BOOK REVIEWS


As the author states, this is an attempt to provide a useful introduction to the archaeology of Ireland from the Stone Age to the sixteenth century A.D. through a summary of some of the archaeological excavations which illustrate the material culture of the people down the ages. By a judicious selection of sites and an easy narrative Peter Harbison, who, incidentally, is a member of the Society, has succeeded in placing before us a very readable story indeed.

The introduction contains a resumé of the history of Irish archaeology from the time of George Petrie and the foundation of the Kilkenny Archaeological Society in 1849. This is followed in Chapter 1 by a discussion of the intriguing possibility, based on some doubtful evidence from Kilcrea Cave, Co. Waterford, that Palaeolithic man may have lived in Ireland during the last Ice Age. The author then tells us of the first reliable traces of human habitation, viz., of the hunters and fishers of the Mesolithic, who, *circa* 6800 B.C., occupied the Antrim area with its rich deposits of flint.

The activities of the first farmers of the Neolithic are illustrated by the plough marks and ridge-and-furrow cultivation uncovered by Seamus Caulfield within the field enclosures at Belderg, Co. Mayo, and the discovery of a house-site by Seán Ó Nualláin at Ballyglass in the same county. There is a brief reference to the Neolithic houses at Lough Gur accompanied, on page 21, by a rare photograph of the reconstructed house erected by Professor Seán P. Ó Ríordáin for a film documentary. Evidence of a very different and more spectacular nature, but still belonging to the Neolithic, was encountered at the great burial mounds of Knowth and Newgrange in the Boyne Valley. We are told of the findings of Dr. George Eogan at Knowth when, in 1967, the western passage grave came to light to be followed in 1968 by the discovery of the even more remarkable eastern tomb in the same mound. Professor M. J. O’Kelly’s investigations prior to the conservation work at Newgrange are graphically told, in particular the notable discovery of how the sun on midwinter morning penetrates through the roof-box over the tomb’s entrance to shine on the wall of the end-chamber.

The story of the Bronze Age is conveyed to us through the evidence found in the ancient copper mines of Mount Gabriel, Co. Cork, the cooking-sites or *fuilachta fiaidh* in the same county, and the cist-burials in the cairn at Poulawack, Co. Clare. At the latter site in the Burren the Harvard Expedition, led by Professor Hugh Hencken, found the burial remains of eighteen people. The book also treats of the Beaker people who inhabited portion of the country in the Early Bronze Age and then passes on to a consideration of the Late Bronze Age and the fort-builders. Recent excavations by Dudley Waterman at Navan Fort, Co. Armagh, and by Barry Raftery at Rathgall, Co. Wicklow, receive special attention. Some features within these hillforts can now be placed firmly in the Late Bronze Age, *circa* 600 B.C. The inhabitants used bronze weapons and implements and probably wore gold ornaments. Were these people the first Celts in Ireland? The author poses this question and offers some answers. One might have expected a reference here to the probable link between Navan Fort and the Emain Macha of the early Celtic legends. This chapter also mentions the ringforts—the enclosed homesteads that flourished in the Early Historic Period. They are far more numerous than the hillforts and the figures of 30,000 given on page 54 is very much an understatement: a more correct estimate would total closer to 40,000.

In Chapter 4 the author treats of the introduction of Celtic Art, especially the La Tène style, as represented on monuments such as the Turrow Stone, Co. Galway. The famous Broighter hoard of gold objects comes in for special mention and the account of its acquisition by the British Museum and its subsequent return to Ireland is dealt with in detail. Another piece of archaeological history, the misguided search for the Ark of the Covenant on the Hill of Tara, is also recounted. This is a characteristic of the narrative whereby a human interest element is introduced. It is found throughout the book and adds considerably to the enjoyment of the reader.

Early Christianity is illustrated with reference to the monastic sites at Nendrum, Co. Down, and Reask, Co. Kerry. The latter site contains a number of early cross-slabs, two of which have been published in an earlier number of this Journal. Our knowledge of the period between the fifth and ninth centuries A.D. is very limited and, lacking reliable historical documentation, the evidence coming from archaeological excavations is of crucial importance. One would have liked to see, there-
fore, an account here of the results from a ringfort or cashel excavation such as Cahercommaun, Co. Clare, or Garranes or Garryduff I, in Co. Cork. They are, after all, by far our most numerous class of field monument.

