

SOME HARPERS OF KERRY

by: EDDIE J. HERBERT

The recent exhibition at Muckross House on Piping and Pipers in Kerry, prompts one to consider the question of earlier music of the harp and harpers in Kerry. With the revived interest we now have in traditional music it is natural that many musicians have delved into the older melodies specifically written for the harp.

These selections, played by most of the well known musicians, are usually taken from the music of the best known harper and composer, Turlough O'Carolan, but in the latest record from the Chieftains however, they include a melody by one Cornelius Lyons. And that brings us to Kerry and in particular, to North Kerry and a school of Harpers at Rattoo.

An 18th century historian wrote "As to Harp playing, said County (Kerry) could well bragg of having the chiefest master of that Instrument in the Kingdom in his time Mr. Nic Pierce of Clanmaurice not only for his singular capacity of composing lamentations funeral additions and elevations etc., but also by compleating said instrument with more wires than ever before his time were used".

This is the man who is believed to have taught his music and harp playing to the above mentioned Cornelius Lyons. Nicholas Dall Pierse or Pierce was an extensive land owner who lived at Lisnagoneeny — Rattoo near Ballyduff. Blinded it is said by small-pox in his childhood, in common with other similarly afflicted, he was given instruction in music and harping. Unlike O'-

Carolan and many others however, it was not necessary for him to become an itinerant musician or family harper to one of the landed gentry — he was of that class himself. Because of his secure circumstances at that time, in the late 16th century, and his genius with the harp, his home became a centre of harp playing and harpers well known throughout Ireland. So widely acclaimed was Nicholas Dall that at least three poems in praise of his music are extant one of them written by none other than Piaras Ferritéir, poet, patriot and harper and like Nicholas, a native landed gentle man.

An Ulster poet was the author of another of these poems of praise, which again indicates how widely known and honoured was the harping and music of this blind Kerry musician. He had a long life of 92 years extending over most of the latter half of the 16th century to the middle of the 17th.

He was subjected to the pressures exerted on most Catholic landowners at that period. He was imprisoned and later pardoned and at a later date his family were finally dispossessed.

Cornelius Lyons and his music by the Chieftains "drew it all down". He himself became as well known and as famous as his master. He is mentioned as a native of Kerry and more than likely came from the Rattoo district also. Like Pearse it is still a common surname in the locality.

Lyons is mentioned in most publications on early Irish music but most references come from Arthur O'Neill's memoirs, who had this to say about him "A great performer and a very fanciful composer especially in his variations to the tunes of "Eileen Aroon" "Chailini a bhfaca sibh Seoirse" "Green Sleeves" "Cuilfhionn" and several others. He was a County Kerry man, Lyons admired Carolan and his works and by all I ever heard speak of him, he was gentlemanly good natured, obliging and civil to all discriptions particularly to brother-harpers. It is generally imagined that Lyons died in Dublin".

Unlike Nioclas Dall at an earlier period Lyons obviously travelled widely. It is recorded that he met O'Carolan at the house of a Mr. Archdall in Co. Fermanagh. He was harper and friend the Lord Antrim and O'Neill records a story of a visit to London with Lord Antrim where they met a harper named Heffernan. Antrim pretended Lyons was a cousin of his named Burke. When "Burke" played however Heffernan exclaimed "My Lord, you may call him "cousin Burke" or what you please, but damm me, but he plays upon Lyons fingers." What was very extraordinary was that Heffernan never saw Lyons before.

A pupil of Lyons called Ackland Kane won renown on the continent as a musician and is said to have played before most of the Royal families of Europe.

Thus it can be said that the music and harping that derived from the Rattoo locality became well known and appreciated not only throughout Ireland but also in most European countries. It would be interesting to learn of, other harpers in the County. There must have been other lesser known harpers but who would still have at least acquired a local reputation as musicians.

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THE FUTURE

A development plan for the future of a Kerry Folk Museum is at present being prepared by a working group, set up by the Trustees of Muckross House Folk Museum.

In a year when it is likely that the one millionth visitor will pass through the portals of Muckross House to view the House, and the Folk Museum contained therein, it is important to recognise the need for future planning and to realise that what is being planned is a museum service for Kerry. Many people seem to forget, or possibly are unaware, that the Folk Museum at Muckross is for the whole of Kerry.

Members of the working committee, who are considering the future role and development of the museum, are Dr. Kevin Danaher from the Department of Irish Folklore, U.C.D.; Mr. Tom Collins, Kerry Co. Manager; Mr. Ignatius Buckley, Manager of Cork/Kerry Tourism; Mr. Pascal Scanlan, Director, National Parks and Monuments Branch, Office of Public Works; Mr. Sean O'Keeffe, Chairman of the Trustees of Muckross House; Mr. Ian O'Leary, a Director and Mr. Edmond Myers, Manager of Muckross House.

The immediate result of the working committee, after a number of meetings, is a series of recommendations which will be considered further by the Trustees of Muckross House. The first of these is the identification and the operating of exhibition centres throughout the County where exhibitions from the central museum at Muckross House can be mounted, with particular emphasis on items of local interest. Some of the areas mentioned for consideration include Tralee, Caherciveen, Dingle, Castleisland and others. The working committee have emphasised the urgency of restructuring the Kerry Folk Museum administration to become a county wide representative body. Discussions took place some time ago with the representatives of statutory, voluntary and vocational County organisations, who agreed with this development.

