

A 1570 List of Castles in County Clare.

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A list made in 1570 of 125 castles in Co. Clare is published here. It is checked against a list made in 1574 which gives 170 castles, and the unlikelihood of the 45 extra castles having been built in the intervening four years is discussed. (In 1899 Westropp listed 214 castles in the county, most of which are at present known.)

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While researching source material for a book on the history of the castles of Co. Clare a notice of a State Paper containing a list of 125 castles in Thomond in 1570 A.D. was found in *The Calendar of the State Papers of Ireland*.¹ Through the good offices of Professor Etienne Rynne I was allowed access to the microfilm section of the library in U.C.G. where a copy of the manuscript of the State Paper (S.P.I. Elizabeth, Vol. XXX no. 68/1) was obtained. After some research into the handwriting of the sixteenth century, particularly the Elizabethan style known as "the secretary script", the subject matter for this paper was deciphered and transcribed. I must acknowledge at this stage the help given to me by Brian Ó Dálaigh who is no stranger to deciphering the manuscripts of the sixteenth century.

The list can serve as a tool in dating these 125 castles to at least pre-1570. It also gives the owners, some of their occupations, and a few other interesting notes on the castles themselves. A similar list of castles in Thomond in 1574 was published by R.W.Twigge in the precursor of this journal in 1910.² This list gives 170 castles of which 114 are common to both lists. The 1574 list gives no information about the castles other than the actual owners. It can be said that those castles appearing on the 1574 list date to at least that date. It is difficult to explain the 45 extra castles on the later list. It is possible that some had been built in the intervening four years; of course some castles could have been accidentally omitted from the 1570 list. The situation in Thomond in the years 1570 to 1574 would not have allowed such resources as would have been necessary to undertake an extensive campaign of castle-building. The English were attempting to show authority in their newly-acquired lands in Thomond. Conor O'Brien, third Earl of Thomond, had shown his disdain for the English by refusing to attend the assizes held by the President of Connaught, Sir Edward Fitton, in the monastery of Ennis in 1570. When summoned to attend he made prisoners of the messengers and caused Fitton to flee to Gort for safety. The Earl's kinsman, the Earl of Ormond, was sent to calm the situation. O'Brien submitted, fled to France and a year later went to London to ask the Queen Elizabeth's forgiveness. He was restored to his property and pledged not to rebel against her authority again. However, by 1573 the O'Briens were again up in arms. This time it was a quarrel that broke out among themselves, the reason for which we are not acquainted. Suffice to say that a general plunder of the countryside was the consequence.³ Castle-building therefore during these years would not have been a priority. It is more likely that the English officials being unfamiliar with the territory in 1570 did not make a very thorough job of the first list.

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¹Hamilton, Hans Claude.(ed.) *Calendar of the State Papers relating to Ireland of the reigns of Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary and Elizabeth, 1509-1575*, London 1860, p.433.

²Twigge, R.W., "Edward White's Description of Thomond in 1570", *Journal the North Munster Archaeological Society*, Vol. I, no. 2 (1910), pp.75-85.

³Frost, James. *The History and Topography of the County of Clare*. London. pp.243-245.

The compiler of the second list, Edward White, was better qualified for the job. According to Sir Edward Fitton, he was born in Limerick and was familiar with the Irish, English, French and Spanish languages, and "is indifferent ready with his penne."⁴

There are approximately 220 known castles and castle-sites in Co. Clare. T.J. Westropp named 195 of these in 1899.⁵ To his list he added 19 castles from the 1574 list which he could not identify, and he omitted at least 5. Using both lists we can say that the majority of castles in Co. Clare were built before 1574. It is also possible to say that by 1534 there were more than 100 castles in Co. Clare. Conor O'Brien (died 1539), last King of Thomond, wrote in 1534 to King Charles V of Spain, asking him to help rid his country of the English conquerors. O'Brien promised to give to the Spanish King 17,000 armed soldiers and the use of "more than 100 castles" to accomplish the mission.⁶ Unfortunately we do not have a list of these 100 castles.

