

# **REGISTER OF PARKS, GARDENS AND DEMESNES OF SPECIAL HISTORIC INTEREST**

## **NORTHERN IRELAND**

### **THE PRINCIPLES**

The Register of Parks, Gardens and Demesnes of Special Historic Interest has been established to identify those sites that can be considered of exceptional importance within the Northern Ireland. The inclusion of sites has been carried out in a consistent way across the Province and is based upon a clear set of criteria and on an appreciation of the character of Ulster's gardens and designed landscapes. As our appreciation and knowledge of our landscape heritage is constantly evolving and improving, it should be recognised that the identification of further sites for inclusion on the Register will be an ongoing process. Indeed, inevitably, every generation will have its own appreciation of its heritage and the value it may wish to place upon it.

### **CRITERIA**

None of the criteria should be considered as mutually exclusive categories. For sites to be included in the Register of Parks, Gardens and Demesne of Special Historic Interest, they would be expected to score well against these criteria:

- a. The integrity of the site's design
- b. The historic interest and importance of the site, including age and associations.
- c. The horticultural/arboricultural interest and importance of the site
- d. The architectural interest of buildings and structures on the site
- e. The archaeological interest and importance of the site
- f. The nature conservation/scientific interest of the site.
- g. The aesthetic and scenic quality and importance of the site
- h. The site's contribution to local landscape character
- i. The surviving condition of the site today
- j. The high recreational or educational potential of the site

### **DELINEATION ON THE MAPS**

Demarcation on the maps of designed landscapes and smaller domestic gardens have been established with the help of definitions contained in Article Four the Florence Charter. We have been guided by the site's plan, its topography, its structural and decorative elements, its water features, both running and still, and the vegetation, including its species, proportions, colour schemes, spacing and respective heights.

## AREA PLAN - DERRY 01

### REGISTER

Ashbrook	L-001
Beech Hill	L-029
Brook Hall	L-004
Brooke Park	L-049
St Columb's	L-050

### SUPPLEMENTARY SITES

Aberfoyle	L-042
Ardmore	L-032
Ballyarnet	L-061
Belmont House	L-062
Boom Hall	L-003
Enagh House	
Glengalliagh Hall	L-028
Government House	L-004
Learmount	L-012
Molanan House	L-060
The Oaks	L-030
Templemoyle (Muff Glen)	L-046
Thornhill	L-033

## AREA PLAN - LIMAVADY 02

### REGISTER

Bellarena	L-002
Drenagh	L-006
Knockan/Ash Park	L-045
Walworth	L-013

### SUPPLEMENTARY SITES

Ardnargle	L-040
Dog Leap	L-041
Pellipar	L-018
Roe Valley Park (Thomas Phillip's Garden)	L-006

## AREA PLAN - COLERAINE 03

### REGISTER

Anderson Park	
Beardiville	
Downhill	
Guy Wilson Daffodil Garden, University of Ulster	

### SUPPLEMENTARY SITES

Bovagh House	
Cromore	
Knocktarna	
Lizard Manor	

## AREA PLAN - BALLYMONEY 04

### REGISTER

Benvarden House	An-011
Leslie Hill	An-048
Lissanoure	An-049
O'Harabrooke	An-056

### SUPPLEMENTARY SITES

Gardenvale	An-030
Moore Fort	An-054
Moore Lodge	An-055

## AREA PLAN - MOYLE 05

### REGISTER

Ballydivity	An-005
Ballyhibistock House	An-006
Ballylough House	An-007
Dunderave	An-026
Maherintemple	An-052

Manor House, Rathlin	An-039
<b>SUPPLEMENTARY SITES</b>	
Dunluce Castle	An-103
Clare Park	An-108

#### **AREA PLAN - LARNE 06**

<b>REGISTER</b>	
Carnfunnock	An-136
Chaine Park	An-029
Drumalis	An-024
Glenarm Castle	An-033
Magheramorne House (Hotel)	An-109
Red Hall	An-071
<b>SUPPLEMENTARY SITES</b>	
Cairndhu	An-013
Garron Tower	An-031
Kilwaughter Castle	An-046

#### **AREA PLAN – BALLYMENA 07**

<b>REGISTER</b>	
Galgorm Castle	
Hillmount	
People’s Park, Ballymena	
<b>SUPPLEMENTARY SITES</b>	
Cleggan Lodge	
Craigdun	
Glebe House (Aghoghill)	
Portglenone	
Random Cottage	

#### **AREA PLAN - MAGHERAFELT 08**

<b>REGISTER</b>	
Ampertaine House	L-036
Ballyscullion House	L-026
Moyola Park	L-016
<b>SUPPLEMENTARY SITES</b>	
Rockwood	L-051

#### **AREA PLAN - COOKSTOWN 09**

<b>REGISTER</b>	
Drum Manor	T-016
Drumcairne House	T-012
Killymoon Castle	T-024
Lissan	T-025
Loughry	T-026
Springhill	L-021
Stewart Hall	T-058
Tullylagan Manor	T-079
<b>SUPPLEMENTARY SITES</b>	
Pomeroy	T-031

#### **AREA PLAN - STRABANE 10**

<b>REGISTER</b>	
Baronscourt	T-004
Holy Hill	T-022
Moyle House	T-061

#### **AREA PLAN - OMAGH 11**

<b>REGISTER</b>	
Beltrim Castle	T-005
Lisnamallard House	T-012
<b>SUPPLEMENTARY SITES</b>	
Corkill	T-044
Creevenagh	T-015

Edenfel  
Termon

T-021  
T-063

## AREA PLAN - FERMANAGH 12

### REGISTER

Belleisle  
Castle Archdale  
Castle Caldwell  
Castle Coole  
Castletown  
Colebrooke/Ashbrooke  
Crom  
Ely Lodge  
Florencecourt  
Fort Hill  
Lisgoole  
Necarne  
Rosslea Manor  
Tempo

### SUPPLEMENTARY SITES

Bellevue  
Crocknacrieve  
Dresternan Castle  
Drumgoon  
Gardenhill  
Jamestown  
Killyreagh  
Knockballymore  
Manor Waterhouse  
Snow Hill  
The Waterfoot

## AREA PLAN - DUNGANNON 13

### REGISTER

Aughentaine	T-001
Aughnacloy (Ravellea), The Thistle	T-046
Benburb, Manor House	T-006
Blessingbourne	T-007
Caledon	T-008
Clogher Park	T-011
Favour Royal	T-018
Parkanaur	T-030

### SUPPLEMENTARY SITES

Corrick	T-049
Daisyhill House	T-041
Fardross	T-048
Killybrick House	T-069
Killyfaddy Manor	T-065
Martray House	T-053
Spur Royal (Augher Castle)	T-002

## AREA PLAN - CRAIGAVON 14

### REGISTER

Brownlow House (Lurgan Park)	A-008
Coney Island	A-053
Waringstown House	D-067

### SUPPLEMENTARY SITES

Eden Villa	A-056
Fairview House (Tannaghmore Gardens)	A-007
Raughlan	A-031
Straw Hill	D-141

## AREA PLAN - ARMAGH 15

### REGISTER

Ardress	A-001
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The Argory	
Gosford Castle	A-018
The Mall, Armagh	
The Manor House, Loughgall	A-025
The Palace	A-029
Tynan Abbey	A-035
<b>SUPPLEMENTARY SITES</b>	
Abbey House	A-005
Ballymoyer	A-004
Castle Dillon	A-010
Darton	A-061
Dean's Hill	A-012
Fellows Hall	A-016
Hockley Lodge	A-021
The Observatory	A-032
Summer Island	A-043
Tandragee Castle	A-034
Umgola	A-036

### AREA PLAN - NEWRY AND MOURNE 16

#### REGISTER

Ballyedmond	D-001
Derrymore House and The Wood House	A-14 + A-024
Dromantine House	D-082
Drumbanagher	A-014
Green Park	D-087
Hawthorne Hill	A-020
Killevy Castle	A-041
Mourne Park	D-039
Narrow Water Castle	D-041
Warrenpoint Park	D-157
Rostrevor House (upgrade)	

#### SUPPLEMENTARY SITES

Fairy Hill	D-021
Forkhill House	A-017

### AREA PLAN - BANBRIDGE 17

#### REGISTER

Ballyward Lodge	D-087
Elmfield	D-055
Gilford Castle	D-097

#### SUPPLEMENTARY SITES

Brookfield House	D-143
Gill Hall	D-081
Loughbrickland House	D-033
Moyallon House	D-085
Scarva House	D-057
Wood Bank	D-137

### AREA PLAN - DOWN 18

#### REGISTER

Ballytrim	D-043
Castleward	D-010
Castlewellan Castle	D-011
Crossgar House (Tobar Mhuire)	D-064
Delamont	D-016
Finnebrogue House	D-022
Killyleagh Castle	D-029
Montalto House	D-036
Mount Panther	D-069
Myra Castle	D-040
Ringdufferin	D-050
Rademon	D-073
Rowallane	D-053
Saintfield House	D-056

Seaforde House	D-059
Tollymore Park	D-065
Tyrella House	D-095
<b>SUPPLEMENTARY SITES</b>	
Ballee House	D-024
Ballydugan House	D-105
Church Hill	D-13

#### **AREA PLAN - LISBURN 19**

<b>REGISTER</b>	
Hillsborough Castle	D-027
Kilwarlin Moravian Church	D-031
Larchfield	D-086
Lisburn Castle Gardens	An-095
Moira Castle (Demesne)	D-034
Wallace Park	An-122
<b>SUPPLEMENTARY SITES</b>	
Belvedere	D-104
Brookhill	An-076
13 Castle Street, Lisburn	An-120
Conway (Forte Crest Hotel)	An-17
Portmore	An-059
Seymour Hill	An-119
Springfield	An-066

#### **AREA PLAN - ANTRIM 20**

<b>REGISTER</b>	
Antrim Castle Gardens	An-001
Shane's Castle	An-064
Ram's Island	An-134
<b>SUPPLEMENTARY SITES</b>	
Castle Upton	An-015
Glendaragh – Glen at Crumlin	An-036
Greenmount	An-072
Holestone House	An-088
Loughanmore	An-051
The Steeple	An-125

#### **AREA PLAN - NEWTOWNABBEY 21**

<b>REGISTER</b>	
Drumnadarragh House	An-151
<b>SUPPLEMENTARY SITES</b>	
Fisherwick	An-128

#### **AREA PLAN - CARRICKFERGUS 22**

<b>REGISTER</b>	
Castle Dobbs	An-104
<b>SUPPLEMENTARY SITES</b>	
Sea Park	An-016

#### **AREA PLAN - NORTH DOWN 23**

<b>REGISTER</b>	
Bangor Castle	D-005
Clandeboye	D-012
Crawfordsburn House	D-100
Cultra Manor	D-015
Glenganagh	D-126
Guincho	D-026
<b>SUPPLEMENTARY SITES</b>	
Lorne	D-089

#### **AREA PLAN - ARDS 24**

<b>REGISTER</b>	
Ballywalter Park	D-004
Carrowdore Castle	D-083

Greyabbey House	D-051
Mount Stewart	D-037
Portavo House	D-084
Portaferry House	D-047
Portaferry House	D-047
Rubane House	D-054
<b>SUPPLEMENTARY SITES</b>	
Ballywhite House	D-018
Donaghadee, the Manor House	D-102
Quintin Castle	D-049

## AREA PLAN - CASTLEREAGH 25

<b>REGISTER</b>	
Belvoir	D-006
<b>SUPPLEMENTARY SITES</b>	
Purdysburn House	D-101

## AREA PLAN - BELFAST 26

<b>REGISTER</b>	
Alexandra Park	An-179
Belfast Castle	An-009
Bellevue (Zoo)	An-098
Botanic Gardens (The Belfast Botanic Gardens Park)	An-101
Clifton House	
Cranmore	An-019
Drumglass	An-161
Dunville Park	An-180
Falls Park	An-181
Glenbank	An-182
Glencairn and Fernhill	An-035 An-028
Grovelands (Musgrave Park)	An-038
Malone House (Barnett Demesne)	An-053
Ormeau (Park)	D-045
Stormont Castle and Parliament Buildings	D-063
Stranmillis House (College)	An-065
Wilmont (Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon Park)	An-068
Woodvale Park	An-183
<b>SUPPLEMENTARY SITES</b>	
Ballydrain (Malone Golf Club)	An-116
Oak Hill	An-162
A group of contiguous sites:- Edgehill, Lennoxvale, Mount Pleasant, Riddel Hall and Summer Hill	An-047;An-159

## AREA PLAN - DERRY 01

### **ASHBROOK, County Londonderry (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN DERRY 01)\***

The demesne was established in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the present house dating from 1686 (listed HB 1/6/6). There are fine, mature trees with glen side walks leading to the River Faughan, to which there is public access. This area was recently improved following a report by Dr Tim Edwards of UU, which emphasised the importance of this area as a public amenity. Tree planting is recorded in *A Register of Trees in County Londonderry 1768-1911* for the years 1773 to 1776. The house is set in lawns with shrubs and trees a short distance away. The walled garden has not been cultivated in the last twenty years. Half was an orchard, separated from the rest by a beech hedge, which still exists. The house is privately owned. SMR:LDY 22:17 enclosure.

### **BEECH HILL (HOTEL), County Londonderry (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN DERRY 01)\***

The demesne dates from the 17<sup>th</sup> century, when the house was known as Skipton Hall. The present house was begun in 1729 (listed HB 1/7/8). Atkinson wrote in 1833 of '... full grown timber, richly planted glen, an excellent garden, walled in and in full bearing, and sanded walks for the accommodation of the passenger through its richly wooded lawns ...'. The house is still surrounded by mature trees, with a lime and beech avenue and woodland walks. The raised portion to the north west of the house. The Bower, once had a Moss House and was a vantage point. It is now overgrown and has been quarried. The shape of the demesne has changed little. There are terraced lawns near the house and a series of ponds on descending ground, controlled by sluices. Overflow car parks are

amongst trees. The walled garden is not cultivated. Public access as hotel. One lodge is listed (HB 1/7/6) of c.1875, a flamboyant entrance.

**BROOK HALL**, County Londonderry (**REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN DERRY 01**)

Built as a villa c.1780, surrounding land was acquired to create a landscape park, which slopes down to the River Foyle. The house, lodge and gates are listed (HB 1/25/2). Much original planting remains including parkland oaks, beeches and chestnuts. In *Notes of a Journey in the North of Ireland in the Summer of 1827*, Mitchell wrote that, 'Upon the grounds, evidently neither expense nor skill has been spared in furnishing and maturing one of the most luxuriant collections of shrubs I ever beheld'. There is also more recent planting of considerable interest in the arboretum, begun in 1932 by Commander Frank Gilliland. This important collection, which occupies about 14ha (35 acres), west and south west of the house, has been continuously enlarged over the years. The present owner, who succeeded to the property in 1957, has catalogued the collection. There are over 900 varieties of trees and shrubs, including many conifers and a hundred flourishing varieties of rhododendron, a speciality of the collection. The walled gardens are part cultivated. Nearby lies the National Collection of *Escallonia*. The gate lodge, one remaining of two, was built c.1820 and is listed with the house and gates. Private. SMR: LDY 14:55 cropmark.

**BROOKE PARK**, County Londonderry (**REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN DERRY 01**)

Formerly the grounds of Gwyn's Institute from 1840. The buildings were demolished in 1973 but the outer walls are retained. The public park was established in 1901 and is named after a benefactor. The last member of the Brooke family died in 1899, having donated £15,000 some time before for the purposes of funding a park for the public. Gwyn's Institute came on the market in 1901 and was purchased with the aid of more money donated by the Hon The Irish Society. It is now administered by Derry District Council.

The park of c 12ha is on rising ground to the north-west is mostly grassed with paths, terracing and some bedding. It is used as a thoroughfare as the entrance gate with lodge (listed HB 1/22/1) leads to the city centre. The bronze statue of Sir Robert Ferguson of c 1840 (formerly in Shipquay Street) is also listed with the gate lodge. There are few trees, some mature and a modern fountain replacing a pond.

**ST COLUMB'S**, County Londonderry (**REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN DERRY 01**)

The land was purchased by Londonderry Corporation in 1939 for a hospital and it is now a public park. The early 19<sup>th</sup> century house (listed HB 1/9/1) at the centre of the park is used for offices. The site is a good position, with views over the River Foyle and is grassed, with paths. There are fine mature trees on undulating land and along glenside walks, especially beech. A small area of ornamental planting remains near the house. A section on the east side contains playing fields. Public access. SMR: LDY 14:2 St Columb's Church 14:14 St Columb's Well.

**ABERFOYLE**, County Londonderry (**SUPPLEMENTARY SITE - AREA PLAN DERRY 01**)

Situated in urban surroundings, a good portion of the grounds for the house of 1873 (listed HB 1/22/7) remain planted up. The site slopes towards the River Foyle. The west end is mostly walled in with brick and is cultivated by the Centre for Environmental and Horticultural Studies. There is a rose garden south of the house and shrubbery on either side of the twisting avenue to the eastern gate. The house is used as offices. Business.

**ARDMORE**, County Londonderry (**SUPPLEMENTARY SITE - AREA PLAN DERRY 01**)

This is a well wooded site above the River Faughan. The house dates from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and has an attractive conservatory (listed HB 1/6/12). The ground slopes steeply from the house and new ornamental gardens are being constructed. There are two gate lodges of c.1830. Private.

**BALLYARNET**, County Londonderry (**SUPPLEMENTARY SITE - AREA PLAN DERRY 01**)

The present garden layout dates from the 1930s and contains a summer house and pond. The house is a late 19<sup>th</sup> century replacement for a house built before the siege of 1689. The house and farm are listed (HB 1/27/18). A road separates the house from the walled garden on the south side. This garden, though not fully maintained, retains its box hedging. Private.

**BELMONT HOUSE**, County Londonderry (**SUPPLEMENTARY SITE - AREA PLAN DERRY 01**)

The house is now a special school and the present building dates from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century (listed HB 1/26/6). Parkland remains around the house in an otherwise built up area and contains some fine mature trees. The walled garden to the east of the house is part cultivated. SMR: LDY 14:18 St Columb's Stone and 14:23 stone effigy. School.

**BOOM HALL**, County Londonderry (**SUPPLEMENTARY SITE - AREA PLAN DERRY 01**)

The site is still a valuable open space, though it has lost many of its attributes. It is of interest as the core of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century house remains, with some fine mature trees and a walled garden. The Foyle bridge sweeps above the



grounds, which go down to the shore of the River Foyle. The name Boom Hall derives from the boom put across the river from this position during the siege of 1689. SMR: LDY 14:41 cropmark, 14:45, 46, 47, 48, 49 & 50 enclosures. Private.

**ENAGH HOUSE, County Londonderry (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE - AREA PLAN DERRY 01)**

The mid-19<sup>th</sup> century modest house (listed HB 1/5/1) resembles one of an earlier era and the setting also is reminiscent of a fashion belonging to the early part of the century. The site is an excellent example of a landscape park in miniature. The house is on high ground, with uninterrupted views of the lough below. This has been achieved by using the device of a sunken road leading to the adjacent ancient churchyard. The road acts as a haha! Between the lawn at the house and parkland beyond, which is still grazed. Both sections are graced with mature parkland tree growing in a position where they are able to achieve full spread. The surrounding trees are impressive, especially the stand of mature elms (*Ulmus glabra*). The gate lodge of c.1855 has recently been rebuilt. SMR: LDY 14:15 nearby church ruins and graveyard. Private.

**GLENGALLIAGH HALL, County Londonderry (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE - AREA PLAN DERRY 01)**

Well surrounded by mature trees and protected from winds, this garden retains much of its original layout, which enhances the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century house (listed HB 1/26/3). There are late formal flower beds in lawns and a cultivated part-walled garden. It is said that the previous owners, during the period 1933-44 had eleven gardeners! Gate lodge c.1890. Private.

**GOVERNMENT HOUSE, County Londonderry (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE - AREA PLAN DERRY 01)**

The house was built for The Honourable The Irish Society for their General Agent in 1849 (listed HB 1/12/6). It is sited in parkland and surrounded by mature trees. There are fine views of the River Foyle from the house and grounds. A cultivated walled garden lies to the north west of the house, with glasshouses. SMR: LDY 14:1 enclosure. Private.

**LEARMONT, County Londonderry (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE - AREA PLAN DERRY 01)**

Sometimes known as Learmont Castle, the holding goes back to the Plantation, when the lands were held for the Skinner's Company. The present house dates from 1830 (listed HB 1/1/10) and it is placed above a steep terraced drop to the River Faughan below. The terracing is grassed and decorated with ornamental yew trees. There is an unused walled garden to the immediate south of the house. The demesne is administered by DANI (FS) and contains commercial plantations and mature trees in an area noted by Lewis in 1837 in the *Topographical Dictionary*, for its 'large and valuable timber ...' Paths are maintained and the site is an amenity. SMR: LDY 29:2 Turrasaglin Well. Public access to Forest Park. House private.

**MOLENAN HOUSE, County Londonderry (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE - AREA PLAN DERRY 01)**

Sometimes spelt as MULLENAN, the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century house (listed HB 1/12/14) is on the site of an earlier house, with shelter belt trees and ornamental trees near the house, shrubberies and a pond. The walled garden is not cultivated. An iron-framed conservatory is built onto the back of the former Land Steward's house, the former facing the house. One of two gate lodges survive, the later to be built, c.1880. Private.

**THE OAKS, County Londonderry (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE - AREA PLAN DERRY 01)**

The present house was remodelled in the 1860s (listed HB 1/2/3). There are no ornamental gardens today and the walled garden is not cultivated. The main interest in the site is the tree planting along the River Faughan, which are the remains of extensive early 19<sup>th</sup> century planting at this site and others in the vicinity, that was recorded in the *Register of Trees for County Londonderry, 1768-1911*. Private.

**TEMPLEMOYLE HOUSE/MUFF GLEN, County Londonderry (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE - DERRY 01)**

This site is associated with the North West of Ireland Agricultural Society School in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, of which nothing of a garden nature remains. The interest lies in the Grocer's Company contemporary tree planting by the in Muff Glen, recorded in the *Register of Trees for County Londonderry, 1768-1911*, many specimens of which survive. House private. Muff Glen public access.

**THORNHILL, County Londonderry (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE - AREA PLAN DERRY 01)**

Now Convent of Mercy, this site is elevated above the River Foyle. The house was built in 1880 (listed HB 1/25/1) with steep grass terracing. As these were grounds for a previous house there are some very mature trees in existence, notably near the river. The walled garden is part cultivated. The gate lodge is c.1885. School.

## AREA PLAN - LIMAVADY 02

### **BELLARENA, County Londonderry (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN LIMAVADY 02)**

The demesne was founded in the mid 17<sup>th</sup> century on flat ground on the River Roe. The site is excellent, with fine views of Binevenagh. The name is attributed to the early Bishop, Bellarena meaning, 'Beautiful Strand'. The house dates from the late 17<sup>th</sup> century, with additions in 1797, 1823 and 40 (listed HB 02/09/002). The stables, farm and offices are pre-1823. There are lawns at the house and large mature shrubs with very necessary shelter trees beyond, both around the house and as further shelter belts for the fields. Sampson, in *Statistical Survey of the County of Londonderry*, of 1802, noted that it had, '... been well planted with variety of forest trees and shrubs; considering the lightness of the soil, which, for the most part, is sandy, these plantations succeed remarkably well'. The walled garden, which is pre-1830s, has been cleared of original planting for modern convenience. The eastern end was an orchard, with a Gardener's House in the north east corner. Glasshouses are gone. There is a roughly built folly tower or look-out in a field to the north of the house and an ice house. There are three listed gate lodges, the oldest was built in 1797 (HB 2/9/4), next (HB 2/9/5) c.1840 and last (HB 2/9/1) c.1920. The house is private.

### **DRENAGH, County Londonderry (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN LIMAVADY 02)**

Formerly called FRUIT HILL, the demesne is part walled and dates from the early 18<sup>th</sup> century. The present house is by Lanyon from 1837 (listed HB 2/11/2), which sits amidst lawns with views out over balustrading to the north west side. There are fine woodland, parkland and shelter belt trees. The ground within the demesne is undulating, descending to the Castle River running to south of the house and to the Curly River to the north and east. Neither river is used as an ornamental feature. An unusual (in Ireland) Italianate high balustraded terrace, with a commanding view point, formerly looked over an extensive 19<sup>th</sup> century Italian Garden, which is now overgrown. The vista at the present time overlooks what has become dense woodland, including exotics and rhododendrons. A water garden in the foreground includes a handsome stone pond built in the 1960s to the designs of Frances Rhodes. The "Moon Garden" was also designed by Frances Rhodes in 1968. It is an enclosed area influenced by both Chinese and Arts and Crafts garden design, which remains fully planted up. It incorporates pre 1830s office buildings. Outside is the 'Orbit Garden', also by Rhodes, planted with shrubs, trees and herbaceous material. An area south east of and adjacent to the house had a late 20<sup>th</sup> century ornamental garden, which is now grassed. The walled garden is used for nursery planting. It was enlarged after the present house was built. Logan's Lodge. 1830 by Hargrave, pre-dates the present house (listed HB 2/11/3). The main entrance gate lodge, gates and screen are c.1840 by Lanyon (listed HB 2/11/1), STREEVE, the dower house, is within the demesne and has its own garden. (listed HB 2/11/6. SMR: LDY 9:12 enclosure, 10:1 church and graveyard, 10:13 ancient grave, burial place of Fin McQuillan. Private.

### **KNOCKAN AND ASH PARK, County Londonderry (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN LIMAVADY 02)**

The main house at Knockan is late 18<sup>th</sup> century (listed HB 2/5/6) and is surrounded by a demesne, which includes mountain grazing. There are fine mature trees around the house (many were lost in 1961 in hurricane Debbie) and lawns to the east front entrance. A hedged productive garden stretches westward behind the house. Partially cultivated, the beds are still separated by box hedges. To the south there are maintained ornamental gardens, also hedged-in. The gardens here and at Ash Park are not as grand as they once were. The latter house was a family house and is contemporary (listed HB 2/5/5). The gardens are not maintained. Both houses are mentioned in the OSM of 1821 as having good gardens and plantations. No walled gardens were built. The gardens are open by arrangement and the houses are private.

### **WALWORTH, County Londonderry (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN LIMAVADY 02)**

The gardens surround the remains of a fortified manor built for the Fishmongers from 1609. The present house is c.1740, altered in 1800 and extended in 1900 (listed HB 2/10/2). This is set in lawns, with trees and a herbaceous border to the south and west. There are manure shelter belt trees, many of which were planted in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and augmented in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The walled garden is fully cultivated to designs from 1989 and is an ambitious project that is maturing well. Samson, writing in 1802 in, *The Statistical Survey of The County of Londonderry*, noted that it was, '... one of the best and earliest gardens of the county, well walled, and stored with excellent fruit trees'. It is now ornamental, with a few fruit trees at the west end. The walled garden is open to the public by arrangement. SMR: LDY 9:19 refers to the Plantation settlement. Private.

### **ARDNARGLE, County Londonderry (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN LIMAVADY 02)**

A late 18<sup>th</sup> century demesne on flat land in the Roe Valley, with substantial shelter belt trees. *The Register of Trees for Co. Londonderry 1768-1911*, lists many planted in 1796. The house, built in 1788 (listed HB 2/10/5), was a dower house for Pellipar at Dungiven. There is a man-made pond. The ornamental gardens have gone. Private.

### **DOG LEAP, County Londonderry (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN LIMAVADY 02)**

The house was built in 1923 to the designs of Buchanan and Reid and the gardens evolved from that time. A well planted and maintained ornamental garden lies to the south and west of the house. Among the features are a rockery, ponds, rose garden and lawns. The site slopes down towards the River Roe. Gardens open for wedding photos.

**PELLIPAR, County Londonderry (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN LIMAVADY 02)**

Sometimes known as Pellipar House and at an early period. Mattsmount. The present demesne dates from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. The house is from that date with many additions, the last major one of 1907 (listed HB 2/6/7). The River Row flows near the house. There are fine trees along the Derryware Burn and an avenue of beech and lime. There is a small conservatory and a small modern ornamental garden at the house. There were six gate lodges pre-1830s, two of which survive, though one is ruinous. Private

**SIR THOMAS PHILLIP'S GARDEN (NOW IN ROE VALLEY COUNTRY PARK), County Londonderry (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN LIMAVADY 02)**

Known site of an early 17<sup>th</sup> century house and garden, which is not visible above ground. Raven's picture map shows a formal garden at the house, orchards and further formal gardens to the west along the River Roe. There was a deer park to the north. The present day Country Park contains trees planted in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. A restored 18<sup>th</sup> century summer house lies in dense woodland beside the river. SMR: LDY 16:3 and 8, castle (or tower house) and bawn of O'Cahan's and later for Sir Thomas Phillips. DOE(NI). Public access.

## **AREA PLAN - COLERAINE 03**

**ANDERSON PARK, County Londonderry (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN COLERAINE 03)**

The land for this park was acquired with £3,000 bequeathed by Hugh Anderson in 1876 to the Town Commissioners specifically for the purpose of creating a public park. The land was bought in 1902 and the park was laid out from that date by the Town Commissioners. There are a few other examples of parks financed by benefactors, as there was a need in a period of rapid urban development and local authorities. Though they had the power, the latter often did not have the resources to take on heavy expenditure on such costly items. The Anderson Fountain, a fine drinking fountain (listed HB 3/18/22), was added in 1911 on the northern side. It was erected to commemorate the donor. Castings are by Walter McFarlane & Co, Glasgow. The HB listing's description reads, 'A fountain with heron set on a two stage hexagonal podium and surmounted by a pierced cupola supported by a cusped and moulded semi-circular arches on eight columns. Medallions above arches bear inscriptions and heron motif; the drive is topped by a small finial'. Early photos show the park with undulating ground, serpentine paths and a pond. This was typical of a layout of a municipal park of the era. This layout survives and trees have grown up and enriched the park in the intervening years. Unfortunately roads separate the park into three sections. To the north are rose gardens, tennis courts and playing fields. South-east, across a road, lie the older ornamental parts, which are also separated by a road running through. To quote the UAHS booklet from 1971-2 it was, 'Well wooded and excellently maintained', which is still the case. There are trees, walls, a stream running through, bedding, shrubs, lawns and paths. Coleraine Borough Council have original and development plans. Public amenity.

**BEARDVILLE, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN COLERAINE 03)**

The demesne was established in the 17<sup>th</sup> century and the present house dates from around 1710-12 (listed HB 3/5/14). The property had been leased by Francis Macnaghten from the Earl of Antrim in 1709 and the house, a rectangular two-storey over basement five bay block with steep hipped roof [which once had dormers], has an armorial plaque over the main door with the date 1715. An earlier survey by Thomas Roe of the demesne in 1712 shows 'house, orchard, garding, stead and meadow or moss'. There is part of a shelter belt of trees on the west side, which is most necessary in this area of the country but a continuation along the road to the south has gone. Two clumps of trees in parkland to the south of the house and other trees near the house remain from late 18<sup>th</sup> century or early 19<sup>th</sup> century planting. There is a walled garden, set out as an ornamental garden for a dwelling that is occupied. The building may have originally been an apple store. The area south of the walled garden was formally an orchard. There is a pond fed from a spring, mature shrubs, herbaceous border, lawns, a tennis court and wall plants in the walled garden. It appears that improvements in landscaping took place in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, as a winding avenue through parkland was emphasised through the addition of a new gate lodge on the south side. This is maintained as a folly. It was built c.1810 in basalt rubble, with two rooms and a joining arch, possibly by Richard Elsam (listed HB 03/05/013). Another matching pair of lodges from c.1790 at the north entrance, probably flanked the original entrance and are now derelict. The property passed hands in 1845 to one Hugh Lecky, whose son, also Hugh, went to live in the Apple House in the Walled garden just before the start of the second war. The

big house was shut up and remained empty until sold in 1965. It has been subsequently restored. SMR: ANT 6:11 tree ring. Private.

**BOVAGH HOUSE, County Londonderry (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN COLERAINE 03)**

A small, high quality parkland with mature trees set on the southern banks of the Agivey River, enclosing a house built in the 1740s (listed HB 3/3/28) for the Marquess of Waterford's agent. It replaced an earlier house. The main avenue, which meets the road near Bovagh Bridge to the west, contains the remains of a collection of exotics. The walled garden, which lies to the south of the house, is not planted up. There is a very pretty Victorian glasshouse immediately to the west of the house, with a small box parterre in front. An area in the stable yard is kept up as a modern ornamental garden. The gate lodge has been demolished. House private. Site Upgraded to the Register March 14<sup>th</sup> 2005.

**DOWNHILL, County Londonderry (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN COLERAINE 03)**

Downhill is a very important landscaped site, which was designed to compliment the house of 1770s by Michael Shanaghan and to which he made a contribution. The design of both house and grounds were heavily influenced by their owner, the Earl Bishop of Derry. The setting is magnificent and although the house exists only as a shall (listed HB 3/12/15 + ha-ha), the whole layout can be appreciated. This is in spite of the fact that the planned planting on the headland was impractical and did not survive for very long. The fine garden buildings survive, including what must be one of the most outstanding late 18<sup>th</sup> century garden buildings, in what must also be the most spectacular position on the edge of the cliff above the sea, with wonderful views along the stand below, the Mussenden Temple of 1783-85 (listed HB 3/12/16). The Mausoleum of 1799-1 (listed HB 3/12/14) stands erect in the landscape. Two impressive gates survive, the Lion Gate c.1780, with lodge (were a pair) and walls (listed HB 3/12/18) and the Bishop's Gate, with wing and lodge 1784 (listed HB 3/12/12). The gardens at the Bishop's Gate are notable. They were created in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and much enhanced and enlarged by Jan Eccles from 1962 and became known in their own right. They are maintained as ornamental gardens by the National Trust. The planting extends up the Black Glen. The walled garden of 1786 is not planted up. There is an Ice House and Dove Cot within this garden of 1786 (listed HB 3/12/19), both restored. These gardens were laid out in 1778 and extended in 1783. Many other important landscape features remain, such as two artificial lakes or fish ponds, a belvedere, boat house and bridges as well as several demesne offices. (listed HB 3/12/11-13 (private ownership)-17-20). Planting on the south side of the road is now the responsibility of the Forest Service. There is a fine stand of Sitka spruce, possibly planted c.1850 and other forest planting, lakes and walks. This is an outstanding site, containing remnants of a once handsomely endowed landscape park, with the added interest of being a creation of the Earl Bishop of Derry. SMR: LDY 2:1 church and graveyard, 2:6 enclosure. Environs of house NT public access and forest DANI (FS) public access.

**GUY WILSON DAFFODIL GARDEN, County Londonderry (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN COLERAINE 03)**

This garden was developed from 1972 and opened in 1974 within the grounds of the University of Ulster at Coleraine. A west sloping site, previously a quarry near the River Bann, is pleasantly set out with island beds of shrubs. It was designed by DANI. This planting gives all year round interest for visitors and shelter to the object of the gardens, which is daffodils. It is named after the renowned daffodil breeder, Guy Wilson of Knockan, Broughshane in his memory. It has a collection of his cultivars and others of Irish origin, which is a specialisation of the garden. It was known as a National Narcissus collection but this has not been kept up as such. The clumps of plants have labels and there are good planting plans on display in the gardens. It is maintained by the UU. Public access.