Another suggestion to come from the working committee is that a survey should immediately be conducted in every Parish in the County to identify remaining physical items of Folklife interest. As a result of this survey a priority listing would be done, either by the importance of the item, or the possible damage to it.

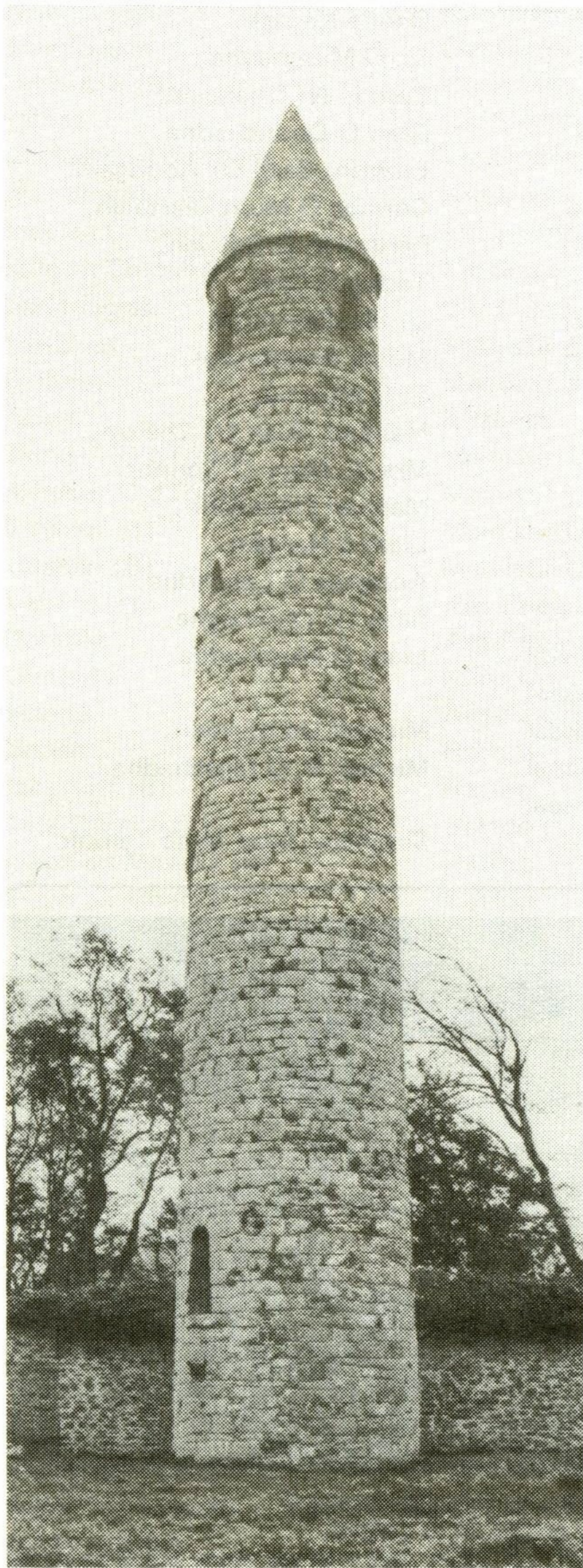
The survey will be carried out through the help of committed local people such as the Friends of Muckross House or through local Organisations.

The development of an extended Folk Museum involves the preservation a representation of the physical appurtenances of our ancestors — people who lived in the towns and villages, in the countryside, by the sea, on the island. It involves the houses in which they lived, wintered their animals and farm produce; the buildings in which they learned to read and write, where they worshipped; the mills in which their flour was crushed; their wool was carded, their spades were wrought. It involves too, the plough, the harrow, the seine boats and naomhógs, the hammer and anvil and many other implements. A good deal has been done to preserve the skills of the tradesman, who are now called Craftsmen, but much has yet to be done. We have to find, if possible, master Blacksmiths, Coopers, Weavers, Harness Makers, Boatbuilders, Coachbuilders, Shoemakers, Basket makers, Upholsterers and others. We have to provide workshops for them and employ them and recruit apprentices who will learn their trades and not let their skills and traditions pass away unknown.

There is furthermore, urgent need for suitable storage premises for the fairly extensive collection of arm machinery and other large objects at present at Muckross House, and for that which still needs to be collected.

There will be many problems to face both in the planning and establishment of the extended Folk Museum. Land, buildings, finance will be required but we are confident that the people of Kerry, who have already given so much help and encouragement to Muckross House, will be enthusiastic about its achievement. They have already shown how interested they are in safeguarding their heritage — an interest which is now getting a response from the State. Recently Mr. Jim Tunney, Minister of State at the Department of Education has accepted a recommendation from the National Museum Development Committee that Muckross House Folk Museum will provide a regional museum service for Kerry as an initial step in the provision of an integrated Museum service for the whole country.

This has been an extremely important development for Muckross House Folk Museum and one which emphasises the need for the planning and development work being carried out by the Working Committee at present.



The Round Tower at Rattoo.
Photo: Commissioners of Public Works.

