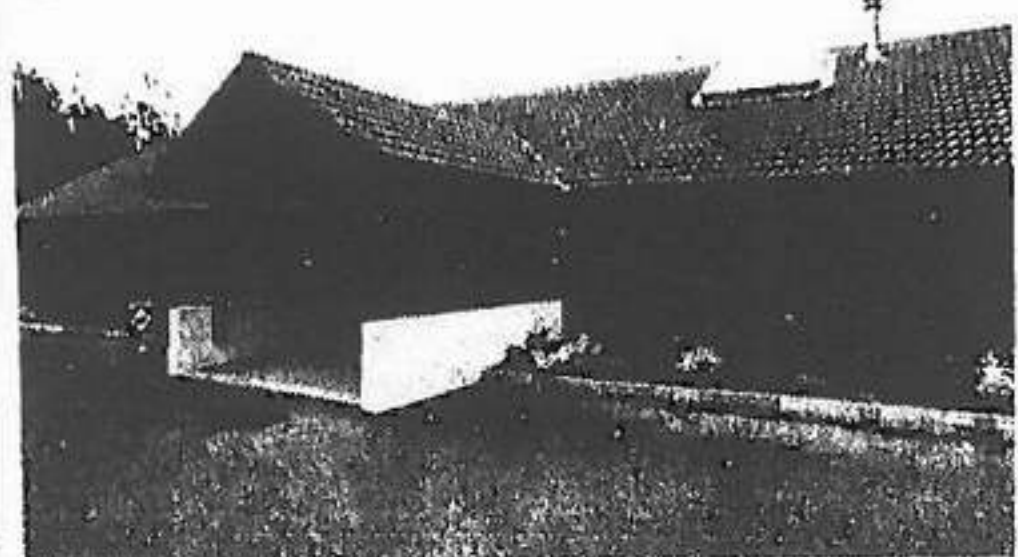
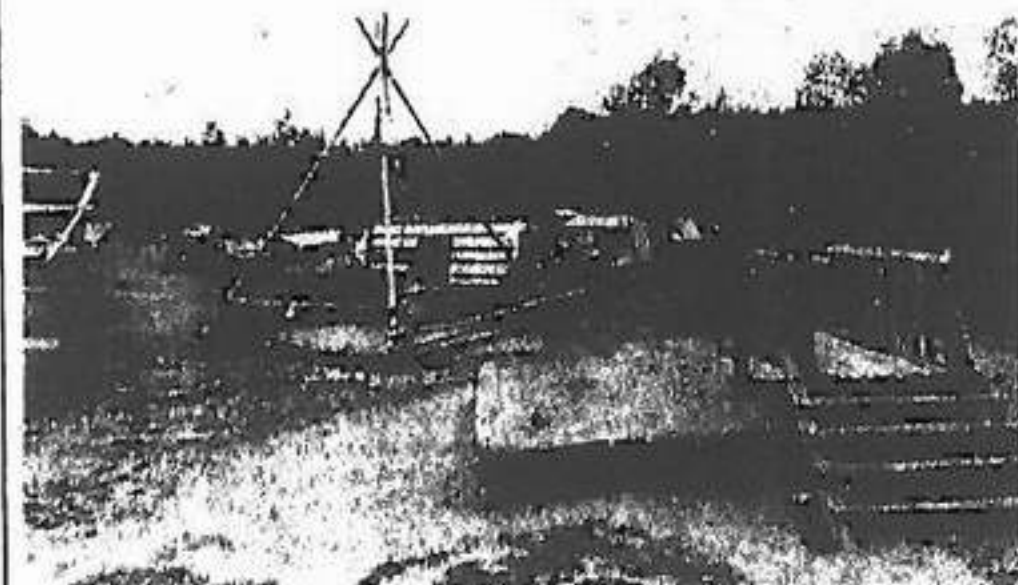