Of the secular sites, the crannogs have yielded the greatest wealth of artifacts and the book provides a description of the Harvard Expedition’s first excavation at Ballinderry I, Co. Westmeath. The account of the more important finds, dating from the Viking phase, leads on to a summary of the excavations of Viking and Medieval Dublin under the direction of Brendan O Riordain. At the Dublin sites the wealth of material evidence has provided a picture of the life of the city extending over four centuries which no historical document can emulate. The glimpses afforded us of this evidence by the interim reports and the short account in this book only serve to whet our appetite for the full, detailed publication of the excavations.

Medieval archaeology has recently come to the fore and asserted its rightful place in Irish archaeological studies. The book treats of two excavations at major sites dating to the Norman period: Mellifont Abbey, Co. Louth, where the work of Liam de Paor, another member of our Society, has pioneered a series of excavations at medieval monastic sites, and Trim Castle, Co. Meath, where the excavation by David Sweetman shed new light on the history of the castle.

This account of the archaeology of Ireland concludes with the fascinating story of the finds made by underwater archaeologists searching for the treasures of the Spanish Armada. Indeed, the story of the recovery by Robert Stenuit of the Girona treasure reads better than any novel and shows that the truth can, very often, be stranger than fiction.

Altogether the book succeeds in achieving what it set out to do, namely, to provide an introduction to the archaeology of the country. It is not by any means a learned text-book and does not claim to be one. Its readers will, however, be captivated by the story that unfolds before them and seeking additional information can turn to the list of books for further reading presented on page 117. A longer list, including books like the Shell Guide to Ireland and North Munster Studies, and giving the main reference (where published) to the sites mentioned in the text, would have been welcome. The book (in hard cover) is amply illustrated with colour and black-and-white photographs and a number of line-drawings. At the reasonable price of £3.25 it should prove a popular choice with both young and old.

THOMAS FANNING


This concise guide, abridged from Mrs. O’Kelly’s larger Illustrated Guide to Newgrange (reviewed in this Journal, 10:2 (1967), 228), is a welcome addition to the small number of guidebooks available to Ireland’s more important field-monuments. The many thousands of visitors to Newgrange, Ireland’s best known megalithic tomb, will be well served by this guide.

The introductory chapter deals very briefly with Irish passage-graves in general, their art and their dating, and, given the size of the book, this provides an adequate background for the description of the features of the tomb in the succeeding chapters. These chapters are very generously illustrated with plans, sectional profiles, and forty well chosen photographs. Mrs. O’Kelly has also used some of the results of the excavations carried out at the site for over a decade by her husband, Professor M. J. O’Kelly, and this whets the appetite for the publication of the full excavation report. The treatment of the tomb’s ornamentation in the text is brief, but this is compensated by the many photographs of decorated stones. The bibliography lists the more important works on Newgrange and other Irish passage-graves, and should satisfy the needs of the more interested student and visitor to Newgrange.

A visit to the magnificent tomb at Newgrange is a rewarding experience, and such a visit will be made all the more worthwhile with the help of this brief and modestly priced guidebook. Adequate and up-to-date guidebooks to Ireland’s field monuments are severely lacking, and it is surely the duty of the custodians of our National Monuments, and indeed excavators, to correct this situation. Mrs. O’Kelly has shown with this guide that the information on a site, even as complex as Newgrange, can be presented to the public in an attractive and informative format.

DIARMUID Ó DRISCEOIL

“Essentially, a Round Tower is an elongated clochán . . .” This apparently naïve statement sums up much of this booklet—superficially naïve yet realistic enough back of it all. The naïveté includes an over-facile interpretation of apparently obvious facts; the realism is their presentation. For popular publications such as this series so usefully and admirably provides, the author’s approach in this regard is surely at fault. The place for new, not generally accepted theories is in a learned journal where they can be argued in detail, not dogmatically presented to the general public without reference to alternative views presently held by virtually everyone other than the author. Such an approach can all too easily be dismissed as _supressio veri, suggestio falsi_, and Dr. Barrow’s views are worth more than that—worthy of statement anyway, if not necessarily of acceptance.