THE "SCHOOLS" COLLECTION

by: DR. KEVIN DANAHER

The Schools' Folklore Collection, the brainchild of Seán Ó Súilleabháin, Archivist of the Irish Folklore Commission, was initiated by the Department of Education in 1937. Teachers and senior pupils of the National Schools were invited to take part in the scheme, in which teachers and pupils were directed to spend the periods allotted to English or Irish Composition in writing down traditions from their own localities for a whole school year 1937-38; this was extended, at the request of many of the schools, for a further half year. Large notebooks with stiff covers and good quality paper were provided, into which the best of the material was copied. Seán Ó Súilleabháin prepared a booklet, in Irish for the Gaeltacht schools, in English for the others, suggesting subjects and lines of enquiry and describing the method to be used. The completed notebooks and the pupils' essay copybooks were sent at the end of the school year 1937-38 to the Department of Education, and later deposited with the Irish Folklore Commission. The Irish Folklore Commission came to an end in the year 1972 and all its material was passed on to the newly established Department of Irish Folklore in University College, Dublin. The material transferred included the Schools' Collection, which is now, in common with all the other material, being actively indexed and used. More than five thousand schools took part in the scheme. The large notebooks have been bound into one thousand one hundred and twenty seven cloth covered volumes; the children's essay copybooks fill more than one thousand box-files. All of these are arranged by County, Barony and Parish, for easier access. The total number of pages in this huge collection is in the region of eight hundred thousand, and it constitutes about half of the total material in the Department of Irish Folklore's archive. Most of the participants, both pupils

and teachers were extremely active as well as very enthusiastic, in consequence of which the collected material is of very high quality.

In County Kerry two hundred and forty-two schools participated in the scheme. The major part of the material collected by them, that is to say the material contained in the schools' notebooks, is available on microfilm, and a parish by parish, school by school and item by item index, prepared by a postgraduate student of the Department of Irish Folklore, University College, Dublin, may be consulted in Muckcross House. The rest of the material — the children's essay copybooks — is not yet fully available. Some doubts have been expressed as to the value of tradition collected by school children. However, the establishment of the Department of Irish Folklore in University College, Dublin, has led to the application of scientific ethnological research methods to the study of Irish folk tradition, and this research, applied to the Schools' Collection has shown that, within the limits of the enquiry, the material contained in it is almost always accurate and usually of considerable interest and value as a record of the past. It is especially useful as an account of local history and way of life, but probably of much greater importance is the overall picture which it gives of Irish tradition and the opportunity it offers of making comparisons between one area and another.

The 1937-38 Schools' Folklore Collection scheme extended only to the then Irish Free State. The six counties of Northern Ireland were not included. However, in 1954 the newly formed Committee on Ulster Folklore and Traditions proposed a similar scheme to the educational authorities in Northern Ireland. The suggestion was adopted and carried out, and the collected material is now preserved and utilised in the archive of the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum at Cultra Manor, County Down.

A list of some of the schools that participated follows— It will be completed in the next issue of ROS.

Scoil	Gleann an Ruachtaigh Paróiste	Oide.
Siobhain	Neidín	Síghle, Bean Uí Thuama.
Gort na Binne	Bunán	Máirín Ní Cheallacháin.
Tulca	An Bunán	Mícheál Ó Dálaigh.
An Clochar	Neidín	Brigid Ní Lochlainn.
Neidín (B)	Neidín	Liam Mac Cuisín.
An Cháthair	Neidín	Séamus Ó Tuathaigh.
Droichead uí Mhordha	Cill Garbháin	M. Bean Uí Shúilleabháin.
Leithead	Tuaith Ó Siosta	Diarmuid Ó Súilleabháin.
Landsdowne	Tuaith Ó Siosta	Eibhlín Bean Uí Súilleabháin
Ros an Chuasáin	Teampall Nua	Seán Rís.
Droichead na Dóinne	Cill Chrócháin	Tadhg Ó Scolaidhe.
	Dún Chiaráin Theas. Paróiste	Oide.
	Snaidhm	Pádraigh Palmer.
	An Teampall Nua	Máire, Bean Uí Chathbhuidh.
	Cill Chrócháin	Máire T. Ní Chonaill.
	Cathair Domhnaill	Siobhán Ní Chonchubhair.
	Cathair Domhnaill	Séamus Ó Séaghdha.
	Cill Chrócháin	B. Ní Mheidhre.
	Snaidhm	Siobhán Ní Shúilleabháin.
	Snaidhm	Máire Bean Uí Shúilleabháin.
	Cill Chórcháin	Muiris Mac Gearailt.
	Snaidhm	Mrs. Palmer.
	Cáthair Domhnall	Siobhán Ní Chonchubhair.
	Cill Chrócháin	Seán Ó Murchadha.