**KNOCKTARNA HOUSE, Co. Londonderry (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN COLERAINE 03)**

A very attractive parkland in a fine location on the north bank of the River Bann, enclosing an early Victorian gentleman's residence, built in the 1840s for the Lyle family (listed HB 3/6/4), replacing an earlier modest house. Except for an area south of the house, most of the woodlands were first planted in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. The house is enclosed by lawns that sweep down to the river, while the enclosing woods, which contain many rhododendrons, are dissected by a network of meandering paths. There is an overgrown pond on the north-west side of the house and a large old orchard to the south. The kitchen garden, lying close to the Mountsandel Road, was not walled, and is no longer kept up. SMR: LDY 7:41 enclosure. The Vice Chancellor's Residence for the University of Ulster. Site Upgraded to the Register March 14<sup>th</sup> 2005.

**LIZARD MANOR, County Londonderry (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN COLERAINE 03)**

Many trees surround the grassed area near the house, which is on a hill above the Aghadowey River. The big stucco house here was built by the Ironmonger's Company for their agent, Sir James Strong, in the 1860s (listed HB 3/3/17+ stables). The company's crest is a lizard, thus the name. There is a maintained ornamental garden,

enclosed by a beech hedge, near the west side of the house. A free-standing glasshouse has gone. An orchard to the north of the house is backed by a walled garden, which is of brick. The glasshouses, on the north wall of the walled garden, are ruinous and it is not cultivated. Privately owned. Unfortunately, a house was built in the open parkland to the east of the house in the 1990s. Site Upgraded to the Register March 14<sup>th</sup> 2005.

**CROMORE, County Londonderry (SUPPLENETARY SITE – AREA PLAN COLERAINE 03)**

There is some planting remaining from extensive and necessary early shelter belting and mid-19<sup>th</sup> century infill. The site is mainly of interest for the conservatory wing built on the house, for the gate lodge of c.1857, probably by Lanyon and Lynn (listed HB 3/7/10) and walled garden. The house was built in the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century (listed HB 3/7/11). The glazed wing was added in 1834 at a time of expansion and planting in the demesne. The surviving gate lodge was erected for a new avenue with access to the then new railway line. There is an older surviving screen and walling contemporary with the house (listed with house). The house sits in lawns. The walled garden, probably contemporary with the house, is not kept up and the glasshouses have gone.

## AREA PLAN - BALLYMONEY 04

**BENVARDEN HOUSE, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN BALLYMONEY 04)**

The demesne was established in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century on the River Bush. The house (listed HB 4/2/2) was improved and enlarged in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and remains little altered. A landscape park surrounds the house. The grounds are fully maintained. Lawns sweep to the river and to the cast iron Victorian Bridge of c.1870. A mid-19<sup>th</sup> century oval pond near the river is surrounded with fastigate yews and rhododendrons. New tree planting reinforces mature shelter planting, most necessary as the site is exposed to wind. There is a substantial belt on the north, east and west sides of the walled garden. This walled garden (the walls are listed, with the house) is cultivated with herbaceous borders, a rose garden, a parterre garden, glasshouses sites utilized ornamentally, vegetables and soft fruit. There is a good account of the, ‘... large walled garden and an orchard, well stocked and very productive ...’, in the Ordnance Survey Memoirs of 1832. The gardens are still kept to a high order but the design and planting have been altered from the traditional to a more convenient but no less attractive contemporary layout. One gate lodge remains of the three built in c.1830, in good order at the north east gate. SMR: ANT 12:2 tree ring 2:26 oval crop mark. The house is private. The gardens are open to the public. Part of the demesne, to the north-east, was a Safari Park and is now in separate ownership.

**LESLIE HILL, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN BALLYMONEY 04)**

A parkland demesne close by the town of Ballymoney lies in a ridge above the Bann Valley. Continuous ownership of the Leslie family adds interest in the property. The house of c.1760 (listed HB 4/15/8) – now minus two wings – has landscaped parkland to the north, with fine trees and a small artificial late 19<sup>th</sup> century lake, complete with island and boat house. A haha separates the south front lawns from parkland and exposes the fine distant views. There are stands of mature trees and mixed woodland. A late 19<sup>th</sup> century, ‘Robinsonian’ garden is no longer distinguishable. A small enclosed garden to the east of the house has two lily ponds constructed c.1891 of unusual shape. These are listed, together with the enclosing walls and a nearby ice house (HB 04/05/015). Ornamental shrubs and trees, with underplanting of wild flowers decorate the access route to the walled gardens. The walled garden has a rectangular western part, which is partially cultivated and under restoration to be attractive and productive for modern usage. The Melon House has been restored. Remnants of other glasshouses are exposed. The garden is divided into two by a brick wall and the eastern and smaller part is not cultivated. The offices are notable (listed HB 4/5/10, 12 and 13), fully restored and open to view. A disused gate lodge at the main entrance is of c.1911 and replaced a pair removed when the road was realigned in the 1850s. SMR: ANT 17:38 oval feature and 17:59 souterrain (not visible). The house is private but part of the grounds are open to the public as a Heritage Farm Park.

**LISSANOURE, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN BALLYMONEY 04)**

Sometimes known as Lissanoure, this part walled demesne has been the site of a major dwelling since the 14<sup>th</sup> century, the most notable of which was Lissanoure Castle, built in 1770 and destroyed by an explosion in 1874. The stables remain intact (listed HB 4/7/10). Following the explosion, the family moved to The Cottage, a picturesque villa by J B Keane built in 1829 (listed HB 4/7/2). This house sits in lawns, with a view of the lake and crannog. The Castle was the centre of a contemporary landscape park laid out within the undulating site and surrounding Lough Guile. This was created under the direction of Lord Macartney and he is remembered in, ‘Macartney’s Walks’. As a widely travelled ambassador this park was laid out with sophistication. Lough Guile was joined to Five Islands Lough by two canals. Considerable drainage schemes were undertaken. The islands were planted up, bridges built and boats were used on the waterways. Shrubberies graced the Castle and tree-lined

gravel paths provided walks. The parkland had clumps and plantations, much of which survive. Dramatic shelter belts run along ridges on the tops of hills. The walled garden has a restored glasshouse backing on to a garden house (listed HB 4/7/9). It is not cultivated. The centre of the demesne was altered in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and is maintained from that stand point today. Extensive tree planting continues and former walks re-established. Of three gate lodges two remain; one of c.1830 by J B Keane (listed HB 4/7/11) and one at the south entrance of c.1860. SMR: ANT 18:10 mound or crannog, 18:11 fortifications or motte, 18:12 crannog on Lough Guile, 18:13 church and graveyard, 18:14 enclosure or tree ring and 18:23 Five Islands – not antiquities – possibly a landscaping feature. House private, public access to lake.

**MOORE LODGE, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN BALLYMONEY 04)**

This beautifully positioned house, set high above the River Bann, is surrounded by trees and lawns in a small, good quality parkland. It was described in 1814 as ‘certainly one of the prettiest and most retired spots in this county’. The original 17<sup>th</sup> century house, was apparently burnt in 1729 and replaced post 1759 by the present Georgian building, which was improved in the 1840s and had an extension added in 1901 (listed HB 4/11/3). There was a notable garden in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, which is now only remembered by an unpublished account written in 1951, *The Gardens of Moore Lodge 1902-1939*. The pigeon house or dovecote (listed HB 4/11/4) in the grounds is pre-1832. The property has remained almost continuously in the hand of the Moore family since the early 18<sup>th</sup> century. SMR: ANT 22:29 souterrain. Private. Site upgraded to Register on March 14<sup>th</sup> 2005.

**O’HARABROOK, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN BALLYMONEY 04)**

The demesne lies beside the Ballymoney River, Atkinson described it as a, ‘...splendid demesne...’ in 1833. The long, low house of c.1750 was possibly a coaching inn (listed HB 4/4/1). It has a late 19<sup>th</sup> century conservatory. There is a fine avenue approach, with mature trees and rhododendrons. Some noble trees grace the parkland to the south of the house. Mixed woodland lies to the east of the house. The productive garden has no conventional walls but is protected on the north-east side by the tall trees of the avenue, to the south by the old orchard and to the west by a line of trees. This area is maintained, with herbaceous borders, vegetable plots, commercial soft fruit plantations and Victorian ornamental stone-edged beds. There is a newly dug pond, with associated planting being introduced, to the north of the house. Two interesting features lie in the demesne; the Old School House, which appears as a ruined wall and was possibly intended as a gothic folly or was possibly a functional building and Lamb’s Fold, an enclosed Quaker burial ground. There were two gate lodges, one of which, the North Lodge of c.1840 survives. SMR: ANT 17:28 enclosure/tree ring, 17:29 Graveyard, ‘Lamb’s Fold’ and 17:30 enclosure/tree ring. The house is private but the gardens are open to the public on special days.

**GARDENVALE, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN BALLYMONEY 04)**

The house and demesne have late 18<sup>th</sup> century origins but the present house is largely Victorian (listed HB 4/3/5). It is sheltered by mature trees. There is a clipped rhododendron avenue and a maintained ornamental garden round a stream flowing from the local River Blackwater. The walled garden is part cultivated and part walled, a beech hedge making up the shape. A wooden-framed glasshouse is in use. The gate lodge is in use; built c.1873 and probably by W H Lynn (listed HB 4/3/5). It is said that he drew up plans for the house but they were not used. Private.

**MOORE FORT, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN BALLYMONEY 04)**

Ornamental grounds surround a gable-ended two-storey five-bay stuccoed house, built in 1833, together with associated yards for James Moore (listed HB 4/01/009) on an elevated site in the centre of the townland of Drumaheglis. There are lawns to the south with mature trees, planted in the 1830s, framing views out over parkland. There are two flower gardens to the west of the house, one of which is centred on an ice house and lawns to the south with mature trees framing views out over parkland. The productive garden, partly walled, lies to the east of the house and is mentioned in the *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* of 1837. The avenue is planted up as mixed woodlands, some of which are contemporary with the house. An inner shelter belt to the south west of the house has been replanted in the 1950s. Sold by the Moore family in 1995. SMR: ANT 16:4 rath, in a wooded area near the house. Private.

## AREA PLAN - MOYLE 05

**BALLYDIVITY, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN MOYLE 05)**

A small demesne of around 120 acres for austere and modest gabled-ended three bay two-storey house (listed HB 05/07/007) built by James Moore in the 1740s. It later passed to the Stewart family, was sacked by insurgents in 1798, and substantially rebuilt 1800-1810. Shelter trees, some of which are c.200 years old, are necessary as it is

said by the owners that there is, 'Nothing between here and Limerick'. This planting and the woodland is managed. There are tree planting lists of 1833 in the house. Other 19<sup>th</sup> century letters suggest an interest in the gardens. One of the two walled gardens is adjacent to the house on the north side. It is in mown grass, partially planted up and there are two modern glasshouses in use, plus remains of older houses. The other walled garden, called the Top Garden is to the north of the offices and is disused. There is a garden house attached to the latter walled garden. A small maintained ornamental garden lies to the south of the house. The gate lodge has gone. Private.

**BALLYHIBISTOCK HOUSE, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN MOYLE 05)**

Sometimes spelt Ballyhivistock, the house was built by Charles George Stuart after his father's death in 1826. Stuart was an agent for several important north Antrim estates. He created a modest demesne, with shelter trees planted from the 1820s. Part of the demesne is now a turkey farm. Extensive ornamental gardens are fully maintained. A large pond was added in 1958 and the walled garden re-designed from the 1950s. The walled garden is fully planted up and the pond has a walk round it, with excellent planting at the margin of the water and on the other side of the path. There are lawns with shrubs, bulbs and trees. There are rock features, with appropriate planting and glasshouses in use. A wide selection of plants grow here and they are well displayed. The present owners, who acquired the property in a poor condition in 1956, have extended the planted area and created a lovely garden. Private.

**BALLYLOUGH HOUSE, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN MOYLE 05)**

A 17<sup>th</sup> century demesne containing the ruins of a McQuillan castle has been in the ownership of the same family, the Traills, since 1789. The present house (listed HB 5/7/4) is from that date, with additions of 1815 and alterations of 1930. The fine beech avenue, noted in 1846 was felled in 1942 but mature shelter belt trees and much of the 'plantations', quoted at the same time, remain. There is a maintained ornamental garden to the south east of the house, sheltered by the curving walls that screen either side of the north facing house front. A continuation of the east of walls backing a building forms the north wall of the walled gardens, a substantial portion of which is fully maintained, with box edged beds and espalier fruit trees. An uncultivated portion, the former orchard, is mown. The garden house is not in use. Generations of good gardening make this an attractive garden with all year round interest and it is kept to a high standard. There are two gate lodges, the unusual circular West lodge of c.1800 (listed HB 5/7/5) is ruinous and the East lodge c.1840, which is occupied and has its own charming cottage garden. SMR: ANT 7:4 McQuillan 15<sup>th</sup> century castle upstanding in ruins, 7:5 enclosure/tree ring and 7:30 crannog in Decoy Plantation. The house is private but the gardens are often open for charity.

**DUNDERAVE, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN MOYLE 05)**

Dunderave has been rightly described by the late Sir Charles Brett as 'by far the grandest 19<sup>th</sup> century house in north Antrim'. Not surprisingly, the parkland created as a setting for this house is of some importance in its own right. In fact, the park pre-dates the present house, for its bones were laid down for an 18<sup>th</sup> century house on the site known as Bushmills House. In the 1780s this property belonged to Sir William Dunkin of Clogher, sometime judge in Calcutta, whose daughter in 1787 married Francis Workman Macnaghten (1762-1843), a younger son of Edmund of Beardville. Francis, who was knighted in 1836, had made a fortune in India and was the acknowledged chief of the ancient clan of Macnaghten. Around 1800 he purchased 'for a small price' the property from his brother-in-law and at some stage proceeded to build a new castellated house on the site [Bushmills House], though after he returned from India in 1825 he seems to have lived mainly at Roe Park and Beardville. This house and its surrounding parkland were protected on the north and west sides by shelter belts of trees, while a lozenge-shaped walled garden lay to the south east of the house. In 1843 his son Sir Edward Charles Workman Macnaghten, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bart, MP (1790-1876) succeeded to the property. Like his father he too made a fortune in India and having retired at the very young age of 24 decided to replace Bushmills house with a much grander mansion. He commissioned Charles Lanyon (later Sir Charles) to build the present very fine Italianate palazzo house, built in 1846 (listed HB 05/08/005). It is a two-storey block, square in plan, based on Barry's Reform Club (completed 1840), with deep bracket cornices and boldly ornamented facades in a crisp pinkish sandstone. The site is on exposed high ground, with good views out over lawns and a sweeping driveway. The old shelter belts were extended for the new house and a second walled garden was added in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century to the north of the house and remains of glasshouses can be seen. Neither walled garden is cultivated. There were formal gardens at the south east of the house, which are now grassed and merge into Terrace Wood. The woodland remains extensive and walks are maintained. The main entrance gate, the Bushmills gate, is in a mini-palazzo style of c.1848, with cruciform plan of a type favoured elsewhere by Lanyon. The rear entrance lodge is much simpler in style, though also roughly c.1850 (listed HB 05/08/06, 07 and 09). There were two plain gate lodges related to the demolished Bushmills house. SMR: ANT 3:3 'McCaughan's Rundle' ancient Christian cemetery, 3:21 enclosure, 3:25 souterrain, 3:26, 50, 51 enclosures. ANT 7:2 mound. Private.

**MAGHERINTEMPLE, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN MOYLE 05)**

An earlier quite modest house called Churchfield was described in the OS Memoirs of 1835 as being a plain two-storey dwelling, the property of the Casement family from 1790. It was considerably enlarged in 1874-75 for John Casement, adding an austere Scottish baronial block in Ballyvoy stone with gate lodge in matching style (listed HB 05/04/021 + gate lodge and outbuildings). The architect is probably S.P. Close. The grimness of the architecture is to some degree offset by the good high position of the house and its splendid views. The gardens are maintained. There is a walled garden on a slope, with a bog garden at the bottom. The walled garden is fully planted up with vegetables, fruit and ornamental plants. The present layout dates from 1973. There are woodland and shelter trees. The gate lodge replaced an earlier lodge located on the opposite side of the gates. SMR: ANT 9:112 two small stone figures that are placed in the rockery in the garden are said to have come from Culfeightrin Church. Private.

**THE MANOR HOUSE, RATHLIN, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN MOYLE 05)**

Home of the Gage family on Rathlin Island and the only sizeable house on the island. It was built largely in 1763 (listed HB 5/16/1 + stables). The gardens are not outstanding or otherwise notable, except for their unique position and because the island as a whole has little planting. It is said that soil for the garden was brought by sea from Scotland. By 1797, ‘froot Trees in the New Garden ... Cherries and Plumbs, Pears and even Nectarines and a Peach,’ were reported to be growing. There was probably a glasshouse for winter protection for the latter two ‘froots’. The Manor House faces south, below a hill and is in a reasonably sheltered place. There is a walled garden beside the house on the west side, which was an ornamental garden. There is a walled garden some distance from the house on high ground, which was the vegetable garden and is still cultivated. At one time there was a flower garden to the west of St Thomas C of I Church. NT.

**DUNLUCE CASTLE, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN MOYLE 05)**

Of historic interest, this garden has no remaining planting. Un-excavated features comprise three terraces, probably of 1630s date, lying immediately due west of the Outerward of the castle on the mainland. The bottom or northernmost terrace is divided into rectangular raised beds, which must have contained plants, though proximity to the sea would have limited choice. The middle terrace has a flat space known as the ‘Bowling Green’ and contains a rectangular mound, which may have supported a pavilion overlooking the green. A set of bowls is listed among the second earl of Antrim’s effects and it is recorded he lost a considerable wager playing ninepins in the early 1630s Stuart Court. The top terrace probably had a formally laid out orchard, outside of which there appears to have been a palisade and road, with outskirts of the village beyond this to the south. There is evidence on the exterior walls of the Outerward guestroom block for a wooden viewing platform gallery overlooking the gardens. SMR: ANT 2:3 Dunluce Castle. Castle open to public but the possible site of the gardens is private.

**CLARE PARK, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN MOYLE 05)**

A 17<sup>th</sup> century demesne with a house from 1698 set in a spectacular cliff top site above the County Antrim coast near Ballycastle (listed HB 5/12/2). Originally a McDonnell house, then the seat of the McGildowny family from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The house, now largely demolished, comprised a central gable-ended two-storey three-bay block, flanked by lower 18<sup>th</sup> century wings, each of three bays with hipped roofs. The house was castellated and given canted bays in 1880. The place was unoccupied for some time and fell into a state of ruin. The gardens likewise were not maintained. There is a walled garden on the south side of the house. Private.

## AREA PLAN - LARNE 06

**CARNFUNNOCK COUNTRY PARK, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN LARNE 06)**

This demesne was originally created around Carncastle Lodge, a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century house which no longer exists but evidence of its style remains in the two ornate listed gate lodges ( HB 6/3/3). There is also evidence in the landscape as there is a double shelter belt of mature trees. These protect grazing fields and there is a path among the trees to the highest ground where there is a look-out today and in former times there was a summer house. The Ice House ( HB 6/3/5) is in the same area. Walls and gates are also listed (HB 6/3/4). The site overlooks the sea to the east on rising ground, affording fine views. It was purchased by Larne Borough Council in 1957 and has been developed as a public amenity since that time. The walled garden was refurbished in 1990 and is fully planted up to a contemporary style. The theme of a ‘Time Garden’ is followed both in the planting and with differing gnomonic designs displayed on the walls or free-standing to catch the sun. A hornbeam maze was planted in the shape of Northern Ireland for the Year of the Maze in 1991. Public amenity.

**CHAIINE PARK, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN LARNE 06)**

The park is correctly described as, “... a pretty pleasure garden ...” in the Borough of Larne *Official Guide*. It lies on a steep slope going down towards the sea, facing east. The land was donated to the people of Larne in the 1920s and the design and layout date from that time. The site has meandering paths with steps, bedding and seats. There



are shelters, grassed areas and streams leading to a pond. Between Chainé Park and the adjacent Town Park is an enclosure SMR: ANT 35:19 surrounded by railings of 1885, which are listed (HB 6/8/6). Public amenity.

**DRUMALIS, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN LARNE 06)**

The gardens at Drumalis were developed round the house of 1872 (listed HB 6/8/5). The site shows as barren on the OS map of 1858, which is not surprising as it is an elevated and exposed spot on a headland with sea on the eastern side. Shelter belts of trees planted around the house have been successful in protecting the gardens, which retains many original features and is a good example of a late Victorian layout. The house is surrounded by lawns, embanked by balustrading on the western and southern sides. The latter is terraced with good stone work and hedges. Terraces lead to southern sloping lawns where there is a rose garden. The original iron pergolas and supports survive. There is a recently restored rockery, probably once a fernery and a pond. An extension for the convent was built in the grounds c.1960, land was sold in the 1930s and recently more was lost by compulsory purchase, all of which reduced the area of the gardens. As it is a convent it would be impossible to maintain the gardens in their original state but the grounds are well kept. The attractive gate lodge on the Glenarm Road is listed (HB 6/8/4). There is an extensive walled garden to the north of the house, which is rented out for use as a nursery garden. Vestiges of an orchard exist to the east of the walled garden. Drumalis is the Convent of the Cross and Passion and is privately owned.

**GLENARM CASTLE, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN LARNE 06)**

A remarkable demesne, noted for its great beauty and large extent, occupies much of the lower reaches of the picturesque valley of the Glenarm River, extending some five miles from the sea and about half a mile wide. The original castle, built by the Byssets in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, was broken down in 1597 and a new castle (HB 7/2/1) was begun by Sir Randal ‘Arranach’ MacDonnell, later 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Antrim, from c.1603 on the opposite bank of the river, away from the village. The building was enlarged into a double pile house in 1636, but in 1642 ‘Lord Antrim’s pleasant house’ was destroyed by invading Scots armies. It remained a gutted ruin for over a century, but the demesne continued to be used by the family, particularly during the hunting season. Around the 1660s Alexander, later the 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Antrim, added a wing to the ruined house to accommodate the family, while at this period created two enclosed deer parks, namely the Small Deer Park and the Grand Deer Park, the latter occupying much of the present demesne and large enough to accommodate deer hunting. In 1682 a ‘handsome stone bridge’ was erected over the river to carry the public road (HB 7/2/4) and a year later Richard Dobbs visited Glenarm and noted the glen was ‘clad with underwood’ and the village contained ‘all thatched houses, except the earl of Antrim’s, the Church and one more’. In the 1740s Alexander, the 5<sup>th</sup> earl, then living at Ballymagarry, near Dunluce, carried out improvements at Glenarm, including tree planting, the building of a ‘horse course’, a stable for race horses, a hexagonal gazebo lying close to the river and a grotto ‘in which there are a great number of fine & curious Shells, & many of the pinna, which are found off the north east point of Ireland’. In 1750 Ballymagarry was burnt ‘by the carelessness of servants’ and the fifth Earl resolved to move to Glenarm. An engineer from Cumbria, Christopher Myers, was engaged to rebuild the house, the old walls of which were ‘entire and for the most part sound’ in 1740. The house was refashioned in 1756 with a fusion of Baroque and Palladian styles, its front fenestration being punctured by rows of Venetian windows and joined by curving colonnades to pavilions with pyramidal roofs (that closest to the river contained a banqueting house). The new house and its surrounding demesne were depicted on two panoramic oil paintings of c.1770, presently in the house. At this time the formal demesne extended up the hillside, while around the building lay a network of walled courts and gardens. These included a circular grass sweep in front of the house with a ‘statue of Hercules of esteemed workmanship’ in the centre [as described by Milton] and a walled garden to the north of the house with espaliers on the walls and a glasshouse in the centre. A number of houses of the village, including a mill, still occupied an area south of the house, while the public road crossed over the 1682 bridge and around the house to Ballymena. In 1775 Randal, the 6<sup>th</sup> earl, succeeded to the property, and although he spent most of his time in Dublin, started creating a landscape park to the south of the house, complete with a cottage orné (the Rustic Cottage), and carried out alterations to the house roof, castellating the rear parapets and altering the upper front windows. These changes to the house were depicted by James Nixon (c.1785) and by Milton (published 1793), the latter described the demesne as then consisting ‘of several hundred acres of meadow well improved. The Flower, Fruit and Kitchen Gardens have suitable Hot Houses and are near a mile in circumference ... The house from the rear commands a fine view of the sea ... the front looks to the glen or Great Park, 13 miles extremely romantic and beautiful; consisting of woods, and broken rock; with several waterfalls, and salmon leaps, formed by a large serpentine river, winding through the grounds, its banks adorned with various evergreens, myrtles and the arbutus, or strawberry tree, almost continuously in blossom...’. In 1803-07 a programme of modernisation was carried out on the house by Anne Katherine, Countess of Antrim; she gothicised the lower windows, altered the interior, remodelled the wing, and removed the pavilions and colonnades. At the same time the leases of the remaining village houses were bought up and the landscape park allowed to extend up to the house windows. However, this period also witnessed extensive tree felling in the Great Deer Park, presumably in support of the war effort. In 1823-24 and c.1831-2 Richard

Morrison remodelled the exterior of the main house, transforming it into a romantic neo-Jacobean residence with a forest of lofty cupolas, gilded vanes, tall chimneys and finials. Morrison also designed the barbican gate, completed in 1825 (HB 7/2/3), together with its associated river walls and towers, behind which was planted a fine beech walk. Morrison also added buildings to the demesne, notably a gate lodge and The Deer Park Cottage, subsequently remodelled. The present walled kitchen garden was added in the 1820s complete with its potting houses; the adjacent frame yard was added in the 1840s and the gardener's house in the 1850s. It was around this time that a lean-to glasshouses was built, later rebuilt c.1870. Also during the 1840s or early 1850s the lawn area immediately north of the house, once occupied by the old 18<sup>th</sup> century kitchen garden, was transformed with a network of radiating paths and numerous flower beds. The house was burnt in 1929, later rebuilt by Imrie and Angell of London, while in 1967 a fire destroyed the wing of the house, much of which was subsequently reconstructed in much reduced form by Donald Insall. Since 1993 the property has been in ownership of Randal McDonnell, Viscount Dunluce, son of the 14<sup>th</sup> earl of Antrim; he has embarked on improvements to the house and parkland, including the walled garden, which is now open to the public in the summer months and boasts a tea room. The Barbican gate lodge has recently been restored by Landmark Trust and is used as a holiday house. Much of the Deer park is now administered by DANI (FS). SMR: ANT 29:7 medieval church site, 29:14 motte or raised rath, 29:15 McDonnell's private burial ground (not an antiquity), 29:17 enclosure, 29:18 fort, 29:44 and 45 cropmark, 29:49 circle made by yews in walled garden (not an antiquity), & 29:55 circle made by a pond in the walled garden (not an antiquity). Privately owned.

**MAGHERAMORNE HOUSE (HOTEL), Co. Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN LARNE 06)**

The present house on the site was built in the 1880s and replaces an earlier house of 1817 called Ballylig House. It is listed (HB 6/5/17) as is the lodge (HB 6/5/16 – dated 1881) and outbuildings (HB 6/5/23 also dated 1881). There is evidence of planting from both eras but the layout of the grounds is essentially in the style of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, though there has been further upgrading in the 1930s. The house is set on a fine site in a declivity with views to the north-east over Larne Lough. The ground rises steeply to the west and south and there are two glens immediately behind the house which are planted with trees and have paths and bridges to give ornamental walks up through the glens. The streams level out to the immediate east of the house and there are woodland walks in this area. There is a maintained formal terrace garden to the north-east of the house with a stone fountain. The avenue is of lime and a small area of parkland between this and the road contains mature trees. The site is an hotel and as such the public have access to the gardens which are well kept to enhance the building and the glen side walks can be enjoyed by visitors. The grounds have been adapted to a low maintenance regime whilst retaining the bare bones of a late Victorian layout. Mound SMR: ANT 41:41. Hotel.

**RED HALL, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN LARNE 06)**

The wooded demesne at Red Hall is laid out on an axial plan typical of sites dating from the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The majority of such sites were subsequently altered during passing generations but the grounds at Red Hall remain little altered in plan. The house (listed HB 6/5/13) enlarged from its 1627 origins stands at the apex of straight avenues leading from north to south and from east to west. There is an oak avenue, a lime avenue leading to the church of 1848 and a late 19<sup>th</sup> century Wellingtonia avenue (the latter is in addition to the axial plan mentioned above). There has been continuous tree planting in the demesne including less formal areas around a glen and waterfall. Atkinson, in *Ireland Exhibited to England* (1823) remarks on the beauties of the lawn and forest. The *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* of 1839 states that, "About 50 acres are under ornamental plantings and shrubberies. Besides these are numerous judiciously disposed belts and clumps of plantings, which not only show to advantage beautifully diversified surfaces of the demesne, but exceedingly heighten the effect of the rich scenery of Larne Lough." The demesne, on ground rising to the west from the lough, still enhances the area today. Terraced lawns at the house are reminiscent of the Victorian era. The walled garden is close to the house and is part cultivated with fruit trees. There is a stone building, possibly built as a summer house. The lodge on the Larne Road and a tower are listed (HB 6/5/11 and HB 6/5/12). SMR: ANT 47:4 Tower House 17<sup>th</sup> century, 47:5 enclosure, 47:6 motte, 47:7 enclosure, 47:8 site of medieval church and graveyard, 47:27 battle site, 47:28 'pin well' and 47:47 enclosure. House private.

**CAIRNDHU, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN LARNE 06)**

Cairndhu was built as a summer residence in 1875 (listed HB 6/3/7) on a beautiful site overlooking the sea, which hitherto had a small amount of planting around a former smaller house called Sea View. The trees that now form an effective shelter belt date from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The site benefited initially from the shelter belts of the adjoining property, Carncastle Lodge (Carnfunnock Country Park). These adjacent sites are now both administered by Larne Borough Council. Gardens developed round the house with steeply terraced lawns. The grounds rise on a steep slope from sea level, east to west. The productive gardens were to the west side of the house at the most elevated level. Vestiges of these remain and some dilapidated glass houses. There are good specimens of mature

trees, shrub planting and lawns. The northern end is now a golf course. Other estate buildings (listed HB 6/3/6, 7 and 9).

**GARRON TOWER, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN LARNE 06)**

Garron Tower was built between 1848 and 50 (listed HB 6/1/27) as a summer residence for the Londonderry family. The position is spectacular, on a plateau above the Co Antrim coast. There is some natural shelter on the west side from steeply rising ground and this has been clothed with trees. Formerly the ornamental and productive gardens were to the west, somewhat protected from sea breezes by the house which stood facing south amidst severe lawns decorated with urns. Trees cover the area below the plateau, which drops sharply to the sea. The grounds are adapted for school use and cultivated areas have disappeared. There are notable specimens of *Eucalyptus globulus*, planted in 1857. Promontory fort SMR: ANT 20:3. St MacNissi's College.

**KILWAUGHTER CASTLE, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN LARNE 06)**

Early 19<sup>th</sup> century parkland, possibly the work of the landscape gardener John Sutherland, provides setting for the now ruinous house (listed HB 06/07/003). Designed before 1803 by John Nash in his romantic castle style, for Edward Jones Agnew, a leading Belfast merchant. The building incorporates a Scottish style plantation house of c.1622, built by Patrick Agnew, whose sister-in-law lived at the very similar nearby Ballygalley Castle. The *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* of 1835, noted date 1566 was inscribed on a piece of iron on an oak door exiting at that time and it is known that the place had a Norman origin, for remains of a motte exist nearby. The 18<sup>th</sup> century house was set in a formal landscape with a straight approach avenue aligned on the front door. The parkland of c.1810 has had its extensive shelter belts depleted and many parkland trees have been lost. The artificial lake, created as a result of massive damming, is in danger of silting up. The walled garden, in separate ownership from the greater part of the park, is partly cultivated. Ice house near the lake. Main entrance gates designed by Nash, c.1807, but the lodge, c.1835, is possibly by Millar and Nelson; it is a picturesque cottage with bargeboards and latticed windows. The big house was occupied by the army in 1940 and in 1951 became a roofless ruin. SMR: ANT 40:5 motte, 40:7 enclosure, 40:8 Plantation House incorporated into house, 40:31 church site in graveyard and 40:46 fort. Privately owned.

## **AREA PLAN - BALLYMENA 07**

**GALGORM CASTLE, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN BALLYMENA 07)**

Site of a pre-1600 castle, the demesne dates from the early 17<sup>th</sup> century and the fine Jacobean house remains, having been altered and modernised in 1830 and 1850 (listed HB 7/15/1). There are mature trees in clumps in the parkland between the rivers Main and Braid and in wooded areas near the house. The shelter belts to the west, along the Main, are post-1858. 91½ha of the parkland is being made into a golf course. The walled garden is disused. There is a small enclosed cultivated garden in the area of the bawn, which retains its Victorian formal bedding. This layout succeeded an earlier garden. A wide grass-lined approach leads to the house. The offices and stables are listed with the house and have been converted to commercial units. The gate screen, bawn and walled garden are included in the listing. The gate lodge was added in 1852 (listed HB 7/15/43). SMR: ANT 37:10 motte and bailey for McQuillan's Castle, 37:11 & 12 enclosures/tree rings? 37:13 church in ruins, 37:14 bawn and house 1618-19, 37:15 & 16 enclosures/tree rings? 37:17 souterrain. Private.

**HILLMOUNT, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN BALLYMENA 07)**

The house was built in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century (listed HB 7/2/4) as a mill owners house. A lime avenue sweeps to the entrance, past fields and a modest artificial lake. The lake shores were planted from 1960 with many shrubs and herbaceous plants, which also form a pleasant and decorative vista from the house. A shelter belt of mature beech, oak and Scots pine give a background to the view. The making of the present garden is recorded in, *In an Irish Garden*, by Sybil Connolly and Helen Dillon. There is also a cultivated productive garden that was created in the same era. The part walled garden is grassed as it is no longer in use, having been the centre of the gardens until the present owners altered the layout. Private.

**PEOPLE'S PARK, BALLYMENA, Co. Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN BALLYMENA 07)**

The land for the park was donated in 1870 by Sir Shafto Adair. He financed and planned the landscaping, which took six months. The park is a good example of a public park of that era, which includes maximum variety of areas, through the device of using twisting paths on the undulating ground and strategic planting. There are stout stone walls, round the park (with modern realignment in places) and a shelter belt of Scots pine on the sides of the prevailing winds. The lake, the 'Park Dam' was made from an artificially dammed mill pond. Half was later drained to make a flat area for games. There is a statue, known as the 'Big Woman in the Park' (listed HB 07/18/10) of 1872 on top of a hill. 'Todd's Hill' and a notable cast iron drinking fountain of 1909 (listed HB

07/18/9). Many changes have taken place over the years, such as the introduction of tennis courts, a children's playground, paths and the making and selling off the bowling green. Plans for refurbishment of the park were drawn up in 1997, as former assets had become obsolete or worn out. The individual additions have not so far imposed on the original concept of the park. The park keepers lodge was designed and built by Sir Shafto in 1870 (listed HB 07/18/8). Public access, Ballymena Borough Council.