Apart from all too frequent suggestions/statements that Round Towers were being built from at least as early as the sixth and seventh centuries, shortly after the introduction of Christianity to Ireland, much useful information is to be found in this booklet. For instance, on the inside back cover is a list of the 68 surviving Round Towers (65 in Ireland, 2 in Scotland, 1 in the Isle of Man) together with their present heights given to the nearest metre. Elsewhere the author corrects a popularly held belief that the Round Tower on Iris Catha (Scattery, Co. Clare) is the tallest in Ireland—an eighteenth century guess put it at 120 ft. (36.58 m.) but it is really only about 26 metres high—the tallest is at Kilmacduagh, Co. Galway, which measures 34.28 metres, though when complete those at Fertagh (Co. Kilkenney) and Kildare would have been even higher. The height of an average Round Tower, Dr. Barrow suggests, ought to have been between 23 and 35 metres. Dr. Barrow elsewhere tells us that their doorways would have been between 1.5 and 4.5 metres above ground-level, but he need hardly be taken seriously when he presumes that access to them would have been by means of a rope-ladder—though I did once listen fascinated to a C.I.E. guide explain to a group of tourists at Glendalough how the monks, on sighting the raiding Vikings, would promptly start twisting the ságán and thus make a rope-ladder which, on scrambling up it to safety in the tower, they then burnt to prevent the Vikings from following!

This slim publication is beautifully presented, with easily read text and fine illustrations. It is, indeed, a pity that is flawed by its author’s uncritical belief in an unproven and not easily acceptable chronology for the monuments themselves.

_Etienne Rynne_


This attractive, soft-covered booklet is an illustrated guide to the monuments and antiquities of Roscrea and an area within a ten mile radius of the town. In the preface the author describes himself as an amateur country scholar and seeks pardon for the defects of the publication. These, however, are few, and the booklet, despite its uncomfortable format, is one of which a professional scholar might be proud. The depth of the research undertaken is evident throughout and is clear from the general and specific bibliographies and the source references given on pages 96-99.

The guide is divided into two sections: one dealing with the monuments of the O’Meachair country and the second with the antiquities of the Ely O’Carroll territory. It covers the time-span from the Neolithic, _circa_ 3000 B.C. down to almost the present day, and contains references not only to such early antiquities as the possible megalithic tomb on Carrick Hill but also descriptions of relatively modern buildings such as St. Cronan’s Catholic Church and the Cistercian monastery of Mount St. Joseph. These seem out of place in a guide devoted to antiquities, but as they are of historic or architectural interest in themselves their inclusion can, perhaps, be justified.

The author does not confine himself to descriptions of the field monuments but also includes the movable antiquities discovered in the vicinity of Roscrea, e.g. the Killavilla stone head, the gold collar (gorget) from Borrissone, and the Roscrea Brooch. With the important exception of the Book of Dimna and its shrine, both in Trinity College Library, most of these objects and other antiquities, such as the cross-slab from the site of St. Cronan’s monastery, are now in the National Museum.

Field monuments dating to the Neolithic and the Bronze Age are scarce in the Roscrea area. Apart from the possible megalith on Carrick Hill there is the very unusual group of standing-stones

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five miles south-east of the town. The Timoney Stones, as they are called, are now widely regarded by most authorities as some kind of folly and this point is stressed in the guide. There are, however, a number of very fine earthworks in the area, some of which may date to prehistoric times, e.g. the probable hillfort at Aghancoon (page 55).

Above all else, Roscrea is renowned for its Early Christian monuments and for its associations with saints like St. Cronan. Hence the monastic remains receive special attention, and deservedly so, in the guide. Portion of St. Cronan’s monastery still survives within the town itself. The west gable of the monastic cathedral with its Romanesque doorway and blank arcading situated, as it is, on the main Dublin-Limerick road is a major tourist attraction. The High Cross nearby dates, like the west gable, from the twelfth century. In the guide-book, however, the Round Tower on the opposite side of the road is given a tenth century date. Evidence in support of such a date is lacking and, indeed, the tower may also belong to the twelfth century—the earliest known reference is to 1131 when it was struck by lightning.

Monaincha or the Island of the Living (Oileán na mBeo) some two miles south-east of Roscrea is also associated with St. Cronan. The surviving antiquities include, among others, a church with a fine Romanesque west doorway and chancel arch. Twelve pages of the guide (including photographs) are devoted to this important site. The author not alone covers the antiquities but also details the history and tradition of the monastery which was once titled the 31st Wonder of the World. Another famous monastic site, Seir Kieran, is also included in the guide but the one photograph (of a Sheelana-Gig) does not do justice to the site and its monuments.

