the Bride is limestone. There are veins of upper old red sandstone to the north and south of this.

## MANSIONS, CASTLES AND ESTATES

of imposing character

None.

### **ANTIQUITIES**

Abbeys, Castles, Fortresses, Round Towers, Early Churches, Sculptured Crosses, Stone Circles, Ogham Stones, Cairns, Souterrains, Pillar Stones, Cromlechs, Forts, Raths, Moats, Tumuli or ancient monuments of any kind. Exact location of each with short description, noting condition, etc. Relate local legend or tradition associated with building or object. State if in charge of Office of Public Works. Right of way to public? Admission charge (if any). Name and address of caretaker, or where key is kept.

Lisfinny Castle Ruin: The following is O'Donovan's description of this ruin [O'Donovan's Letters. Art.]: 'In the townland of Lisfinny [Lios Finghin] near the north bank of the River Bride stands the Geraldine Castle of Lisfinny, commanding a fine view of the plain through which the river flows. It is a plain structure in tolerable preservation measuring on the outside 43 feet 4 inches from north to south and 33 feet east to west. It is about 70 feet in height and its walls 8 feet thick and well grouted. It consists of four stories: the first floor over the ground one and the upper floor rested upon stone arches which still remain. The other floors were of wood and have long since disappeared. The doorway was on the south wall, but it is now completely disfigured. A spiral staircase leads to the top in the south-west corner. This castle had 20 windows formed of chiselled limestone, some rectangular and some pointed at the top. The quoin stones are also all chiselled. The walls are built of brown grit stones all quarried and hammered'



Notes: This old ruin is still fairly well preserved. The two stone arches

mentioned above are still standing and intact. The rendering on these arches is worthy of note; it seems to have been laid on a wickerwork model. The staircase is intact right to the top of the castle. At the top of the staircase on the first floor level are some steps leading down to a small low dark room, not more than five feet high. This may have been used as a sort of prison, though it would hold no more than two persons. It is lighted by a very small opening. The first storey is lighted by two tall narrow windows, one on the north and one on the south wall. These windows measure about 50 inches by 4 inches; remains of a fireplace or chimney flue in the s.e. corner.

The floor of the second, which was of timber, has disappeared.

Third floor: This floor, which rests on a stone archway, is intact. The staircase leads from the south wall of this to the floor above. The archway leading from the room to the stairs is still intact, and is somewhat as shown in the diagram. Opposite this archway, still on the same wall is a window aperture, still in fair state of preservation. There is a very fine window aperture measuring 7 feet by one foot on the east wall. This is still in perfect condition. This window is widely splayed on the inside.

It measures about 9 feet by three feet. There is a small loop['a'] cut in stone on the east side of this aperture. This was used to support a bar or beam. There is a similar window opposite this, on the north wall now much injured. A remarkable feature of this is the chimney flue right over the window.

The fourth floor has disappeared, but access may be gained to a ledge which runs along the west wall. Some further steps lead to the flag tower.

The sanitary arrangements which are worthy of note, are in the south-west corner of the castle. A long flue ran from the ground to the top storey, and connected each floor.

The records of the county throw little light on the history of Lisfinny Castle. It was built by the Earls of Desmond like numerous County Waterford castle. In 1579 Garrett, 15th Earl plundered Youghal and carried some of his plunder thither. It was then, according to Hollingshead, 'kept by Spaniards', who these latter were is not recorded. It was inhabited, and probably owned by Sir John of Desmond in 1574. Gabriel O'Connell Redmond believed it to have been the residence of Thomas Earl of Desmond, but on what authority he does not state. [see J.R.A.S. XVII, '86, 399]. In 1837 it was converted into the residence of Captain E. Croker. It is best remembered locally as the scene of the amusing incident about Jasper Pyne in 1888.

It is situated about half-a-mile north of Tallow beside the residence of Robert Smyth.

Sheanmore Castle: This castle stands two or three miles east of Mocollop. The ruins consist of an almost square keep, differing in detail only from Lisfinny. The remains of a staircase still enables one to reach the top storey. The windows and doorways are now in ruinous condition. On the top storey, in the north west angle and projecting from the north and west walls are two barbizans, with cut stone supports, roofed with small stones in a kind of beehive shape. These communicate with the chambers on the top storey and each has three circular loop-holes for musketry.

This is a Desmond castle. It is not known who built it, but it was the inheritance of Maurice, second son of Gerald Oge. Maurice was involved in the rebellion of Garrett More, the Great Earl of Desmond, and was attainted in the 28th year of the reign of Elizabeth. During the Desmond Rebellion in the latter part of the 16th century Shean castle is said to have been burned by Sir Henry Sydney of Conna Castle. At the suppression of that rebellion Shean



Castle was fortified. It was later included in the Desmond grant to Sir Walter Raleigh. It was probably finally demolished by Elizabeth's troops.