**CLEGGAN LODGE, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN BALLYMENA 07)**

Originally a shooting lodge for Shane's Castle, the site is known to have been in existence in 1777. An OSM entry for 1835 records that it was, '... surrounded by extensive plantations chiefly consisting of fir and larch and extends over about 200 acres.' Fraser described it in 1838 as, '... the beautiful hunting seat of Earl O'Neill's.' Extensive landscaping and tree planting was carried out, presumably as shelter and cover. The present house (listed HB 7/5/6) was built in 1830 and renovated in the 1920s in a fine elevated site with views of Slemish. A ha-ha separates the house from parkland. There are good mature trees in the parkland and in woodland. A considerable area was once ornamentally planted. A lake is drained at present. A pond, Fisher's Pond, was added sometime before 1857 and a rockery made in the glen by the present owners grandfather post-1927. These features are partially maintained in that paths are kept clear. A cultivated and productive garden is kept at the house in immaculate order, including herbaceous borders, a hot house and frames. This present garden is post-1927. One of two gate lodges survive. SMR: ANT 28:9 mound, 28:19, 11 and 12 enclosures/tree rings? 28:26 sweat-house?/souterrain, 28:49 enclosure, 28:50 mound, 28:51 barrow. Private.

**CRAIGDUN, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN BALLYMENA 07)**

The grounds are associated in the past with the early 17<sup>th</sup> century Craigs Castle. The present Scottish Baronial House, sometimes known as Craigdun Castle was built in 1867 (7/2/9). There are fine mature trees in the shelter belts and parkland, including exotics. A champion parkland sycamore has a circumference of 11 m at the base. The walled garden is adjacent to the house and has a circular pavilion, with a conical slated roof, in one corner. This building and the walling of the garden are included in the listing, as is the gate screen. There was a noted garden in the walled garden until the 1970s. The space is no longer cultivated. The big house was latterly renamed when it became an institution. A new house on the site was built for the owners in 1960 and named Craigdun. Private.

**GLEBE HOUSE, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN BALLYMENA 07)**

Ahoghil Glebe House was built in 1815 and the OS map of 1835 shows surrounding trees had been planted to give good shelter at the elevated site. The OSM bears this out in 1835 as it mentions, '... there is some young planting about the house.' This shelter is largely extant today. Presumably the gardens were conventional during the years until the late 1940s, when Lady O'Neill of the Maine created a notable ornamental and productive garden, with good plants set out to advantage in compartments. There are herbaceous borders, a woodland garden where rhododendrons were a speciality and an arboretum planted by Lord O'Neill. Much of the planting from this era remains. The gate lodge was added c.1840. Private.

**PORTGLENONE HOUSE, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN BALLYMENA 07)**

The house (listed HB 7/6/10) was built in 1823 for Bishop Alexander and is set in parkland by the River Bann. An earlier house in the vicinity is recorded in the OSM of 1835 and trees were retained, '...some very fine copper beeches, yews and cypresses ...' from the former establishment. The present house is now part of an Cistercian Abbey, which also has further buildings added from 1962 in the grounds. This includes the Our Lady of Bethlehem Abbey (listed HB 7/6/40), which was built in 1948 to the designs of Patrick Murray. Part of the gardens are private to the monks (the walled garden); parts are ornamental grounds for the Abbey and parts are cultivated for organic vegetables. There are mature trees in the remnants of former parkland, an ice house, the Bishop's Well and two 19<sup>th</sup> century gate lodges. Within the walls, part of the demesne is administered by DANI as a forest, which was planted from the 1950s. There is public access and paths are laid out. In a glade in the forest there is a commemorative plot to Augustine Henry, who was reputedly born nearby. It was laid out in 1969 with examples of some of the plants that he discovered or introduced from the far east. The plot has been hard to maintain due to theft. SMR: LDY 31:32 Bishop's Well, 31:33 Holy Well, 31:34 Lady's Well, 31:35 mound, 31:36 fortification. Site partly private, partly abbey, partly DANI (FS) where there is public access.

**RANDOM COTTAGE, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN BALLYMENA 07)**

The garden was created from 1954 around the house of the same date. There are compartments with mixed planting of interesting plants set out amongst eye catching artefacts. The fruit and vegetable garden is enclosed by a hedge. An arboretum was established in 1988. Trees came from the Slieve Donard Nursery, latterly from Mid-Ulster Nursery, Seaford and Mallet Court, Taunton. Private.

## AREA PLAN - MAGHERAFELT 08

### **AMPERTAINE HOUSE (or AMPTERTAIN) , County Londonderry (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN MAGHERAFELT 08)**

A modest parkland with mature shelter belts enclosing a large Regency-style house built for the linen merchant Alexander Clark c.1835. A 'small thatched cottage' known as Upperlands formerly occupied the site of the present house, which is subsequently known variously as Ampertaine, Amptertain or Amportaine (listed HB8/2/2). The house lawns merge into gardens which had become neglected and overgrown until the 1990s when clearance began to expose a late Victorian ornamental garden with ponds, rockeries and iron bowers to the east and south east of the house. The walled kitchen garden, east of the house, can be viewed through decorative iron railing on a top of the west wall. It is laid out in conventional manner with cross and perimeter paths and contains a summer house, sunken garden, rose garden, the site of a lean-to glasshouse range with stove and old apple trees. On the north-east front of the house lie the foundations of a high plinth that once supported a circular Victorian conservatory. The park has a gate lodge of c.1870, which replaced two earlier lodges; it lies across the road from the main entrance. Private.

### **BALLYSCULLION HOUSE, Co. Londonderry (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN MAGHERAFELT 08)**

This part walled demesne was established for a house of 1787, which was never completed and now is denoted by a heap of rubble in woodland, having been partly demolished in 1813. Nearby stands the present house designed by Charles (later Sir Charles) Lanyon in the 1840s for Sir Henry Bruce (listed HB 8/9/11). Until recent years this house was home of the late Sir Henry Mulholland, Speaker of the Northern Ireland Parliament. It overlooks Lough Beg and distant mountains beyond, affording fine views and incorporating the spire of a church on an island in the lough. This was added as a folly tower (listed HB 8/9/14) to provide an eye catcher from the original house. The Earl Bishop of Derry chose the spot for his late 18<sup>th</sup> century building as he considered it, '... not to be inferior to any Italian scenery'. The foreground to the lough is in the manner of parkland with stands of trees. There are effective shelter belts in what is flat exposed land. Near to the stable yard (listed HB 8/911B) lies the part walled garden, which is cultivated as an ornamental and productive garden for present-day family use. Private. SMR LDY 37:25 crannog and 37:37 enclosure, 42:14 church on Church Island.

### **MOYOLA PARK , County Londonderry (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN MAGHERAFELT 08)**

A well designed and attractively situated demesne parkland, through which the Moyola River flows. There are good stands of mature trees in shelter belts and woodland. Although extensively remodelled in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, the demesne has early 17<sup>th</sup> century origins. The property was acquired by Thomas Dawson from Sir Thomas Phillips in 1622 and sometime afterwards a house was built close to the present chapel of Ease; by 1835 little remained of this building 'but foundations of the walls and terraces' (SMR:42:7). A second house, built by Joshua Dawson in 1694 and possibly remodelled in 1713, was located some distance north-east. This had an associated formal landscape, including a straight lime avenue approach (still present) and avenues of Scotch fir; a *Pinus sylvestris* *Scotia* mentioned in Elwes & Henry, *Trees of Great Britain and Ireland Vol. III (1908)*, as being 80ft high and 11ft in girth in 1906 may be part of the early 18<sup>th</sup> century landscape. There are four of these original trees remaining. South east of the 1694 house there was also 'an ancient avenue three miles in length opening to a magnificence view of Lough Neagh to which it extends'. The adjacent town seems to have been created in its present form from 1710-1714; it was in 1710 that Joshua Dawson built the Mansion House in Dublin's Dawson Street. The present house at Moyola (listed HB 8/10/1), known originally as 'The Lodge', was built in 1768 for Arthur Dawson (1698-1774) on a new site north-west of the 1694 house. The informal parkland was subsequently created as a setting for this house. Planting by Arthur Dawson's nephew, Arthur Dawson (1745-1822), is referred to in the *Register of Trees in County Londonderry 1768-1911*, supplementing the existing ancient oak woodlands. Paired yews on the riverside walk may belong to this period. However, it was Arthur's son, the Rt. Hon George Robert Dawson (1790-1856), brother-in-law to Sir Robert Peel, who remodelled both the house and the parkland and renamed it Moyola Park. This work was largely undertaken during the 1840s and early 1850s. Most of the parkland planting to the south and south east of the house belongs to this era, as does the suspension bridge and village gate lodge (HB 8/10/2). Exotic planting from this time includes a cryptomeria known to have been planted in 1851. Additional gate lodges at the Hillhead entrance and at the Drumlamph entrance (HB 8/10/23) were added in the 1870s by Col. Robert Dawson, from whom the property passed to the Chichester family through marriage. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century woodland areas and a disused quarry were cleared for ornamental gardens created from the 1960s to the north of the house. These are fully maintained and often open to the public for charity. A football playing field and an associated building occupies an area west of the lime avenue, while part of the southern portion of the park is now a golf course linked to the Gravend golf course west of the river. Private. SMR LDY 42:5 enclosure, 42:7 castle site and 42:29 church site.

**ROCKWOOD**, County Londonderry (**SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN MAGHERAFELT 08**)

This is a fully maintained ornamental and productive garden dating from the 1920s, when the house was built. The garden was purposely created for the house and has been fully kept up by the owner. There is a summer house, pond and vegetable garden. The shelter belt trees are now mature. Private.

## **AREA PLAN – COOKSTOWN 09**

**DRUM MANOR**, County Tyrone (**REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN COOKSTOWN 09**)

Formerly known as Oaklands, the demesne was established in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The present house of 1829 exists as a shell. This serves the purpose of retaining the main building within the landscape but it is unfortunate that it no longer exists as usable. It was semi-demolished in 1975 and a 'Japanese' garden was created within the ruins. A tower, from which there are fine views and additions of 1896 are noted. The ruin is listed HB 9/4/6. There are many excellent ornamental attributes within the site and good planting. There are mature stands of beech, including a beech shelter belt on the southern perimeter, with a walk inside and a now disused beech avenue leading from a former entrance on the northern side. Alan Mitchell was noted Western Hemlock of record breaking size, good Cripp's Cypress, which line a walk and big Monterey Pines at Drum. The terracing on the south (garden) front of the house survives, complete with a little stone summer house. This leads to lawns, with trees and shrubs and on to a series of large artificial ponds or lakes, the western of which is silted up. There are inviting walks round the lake via bridges. The walled garden is divided into two parts, formerly laid out in box edges beds in a geometric pattern. These were grubbed out in favour of a 1970s layout and planting, which is maintained. Part of the walled garden is designated as a butterfly garden. The Gardener's House lies between the walled gardens and is in good repair. The stable yard, farm yard and haggard are now car parks. There are two listed lodges of c.1870. listed HB 9/4/6 and 8, the Cookstown Gate, '... has an impressive entrance archway.' Changes in road alignment have altered the shape of the demesne, which is now 92ha. It was taken over for forestry in 1964 and designated a Forest Park in 1970, the site is a well maintained public amenity, with good facilities, administered by DANI (FS). SMR: TYR 29:20 standing stone and 21 enclosure.

**DRUMCAIRNE HOUSE**, County Tyrone (**REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN COOKSTOWN 09**)

The present house was built c.1850 (listed HB 9/8/7) on the site of a previous house in classical style on high ground, from which good views of Lough Neagh and beyond can be enjoyed. It is written as Drumkern House on the OS map of 1858, which is a local townland name. The site has divided ownership today. There are lawns around the house and trees and shrubs, all maintained. A brick walled garden is a late example, post-1938. It is not planted up due to vandalism in the area. This was once a fine demesne with ornamental features designed to compliment the present house. A Japanese garden has gone but a pond is still there (private area) but remains of steep terracing and steps, lined with fastigate yews are of interest (public area). It is a good example of an Italian garden of the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century and is remembered in its hey-day in painting. 'Drumcairne Formal Garden' painted by a member of the Caulfield (or Caulfeild) family in 1914. This is now in the Armagh Museum Collection. The terraces are overgrown and unkempt. Coney's Cell, possibly a folly, remains deep in the woods called The Solitude. The forest trees are mixed broadleaf and conifer. There are few mature trees of note. Tops of mature exotics stick out above forest planting. A delightful picturesque gate lodge that J A K Dean used to illustrate the cover of his book, *The Gate Lodges of Ulster*, is alas demolished as is another pretty lodge. They had their own gardens and were covered with creeper. A lodge is used for a forestry worker. SMR: TYR 39:3 Coney's Cell, 51 and 52 enclosures TYR 47:12 tree ring. The house is private. Part of the grounds are administered by DANI (FS), with public access but no facilities other than a car park.

**KILLYMOON CASTLE**, County Tyrone (**REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN COOKSTOWN 09**)

The site of an outstanding house by John Nash, beautifully placed on a small hill above the confluence of the Ballinderry and Killymoon Rivers (listed HB 9/5/1). It was built in 1803 on the site of a mid-18<sup>th</sup> century house, which had been devastated by fire in 1800. There are views across the parkland, where few trees remain. The grounds were possibly designed by W S Gilpin for the present house. Grass terraces to the south of the house, descend to the river and are enlivened by yew trees. Rowan quotes Paxton, 'I have visited most of the celebrated country seats in the kingdom and a very large number on the continent, and I have never seen one – for the extent of it – more compact, more perfect in itself, or where the highest natural beauties have been more aided by refined taste and judgement, than Killymoon. The demesne looks well adorned on the OS map of 1834. Unfortunately the demesne is not as it once was. Ornamental garden buildings are lost. The vistas are over bald farmland to distant woods. Extensive walled gardens, with some glass, are partially kept up. The Gardener's House is ruinous. 18<sup>th</sup> century offices that pre-date the present house (listed HB 9/5/1) are extensive. One of three gate lodges survives

(listed HB 9/5/4). SMR: TYR 39:22 Hill Fort-Drummond Fort in the vicinity. House private. Northern part now a golf course.

**LISSAN, County Tyrone (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN COOKSTOWN 09)**

The present mid-18<sup>th</sup> century house (listed HB 9/3/8) and landscaping is by Davis Ducart, within a 17<sup>th</sup> century demesne. He added an artificial lake, cascades and the White Bridge. Parts of the c.1690 house remain. A 19<sup>th</sup> century ballroom is attached to the east side of the house. The ornamental gardens have gone and the walled garden (three walls) is no longer planted up. The Gardener's House and offices are no longer used. There are mature trees and forest planting. The Lissan Water flows near the house, wooded on either side and there are several bridges crossing the river, which is also the country boundary. One of two gate lodges survives of c.1830. House private. DANI (FS) planting. SMR: TYR 29:9 and 10 raths, 29:11 counterscarp rath, 29:44 tree ring, 29:52 enclosure.

**LOUGHRY, County Tyrone (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN COOKSTOWN 09)**

A demesne from the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, with literary connections. Dean Swift is thought to have written part of *Gulliver's Travels*, whilst staying at Loughry. There is a room perched precariously on rocks above the Killymoon River, which is known as Dean Swift's Summer House. Both the Summer House and Loughry House are listed (HB 9/5/20). The house has 1632 inscribed on the wall. It was largely rebuilt c.1800 and now forms part of the College of Food and Technology. It was formerly the Ulster Diary School and later concentrated on agriculture, during which times the parkland was fully utilized. There are now an increasing number of college buildings on the site. Modern planting and landscaping enhances the college buildings and views to the planted top of Rockhead Hill have not been obscured. There are mature trees in the parkland, in clumps and individual trees. The river bank is heavily wooded throughout the demesne and old walk-ways survive. Offices and stables for the house have been adapted for college use. The walled garden contains a small collection of fruit trees but is not otherwise cultivated. SMR: TYR 38:13 rath, 38:31 enclosure and 38:30 cist burial. DANI private.

**SPRINGHILL, County Londonderry (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN COOKSTOWN 09)**

A fine demesne for the well preserved house of c.1680, acquired by the National Trust in 1957 (listed HB 9/6/25). There are notable mature trees, including some said to have survived from the ancient forests of the area. Sampson wrote in 1802 of the, '... finest trees in this country (Londonderry) ... sweet chestnuts, yews, silver firs, stone pines, balm of Gilead, firs, beech, oak, ash, with many other varieties of forest trees and shrubs, have arrived on this favourite spot on the highest state of beauty, size and station.' Straight avenues reflect the formal layout typical of parks of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The south eastern beech avenue is shown on the map of 1722. It was felled in the 1970s and replanted as a beech walk in 1984. It leads gently uphill to a tower, which was possibly a windmill stump transformed into a garden folly in 1791. The north east front was in orchards at that time and now are lawns. There is a deep shelter belt on the west side of the demesne. Former out-buildings near the house have been used as a series of 'walled gardens' and have been prettily planted up since the 1970s. The wall of the barn to the north west supports a McCartney rose, the original plant of which was said to have been planted by Lord McCartney, having been brought by him from China in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. The traditional walled garden, dating from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, is not cultivated. A note in a NT pamphlet describes its usage as a traditional fruit, vegetable and flower garden, the layout of which was altered in the 20<sup>th</sup> century to take glasshouses and fruit trees. Several demesne buildings are listed (HB 9/6/26 to 28, 30 and 35). There are two gate lodges, one of c.1790 (HB 9/6/29) and a later one of c.1845 (listed HB 9/6/25). National Trust with public access. SMR: LDY 46:24 and 48:13, 48:14 all raths.

**STEWART HALL, County Tyrone (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN COOKSTOWN 09)**

Sometimes spelt STUART HALL. The house built c.1760 was a plain rectangular block, bombed c.1974. It is replaced by a bungalow built in 1987. This is surrounded by lawns and a maintained woodland garden. There is a haha! to grazing, with fine views of the landscape park and woodland beyond. The stables and farm buildings survive from the 18<sup>th</sup> century and are listed (HB 9/8/22). The walled garden has a date stone 1832 and is adorned by a castellated wall and two folly towers backing onto the former stack yard. Rowan describes it as, '... castellated, of rubble stone with brick corbelling and a plump round tower at either end.' The walled garden is not kept up. There were extensive glasshouses. The chief attribute of the demesne is the fine stands of mature trees, disposed in the landscape style of the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century. There is also forest planting. Gate lodge of c.1835 has gone but the gate screen remains. House private. Tyr 39:46 – tree ring.

**TULLYLAGAN MANOR, County Tyrone (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN COOKSTOWN 09)**

The house of 1828 was previously known as New Hamburg (listed HB 9/5/19). A basement was dug out in 1898. It is set in lawns and is surrounded by trees, many of which are mature. Exotics were added at the time of the house extensions. The Killymoon River flows through the property on the east and north sides. Mill buildings and a mill-race also lie north of the house within the grounds. There is a recent addition of an hotel on the site. Tullylagan Manor, which lies between the mill-race and the river further to the north of the house. Remains of an interesting

and formerly well known garden lies to the east of this building. A good deal of built evidence can be seen on the ground, though it is not planted up. Paths, ponds, rills, walks, brick pillars of a pergola, rockeries and a boat house are laid out in the Lutyens style of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The pattern shows on the OS map of 1934. This garden may be restored in the future. The former productive garden is hedged. There are remains of box edging and fruit trees. The house is private. Public access to the hotel and part of the grounds.

**POMEROY HOUSE, County Tyrone (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN COOKSTOWN 09)**

The demolished house was built c.1780. The site is now largely DANI forest. There is however a very fine stand of Scots pine within the forest. There are other old demesne trees and the management is replacing hardwoods. The walled garden stands and the offices are extant. Pomeroy Forest School is in modern buildings. Shoots and Christmas trees add to the commercial use. On land not owned by DANI, now outside the demesne on the south side of the road, is the Alexander Vault, which is listed (HB 9/2/10), with the last few specimens of a monkey puzzle avenue to the vault. One of two gate lodges remains, restored in c.1860. Access to Forest by appointment. SMR: TYR 37:3 and 37:4 both enclosures.

## **AREA PLAN - STRABANE 10**

**BARONSCOURT, County Tyrone (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN STRABANE 10)**

Ireland's only surviving ducal seat and one of its grandest houses and demesnes in the country. The unwalled demesne is wooded around three lakes, Loughs Catherine, Fanny and Mary, lying in a valley and was laid out as a landscape park from the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century. The development of the demesne is well documented and it is one of the few at which named landscapers were employed. The Hamilton family have lived here since 1612; ruins of their Scottish-style plantation castle and bawn (Derrywoone) lies about half a mile north of the present house within the demesne; it has recently (2005) been stabilised and conserved. In the early 1740s James Hamilton, the 7<sup>th</sup> Earl of Abercorn (1685-1744) initiated the building of a Palladian villa on high ground just north of the present house, part of which survives as the Agent's house (listed HB 10/04/044). This work was completed by his son, James Hamilton, the 8<sup>th</sup> Earl of Abercorn (1712-1789), and was undertaken by local builder/architect James Martin, but was badly built and rarely visited. It was later decided by 8<sup>th</sup> Earl to build a new house on a different site closer to the lake and work on foundations began in July 1767. No further progress was made until 1779 when John James Hamilton, 9<sup>th</sup> Earl and (later) 1<sup>st</sup> Marquess of Abercorn (1756-1818) engaged the Scottish architect George Steuart, who arrived from London with masons and carpenters to take charge of operations. Work on this stage of the house, with its south facing entrance front, was completed in 1782. In May 1791 (Sir) John Soane visited Baronscourt and proposed alterations, notably by reversing the house and adding curving screens. This work, overseen by Soane's assistant Robert Woodgate, lasted four years from 1791-95. There was a disastrous fire in December 1796, but due to political disturbances of the time the damaged centre of the house was left until 1810, when it was re-roofed temporarily to the top of the 1<sup>st</sup> floor. In 1818 the 1<sup>st</sup> Marquess's grandson, James Hamilton (1811-1885) succeeded to the estate and titles, being raised to 1<sup>st</sup> Duke of Abercorn in 1868. He engaged Richard and William Vitruvius Morrison to remodel house in 1836-41. After another fire, which destroyed the east wing on the entrance front, Sir Albert Richardson was engaged in 1946-47 by James Hamilton, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Duke (1869-1953) to remodel the house. He reduced both wings flanking the entrance and the Morrison service wing. In 1970 Raymond Firth built a garage on the site of this Morrison wing, while in 1975-76 David Hicks was commissioned to remodel the interior. The house (house listed HB 10/04/014) lies in a declivity, which drops further to Lough Fanny below. Woodland planting began here in 1746, when the 8<sup>th</sup> Earl sent a gardener here called James Broomfield to put down trees, and in 1751, on the opposite side of Lough Fanny, the deer park established and stocked with deer from England. This was planted by Broomfield with clumps of lime, beech and laburnum. Extensive large-scale landscaping took place at Baronscourt in 1770s and 1780s as a setting for the new Steuart designed house. Much of this work was supervised by Thomas Hudson, then the head gardener [discharged 1790]. When Daniel Beauford came here in 1786 he commented upon the 'magnificent seat' and 'the great number of fine oaks and three long narrow lakes which ornament this place and give it an air of great grandeur'. The park with its extensive plantations, enclosing all three lakes, covered about 900 acres by the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. In the 1840s, following the remodelling of the house by the Morrisons, the park was considerably enlarged and extensively re-designed, almost certainly to designs of the famous landscape gardener James Frazer. The Lough Fanny Deer Park was also enlarged to occupy the whole area between the lake and the public road skirting the demesne; at this time the deer was landscaped to form an integral part of the landscape park. In consequence to this development, the view across the lough to the rising ground of the Deer Park is now decorated with a great number of splendid mature parkland trees. In the decades following the Morrison improvements a number of garden embellishments were added near the house itself. In the late 1840s or early 1850s an enormous ramped Italian parterre terraced garden was added to the lake or west front, with a parterre designed by W. Broderick Thomas. It is believed that 13 gardeners alone were needed to



tend this parterre, which was cleared in 1913 and replaced for many years with rather unsatisfactory island beds; eventually these too were removed and now only some stone balustrading survives. On the south side of the house a terraced garden was made by the Dublin gardener Ninian Niven in 1876 for the 1<sup>st</sup> Duke, after his second term as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland (1874-6). This garden was formed on three terraces with terracotta balustrading and urns and a semi-circle of yew-hedges on the lowest terrace. It was here that the pale peachy orange *Potentilla* 'Sophie's Blush' was discovered. In the early 1990s this was restored and herbaceous borders replanted in the middle terrace. North-west of the house an avenue of alternating Monkey Puzzles and Lawson Cypress 'Erecta viridis' was planted in the 1860s; some reached over 100 feet tall when they were removed in the 1980s. To the west of this was a woodland garden with a shelter of Scots Pine. The area was planted with Japanese maples and later, in the 1920 and 1930s, rhododendrons were placed here. In the 1890s James, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke (1838-1913), created a bog garden for his wife Mary Anna, Duchess of Abercorn. It was made astride a small stream between Lough Fanny and Lough Mary; bamboo inevitably took over much of this area in later years. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke also added the stable block in 1889-90 to a design of the Belfast architect Joseph Bell. Around this time a second deer park was made at Baronscourt on the hills east of the demesne; it was created in imitation of Scottish Deer Parks of the time and was used mainly to stock Red Deer. It remained in use until the 1920s. The whole of Baronscourt is a fully maintained domestic and working demesne. Farmland and acres of mixed woods are managed. There are large traces of commercial forest, composed mainly of larch, white fir, western hemlock, Scots Pine and some popular, much of which was the product of the extensive planting by the 4<sup>th</sup> Duke (1904-1979) who had a passion for forestry and introduced *Nothofagus* as a crop, using seed from Chile. Lying in unexpected places within some of the plantations are found old magnolias and walnuts, planted by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Duke as 'surprise trees'. The walled garden is used by Baronscourt Nurseries. The demesne includes many subsidiary buildings, notably the highly picturesque 'Rock Cottage' of c.1832, designed by Peter Frederick Robinson and located at the Largybeg Gate. Other gate lodges by Robinson, who was probably recommended by Soane, includes the picturesque Church Lodge or 'Devine's Gate' (c.1835) and the Newtown Stewart Gate Lodge, the latter being an adoption from Robinson's book *Designs for Lodges and Park Entrances* (1833). Another lodge, 'Moore's Lodge' of c.1780 has been demolished and may have been the work of John Soane. Richard Morrison c. 1837 drew plans for three entrances and accompanying lodges, but none were executed. The demesne church lying above Lough Mary was consecrated in 1858; its grounds contain a large Celtic cross, 1885, designed by Dublin architect Walter Glynn Doolin (1819-1900) and restored in 2005. In recent years a log-built Russian style house, designed by Richard Pierce, has been built as a retreat in the park south of the house. SMR: TYR 17:31 and 31 enclosure, 17:33 Island McHugh Castle and Crannog, 17:34 ruined Derrywoone Castle, 17:38 enclosure and ? tree ring, 17:64 field system, 25:14 cairn, 25:15 and 25 megalith, 25:30 settlement and 25:31 enclosure. Private.

#### **HOLYHILL, County Tyrone (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN STRABANE 10)**

The name is also written as Holy Hill House and Holyhill. The demesne and house date from the late 17<sup>th</sup> century when it was home of the Sinclair family (listed HB 10/02/001). The house front, harled and washed white, three-storey and five bays, appears to date to around 1736 when William Starratt made a survey of the estate; it was originally attached in front of an earlier house, which was removed in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and replaced with the present building. The house is set in a maintained ornamental garden with herbaceous borders and lawns. A water garden was added in the 1970s. There are mature trees beyond in what was described by Young in 1909 as a, '... richly wooded park.' These form a shelter belt round this fine parkland, together with and stands of woodland. The walled garden is part cultivated and retains glasshouses. Private.

#### **MOYLE HOUSE, County Tyrone (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN STRABANE 10)**

The site has a complex history. The house and surrounding garden are not in themselves of particular historic interest but the lime trees in the avenue are of great importance. They were reported as, 'old' in Mason's *Statistical Account and Parochial Survey of Ireland* of 1817, '... a long line of fine old lime trees in the front which faces south.' They are connected with Castle Moyle, which is now in ruins beside the Strule River. The castle is pre-plantation. Remains of a large formal garden can be seen in St Joseph's photos of 1952 and on the OS maps. The lands became glebe land. The lime avenue has been incorporated into the changing landscape throughout the following generations. Likewise the ruins of the castle, which were converted into a summer house. The rectory was built in 1727 and has now gone but the walled garden survives. It has a few fruit trees. The present Moyle House is post-1834. There is a gate lodge of 1855. SMR: TYR 17:10 Site of Castle Moyle. Private.

## **AREA PLAN - OMAGH 11**

#### **BELTRIM CASTLE, County Tyrone (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN OMAGH 11)**

The demesne dates from the 17<sup>th</sup> century and the bawn of that date is noted. A long thin pond on the site could be the remains of a canal associated with the early house. The present house was built in 1820 (listed HB 11/16/13) and the landscape park in undulating land complements the house. The site was referred to as, ... 'romantic ... in the valley through which flows the Owenkillew river ...' by Young in 1909. There are mature shelter and woodland trees, the parkland trees are being reinforced with new planting. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century there were walks and rides through the woods. There is an ornamental garden at the house on the site of a once more complex Victorian formal garden. The part walled garden is part cultivated. One of three gate lodges survives. SMR: TYR 18:47 17<sup>th</sup> bawn. Private.

**LISNAMALLARD HOUSE, County Tyrone (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN OMAGH 11)**

Once on the outskirts of Omagh the house and grounds are now part of the town. The house was built in 1724 (listed HB 11/12/3) and there has been continuous planting on the site since that date. There have been changes such as the glasshouse having been removed and the space created made into a planted terrace. Mature trees surround the gardens and there is an avenue of mostly beech. The rockery was made from stones removed from the workhouse in Omagh in the 1960s. Borders, an orchard and arboretum are maintained amidst lawns, including newly cultivated areas begun since 1892. A Victorian summer house has been restored. Some time ago Omagh Borough Council acquired the southern part for a Leisure Centre and land to the west for leisure purposes. The entire grounds have been taken over by the Borough Council since 1997 and there is public access. The gate lodge is mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

**CORKILL, County Tyrone (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN OMAGH 11)**

Sometimes spelt Corkil or Corkhill, this is a delightful maintained garden for the modest house, once a dower house, of c.1820 (listed HB 11/1/5) that was extensively restored in the 1960s. The formality around the house of topiary and rock work contrasts with the informality of a planted glade under mature trees beside the Ballinamallard River. The planting continues on an island in the river and there are riverside walks. The part walled garden has a glasshouse, is part cultivated and has inner divisions of beech hedge. A beech clump lies to the west of the house on high ground and the rath is prominent to the north. SMR: TYR 56:8 rath. Private.

**CREEVENAGH, County Tyrone (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN OMAGH 11)**

The house is on a hill in this small demesne. It is of early 19<sup>th</sup> century origin (listed HB 11/15/2) and the surrounding parkland is of the same date, graced by mature parkland trees and clumps of rhododendron. Shelter woods of mature trees are maintained to the north, south and west. The walled garden is part cultivated. It has three walled sides and one of water. The farm buildings are listed (HB 11/15/3) and there is a gate lodge in good condition. Private.

**EDENFEL, County Tyrone (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN OMAGH 11)**

The Victorian house (listed HB 11/15/1) of 1862 was built on a hill on the outskirts of Omagh, beyond the already established property of Creevenagh, which lies next door to the north west (see above). The gardens contemporary with the house had fallen to disrepair but the grounds are densely planted with surviving specimen trees. Shelter renewal planting has taken place since 1972 and added to with the help of a DANI grant in the early 1990s. The site is now fully maintained. A terraced ornamental garden near the house is planted up and the productive garden is in use. It is part walled and retains the box edges beds. Private.

**TERMON, County Tyrone (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN OMAGH 11)**

Built as a rectory in 1815 Termon (listed HB 11/19/3) was also known as Athenry and later Termon House. It is a notable site for the particularly fine trees that remain from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. There are glenside walks amongst the trees, which are very beautiful. The lake is dried up. The ornamental garden at the house is overgrown but mature exotic trees survive. The walled garden is not cultivated. Another house was built on the site c.1970. The two gate lodges are lived in. SMR: TYR 36:2 megalith, portal grave. Private.

## **AREA PLAN - FERMANAGH 12**

**BELLE ISLE, County Fermanagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN FERMANAGH 12)**

Belle Isle demesne is almost surrounded by the waters of Upper Lough Erne and at one time was an island. It is reached via a bridge and the approach to the house is a straight avenue. The original house dates from 1629 and the present house was created round the core during the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century (listed HB 12/5/32). It is sited in a glorious position of great natural beauty, which has long been acknowledged. Loudon in his *Encyclopaedia* of 1825 remarks that there were 200 acres, '... charmingly diversified by hills, dales and gentle declivities, which are richly

clothed with old timber through which gravel walks are constructed, and a temple erected, from which a panoramic view is obtained, not only of this but all the other wooded islands of the lough. One of them is exclusively used as a deer park ...'. Parkland still sweeps down to the lough shore, though the temple has gone. As well as good stands of parkland trees, there are mature shelter belts and wooded areas. Early 20<sup>th</sup> century ornamental gardens at the house have been grassed over. There is a walled garden. In the 1990s holiday houses have been added. Two substantial gate lodges were built at the same time as the house was restored and extended. SMR: FERM 230:51 tree ring, 230:52 enclosure, 230:53 old boat house, 230:78 tree ring and 230:94 ?monastery. Private.

**CASTLE ARCHDALE, County Fermanagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN FERMANAGH 12)**

Castle Archdale lies on the eastern shores of Lower Lough Erne. There are islands incorporated into the demesne, which was established in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. A substantial part of the early T-plan house and bawn, built for John Archdale in 1615, known as Old Castle Archdale, survives surrounded at the present time by thick forest plantation. It is approached at the end of a long straight avenue of late 17<sup>th</sup> century or early 18<sup>th</sup> century date. The final house was placed in an elevated position and built in 1773 for Colonel Mervyn Archdale. It was a fine classical six bay three storey block, facing South-West-South, with an associated yard to the rere. Excellent views could be enjoyed from this house across 18<sup>th</sup> century parkland, which was, to quote from an early 20<sup>th</sup> century visitor, 'probably unsurpassed in Ireland'. Beyond the lawns, mature hardwood woodland formed a foreground to a vista of the lough, with distant mountains behind. The house became derelict in 1959, became ruinous and was eventually demolished, but the adjacent stable block remains intact. The approach is via an avenue of venerable oaks. There are other fine mature broad-leaved trees, though forest planting accounts for a large area of tree cover. The ornamental garden was known as a 'good garden' until the 1940s. A yew walk leads from the house to a rockery and lawns. The walled garden, still in use during the war, is no longer planted up with flowers, fruit and vegetables, though it is partially ornamented with shrubs in grass. A bamboo walk was a feature that survives. There is a dug-out bath house. A 19<sup>th</sup> century tower is listed (HB 12/15/25). The North Gate Lodge, built by Lieut-Col William Archdale not long after he succeeded to the demesne in 1839, is unfortunately now demolished, but the South Lodge survives; this was built for Captain Mervyn Edward Archdale in the Tudor-Picturesque style around 1870; it is a replacement for an earlier pre-1834 lodge further down the same avenue. During the 1939-45 war the demesne was a major base for Short Sunderland and Catalina Flying boats in the Battle of the Atlantic. The property is now a 'Country Park' owned and managed by EHS and contains a marina, caravan camp site, a new arboretum and 'butterfly garden', while the yard has been refurbished as a Visitor Centre. SMR: FERM 173:5 and 11 raths, 172:12 ? rath or tree ring, 173:13 tree ring, 173:25 counterscarp rath, 173:26 and 27 raths, 173:32 Plantation castle, 173:62 and 63 enclosures, 173:65: megalith, 173:84 enclosure and 173:94 circular enclosure. Public access.