Field monuments and antiquities dating from medieval times are quite plentiful around Roscrea, and castles such as Roscrea Castle and Leap Castle are dealt with and, where available, an outline of their history is provided. For later buildings, such as the Damer House, there are detailed historical references right up to the present day when it was rescued from demolition largely through the efforts of the Old Roscrea Society.

The guide is well illustrated with photographic plates and there is a useful glossary of terms, an index of places and two maps to assist the reader in locating sites. The author has not only availled of modern photographs but has also included photographs of old prints and views which give an added interest. A number of the plates are not as clear as one would like, e.g. the photograph of the cross-slab on page 24. One would also quarrel with the large and awkward format of the publication. These, however, are small faults and, on the whole, the guide is a fine publication and of particular interest to the members of the Society as Roscrea lies within Thomond territory.

THOMAS FANNING


This brief but most attractive little guide to one of Limerick’s more unusual, pleasant, archaeologically and architecturally important villages was published in connection with European Architectural Heritage Year, 1975. Its production is tasteful and excellent in quality, and it is the type of publication which not only serves its purpose as a useful guide but will also subsequently serve as a pleasing reminder or souvenir of one’s visit to the village.

The work was researched and prepared by Tom Pierce (a former Hon. Secretary of the Thomond Archaeological Society), Nancy Dunraven (the Dowager Countess of Dunraven) and Noel Hogan, all of whom are to be complimented on an informative and easy-to-read text. Although the information presented is certainly adequate for the passing tourist or even the informed visitor, the present reviewer felt somewhat aggrieved to notice that the out-of-date belief that Desmond Castle was erected within an ancient rath was repeated here (page 13) despite his article proving the contrary in our Journal, 8:4 (1961), 193-202. Likewise, it seems a pity that Macalister’s readings of the ogham stones (page 23) were not given, as they are more generally acceptable than those of either Graves or Westropp.

The description of the Manor is rather too brief, although this is partly remedied by a large ground-plan—regretfully the bibliographical references at the end do not include such up-to-date publications as John Cornforth’s three-part article on Adare Manor published in the 1969 May issues of Country Life nor even the Official Guide of the Historic Irish Tourist Houses and Gardens Association published some years ago under the title Castles, Houses and Gardens of Ireland open to the public.
The sketches interspersed throughout not only illustrate the text but add to its appearance, but it is for the beautiful coloured photographs that most will treasure this little guide. Apart from a slightly fuzzy one showing the manor, they are vastly superior to any which this reviewer has seen, and that of the recently restored washing pool and watering place for horses is eminently evocative of the tranquility, cleanliness, strangeness and beauty for which Adare is renowned.

ETIENNE RYNNE


I am not only honoured to be invited to write an appreciation of this elegant book, I am very pleased to do so as well.

I think of Dr. Lucas as fitting exactly the quotation on page 28 of the Festschrift, supplied by James Delaney, but culled from Chaucer, to wit—"a verrey parfit gentil knight". Ever since I first sat at his feet, when he was President of the Anthropological Section of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, I have been deeply impressed by the breadth and depth of his scholarship. On that occasion, he talked on "Fulling and Napping in Early Ireland" and he led me into a world I scarcely knew existed, but in which I have since been walking in great delight and wonder.

For the next five years, during his term as President of the Society for Folk Life Studies, I continued to sit at his feet and to wonder at his scholarship. Especially I remember his paper on the bell outshot, which fired me to go around my countryside recording those which could still be found, and to note the number of places where it is still colloquially termed the "callagh". Incidentally, I was intrigued to learn only a month or two ago that in County Roscommon these features are called "Pooch-beds" (=pouch?) and are normally big enough to take a whole double bed. But I am sure he well knows this already; the point I make is that the fire Dr. Lucas kindled in me so long ago burns yet, and still fiercely.

It is scarcely surprising therefore that so distinguished a group as appears in this volume should be prepared to contribute to it; and it pleases me still further to note some good friends amongst the contributors. It is naturally their material I looked at first on acquiring the book, and it is mostly to their material that I would refer.

In an admirably clear and beautifully illustrated paper on traditional house types, Alan Gailey, of the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum, calls attention to the immense variety that is still in existence for the discovery of those interested, and makes one or two telling statements which one wishes one had already thought of; for example "Traditional Irish houses are all characterised by the opening of all other living spaces off from the kitchen; there is nothing new about an 'open-plan' arrangement, for at this stage the Irish house combined many functions—eating, recreation, working, in the principal living area, the kitchen". Of course! But it took him to say so and really to emphasise the half-thought in the reader's mind. At a later point, Alan Gailey suggests a one- or two-roomed antecedent for the main bulk of the three-roomed dwellings being discussed. Still burning with the fire lit by Dr. Lucas, I found only a short time ago a real live Bothán Scór being lived in; if he would like an introduction, I shall be happy to oblige!

