

THE PARISH OF LISMAKEERY.

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SITUATION. This Parish is in the Barony of Shanid and is bounded on the north by the Parish of Toomdeely; on the east by those of Askeaton and Nantenan; on the south by Dunmoylan and Kilbradran and on the west by Kilmoylan.

NAME. The name of this Parish is not of ecclesiastical origin, but derived from that of the Townland in which the old Parish Church is situated and which took its denomination from a large earthen fort lying immediately to the south of the Church. It is compounded of Lios, an earthen fort, and Makeery, a family name, but there is none of that name now living in the neighbourhood.

The old Church of Lismakeery is in good preservation and about four centuries old. It was not divided into nave and choir. It measures fifty nine feet in length and twenty two feet six inches in breadth. Its doorway is in the north wall within a few feet of the west gable; it is in the pointed style,

but not curious nor old enough to merit minute description. There is a window in the north wall placed at the distance of ten feet two inches from the east gable. It is rectangular on the inside and covered at top with a lintel, but on the outside it is shamrockheaded; it measures on the inside five feet six inches in height and three feet five inches in width and on the outside four feet in height and seven inches in width. Directly opposite this there is a similar window in the south wall, measuring on the outside four feet six inches in height and nine inches in width. Its top on the inside is a flat arch.

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The west gable was surmounted with a small belfry, which is now nearly destroyed. There is in the same gable a small window, the lower part of which is on a level with the top of the side walls.

The east window is entirely disfigured on the outside; on the inside it is eight feet in height, four feet ten inches in width and flat-arched (obtusely) at top.

The side walls of this Church are twelve feet high and three feet one inch thick and very firmly built. All its features are constructed of chiselled lime-stone in no mean style.

In the same Townland of Lismakeery about an eighth of a mile to the west of the Church there is a part of an old Castle called after the Townland and said to have been built by the family of Lacy, by whom it was occupied till the time of Cromwell. It is a rectangular building; its south and west walls are remaining to the height of about twenty feet, but of its other two sides only twelve feet are now standing.

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In the Townland of Milltown in this Parish are the ruins of another Castle said to have belonged to the same family.

Ballycullen House, the residence of Carroll Naish, Esq., is said to occupy the site of another Castle which was destroyed in the year 1740, when the present house was built of its stones.