Two other copies of the 1574 list were made and many errors appear in them. One copy is now among the Carew MSS. (611, p. 234); the other copy is known as the Trinity College List, (MS. E. 2, 14.)⁷ This is the list which appears in Fr. White's *History of Clare*.⁸ It was mistakenly dated 1584 in the appendix (he correctly dates it 1574 in the text on p. 207). The origin of this list is explained by Twigge as coming from MS. E. 2, 14, of Trinity College Dublin.⁹ He also quotes Hogan's Description of Co. Clare in 1598 in which the same errors are noted.¹⁰ If one compares the original state paper¹¹ with the Trinity College list or with Hogan's list, it will become obvious that an error occurred in aligning the columns of the castles with the columns of their owners when the copies were made. When Twigge's list is checked against a copy of the original 1574 State Paper it is essentially correct.

The following transcription of the 1570 list is given as accurately as possible. Very few details have been changed. Punctuation has been omitted as it is not possible to be entirely accurate due to the condition of the copy of the original State Paper. Some spelling has been regularised where the scribe had different spellings for the same word. Contractions have been silently expanded in all cases. Capitals are unaltered. Letters and words within square brackets have been inserted for the sake of clarity.

State Papers Ireland - Elizabeth, Vol. XXX, 68/1

The names of all the Castles in Thomond with the persons in whose hands the same are [rep]utly detained and the names who are to answer for them in an[n]o 1570.

Clancullan

1. Ballyally with James neylan a phisician
2. Ballycastlen with Bryen mac mahon upon Donogh o bryenes pledge
3. Ballymaslen with william neylan a quiet man
4. Belahinnin with Covia riogh
5. Danganbracke that in the erle of Thomonds hands

⁴Twigge, op. cit., p.76

⁵Westropp, T.J., "Notes on the Lesser Castles or 'Peel Towers' of the County Clare," *Proc. Roy. Irish Acad.*, (1899), pp.348-365.

⁶Maxwell, Constantina. (ed.), *Irish History from Contemporary Sources, 1509-1610*. London 1923, p.94.

⁷Twigge, op. cit., p.75

⁸Very Rev. P. White, *History of Clare and the Dalcassian Clans of Tipperary, Limerick and Galway*, (Reprint Cork 1973), pp.394-397.

⁹Twigge, op. cit., p.75

¹⁰Hogan, Edmund, *The Description of Ireland and the State thereof as it is at this present in Anno 1598*, London 1878, pp.124-130.

¹¹*S.P.I. Elizabeth*. vol. xlv, 35, 1.

6. Moughan with Mahowne mac covare
7. Crappog with John mac Teig mac nemara servant to the sherif
8. Rosseroe with ffynyn mac Loghlin
9. Kaylkissine with Donogh mac shanes sonnes uppon Tirrelagh O bryen
10. Karthwanywir with shane rioghes sonnes uppon the sherif
11. Danganibigin with Teig mac ne mara est mortmer
12. Clwonye Mac gilleriogh
13. Corbaly with Rory mac Donogh
14. ffomorly with Tirrelagh o bryene
15. Lisseafyn the old Countes of Thomond viz Ellan butler
16. Tiresiadagh with Tirrelagh o bryen
17. Garrowagh with Donill riogh
18. ffertan with Conoghar mac Rory a pore man
19. Lisemighan with Teig mac loghlin upon Donill riogh
20. Ballinmolyn with Tirrelagh o bryene
21. Bealenefirbarny with Tirrelagh mac Teig upon Tirrelagh o bryene
22. Dwne with Tirrelaghe o bryne

Ombloyd

23. Moinetallon } with west mortmer viz John mac nemara
24. Downe }
25. Moyneoghenagh garded to the quenes use by the erle of ormond
26. Ballynehinshy Donogh mac sida
27. Cowleriogh with Mahowne oig
28. Cahir wrthily with John mac ne mara west mortmer
29. Cowleriogh with Donill mac sida
30. Skarif with John ogradie a pore man
31. Castlenelogh with John mac ne mara west mortmer
32. Drohid with the barron of Inchiquin
33. Enagh with Donill mac mahon }
34. Ballycwlynen with Donogh mac Donill. } upon Tirrelagh o bryen
35. Downeassy kept by the erle of Ormond
36. Cwylistaig with Donill mac Loghlin uppon tirrelagh o bryene
37. Madmoro with Covea mac shain
38. Ballimulcasshin Teig ultagh
39. Ballyntley with Teig mac Donill upon the sherif
40. Cretallagh with Teig mac ne mara est mortmer
41. Caslen meale with John mac ne mara mac Teig upon the sherif
42. Keapagh with Donogh mac ne mara