I suppose it was Geraint Jenkins, of the Welsh Folk Museum, Cardiff, who, in 1967, tempted me away from my previous humdrum existence into the excitement of Folk Life, leading me in 1971 own to the River Tywi to watch John Rees making a rope with cow hair, carrying his coracle, down to the river, paddling it in various ways, and fishing from it; and then on to the Teifi at Cenarth to see another type and another technique. A new world, and the more welcome to read of these and related matters in this book. Geraint Jenkins is indeed a "Welsh Wizard" in his own field. By the way, it is pleasant indeed to see John Rees, in one of the excellent illustrations which add lustre to the book, winding a line beside a Tywi coracle.

Another "well-net" friend in this book is Seán Ó Stílleabhain, the wizard in the Department of Irish Folklore in U.C.D., with an astonishingly detailed, though apparently casual account of the folk material that was committed to the deep when the Poulnaphouca Reservoir was made. To read the mass of material within its careful codification, and to have tried to do some similar bits of work oneself, is to realise not only the vast amount of talk and interviewing that must have taken place, but still more the problem of recording all the material at a time when there were no tape recorders.
to make things easy. The deep interest of this contributor shines through his piece; and it is an interest which he can transmit to others in full measure, including me.

There are other friends and acquaintances to be met in these pages; and a pleasant meeting they make indeed when one realises again the subject of the meeting. I am sure that Dr. Lucas must have been touched by the tributes made by so distinguished a company in so distinguished a format, and I hope he lives long to bask in its reflected glory. I am sure that the expert editorship of Caomhín Ó Dálaigh was a labour of love, as was the research involved in Étienne Rynne's compilation of the list Dr. Lucas' published work, year by year since 1946, and they, and the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland are to be congratulated on the production of a volume worthy of its subject.

L. B. MAYER-JONES


The Tipperary Remembers Society organised a weekend of papers and discussions in 1976 on the theme of 'Tipperary's Gaelic Heritage'. It was decided that the principal papers should be put on record, and this paper back of 126 pages is the result. The collection is of very high quality, since scholars and experts have contributed short accounts of many aspects of the history and antiquities of the county. The "Gaelic heritage" is fairly loosely interpreted: Bronze Age tombs are admitted, as are some nineteenth-century figures whose chief language was English. After all, if football can be described as "Gaelic", Archbishop Croke can too (pp. 99-104 and 105-108)?!

Most of the contributions are extremely brief, and since they are good, this is to be regretted. Some are on original topics. Daphne Pochin Mould, for example, writes interestingly on "Mountains in Tipperary". Mountains, as she points out, are not what one immediately associates with a mention of County Tipperary. On the other hand, the ranges in the county are, all of them, rich in historical and legendary associations, apart from their geological and other interest. Alas, she has not space to do justice to them. Rev. Professor Pádraig Ó Fiannachta has a longer and most stimulating piece on "Tipperary in Ireland's Golden Age", with notes on topography, place-names, history, legend and literature. Rev. T. Kennedy contributes two articles covering a range of local lore and historical observations. The archaeology of the county is thoroughly, if compactly, dealt with, from prehistory (Mary Cahill and Elizabeth Tuchig), through the Early Christian period (Thomas Fanning) to the Romanesque (Dr. Peter Harbison). Other writers deal adequately with history, folklore, place-names, and biographical and other anecdotes.

Tipperary, like almost all our counties, is in its present boundaries a modern rather than an ancient entity. It includes parts of areas which were distinguished from one another in ancient and medieval times. It includes, however, the heart of ancient Munster: the Rock of Cashel and the monastery of Emly were secular and religious centres of the great province, and Cashel, indeed, once vied with Tara for pre-eminence in all Ireland. Mag Feimín, the plain of Cashel, was the scene of major historical events in early times. The county extends northward into the old territory of Éile, where Munster faced into the midlands and touched the crucial boundary between the northern and southern halves of Ireland.