It is situated about 30 yards from the public road, on the land of Michael Waters.

## Historic Sites

Royal Seats, scenes of historic events – battles, mass meetings, historic festivals, &c. Location. Landowner. Historical or traditional notes.

None of any interest

#### Historic Houses; Burial Places

Birth places or one-time residences of distinguished Irishmen or other personalities. Location and description. Present owner or occupant. (b) Burial places of distinguished personalities.

Frank Ryan, famous tenor, was born here and resides here at present. John Hogan, noted sculptor, was a native of Tallow.

#### Spas or Mineral Springs

Spas formerly in use. Location and present condition. Access. Right of way to public? Mineral content and curative properties so far as known locally.

None in Tallow.

## Curiosities

Curious objects, structures, monuments, landmarks, sights, etc. For example, Wishing stones or "chairs" freaks of nature (i.e. grotesque rock formations) – in fact, any scene or object which may be regarded as queer, quaint or mirth-providing. Location and description. Any story or legend may be related.

None

Customs, Patterns, Etc.

Brief account of old customs, traditional cures, etc., still practiced in the district. Pilgrimages to Holy Wells, Shrines etc. Patterns

None

Date 4-9-43

(Signed) Micheal O Domhnaill

Surveyor.

## I.T.A. Topographical and General Survey Sports and Games

# Barony of Coshmore and Coshbride

Town or Village Tallow	Parish Tallow	County Waterford					
Angling (Fresh water) If there is only one river or lake in the parish this form (B) will suffice. For additional waters Form Ba to be used.							
River or Lake Bride	Nearest Point to Tox	vn (distance) Quarter of a mile					
Kinds of fish held:							
Salmon, White and Brown Trout, Peal,	Dace, Pike.						
Average Weight of:							
Salmon 12 to 15 lbs.	Sea Trout 1 to 1/2 lb.	Brown Trout ½ lb.					
Best Seasons for:							
Salmon March, April S	ea Trout July, August	Brown Trout April, and May					
Suitable Flies:							
Salmon Lemon amd Grey, Black Docto	or. Also prawn fishing.						
Sea Trout The Butcher, Alexander	, Silver Black, Claret and Mallard						
Brown Trout Olive Dunn, Olive Quill	, March Brown, Orange Grouse.						
State if angling is – "entirely free"; "free except on preserved stretches"; etc.							
Entirely free							
Preserved stretches, with names and ad	dresses of Proprietors:						
None in this parish.							
Owners of boats for hire, and charges per day:							
No boats used on this river.							
Convenient Angling Centres (where accommodation is available):							
Tallownridge [Smyth's Hotel] Beside the Bride.							
Local Angling Club None Secretary (and Address)		Membership Fee					
Sea Angling Brief Notes on Fishing grounds:							
Kinds of fish to be caught:							
Owners of boats, type of boats, and charges per day:							

Bait available locally? -		Fishing Tackle?					
Representative of B.S.	Representative of B.S.A.S. or other Sea Angling Assn. No						
Golfing							
Name of Club	None. Lismore	No. of holes 5 miles distant. Is near	est course				
Situation and brief des None	cription of course:						
Name of Professional Is there a Clubhouse o Green Fees (Visitors):	on course?	Licensed? Per week					
Racing (Including "Point-to-P	oint" and "Flapper" Meetings)						
No. of meetings norm	ally held during the year One	Point-to-Point]					
Under which rules?	Irish National Hunt.						
Situation of Course the year usually held in		ated about one mile south of the town.	1st meet of				
Hunting Hounds which hunt in	the district:						
Foxhounds West Harriers Non Beagles Nor							
Coursing							
Names of Club None	e. There was a big annual meet 1	pre-war. Meeting held annually? -					
Greyhound Racing							
Name of Company	None						
Races on (nights)							
Shooting Brief notes on shooting	g areas, stating kinds of wild fov	vl or game, and if free shooting is available	2:				
Mr. Scanlon, Tallow of ago, and thus distribut	btained 300 pheasant eggs from ed a large number of birds in th s have declined very much of la	duck and snipe principally. Also cock of England – 100 each year for three years, is district. Plover was very plentiful here tte. Duck very plentiful in the Bride Val	some years a few years				
If preserved, give name	es of landowners or lessees and	addresses:					
	air Tallow, has her lands pre to this effect appear in the local	served. Many local farmers preserve weekly paper.	their land				
Shooting Club	None	Secretary	None				
Clay Pigeon Shooting							

Name of Club None Competitions held?

None

Rowing and Sailing

Rowing or Yacht Clubs, with address of club-house.