Tradry

43. Bunratie garded by the erle of Ormond to the quenes use
44. Rossemonegher John O mulconry
45. Cloynemoynegh [be] longing to Bunratie held by parcell from the erle of Thomond
46. Drwymlein melaghlin mac gorman
47. Rathlahin with Donill mac sida manta
48. Ballyinegowin with Teig mac shain
49. Urlon with Conoghor oig mac Clanchie a brehon
50. Ballineclohie with Donill mac Clanchie a prest

51. Ballisallagh conoghor oig mac Clanchie a brehon
52. Ballinecraggie
53. Dromeolyn with Donogh mac moregh o bryene
54. Rathmolan with Teig mac nemara est mortemer
55. Ballycary with Donogh o bryene mac moregh

The Ilands troghkiade

56. Cloynerawd }
57. The Clare } garded to the quenes use by the erle of ormond
58. Craigbryene mac gilleriogh
59. Ballymecowde with Teig oig bakagh
60. ffinis with Bryene neforigne

Corkewaskin

61. Dangin }
62. Crovreggan }
63. Innish } with Teig mac conor o bryene
64. Innishmicowny }
65. Cahirdacon. }
66. Cloynedirgala with mac mahon up[on] Teig
67. Dirrecrossan with Bryen mac mahon upon Teig mac mahon
68. Ballykitt }
69. Carrigcowle }
70. Downesawan } with Tirrelagh mac mahon
71. Downebeky }
72. Downebeig }
73. Kilkeyne with Colle mac swyne chief capten of the galloglas of the country
74. Downemore nobody undertakes
75. Cahir muroghowe Teig o bryene the sherif

Ibrekan

76. Downeogan with macorman upon Tirrelagh o bryen
77. Tromere with Teig o bryene the sherif
78. Cahirrush with Tirrelagh o bryen
79. Moy o breacan promised by the ward to be delivered to the erle of ormond
80. Cahirvicfyne with Bryene o bryene an outlawe

Kinnalarowe

81. Inchiqin with Teig o bryene the sherif
82. Ballycruteriogh with mahon o bryen upon the sherif
83. Tire mic bran with Donogh mac conoghor o bryen upon the sherif
84. Kearowe duf with Ricard oig upon Donogh mac morogh
85. Tilenowe with morogh mac Conor o bryen
86. Cahircrokran with moriertagh garrif upon sir Donill o bryen
87. Dromefinglase Sir Donill obryens castell
88. Rath with Dermot Ro upon the sherif teig o bryenes pledge
89. Disert taken by the erle of Ormond from the bishop of Kilaloes sones and delivered to the bishop o Da inheritor therof.

90. Modowna with Teig mac Donogh upon Tirrelagh o bryen
91. Shalie kept per force from bryen Duf inheritor therof won by the erle of Ormond and restored unto him.
92. Ballygrifie with Donogh o bryene mac morogh
93. Ballyshareghan the barron of Inchiqin

Corkemorowe

94. Liskanor
 95. Inistiman
 96. Glaine
 97. Incheovehie
 98. Tulleggh
- } with Sir Donill o bryen
99. Ballyonegowin with Teig o bryen the sherif
 100. Tullaghomor with Covea mac corman upon Teig o bryen the sherif
 101. Cahirmenan with Morogh o bryen mac conor
 102. Downgore with Sir Donill o bryen
 103. Downevicfelim with Tirrelagh o bryen
 104. Tomeleny with hugh mac clanchy upon Sir Donill o bryen
 105. Cnockfine with mac clanchy a brehon
 106. Ballinelakin with Sir Donill o bryen
 107. ffante Teig o bryen sherifs castell
 108. Bellagh with morogh mac conoghor
 109. Lemeynnegh with Donogh mac moregh o bryen

Burryn

110. Bawnero with Tirrelagh Riogh upon Tirrelagh o bryen
 111. Gragan o Loghlins castle
 112. Glainesled Turrelagh boyes sonnes castle upon no mans pledge
 113. Cahirclogan with Tirrelagh o bryen
 114. Turlagh O Loghlins castell
 115. Glainenagh with James Lench of Galway
 116. Ballyveghan with the barron of Inchiqin.*
 117. Ballymoreghowe with melaghlin cam upon Tirrelagh o bryen
 118. Ballycashe with Rosse o loghlin upon the sherif
 119. Glainecolumkilly
 120. Kepaghe
- } o Loghlins castles

Oflanchie

121. Morihe with Tirrelagh o bryen
 122. Dirreowin with barron of Inchiqin
 123. Kearowe negowill the abbot sonnes
 124. Castle Cally
 125. The Inch
- } garded by the erle of ormond
to the quenes use.