**CASTLE CALDWELL, County Fermanagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN FERMANAGH 12)**

Though this demesne is largely covered with forest planting, having been developed for this purpose since 1913, it remains an outstanding site, both for its peninsular position on the shores of Lower Lough Erne and for the remnants of the dwelling and garden. The demesne was established in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century and the original gardens were in a formal layout, with straight avenues and canals aligned upon the house, known as Castle Hassett. Extensive changes were undertaken in the grounds in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, which was by then heavily wooded, though there were views of the lough from the house. Two well stocked the words of which are displayed on the house at the present time. The house is now ruinous. Portions of these features still can be found in the undergrowth. The decline of the ornamental and productive gardens preceded the acquisition of the grounds early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century for a forest. The forest planting itself has become historic. There is a noted large Sitka spruce in the car park planted in 1921. The date lodge, Railway Gate, was built c.1866 into the newly constructed railway embankment. Trains rumbled overhead and carriages entered the demesne underneath and arch beside the castellated porters house. SMR: FERM 171:3 Plantation castle, 171:16 round cairn, 171:17 platform rath, 171:18 rath, 171:19 17<sup>th</sup> century ruined church and graveyard and 171:35? Crannog. Public access. FER 152:8 – AP site, circular enclosure.

**CASTLE COOLE, County Fermanagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN FERMANAGH 12)**

The extensive demesne is important as a setting for the fine late 18<sup>th</sup> century house and for the close proximity to Enniskillen. The demesne was founded in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. A straight oak-lined avenue aligns with the site of two successive houses and is all that remains of the formal layout that surrounded them. Evidence of the gardens can be seen from the air under certain conditions, when a dried-up 'Banjo' canal and the form of a parterre garden are distinctly seen on the ground. These gardens were abandoned when the present magnificent classical house, built in between 1788 and 1789 on an adjacent site on higher ground (listed HB 12/17/4). It is set in serene parkland, which was fashionable at the time and is the correct compliment to a building of that era and architectural style. W King and J Fraser were involved in planning the landscape park. Many fine mature trees still grace the parkland. The present carriage drive curves into and out of the original avenue to the house, from which views of the park, woodland and Lough Coole beyond, with Mt. Belmore in the distance can be enjoyed. There are many mature

stands of trees in the woodland and shelter belt. The walled garden is no longer planted in the traditional way. A house has been built inside the walls, with its own garden. Many demesne buildings are listed, are well maintained and are of high quality (HB 12/17/49 to 56). Twin gate lodges c.1785, Heather Cottage Lodge c.1840 and Weir's Bridge Lodge remain, though designs survive for other unexecuted lodges (HB 12/17/21 and 28). SMR: FERM 211:45 ?ballaun, 211:46 rath, 211:50 ?crannog, 211:51 crannog, 211:58 ?crannog, 211:59, 64 and 66 crannog, 211:69 platform rath, 211:74 and 75 ?circular feature, (these sites are not within the designated area, though are close to its boundary) 212:38 rath, 212:39 and 40 Holy well and 212:75 enclosure/tree ring. Walled garden private. Public access.

**CASTLETOWN MANOR, County Fermanagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN FERMANAGH 12)**

The area contained by the demesne, which is adjacent to the village of Monea, has a long history of settlement, evidence of which shows in the landscape today. The remains of the Plantation house, Monea Castle of 1618 (burnt in 1750), lie in low ground at the southern end of the demesne. Late 18<sup>th</sup> century buildings are incorporated into the present farm, which lie to the north of the present house of c.1870 (listed HB 12/11/77). No intermediate house was built. Castletown Manor house is placed in the northern section of the property on high ground, with terraced lawns to a pivotal view of the old castle below. Groups of trees to the east and west encase the vista. The ruins of the castle and the fine beech avenue which leads to it, play an important role in the landscape design for the house. The entire site has a radius of mature shelter belt trees, which undulates with the contours of the land. Much of the planting dates from the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The lough, with a crannog, is now silted up. There are maintained ornamental and productive gardens at the house. Of two mid-19<sup>th</sup> century gate lodges, one is extant and much altered. SMR: FERM 191:61 Plantation castle, 191:62 crannog and 191:70 enclosure (not an antiquity). House private. Public access to Monea Castle.

**COLEBROOKE, County Fermanagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN FERMANAGH 12)**

A fine demesne for the house built in 1825 to the designs Farrell (listed HB 12/4/2), which lies in a declivity in undulating ground. It is approached via an oak avenue and surrounded by parkland, with mature trees. There are blocks of mature woodland throughout the demesne. The Colebrooke River meanders through the parkland, which adds to the pleasant landscape. A classical iron bridge. The Park Bridge of c.1830 (listed HB 12/4/11) is functional and attractive. A sunken garden on the west side of the house was added in the 1920s and the 'Cottage Garden', a woodland walk near the river and planted with shrubs has been developed since that time. The walled garden of 1830 is not planted up but contains a very fine iron-framed glasshouse by Turner, built in 1834, with additions in 1835 and 1837 (listed HB 12/4/10). It is not in good repair. There are many fine listed demesne buildings, including a triumphal arch and two gate lodges by Farrell. The demesne includes Ashbrooke (listed HB 12/4/7), the dower house, which has a surrounding maintained ornamental garden. SMR: FERM 213:9 and 10 raths, 213:11 enclosure, 213:13 standing stone, 213:14 tree ring, 213:15 and 49 raths, 213:59 disused gravel pit and 213:68 site of church. Private.

**CROM CASTLE, County Fermanagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN FERMANAGH 12)**

Crom Castle is set in a heavily wooded lough shore and island demesne. It was established in the 17<sup>th</sup> century and the ruins of the original Plantation house are still accessible on the shores of Upper Lough Erne surrounded by vestiges of a formal garden and near to a pair of venerable yew trees. The formal garden resembles a garden that would have graced the house but are in fact later gardens, made when a plan was laid out in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century for the present house of 1831 (listed HB 12/2/2) by Edward Blore. The house is on an elevated site and is surrounded by mature trees with vistas cut through the planting to the lough, with buildings used as eye-catchers in the distance, including the old Castle, which was altered to become an appealing eye-catcher. The landscaping scheme was planned by the eminent landscaper W Gilpin in 1838 and is one of the very few sites designed by a named English employee, at a time when English landscape design was pre-eminent. Crom survives as an outstanding landscape park in the Picturesque style. The natural features of lough and islands are embellished with trees, bridges and buildings. The house is set in wonderful surroundings affording wonderful views. There are some very fine trees, including some of a great age, both in the woodland and in the parkland, which includes a small Deer Park. Victorian bedding schemes at the house, known from contemporary photos, have been grassed over but the conservatory of 1851 remains. The walled garden survives, with glasshouses and bothies. It is not planted up and the buildings are disused. The many attractive demesne buildings are in good repair and are listed (HB 12/2/3 to 19). The stables are used as offices and the farm is a Visitors Centre, with holiday accommodation. SMR: FERM 261:20 Plantation castle and 29: castle. NT. House private.

**ELY LODGE, Co. Fermanagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN FERMANAGH 12)**

A much admired Landscape Park carved out of ancient woodlands on the western shore and islands of Lower Lough Erne. Work began in 1813 under the direction of the celebrated landscape gardener John Sutherland (1745-1826), in advance of the construction of a new house by Dublin architect William Farrell. Located on a 'greenfield

site' on the north side of Ely Island (171 acres), this house, known as Ely Castle, consisted of a two-storey five-bay stuccoed block with Tuscan pilasters and flanking single-storey bowed wings. It was built for John Loftus, the second Marquess of Ely (1770-1845), as a replacement for an earlier (1729) mansion that stood 1½ miles to the south on the Ross Inner peninsula. The park extended into Rosnafarran and Drumcose on the west bank of the lough, with two porter's lodges on the Enniskillen Road, both apparently by Farrell. One was based on Blenheim's Eagle Lodge in Oxfordshire (listed HB 12/11/88, grade B1) and the other is a Tudor Picturesque style lodge of c.1830 (listed HB 12/11/90, grade B2) with associated causeway bridge incorporating flood arches. Farrell also designed a pump house (listed HB 12.11/81, grade B1), and possibly the main landing pier, now mostly high and dry (listed HB 12/11/79, grade B2), while Sutherland was probably responsible for the garden House (listed HB 12/11/87, grade B2) and the original walled garden, located in the woods on the south side of the island. Sutherland's parkscape, essentially Reptonian in style, was considered to be 'a perfect example of the serpentine outlines so much admired by him'. It was later criticised by some advocates of the Picturesque, among them Edmund Murphy, for harmonizing 'indifferently with the bold projections and deep irregular lines of the natural woods'. Around 1830 the Marquess of Ely commissioned Sir Henry Steuart of Allanton to 'break the serpentine lines by using his ingenious machine' for transplanting mature trees, details of which had just been published in his classic book *The Planter's Guide* (1828). In 1870 Ely Castle was blown up as the climax of festivities marking the coming of age of the fourth Marquess of Ely (1849-1889), who had succeeded as a boy aged only eight. Plans to build a new house on the site came to nothing, as from 1872 the family were focussed on rebuilding their Wexford Home (Loftus Hall). However, in the 1880s the former stable range, lying on the south side of the old house site, was converted into a residence with good views of the lough. Known as Ely Lodge, this building was upgraded into a fine residence in 1965 by the Duke of Westminster, after he had acquitted the property in 1947 from the seventh Marquess of Ely. An attractive ornamental garden was created on terraces below the house, while a modest arboretum with statuary, known as the 'garden walk', between the house and walled garden, was enlarged and upgraded. The parkland remained completely intact until the 1960s when a new farm yard was built in a critical area on the south-west side of the island. In 1987, following the departure of the Grosvenor family, a number of chalets were built in the area north east of the walled garden. More recently, considerable damage and loss has occurred at the Collop Wood, an ancient woodland survival at the north end of the Ross Inner peninsula. The area further to the south lay outside Sutherland's landscape, but was once the original core of the old Castle Hume demesne; this area has had its historic integrity so badly compromised by hotel, golf course and housing developments that it is no longer appropriate to include it in the registered area. SMR: FERM 192:29 tree ring. Private. Also to 190:006 enclosure; 192:024 enclosure and 192:047 church site (believed to lie on south side of Ely Island near walled garden). Listed Buildings include HB 12/11/79; 81; 87; 88; 89 & 90).

**FLORENCECOURT, County Fermanagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN FERMANAGH 12)**

The very fine natural setting for the notable mid-18<sup>th</sup> century house contributes to making it an outstanding site. When the house (listed HB 12/9/2) was built, it was enhanced by formal planting, which was in vogue at the time. There were prominent straight avenues, only one of which (the west) survives today. Traces of massive ditches indicate where the others were. A curving main avenue replaced the earlier ones, when the park was radically altered in the 1780s under the direction of William King. This was undertaken in accordance with the then fashion for informal landscapes. The view from the house became a wide vista to parkland studded with trees and sweeping away to distant woodland. This exists today, with fine specimens of parkland trees dotted about as originally intended. The National Trust have replanted clumps from the early 1980s to maintain continuity. The ornamental gardens, known as the Pleasure Grounds, cover seven acres close to the house. This planting dates from the 1840s as an area of grass, paths, flowering shrubs and exotic trees. There is also a restored summerhouse, the Heather House. The part-walled garden has a stream at one boundary. It has been adapted for low maintenance and to provide interest for visitors and not filled, as originally intended with fruit, flowers and vegetables for family use. The demesne today includes several good woodland walks, one of which leads to the original Florence Court yew (*Taxus baccata* 'Fastigiata') in the Cottage Wood. It is the survivor of two trees discovered in the 1760s, from which all upright yew trees descend. There are many listed demesne buildings in good repair, including the fine Grand Gates, which has a pair of identical lodges of c.1778 (HB 12/9/30). SMR: FERM 243:19 rath, 243:20 rath, 244:1 rath, 244:35 earthworks, 244:36 standing stone and 244:37 megalith folly (not an antiquity). NT DANI:FS. Public access.

**FORT HILL GARDENS, County Fermanagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN FERMANAGH 12)**

This drumlin top site is of great value as a public park within the town of Enniskillen. Topped with a tall monument and surrounded by trees, it stands out as a feature from a distance. Fort Hill has historic interest both as a 17<sup>th</sup> century artillery star-fort and as an early public garden laid out as a promenade by 1846. The bastions of the fort remain prominent and are grassed. The park element still has the feeling of a Victorian town park, with winding paths, clipped evergreen shrubs and island flower beds. Mature trees give a canopy above. It was officially opened as Fort Hill Pleasure Grounds in 1891. There are two memorials of high quality; the Cole

Monument ( HB 12/20/1), built between 1845 and 1857 and the Bandstand, with clock tower, built in 1895 ( HB 12/20/5). The monument takes the form of a Doric column, topped by a statue of General Cole by Farrell. From the park there are views over the town. SMR: FERM 211:56 Artillery Fort. Public access.

**LISGOOLE ABBEY, County Fermanagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN FERMANAGH 12)**

The Abbey name is derived from the fact that this was a monastic site. There are references to a garden belonging to the first owner after the Dissolution in the 16<sup>th</sup> century but no evidence of this remains. The present demesne plan is much as it appears on the 1830s OS map, together with early 19<sup>th</sup> century Gothic style house (listed HB 12/19/35) at the lough shore. The parkland undulates and the house is approached by a winding avenue. There is mature planting in the shelter belt and some parkland trees, including exotics but the area is intensively farmed and many parkland trees had gone by the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. A maintained ornamental garden at the house has a rose garden and a pergola. An area of specimen trees and shrubs set in grass lies to the north of the house. These plantings date from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, with later reinforcements. The part-walled garden is maintained with box hedges, fruit, vegetables and flowers but not to the original layout. The mid-19<sup>th</sup> century gate lodge has a modern extension. Other the demesne buildings are in good order. SMR: FERM 211:43 abbey site and 211:68 tree ring. Private.

**NECARNE CASTLE, County Fermanagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN FERMANAGH 12)**

The demesne, sometimes known as Castle Irvine, dates from the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, and was created shortly after the foundation of the adjacent town of Irvinestown. The original plantation period house was enlarged around 1833-34 in Tudor-style for William D'Arcy by the architect, John B. Keane (listed HB 12/15/12). At the same time an impressive range of yards was built on lower ground to the house here (listed HB12/15/13), while a good walled garden (2.8 acres) was built on the east side c.1836. The south front of the house faces onto magnificent sweeping parkland studded with fine mature specimen trees, with views of clumps and shelter belts in the far distance. In the middle distance there is a carefully placed classical bridge over a stream (listed HB 12/15/18), which is both an eye-catcher and practical access to the other parts of the demesne. The 17<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> century formal geometric layout around the house was removed in the later 18<sup>th</sup> century to make way for the core of the present informal 'naturalistic' landscape park. Following the house rebuilding in the 1830s, this park was considerably enlarged, possibly to a design of the famous landscape gardener James Fraser. Pleasure grounds, incorporating flowering trees and shrubs and a conservatory, were created beneath the tree canopy in the area south of the walled garden, while walks from this area connected with the walled garden. This walled garden itself is no longer planted with fruit, vegetables and flowers, but has become the focal point of a Equestrian Centre, for which the demesne was adapted during the 1990s. Many of the out-buildings are listed and have been converted for present-day use. One of three gate lodges, c.1850s by William Farrell (listed HB 12/15/10). SMR: FERM 173:36 ?enclosure/ ? rath, 173:51 rath, 173:66 Plantation Castle and 173:79 cropmark/tree ring. Public access.

**SPRING GROVE (ROSSLEA), Co. Fermanagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN FERMANAGH 12)**

Also known as Rosslea Manor, the house here was burnt in 1885 and demolished around 1914. It was a two-storey over basement Georgian block, enlarged with an extra storey in 1850s by John Madden, who also added a ballroom wing. The stable block survives (listed HB 12/01/024). The demesne remained in the Madden family until the 1930s, when it was sold in stages, mostly to the Forestry Commission who have heavily planted it with forest trees. Once with noted ornamental gardens, exotic trees still feature and the walled garden is intact. There are stands of mature hardwood. Part of the importance of this site today is the proximity to Rosslea village. Woodland walks can be enjoyed along the meandering River Finn. There were formerly fine views from Island Hill, where stands a ruined garden building. Georgian Gothick gate lodge demolished. SMR: FERM 247:5 rath, 247:6 tree ring, 247:7 rath, 247:25 and 29 crannogs. Public access.

**TEMPO MANOR, County Fermanagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN FERMANAGH 12)**

The part walled 17<sup>th</sup> century demesne, also edged by the Tempo River, is adjacent to the village of Tempo. There are fine stands of mature trees in the shelter belts and woodland. Park said to be the setting of Maria Edgeworth's novel, *Castle Rackrent*. Mature exotics are in evidence. A winding avenue of open grass and woodland leads past a lough to the present house of 1863 (listed HB 12/6/001). This is built in a neo-Jacobean style by Sir Charles Lanyon for Sir James Emerson Tennent, after he had married the daughter and heiress of William Tennent, the Belfast banker, who acquired the property in 1815. The new mansion incorporated part of the old Maguire house on the site and is successfully juxtaposed with contemporary terraced lawns. These dip down to a small lough, which is surrounded by a romantic garden at the core of the demesne. It is a notable example of an informal style 'Robinsonian' garden that was fashionable in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The view from the house is of the lough, an island 'Tempo Deiseal', and surrounding planting of flowering shrubs, enhanced by evergreen trees beyond. There is a walk meandering round the lough, part of which has an embanked rockery. Although not fully maintained, the rockery is an important and rare survival in Ireland. The coach house (listed HB 12/6/4) dates back

to the Maguire ownership of the property. The two gate lodges are of the same era as the Lanyon house. Property passed by marriage to the Langham family. SMR: FERM 212:95 crannog? Private. Also 193:31 – stone head, 192:54 & 55 – crannogs, 212:20 – rath.

## **AREA PLAN - DUNGANNON 13**

### **AUGHENTAIN, County Tyrone (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DUNGANNON 13)**

Land was acquired in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and a demesne was set out but not walled-in. An Italianate house was built in 1860. There are many fine mature trees, evidences of the planting that took place for this imposing house. The demesne changed hands in 1954 and the house demolished. The present house, by Phillimore, was built in 1958. The English landscape designer, Percy Cane planned an ornamental garden for the house and this is maintained. Excellent distant views can be seen from the house over Cane's double terraces and tree tops on lower ground. Extensive rhododendron and other shrub planting cascades below the terraces and into the parkland to the south. Expansion took place post-1958 in the planting beneath mature trees on either side of Ballyness Glen, which runs to the east of the house in an attractive declivity. There is a lake on high ground to the north of the house, which has an island and is backed by a wood and further back, extensive forest planting. It is referred to as a 'Fish Pond' on the OS map of 1858, prior to the erection of the 1860s house. The 1860s stables are retained and beyond lies the walled garden, which is pre-1858. It is part cultivated but the original glasshouses have gone except one, which is in operation. Several bridges are necessary in the park; one built in the 1860s, is listed (HB 13/1/50) and was designed as part of the planned landscape. Private.

### **AUGHNACLOY (RAVELLEA), THE THISTLE, County Tyrone (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DUNGANNON 13)**

Extensive ditches and planted banks are lined out in the shape of a large thistle or double thistle in flat ground, creating a unique and fascinating political statement within the landscape. It was laid out for Acheson Moore in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century to demonstrate his Jacobite support. In the 1770s it was noted by the Rev Campbell, 'I have it from a gentleman who has often seen the park, that he cut a wide deep trench of a mile in circumference for the bulb of the flower with double ramparts from thence forming the petals, with clumps of trees forming the down; the avenue to his house was for the stalk, and the several trees branching from thence delineated the leaves.' The shape could be seen from the house at Ravellea, which was on a hill at the south west end. It was possibly best viewed from the first floor windows. The house has gone but the thistle remains in good condition, apart from hedge loss. The shape was not discerned by the surveyors who made the 1834 OS map and the centre circle is shown as a race course on the OS map of 1850. Aerial photography has made it easier to discern today. SMR: TYR 60:42 The Thistle. Private.

### **THE MANOR HOUSE, BENBURB, Co. Tyrone (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DUNGANNON 13)**

Plantation period demesne incorporating a 17<sup>th</sup> century bawn set on the edge of a cliff overlooking the Blackwater River. It had been built from 1611 on the site of an earlier castle by Sir Richard Wingfield. The present house by William Henry Lynn (listed HB 13/11/20 + cottage and bawn, gate lodge and cottage) was built in 1887 on higher ground and is surrounded by maintained planted terraces and glasshouses. This mansion was built for James Bruce of Belfast, after he acquired property from the Wingfield family; it is a large rather institutional-looking red bricked gabled building with high pitched roofs and dormers. Stable court and clock tower to the west. Sold 1917 and in 1948 dedicated as the first Servite priory in Ireland. Mature trees and lawns. Hermitage Pinetum walled garden, with glasshouses disused across the road. Gate lodges, east lodge 1887 also by Lynn and late 19<sup>th</sup> West Lodge. SMR: TYR 61:2 bawn, Benburb Castle, 61:24 mound and 61:25 enclosure. Private.

### **BLESSINGBOURNE, County Tyrone (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DUNGANNON 13)**

A Regency period demesne, created for a modest dwelling of 1810, referred to as, 'a romantic thatched cottage' was built as a bachelor pad for Hugh Montgomery, when the family left Co. Fermanagh, their former seat being Derrygonnelly Castle, burnt in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. Hugh Montgomery, known as 'Colonel Eclipse', married in 1821 and travelled abroad, needing the cottage only for very occasional visits. The present house is much more substantial. It is a large restrained Elizabethian style manor designed by F. Pepys Cockerell and built between 1870 and 1874 for Hugh De Fellenberg Montgomery, grandson of Hugh Montgomery (listed HB 13/01/013). Its grey stone elevations overlook a natural lough, Lough Fadda and is surrounded by a present-day garden around former sunken lawns, fastigate yews and a gravel terrace, vestiges of the garden made for the present house. A planted area and lawns on the south east side, which leads to the lough is now a grazing field. Views were opened up in the 1960s. There is also a late 19<sup>th</sup> century rhododendron walk. There are fine mature woodland and parkland trees. A walk through the woods goes round the lake; a lake walk, via a rockery (now unkempt). There is public access in the woods and the UWT undertake some management here. This wood dates from the time of the present house.

The boat house and summer house have gone. The part walled garden is part cultivated and dates from the time of the first dwelling. The Gardener's House was replaced by a bungalow in the 1970s. The gardens are mentioned in Robinson's *Garden Annual & Almanac* of 1908, p 236. The stables and the former dwelling (now slated) are included in the HB listings. There is a very pretty Tudor style gate lodge (HB 13/01/006), built c.1845 by Hugh Ralph Severin Montgomery after he succeeded to the property in 1838. Two enclosures, probably raths, on the site SMR: TYR 64:27 and 28. Privately owned.

**CALEDON, County Tyrone (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DUNGANNON 13)**

The walled demesne at Caledon is one of Ulster's finest landscape parks and the setting for an elegant and well documented house. The park's quality and importance had been rendered all the greater for having been continuously well managed and maintained to the present day. It is edged by the River Blackwater on the eastern and southern boundaries and is hard by the village of Caledon to the north east. Mostly in Co Tyrone, the south side of the river is in Co Armagh and the demesne borders onto Co Monaghan. There are many physical attributes both natural and created and fine buildings both ornamental and practical. The house is a replacement, though the former was on a different site. The earlier house was home to John Boyle, the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Cork and Orrery (1707-1762), a friend of Dean Swift, who gardened here during the years 1738-40 and 1746-50, after which he returned to Marston,. He created an important rococo garden, about which much is known of its hey-day, but does not exist today, except the remains of the remarkable ornamental Bone House of 1747; its pillar and arches are faced with ox bones. The 7<sup>th</sup> Earl of Cork and Orrey sold the property in 1778 to James Alexander MP, later 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Caledon (1730-1802), a wealthy East Indian 'Nabob'. The present house, on a different site to that of Lord Orrey, was begun in 1779 (listed HB 13/10/004) to designs of the English architect Thomas Cooley. It is a two-storey seven-bay Classical house with pedimented breakfront centre and central curved bow on garden front. The Coach Yard c.1799 (listed HB 13/10/6) and Stables c.1800 are contemporary (listed HB 13/10/23). Upon inheriting the property in 1802, Du Pre Alexander, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Caledon (1777-1839), engaged John Nash in 1812 to add a new entrance front with single storey domed pavilions joined by an Ionic colonnade veranda. He also designed design lodges (see below). The famous landscape designer, John Sutherland, re-designed the park in 1807. In 1827 further improvements were made by the picturesque landscape designer W.S. Gilpin, possibly including the terracing south-east of the house. There are magnificent parkland, woodland trees and exotics and the area has a propitious climate for tree growth. There is a 19<sup>th</sup> century Pinetum, fastigate yew avenues, a horseshoe lake, the remains of an 18<sup>th</sup> century decoy, a small deer park (red deer) with a lake, the Corr River and the disused Union Canal as well as the River Backwater all add to the water features. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century the park was inhabited by wapiti and black bears, brought back by the 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Caledon (1846-1898), who had ranched in the American west (he was father of Field Marshal Alexander of Tunis). The walled gardens are in sections, the nearer part to the offices has fruit and vegetables and glasshouses, the latter built by John Sutherland. The gardens are partially maintained. The westerly section is ornamental but lacking the glasshouse and former elegance. There are many buildings within the demesne. The earliest and most noteworthy gate lodge is the Doric Lodge (c.1780), is probably by Cooley, while the stuccoed Regency Twin Lodges at the main entrance are by John Nash; designed in 1812 these incorporate highly ornamental ironwork gates (designed by Nash) and Coade sphinxes and coats-of-arms. The Glaslough gate lodge (c.1833), the School Gate Lodge (c.1833) and the Tynan Gate Lodge (c.1833) are all probably the work of the architect Thomas J. Duff. Other buildings include the Head Gardener's House, a sunken tunnel to the offices. The Keeper's House. The Dowager's House and bridges (HB listed from 13/10/4 to 58). There are SMR: sites, SMR: TYR 71:1 Caledon Cross and well, 71:2 enclosure/tree ring & 71:3 crannog? And ARM 11:16 enclosure and 11:22 site of graveyard ?.

**CLOGHER PARK, County Tyrone (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DUNGANNON 13)**

The walled demesne was set out for the 18<sup>th</sup> century bishop's palace. The present house (listed HB 13/2/2 + entrance and lodge) replaced an earlier 18<sup>th</sup> century house and is a very fine one, though constricted by the road through the village of Clogher on the north side, the cathedral to the west and a steep slope on the south side. It was designed by Warren and built between 1819 and 1820, possibly retaining earlier wings. The house is no longer a bishop's palace but the landscape park retains an elegance of proportion and planting that compliments the house. There are very fine mature lime clumps around a beech encircled fort. Parkland trees have been felled and many are now ageing but a few new trees have been added near the pond. Mrs Delany visited the previous house in 1748 and commented on the steep slope, a basin of water with swans and expressed delight at a proposed grotto. In a later era of garden history, there is a mention in Robinson's *Garden Annual & Almanac* of 1936. 436 acres were sold by the Church of Ireland in 1853 for a private residence and since the 1970s the site has been St Louis Convent. There is a Deer Park, now farmland and a walled garden that is used for farm purposes. An Ice House remains, as does the man-made pond and indications of earlier water features. There are two gate lodges, a classical one by Warren c.1820 and a later lodge of c.1890. SMR: TYR 58:33 hill fort rath, 59:55, 59:80, 59:90 all enclosures, 65:12 souterrain, 65:13 enclosure, 65:14 large enclosure and 65:20 church site? Private.



**PARKANAUR, County Tyrone (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN DUNGANNON 13)**

The present Tudor Revival house was begun in 1839 by John Inner Burges after he succeeded to the property in 1838, though this building may incorporate elements of the 18th century house on the site. A wing was added by Duff in 1858 and the whole complex of house and yards completed by 1870. (listed HB 13/13/2) - including stable yard, terrace, retaining wall, gates and urn. The mansion is enhanced by lawns and parkland, with a small modern ornamental garden. Formal gardens on the west side of the house are not planted but yews and a terrace survive. The demesne dates from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and is on undulating ground and is well planted with a mixture of mature trees in woodland and parkland, including some unusual trees, exotics and forest planting. DANI (FS) are developing the site as an oak forest and for native conifers. It is referred to now as a, 'A lowland broad-leaved estate'. This continues a tradition noted by Deane, who describes the demesne. '... immaculately tended grounds, wooded by the planting of 40,000 trees by John Henry (Burgess) are two avenues leading from two gate lodges added in the mid 1840s.' There is a walled garden, no longer planted up, which has a castellated potting shed in the eastern corner and a large and fine lean-to glasshouse used for peaches, with an extending centre piece. This was erected in 1873 by Jas. Boyd and sons for £250 (listed HB 13/13/4). There are remnants of an ornamental area east of the house, between the house and the walled garden, which is oval in shape, retains paths, yews and an urn (see listing above). A pond and riverside walks in woodland have been maintained by FS. The gate lodge, gates and screen also by Duff c.1845 are fine and are listed (HB 13/33/3). The local and main road have been realigned. SMR: TYR 54:39 crannog ?. The house was sold by the Burges family in 1955 and is an institution and private. In 1976 the Dept. of Agriculture (FS) bought 161 hectares and subsequently more land was acquired by the, including the stableyard, to allow the provision of facilities for the Forest park. Five white fallow deer arrived from Mallow Castle, Co. Cork in 1978 and they are the basis of the present herd. The grounds were opened to the public as Parkanaur Forest Park in 1983 (administered by DANI (FS)).

**CORRICK, Co. Tyrone (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN DUNGANNON 13)**

A late 17<sup>th</sup> century demesne, whose early house was remodelled in Italianate style in 1863 for the Rev. John Benjamin Story, junior, to designs of Lanyon, Lynn and Lanyon (listed HB 13/2/3). The mansion sits on an elevated site above the River Blackwater, and is approached from the north by a straight avenue laid down in the 1690s and lined with mature beech trees. The enclosing parkland, some of whose trees were considered 'very fine' as early as 1835, belongs to the later 18<sup>th</sup> century; it is bordered on the south by the River Blackwater and contains mature trees in set undulating ground and includes a planted rath. The area around the house is enhanced by a maintained ornamental garden. The walled garden is part cultivated, with a glasshouse. There are three gate lodges, all of which pre-date the 1850s. SMR: TYR 59:42 enclosures and 59:44 rath and tree ring. Private.

**DAISY HILL, County Tyrone (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN DUNGANNON 13)**

A rural demesne around a house of 1834 set in parkland with a few trees. Former ornamental gardens either side of the house are gone and the area is now tree covered. The walled garden is unkempt. There are two disused gate lodges, the East Lodge c.1840 and West Lodge pre-1852. House and farmland private. Of archaeological interest is Fanny's Fort SMR: TYR 58:25 and Abbey Stones SMR: TYR 58:43, 26 standing stone with cross, 27, 48, 49 and 50 tree rings.

**FARDROSS, County Tyrone (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN DUNGANNON 13)**

A rural demesne dating from the 17<sup>th</sup> century on the River Blackwater. The present house is pre-1835 and is set in parkland, with fine mature trees, including some exotics. There is no evidence of an ornamental garden and the walled garden is not planted. The area is intensively farmed and private. Fardross Forest is adjacent DANI (FS), with public access. There is a platform rath in the vicinity. SMR: TYR 64:33.

**FAVOUR ROYAL, County Tyrone (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN DUNGANNON 13)**

The demesne dates from the 17<sup>th</sup> century. It lies in a valley, with the River Blackwater flowing on the north eastern side. The house of 1670 was burnt in 1823 and the present house by John Hargrave dates from 1824-5 (listed HB 13/3/4). No longer a fully functioning demesne, there remains disused stabling (listed with house) and farm buildings. There was a deer park and woodland with, '... a few fine old trees' (Young 1909). At the present time there is a small area of lawn at the house and one or two mature notable trees. The walled garden has a date stone on the entrance gate of 1720 (listed HB 13/3/12). It is not kept up but was once an acknowledged fine garden. Most of the area is heavily planted by DANI (FS) with forest trees. The gate lodge c.1825, Gardener's Cottage and bridges are listed (HB 13/3/5-8). There is a man-made ornamental lake with an island. SMR: TYR 59:63 rath and 64 an enclosure.

**KILLYBRICK HOUSE, County Tyrone (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN DUNGANNON 13)**

House associated with nearby Favour Royal dating from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century (listed HB 13/3/9). The offices are older and the walled garden has 1776 on the lintel (but this may not be authentically placed). There are no

ornamental gardens kept and the walled garden has pheasants. There are fine mature trees around the house. The gate lodge, c.1820 (listed HB 13/3/17) is also associated with Favour Royal. House private. There is a bivallate rath in the vicinity SMR: TYR 59:50.

**KILLYFADDY MANOR, County Tyrone (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN DUNGANNON 13)**

House from 1827 by Farrell (listed HB 13/2/5) with good outbuildings set in parkland with mature trees. The OSM of 1833-35 notes, 'It is surrounded by recent plantations, which the proprietor is constantly enlarging' and plenty of new planting added by the present owner. It was also admired by Atkinson in 1833. The setting is very attractive, with the house set high above a man-made lake and backed by wooded hills. The modern garden at the house is well maintained. The walled garden is not kept and is used for stock. One disused gate lodge of three survives, the West Lodge c.1830. The house is private. SMR: TYR 58:16 enclosure and 40 crannog?

**MARTRAY HOUSE, County Tyrone (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN DUNGANNON 13)**

A demesne from the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the present house is the second on the site c.1846 and is set in an impressive location looking onto parkland and a lough (listed HB 13/9/1). There are mature shelter and parkland trees but no evidence of former ornamental gardens. Former owners had it, 'grazed to the door.' Tree planting and clearing in progress. There are two gate lodges, contemporary with the present house. House private. Martray Fort, SMR: TYR 53:8 is in the vicinity, also a rath TYR 53:9.

**SPUR ROYAL (AUGHER CASTLE), Co.Tyrone (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN DUNGANNON 13)**

Founded in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century part of the bawn of the original house is incorporated into the present house of 1827 by Warren (listed HB 13/3/1). It has passed through many hands in recent times and very little ground remains with the house. A large portion of the present holding is taken up by the lough, which makes for a spectacular setting for the house. It is surrounded by lawns and shelter trees. Few mature trees remain of a once, 'tastefully wooded' (OSM 1833-5) site. The walled garden is concreted. There is a gate lodge of c.1840. SMR: TYR 59:39 castle and bawn, 40 rath and 41 crannog? House private.