None

Games and Recreations

Name of Club or Committee concerned with the following: (In each case give location of sports ground or recreation hall)

Gaelic Football Gaelic Football is played on a small scale. Junior and Minor teams. Field is situated in Townparks, Tallow. Hurling is the favourite game here. Senior, Junior and Minor teams. Tallow Hurling Club. Field as above.

Hurling Hurling is the favourite game here. Senior, Junior and Minor teams. Tallow Hurling Club. Field as above.

Handball Played on a small scale. Handball alley? Small alley beside the Garda station

Soccer None
Rugby None
Cricket None
Hockey None
Bowls None

Bowling (on public roads) Bowling on the public roads on a small scale. Minor competitions with teams in adjoining districts.

Lawn Tennis A fairly good tennis club. Kinds of Courts Green [2 courts]

4 years in existence. Court situated a half-a-mile s.w. of Tallow. Fees: 10/- per person per annum; family ticket  $f_1/5/$ -. Visitors invited by members may play free. 40 members

Croquet None

Billiards Played to a fairly large extent. Tallow Billiard Club. Temperance Hall,

Convent Street. Fees: 4d per 100

Badminton None

Table Tennis Played on a small scale, in Temperance Hall, Convent Street. Fees: 2d per

week.

Bridge Club None

Other games or recreations (inc. "Cross Roads" dancing)

Occasional '45 Drives' organized by the various clubs in the area. Also whist drives. 'Rings' played in the Temperance Hall, Convent Street.

Athletic and Cycling

Name of Club None Events held under rules of -----

Annual Events

Give list of annual events held in the town or parish, naming promoters (Clubs, etc.) in each case. Include pilgrimages and patterns.

Point-to point Race meeting. Promoters West Waterford Hunt

Club.

Championship and challenge matches, hurling & football H. & football Clubs Tennis tournaments occasionally Tennis Club.

Annual sports meeting run under the auspices

Of L.S.F. and L.D.F. L.S.F. and L.D.F. Group Leaders Moorehall Sports Meeting Moorehill Hurling Club.

Date 4-9-43 (Signed) Micheal O Domhnaill

Surveyor

No Form C.

Form D.

I.T.A. Topographical and General Survey Holiday Amenities and General Information. (Other than Seaside)

## Barony of Coshmore and Coshbride

Town or Village Tallow Parish Tallow County Waterford

Location and brief description of town or village.

Population 812

Tallow is situated 5 miles s.w. of Lismore, 13 miles e.s.e. of Fermoy, 13 miles N.W. of Youghal and 30 miles N.E. of Cork. The following quotation from Power's "Place Names of Decies", p.45 shows the former importance of Tallow as an industrial centre; "Tallow parish is restricted in area and indeed in interest. It derives its name from the townland and town of Tallow, famous in the 17th century as the centre of a considerable iron industry, mining smelting and exporting. A tolerable history of the industry might be compiled from the references thereto in the Earl of Cork's Diary. The iron ore of Tallow is described by both as hematite, bog iron and clay limestone [Smith's "History of Waterford" 2nd edition. P.281] The Earl of Cork records having sent a set of Tallow-made knives to Lady Carew as a present. In seven years the fore mentioned enterprising nobleman exported from Tallow 21,000 tons of bar iron at £18 per ton. Cannon and shot from local iron were cast at Cappoquin in 1623"

The trade and business of Tallow has declined greatly in recent years. At present there are: 21 licensed premises; 5 bakeries; 3 or 4 drapers; 2 hotels [one in the town – Devonshire Arms, and one at Tallowbridge – "Brideview" – a quarter of a mile distant]; 3 butchers; District Court; Branch of County Library; 1 chemist; R.C. Church and Church of Ireland; G.S.R. Railway Station at Tallow road, 3 miles distant; weekly car service from Tallow to Cork, usually on Thursday; M.O. Residence; Catholic and Church of Ireland schools; 1st class Roads, tarred and rolled from Tallow to Youghal, to Fermoy and to Lismore. There is no cinema here, the nearest centre being Lismore, 5 miles distant. No barber. No monthly fair. There is, however and annual horse fair, one of the biggest in the south, held on 3rd September.

Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds:

No gardens, parks other than the Gaelic Field

Brief comments on water supply and sewerage:

There is a good water supply and new sewerage system.

Public Services

Nearest station Tallowroad. Distance 3 miles Bus None at present Public lighting by Electricity Gas? None

able igning by

Dancing

Dance Hall "The Cinema" There are usually Proprietor Daniel O'Brien, Barrack Street 10 "All night" dances, 20 "Cinderellas" annually as well as Sunday night practice dances. A good local dance band "The Brideside Serenaders". Also L.D.F. Piper's Band

Cinemas and Theatres

Cinemas None Pictures shown ----- (nights)

Youghal nearest place 7 miles distant.

Theatre Hall known as "O'Brien's Cinema" Kind of shows ---- (Drama, Comedy &c.)