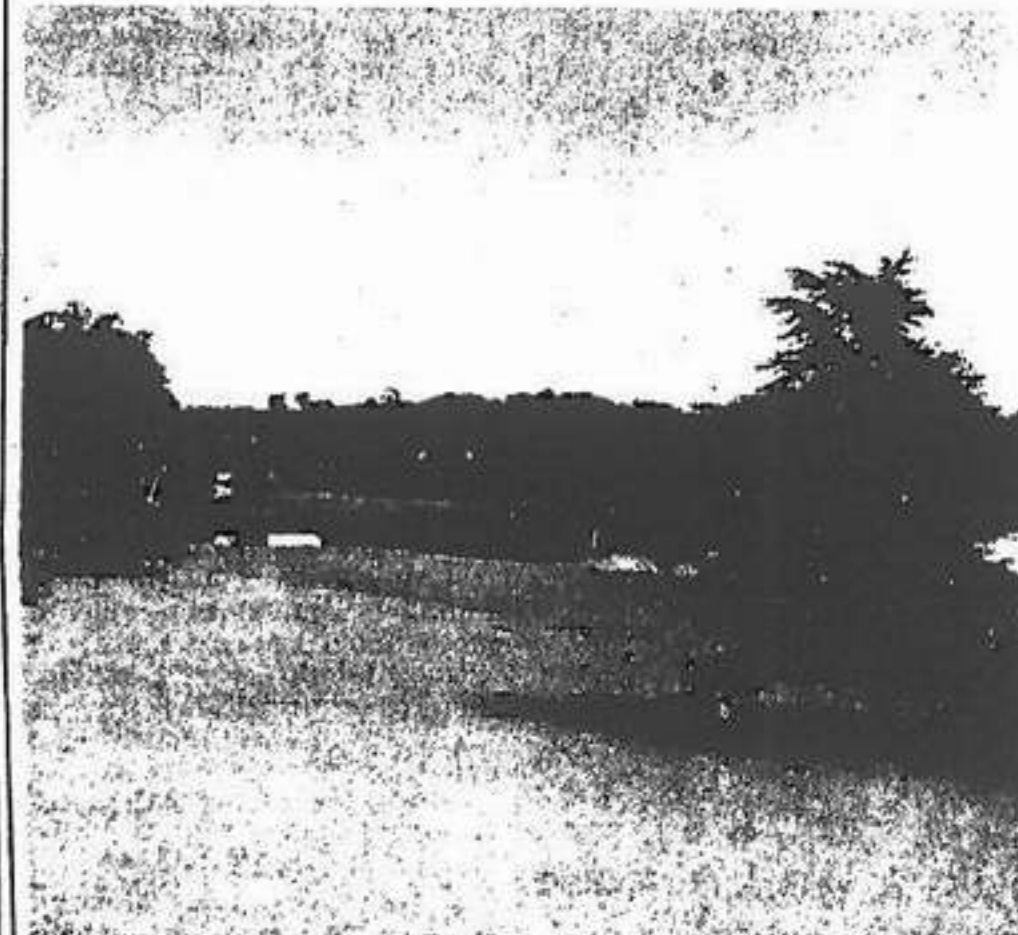
Clive Killick, manager of Curraghchase Park, at the caravan and camping site.



The main building in Curraghchase Park, where visitors can avail of a shop, wash-up area, games room, cooking area and many other extras.



The play area for children.



The view from the big house in Curraghchase Park.

Curraghchase is tops with tourists

By DYMPHNA BRACKEN

THE GENTLE landscape and serene countryside at Curraghchase, which inspired the literary works of the de Vere family for 300 years, now provides enjoyment for approximately 4 000 caravaners and campers, as well as thousands of day callers, each year.

Situated in deep 600 acres of woodland, Ireland's newest and most exciting caravan park was officially opened in June, 1983, by the Taoiseach, Dr. Garret FitzGerald.

The park is beautifully laid out within 13 acres of the State forest and is capable of accommodating 60 touring caravans, with facilities for up to 40 tents.

Every site on the park has been planned to give as much privacy as possible by sensitive tree-planting and landscaping.

Television

Other facilities on the site include a campers' kitchen, laundry room, television and games room, children's playing facilities, toilets and showers, and a site shop fully stocked with groceries, souvenirs and tourist maps and information.

Visitors to the site last year included French, Germans, Italians, Australians and New Zealanders.

The manager of the site, Mr. Clive Killick, who previously worked as an engineer, said that people came to Curraghchase to enjoy a quiet and relaxing holiday in peaceful surroundings.

"At Curraghchase, we endeavour to provide the necessary facilities in a friendly atmosphere", said Clive.

Able assisted by his wife, Gill, Clive, as well as looking after all the facilities on the site, is available at all times to advise tourists on other attractions in the area.

Commenting on the location of the site, which is registered with the Irish Caravan Council, Clive said it was ideally located in the heart of the countryside and within driving distance of such attractions as Bunratty Castle and Folk Park, the Burren, Lough Gur Stone Age Centre, the Cliffs of Moher visitor centre and many other places of scenic interest.

So pleased

Many visitors to Curraghchase who come with the intention of staying just one night are so pleased with the facilities that they remain on the site for up to four nights.