Scoil	Trucha an Aicme. Paróiste	Oide.
Caisléan an Droma	Kilgarrylander	Cait, Bean Uí Bhriain.
Caisléan an Droma	Kilgarrylander	Eamonn Ó Caomháin.
Fadhbach	Kilgarrylander	MI. Ó Tiodhcháin.
Caisléan na Mainge (B)	Kiltallagh	Tomás Ó Corcoráin.
Caisléan na Mainge (C)	Kiltallagh	Maire, Bean an Chaomhanaigh.
Caladh na Feirsde	Cill Cholmáin	Séamus Ó Luain.
An Clochar	Baile an Mhuilinn	an tSr. M. Fionnbharra.
Cill Orglan (C)	Cill Orglan	Úna Nic Coluim.
Mainistir na Toirbhirte	Cill Cholmáin	an Br. O Drisceoil.
Cill Orglan (B)	Cill Orglan	MI. Ó Donnchadha.
Dubhghlas (B)	Cill Orglan	S. Mac Giolla Phádraig.
Dubhghlas (C)	Cill Orglan	Eibhlín, Bean De Róiste.
Cromán (C)	Cill Orglan	Bean Uí Shiodhacháin.
Cromán (B)	Cill Orglan	Stiophán Ó Cobhtháigh.
Baile Ruadh	Tráighlí	Séan ó Héaluíthe.
Barrow	Árdfhearta	MI. Ó Huallacháin.
Baile na hEaglaise	Baile na hEaglaise	MI. O hAiniféin.
The Spa	Baile na hEaglaise	MI. Breathnach.
Tráighlí (Measctha)	Tráighlí	Doreen Gorman.
Scoil na mBrathar	Tráighlí	Ss. O Ruacháin.
Clochar na Toirbhirte	Tráighlí	an tSr. Bríd.
Sráid na Trágha	Tráighlí	Liam Mac Cárthaigh.
Clochar na Trócaire	Tráighlí	an tSr. Proinsias.
Scoil na mBráthar	Tráighlí	an Br. Breathnach.
Clochar na Trócaire	Tráighlí	an tSr. Antoin.
Naomh Breandán (C)	Tráighlí	Bean Uí Mhuircheartaigh.
Naomh Breandán (B)	Tráighlí	MI. Ó Scannail.
Moyderwell Convent of Mercy	Tráighlí	Siúracha na Trócaire.
Farmer's Bridge	Ballyseedy	Eileen Blennerhasset.
Ballyseedy	Ballyseedy	Proinsias Ní Fhiodhcháin.
Listellick	Tráighlí	Domhnall ó Súilleabháin.
Ballyseedy	Tráighlí	D. Mac Suibhne.
An Clochar,		
Baile Mhic Ealgóid	Baile Mhic Ealgóid	Ss. Ó Conchubhair.
Baile Mhic Ealgóid	Baile Mhic Ealgóid	Siobhán Ní Riada.
Baile Mhic Ealgóid	Baile Mhic Ealgóid	Sarah Blennerhasset.
An Mhaing	Baile Mhic Ealgóid	Cristíne Nic Gearaild.
Cill Dubh	Baile Mhic Ealgóid	Emily Williams.
Nuadhchonghbháil	Baile Mhic Ealgóid	Siobhán Bean Uí Riada.
O'Brennan	Baile Mhic Ealgóid	Pádraig Ó Loinsigh.
Currans (C)	Currans	Nóra Bean Uí Bhraoin.
Currans (B)	Cillín Tiarna	Danile Kerrisk.
Kilsarcon (B)	Cillín Tiarna	Ss. Ó Murchadha.
Kilsarcon (C)	Cillín Tiarna	Caitrín Ní Dhálaigh.
Ráth na Loch (B)	Cillín Tiarna	Seán Ó Donnchadha.
Ráth na Loch (C)	Cillín Tiarna	Eibhlín, Bean Uí Aodhgáin.
Na Corráin	Oiléan Ciarraí	Cormac Ó Muircheartaigh.
Réidh Ghlas	Oiléan Ciarraí	Párlthólán Ó Dálaigh.
Oiléan Ciarraí	Oiléan Ciarraí	Tadhg Ó Céin.
An Clochar	Oiléan Ciarraí	an tSr. Caoimhín.
Gleanntán	Oiléan Ciarraí	Muiris Breathnach.
Scartaglen	Scartaglen	E. Ó Murchú.
Cnuicín na hAbhann	Scartaglen	Mairéad, Bean Uí Chéirín.
Kilmurry (C)	Kilmurry	Mrs. E. Mary O'Connor.
Cill Mhuire (C)	Córdal	Mairéad Pléimeann.
Cnoc an Fhiolair	Brosna	Liam ó Hargáin.
Brosna (B)	Brosna	Aonghus Ó Laochdha.
Brosna (C)	Brosna	Bean Uí Dhúnaighe.
Tuairím Árd	Cnoc na gCaiseal	Liam Ó Murchadha.
Mín	Cnoc na gCaiseal	?
Cnoc na gCaiseal (B)	Cnoc na gCaiseal	Micheál Ua hErnáin.
Leachtchruadair	Cnoc na gCaiseal	Micheál P. Ó Murchadha.
Cnoc Breac	Cnoc na gCaiseal	?
Drom an Tacair	Tráighlí	Siobhán, Bean Mhic Talbóid.



THE SMALLER MOUNTAIN FARMHOUSES
Small farmhouse near BEALACH OISIN.

In the mountain area of south Kerry, most of the older farmhouses were three-roomed, with the kitchen in the middle and a bedroom at each end. High stone gables protected the ends of the house, and in the stormy places the roof was secured by a network of ropes. The house shown above was demolished in the 1960's in the course of forestry road operations.

Oireacht Uí Chonchubhair.