* *Crossed out after no. 116 is:* with melaghlin cam upon Tirrelagh o bryen

Inserted is : with the baron of Inchiqin.

In a later hand is written : **Inclosure in 4 july 1570**

APPENDIX

In order to make the 1570 castle list useful to students of local history, each castle on the list has been taken numerically and its present name, condition and location are given below.

CLANCULLEN

1. Ballyalla - some of the ground floor vault remains - north of Ballyalla Lake.
2. Castletown - almost perfect, unroofed; of unusual design compared to other castles and towerhouses in Co. Clare - 1/2 mile south of Spencilhill on main road to Tulla from Ennis.
3. Castletown (Doora) - site only, mound and some masonry - east of Moyreisk (Quin).
4. Ballyhannon (also called Castlefergus) - perfect, inhabited periodically - 1/2 mile northwest of Latoon.
5. Danganbrack - four walls standing, unusual high gables - 1 mile east of Quin.
6. Mooghaun - perfect; inhabited periodically - in Dromoland Wood.
7. Knappogue - perfect; used as a tourist centre - 3 miles south of Quin.
8. Rossroe - almost perfect - close to the northeast shore of Rossroe Lake.
9. Kilkishen - was perfect until 1989 when south west section collapsed - south of Kilkishen village.
10. Cloonmore - (also called Carrowmeer) - site only - close to Jasper's Bridge, 2 miles west of Quin.
11. Danganiviggan - almost perfect; large bawn and banquet hall - in the grounds of Dangan House, north of Quin.
12. Clooney - four walls standing, small low towerhouse - beside Clooney graveyard.
13. Corbally - site only - 2 miles north of Quin.
14. Fomerla - one angle of the castle remains - 3 miles southwest of Tulla.
15. Lissofin - one wall standing - 1 mile south of Tulla.
16. Tyredagh - 3 walls; one wall almost to full height - 2 miles northwest of Tulla.
17. Garruragh - in tolerable state of preservation - 1 mile east of Tulla
18. Fortane - 2 walls remain - 2 miles east of Tulla.
19. Lissmeehan - some low walls remain; built on earlier site - 2 miles east of Tulla.
20. Milltown - was perfect until 1981 when the north section collapsed - 1 1/2 miles west of Tulla.
21. O'Briens Castle - almost perfect - 3 miles southeast of Crusheen.
22. Doonmulvihil - site only - 3 1/2 miles northeast of Crusheen.

UI mBLOID *

23. Mountallon - site only - 2 miles northeast of Kilkishen
24. Doon - site only, close to Doon lake - 2 miles northwest of Broadford.
25. Drimmeen - site only, some cut stone on mound - 4 miles south of Bodyke.
26. Ballinahinch - part of ground floor chamber survives - 3 miles west of Bodyke
27. Coolreagh - site unknown, possibly at Coolreagh House - 1 mile northeast of Bodyke.
28. Caherhurley - site only, some masonry - 1/2 mile east of Bodyke.
29. Coolreagh beg - part of one wall survives with garderobe - 1 mile north of Bodyke.

*According to Frost, Ui M'Bloid was a generic name for the districts of Ui Floinn, Gleann Omra, and Ui Toirdhealbhaigh, an area which corresponds with the present Barony of Tulla Lower.

30. Scarriff - site unknown.
31. Castlelough (also called Caislean Ban) - four walls standing; purchased recently with a view to renovation - on an island close to the south shore of Lough Derg.
32. O'Briensbridge - site unknown
33. Enagh - some low walls remain - 1 1/2 miles south of Kilkishen.
34. Ballycullen - in tolerable state of preservation, later barracks added on - 2 miles north of Sixmilebridge.
35. Doonasse (also called Elmhill or St. Johns) - three walls remain - 1 mile south of Clonlara.
36. Coollisteige - almost perfect - 1 mile north of Clonlara.
37. Newtown - three walls remain almost to full height - 1 mile south of Clonlara.
38. Ballymulcashel - perfect, inhabited - 2 miles north of Sixmilebridge.
39. Ballintlea - parts of 3 walls remain - 1 mile north of Cratloe woods.
40. Cratloemore (also called Castle Donnell) - some fragments of walls remaining - close to the banks of the River Shannon, south of Cratloe.
41. Cratloe (also called Cratloemoyle) - almost perfect - on the dual carriageway west of Limerick.
42. Cappagh - site only - 1 1/2 miles southwest of Sixmilebridge.