## AREA PLAN - CRAIGAVON 14

**BROWNLOW HOUSE, County Armagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN CRAIGAVON 14)**

The area of the present-day Lurgan Park was once part of the Brownlow demesne and several features remain from that era such as the artificial lake and mature trees. The demesne was established in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century by the Brownlow family. The present house, a large Elizabethan-Revival house by William Playfair of Edinburgh (listed HB 14/24/018), was built 'of freestone brought from Scotland' in 1836-42 for Charles Brownlow MP, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Lurgan (1795-1847). His son, Charles, the second Baron (1831-1882), was the owner of the famous greyhound, Master McGrath, who was reared in the park and won many races in 1868-71. The Playfair house occupied the site of an 18<sup>th</sup> century house, for which a fine landscape park was created. In 1786 W. Wilson noted of this park in the *Post Chaise Companion*, that it was '... the most beautiful scene is from a bench on a gently swelling hill, which rises almost on every side from the water'. Young in 1776, Coote in 1804 and Sleator in 1806 commented favourably on the site. When the house was being rebuilt in 1837 Lewis observed that, '... the demesne which is very extensive, is embellished with a profusion of stately timber, and with an artificial lake of 100 acres'. There are photographs by Welch, which date from the early part of this century, showing the lake and avenues of mature trees. It is interesting to note that there are many references to the fact that the grounds were open to the public when the demesne belonged to the Brownlow family. In 1893 the 3<sup>rd</sup> baron Lurgan sold his Lurgan property. In 1903 the house was acquired by the Lurgan District Orange Lodge; in 1943 it was used as a regional headquarter by General Patton. The demesne became a public park in 191, having been redesigned by Cheals Nurseries. The plans, dated 1908, belong to Craigavon Borough Council, the present administrators of the park. The site is mostly under grass. The large lake is a dominating feature and the ground rises to the north and east beyond the lake. There are many mature trees, though the site is less wooded than as shown on the OS maps of 1835 and 1858. The north eastern part is of a golf course. The site includes a fountain of 1887 (listed HB 14/24/20) and entrance gates of 1840 (listed HB 14/24/19). Two gate lodges are demolished. Site of a standing stone SMR: ARM 6:18.

**CONEY ISLAND, County Armagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN CRAIGAVON 14)**

The island is in Lough Neagh, a short distance by boat from Maghery and is only 3ha in area. It is an island retreat with a house of 1895 surrounded by an ornamental garden and trees, once owned by the Caulfield family (Viscounts Charlemont). There are winding paths in the woodland, mostly adjacent to the lough with views across the water. The open space in front of the house once was a croquet lawn and there is a cottage-style garden at the house. The island is exposed to wind from all directions and some of the trees are getting old. The shelter that they

afford is important to the maintenance of the site. The island has evidence of earlier occupation, with the remains of a keep, Coney Keep (SMR: ARM 2:2), an enlarged motte. A spiral path leads to the top and the monument is incorporated into the landscape. The 7<sup>th</sup> Viscount Charlemont (d.1913) is buried on the island. There is evidence of a causeway, St Patrick's Road SMR: ARM 2:4 facing towards the County Armagh shore and references to a Pin Well SMR: ARM 2:6. The site is owned by the National Trust and kept up by Craigavon Borough Council with public access. A Biological Survey was undertaken in 1986.

**WARINGSTOWN HOUSE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN CRAIGAVON 14)**

The demesne grounds here have their origin in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century and are surprisingly modest, considering the considerable architectural importance of this house. It was built in 1667 on rising ground (apparently on the site if a rath) by William Waring (1619-1703), a linen and textile merchant, who also built the nearby church (1681) and founded the village, formerly Clanconnel. The original mansion, a six-bay two-storey U-shaped gable-ended house of fieldstone and clay with curvilinear gables, was enlarged in 1673-73: additions included an extra floor (in brick with shingle roof), flanking single-storey projecting one-bay wings and a free standing tower to the rere (listed HN 14/06/001). In 1689 an extension was added to the south by the Duke Schomberg, who occupied the house before the Battle of the Boyne. Pineapple topped gate pillars in yard possibly of early 18<sup>th</sup> century date. The original house had a bawn, outside of which lay, as shown on a map of 1703, a series of regular enclosures, some of which were gardens and orchards. These formal grounds, evidently expanded by his son, Samuel Waring M.P. (1657-1739), contained some fine trees; in 1802 Rev. John Dubourdieu noted in *the Statistical Survey of the County Down* that there were then oaks of great size, a notable walnut in the 'yard adjoining the house' and 'some of the largest beech in this county'. Some of these were evidently lost in the Big Wind of January 1839, when it was reported that 'a row of noble beeches were prostrated'. Although in the later 18<sup>th</sup> century the grounds were naturalised and extended with additional shelter belt plantations by Samuel Waring (1697-1793), much of original early 18<sup>th</sup> century planting survived into the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In 1837 for example, Lewis remarked on the 'ancient and flourishing forest trees' that then existed at Waringstown, noting also that 'the pleasure grounds, gardens and shrubberies are extensive and kept in the best order'. The Ordnance Memoirs, also written in the 1830s, noted that the early Victorian gardens here included an 'ornamental ground very tasteful' and a flower garden 'reckoned the best in the county'; this were located to the south of the house. To the north-west lay the kitchen garden, which was 18<sup>th</sup> century in origin and enclosed with clipped beech hedges rather than walls. It was approached by a long path from the house court and contained kitchen stuff and orchards; this is no longer used as originally intended. To the west of the house there is a Victorian rockery, made of massive flints from Magheralin, with a pond and rustic stone arch, built sometime after 1834 and before 1860. The trees and shrubs in the grounds were admired in 1851, when the presence was noted of walnut, *magnolia tripetala*, *Azalea pontica*, *Taxodium d*, *Rhododendron campanulatum*. In the 1980s Alan Mitchell made a list of the present collection, now in possession of the owner of the house. The UAHS publication for the area (1968) noted that the grounds and planting here associated with the building, were not just 'of equal value as a setting and an amenity', but were also important to the village of Waringstown itself - a self-evident observation perhaps, but worth re-stating. By and large, the layout of the demesne has changed little from the OS of 1834. The southern end is taken up by the Cricket Ground, which includes a rath. SMR: DOWN 20:91. Neither now part of the property. House private.

**EDEN VILLA, County Armagh (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN CRAIGAVON 14)**

The former grounds for the house is now a public space. The house, gardens and orchards are shown on the OS map of 1835 as being in the country, which has since become an urban area. The house is now empty and boarded up. The walled garden is not used and is inaccessible to the public. However the grassed areas and paths are fully maintained. Mature trees on the gently undulating ground enhance the amenity.

**FAIRVIEW HOUSE (TANNAGHMORE GARDENS), County Armagh (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN CRAIGAVON 14)**

Originally the gardens and orchards for Fairview House, which is a handsome large listed ( HB 14/3/1) farm house of c1790. There are remnants of a traditional garden close to the house. The major part to the south west was renovated and landscaped from 1969 for use as a public garden. It is maintained as such today.

**RAUGHLAN, County Armagh (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN CRAIGAVON 14)**

Raughlan is in a wooded peninsular site on the southern shores of Lough Neagh. The house dates from c1710 and is a listed building ( HB 14/3/10). It was formerly known as Rockland and the northern part of the peninsular was an island before the lowering of the lough. This is shown on the OS map of 1835, the detached portion being heavily wooded as it is today. The site is flat and shelter trees are very necessary. There is a disused walled garden and an ice house. The site is picturesque and a feature in the landscape. Private. Earthworks. SMR: ARM 6:17. Privately owned.

**STRAW HILL, County Down (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN CRAIGAVON 14)**

The demesne is adjacent to Donaghcloney and the elevated site on the north east side of the village make attractive surroundings. The grounds include mature trees and parkland sweeping down to the River Lagan. This is the setting for the present house of 1846, which is a listed building ( HB 14/6/3 & 4). The walled garden is fully maintained as an ornamental garden. House private.

**AREA PLAN – ARMAGH 15**

**ADDRESS, County Armagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN ARMAGH 15)**

The demesne was established for the present house, which was begun in 1660 (HB 15/2/48 – includes outbuildings and stable yard). It was extended in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The grounds have a late 18<sup>th</sup> century appearance with parkland to the east, delightfully surrounded by mature shelter belting of mainly beech, oak, lime, sycamore and Scots pine. There is a walk inside the belt, which was created in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and is known as the ‘Ladies Mile’. The gardens at the south side of the house are grassed, with well tended formal beds that are decorated with a Coade stone urn. These were replanted in the 1970s. There is a wide herbaceous border and fine views beyond fastigate yews to distant fields. The conservatory on the south wall has gone. The walled garden and walled orchard are cultivated and include a collection of Irish apples; also garden pavilion in the centre of the walled garden. This is apple country and in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century some of the parkland was given over to orchards. The 18<sup>th</sup> century stable yard has rare farm animals. National Trust. Public access.

**THE ARGORY, County Armagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN ARMAGH 15)**

The demesne was established for the present house on the banks of the River Blackwater, built in 1824 (HB 15/1/2 – includes Pleasure Gardens, stable yard, South Lodge, gate screens and gates). The grounds are fully maintained with fine mature trees, shrubs and lawns. The architects A & J Williamson made plans for the gardens in 1821, the shape of which is adhered to but the internal layout differs from the original plan. The Pleasure Ground on the north east of the house has herbaceous borders, yew arbours, a tulip tree, a well placed cedar and twin pavilions. There is a small enclosed early 19<sup>th</sup> century sundial garden at the house, with box-edged rose beds. A riverside lime walk under pollarded limes is planted with daffodils. An ilex avenue leads to the walled garden, which is made of brick and not cultivated. Of the three gate lodges, two of c 1835 are occupied and an earlier lodge of c.1825 is not used. National Trust. Public access.

**GOSFORD CASTLE, County Armagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN ARMAGH 15)**

The site of a succession of noble dwellings, beginning with Cloncarney Castle, followed by an early 18<sup>th</sup> century house and the present neo-Norman castellated house, of 1819 (HB 15/7/1). The demesne was enlarged for the latter house. Many features of the surroundings of the former house survive, such as a semi-circle of yew associated with Dean Swift called ‘Swift’s Chair’ and Dean Swift’s Well (HB 15/7/31). The important remaining features associated with the present house are the walled garden and the arboretum. The walled garden is not traditionally cultivated but was landscaped for low maintenance and replanted in 1960 for public enjoyment by DANI (FS), who administer the demesne. A Japanese cherry tree collection is displayed here and an early 19<sup>th</sup> century bee house from Ashfort, Middletown (HB 15/7/91). The ‘orchard’ wall and gateway are listed (HB 15/5/36). The arboretum was begun in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century and contains many very fine exotic trees, some of which are now very large. There is a record breaking *Abies spectabilis* and a notable specimen of an *Abies procera*. The flattish site is now commercial forest with some parkland. The FS are replacing 30 year old trees and replanting hardwoods in the forest area. Few mature parkland and woodland trees survived a mass felling in the 1930s. The pair of gate lodges associated with the 1700 house survive but are not in use (HB 15/7/37). The ponds on either side of the avenue are contemporary. Three mid 19<sup>th</sup> century lodges for the present house exist. Gates and walls are listed (HB 15/7/7 & 32). Demesne cottages also survive. SMR ARM 17:32 site of enclosure, 17:33 enclosure/rath, 17:34 platform rath, 17:55 site of enclosure. DANI(FS) part public access. House private.

**THE MALL (ARMAGH), County Armagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN ARMAGH 15)**

Long established as open ground, The Mall was known as ‘The Common’ on Rocque’s map of the city in 1760. It was then surrounded by a race track, known as ‘The Horse Course’. The latter was removed on the orders of Primate Robinson. In 1773 he leased the open area to the Sovereign and Burgesses of the city as a public open space for citizens to enjoy for walking. A date stone on the gateway on the north side is of 1798 and the perimeter walk is recorded as being 4 furlongs. By 1803 it was enclosed, had gravelled paths and a lawn. The well lit White Walk was privately funded in 1836. By 1888 mature trees were noted, ‘... now of majestic proportions.’ Cricket and football were played and cattle grazed within the area. Paths, lawns and pitches remain but not the cows. Iron lamp posts and railings are in evidence. There is a captured gun and carriage from the Crimean War and War Memorials from the Boer War and First World War. The bandstand and old cricket pavilion have gone. A pavilion

replaced the latter in 1964. Trees surround the perimeter. Many elegant buildings enhance the area of this important urban open space and thoroughfare within the city. Public access.

**THE MANOR HOUSE, LOUGHGALL (including DRUMILLY), County Armagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN ARMAGH 15)**

The present house (HB 15/2/16) was built c.1840 on high ground above Lough Gall, though the demesne and that of adjoining Drumilly date from the 17<sup>th</sup> century. An impressive lime avenue leads up hill from the main entrance to the house. At the present time the terracing at the house is grassed. A yew walk to the east is associated with a previous dwelling and also with Dean Swift, who is said to have visited. The grounds are maintained for the present establishment and the walled garden is fully utilized for plant experiments. A 19<sup>th</sup> century border survives. Features of interest are a bridge over a sunken driveway, a ruined hermitage and an ice house. The surviving neo-Jacobean gate lodge of c.1842 is a pair of buildings in good condition (HB 15/2/2) with elegant central iron gates (HB 15/2/3). The demesne adjoins the family holding at Drumilly, where the house (which had a noted conservatory) has gone but fine parkland trees remain, the walled garden and cottage orné. There is a possibility that part of Drumilly parkland will become a golf course and that public walks will be introduced in the Manor House grounds in the vicinity of the lough. SMR ARM 8:12 Drumilly Bawn (the walled garden at Drumilly), 8:22 enclosure/tree ring? 8:25 crannog in Lough Gall and 8:36 17<sup>th</sup> century bawn. DANI private.

**THE PALACE (ARMAGH), County Armagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN ARMAGH 15)**

The Archbishop's Palace (HB 15/18/16) of 1770 is now the council offices of Armagh District Council. The walled demesne referred to by Inglis in 1834 as, '... in excellent order ... laid out with much taste ...' is largely parkland. The ground undulates and the house is on high ground, with fine views of the city and the Church of Ireland cathedral. The original planting set off the house and the vistas. To the north it is now a public area in grass, with mature parkland trees (chiefly sycamore) and to the south it is grazing, with a stand of 19<sup>th</sup> century exotic trees near the house. There is an eye-catcher obelisk, the Rokeby Obelisk (HB 15/18/21) erected in 1782, at the southern end of the park. A belt of woodland on high ground to the west of the northern section of the parkland affords necessary protection. A golf course now occupies the north eastern section. The walled garden is at the north end, with a garden house (HB 15/18/14). It is not cultivated but used by the rugby club. There are modern ornamental gardens on the south side of the house and a 1990s garden on the west side, near the chapel of 1770 (HB 15/18/17). A fine 19<sup>th</sup> century glasshouse (HB 15/18/20) and ice house also lie to the west of the house and there is another ice house near the main entrance (HB 15/18/15 & 19). The stables and coach yard (HB 15/18/18) have been converted for tourism. The entrance gates were moved when the road was altered and this unfortunate development effectively cut the demesne off from the city, though the grounds are open for public enjoyment. The 18<sup>th</sup> century gate lodge has been demolished and only one of three remains. SMR ARM 12:16 Franciscan Friary ruins, 12:17 St Bridget's Holy Well. Public access to part of the grounds.

**TYNAN ABBEY, County Armagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN ARMAGH 15)**

The trees in this demesne are very fine. There are mature trees in the parkland, in woodland and shelter belts, as well as exotic specimens. Planted walks are a feature; one is lime-flanked and another is a yew walk called the, 'Abbot's Walk'. A large parkland ash is noted for its size in Mitchell's, *Field Guide to Trees in Great Britain and Ireland*. The ground undulates and there are excellent views over parkland to the lake in the centre of the demesne and distant woodland. The site is maintained, though the house is fire damaged and not lived in (HB 15/11/1 – including farm yard). It dates from 1750 and was remodelled a hundred years later. There are grass terraces at the house, with box edged beds and clipped yews running the whole length and fastigate yews at each end. The box beds were formally planted annually for colour. The walled garden was extended after the house was improved in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century and is in two sections, neither of which are cultivated, with the exception of a few fruit trees. It has an empty garden house and glasshouses. The three gate lodges are fine; both the Castle Gate Lodge and Lemnagore Lodge are said to have been designed by Nash c.1817 (HB 15/11/2, 30 & 31). SMR ARM 11:13 cross (not in situ), 11:15 Platform rath, 15:1 cross, 15:2 cross, 15:33 ?crannog and 15:47 crannog. Private.

**ABBAY HOUSE, County Armagh (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ARMAGH 15)**

The town house built c.1760 is in a pleasant position on high ground near the Church of Ireland cathedral. The site is shown on Rocque's map of 1760. It has an enclosed walled garden, which is fully maintained. It is a rare example of a surviving town garden. It is intensively cultivated with ornamental areas and a productive garden. There is a utilized glasshouse. Fine views to the city below can be glimpsed from the eastern end. Private.

**BALLYMOYER, County Armagh (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ARMAGH 15)**

The demesne an 18<sup>th</sup> century house, now demolished, was given to the National Trust by the owner in 1938. The tree planted glen is leased to DANI(FS) and there is public access. SMR ARM 21:47 souterrain.

**CASTLE DILLON, County Armagh (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ARMAGH 15)**

The sizeable walled demesne lies in pleasantly undulating countryside, with a lake at its centre. A anonymous guide wrote in 1839 that, ‘... the demesne is laid out in a style of elegance, rarely imitated in this country, and which would do honour to the best taste. Here every natural advantage of hill, wood and water, appears admirably improved by the correctest aid of art ...’ It is laid out as a mid-18<sup>th</sup> century landscape park, though there is little remaining planting, with some woodland at the lake and very few parkland trees. The site has been forested and intensively farmed in recent years. The first house was built c.1611 and when that was burnt in 1663 another followed. The present house of 1844 overlooks the lake (HB 15/3/1). The stable block of 1782 by Thomas Cooley is derelict (HB 15/3/10). The walled garden has gone but two gate lodges survive, one possibly by Sir William Chambers and an eye catching obelisk erected in 1782, still impresses outside the demesne walls. SMR ARM 12:30 enclosure, 12:32 enclosure or ? tree ring, 12:62 enclosure or ? tree ring, 12:67 enclosure and 12:85 17<sup>th</sup> century bawn and rath. Private.

**DARTON, County Armagh (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ARMAGH 15)**

A 19<sup>th</sup> century house on an earlier demesne, with terracing. Fine parkland trees to the north east of the house, largely early 19<sup>th</sup> century planting. Walled garden, latterly an orchard. A gate lodge of 1870 has a date stone. It replaced a pre-1835 lodge. Private.

**DEAN’S HILL formerly THE DEANERY (ARMAGH), County Armagh (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ARMAGH 15)**

The elegant house of 1772-4 (HB 15/17/39) is on an elevated site. There are views for a great distance, as far as the Sperrins, from the north front entrance. This and the Observatory are both associated with the palace in inception and as such are smaller examples of Georgian landscaping. The austere classical buildings are on high ground set in lawns, with sweeping approaches and well disposed trees that give shelter and allow for vistas. The Dean’s Hill avenue is flanked by fine limes. A row of yew trees, a wisteria, glasshouse and a box edged border have been introduced near the house during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The partially walled garden has an orchard, kitchen garden and vineyard. There was a large elm that succumbed to disease but a notable laburnum is thought to be very old. The gate lodge is c.1845 and the original 18<sup>th</sup> century gates have gone due to road re-alignment in recent years. Private.

**FELLOWS HALL, County Armagh (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ARMAGH 15)**

The demesne was established in the 17<sup>th</sup> century and parts of the present house date from 1664 (HB 15/11/10 – including the farm). Nothing typical of a 17<sup>th</sup> century layout is in existence. The curving avenue is lined with mature oak and beech and there is a belt of woodland on a ridge to the north of the house. There is a maintained ornamental garden, with a very attractive circle of box edged rose beds and a herbaceous border. A hedged cultivated productive garden takes the place of a walled garden. A derelict gate lodge survives. Private.

**HOCKLEY LODGE, County Armagh (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ARMAGH 15)**

The house dates from the 1770s (HB 15/3/9 – including yards, walled garden, ice house and gate lodge) and was described in the OSM of 1835 as, ‘... built in the cottage style’. There are fine mature trees on the lawns near the house and a wood to the south but the parkland is denuded. The walled garden is of interest, as it contains old fruit trees. This area and the garden house are in separate ownership. SMR ARM 12:35 rath. Private.

**THE OBSERVATORY (ARMAGH), County Armagh (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ARMAGH 15)**

The grounds for the Observatory are set out as a landscape park. The building (HB 15/3/2) is on a hill top, sheltered by a belt of trees. Built for Archbishop Robinson in 1790, it reflects his taste for the then fashionable classical buildings set in austere parkland and has the attributes of the Palace in miniature. The carriage drive sweeps steeply up hill from the road to the south to the entrance on the north side of the building. There is a walk through the shelter belt of mature trees. Much of the parkland is now let as playing fields to the Royal School. Views of the city unfold over lawns on the south side of the building, now fringed by a ‘Sunburst’ garden of radiating blocks of flowering shrubs. This was created to commemorate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the Observatory, as was also the Lindsay Sundial Garden on the north side of the house. There is a disused ice house and walled garden. The gate lodge is contemporary. Private. Public access to grounds during office hours.

**SUMMER ISLAND, County Armagh (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ARMAGH 15)**

The most notable feature is the pair of gate lodges and gate, which were built c.1820 (HB 15/1/1) and remain the most delightful buildings. They are backed by mature lime trees and it is the fine trees that stand out in the landscape of this slightly raised strip of land in an otherwise flat area. Shelter belts protect the southern half of the parkland, at the centre of which is the late 18<sup>th</sup> century classical house. There is a modern ornamental garden at the house but the walled garden is not cultivated. Private.

**TANDRAGEE CASTLE, County Armagh (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ARMAGH 15)**

The grounds have been altered over generation to correspond with a succession of dwellings. For example there are evidences of the formal gardens that complimented the 17<sup>th</sup> century house. The present walled demesne contains mid 18<sup>th</sup> century parkland. The house of the 1830 to 1850s had an integral balustraded terrace, which was a typical 19<sup>th</sup> century feature. This remains in a ruinous condition, as does the house (HB 15/5/7 – including the walled terrace, stable yard and gate screen wall). The house and terracing are in a prominent position above a steep wooded slope, which drops to a stream. The ‘Dark Walk’ lime avenue leads to the house from Town Gate. The walled garden survives but is not cultivated. The site is now a factory. The parkland is largely a golf course, with some grazing. Few mature trees remain. Two 19<sup>th</sup> century gate lodges remain and the Markethill Road Lodge, is now the entrance to the golf club (HB 15/5/25). SMR ARM 14:13 the castle. Private.

**UMGOLA HOUSE, County Armagh (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ARMAGH 15)**

A villa of c.1870 Umgola (HB 15/19/14 – includes a conservatory and glasshouse, gates and railings) has a very well maintained garden and is surrounded by mature trees. One or two original features have not been kept up, such as the Japanese garden and pond but there is a formal sunken garden, with a rectangular pond in lawns and glasshouse. The latter has vines and peaches. The iron-framed conservatory was built in 1905 by Phillips & Sons of Belfast and the plans survive. It is in full use. There is a summer house and a hut.

## **AREA PLAN - NEWRY AND MOURNE 16**

**BALLYEDMOND, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN NEWRY & MOURNE 16)**

The much altered mid 19<sup>th</sup> century house is in a splendid position between the Mourne Mountains and Carlingford Lough. The earlier house, called Fort Hamilton was visited and commented on by Maria Edgeworth in 1806. According to the report in the *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* of 1836, the garden was neat. The surrounding 80ha has mature deciduous shelter and parkland trees and later conifer additions, included when the park was extended to the west. The site is exposed to winds coming across the lough but otherwise the climate is mild. The gardens at the present time have undergone extensive landscaping from 1988 on a 19<sup>th</sup> century framework. Terraces on the south side of the house are linked by steps that lead to features at a lower level, where the lay-out is arranged in compartments on a circular theme. The north side of the house has balustrading at the carriage drive and ornamental planting since the 1980s. The three sided walled garden is cultivated, with a glasshouse. Two pre-1834 gate lodges, which belonged to the earlier house, have gone. SMR: DOWN 54:13 enclosure/tree ring ? & 54:14 megalith: chambered grave. Private.

**DERRYMORE HOUSE AND THE WOODHOUSE, County Armagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN NEWRY & MOURNE 16)**

These two houses are of different generations but are contiguous to one another, the landscape of the younger being imposed upon the landscape of the older. The surroundings are entirely in keeping with each house. The part-walled modest small consists of only 24ha. Derrymore House (listed HB 16/23/10), a modest cottage-style house, was built c.1776 but the landscape park for it is attributed to John Sutherland, the leading designer of the day. Thin belts of mature, mostly deciduous trees and woodland to the north west of the house are the only reminders of the original planting. The elms have died out and though replanting has taken place it is subject to vandalism. The parkland to the south and east of the house was used for Nissen huts during World War Two. The parkland trees were felled and concrete bases remain in what was always poor soil. A pond was made in the quarry where stone was used for local building. There is a small but charming ornamental garden at the house, which has a Victorian appearance. The walled garden is part cultivated. It was latterly an orchard used for Woodhouse. The Head Gardener’s House is called Hortus Lodge (see below for listing). Two Wellingtonias tower over the west wall. There are four gate lodges, described by Dean as, ‘... disappointingly nondescript’. One was built pre-1834, two pre-1861 and one pre-1906.

The Woodhouse lies to the north of Derrymore House, beyond rocky heights. The rock is evident in many places in the demesne. The house (listed HB 16/23/13 – including gate lodge and Hortus Lodge) was built in 1863 and had a conservatory. It was a gentleman’s residence, with appropriate grounds. The natural rock outcrop has been utilized as a rockery, which was once beautifully planted. Lawns with beds surround the house and a wooded area separates the house from the village of Bessbrook. A summer house and ‘Wishing Chair’ on a planted rath, added to the decorations. A rustic arch announced the path through the woods to Derrymore. There were glasshouses and frames in the working quarters, where rustic stone buildings remain, one of which is decorated with false stalactites. The Friend’s Meeting House of 1864 and burial ground are within the site. The gate lodge is probably by Jackson and built c.1880. SMR: ARM 26:7 enclosure/rath. Derrymore National Trust with public access. The Woodhouse is private.

**DROMANTINE HOUSE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN NEWRY & MOURNE 16)**

The 120ha part-walled demesne is in a beautiful situation in undulating drumlin country and is well maintained. The house (listed HB 16/21/1) described as new in 1834, replaced a former dwelling of 1741 and was re-modelled from 1860 to 64 to the designs of McCurdy. It is in an excellent position on raised ground, with fine views to distant hills that are enhanced by the lake in the foreground. Parkland and stands of trees occupy most of the ground, which is laid out in the style of a landscape park, possibly designed for the present house. There is a good deal of woodland but one area is known as, Racecourse Wood, and possibly used as such, has now gone. Terracing at the house is now in lawns but a decorative fountain remains. There is a modest late 19<sup>th</sup> century arboretum to the north east of the house. The gardens are mentioned in the *Garden Annual & Almanac* of 1908. The walled garden is some distance from the house, to the south west. It is no longer cultivated and ruinous glasshouse can be seen. The Head Gardener's house has been modernised. The site has been a missionary college since 1928. There were two gate lodges and one remains. Dean refers to them as, '... neither of any merit.' One was built pre 1834 and the other late Victorian. Mid 19<sup>th</sup> century gates are listed ( HB 16/21/3). A gate lodge appears only on the OS map of 1860, not apparently at the termination of an access point. SMR: DOWN 40:21 rath, 40:22 enclosure, 40:38 feature & 40:48 circular enclosure. Access for Dromantine College. Private.

**DRUMBANAGHER, Co. Armagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN NEWRY & MOURNE 16)**

The walled 160ha demesne of lies in undulating land. At the core of the park there was a house here in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century belonging to the Rev. Samuel Close born 1683), then to his son Maxwell Close (died 1793), grandson Rev Samuel Close (died 1817) and great grandson Charles Maxwell Close. It was the latter who commissioned William Playfair to build a notable Italianate house in 1829. This was completed in 1837 and consisting of a two storey central block with two three-storey wings built at right angles – all built of Scottish sandstone at enormous cost. At the time of its completion Lewis in the *Topographical Dictionary of Ireland*, observed the '... extensive and richly planted demesne', which had accompanied the earlier house. It is of note that in 1820 Maxwell Close had married the daughter of Charles Brownlow of Lurgan, where Playfair was later also to work. The house and demesne were occupied by troops (British and then American) during the war, which probably contributed to the house's demise in 1951 when it was demolished, save for a massive cut-stone port cochère. The modern owners retreated to a modern house in front of the port cochère and the land steward's house in the yard. The gardens, once of note, have gone. Gertrude Jekyll was said to have designed bedding plans for the flower garden. There are family watercolours of the gardens in their heyday. Mature parkland and shelter trees remain amongst forest planting. Large exotics emerge above the canopy. The present house was built in the 1950s. There is a disused walled garden. The farm buildings are listed ( HB 16/21/25). Two gate lodges for the earlier house have gone but one remains, possibly by Playfair. SMR: ARM 22:30 17<sup>th</sup> century plantation house. Half the area is DANI (FS) since 1960. Private.

**GREEN PARK, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN NEWRY & MOURNE 16)**

A beautifully situated demesne park with mature shelter belts, clumps and isolated parkland trees set out as a miniature landscape park, which has altered remarkably little since its creation. The house is pre-1834, referred to as a, '...good old house' in the *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* of 1836 (listed HB 16/6/63). There is an uncultivated walled garden with a glasshouse and bothy. The pre-1834 gate lodge has gone. Private.

**HAWTHORNE HILL, Co. Armagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN NEWRY & MOURNE 16)**

The demesne of lies on the east facing slopes of Slieve Gullion. The house was built c.1820 (listed HB 16/15/29 – outbuildings also listed) and is not in use. There are mature trees from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, later exotics and forest planting from the 1950s. There is modern landscaping and ornamental planting at the walled garden and outbuildings, which now houses the visitors centre for Slieve Gullion Forest Park. The gate lodge is opposite the entrance. It was built c.1834 and replaced a lodge that was contemporary with the house. DANI (FS). Public amenity.

**KILLEVY CASTLE, County Armagh (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN NEWRY & MOURNE 16)**

The demesne lies on the slopes of Slieve Gullion. The castellated house (listed HB 16/13/1) was a remodelling of Killeavy Lodge by George Papworth in 1836. There were two gate lodges, one remains. It was also by Papworth and built at the time of improvements. Unfortunately, it is now ruinous. Private.

**MOURNE PARK, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN NEWRY & MOURNE 16)**

Formerly known as Ballyrogan and Siberia the demesne was founded in the 17<sup>th</sup> century and c.800ha is walled in. It lies on a fine site on the south facing slopes of Knockchree and was admired by 19<sup>th</sup> century travellers and artists. Mature beech woods were photographed by R. Welch at the turn of the century and many remain amongst mixed planting at the base of the mountain. The present house, built on the site of an earlier house, dates from 1806 (listed HB 16/5/9). There are extensive stands of mature trees in the woodland, shelter belts and parkland. The



Whitewater River runs from north to south on the west side of the demesne and riverside walks are edged by mature trees. Bridges are important. There are three avenues, the Jubilee Avenue, the 1920s Christmas Tree avenue and the Walnut avenue, which was replanted in the 1990s. Many trees were felled in the last world war and there has been recent re-planting. The structure of the planting has been examined as part of a tree survey of the Mournes, published in 1996. The ornamental gardens to the south house begin with a terrace man-made lake, which once provided a vista but is now silted up and surrounded by trees. The thatched boat house has collapsed. Grounds to the east of the house are well planted and contain many features including exotics and specimen trees, a rockery and pool. The walled garden is a considerable distance from the house and is attached to the farm buildings to the north east. There is a Head Gardener's house but the garden is no longer cultivated. The farm buildings are used by a pony trekking business. The 19<sup>th</sup> century School House has its own garden. The south eastern area is now a golf course and the Club House is in the former Steward's House. C. 280ha was sold for forestry. Four gate lodges were constructed at different times during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the East Lodge c. 1820, West Lodge c. 1840, Whitewater Gate c. 1830 and Green Gate Lodge c. 1890. The road has been realigned at the south west end. SMR: DOWN 55:3 stone faced rath, 55:12 enclosure/tree ring ?, 55:22 megalith: court grave and 55:23 standing stone. Private.

**NARROW WATER CASTLE, Co. Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN NEWRY & MOURNE 16)**

The present house was built during the years 1831 to 37 to the designs of Thomas Duff of Newry (listed HB 16/11/19). It replaced an earlier house, known as Mount Hall (the name of the occupants), of which a wing survives. A map of 1800 shows this house with garden, grove and shrubbery, orchard, pasture, woods, and parkland trees. It is thought that Sir Joseph Paxton made plans for the Italian Garden, notable for its impressive grass terraces, balustrading, cut stone steps and urns. Horizontal ground was once filled with flower beds, remembered in photographs but now grassed. Early 20<sup>th</sup> century photographs also show the wild garden in the Pleasure Grounds to the north west of the house, said to have been created by Thomas Smith of Newry. This is no longer maintained. Articles in garden journals at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century mention the garden and remarkable trees are noted in *Trees of Great Britain and Ireland* of 1909 and 1910. A folly summer house survives on high ground in woodland. There are extensive plantations of trees. The parkland trees are few and far between. The walled garden is not cultivated and glasshouses have gone. The Head Gardener's House (or Steward's House) is very impressively large (listed HB 16/11/20). 18<sup>th</sup> century outbuildings are listed (HB 16/11/21). Two gate lodges survive, Castle Gate and Tudor Lodge by Duff (listed HB 16/11/23) and contemporary with the house. However Duff's Newry Gate has gone and the earlier rear gate. SMR: DOWN 51:38 enclosure. The south east corner of the demesne is a golf course. Private.

**ROSTREVOR HOUSE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN NEWRY & MOURNE 16)**

The park and garden setting of this early Tudor-Revival house (1835-37) was the focus of one of the most important tree and shrub collections of late Victorian and Edwardian Ireland. Although not maintained as a garden for some decades, many rare trees survive in these grounds, which are attractively located on the southern spur of the Mourne Mountains, overlooking Carlingford Lough. Rostrevor demesne has 18<sup>th</sup> century origins. The original house, called Carrickbawn, was built by the Maguires and was known locally as 'Topsy-turvy', because of the 'unusual manner in which it had been built'. It was acquired by Major David Ross in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, and in 1809 passed to his famous second son, Major General Robert Ross (1766-1814), who is commemorated by the nearby obelisk built in 1826. After the Major General's death in the American war in 1814, the property passed to his widow, Elizabeth Catherine Ross, while their descendants were granted the hereditary distinction 'of Bladensburg' in his honour by the Prince Regent. With a generous government pension, Mrs Ross was able to considerably expand the parkland planting; in 1820 for example, she is known to have put down some 30 acres of larch, oak and Scotch Fir. In 1835 the old Maguire house was demolished and the present Tudor-Revival mansion, one of the earliest examples of this style in Ulster, was erected in its place (listed HB 16/6/60B). It was most probably designed for Mrs Ross by the Dublin based architect William Deane Butler (d.1857). After the death of Major General Ross's widow in 1845, the property passed to their eldest son, David Ross of Bladensburg. He made little impact on the demesne, spending long periods on the continent, while his eldest son, Robert, who inherited Rostrevor House in 1866, decided to leave Ireland in the early 1870s and become a Jesuit and later a priest. Consequently, management of the property passed to his younger brother, Sir John Ross of Bladensburg (1848-1925), who eventually inherited the place in 1892. The famous tree and shrub collection at Rostrevor was begun by Sir John Ross of Bladensburg in the 1870s, though he was not able to take up full time residence in Ireland until 1882, when he was assigned as a member of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland's staff. His plantings were largely confined to the slopes to the north-east, east and south of the house, covering an area of about fifty acres. His collection of 'hardy, half-hardy and very tender shrubs, trees and to a lesser extent, herbaceous plants, became one of the best known in Ireland, if not the United Kingdom', and in 1911 a comprehensive catalogue of the '*Trees and Shrubs grown in the Grounds of Rostrevor House*' was published [University Press, Ponsonby and Gibbs]. This lists about 2500 plants, many of great rarity, and these numbers were to increase so considerably in subsequent years that in 1919 an article in *Irish Gardening* was able to state that the garden had 'the largest collection of plants

growing in the open in the whole country'. Not surprisingly, the garden was described in numerous Edwardian journals and books, while Sir John Ross himself contributed many lengthy articles on plants growing in his gardens, mostly published in the monthly journal *Irish Gardening*. Sir John Ross of Bladensburg had no male heirs and after his death in 1925 the gardens went into decline. After standing empty for a number of years, the house was acquired in 1950 by a missionary order, the Sisters of Our Lady of Apostles, who established it as an interdenominational retreat house and noviciate. In the 1960s they added a large extension to the north side of the house, but in 1998, due principally to insurance considerations, the house's role as a centre for retreat had to be curtailed, while at the same time the sisters decided to share the old house with a small Benedictine community. While many trees and shrubs disappeared from Rostrevor in the 1930s and subsequent decades, many evidently dying because of livestock grazing, there are still many rare and important plants in the grounds. Most of these lie in the area south of the house and on the hillside above the house and drive. Some of the trees include a fine *Nothofagus soalndri* (70ft); a *Nothofagus dombeyi* (80ft), a Macedonian Pine (*Pinus peuce-* 90ft), Chilean Laurel (*Laurela Serrata*), *Cupressus cashmiriana* (30ft), a remarkably tall *Pittosporum bicolor*, an outstanding kowhai (*Sophora tetraptera*), a *Sophora tetraptera* (30ft), a *Zelkovo carpinifolia* and many others. A provisional list has been prepared by Michael Lear (Curator, Castlewellan) for BH:EHS, while a more detailed survey is planned.