Scoil	Paroiste	Oide
Beale	Kilconly	Martin Beasley.
An Tulach Mór	Kilconly	Gearóid Mac Piarais.
Rahauanig	Kilconly	Máire De Stac.
Baile an Bhunánaigh	Cill Eithne	P. Ó Hailín.
Lisselton (B)	Lisselton	Liam Brún.
Lisselton (B)	Galey & Lisselton	Máire Bean Uí Bheoláin.
An Chúil Árd	Galey	Seán Ó Duilleáin.
Cúl Árd (C)	Galey	Máire Ní Laighain.
Drom Muirinn	Galey	Seán O Fathaigh.
Ballylongford (C)	Aghavallen	Cáit Bean Uí Bheoláin.
Asdee (B)	Aghavallen	Éamonn Ó Muircheartaigh.
Asdee (C)	Aghavallen	Siobhán Bean Uí Shlataire.
Ballylongford (B)	Aghavallen	Seán Mac Cárthaigh.
Léana Mór	Aghavallen	-
Kilnaughtin	Kilnaughtin	Caitlín Brugha.
Rinn Tuirc	Kilnaughtin	S. Bean Uí Rinn
Na Tearmainn (B)	Kilnaughtin	Seán Ó Cathaláin.
Na Tearmainn (C)	Kilnaughtin	Margaret Meskill.
Taribeart (B)	Kilnaughtin	S. O Labhradha.
Tairbeart (C)	Kilnaughtin	Máire, Bean Uí Chonaill.
Murher (C)	Murher	Máire, Bean Uí Chonaill.
Murher (B)	Murher	Tomás Ó Conaill.
Murher (B)	Murher	Tomás Ó Conaill.
Cill Beathach	Murher	Tomás Ó Ceallacháin.
Cnoc an Iubhair (B)	Cnoc an Iubhair	Pádraigh Ó Ceallacháin.
Cnoc an Iubhair (C)	Cnoc an Iubhair	Máire Ní Cheallacháin.
Clochár na Tairbhirte	Liostuathail	Bríd Nic Oscair.
Liostuathail (B)	Liostuathail	Brian Mac Mathúna.
Liostuathail (B)	Liostuathail	Séamus Ó Haodha.
Cluain Meacan	Liostuathail	Liam Ó Catháin.
Islandanny	Duagh	Máire Bean Uí Chatháin.
Cluain Meacan	Liostuathail	Liam Ó Catháin.
Dromlogach	Duagh	Eighneachán Ó Muircheartaigh.

Scoil	Clann Mhuiris. Paroiste	Oide.
Ladhar an Chrompáin	Dubh-Áth	Padraigh Ó Súilleabháin.
Dubh-Áth	Dubh-Áth	Nóra De Stac.
An Drom Clochach (B)	Lic Snámha	Pártholán Ó Ruadhacháin.
Dromclough (C)	Lic Snámha	Nóra, Bean De Choisdealbha.
Dromclough (C)	Kilshenane	-
Dromclough (C)	Kilshenane	-
Dromlogach	Dubh-Áth	Seán Ó Laochdha.
Dubh-Áth (B)	Dubh-Áth	Seán O Conchubhair.
Rathea	Lic Snámha	Muiris Ó Loingsigh.
Clochár na Toirbhirte	Lic Snámha	An tSr. Gabriel.
Leac Snámha (B)	Kilcaragh	Daithi B. Ó Duilleáin.
Baile an Chlochair	Lic Snámha	Pártholán Ó Gealbháin.
Baile an Chlochair	Lic Snámha	Seán Ó Laochdha.
Clandouglas	Lic Snámha	Bean Uí Sheanacháin.
Ardrahan	Mainistir ó dTórna	Bean Uí Dhonnabháin.
Kilflynn	Mainistir ó dTórna	Tomás Ó Hallmhúráin.
Cappa	Kilflynn	T. F. Sheehan.
Mainistir Ó dTórna	Mainistir Ó dTórna	Mícheál Ó Ríoghghardáin.
Mainistir Ó dTórna	Mainistir Ó dTórna	Mícheál Ó Ríoghghardáin.
Killahan (B)	Mainistir Ó dTórna	Liam Ó Leathlobhair.
Killahan (B)	Mainistir Ó dTórna	Bean Uí Ríoghghardáin.
Árd-Fhearta	Árd-Fhearta	Tomás Ua Nuanáin.
Tiobraid	Árd-Fhearta	Tadhg Ó Ciarmhaich.
Kilmoyly	Kilmoyly	Bríd, Bean an Rísigh.
Beanna	Árd-Fhearta	Mícheál Ó Cearbhaill.
Cashen	Rattoo	Dd. Allman.
Ballyduff (B)	Rattoo	Tadhg Ó Leathlobhair.
Baile Dubh (C)	Rattoo	Bean Uí Leathlobhair.
Sliabh an Mhadra (B)	Rattoo	Liam Mac Énrí.
Sliabh an Mhadra (C)	Rattoo	Eibhlín Ní Chearbhaill.
Rathmorrel	Killury	Annraoi Ó Conchubhair.
Drom na Coradh	Killury	Cathal Máinséal.
Killury (C)	Killury	Máire Allman.
Bouleenshere (B)	Baile Thaidhg	Jeremiah M. Healy.