TRADAREE

43. Bunratty - restored and in use as a tourist centre - Bunratty.
44. Rossmanagher - 4 walls standing - 1 1/2 miles north of Bunratty.
45. Clonmoney - site only - 1 mile west of Bunratty.
46. Drumline - 4 walls in good condition - 3 miles southeast of Newmarket-on-Fergus.
47. Rathlaheen - 4 walls in good condition - 3 miles west of Sixmilebridge.
48. Smithstown - poor condition, one wall - close to Shannon Industrial Estate.
49. Urlan (also called Urlanmore) - good condition, later hall attached - 2 miles southwest of Newmarket-on-Fergus.
50. Stonehall - site only, mound of rubble and masonry - 4 miles south of Newmarket-on-Fergus.
51. Ballysallagh - site only - 1 1/2 miles west of Newmarket-on-Fergus.
52. Ballinacragga - site only - 1 mile north of Newmarket-on-Fergus.
53. Dromoland - old towerhouse was taken down before present castle was built - Dromoland.
54. Rathfolan - large amounts of masonry on site - 1 mile northeast of Newmarket-on-Fergus.
55. Ballycar - site only; some carved stone in walls, one round window head - 1 1/2 miles east of Newmarket-on-Fergus.

THE ISLANDS BARONY

56. Clonroad - site only - close to Knox's Bridge, Ennis.
57. Clarecastle - remaining tower in good condition - Clarecastle.
58. Cragbrien - site only - 6 miles southwest of Ennis.
59. Ballymacooda - site only - 4 miles west of Ennis.
60. Feenish - site only - on an island in the Shannon estuary.

CORKABASKIN

61. Dangan (also called Dangan MacMahon), 4 walls, good condition - 1/2 mile north of Ballynacally.
62. Crovraghan - site only - 2 1/2 miles south of Ballynacally.

- 63. Inish - not identified, possible an island castle in the Shannon.
- 64. Inishmacowney - site only; some cut stone, part of carved ogee-headed window - on the island of Inishmacowney, east of Killadysert.
- 65. Cahircon - site only - 3 1/2 miles south of Killadysert.
- 66. Clonderlaw - site only, mound - 2 1/2 miles north of Labasheeda.
- 67. Derrycrossan - site only, mound - 2 1/2 miles south of Kilmihil.
- 68. Ballykett - site only, mound - 2 miles north of Kilrush.
- 69. Carrigaholt - good condition - Carrigaholt.
- 70. Cloghansavaun - site only - 2 1/2 miles north of Kilbaha
- 71. Doonlicka - site only, mound and some masonry - 3 1/2 miles southwest of Kilkee.
- 72. Doonbeg - one wall standing - Doonbeg village.
- 73. Kilkee - site only, mound - 1/2 mile northwest of Kilkee town.
- 74. Doonmore - 4 walls, tolerable state, base partly undermined by the sea - 1 mile north of Doonbeg.
- 75. Cahermurphy - site entirely overgrown, one wall standing in earthworks - 1 1/2 miles north of Kilmihil.

IBRECKAN

- 76. Doonogan - site only - 2 miles east of Mullagh.
- 77. Tromroe - 4 walls, reasonable condition, base of walls removed for building material - 2 1/2 miles west of Mullagh.
- 78. Caherrush - site only, mound - 2 1/2 miles southwest of Miltown.
- 79. Moy - one wall standing - 2 miles south of Lahinch.
- 80. Cahirvicfyne - not identified.