**WARRENPOINT PARK, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN NEWRY & MOURNE 16)**

This is a fine example of a typical Victorian public park, though laid out from 1900. It retains many original features and plants, yet successfully incorporates later intrusions such as the Children's Playground. It lies in a mild spot close to the waters of Carlingford Lough but is sheltered by buildings. Mature trees surround the park on the three sides and edge the formal central cross paths. Solid wall-mounted iron railings enclose the whole. On slightly rising ground to the north west, there are circulating paths, lawns, neat shrub borders and well dug beds of seasonal bedding plants. The park was designed by Thomas Smith of the Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry. A reference in *Irish Gardening* of 1915, written by his son, G N Smith, was followed in the next edition by a photo of *Lilium auratum platyphyllum* 'growing in a Public Park at Warrenpoint. There are several groups of this Lily planted there some half a dozen years ago or so, when the park was laid out ...' This suggests that the early planting was of good quality. The central bandstand of 1907 is elaborately decorated (listed HB 16/12/2). Recent wooden rose pergolas give vertical interest. Tennis courts lie on flat ground at the south west end. The toilet block, lodge and gardener's bothy are early buildings. The park is excellently maintained. Public access.

**FAIRY HILL, County Down (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN NEWRY & MOURNE 16)**

One of the many delightful gentleman's residences, with grounds of .8ha, that were built in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century in the clement area of Rostrevor. The house (listed HB 16/6/5) sits attractively above an ornamental garden and rockery descending to the Fairy Glen. Private.

**FORKHILL HOUSE, Co. Armagh (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN NEWRY & MOURNE 16)**

Though known as Forkhill House, the pre-1834 building has gone with the exception of one wing. The part walled demesne of c.41ha is in an outstanding position on the south facing slopes of Tievecrom Mountain. At the present time it is practically treeless but the grounds contain some very interesting ornamental features that are not operational but could be. The ponds are drained but artificial islands, with parts of rustic buildings and a boat house in good condition remain. A mountain top turret view point affords excellent views. The walled garden is used for grazing. The gate lodge has been enlarged and decorated many times during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. SMR: ARM 32:11 enclosure, rath and souterrain, 32:13 cashel and 32:17 Holy Well. DANI (FS) planting to the north west. Private.

## AREA PLAN - BANBRIDGE 17

**BALLYWARD LODGE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN BANBRIDGE 17)**

The demesne of c.53ha stretches round a house built in 1811 (listed HB 17/10/7). It is set in well maintained parkland in a beautiful position, with views of a lake and Mourne Mountains. The parkland, shelter, avenue and woodland trees are managed and though many specimens are mature, new planting from the 1950s has reinforced the stock. The lake is natural. In the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century there was a summer house in the parkland on a prominent rath, which is planted with beech. There is a cultivated walled garden to the south of the house. This has been converted from a traditional productive garden to an ornamental site, with a formal lay-out and many interesting plants. It was established from the 1950s. The garden house is operational but not lived-in. The outer walled garden, formally an orchard, is in grass. A pond, with an island on the north side of the road was possibly formally a decoy. It was cleared out in the 1970s. The outbuildings are in very good order. The attractive gate lodge was built c.1825. It is maintained but not lived-in, with a little garden on the eastern side of the avenue. Piers, gates and screen complement the entrance. SMR: DOWN 42:56 & 42:57 enclosures, 42:58 crannog? & 42:59 platform rath. Private. c.27ha are managed by DOE (NI) CWWB and the NT has a restrictive covenant on the property.

**ELMFIELD, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN BANBRIDGE 17)**

Landscape park and gardens for an 1860s house is by the architect, William Spence of Glasgow, built for James Dickson, whose brother engaged the same architect at Gilford Castle (listed HB 17/1/34 – including lodge). The property was already established and a former house was replaced by the present house, one of a group of three that are associated with the boom in the linen industry at the time. A large conservatory that was originally attached to the house has now gone. There are many mature parkland and shelter trees. There is a small 19<sup>th</sup> century arboretum of exotics, a lake, rockery and planted glen. The grounds appear to have been of interest over a long period as they are mentioned in Robinson's, *Garden Annual and Almanac* of 1908 but subsequently fell to disrepair. Both house and grounds were derelict in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Improvements have been introduced from the late 1960s and latterly, from 1990, to the designs of Nigel Hughes, working for Francois Goffinet Ltd. A tree survey for management was carried out in 1987. The whole demesne is in very good order. The part walled garden is part cultivated. It was created for the present house and lies to the north of the house. Of the two gate lodges, one is from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and pre-dates the present house and has been modernised, while the other is contemporary with the house. Private.

**GILFORD CASTLE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN BANBRIDGE 17)**

Created as the setting for a 1860s Scottish Baronial house, this is one of the best surviving examples of a Victorian parkland in Ulster. It occupies the area of an earlier demesne, established 1680 when a Manor with 800 acres in demesne was granted to John Johnson, grandson of Captain Magill of Gill Hall. His house, stood in the north-west corner of the present park, close to Castle Street, once the main street of the village [as shown on a map of 1703]. The place was spelt Guildford in a Rent Roll of 1692. The house was besieged in the 1770s by insurgents and apparently was still occupied in 1824 when Sir William Johnson, who succeeded his father in 1795 to the baronetcy, is recorded as being in residence. Eventually it fell into ruin in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century when it was demolished. The property was purchased from the Johnson estate by the Dickson family around 1855 and the present house, built in the Scottish Baronial style, was constructed in 1864-65 (listed HB 17/01/002 – including gates and walls) for Benjamin Dickson, a partner in the 'Dunbar, Dickson and McMaster' Spinning company. Its fine parkland, created at the same time as the house, lies above a woodland valley beside the River Bann with a mill race and is adjacent to the south-east side of the village of Gilford. The house, which belongs to a group of houses built during the height of the linen industry, was designed by the architect William Spence of Glasgow and built by William Edmiston of Glasgow. Spence was involved in other nearby houses at the time, including Elmfield for Benjamin's brother James. The two Dickson brothers, who made a fortune in the linen trade thanks to the boom caused by the American Civil War, ultimately lost their wealth following a high-profile legal wrangle over the company partnership. In the later years of Dickson ownership, the property seems to have been occupied for a time by members of the Uprichard family, wealthy Quaker linen drapers. Some years following Benjamin Dickson's death in 1892, the house was sold to James Frances Wright of Monaghan, attorney-at-law and successful businessman in the Orient. The parkland boasts many fine mature trees, including exotics, the latter having been planted to complement the present house at a time when many were recent tree and shrub introductions. Formal parterre terracing, later occupied by a rose garden, lies on the south-west side of the house, and is flanked by the walk towards the walled garden, also designed by Spence; the latter is notable for its ashlar entrance and flanking iron railing screen. Glasshouses and offices are in variable conditions. There are two entrance gates; the Banbridge Gate c.1860, by Spence, and the Gilford Gate, c.1902 (Piers by Richard Lutton of Portadown to designs by Young & Mackenzie). The former entrance has a mildly picturesque single-storey lodge, probably by Spence. SMR: DOWN 26:3 enclosure/tree ring? & 26:4 enclosure. Private.

**BROOKFIELD HOUSE, County Down (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN BANBRIDGE 17)**

The house of 1830 is an enlarged 18<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse (listed HB 17/5/4 – also gate screen and lodges). It is surrounded by mature shelter belts and some woodland. A rustic stone seat lies in the woodland and there is other rock-work in the gardens. There are lawns at the house and an ornamental garden. A delightful pair of gate lodges announce the entrance. Private.

**GILL HALL, County Down (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN BANBRIDGE 17)**

This extensive walled demesne of c.160ha no longer has its centre piece dwelling. This was a 3-storey 7-bay house built between 1670 and 1680 by John Magill, enlarged and improved in the early 1730s by Robert Hawkins-Magill, possibly to a design by Richard Castle. These enlargements included the addition of flanking full height shallow bows at each end, each incorporating a form of Venetian window. The house was famously haunted and after it was abandoned in 1910 by the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Clanwilliam in favour of Montalto, the house ceased to be occupied and fell into decay. It was accidentally burnt in 1966 when in the process of being restored by the Irish Georgian Society and the ruin subsequently demolished. However the 18<sup>th</sup> century stables to the rear still remain (listed HB 17/13/021). Also surviving is an old stone bridge with pointed arches spanning the River Lagan. The demesne is

now farmed, with no evidence on the ground of an ornamental garden for the house. The River Lagan flows through the parkland, which still retains early formal landscape features, as well as its informal landscape park, with fine mature parkland trees. In 1837 the *Ordnance Survey Memoir* states that it was, '... prettily wooded but the situation is not good'. A tree-lined depression marks an original straight avenue approach to the house and another straight avenue survives. Of two lodges, one built in the 1830s has gone but one remains, built c.1845. SMR: DOWN 20:54 mound, 20:56 enclosure/tree ring?, 20:59 enclosure; 20:60 enclosure/tree ring?, 20:61 mound and 20:62 cairn. Private.

**LOUGHBRICKLAND HOUSE, Co. Down (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN BANBRIDGE 17)**

The house lies in a demesne of 160ha. Once known as Moyallon, the neighbouring house to the south was Moyallon House. The house is on the 1834 OS maps but was enlarged by 1860 and had assumed the name 'House'. There was a conservatory, now gone. There are mature shelter trees but the line of Wellingtonias is the most impressive stand at the site. Formal gardens and terracing at the house are grassed at the present time. The walled garden is not cultivated. It has a turreted potting shed. The Head Gardener's house is lived-in. Two gate lodges were added in times of prosperity in the 1880s to the designs of Thomas Jackson, the Front Lodge and Rear Lodge. See listing HB 17/1/23. Private.

**SCARVA HOUSE, County Down (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN BANBRIDGE 17)**

The house lies on a south-facing ridge with excellent views to Lough Shark and distant hills beyond. It dates from the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century (listed HB 17/3/39), an early house having been adapted or altered. It and the family are depicted in a painting, 'The Reilly Family at Scarvagh' by Joseph Patrick Haverty, painted in 1823. The demesne of c.160ha contains mature avenue, parkland and woodland trees. The Dane's Cast runs through the demesne. 'King William's Tree', a *Castanea sativa* (sweet or Spanish chestnut) grows to the south east of the house. Many elms have succumbed to disease and massive replanting took place in the early 1990s. There are maintained ornamental gardens at the house. The walled garden was latterly an orchard but is no longer cultivated. There are very grant gate pillars at the village entrance (listed HB 17/3/38) and a lodge built c.1870 at the North Gate. SMR: DOWN 33:20. Dane's Cast. Private.

**WOOD BANK, County Down (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN BANBRIDGE 17)**

The late 18<sup>th</sup> century house (listed HB 17/1/33) has grounds that slope to the River Bann. These are wooded. There is a chestnut avenue leading to the house. The ornamental gardens at the house are maintained. The part walled garden is part cultivated. The lodge outside the gates was built in the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Private.

## AREA PLAN - DOWN 18

**BALLYTRIM, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

A small and well maintained parkland created for a Regency house, built c.1820 for John Lowry (listed HB 18/4/25). This residence succeeded an earlier house evidently located a 'The Stump', a short distance to the north; this was first inhabited in 1657 by James Howe, servant to the 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Clanbrassil. Most of the parkland planting was undertaken by John Lowry from the late 1820s to the mid-1830s. Further improvements were added c.1850 and additional planting has continued throughout subsequent years. From 1875 to 1920 it was the property of the Ringland family. The park contains many fine mature trees and there is a small natural lake to the south-west of the house. The walled garden is fully cultivated, with modern glasshouses. There are recently developed areas of ornamental planting and a pond dug in 1989. The ornamental chiming clock tower on the stables appears to have been built around 1856. The 'Shane's Wood' to the east has been the subject of an in-depth study by a family member. SMR 24:41 remains of Tower House known as 'The Stump'. Private.

**CASTLEWARD, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

The walled demesne of 321ha. dates from the 16th century. There have been a succession of houses here. The tower house, Old Castle Ward c.1590, survives near the shores of Strangford Lough. Around 1720 Judge Michael Ward built a new mansion to the north-west. This was demolished c.1850, but much associated landscaping and planting survives. The demesne was partitioned into regular fields, embellished with plantations with an extensive formal garden around the mansion. There were two canals, one of which survives as the Temple Water (530m x 50m). It was dug c.1728 and centered on a vista to the neighbouring 15<sup>th</sup> century tower house, Audley's Castle. A smaller canal at right angles is now grassed over, but is denoted by a double line of (replanted 1983) lime trees. A series of three yew lined terraced walks constitute another good surviving feature from the 1720s. Other features have not survived, notably a duck decoy (pre-1725) and an 'mount', which provided views of the gardens. Lady Anne Ward's Temple (listed HB 18/8/80) was added to the formal layout c.1750 on high ground in a position overlooking the Temple Water and Strangford Lough. This classical building, with its portico and dressings of

Bath-stone, was sketched in 1762 by Mrs Delany, who also depicted a grotto in the slopes below. No trace of this survives. The present house (listed HB 18/8/66 & 67) was built c.1761-7 by Bernard, 1<sup>st</sup> Viscount Bangor in the middle of the pre-existing demesne. It's notable for its contrasting formal Palladian and Gothick fronts, which gives it a schizophrenic character. A landscape park was laid out for the new house incorporating new plantations, walks, avenues and a small deer park. A new stable block (1758-1770), was linked to the house by hidden walks and a tunnel. The park was much admired by contemporary observers. There are a many fine parkland trees, woodland and shelter belts in the undulating terrain. The walled garden (1.5ha in extent), built on the north side of the Temple Water, was added c.1830, while further demesne buildings were added in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century (variously listed HB 18/8/69-79 and 84). During the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century the parkland was greatly enhanced by the judicious improvements of Major Nugent, 2nd husband to Lady Bangor. The Mountain Wood (c.1844) and Windmill Plantation (c.1850) were added and the park extended over the Audleystown Peninsula, clearing a village in the process (c.1855). The 1840s also witnessed the creation of the 'Windsor Garden', which had four terraces and a rectangular sunken area, the latter being graced by an elaborate parterre of 61 beds. To the west, a Pinetum with a fine collection of spruces, pines, firs and cypresses was established, while a substantial rockery was added to the area during the Edwardian period. The main gate lodge, Ballyculter Lodge of c.1850 was extended in 1870, when the position of the gates was altered in 1870. The gate screen is listed ( HB 18/2/81). Other entrances no longer used are, the Downpatrick Gate (HB 18/2/82). Strangford Lodge pre 1859 and North Lodge c.1880 (listed HB 18/8/2). SMR DOWN 31:5 late 16<sup>th</sup>-early 17<sup>th</sup> century tower house Old Castle Ward, 31:6 15<sup>th</sup> century tower house Audley's Castle, 31:17 standing stones and 31:59 mound? House and grounds have been National Trust property since 1952. Public access.

#### **CASTLEWELLAN CASTLE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

This demesne dates from the 18<sup>th</sup> century and contains 400ha within its walls. It lies on the south facing slopes of the Mourne Mountains close to the sea and benefits from a clement climate. The lake is a dramatic and attractive feature, around which the planting has been formulated. The present Scottish baronial house by William Burn was built in 1856 (listed HB 18/12/1) on high ground to the north east of the lake. The demesne has been home to a succession of houses, each associated with different landscape phases. The first house, built in the 1750s by William Annesley, first Viscount Glerawly, was located somewhere near the Grange (listed HB 18/12/6), where the contemporary stable and farm building complex still survives in good repair. A straight lime avenue close to the Grange survives from the 1750s formal park, while the west portion of the walled garden also belongs to this period. In the Regency period the old house was succeeded by a new residence on the north shore of the lake, known as 'Castlewellan Cottage'. Built by the first Earl Annesley in the 1790s and demolished c.1861, the site of this house can be seen today to the south-west of the present castle. Landscaping and extensive tree planting were carried out in conjunction with this house, while a monumental Gothic temple was built c.1820 on a site above, that is now occupied by the present Victorian castle. The temple was demolished in 1856 and the austere Scottish baronial castle, now the focal point of the park, was built between 1856-59 by the third Earl Annesley to designs of William Burn. In front of this castle are terraces on several levels with steps in the corners to the parkland below and retaining walls in granite; a conservatory once stood at the north end of the west terrace. The first stage towards creating Castlewellan's famous arboretum began in the 1850s when the area east of the 1750s walled garden was transformed into a walled pleasure ground, complete with fashionable Victorian style terracing, flights of steps and pools with dolphins supporting basins. The layout was regular with a long axis oath linking both the old and new enclosed gardens. A good deal of exotic planting was associated with this pleasure ground, but it was during the 1860s that the major planting was begun by Hugh Annesley, who succeeded to the property and title in 1874. Until his death in 1908 he devoted himself to building up the present tree collection both inside and outside the walled garden. He also added the conservatories in the garden corner and in 1884 build the Moorish tower on an elevated spot to the west end of the lake, from which to enjoy views of the mountains. By the early 20<sup>th</sup> century there were over 3000 different species of rare plants from all over the world thriving in the hospitable climate at Castlewellan. Lord Annesley wrote about the collection in, *Beautiful and rare Trees and Plants* in 1903. Though scaled down, the collection was maintained and added to in the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In 1967 the demesne was acquired by the government. The Dept of Agriculture (NI) Forest Service added plantations of forest trees and the site has been open to the public as a Forest Park since 1969. The arboretum has been extended to cover 40ha and the collection enlarged. It is designated a National Arboretum. The gate lodge at the Town Gate was built in 1861, to the designs of Burn (listed HB 18/12/7) and gate screen (listed HB 18/12/8). At the Drumbruck entrance there are workers cottages by Roberts c.1860. SMR DOWN 43:14 cashel and souterrain, 43:15 megalith, 43:33 crannog? 43:34 and 35 enclosures, 43:36 graveyard, 43:40 and 41 enclosures/tree rings? 43:89 granite ringed cross (not an antiquity), 43:90 inscribed stone '1675' and 43:93 enclosure. Grounds open to the public DANI (FS). House private – Presbyterian Conference Centre.

#### **CROSSGAR HOUSE (TOBAR MUIRE) , County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

The house for the late 18<sup>th</sup> century demesne was rebuilt in 1864 (listed HB 18/4/005). It is encircled by trees. The shelter belts having been established before 1834. There are lawns at the house. Late formal bedding created in the lawns during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century improvements has gone but exotic trees planted in the same era remain. A lake has gone. The walled garden has been adapted as a display area for wildlife. There is a fine restored late 19<sup>th</sup> century glasshouse (listed HB 18/4/56) in the walled area for wildlife. There is a fine restored late 19<sup>th</sup> century glasshouse (listed HB 18/4/56) in the walled garden, taking up the whole of the east wall, with bothies at the back converted for public use. The Ulster Wildlife Trust has a 30 year lease from 1986 on the walled garden area. Gate lodge 1875 (listed HB 18/4/21). SMR DOWN 30:23 St Mary's Well. House private (Passionist Monastery) Walled garden UWT – open to the public.

**DELAMONT, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

The demesne dates from the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Raven's picture map of 1625 shows a straight avenue leading to a previous house apparently on top of a drumlin, with mature trees and deer. The present house was built in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century on high ground with extensive views over Strangford Lough. The ground undulates and the site is very attractive. There are fine parkland trees, woodland belts and stone enclosed clumps on the hill tops. The tree-lined 'Long Walk' was laid out post-1860 and has recently been shortened by a road widening scheme. There is a narrow ornamental garden at the house, which is not kept up and the conservatories are gone. To the south of the house there is an enclosure, which has been adapted as a garden feature with encircling tree-lined walks. There are farm buildings of 1841, a walled garden and walled orchard. The walled garden is cultivated as a nursery. There are two gate lodges built c.1855. SMR: DOWN 31:27 enclosure. The site is Delamont Country Park owned by Down District Council – open to the public and nursery garden. House private for Belfast Education & Library Board.

**FINNEBROGUE HOUSE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

This extensive and important demesne dates from at least the early 17<sup>th</sup> century and occupies a beautiful situation in undulating drumlin country by the meandering shores of Strangford Lough. It was known to be in the possession of the Maxwell family in 1635, though the present house, an H-plan block, is basically late-17<sup>th</sup> century in date. Following a fire in 1795 this house was subject to a comprehensive restoration by its owner, Dorothea Maxwell (listed HB 18/18/1). Its surrounding demesne, which occupies a beautiful situation in undulating drumlin country by the meandering shores of Strangford Lough, was the focus of an extensive late 17<sup>th</sup> century and early 18<sup>th</sup> century geometric designed landscape. Typically, this layout was focussed upon the house, which stands on an elevated position, with a north/south axis view to Downpatrick Cathedral and Inch Parish Church. A series of symmetrical enclosures, comprising courts, gardens and orchards, would have surrounded the building, including an entrance court on the north side. Straight tree lined avenues were aligned on the house while the demesne included regularly disposed 'fair plantations', mentioned in 1744 by Walter Harris in *The Ancient and Present State of County Down*. Relics of these early formal features include the 'Fairy Gates' (c.1680), which not be *in situ*, and presently lie on the south side of the park (Listed HB18/18/005C). The formal geometric layout was replaced by the present 'naturalistic' landscape park in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century by Col. John Maxwell of Falkland and John Waring Maxwell. The landscape designer has not yet been established. New surrounding shelter belts and screens were planted, the woodlands considerably extended, an expansive 11ha lake was dug and carefully disposed clumps and isolated tree specimens were added to the open meadows. The old straight tree lined avenues were swept away and in their place a new sinuous drive was laid down to approach the house from the south east; its gate lodge was built in the 1880s by Fennell (Listed HB18/18/5). Some additional plantings were added to the parkland in early Victorian times, while at this time the demesne was also lavishly developed as a model farm. The parkland has traditionally had tree cover on the north and west sides to protect it from the prevailing winds. The ornamental and productive gardens lie to the north of the house, while the Pleasure Garden immediately behind the house had lawns, a summer house (Listed HB18/18/1C) and some exotic planting. The gardens fell to disrepair in the latter part of the 20th century. By then most of the land beyond the gardens was in separate ownership. The walled garden (Listed HB18/18/001E), has a date stone, 'John Waring Maxwell Esq. 20 February 1802'; it is not cultivated and the glasshouses have gone. A gardener's house, bothy and offices remain (Listed HB18/18/1D & HB18/18/1F). An outer walled garden had modern glasshouses. SMR DOWN 31:32, 31:33, 31:36 enclosures. The demesne and the buildings within are under separate ownership. All private.

**KILLYLEAGH CASTLE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

One of the most romantic houses in Ireland, its exotic skyline of turrets and conical roofs dominating the adjacent town and the countryside for miles around. There are claims that it has Norman late-12<sup>th</sup> century origins, but the house today is basically 17<sup>th</sup> century, much altered and enlarged from 1847 to 1851 (listed HB 18/03/001). The grounds are an essential part of the setting of the picturesque house and its geographical association with the town of Killyleagh. In the early 17<sup>th</sup> century the house built by James Hamilton, of which a tower survives, had a large attached deer park, which seems to have fallen into disuse by the 18<sup>th</sup> century, if not earlier. There are formal

garden features associated with this early house and/or with the improved late 17<sup>th</sup> century house, as enlarged in 1666 by Henry Hamilton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Clanbrassill. This includes some of the terraces or hanging gardens on the steep slopes of the south and south west side of the house, together with formal canals or fish ponds. These terraces were evidently remodelled and enlarged in the Victorian era. The grounds are not extensive and no garden of note is maintained at the present time, but fine mature trees grace the surroundings. The productive areas are no longer kept. The extensive entrance screen encircles the area of the former bawn. The property was subject to ownership litigation, and the resulting judgement of Solomon, saw the bawn divided for more than a century; the castle was retained by the Hamilton family and the gatehouse went to the Blackwood family [later Lords Dufferin]. The gatehouse was then rebuilt as a tall Georgian block, enlarged c.1830, while in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century the main Hamilton castle fell into decay. The feud was ended by the 5<sup>th</sup> Lord Dufferin, afterwards 1<sup>st</sup> Marquess of Dufferin and Ava, after he inherited in 1841. He returned the property to the castle owner, Archibald Rowan-Hamilton, and as a further gesture removed the old Georgian house and built in 1886 an appropriate baronial gatehouse to the design of Benjamin Ferry, then at work at Clondeboye. He married the daughter of Archibald Rowan Hamilton, who afterwards himself employed between 1847 and 1851 Charles Lanyon to enlarge and remodel the house, giving it its present appearance. Gate house and screen (listed HB 18/03/002), as is the north east gateway (HB 18/003/003). SMR: DOWN 24:30 Castle fortification. Private.

**MONTALTO HOUSE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

A largely walled demesne of c.190ha with 17<sup>th</sup> century origins. The present house was built in the 1750s by Lord Rawdon of Moira, later the Earl of Moira, but was subsequently altered during the 19<sup>th</sup> century (HB 18/06/001). A fire destroyed the east wing in 1985, but this was rebuilt in the 1990s. As the Earl of Moira was a noted botanist, planter and improver, it is likely that Montalto once boasted many exotic specimens dating from his time. There are good stands of mature trees on the undulating site. The planting was extensive and it is recorded that a hundred thousand trees alone were planted between 1770 and 1793. The Battle of Ballynahinch 1798 was fought within the demesne and suffered damage in the conflict. It is said that many thousands of forest trees were uprooted or broken in the ‘Big Wind’ of 1839. In 1802 the property was acquired by the Ker family of Portavo and during the 19<sup>th</sup> century it ceased to be a primary residence. There is no walled garden at Montalto, but there was a productive area enclosed by a beech hedge and an orchard. Some of this still survives. There is a lake with an artificial shape of a fish, which can be glimpsed across the lawns from the house. A 1960s eye-catcher gate and clumps of flowering shrubs lie beyond. An arboretum was added to the south-west of the house, beyond a hillock which contains the spoil from the basement of the house when it was dug out. The arboretum is small but has a good representation of exotic trees from all over the temperate world. There was a summer house in this area. The ‘Ladies Garden’ is on the north east of the house. The property had been acquired by the earl of Clanwilliam in 1910, but became somewhat neglected in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It was sold in 1979 and became part of a business partnership who replanted the demesne in 1986-89. The house has been in private hands since 1995. Other listed buildings on the property include the 1830s Schoolhouse (HB 16/6/4) and 1840s farm complex (HB 16/6/3), the Spa Gate Lodge c.1825 possibly Morrison, West Gate Lodge pre-1834 and the Ballynahinch Gate Screen c.1870 (HB 18/06/002). The Town Lodge is demolished and there exist several grand designs for unexecuted gate lodges and screens. SMR DOWN 29:5 and 29:6 enclosures, 29:7 site of the Battle of Ballynahinch, 29:46 circular enclosure. Part golf course. Private.

**MOUNT PANTHER, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

Though the house is ruinous (listed HB 8/11/48) and the gardens gone, this once beautiful landscape park retains many features of its former glory. The house was built c.1770 and remodelled in 1880. It lies looking down on pasture decorated with well disposed clumps of trees that made up the fashionable surrounding for houses of that era. There are fine views of Dundrum Bay beyond. Shelter belts and an avenue add to the planting. These trees have never been renewed and are coming to the end of their days, as most are beech. A road now cuts through the parkland and a bungalow has been built in front of the house. There are extensive walled gardens to the rear of the house to the south-west, no part of which is cultivated. The Gardener’s House and offices are ruinous and the glasshouses have gone. An ornamental garden on the south side of the house shows vestiges of planting and an earlier Pleasure Ground was formerly laid out on the north side of the house, as shown on the demesne map of c.1800. Stone walls are used within the demesne and reach the high ground of Cloughram Hill to the south-west of the demesne, where there is a collecting pond. Water supply to the farm is controlled from here by a sluice gate. A pond on the north side is associated with a corn mill and later used for flax. The School House (listed HB 8/11/49) is in the part to the north-east that is severed by the road. There are two gate lodges, the Newcastle Lodge and Side Lodge both c.1830 and in poor condition. SMR: DOWN 44:21 & 44:22 enclosures. Private.

**MYRA CASTLE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

This is the beautiful lough-shore site of the late 16<sup>th</sup> century Walshestown Castle, of which substantial remains survive in the walled garden of the present castellated manor house, built by Richard Anderson in 1844 (listed HB

18/8/92). Some of the planting north of Walshestown Castle had 18<sup>th</sup> century origins, but sadly much of this has been replaced in recent decades with commercial conifers, poorly disguised with some fringe hardwoods. The parkland around Myra Castle was created during the 1840s as a setting for the newly built house. Through small, the designed landscape is of high quality and contained a lake (now silted up) with cascades overlooked by a Mogul summer house (now roofless). The walled productive garden on the east side of Walshestown Castle, has a stream, a pond and a gardener's house; it is partly cultivated. A balustraded terrace lies outside the house and there are metal aloes in urns along the balustrade. To the rear of the house, a service tunnel links the building with the stables, coach house and farm yard (listed HB 18/8/94). A Tudor Gothick gateway with a castellated tower adjoins the lodge (listed HB 18/8/94). SMR DOWN 31:8 tower house and bawn, 31:10 site of church, 31:53 standing stone and 31:58 enclosure or tree ring? Private.

**RADEMON, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

Demesne of c. 220ha for the house of 1667, which later was used as a shooting lodge, burnt and rebuilt to its present state in the 1950s. It is nearly all walled-in. There are fine mature trees in undulating parkland and on the north side of the avenue. Mature woodland is managed. The maintained garden for the present house is on sloping ground and has been terraced. Lawns descend to ornamental planting and a pond. There is a part walled garden, which lies in a sheltered spot. It is partially cultivated with a glasshouse. The obelisk on top of a hill in a field to the south of house, was erected in memory of William Sharman-Crawford MP in 1864 (listed HB 18/5/32). The original farm buildings remain (listed HB 18/5/29) and an old bridge (listed HB 18/5/31). Also listed are a fine corn mill, house and outbuildings (listed HB 18/5/28). Gate lodge c.1820 gone. Private.

**RINGDUFFERIN, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

The site of an early 17<sup>th</sup> century castle located close to the present house. Straight avenues and formal planting is shown on the OS map of 1834. The present grounds adorn the present late 18<sup>th</sup> century house (HB 18/2/10 – listing includes outbuildings, walling, the watch tower and gates), built by John Baillie, who succeeded to the property in 1774. It stands on a naturally beautiful site on the shores of Strangford Lough. Mature trees lie to the east and west, include champion tree (*Cupressus macrocarpa*). The planting was increased during the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century. Native and exotic trees are planted as specimens in mown grass to the south west of the house and along the avenue, which winds along the shore. There is an informal shrub area in an old oak wood to the west of the house, with a pond. Castle Island, a peninsular to the south, was planted with two semi-circles of trees some time before 1834. The walled garden is fully cultivated and maintained, including a glasshouse. There are gravel and grass paths, wide borders, mature yew features, wall fruit and many interesting plants. There is a disused Land Steward's house. Property acquired by present owners in the mid 1940s. SMR DOWN 24:14 enclosure, 24:15 tower house and 24:39 enclosure. Private.

**ROWALLANE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

The house was built in 1861 (listed HB 18/1/33) – also outbuildings) and the grounds were walled-in and converted from farmland to the 20ha layout as seen today. The land has pockets of good acid soil and much rock near the surface, so planting is mitigated by these conditions. The planting is informal, for the above reason and it also reflects the style of the era. Initially shelter trees were planted and the Pleasure Grounds developed to the west of the house. Ornamental plants were added but the important plant collection that can be appreciated today was begun in 1903 by Hugh Armytage Moore, nephew and heir to the original owner. This has become one of the great gardens of Ireland and is appreciated for the great variety of plant material, which can be enjoyed at all times of the year. The size is not intimidating and the layout varied by being in compartments, often using earlier stone-walled field boundaries. There is the Spring Ground, Stream Ground, New Ground, to name some of the areas. The Rock Garden lies at the southern end of the garden and as a large natural rock outcrop, provides an ideal spot to grow a wide range of alpines and unusual shrubs. The walled garden, originally a conventional fruit, vegetable and flower garden, became a focus for the plant collection and at the present time is fully maintained and contains many interesting species, including the national collection of penstemons. Rhododendrons are a speciality and they can be seen in many parts of the grounds. Wild flowers are encouraged in the Pleasure Ground. A great deal has been written about Rowallane from *Irish Gardening* in 1912, *Country Life* in 1936 to articles in the latest garden journals. Acquired by the National Trust in 1955 the gardens have been improved and the plant collection added to. The house is the Regional Office. SMR: DOWN 23:3. National Trust gardens open. House private.