Shakespearean plays etc. McMaster Co. and others.

Libraries

Public Libraries There is a branch of the County Library, open every evening in Convent Street.

Private Lending Libraries: None

Churches and Services

Church: Tallow R.C. Church

Church of Ireland Tallow

Services (Sundays) 9.00 and 12.00 11.00a.m.

Postal Facilities

Location of Post Office Barrack Street [opposite Devonshire Arms Hotel]

Business (? M.O., Telegraph, Telephone) M.O., Telegraph, Public telephone, Pensions, saving certs.,

Stamps, etc. Banking

Banks Munster and Leinster Bank.

Sports and Photo Supplies, &c.

Sports Dealers Sheehan Brothers. Make hurleys. The majority of the hurleys are made locally.

Photographic Stores Daniel Sheehan, Chemist, West Street Tallow.

Swimming Pools and Baths

Swimming Pool? None Location Tallow people bathe in the Bride..

Public Baths? None Location

Social Clubs, Cultural Societies, &c. Social Clubs None

Cultural Societies Local Dramatic Club hold plays etc. during the year. Frank Ryan noted tenor lives

here.

Industries and Handcrafts.

Industries Bakeries, Coal and Corn stores. Saw Mills, ships come up the Bride to Janeville Quay, 2 miles east of the town, with coal and export timber etc. Bridevalley Stores employ about 20 hands, motor and cycle repairs at O'Brien's Garage; also dairy farming in the area round about.

Handcrafts or Cottage Industries (Give names of craftsmen, employer, &c.):

Thomas Quinlan, Tallow Hill, Tallow, Basket Maker. He and his brother make their living on this trade. Traditional basket maker.

Public Monuments

(Brief description; inscription to be quoted)

None

Important Public Buildings

(Give brief notes on architectural features)

None

Schools and Colleges

Boys and | Girls N.S., Tallow Kilcolf, N.S. Mixed.

Shean N.S. Mixed

Church of Ireland School Tallow

Hospitals

There is a dispensary here.

Fairs and Markets; Half-Holiday

Monthly Fairs and Markets None Annual Horse Fair on 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

Weekly market day Friday Half-holiday No fixed day. Thursday or Friday as convenient

Garages and Petrol Stations

O'Brien's Garage, Barrack Street Tallow

Fitzgerald Bros. The Square Tallow

James Tobin, West Street, Tallow [petrol only]

Mrs. Walsh, Barrack Street, Tallow [petrol only]

Conveyances for Hire (Owners):

Taxis

O'Brien's Garage

Fitzgerald's Garage

John Hartigan, West Street

James Collins, Chapel Street

Michael Hurley, Convent Street (he also runs car services to Cork)

Motors (Touring)NoneBoats (State Type)NoneBicyclesNoneCaravansNoneHorsesNone

Camping Sites

(at principal holiday resorts)

Location: No fixed sites Local land-owners usually allow camps to be pitched on their property.

Local Improvements Committee: Parish Council Secretary: Patrick Walsh, Main Street.

Date: 4-9-43 Signed: Micheal O'Domhnaill

Surveyor

Form E.

## I.T.A. Topographical and General Survey Accommodation and Catering

## Barony of Coshmore and Coshbride

Town or Village Tallow	Parish	Tallow	County	Waterford
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Hotels No. of Bed. Licensed

Devonshire Arms

Hotel, Tallow

[Mrs. Kinelry Prop]. 7 (No bath, 1 lav, 3 public rms) Yes Though not first class, the hotel is kept in good order. Travellers seem pleased with food and fare.

Brideview Hotel,

Tallow Bridge

[Miss Smith, Prop]. 4 (1 bath, 1 w.c. 3 public rms) Yes This is a very nice and clean hotel and has been lately repaired and some new additions built. Miss Smith, who intends retiring from business soon, told me that she intends selling the hotel at an early date. There are 10 acres of land attached; also garden which is kept quite well. Very nice surroundings on the banks of the Bride. Annual rent 7-0-4. She would be satisfied to take 3 thousand pounds for the hotel, lands etc.

## **Guest or Boarding Houses**

Miss Hartigan, West St.

Tallow 1 (no bath, 1 w.c., 2 public rms) No All these boarding houses are much the same lines. The accommmodation and fare generally are fairly good.

Miss Ronayne,

The Square, Tallow 4 (no bath, 1 w.c. 2 public rms) No

Mrs. Forde,

Main St., Tallow 2 (no bath, 1 w.c. 2 public rms) No

Miss Collins,

West St. Tallow 3 (no bath, 1 dry lav, 1 pub rm) No

Miss Neville,

Barrack St. Tallow Café, also boot and shoe repairs and dressmaking.

Date: 4.9.43 Signed: Micheal O'Domhnaill

Surveyor