TULLYODEA

- 81. Inchiquin - an angle of towerhouse standing; later banquet hall standing - 1 mile north west of Corofin - on shore of Lake Inchiquin.
- 82. Ballyportry - perfect, inhabitable - 1 mile northeast of Corofin.
- 83. Tirvicbran - 3 walls standing - 1 1/2 miles west of Corofin.
- 84. Carrowduff - site only; some stone from castle on site - 3 miles west of Corofin.
- 85. Tilenowe - not identified.
- 86. Cahercorcaun - site only - 1 1/2 miles southwest of Corofin.
- 87. Cragmoher - part of ground floor remains and also a small turret in an angle of the bawn wall - 1 1/2 miles south of Corofin.
- 88. Rath - one wall remains to full height on east shore of Rath Lake - 2 miles south west of Corofin.
- 89. Dysert - perfect; now houses archaeological centre and museum - 3 miles south of Corofin.
- 90. Magowna - part of one wall remains - 4 miles northwest of Ennis.
- 91. Shallee - one wall and part of vaulted ceiling remain - 3 miles west of Ennis.
- 92. Ballygriffey - almost perfect - 3 1/2 miles northwest of Ennis.
- 93. Portlecka - one low wall remains - in grounds of Port House, Ruan.

CORCOMROE

- 94. Liscannor - some walls remaining; much of this castle fell in winter of 1995 - Liscannor.
- 95. Ennistymon - castle was incorporated into later house now "The Falls Hotel" - Ennistymon.
- 96. Glen - part of one wall standing - 1 mile south of Ennistymon.

97. Inchovea - one wall and some vaults remain - 4 1/2 miles west of Corofin.
98. Tullagha - part of an angle of the castle remains - 5 miles northwest of Corofin.
99. Smithstown - perfect; being renovated in the summer of 1996 - 2 miles west of Kilfenora.
100. Tullamore - site only - 3 miles north of Ennistymon.
101. Caherminnaun - site only, mound and some cut stone - 1 mile east of Kilfenora.
102. Doonnagore - perfect, recently restored. Inhabited periodically, round castle - Doolin.
103. Doonmacelim - ground floor remains, vaulted ceiling, secret lock-up chamber within south wall - Doolin.
104. Toomullin - site not known, corbels and cut stone in field-walls at Toomullin Doolin.
105. Knockfin - possible site at Knockfin Cross, 2 corbels on site - Doolin.
106. Ballinalackan - almost perfect - 2 1/2 miles northwest of Lisdoonvarna.
107. Fanta - site only, cut stone windows etc. on site - 2 miles northwest of Kilfenora.
108. Ballagh - site only, on south shore of Lickeen Lake - 3 1/2 miles northeast of Ennistymon.
109. Lemeneagh - almost perfect; dated c.1460; Elizabethan house added in 1648. 3 1/2 miles east of Kilfenora.

BURREN

110. Binroe - site only, some cut stone remains - 4 miles east of Lisdoonvarna.
111. Gragans - almost perfect; being renovated in 1996 - 3 miles south of Ballyvaughan.
112. Glenslade - part of one wall and part of bawn wall remain - 3 1/2 miles northwest of Carron.
113. Cahercloghan - built in a ringfort; part of ground floor chamber and stairs remain - 2 miles northeast of Lisdoonvarna.
114. Turlough - site only, mound - 2 1/2 miles south of Bellharbour.
115. Gleninagh - perfect, unroofed - 3 miles west of Ballyvaughan.
116. Ballyvaughan - site only, beside pier- Ballyvaughan.
117. Ballymurhpy - site only, land has been cleared - 3 1/2 miles north of Kilfenora.
118. Castletown - part of 2 walls remain - 1 mile south of Carron.
119. Glencolumbkille - There were 2 castles called Glencolumbkille. One is only a site and the other has the remains of one chamber of the castle and a later hall - 2 1/2 miles and 3 miles east of Carron respectively.
120. Cappagh - 2 walls and ground floor vault remain; part of bawn also remains - 3 miles northeast of Carron.

INCHIQUIN (Ui Fearmaic)

121. Moyree - almost perfect; much of bawn remains - 2 1/2 miles northwest of Crusheen.
122. Derryowen - part of 2 walls remain; quite a lot of this castle collapsed in 1990 during a storm - 1 mile northwest of Tubber.
123. Skaghard - 2 walls remain - 5 miles east of Carron.
124. Castlebank - site only - 2 1/2 miles north of Limerick.
125. This could be Inch castle of which part of one wall and a few steps of the spiral stairs remain - 2 1/2 miles southwest of Ennis. It could also be a castle which once stood in Ennis where the Old Ground Hotel now stands.