**SAINTFIELD HOUSE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

The largely walled demesne in drumlin country dates from 1709, when the property was purchased by Nicholas Price of Hollymount, co. Down. The site of the original house has not been established, but it most probably lay close to the present stable & farm yard, parts of which belong to this period. After Frances Price MP, succeeded his father to the property in 1742, he built the present mansion - a tall five-bay gable-ended double pile house of three storeys over a basement (listed HB 18/01/030). The flanking wings, which incorporated high pyramidal roofs, were



added by his son Nicholas, former Black Rod in the Irish Parliament, after he sold the family house in Dublin c. 1800. Little trace of the early and mid-18<sup>th</sup> century formal landscape survives, though some of the woodland planting undoubtedly has its origin in this period. The core of the present informal landscape park was created by Nicholas Price from the 1760s, with most of the work probably taking place in the years after his important marriage to Lady Sarah Pratt, daughter of the 1<sup>st</sup> Earl Camden in 1779. This landscape process involved building an extensive demesne wall, closing public roads, putting down new winding carriage drives, building a ha-ha in front of the house and making a small lake with island in a glen to the south. Once used as a fishpond, this lake was created by damming a stream where it emerged from a marshy hollow. New woodland blocks were planted, including perimeter belts and screens, and many of the original stone faced banks built to protect these survive. To the south, beyond the glen, an oval hillock was specially adapted for training and racing horses. The large walled garden, located south of yard, was probably built c.1760-80, but assumed its present form, being divided into three parts, in the 1840s. The glasshouses, no longer extant, lay against the south facing north wall (by the yard) and overlooked an ornamental garden with curved southern stone wall (lined with brick on south side); the two enclosed walled areas to the south were devoted to kitchen and cold frames (in south-east corner). The garden is not kept up. The parkland area immediately around the house had largely assumed its present appearance by the time insurgents occupied the place for three days in June 1798. After the Union, possibly around 1810, gate lodges were built at the town gate and the west gate, the latter being placed opposite the entrance; both lodges, which have been sold, are in a Regency Gothick style with hipped roofs, distinctive canted bays and naive Y-traceried lancet windows; both may be the work of George Dance, the Younger. In 1847 a new Saintfield-Belfast road was laid down on the east side of the demesne and this work was followed by additional landscaping on the east side of the park. This included the planting of a large woodland block, laying down a new main avenue approach through this wood and building a highly ornate Tudor Picturesque style gate lodge, possibly designed by James Sands, now demolished. A more modest gate lodge, now sold, was also built facing the new road on the north side of the demesne, giving access to the kennels and yard. Venerable trees were lost and damage caused to the woods by The Big Wind of January 1839. During later Victorian times exotics were planted in the Pleasure grounds to the south of the house and some of these survive. The demesne woodlands are managed, *Rhododendron ponticum* is being cleared and trees planted. SMR: DOWN 16:29 enclosure, 16:30, 16:31 and 16:32 raths, 16:34 enclosure, 16:35 rath, 16:36 enclosure, 16:48 univallate rath, 16:53 tree ring? Private.

#### **SEAFORDE HOUSE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

An exceptionally beautiful 18<sup>th</sup> century designed landscape, incorporating two lakes and fine views of the Mourne Mountains. The demesne, just over 1000 acres extent, is largely walled, and has its origin in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century when it was called Castle Navan. The present house of 1819-20 (listed HB 18/17/003) is a large and chaste neo-classical east-facing block of seven bays and three storeys, faced in sandstone ashlar, and built for Mathew Forde (1785-1837), possibly to designs of the English architect Peter Frederick Robinson. It replaced an earlier house, burnt in June 1816, which lay just north of the present stable yard. In the early 18<sup>th</sup> century this house was the focus of a formal demesne, with straight avenues aligned on the house running due south and east. A straight tree-lined embankment with footpath flanked the east side of the lake (the Upper Lake), depicted in a watercolour by Mrs Delany, dated 1740. Her illustration shows the surrounding banks of this lake to have been well planted with trees, but it is evident that most of Seaforde's magnificent naturalised landscaping belongs largely to the later 18<sup>th</sup> century and was probably the work of great landscape gardener, John Sutherland. Its creation involved putting down extensive woodlands, especially to the north, planting clumps, belts and screens and laying down a network of long winding drives, including the present entrance drive. A bog was drained close to the main avenue and a lake [the Lower Lake] was dug in its place. The large walled garden, lying north-east of the house, seems earlier than the landscape park and is probably of mid-18<sup>th</sup> century date (see below). The main entrance into the demesne, on axis with the village street, was built in 1833, but in the period 1795-1805 designs for gates and screen in this position had been commissioned by Mathew Forde's father, also called Mathew (died 1812) from both Samuel Wooley and Charles Lilly, but these had never been executed. Around 1825 Peter Frederick Robinson produced at least six different entrance design proposals and the one eventually built was a Greek Revival sandstone composition comprising a central carriage arch, surmounted by a mutilated pediment and flanked by flat arch pedestrian gates and quadrant wings (listed HB 18/17/002 B). He also designed the chaste Grecian gate lodge to the rear; this is also of sandstone, symmetrical in design and original in form (listed HB 18/17/014). At this time Forde employed Robinson to rebuild parts of the village (once called Naghan), apparently including the well-known almshouses (HB 18/17/0004). Robinson may have been involved in building the tunnel and remodelling part of the stable yard offices of c.1720 (listed HB 18/17/021) to the south-east of the house. The architect John Lynn was commissioned to build the Ballynahinch or north gate lodge and screen in the late 1820s – this is a small three-bay single-storey Classical house with hipped roof and arch-headed openings (listed HB 18/17/019). In January 1839 the 'Big Wind' caused considerable damage to the demesne woods, with a reported loss of 60,000 trees. Two years earlier the Rev-William Brownlow Forde (1786-1856) had succeeded to the property on his brother's death. He decided that the 'Lecale Hunt', founded at Seaforde in 1768, should cease being run as a private family pack and

become subscription based; however, he allowed the hunt to continue housing its harriers at Seaforde and for this purpose the Rev. Forde in 1841 built a huntsman's house and a hexagonal kennel block with hipped roof - one of the most remarkable buildings of its kind in Ulster (HB 18/17/024). The Lecale Hunt was disbanded in 1887 owing to a lack of hares, but the kennels continued to be used by the East Down Hunt. The nearby 'Pheasantry' gate lodge, a picturesque 1½-storey house, was built a few years later and served as a gamekeeper's house (HB 18/17/062). From the late 1850s Col. William Brownlow Forde, the clergyman's son, embarked on major improvements to the demesne. He added the east range to the stable yard c.1865 (HB 18/17/021), built an imposing farm yard complex, known as the Lower Farm Yard, on a new site at the west edge of the park in 1858-59 (HB 18/17/018), together with a nearby gate lodge which replaced an earlier lodge across the road; the latter is a single storey, three bay house, possibly the work of Belfast architect William Moore (HB 18/17/017). An identical lodge, again replacing an earlier lodge on the opposite side of the road, was built at the eastern or Downpatrick gate of the demesne on the Newcastle Road in about 1861-2, though its large carriage piers date to c.1800 (HB 18/17/022). During the 1860s small farm fields on the south of the demesne were swept away to allow the park to expand up to the road. Nearby, a whole terrace of village houses were demolished, so that the grounds of the agent's residence 'The Lodge', which historically was part of the demesne, could expand to the main street; this residence, a late Georgian villa of one storey over a basement, was also remodelled and enlarged c.1860 (listed HB 18/17/015). There was further demesne 'rationalisation' in the 1860s to the north-west, where the hazel bank farm was brought into the demesne and its fields removed. Late Victorian and Edwardian garden improvements at Seaforde include the creation of a rock garden c.1902 near the sluice of the Lower Lake; in recent decades this area in woodland has been cut back, replanted and redesigned, notably with an attractive iron bridge added. The late Victorian period witnessed a remodelling and enlargement of the imposing glasshouse on the south-facing dividing wall to the garden. The northern section of this garden, whose northern wall is curved, was historically always devoted to kitchen stuff, but the lower southern section became a fully ornamental garden by late Victorian times and boasted a large formal ornamental layout with lawns, urns, cordylines and formal beds. There had been a south-facing glasshouse here from at least the 1830s, but this was remodelled substantially some time later, perhaps in the 1860s, and given a large central section, which itself was enlarged in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The garden and its glasshouses had become derelict by the 1960s, but in the 1970s the present owners embarked on a major clearance, removing the glasshouse ruins, and creating a new garden in which Irish yew and urns from a former generation are incorporated. There is now a large hornbeam maze with an arbour and statue of Diana in the centre, while a Mogul-style tower (built 1992), a Gothic arbour, a small herb garden and a colony of *Echium pininana* now occupy the glasshouse site. Flanking floral borders contain the National Collection of *Eucryphia*. The northern section of the garden contains a commercial nursery, established after the Forde's acquired the remaining stock of the famous Slieve Donard Nursery. The 'Butterfly House' here, built in 1988, houses a good collection of tree ferns and tropical plants. Outside the walled garden on the south side there is 'The Pheasantry', a verdant and secluded undulating grassy area that began life as a pleasure ground in late Victorian times. It now incorporates a pond, high exotic trees and shrubs, including recent introductions collected in the wild by Patrick Forde; among the plants here are an enormous *Rhododendron arboretum*, a superb Crimean pine (*Pinus nigra caramanica*) and a good collection of azaras. The walled garden, butterfly house and 'pheasantry' grounds are open to the public at specified times; the rest of the demesne and the house are private. SMR: DOWN 37:6 enclosure, 37:7 Gardenhill fort and 37:8 crannog? landscape feature? 37:9 enclosure.

#### **TOLLYMORE PARK, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

A most beautifully situated demesne of 500ha in the Mourne Mountains, within a glimpse of the sea, has been noted for its fine views and plantations since the 18<sup>th</sup> century. In the latter years of which Thomas Milton wrote in *Seats and Demesnes of the Nobility in Ireland*, 'It is a wild and rocky Tract, exhibiting some scenes of singular beauty, in the romantic style. Two Mountain Torrents join in the Park, and form sundry cascades, in their passage to the Sea...'. Every advantage was taken of the natural attributes to create a fashionable 18<sup>th</sup> century naturalistic park and to further grace it with suitable buildings. The house at the centre of the site was demolished in 1952. It dated from c.1730. However the demesne buildings and their folly embellishments remain and are now appreciated as fine examples of the work of Thomas Wright and others, the finest being the Clanbrassil Barn (listed HB 18/13/23). Fantastical gate piers made of 'bap' stones can be seen along the demesne walls. Collectively these are called, 'Lord Limerick's Follies'. A Hermitage (listed HB 18/13/35) clings to the rocks above the Shimna River, built in 1770 to commemorate a friend's death. There are a great many interesting 18<sup>th</sup> century bridges along the river, which plays an important part in the landscape as it sparkles over rocks and deep ravines. In 1786 Wilson, in the *Post Chaise Companion*, noted the, '... finest groves of larch trees in this kingdom ...'. The woodland planting was acknowledged to have been extensive and successful. Purchased by the Ministry of Agriculture in 1930, the holding was increased in 1941 and subsequently a great deal of the land was covered with forest planting. The structure of the landscape park is not visible at the present time. An arboretum represents the 'second phase' of planting, which lasted from c.1897 to c.1810, lies to the west of the house is now termed a, 'tree collection', as it is not being added to. The original *Picea abies* var. *Clanbrassilliana* (discovered by the Earl of Clanbrassil in the mid-

1770s) can be seen in this area. There is an exceptionally fine avenue of Deodar cedar at the Barbican gate avenue. The walled garden has been made into a car park but the Head Gardener's house remains, surrounded by a sea of tarmac. However FS rhododendron and azalea planting attractively cover an area on either side of the Horn Bridge as a steep descending walk to the river. The FS are also responsible for Forest Plots, experimental plantations of various species which are being tested for suitability as forest planting. The entrances are exceptional and are, Bryansford or Gothick Gate c.1786 and lodge 1802, Barbican gate c.1780 and lodge c.1810, East Lodge 1865, White Gate Lodge, early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The walls on the Hilltown Road and a gate are listed. There is another commemorative monument, a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century obelisk. Listed buildings are HB 18/13/19 to 37 and 40 to 44. SMR: DOWN 49:3 cairn, 49:3 cashel, 49:14 stone chair, 49:15 cultivation ridges and 49:19 mound or enclosure? DANI (FS) public access.

#### **TYRELLA HOUSE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

The early 19<sup>th</sup> century house (listed HB 18/10/74), with a conservatory, is placed near the sea. Lewis describes the site in 1837 as, '... a richly planted demesne of 200 acres ...' The house is protected by mature shelter trees. There is a folly fort (listed HB 18/10/75) on a hill top to the north east of the house. An early 20<sup>th</sup> century Japanese garden to the south of the house has 'Spider Lodge' a summer house and a Japanese summer house, overgrown rockeries, water features and exotic planting. This area fell into decline post World War 2. The walled garden is cultivated round a house, built there in 1987. There are glasshouses and a potting shed. Other noted features are, the entrance gates and screen pre-1835 (listed HB 18/10/17), gate lodge pre-1835 (listed HB 18/10/72) and Smithy, which looks like a gate lodge. Private. House in *Hidden Ireland* as a guest house.

#### **BALLEE HOUSE, County Down (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

The house dates back as far as 1687 (listed HB 18/9/46). The grounds were divided up years ago and at present provide a setting for interesting historic buildings, stables (listed HB 18/9/48), a bothy (listed HB 18/9/47) and a Pigeon House built c.1710 (listed HB 18/9/50). There are very few mature shelter trees but new planting has been added. A maintained modern garden lies at the carriage drive to the east of the house. The walled garden is not cultivated. SMR: DOWN 38:27 church site. Private.

#### **BALLYDUGAN HOUSE, County Down (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

The demesne was established in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The house dates from 1772 (listed HB 18/9/42). There are mature shelter trees and woodland. The walled garden is not cultivated but there is a very large English yew flourishing in the centre. A maintained ornamental and productive garden is near the house. The gate lodges have gone. SMR: DOWN 37:21 standing stone and 37:22 rath. Private. (This site lies to the south of a much larger demesne of Hollymount, which has completely gone. There are remnants of a fine oak wood on the east side, amongst forest planting).

#### **CHURCH HILL, County Down (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN DOWN 18)**

A modest house built from 1700 is surrounded by a beautiful maintained garden that, in its present form, was begun in 1923. It is composed of compartments, such as a heather garden, a rose garden, a vegetable garden and a box edged children's garden and a glasshouse. There are very mature yews near the house. Mountain views make a beautiful backdrop to the gardens. The gates and walling are listed (HB 18/13/3). Private.

## **AREA PLAN - LISBURN 19**

#### **HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN LISBURN 19)**

There are references to the building of demesne wall around the Large Park in 1668. This was the site of a former house and surrounding ornamental grounds, now much altered. It contains a lake, parkland, an artillery fort, mature trees and forest planting. The Small Park, on the west side of the town of Hillsborough, is the site of the present house of c.1797. This area was totally enclosed by walls during the 1840s, after the main road to Moira was re-routed away from the house. The property has the advantage of being in the hands of one family until the 1920s, when it was acquired by HMG. Atkinson in 1823 observed that the Hills paid more, '... attention to the profitable results of a good estate, than to the fanciful decorations of a picturesque landscape.' Yet handsome lakes were created in both Parks and early 19<sup>th</sup> century maps show extensive walks, rides and tree planting.

The Small Park is described in the *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* of 1837 as, '... beautifully wooded and the walks tastefully laid out. The garden is extensive, in it are green houses, hot houses and a pinery.' The 'garden' referred to is the walled garden, which was cultivated until the 1970s. It is now grassed but retains a summer house (listed HB 19/5/78). After the enclosure of the Small Park it was further enhanced in the vicinity of the present house (HB 19/5/75). Terracing was added to the south front, the Yew Walk going west towards Lady Alice's Temple (listed HB 19/5/79) and the Lime Walk with north-south orientation leading to a Pinetum belonging to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century

improvements. There are some notable plants, including a very large *Rhododendron arboreum* hybrid, which is in the *Guinness Book of Records*. An impressive feature is the Downshire Monument of 1848 (listed HB 19/5/114). Following the departure of the family the Large Park, of c400ha, was divided for use by DANI, half for farming and half for forestry. The latter part (northern) is open to the public and both areas have been developed as such for the last 70 years. The Small Park has been used by several Governors and latterly several Ministers. Some have had an interest and impact on the gardens, such as Lord and Lady Wakehurst, who developed a glen on the west side and Lady Glanville, who created a Rose Garden. The cast iron gates from Richhill House at the main entrance to the town, are a feature. Other buildings of note are:- Lodge and Guard House (listed HB 19/5/77), Ice House (listed HB 19/5/80). Garden store (listed HB 19/5/81). Boundary walls and gates in the Small Park are included with the house. The house and grounds of the Small Park are private, used by HM Govt as a ministers residence and is sometimes open for official functions. Public access to the northern half of the Large Park. SMR: DOWN 14:11 church and graveyard, 14:12 artillery fort and rath, 14:17 enclosure and 14:47 Richhill gates, 21:3 enclosure, 21:4 enclosure, 21:5 rath, 21:6 rath and 21:77 enclosure.

#### **KILWARLIN MORAVIAN CHURCH, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN LISBURN 19)**

The gardens at the church are of a rare type, a Battle Garden, of which there are a handful of examples in the UK as noted in Lady Jean O'Neill of the Maine in her article in *Country Life* of 1981. The church was built in 1755, improved in 1834 and is listed ( HB 19/5/133) (+ the gates HB 19/5/134). The gardens of interest belong to the period of restoration and were created by a pastor, the Rev Zula from 1834-44. The mounds of grass depict the battle of Thermopylae, which took place in 480 in the Rev Zula's native Greece. A bump represents Mount Oeta and a declivity symbolises the Aegean Sea. Aspects of the conflict can be read in the landscape, which is now surrounded by mature trees. This is a unique site in Northern Ireland. The church is in use. SMR: DOWN 14:4 church.

#### **LARCHFIELD, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN LISBURN 19)**

This demesne is completely walled in and has considerable shelter belting within the walls. The house dates from 1834 and is listed ( HB 19/6/3) as are the stables and coach house ( HB 19/6/23). Lewis remarks in 1837 that there was, '... a handsome mansion and extensive demesne'. These remain today. There are patches of woodland and parkland trees in the fields, including new planting of specimen trees. Formal gardens to the north of the house have been re-planned and are fully maintained with lawns and borders. Beyond, further north is an extensive planted rock garden and beyond that a man-made pond. The part-walled garden is partially maintained as a garden, though the original glasshouses have gone. A portion of this area is now a field. This site is a good example of a traditional demesne adapted to modern use, with all elements in good order. Private. SMR: DOWN 15:30 enclosure or tree ring.

#### **LISBURN CASTLE GARDENS, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN LISBURN 19)**

An extensive area within the town of Lisburn forms a green space with paths and decorative planting. This site is a remaining part of the gardens for the Castle of 1622, which was destroyed by fire in 1707. As the castle was never rebuilt some of the area was developed as a public pleasure ground, so there is a long tradition of public access. The town map of 1640 shows a good garden for the Castle, which became, in the words of Henry Bayley in *Topographical and Historical Account of Lisburn* (1834), '... elegantly laid off, with walks, shrubberies, &c and are always in the best order. The fine lofty plantations (beautifully foliaged in almost all seasons) along the sides of the centre grant walk, give a majesty and a sweetness to the whole'. He also remarks on the fine views of the River Lagan from the terrace, which is steep and is maintained with grass and steps today, though the views are less majestic! There is a detailed reference in the *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* of the state of the gardens in 1837. The gardens on the top of the hill today, on a level with Castle Street, were much as Bayley describes until extensive archaeological excavations and conservation, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, have been undertaken here from 2004. The four remarkable 17<sup>th</sup> century terraces, three of which are of brick, with double-flight perron, bowling green and banqueting pavilion have been cleared and excavated for presentation to the public. The Victorian municipal gardens, have also been restored; these include an avenue of mature trees, lawns, flower beds and two fountains of note; a Wallace fountain (one of two in the town) of 1872 (listed HB 19/16/7) and the Egret Fountain of c1870 (listed HB 19/16/15). A portion of the 17<sup>th</sup> century Castle gate still exists (listed HB 19/16/2). There is a monument to Sir Richard Wallace of 1892 (listed HB 19/16/8) and a mounted gun, captured at Sebastopol and erected on the site in 1858. Public access. SMR: ANT 62:2 artillery fort and gate.

#### **MOIRA CASTLE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN LISBURN 19)**

The house was demolished in 1870 but there is pictorial evidence as to its appearance and its surrounding parkland in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. The demesne dates from the 17<sup>th</sup> century and a good portion of this (15.6 ha) remains as a public park. The historical interest lies in the layout of straight avenues (replanted) with orientation onto features in the town and vestiges of canals and ponds. There are some mature and impressive trees, including two large plane

trees. Elwes and Henry *Trees of Great Britain and Ireland Vol. III* (1908), following their observations state that, 'In Ireland the oriental plane is a rather rare tree'. Other mature trees still exist in the farmland, formerly parkland, beyond the present-day public park. In 1969 a note in the UAHS book on the locality says of Moira demesne, '... planting remains (after the demolition of the castle), constituting a rare and potentially valuable asset in an area otherwise poor in landscaped parkland'. The site is of historic interest as it was the site of the first glasshouses in Ireland. Sir Arthur Rawden (1662-95) was a sponsor of an expedition to Jamaica to collect plants. Over 1000 specimens arrived and were housed under glass. Luckcombe in *A Tour Through Ireland* (1779) noted, '... improvements and garden are extensive, furnished with a variety of good fruit, and many exotics brought thither from Jamaica, which thrive well ...' No above-ground evidence of the glasshouses exists today. Public access. SMR: DOWN 13:9 folly or hermitage, 13:10 site of castle and 13:11 enclosure or tree ring.

**WALLACE PARK, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN LISBURN 19)**

Wallace Park is a public park of c. 10ha created on land presented to the people of Lisburn by Sir Richard Wallace in 1884. The area was formerly the outer park for Castle House, his Lisburn residence. He also furnished it with a bandstand, entrance gates and lodges. The latter are in disrepair. The pond was made from what was formerly a town reservoir. There are mature trees and further planting has been undertaken. Most of the grounds are grassed, the northern part consists of tree-lined paths and the southern end is occupied by sports fields. Private access.

**BELVEDERE, County Down (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN LISBURN 19)**

The late 18<sup>th</sup> century house (listed HB 19/23/21) sits on high ground with lawns approached via a lime avenue. It is surrounded by mature woodland. There is an artificial lake and a walled garden, which is not cultivated. Private. SMR: DOWN 9:6 enclosure/rath.

**BROOKHILL, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN LISBURN 19)**

The 18<sup>th</sup> century house, built near the site of a 17<sup>th</sup> century house, was demolished in 1960. However there are very fine stands of parkland trees in the surrounding fields and a notable block of woodland, which includes exotics, to the south east of the house. An ancient mound is enclosed in a wood at the front avenue. A back avenue is tree-lined. The walled garden, referred to as, '... most beautiful ...' in the Ordnance Survey memoirs of 1837, now has two houses inside but the walls remain; the south wall having been lowered and breached for entrances and views onto the road. A large glasshouse has gone but there is a little disused bothy at the north east corner. One of two gate lodges remains, which dates from the 1870s, when a new owner improved the demesne but is now ruinous. The demolished lodge was an earlier building. Basalt and brick stables and farm buildings are 19<sup>th</sup> century. SMR: ANT 63:37 fort, 63:59 house and bawn, 63:61 fort, 63:62 site of megalith and ? enclosure. Private.

**13 CASTLE STREET, LISBURN, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN LISBURN 19)**

This is a long narrow walled town garden of a type which was very common but of which very few remain intact. The layout belongs to the 19<sup>th</sup> century with sections accommodating many aspects of garden activity. There is a vegetable patch, an apple tree, lawn, ornamental flower beds (including box edging), rose pergola, a summer house and glasshouse with a vine. The garden is entirely enclosed by walls. No 13 Castle Street is a shop at street level, with business above. Gardens private.

**CONWAY (HOTEL), Co. Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN LISBURN 19)**

The original mid-19<sup>th</sup> century house and conservatory have gone but the site retains attributes of the original layout. Mature trees span a driveway sweeping up steeply to a balustraded terrace at the present building. There are exotic trees and a pond to the east of the building. The walled gardens are not planted up. Now the Forte Crest Hotel. Public access.

**PORTMORE, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN LISBURN 19)**

This is no longer an active garden site, though it is a known one in association with a 17<sup>th</sup> century house, which extended to a large demesne, including a deerpark of c.2,000 acres. References in the *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* record the vestiges of the site as existing in 1838. Private area. SMR: ANT 62:7 site of house.

**SEYMOUR HILL, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN LISBURN 19)**

The house of c.1789 (listed HB 19/19/1) is now institutional and the grounds open to the public. There is shelter belt planting and some mature trees in parkland. The walled garden is used as a nursery garden. Public access to grounds.

**SPRINGFIELD, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN LISBURN 19)**

The late 18<sup>th</sup> century house is listed ( HB 19/3/4). There are fine mature trees in the parkland and at the house. *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* of 1837 contain a detailed account of the garden at that time. It was a noted garden in

the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and there is an article in *Irish Gardening* of 1915 describing some of the planting. The walled garden is part cultivated. Private.

## AREA PLAN - ANTRIM 20

### **ANTRIM CASTLE, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN ANTRIM 20)**

The gardens are of great importance as they retain, in reasonable condition, features from the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Whereas at other sites in Ireland later fashions dictated alterations in garden layout, at Antrim the formal style typical of European gardens of the 17<sup>th</sup> century remained little changed throughout successive generations. The gardens are listed, naming the Long pond and Round Pond (listed HB 20/8/54). The present area of c.15ha north of the Sixmilewater River was part of a large holding of c.400ha, which stretched southwards on the south side of the river. A great deal of the latter was wooded, became a deer park and was set out in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century in clumps and shelter plantations in the landscape manner but no longer survives in that form. A fine stone bridge, the Deer Park Bridge (listed HB 20/8/3), spans the river at a shallow point and formed a link between the demesne and the rest of the estate. The house was burnt in the early 1920s. Known to have been in existence in 1662 and possibly begun as early as 1610, it was enlarged and remodelled in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. A remaining tower of 1887 is listed (HB 20/8/1). Jacobean decoration from the porch has been retained but is not kept on site. The Anglo-Norman motte adjacent to the house was made into a garden feature, with a yew-lined spiral walk leading to the top, from which views of the grounds, the town of Antrim and the river could (and can still) be enjoyed. The castle and the motte were enclosed within a bawn and protected by artillery bastions (listed HB 20/8/55), which were utilized for gardens from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The formal canals, linked by a small cascade and lined with clipped lime and hornbeam hedges, are the main attraction. The wooded Wilderness is interspersed with straight paths that lead to vistas outside the demesne, which added to the impression that the area it covers is larger than it is. Unfortunately most of the vistas have now been blocked. A round pond is a feature in the wilderness. A small former parterre garden is now the family memorial ground. A larger parterre was reconstructed in the 1990s and now forms a considerable ornamental area planted in the manner of a 17<sup>th</sup> century garden, including plants that were known to have been grown at that time. The model for the layout comes from Castle Coole in Co Fermanagh. This area is bounded by a fine clipped lime hedge and a venerable yew hedge. Use of the site as an army camp in the last world war possibly accounts for the paucity of fine mature trees. Other sections have suffered; the kitchen and ornamental Terrace Garden were destroyed in the 1960s, when a road was laid through part of the area. The main gate lodge from the town, the Barbican Gate (listed HB 20/8/15), was possibly built in 1818 to the designs of John Bowden and has been separated from the site by the intrusion of the road. An underpass now connects the lodge entrance to the grounds. Another gate lodge, at the farm and stables entrance on the Randalstown Road, has been demolished. The stable block, built in the 1840s and now known as Clotworthy House (listed HB 20/8/4), is used as an arts centre. It replaced an earlier stable block immediately to the east of the house and assumed the name 'House' when the family went to live in it some time after the fire at the castle. The grounds are owned by Antrim Borough Council and are open all the time for public access. SMR: ANT 50:109 Anglo-Norman motte (otherwise known as the Mount or Mound). Antrim Borough Council. Public access at all times.

### **RAM'S ISLAND, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN ANTRIM 20)**

The island is of historical interest, as it is the site of a Round Tower. It is known to have had a garden in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, when it was referred to as Innis or Ennis Garden. The owner in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century had an orchard, garden and garden house, in which a man and his family lived (presumably the gardener). It then became part of the estate of Shane's Castle. A cottage was built and it was further planted up to create a romantic and decorative retreat for expeditions. Lewis, in 1837, describes it as, '... partially planted with fruit trees and otherwise improved and ornamented'. The Halls, in 1850, report that there was a cottage for '... occasional residence ...' but that the tower, '... standing among trees of every possible variety ...' was a ruin. The cottage was described as, '... extremely ornate ...' in 1861, when tourists took picnic trips to the island. It was also used as a shooting lodge. In the 1960s it was leased and an attempt was made to have a self-sufficient garden for the house, which did not prove possible. There is extensive tree cover; the trees are tall and spindly. The garden has gone wild and though many shrubs remain, the layout of the gardens is not longer visible. The shell of the dwelling survives. SMR: ANT 58:16 round tower. Private. The landing stage is in a state of disrepair.

### **SHANE'S CASTLE, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN ANTRIM 20)**

The extensive and fine walled demesne lies on the north shores of Lough Neagh. It was established in the 17<sup>th</sup> century and surrounds a succession of houses on different sites. There are ruins of the original dwelling (listed HB 20/4/51) on the shores of Lough Neagh and the 18<sup>th</sup> century house, with a lake-side terrace (listed HB 20/4/43) and a vault of 1722 (listed HB 20/4/44). It was enlarged in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century by John Nash (listed HB 20/4/41) but burnt down in 1816. The attached and surviving camellia house, also by Nash, of 1815 is full of plants (listed HB

20/4/42). The present house was built in 1958 in a clement spot to the north-west of the earlier house and south-west of the intermediate 1860s house (by Lanyon, Lynn and Lanyon), which was burnt in the 1920s. The parkland is beautiful and contains many well distributed venerable trees. There are substantial shelter belts, which once accommodated walks and rides. Clumps and plantations also grace the fields. There has been a long history of ornamental gardens and productive gardens on the site. It was visited, depicted and remarked upon by various commentators of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. A portrait of the landscape gardener John Sutherland by Martin Creggan (1822), hangs in the house. Early 20<sup>th</sup> century photographs show well maintained acres in the days when many gardeners were employed to keep up a high standard commensurate with the size of the demesne. In 1933 the surroundings were described as, ‘... exceedingly pretty, with old oaks, lovely flowers and enchanting vistas of both river and lake, and with rockeries, water-lily ponds and ferneries in profusion.’ A large and impressive mid-19<sup>th</sup> century rockery built in a quarry near the lough shores is not planted up but is kept clear. At the present time there are beautifully maintained contemporary gardens at the house and adaptations of the walled garden planting for modern use. Glasshouses have been removed. The arboretum is being reinforced and much new planting has been added in the vicinity of the house. There is a family graveyard, with a statue of a harpist by Victor Segoffin of 1923 (listed HB 20/4/44a). There are many well maintained and listed estate buildings such as Ballealy Cottage c.1835 ( HB 20/4/48). The surviving gate lodges by James Sands are very fine; Dunmore Lodge c.1850, Antrim Lodge c.1848, White or Ballygrooby Lodge c.1848 and Randalstown Gate c.1848, which are all HB listed. The latter lodges belong to a period of enhancement on the demesne. Two pre-1829 bridges are Dunmore Bridge (listed HB 20/4/45) and Deerpark Bridge (listed HB 20/4/47). The Deer Park, on the western side of the River Main, was sold to DANI (FS) before the last war and is known as Randalstown Forest. The great number of SMR: sites indicate the importance of the parcel of land in the past. SMR: ANT 49:20 motte and bailey, 49:21 and 22 raths, 49:29 Shanes Castle (ruins), 49:30 tree ring, 49:31 enclosure/tree ring, 49:32 rath, 49:33 tree ring, 49:34 motte and bailey, 49:35 motte?, 49:36 enclosure, 49:37 and 38 raths, 49:39 and 40 enclosures, 49:54 private graveyard, 49:55 and 63 enclosures, 49:78 standing stone, 49: rath. Private.

**CASTLE UPTON, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ANTRIM 20)**

A 17<sup>th</sup>-century house, improved in 1783 and 1837 (listed HB 20/12/18) is surrounded by a diminished demesne, with little mature planting. There are trees near the house, a small artificial lake and lawns where a 19<sup>th</sup> century formal garden was once laid out. The walled garden is used as a field. Robert Adam’s stable block (listed HB 20/12/19) and mausoleum (listed HB 20/12/20) are approached via a contemporary gate lodge of 1820 (listed HB 20/12/17). The impressive Village Entrance to the house is by Edward Blore (1837) (listed HB 20/12/16) has a gate lodge hidden behind it. SMR: ANT 51:58 mound, 51:59 castle. Private; public access to mausoleum (NT) only.

**GLENDARAGH, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ANTRIM 20)**

Sometimes known as Glendarragh House it was built in 1805. The small demesne developed around it with, ‘... highly embellished grounds’. 19<sup>th</sup>-century tree planting along the glen at the Crumlin River and the very attractive ornamental building of the Cockle House (listed HB 20/15/18), that lies above the waterfall, survive. The walled garden was severed and a gate lodge lost when the railway was built in 1860. There is an ice house. Noted early 20<sup>th</sup> century gardens sloping from the house are now gone. Private house; river walks DANI (FS) public amenity.

**GREENMOUNT, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ANTRIM 20)**

The demesne surrounds the house of 1820 built to the designs of C R Cockerell (listed HB 20/13/3). Shelter belt trees from that era still form protection, which is particularly necessary for the central area on high ground. There were many ornamental features, such as a grotto and hermitage. Both are now dilapidated. The ice house survives and ponds both near the house and to the west side remain in good condition. The OSM records in 1838 that, ‘The grounds are laid out with great taste and to the greatest advantage. There are three handsome ponds, a very pretty flower garden, many nice walks ...’ These however were said to have been in a state of neglect when the account was written. The grounds have been adapted for use by the College of Agriculture and Horticulture. Greenmount has been a college since 1912 and a research unit from 1952. Much of the grounds are utilized for that purpose but there is also a good deal of well maintained ornamental ground. The planting schemes are continuous and experimental but are also required to be attractive. The current use has meant many changes in the landscape from the original holding of fields and gardens for the house but many old trees remain to enhance the site. There is a walled garden, the interior of which has been altered many times over the years since college occupation. There are no original glasshouses (‘... tolerable grapery and pinery ...’ – OSM 1838) left but the stove houses and bothies remain and are used for other purposes today. Later glasshouses have come and gone, as and when needed. School parties visit the nature trail and there are car parks for visitors. Two gate lodges, contemporary with the house, have been demolished. A pair of gate lodges flank the east entrance. They were added in 1925 for the college and are by the architect. R Ingleby-Smith. SMR: ANT 50:87, 89, 149 and 150 enclosures. Greenmount College of Agriculture and Horticulture. Groups by appointment and open days.

**HOLESTONE HOUSE, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ANTRIM 20)**

The demesne was placed on a mid-18<sup>th</sup> century deer park. The house (listed HB 20/6/11) was enlarged and improved in 1827. It sits on an elevated site, surrounded by shelter trees. The planting of the trees is commemorated by an inscription carved on a stone, which lies in the field to the south of the house. The number of trees, the dates when they were planted and the name of the owner are recorded. Many trees remain from the late 18<sup>th</sup> early 19<sup>th</sup>-century period but as the majority are beech, they may not last for very much longer. Many parkland trees had disappeared by the 1930s. The walled garden is dated 1836 and no longer cultivated. There is a lodge of c.1850). Two other gate lodges are gone, one of which has a listed gateway c.1836 (20/6/16). SMR: ANT 51:2 enclosure. Private.

**LOUGHANMORE, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ANTRIM 20)**

The demesne was established in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The house of 1785 was replaced in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and that house was subsequently demolished. The present main dwelling was created in the stable block (listed HB 20/6/6). The setting for the former dwellings is a fine and extensive parkland, with mature shelter belts, clumps, avenue trees and new planting. Former productive and ornamental gardens that were in a partially walled garden decorated with crenellations, have now gone but a stone tower and weather vane remain. Three of four gate lodges survive; two of pre-1832 and the Arts and Crafts entrance of c.1910. The lodge of c.1860 is listed ( HB 20/6/5). SMR: ANT 50:120 souterrain. Private.