Scoil	Corca Dhuibhne Paroiste	Oide.
Scoil N. Gobnait	Dún Chaoin	Muiris Ó Dálaigh.
An Blascaod Mór	Dún Chaoin	Máire Nic Gearailt
An Blascaod Mór	Dún Chaoin	Máire Nic Gearailt.
Baile an Fhírtéaraigh (B)	Baile 'n Fhírtéaraigh	Mí. Ó Conchubháir.
Scoil Naomh Uinsinn	Baile 'n Fhírtéaraigh	Máire Ní Mhainín.
Scoil N. Íde	Márthainn	Éamonn Ó Catháin.
Scoil N. Breandán	Cillmaolcéadair	Tadhg Ó Caomháin.
Smerwick (B)	Cillmaolcéadair	Dd. O Loinsigh.
Scoil N. Breandán	Cill Chúáin	Tadhg Ó Caomháin.
Scoil N. Bríde	Cill Maolchéadair	Síle Granville.
Na Gleannta	Na Gleannta	Ss. Ó Conchubháir.
Ceanntarágha	Fionntráigh	D. Ó Cúrnáin.
Cill Mhic an Domhnaigh	Fionntráigh	Tomás Ó Séaghdha.
Baile an Ghóilín	An Daingean	DII. Ó Lóingsigh.

Scoil na mBrathar	An Daingean
Clochár na Toirbhirte	An Daingean
Clochár na Toirbhirte	An Daingean
Scoil na mBráthar	Mín Árd
Mín Árd	Abhainn an Scáil
Breac Cluain (B)	Abhainn an Scáil
Breac Cluain (C)	Abhainn an Scáil
Luachair	Abhainn an Scáil
Cillíneach	Abhainn an Scáil
Clochán	Caisléan Ghriaiare
Scoil N. Erc	Cill Chúáin
Baile Uí Dhuibhne	Clochán
Achadh Caisle	Cill Eidhne
Na Machairí	Cill Eidhne
Baile Dubh	Baile Dubh
An Cam	Cill Gobáin
Derryquay	Éanach

Scoil	Uibh Rátach Paróiste	Oide.
Gleann na gCoileach	Cill Orglan	Seán Ó Rioghghardáin.
Bun Glaise	Gleann Béithe	Tadhg Ó Laoghaire.
Curraicín (C)	Gleann Béithe	Eibhlín Ní Chonchubhair.
Curraicín (B)	Gleann Béithe	Seán Ó Scothlaoich.
Leitir	Gleann Béithe	Tomás Mac Eoin.
Gleann Béithe (B)	Gleann Béithe	Séamus Ó Dochartaigh.
Gleann Béithe (C)	Gleann Béithe	Nóra, Bean Uí Fhógludha.
Tír Ó mBaioighill	Cill Fhionáin	Conchubhar De Barra.
An Fhail Mhór	Cill Fhionáin	Domhnall Ó Máthghamhne.
Cill Mac Ciarainn	Dromad	Seán Ó Cáthasaigh.
Caisleach	Dromad	Pádraig Breathnach.
Cáthair Samháin	Dromad	Máire E. Bean Uí Shéaghdha.
Cáthair Samháin	Dromad	Seán Ó Séaghdha.
Maistir Gaoithe	Dromad	Pádraig Ó Siachfhradha.
Waterville (C)	Dromad	Helen O'Sullivan.
Na Cnoicíní	An Chathair	Seán S. O Cuimín
Na Cnoicíní	An Chathair	Mrs. J. Booth.
Na Cealla	An Chathair	Pádraig Ó Fiannachta.
An Clochar	An Chathair	An tSr. M. de Lourdes.
Scoil na mBráthar	An Chathair	An Br. B. L. Mac Eoin.
Achadh Tiobraid	An Chathair	Tomás O'Muircheartaigh.
Baile an Sceilg (C)	An Phriarach	Brígid Ní Fhianachta.
Baile an Sceilg (B)	An Phriarach	Seán P. Ó Súillíobháin.
Imleach Dróighneach	An Phriarach	Eibhlín Chonmhuidhe.
Cill Rialaigh	An Phriarach	Seamus B. Ó Lúbhaing.
Curraigh Beag	Dairbhre	Máire, Bean Uí Dhrisceoil.
Baile an Ridire	Dairbhre	Seán Mac Mágha.
Baile an Tíghearna	Dairbhre	Partolán Ó Gríbhthín.
An Caladh	Cill Imligh	P. Ó Lóinsigh.