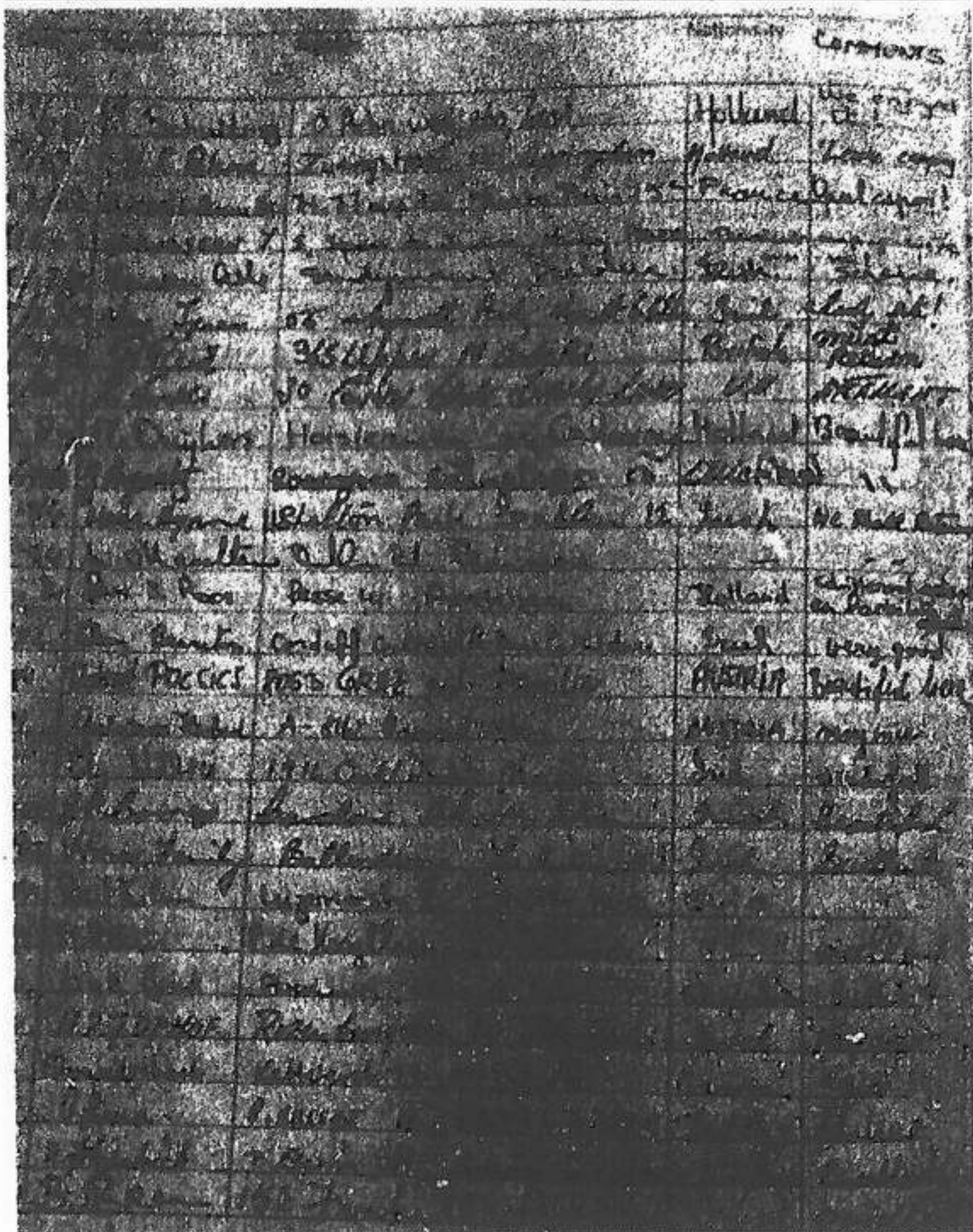
While some of the visitors move out to visit other attractions, some just remain on the site and enjoy fishing in the lake, or strolling through the many nature walks carefully looked after by the Department of Forestry.

The forest nature trail takes a route around the wildlife lake and through many interesting locations where geological and vegetation features can be seen.

A look through the visitors book from last year is proof that visitors to the site enjoyed their stay and were particularly impressed with the facilities. Their remarks made on leaving the site include "excellent", "perfect", "convenient stop", "recommend the site" and "great hospitality".

Mr. Ivan Moore, from Belfast, who was at the site this week with

AND HERE'S THE PROOF . . .



Full marks: the visitors book at Curraghchase.

his wife, Margaret, and two children, described Curraghchase as the best caravan site he visited in the South of Ireland.

Mr. Moore, who heard about the site from a couple in Killaloe, when he was on his way back to Belfast, said he was delighted that he decided to turn back to visit Curraghchase.

Cleanliness

"We were particularly impressed with the facilities — which unlike many other sites were free on payment of the initial admission — the very friendly atmosphere, the cleanliness, and the facilities provided for the children", said Ivan.

As well as the many caravaners and campers who visit the site annually, Curraghchase is also very popular with day trippers, and for family outings at the weekend.

The caravan and camping park is open from April to September and is registered Grade A with Bord Failte.

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