Most of the land of Tipperary is too rich for it to have been a major centre in early prehistoric times; paradoxically, the earliest farmers and grazers had to seek rather lighter soils which they could more easily clear and till. The megalithic monuments are concentrated in the Rear Cross area. It was in Iron Age times and later that the county came into its own. And it was, of course, one of the most important areas in pre-Norman Ireland—and probably one of the richest. In more modern times Tipperary has been one of the chief centres in the whole country of the nationalist movement and especially of the cultural revival associated with it, the area where the G.A.A. began, where Fenianism flourished and where the War of Independence was begun and fiercely fought. It is also within the county that the Irish Labour Party was founded: this aspect of Tipperary's history is, unfortunately, missing from the collection, as indeed is the social and economic history of the modern county.

However, Fr. Hayes and his colleagues have provided for us a useful summary of information about a county whose fertile and smiling acres cover about one twentieth of the area of Ireland, and rather more than that of Ireland's history.

LIAM DE PAOR
The above work consists of an assemblage of items roughly arranged in chronological order commencing with the earliest written references to the parish and extending as far as the present day. The author’s primary purpose in writing the book is to “give the parishoners of today’s affluent society a concept of conditions that existed here in our forefather’s time, and how they were forced to eke out a miserable existence in a background of landlord and imperial oppression and economic hardship” (p. 5). To a large degree the work is limited to a description of life in the parish in the nineteenth century.

Fifty or so sub-titled items constitute the main body of the book and they contain a bewilderingly varied amount of information about conditions and events in Kilarfboy during the last century. The author sympathetically portrays the parish as a hive of activity, full of different social strata, all of which to a greater or a lesser degree came to be involved in events which have taken place there. The author has been successful in depicting life in this parish in this familiar manner, and this kind of treatment will undoubtedly strike a chord with those who know the parish.

Unfortunately, the vast wealth of material at the author’s disposal has neither been carefully sifted, nor has it been arranged in an effective manner. Some of the long tables found in the main body of the text, such as “tithes”, “famine victims” and “parish surnames” could all have been better presented in appendix form. The reader is often left in the dark as few sources are noted. Portion of a map purporting to illustrate the extent of the parish is inserted on the last page; it is not accompanied by a scale, nor a frame, nor even a key—and on which Spanish Point (which gets a whole “chapter” to itself in the book—pp. 13-16) is not shown! The absence of a title page, a date and place of publication, a list of plates and a list of tables, severely diminishes the appearance of the book. These are shortcomings which made the reading and the reviewing of the book a difficult task. It is a book which badly needs the careful attention of a good editor.

Patrick O’Flanagan


A genuine welcome must be extended to this new and to date, the most detailed map of The Burren. Mr. Robinson, in an essay accompanying the map, states that it is “intended as a graphical expression of a sense of place—one person’s sense of place”.

Relief is represented by shading in preference to contour lines, the limestone strata and the shale strata being differentiated, a method which gives a good impression of landforms. Detail is expansive and thorough: megalithic tombs, cairns, barrows, ringforts, old churches and towerhouses are noted; houses, churches and other buildings in use; potholes, cave entrances and State forests. When one considers the wide distribution of all these features, one may appreciate the extent of the work and time involved in producing this map which attests to the skill and determination of the author over a period of years.

A fine feature of the map is the inclusion of the townlands. The names of these are given in their established anglicised forms, but Mr. Robinson has recorded other placenames in Irish. Information goes beyond the topographical. A “strange field” is shown at Cragballyconna; a cottage built by the Land League at Ballyshannon; a holy well which cures toothache at Gleninisheen; Tobar Iníne Baith (cure for warts) at Glensleade; a stone at Glencolumbkille South with the mark of a saint’s fingers; a blessed bush and marks of St. Brigid’s knees at Gragan West—all resound to the poetry of the region’s ancient lore and their inclusion gives the map a unique charm and flavour. The birthplace of Michael Cusack at Poulnaphuca, Carron; the home of Patsy “The Prince” O’Lochlain at Croagh South and of P. J. Kelly the botanist, at Newtown, Ballyvaughan; the site of Judge Michael Conyns’s house at Ballyteigue, Lisdoonvarna, are noted.

There are inset maps with keys of Ballyvaughan, Lisdoonvarna and Kilfenora, and inset keys to Doolin and Killiney. Hotels, guesthouses, bars, shops, garages and other amenities are listed.

The map will have a place of its own in the literature of the Burren and will be a standard work of reference. Mr. Robinson has given us much—an indespensable companion for those who intend to visit this intriguing region.

Gerald O’Connell