Scoil	Magh gCoinche. Paróiste	Oide.
Ráth Mhór	Ráth Mhór	Diarmuid Ó Cróinín.
An Ráth Mhór (Clochar)	Cill Chuimín	Sr. M. Dolores.
Gníomh go Leith (C)	Cill Chuimhín	Máire, Bean Uí Chróinín.
Gníomh go Leith (B)	Cill Chuimhín	Cormac Ó Laoghaire.
Na Mínteoga	An Ráth Mhór	Eoghan Ó Caoimh.
Srón	An Ráth Mhór	Pádraig Mac Cárthaigh.
Tuairín Chathail	An Ráth Mhór	Diarmuid Ó Cróinín.
Tuairín Chathail (C)	An Ráth Mhór	Sighe Ní Shíothcháin.
Clais na nGearrán	Cill Chuimín	Tadhg Ó Conchubhair.
Anabla	Cill Chuimín	Seán Ó Súilleabháin.
Anabla	Cill Chuimín	Máighréad Ní Théacháin.
Ceathrú Riabhach	An Fosaigh	Muiris Ó Donnabháin.
Loch Coitéáin	Cill Áirne	Eibhlín, Bean Uí Súilleabháin.
Tír na bPoll (C)	Cill Áirne	Máighréad Ní Dhonchadha.
Lios Uí Bhigín (B)	Cill Áirne	Séamus P. Uí Rághallaigh.
Scoil na Mainistreach	Cill Áirne	Br. P. C. Mac Niallghus.
Clochár na Trócaire	Cill Áirne	An tSr. Aodán.
Clochár na Trócaire	Cill Áirne	Na Siúrachta.
Clochár na Toirbhirte	Cill Áirne	an tSr. Marie Thérèse.
Naomh Gertrude	Cill Áirne	Siobhán M. Ní Bhuachalla.
Na Cnocáin	Gleann Fleisce	Máiread Ní Laoghaire.
Raithín (B)	Gleann Fleisce	Diarmuid Ua Cróinín.
Raithín (C)	Gleann Fleisce	Peig, Bean Uí Chróinín.
Barradubh	Gleann Fleisce	Dómhnall Ua Donnchadha.
Cnoc na Bró	Killaha	Mí. Ó Scannail.
Gleann Fleisce	Gleann Fleisce	Donnchadh Ó Spiolláin.
Faithche (B)	Gleann Fleisce	Seán Ó Muircheartaigh.
Gort na Cloiche	Listry	Donnchadh Ó hEaluighthe.
Kilbonane	Baile an Mhuilín	D11. Ó Clúmháin.
Dún Gaill	Listry	Liam de Róiste.
Baile Fionáin	Cill Orglan	Mícheál Ó Foghlú.
Cnoc an Doire (B)	Caisléan na Mainge	Domhnall Ó Séaghdha.
Knockaderry (C)	Na Foithre	Hanna Mannix.
Cnoc an Doire (C)	Molahiffe	Máire Nic Chárthaigh.
Cnoc a' Doire	Na Foithre	Nóra Ní Chorcaín.
Firies (B)	Na Foithre	Pádraig Ó Mainchín.
Baile an Oiléain	Firies	Eoghan Ua Muirchéartaigh.
Baile an Oiléain	Na Foithre	

I.N.T.O. CONGRESS 1979

Since Muckross House opened as a Folk Museum in 1964 one of the principle wishes of the Trustees has been to have it and its collections used for the benefit of school children. Since that time many teachers have used it for this purpose and in 1972 we set up an Educational Programme for National School children from County Kerry. In these years we have had visits from thousands of children and we like to think that the visits have contributed in some small way to their appreciation of the way of life and the values of their ancestors.

We were very pleased then when the organising committee of this year's I.N.T.O. Annual Congress, to be held in Killarney on April 17th, 18th and 19th, suggested that the Delegates to the Congress wished to make more use of the opportunity to visit the house. We were very happy to prepare a special programme which will enable the teachers and their friends to examine aspects of our work in more depth. We are also pleased that this programme can involve three State Authorities which have a great deal to offer to the teachers and their pupils viz. The National Parks & Monuments Branch of the Office of Public Works; The National Library and the National Museum, all of which are co-operating and the three Officers concerned give a brief account elsewhere in this issue. We take this opportunity to record our appreciation to the National Teachers of Kerry for the many ways in which they have helped and encouraged our work and we are happy to say now that

the Department of Education will have a greater involvement with us in future. The involvement, of course, of the Department of Education and the Irish National Teachers in the area of Folklore or Folklife has always existed and away back in the Late 1930's the Department organised a scheme whereby Teachers and pupils collected items of Folklore in their areas and wrote them down in what are now known as the "The Schools Notebooks". They were later deposited with the Irish Folklore Commission, which came to an end in 1972, when it transferred to the Department of Irish Folklore, U.C.D. We have those applicable to Kerry on microfilm in Muckross House and we are giving in this issue a list of the schools from which information is included. Elsewhere in this issue we are very happy to give an account of the material in these books from Dr. Kevin Danaher, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Irish Folklore, U.C.D.

LOCAL STUDIES WORKSHOP AT MUCKROSS HOUSE

by: NOEL KISSANE

With some help from the National Library, Muckross House has organised a local studies workshop for schools for the term after Easter. It is providing a number of documentary sources of information on aspects of life in Kerry around the turn of the century. On these, pupils guided by their teachers will be able to carry out simple investigative assignments and on the basis of their observations perhaps form some original opinions on conditions in their own places in the time of their great-grandfathers.

The sources are all fairly easy to interpret and the more senior pupils in primary schools should be able to use them with the minimum of prompting from their teachers. Basic sources for many types of local studies project are the various editions of Ordnance Survey maps and an edition on the scale of six inches to the mile is included; this consists of a hundred and twelve sheets and together these represent in fair detail literally every acre of the county as it was around the turn of the century. Here pupils will be able to see the buildings, roads, fences and other features of their own neighbourhoods as they then were, and they can do follow-up work back in school or literally 'in the field' on the changes that have since taken place in respect of such phenomena as the density and location of housing and land reclamation and enclosure. Another source which young pupils can work on is a copy of the 1901 census for the county where the pupils can see the population figures for their own townland, village or town at the time; here again they can do follow-up work in the form of their own personal local 'census', and evidence of any substantial variations over the seventy odd

years should lead to interesting discussion and suggestions on possible explanations. Other data of a statistical nature is supplied, for instance agricultural statistics which show the acreage devoted to particular crops in the county in 1900; the corresponding figures for last year are provided so that comparisons can be made and some conclusions reached on the changes in farming patterns in the interim period.

To provide more tangible evidence of the atmosphere and flavour of life at the turn of the century a number of photographs of towns as represented in the well known Lawrence Collection are on display. Some of the streets and houses can be linked with the proprietors of business premises listed in MacDonald's Street Directory for 1903 which is also included. Provincial newspapers of course are one of the most important and perhaps nostalgic sources for local colour and a copy of *The Kerryman* from 1904, the year it first appeared, will be on display; here people can read what their forebears read, discussed and perhaps argued and fought over three quarters of a century ago.

The main emphasis of the undertaking will be on the 'work' aspect of the workshop. That is, it is hoped, that pupils will become busily engaged in investigation, analysis and discussion and moreover that they will find that learning in this way can be a bit like straight forward routing detective work and good fun. Finally while the venture has been designed primarily for schools anybody with an interest in the history of their locality should find a visit a pleasant way of spending a couple of hours and will be most welcome.

Schools should book with the Manager well in advance of proposed visits.

NATIONAL PARKS AND SCHOOLS

BY: ALAN J. CRAIG

The origin of National Parks, of which there are now over a thousand around the world, is generally traced back to the establishment of Yellowstone National Park, U.S.A. in 1872. National Parks meeting the international standards that have been developed have two fundamental purposes: conserving outstanding natural features and providing for public enjoyment of them. In recent years this international concept of national parks has been applied in Ireland, to the Killarney National Park, incorporating the Bourn Vincent Memorial Park. When Glenveagh National Park, Co. Donegal is opened to the public it will also fulfil both purposes. Nuclei of two further national parks of this kind exist in Connemara and the Burren, Co. Clare. The National Parks and Monuments Service of the Office of Public Works is responsible for these national parks and for a number of smaller parks, the biggest of which are Phoenix Park and Derrynane National Historic Park.

In describing what these parks have to offer to schools, it is appropriate to start with a facility common to a wide range of parks. Self-guiding nature trails have been in Ireland for almost ten years and are now familiar to many people. There are six managed by the Office of Public Works, four in Killarney, one at Derrynane and one in Phoenix Park, and a seventh will be provided later this year at St. Enda's, Rathfarnham. Illustrated leaflets can be obtained for a small charge at or near the start of each trail. These trails have many educational advantages. By pinpointing particular environmental features, they encourage children to develop their own powers of observation. They are also flexible, permitting use at almost any pace and level to match the needs of a particular class. Particular attention is being paid to the educational potential of parks in the Dublin area, which are accessible to so many schools. In Phoenix Park a wildlife warden is available to act as a guide, and to assist teachers in getting the greatest possible benefit for their classes from a visit to the park. At St. Enda's a nature study centre will be opened shortly. This will consist of two rooms, one housing a small natural history exhibition and the other available for use as a classroom by visiting school groups. This is appropriate because Patrick Pearse was ahead of his time in his school at St. Enda's with his emphasis on natural history and other aspects of what would now be called environmental studies.

In the larger national parks the emphasis is on the parks themselves as educational resources rather than on specific facilities, although Knockree House in Killarney National Park is to be a centre for research and education, probably mainly at advanced secondary and third levels. As use of Irish land becomes increasingly intensive, areas set aside for conservation are of great value for educational excursions. National parks conserve a wide range of environmental features available for study — lakes, rivers, deciduous forests, moorland and so forth. The principal limitation on their use by schools is that natural features be observed but not removed — wild plants and animals

must be left undisturbed for other visitors to enjoy. Studies that involve removing samples to the classroom should be confined to less special areas than national parks.

Interpretation is the term used to describe a range of facilities and activities for park visitors that are of potential benefit to schools also. Interpretation in national parks aims to give visitors a special experience that cannot be obtained in areas of lesser interest or beauty, by helping them to observe park features themselves, and by revealing underlying meanings and relationships. As such it is a kind of informal education. At this stage in the development of Irish national parks nature trails are the principal form of interpretation, but indoor exhibits, slide shows and talks, guided walks, observation hides etc. are also included in the term and will be provided as resources permit during the next few years.

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM AND EDUCATION

by: JOHN TEAMAN

The exhibition in Muckross House contains specimens and photographs from the collections of the National Museum of Ireland. Most exhibits are connected, in one way or another, with County Kerry. This type of exhibition, related to Kerry could, to a greater or lesser extent, be mounted in relation to any other county, for the Museum houses vast collections assembled from sources all over Ireland. These collections consist of articles of silver and gold, lace and costume, coins and medals, horse-drawn vehicles, tools used in trades, rock specimens, stuffed birds and animals, arms and art work from China, India and other countries — and this is but some of the range.

It is generally accepted that Museum material can be a very effective teaching aid. The cinema, the television or the slide projector can bring us, in a sense, to far away places and can take us backwards to other periods of time. They can introduce us to peoples from other cultures, with whom we might never have the occasion of meeting. But the opportunity to see at close quarters the actual utensils, for instance, used during these periods or the costumes or personal ornaments worn by these people can provide an extra and more intimate understanding than the other media can be expected to give. The great social differences which existed between rich and poor can be seen from the food vessels used by both — in the elaborate gold or silver wares on the one hand and the wooden or base metal wares on the other. The same differences can also, of course, be seen in dress or even in toys. Children can also be impressed by the rich variety of nature when they are presented with all the Irish birds or a broad selection of the insects and fishes within the context of a single display.

If this potential, for teaching purposes, of the Museum collections is accepted, one must conclude that the National Museum is not being adequately used by or perhaps available to schools and has not a proper place in the school curriculum. It might be a very fruitful exercise for Museum staff and teachers to consider co-operatively how this area might be developed.