**THE STEEPLE, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ANTRIM 20)**

The gentleman's residence of 1827 (listed HB 20/9/2) is set above well maintained grass terracing in flat parkland, with clumps of mature trees and shelter belt planting. The '... pretty shrubberies of evergreens and two very neat and well laid out flower gardens...' (OSM 1835) have not survived. The round tower in the grounds was photographed by the local. W A Green in the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, showing ornamental planting around it. The former walled garden, where the ballaun stone rested, has been built over. Two gate lodges of c.1845, the North and South Lodges, lie on the east side. SMR: ANT 50:8 ballaun stone, 50:9 round tower, 50:128 antiquity? The house is the headquarters of Antrim Borough Council. Public are admitted to the grounds.

## **AREA PLAN - NEWTOWNABBEY 21**

**DRUMADARRAGH HOUSE, Co. Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN NEWTOWNABBEY 21)**

The present house dates from the 18<sup>th</sup> century, with later additions and is listed ( HB 20/6/12). The site benefits from mature trees which provide a shelter belt. The chief attribute of this site is a well planted and maintained ornamental garden planted from 1948, both within and outside the walled garden. Outside there is a wild garden beside a stream and inside are herbaceous borders, island beds, productive areas, mature trees and an arboretum begun in 1964. Private.

**FISHERWICK, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN NEWTOWNABBEY 21)**

The house has its origins as an 18<sup>th</sup> century hunting lodge within the surrounding walled deer park, though the present single-storey house dates from 1805 (listed HB 21/02/001). It was built for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Marquess of Donegall and is a single-storey dwelling the cottage style, with extensive stabling and kennels for hounds. Dubourdiou remarked in his *Statistical Survey* of 1812 that, '... the plantations have much improved and enlivened the look of this well placed hamlet...' (Doagh). The *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* of 1839 report that 'The gardens are not extensive'. It was sold by the Donegall estate c.1847 and subsequently belonged to members of the Molyneux, Hagan and Patton families. The area to the south of the house is grassed at the present time and the site of an artificial lake is now drained. There are a few mature trees near the house and some shelter belting to the south west. Private.

## **AREA PLAN - CARRICKFERGUS 22**

**CASTLE DOBBS, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN CARRICKFERGUS 22)**

The demesne was established in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The present house dates from 1730 (listed HB 22/13/1) and stands in a splendid position overlooking Belfast Lough and the County Down shore. There is remaining evidence of the formal gardens for the 17<sup>th</sup> century house, which is now in ruins adjacent to the later house. The present layout is in relation to the 18<sup>th</sup> century house and takes the form of a landscape park, with a lake, bridge and cascade. The whole demesne contains fine mature trees in shelter belts, parkland, woodland and avenues. There are informal glenside walks, recent planting by the lake and ornamental areas near the house. One walled garden is



no longer cultivated but another, to the west of the house is fully maintained and the potting sheds are still in use. A remaining glasshouse backs onto these. The design of this garden was created to commemorate the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Arthur Dobb's birth in 1689. Arthur Dobbs was a plantsman and is noted for recognition of *Dionaea muscipula* (Venus fly-trap) whilst governor of North Carolina. The site has been in the continuous care of one family and there is good documentary evidence as to its development. There have been successful adaptations through the years to suit the style of the times. Two late 19<sup>th</sup> century gate lodges remain but two from earlier in the century have gone. SMR: ANT 47:16 two circular raths, 47:17 enclosure, 47:46? souterrain, 53:1 fortification, 53:2 enclosure? tree ring. Private.

**SEA PARK OR SEAPARK HOUSE, Co. Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN CARRICKFERGUS 22)**

Sea Park is a lough shore house dating from 1804 (listed HB 22/7/11) with lawns sweeping down to the water with a very good aspect. There is a boat house and a bathing house at the shore. Mature trees give the house necessary shelter, though no ornamental planting remains. The *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* of 1839 commented on 16 acres of, "... prettily ornamented grounds..." and planting. The walled garden is cultivated and at present is used by Carrickfergus Borough Council. It contains the remains of a glazed grotto, which was photographed by R J Welch (date unknown). Recently institutional, the site is now privately owned.

## **AREA PLAN – NORTH DOWN 23**

**BANGOR, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN NORTH DOWN 23)**

An important designed landscape with early 17<sup>th</sup> century origins. It contained a succession of manorial houses, all on different sites, and each associated with different landscape phases. The earliest house, a gable-ended two storey block, was built by Sir James Hamilton c.1615 and is depicted on Raven's 1625 Clondeboy Estate map, complete with its associated formal gardens. This house lay immediately south-east of the present Victorian mansion and traces of its associated gardens can still be traced in the park on the east side; these incorporate a number of surviving contemporary yews, including the stump of 'Schomberg's Tree'. These gardens were described by Harris in 1744 in his *The Ancient & Present State of the County of Down* as being 'filled with noble evergreens of a great size, cut in various shapes, among which is an evergreen oak, which, though it grows as a shrub in most other places here is a tall tree, and of considerable girth'. Loudon, writing in 1844 noted that in 1835 there was a large mulberry tree here, probably also of early date. The house started to fall into decay by at least the 1720s; it was still present in 1752 when Pococke described it as 'very indifferent' and noted that in the grounds 'the spruce fir, the Ilex, Bays, Hollies & other ever greens, planted at first chiefly in the flower garden are grown to be very fine forest trees'. Luckombe considered it a 'low moderate structure' in 1779, but in the 1790s it had been replaced by a 'very elegant house' [Post-Chaise Companion], located on a new site just north of the present Victorian mansion. Built by Michael Edward Ward (1789-1832), son of Robert Ward and grandson of first Viscount Bangor of Castle Ward, this new house was in the Gothick style with square plan and narrow east wing with detached offices further east downslope. This building and its surrounding contemporary landscape park, are depicted in an engraving dated 1832 in Proctor's *Belfast Scenery in Thirty Views*; this shows that the house had crenellated parapets, with a mixture of pointed and square headed windows with hood mouldings and octagonal corner turrets; the main entrance apparently lay on the north side. The mansion was flanked by park lawns dotted with clumps and isolated trees, all enclosed with screens, belts and woodlands, the whole boasting fine views over Belfast Lough. In 1847-52 an 'Elizabethan Revival' style house in Ayrshire sandstone was built to designs of the prolific Scottish architect William Burn for Robert Edward Ward (1818-1904). His father's Gothick mansion, which lay a short distance to the north, was demolished in 1853, once the new house had been completed. The new house was flanked by formal terraced gardens with balustrading, especially on the north side, and these once have boasted colourful parterres in the fashion of the age. An adjacent stable block, which is incorporated into the house, but built in a more serious medieval style, may be the work of Anthony Salvin, the great English architect. This stable range is now home of the Heritage Centre. Salvin may have also been responsible for the Home Farm buildings (c.1850-2) and both the Abbey Street Gate Lodge (c.1852, HB 23/07/03) and the Castle Street Gate Lodge (c.1852; HB 23/07/01). Contemporary with these is the walled garden, lying on high ground a short distance west of the Home Farm building; it has a rectangular plan and its high enclosing walls built in Bangor clay brick (save only the outside of the north wall). The garden is subdivided by an east-west wall into two areas; a vinery lay on the south facing wall in the north sector, but most of the glasshouses ranges lay in the north sector, including peach houses. Until recent years this area was used by the Borough Council for propagation. There was a fernery on the north outside wall of the garden; presently this is breeze-blocked to prevent vandals gaining access (accessible from the potting shed). In the area between the walled garden and the house is an arboretum, begun in the 1840s and stocked with specimens brought by members of the family serving in various parts of the Empire. These trees are protected by older mature parkland trees. Mitchell in *A Field Guide to the Trees of Britain and Northern Europe*, 1974, remarks on the fine

Monterey Pines and Blue-gums here. Elsewhere older parkland trees survive. This grassed area south of the house contains a small rockery, family memorials and paths, including 'My Lady's Walk'. On the death of Maude, Lady Clanmorris, Robert Edward's daughter and heiress in 1941, the property was sold to Bangor Borough Council. The house became the Town Hall in 1952 and the grounds opened to the public as Castle Park. Grounds public amenity. SMR DOWN 2:2 site of abbey 2:27 site of cross. WARD PARK: Leased by the Ward family as a public park from 1909, it was designed by Cheal's Nurseries, who won a competition to plan the layout. It is formal and includes a First World War Memorial.

**CLANDEBOYE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN NORTH DOWN 23)**

One of the most extensive examples of Victorian parkland planting in Ulster, this important 800 acre parkland was created out of the core of an earlier 18<sup>th</sup> century designed landscape. The demesne was founded in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, depicted on Raven's Map of 1625-6. Formerly known as Ballyleidy, there were a number of earlier houses near the site of the present mansion, including a modest late 17<sup>th</sup> century house and a three-storey gable-ended house of c.1760. The present house (listed HB 23/10/2), was designed by Robert Woodgate in 1801-04, for James Blackwood, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Dufferin. It is a conventional two storey Georgian block in 'Soanic' style, with two main facades at right angles to one another; the east façade, being the original entrance front, has seven bays with a pedimented Doric portico. The formal landscape that accompanied the old 18<sup>th</sup> century house was swept aside in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century for a good quality professionally designed landscape park, possibly the work of John Sutherland (1745-1826). In the late 1840s Frederick Temple Blackwood, having succeeded his father as the fifth Baron Dufferin in 1841, started to undertake alterations to the house, notably by moving the entrance from the south to the west. The park was remodelled and expanded very considerably in size, this being in part the work of James Fraser (1793-1863), the best-known exponent of Picturesque landscaping in Victorian Ireland. Much of the work provided employment in the years after the famine, and involved the closing of the public road, sweeping away surrounding fields and farm buildings and in their stead, planting of new belts, screens and sweeping deciduous woodlands. Between 1852 and 1862 a number of lakes were dug, notably a great lake with islands to the south and east of the house. On the west side of the demesne a two-and-a-half-mile avenue was created to provide access to the private family railway station at Helen's Bay to the north, itself built in baronial style and approached via a splendid turreted arch, both built to designs of Benjamin Ferrey (HB 23/15/43-37). On a hill (480ft OD) in the southern sector of the park William Burn was commissioned in 1848 to design a castellated tower; this was not completed until 1862 and was named Helen's Tower by Lord Dufferin, in honour of his mother, Helena Selina, a grand-daughter of Richard Brinsley Sheridan (HB23/06/09). Lord Dufferin, who later (1888) became the 1<sup>st</sup> Marquess of Dufferin and Ava, and became a well known statesman, diplomat, including Governor general of Canada and Viceroy of India, had greater ambitions for Clandeboye; notably, he engaged William Henry Lynn from 1865 to build a grand new house in Scottish baronial style, but this project was never undertaken. During his extensive postings abroad, exotic trees were brought back and planted in a Pinetum mentioned by Lord Headfort in 1932 in *Conifers in the Parks and Gardens of Ireland*. Today the demesne is a successful and maintained amalgam of woodland, farm and golf course. The ornamental planting is mainly to the north east and south east of the house in the form of different compartments begun at different times. An 1890s formal terraced garden at the house, incorporating steps, balustrated and terra-cotta vases, is now grassed-over, but the 20<sup>th</sup> century additions are still maintained. These include The Conservatory Garden, which is an enclosed garden near the house of 1938; Brenda's Garden – an informal planting in a woodland glen begun in the 1930s and now extending east and an arboretum that was begun in the 1960s to the north east of the house. The former Bear Garden close to the house, provides the setting for a formal Bee Garden created in the 1980s as the setting for a Bee House that was moved here from Altona. More recently in 1990 was created the Sheridan Garden, in memory of the late Lord Dufferin, in a previously laurel infested woodland setting. The walled garden is used by Conservation Volunteers and modern glasshouses outside are in use for the house. Other demesne buildings include the Gothic Revival private chapel of c.1890 by Henry Lynn (HB 23/4/5); the gas works, built c.1870 (HB 23/10/020); classical limestone pedestal memorial at Campo Santo in Tomb Wood to the south-east of the house, c.1820 (HB 23/10/016) and seven gate lodges, of which six still survive: Early Lodge c.1830, Inner Lodge c.1845, Cloister Lodge c.1845, Belfast or Ava Lodge by Ferrey 1855, Bridge Lodge possibly by Lanyon, c.1875 and South or Newtownards Lodge c.1890. House private. SMR DOWN 1:23 enclosure 'Ursula's Fort', 1:25 enclosure 'Fort Robert Wood', 1:26 enclosure/rath 'Campo Santo', 1:31 cross fragment, 2:23 enclosure 'Spurs and Roses' – clump now subsumed within a plantation, 2:24 enclosure 'Thora's Fort', 2:25 tree rings? 'Burmanti Clump', 6:1 standing stone, + six other SMR sites in the vicinity. Following the death of the 4<sup>th</sup> Marquess in 1988, a number of environmental projects and charities at Clandeboye were begun, including the Prince's Trust, the NI branch of the Woodland Trust, established in 1998 in partnership with the Dufferin Foundation and a link with Kew Gardens. In the courtyard is 'Dendron Lodge', the 'Clandeboye Environmental Centre' used by the Conservation Volunteers Northern Ireland for meetings, workshops and accommodation. Grounds Private.

**CRAWFORDSBURN (COUNTRY PARK) , County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN NORTH DOWN 23)**

The present house of 1906 by Vincent Craig (HB 23/15/7) sits isolated in lawns beside Belfast Lough. The previous house of c.1820 was on a site to the west, facing the lough, immediately north of the walled garden and stables. It replaced a c.1780s house. An 1832 print by Procter of a Molloy sketch shows the house, with some trees growing up beside the then new house. Subsequently a great deal of planting was undertaken, so that today the area is well wooded. There is extensive woodland and glen-side planting, shelter belts and two fine twisting approach avenues. An ornamental garden, known as ‘Mrs Crawford’s Garden’ was added in the 1880s. This is illustrated in a Welch photo, lying to the west of the house. A rockery and pond remains, with some now outsized plants but it is not maintained. The walled garden is part used for a tree nursery and not otherwise cultivated. The gardens were probably at their peak at the turn of the century. Banim says, in 1892 it had, ‘luxuriant growth of tree ... masses of crimson rhododendrons lend rich colour’ Robinson commented in the *Garden Annual and Almanack*, in 1908 and the head gardener, John Whytock had a regular column in *Irish Gardening* in that period. Since the 1970s re-planting for the Country Park has improved the site. There is a waterfall, numerous bridges, including a stone viaduct by Lanyon and modern buildings and landscaping associated with the Country Park. The ‘Crawfordsburn Fern’ was discovered here. It is thought to be extinct. The gates lodges are notable and are all listed. Burn Lodge of c.1812 is thought to be by Nash for the first house. Helen’s Bay Lodge is c.1870 and Home Farm Lodge is c.1900. SMR DOWN 1:39 mill. Crawfordsburn Country Park. Grounds public amenity, house private.

**CULTRA MANOR, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN NORTH DOWN 23)**

The grounds were created for the house of 1902-4, which lies in an elevated position, commanding fine views of Belfast Lough (HB 23/18/2). Hills behind the shelter belt trees protect the house from the westerly winds. There are two planted glens running on the east and west side of the house, with walks and bridges. The lawns to the north of the house descend to a rockery, which is not maintained, neither is the once famous rose garden. The site is now landscaped for the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum and the house is no longer the centre piece. Family items such as their graveyard and the pets graveyard, have been absorbed into the subsequent development. However the Museum has benefitted from the mature trees and sweeping carriage drive flanked by flowering shrubs since 55ha were purchased in 1961. The gate lodge is 1905. SMR DOWN 1:7 souterrain. Ulster Folk and Transport Museum.

**GLENGANAGH, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN NORTH DOWN 23)**

The modest house on the shores of Ballyholm Bay built c.1820 (HB 23/1/1) has two conservatories. The garden is fully maintained and retains features of past years. There are mature trees, with walks beneath to a Shell House in the south, a rockery and a Cinder House to the north. The walled garden is cultivated but the rose garden is no longer kept up. There is a glasshouse in the latter garden. The gate lodge of 1900 is listed (HB 23/1/2). Private.

**GUINCHO, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN NORTH DOWN 23)**

Guincho is an important garden that was created from 1947 by the late Vera Mackie in an attractive manner around a modest house. The basic layout of her garden is retained. Many of the plants that she was expert in collecting and placing survive but as she died some twenty years ago, in 1975 and the house was empty at one time, several original plants have disappeared. The plants originally formed a very valuable collection, including specimens from famous collectors such as Frank Kingdon Ward and Lord Talbot de Malahide. The garden was exceptionally well laid out. The site already had a mature wooded valley, forming a shelter belt on the western side and protecting the garden from the worst of the wind. Special beds, lawns, borders, a stream and glasshouses are included. Guincho has been maintained under the supervision of Mrs Mackie’s gardener, William Harrison, who was employed by subsequent owners of the property after her death. He has written about the garden in, *In an Irish Garden* in 1986. Mary Forrest recorded plant material in, *Trees and Shrubs Cultivated in Ireland* in 1988. *Sambucus nigra* ‘Guincho Purple’ was discovered by Mrs Mackie in Scotland and grows in the garden. Private.

**LORNE, County Down (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN NORTH DOWN 23)**

The house was built from 1863 to 1865 and it set in a small parkscape overlooking Belfast Lough (HB 23/16/002). The mansion, faced with yellow polychrome brickwork and ashlar surrounds, sports a magnificent cast iron conservatory, which is a rare survival. It is not planted up but maintained and used as indoor space by the owners, the Girl Guides Association. Private.

## **AREA PLAN - ARDS 24**

**BALLYWALTER PARK, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN ARDS 24)**

The present demesne is an amalgamation of two adjoining older establishments, namely Ballymagown, later Springvale House, the site on which the present house is constructed and Ballyatwood to the west. The first house of Ballymagown, a two storied block over a basement, was built in the 1730s by Mr Matthews following its purchase from the Montgomery's Rosemount estate. It was remodelled between 1805-12 and renamed Springvale. Planting and features remain from this earlier phase. Following the purchase of the demesne by Andrew Mulholland in 1846, work began on the present imposing house by Lanyon, which was completed in 1852. This involved remodelling and extending the existing Springvale house, now renamed Ballywalter Park in Italian Renaissance style (listed HB 24/4/28 + park and garden walling). In 1863 Lanyon returned to add the conservatory and the Gentleman's Wing to the north-west corner, while in 1902 the architect W.J. Fennell added the Bachelor's Wing to provide accommodation for visiting cricketers. A balustraded entrance drive at the east front of the house overlooks parkland to the sea. Extensive replanting followed the purchase of the property in 1846. Older shelter belts were retained as an important element in an exposed site and others were planted for the present house. There are mature woodlands, with rides and extensive parkland within the walls. Planting post 1846 was extensive and c.93,500 trees and shrubs were added in the first winter. Mature parkland trees at the west side of the house were removed to give space for planting fashionable exotic evergreens. Rhododendrons were introduced. The latter collection flourished in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and the surviving plants are recorded in Mary Forrest's, *Trees and Shrubs Cultivated in Ireland* compiled in 1988, including several raised by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Baron Dunleath and notably, Rhododendron Lady Dunleath. There is a rock and water garden (restored 1988) dwarfed beneath the now large evergreens amidst rolling lawns. Mark Bence-Jones aptly describes the site in 1988 in *A Guide to Irish Country Houses*, 'The garden front of the house overlooks wide-spreading lawns with paths and statues, beyond which is a notable collection of ornamental trees and shrubs.' One vista has been cut to a modern folly of 1986. Many paths have been grassed over. A dovecote of 1759 (listed HB 24/4/41) lies in the woods. Ornamental bridges by Lanyon span streams (listed HB 24/4/30 & 31). The walled garden, contemporary with the present house, is cultivated and adorned with a rose pergola. A rose garden occupies the southern end of the garden and there is ornamental planting on the exterior, on the path from the house to the walled garden. Glasshouses have been recently restored. The head gardener, W. King contributed a regular column to *Irish Garden* on 'The Flower Garden' in the hey-day of Ireland's great country house gardens just before the First World War. An Edwardian cricket pitch and 9-hole golf course are not longer present. The retained Springvale pre-1834 stables are listed (HB 24/4/29). There were seven several gate lodges, one of which is by Lanyon c.1850 and another by Fennell c.1900. House private (recently restored). SMR: DOWN 12:11 enclosure and tree ring, 12: 12 enclosure and tree ring.

**CARROWDORE CASTLE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN ARDS 24)**

Parkland surrounds a fine house of 1818 (listed HB 24/5/1) and small blocks of woodland, with a shelter belt beyond. There is a well planted and manicured ornamental garden to the east of the house, which slopes to a lake. A stone gazebo terminates the 'castle' battlements. The layout of the parkland has changed remarkably little from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, except for the presence of a modern mansion built south-west of the old house. The Millisle Gate lodge, a surviving one of two gate lodges, is contemporary with the old house and is notable for a castellated parapet and towers, with a pair of dwellings. SMR DOWN 7:9 enclosure/tree ring (?), 7:10 enclosure/tree ring (?), 7:16 circular feature. Private.

**GREYABBEY (or ROSEMOUNT) HOUSE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN ARDS 24)**

The name, Greyabbey, which is also that of the adjacent village, derives from the late 12<sup>th</sup> century Cistercian Abbey at the site. The ruins of the abbey can be seen from the house. The manorial demesne, long known as Rosemount, was established in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century and the present house was built during the early 1760s (listed HB 24/4/17). Originally the property of the Clandeboyne O'Neills, Grey Abbey was granted in 1607 to Sir, later Viscount, Hugh Montgomery. In 1634 his son Sir James built a 'noble house and stately out-offices', described by William Montgomery in 1683 as 'a double roofed-house and a baron and fower flankers with bakeing and brewing houses, stable and other needful office houses....built after the forraigne and English manner; with outer and inner courts walled about and surrounded wh pleasant gardens, orchards, meadows and pasture inclosures under view of ye said house called Rosemount from which ye manner taketh name. The same was finished by ...Sir James Ao Domi 1634'. In 1701 William Montgomery was to add to this account that 'only some small convenient additions of buildings and orchards were made by ye sd William and improved lately by his sd son James'. In Harris's *County of Down*, 1744, it was related that 'Rosemount was the mansion house of Sir James Montgomery ...he built here a noble house and stately out-offices (which were afterwards burnt down Ann. 1695) and laid out fine gardens behind it, executed in the form of a regular Fortification, some Bastions of which are yet to be seen. However the present worthy proprietor [William Montgomery] has built a neat and commodious house with handsome offices on part of the site of the former offices, and laid out his gardens and Out-grounds about it in elegant taste'. This house too, built in 1717 by William Montgomery (died 1725), was itself later burnt. In the absence of surviving 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> century Montgomery estate maps (no doubt burnt in one of those fires or in a fire in the agent's house) it is difficult to be certain where exactly these various early buildings stood. The house, which was accidentally burnt in

1695, may have stood in the vicinity of the present stable yard, and indeed could have the 1717 house, but some believe could have stood on the seaward side of the present mansion. The 'fortified' garden may have occupied what is now the walled garden to the north-west, but there seems to be no physical sign of this today. It is possible that the present yard, being a complex of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings, could incorporate elements of the 'handsome offices on part of the site of the former house', mentioned by Harris in 1744. The present house at Rosemount, located on a rise in the park, was built from 1762 by William Montgomery, who had succeeded to the property in 1755. It was still being erected when James Boswell visited the place on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1769 and noted the 'excellent house of Mr. Montgomery's own planning, and not yet finished'. The house is a three-storey block over basement, severe Palladian in style, with six bay entrance front, hipped roof and balustraded roof parapet. It has a three-sided bow in the centre of the garden front (Gothic windows on ground floor, inspired by Castle Ward, are a later addition, possibly c.1785) and canted projections and diagonally set single-storey side porches on the side elevations, the latter being added in 1845-6 to design of James Sands, commissioned by Hugh Montgomery, who succeeded to the family property from his father William in 1831. The roof balustraded parapets were also added in the 1840s. A single-storey smoking room extension was added to the north-east in 1895. The existing naturalistic landscape park with its woodlands, shelter belts, meandering walks and sweeping carriage drives, was laid out as a setting for this house in the 1760s or 1770s. The old abbey ruins were made a feature of this park and a sunken drive was created below the garden front of the house (listed HB 24/04/017C); in the 1840s a masonry pedestrian humped bridge was built allowing access to the park across this sunken way (listed HB 24/04/017 D). Near the abbey a well house was built c.1770s, known as 'The Nun's Well', a possibly replacing a medieval well-house mentioned by Harris in 1744 (listed 24/04/017 F). The stable yard, being a complex of one and two-storey ranges of both 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century construction, including a free-standing game larder, are hidden within the park (listed HB 24/04/017B) as is the walled garden (listed HB 24/04/017E) lying to the north-west. The three pretty 19<sup>th</sup> century gate lodges were added in the 19<sup>th</sup> century; namely, the old gate lodge c.1820 (known as Rosemount Cottage and made redundant by a re-alignment of the public road); the Abbey entrance c.1815-20 (listed HB 24/04/18) and the later town West Gate Lodge c.1860 (HB 24/04/16). The Abbey entrance lodge is in Georgian Gothick style, as is the pinnacles gate-screen, and appears to have been inspired by the lodges at Mount Stewart designed by George Dance, the Younger, in 1808-09. In 1843 the garden designer Ninian Niven made some alterations to the park layout, notably adding a parterre to the terrace on the north east side of the house; this has been grassed over in recent decades. The parkland survives today in good order and contains fine mature trees with shelter belts and woodlands down to the lough shore. Contemporary ornamental planting is maintained to the east and west of the north front; the south entrance front is in lawns, with a sweeping carriage drive. Part of the walled garden to the north west of the house is cultivated. A portion of what was once a much larger orchard is retained. SMR: DOWN 11:10 the Abbey, 11:11 mound and enclosure, 12:8 site of 17<sup>th</sup> century house. Private.

#### **MOUNT STEWART, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN ARDS 24)**

One of the most outstanding gardens of the British Isles and proposed as a World Heritage Site. It was formulated within an already established walled demesne on the shores of Strangford Lough, with mature shelter tree cover some two hundred years old. The site benefits from an excellent climate in which a vast range of plants can thrive. The climatic conditions, the plant collection and the design all combine to make this an outstanding garden in any context and it is rightfully renowned throughout the Europe. The demesne owes its origin to Alexander Stewart MP (1699-1781), a minor Donegal landowner and successful linen merchant, who, having married his cousin, Mary Cowan, a rich heiress [in 1737], purchased the Colville manors of Comber and Newtownards in 1744 and resolved to build a seat on the present site, then known as Templecrone. This building, which he initially called Mount Pleasant, was a large long low two storey building, originally painted blue, occupying much the same ground as the present William Morrison house. Just south of this house facing the Portaferry Road, then running close to the house, he built a small settlement known as Newtown Stewart, which Young described in 1776 as 'a row of neat stone and slate cabins' and shown on David Geddas's Demesne map of 1779 [presently in the house]. Young also mentioned 'some new plantations, which surround an improved lawn, where Mr. Stewart intends building' - a reference to landscaping around a planned new house that Alexander Stewart intended to built on the hill lying just south-west of the present walled garden. His son, Robert, later 1<sup>st</sup> Marquess of Londonderry (1739-1821), advanced his father's plans once he inherited in 1781. In June 1783 the architect James Wyatt was paid for providing plans for 'New Offices' and 'Mansion house intended at Mount Stewart', the latter was never built, but evidently intended for the same location on Bean Hill near the walled garden. The walled garden itself was probably completed by 1780-1 for in July 1781 there are payments for the 'freight for tiles for hothouse', while in 1780 the head gardener replanted a vine 'in the west pine stove' – apparently the same ancient vine that occupies the west end of the glasshouse today. The adjacent sprawling farm yard complex, which includes a hexagonal dovecote, were also built around this time, possibly in 1784-5, with the yard being repaired in 1816-7 following a fire (listed HB 24/04/055). Further additions were put up here in the 1870s. The landscape gardener William King, who may have been already involved in landscaping here in the 1770s, was paid for work in July 1781, May and November 1782. The park layout as shown on the 1834 Ordnance Survey map is probably largely King's work,

and was laid down sympathetically to the drumlin country, probably assuming the house to be located near the walled garden. However, most of the demesne plantations were put down over the much longer period, with payments being made in 1785, 1787, 1789, 1789-91 and 1792-1801. An important focal point in the park was The Temple of the Winds, reckoned by some to be the finest garden building in Ireland (listed HB 24/4/051). Located on a hill on the south side of the park, overlooking the lough, this was begun in 1782 to designs of James 'Athenian' Stuart, who was paid for his work in June 1783. His plans were based the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC building of the same name in Athens and sourced from illustrations in the second volume of Stuart and Revett's *Antiquities of Athens* (1763). It's a two storey over basement, hipped, octagonal banqueting house, constructed in Scrabo stone and was completed in late 1785, as is evident from payments made to the stone mason David McBlain, the joiner John Ferguson and others [refurbished in 1965 and again in 1994].. It is evident that the temple was formerly a very striking feature in the parkscape for the plantations around it do not appear to have been put down until fifteen or twenty years after its completion. In the 1790s there was little building activity at Mount Stewart, following the expense of electing Robert's son Castlereagh into Parliament in 1790. However, in 1802 he decided to modernise part of his existing house and so engaged George Dance, the Younger (1741-1825), who produced plans in 1804 for a Classical Regency replacement of the west wing, which was completed around 1806. This incorporated grand new reception rooms, complete with a Grecian Port-cochère and gravel sweep on the north front; the wing survives in modified form as the end elevation of the present house (listed HB 24/4/052). In the period 1804-18 new approaches were laid down to the house and three gate lodges added. The new western approach was entered via the Georgian Gothick 'ink pot' twin lodges (1808-09), placed on the very recently re-aligned Portaferry Road [the road originally ran much closer to the house]. These single-storey twin lodges, notably for their distinctive canted elevations, are probably also the work of George Dance (listed HB 24/04/054) as is also the nearby contemporary 'toy fort' Gothic Clay or Greyabbey gate lodge, notable for its hornlike pinnacles. At the rear entrance, Hamilton's Lodge, was built in 1817 as part of laying down the new Donaghadee Approach; it was later remodelled. Other buildings at this time include a single-storey picturesque toy-fort hunting lodge of c.1810, probably by Dance, lying in a wooded area on the north side of the park (listed HB 24/04/057), and a demesne school house in 1813, formerly a charity school belonging to the Erasmus Smith Foundation; now a house and artist's studio (listed HB 24/04/059). Charles William Stewart (1778-1854), succeeded as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marquess of Londonderry in 1822 after the suicide of his elder half-brother Castlereagh (who had become Marquess the previous year), and during the 1820s the family's resources were focused on building work at Wynyard & Seaham in Co. Durham & Holderness in London. Eventually, in 1835, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marquess and his wife, the heiress Frances Anne Vane-Tempest, invited William Vitruvius Morrison to prepare plans to knock down the old house to the east of the Dance wing at Mount Stewart, with a scheme to rebuild and enlarge the mansion. Morrison's plans were not actually implemented until after the architect's death [in 1838], when work was undertaken between 1845 and 1849, supervised by the Newtownards builder Charles Campbell. The new block, as wide as the old house was long, created a new south entrance of 11 bays with an Ionic porte-cochère as its central feature; the old port-cochère on the north was removed and replaced with a tripartite window. As work was being completed on the house, a U-shaped rubble-built stable yard was added in 1846 to a design of the architect Charles Campbell (listed HB24/04/053), while at the same time improvements were being made in the park, most notably work on digging a 'new lake' between 1846-51 in what was formerly a gravel pit to the north of the house. Water from this lake was subsequently used to supply the house via McComb's Hill, through the use of a horse-drawn pump and later a hydraulic ram. A boat house was built on the south shore, whose waters were linked to the house by a 'lawn' meadow dotted with trees. A gas works was built c.1859 in south side of demesne (not listed HB 24/04/099). During the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the house was only occasionally used by its owners, the 4<sup>th</sup> Marquess (1805-1872), his half brother the 5<sup>th</sup> Marquess (1821-1884) and Charles Stewart, the 6<sup>th</sup> Marquess (1852-1915), the latter spending much of his time in London. The parkland consequently remained relatively unchanged, with some minor alterations, such as the extension of the enclosing screen to encompass the whole perimeter in 1901. The townland boundary was changed in 1906 to encompass the whole demesne of 948 acres. In 1921 Charles, the 7<sup>th</sup> Marquess and his wife Edith, moved to Mount Stewart, having inherited the property in 1915. She had once remarked, on a visit prior to 1921, that the property was 'the dampest, darkest and saddest place I had ever stayed in'; so, as soon as she arrived there to live, Lady Londonderry undertook to transform the grounds around the house. She took advice from expert plantsmen and was fortunate to have been able to employ workmen from a post-war labour scheme. She used her resources skillfully. The result is a lay-out that includes both formal and informal areas, each with their own style and atmosphere. Compartments are arranged in close proximity to the house around three sides and are separated into differing formal gardens, such as the Italian Garden, the Spanish Garden, the Mairi Garden and the Dodo Terrace. The latter is decorated with specially made statuary of creatures representing early 20<sup>th</sup> century British political figures, most of whom formed part of her 'Ark Club'; these figures were made of moulded chicken wire and cement by Thomas Beattie of Newtownards. Gertrude Jekyll planned some of the planting for the Sunk Garden. The north/east front of the house has a rectangular balustraded carriage sweep but further afield paths wind past informally planted shrubs, specimen trees and woodland, carpeted with bulbs and drifts of naturalised plants. These areas contain a great variety of outstanding plant material, particularly of Australasian origin. Paths and a great deal of planting

was focussed round the large artificial lake, with the family burial ground, Tir-ñá-nOg, built in the 1930s at the north end on high ground (listed HB 24/04/052 B). Like most other demesnes, Mount Stewart was requisitioned by the troops during the war and in the years that followed (until c.1965) many of the original beech and oak demesne woods were sadly felled and replaced with unsightly conifers. In 1949 the 7<sup>th</sup> Marquess died and left the property to his wife for her lifetime and then to his youngest daughter, Lady Mairi Bury. In 1955 the gardens were transferred to the care of the National Trust and two years later in 1959 Lady Edith died. The Temple of the Winds were acquired in 1963 and in 1977 the house plus and endowment were accepted by the National Trust as a generous gift from Lady Mairi Bury. Tir-ñá-nOg was acquired by the Trust from lady Bury in 1986. The gardens are beautifully maintained by the National Trust. During his many years as head gardener, Nigel Marshal, (retired 2002) continued successfully to build up the garden's important plant collections. The walled garden is not on display. SMR DOWN 11:4 enclosure, 11:6 mound ? motte, 11:7 church site, 11:9 cairn. The National Trust. Public access.

**PORTAVO HOUSE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN ARDS 24)**

Site of an early 17<sup>th</sup> century house, a c.1670 second house and 'new house' of 1820, which was destroyed by fire in 1844. Parts of the former houses are in and attached to the present house, which is in an elevated position on top of a drumlin. Montgomery's *Description of the Ards*, written in 1683, describes the first establishment, '... great house and large office houses all of stone, brick and lyme slated, gardens walled in, and many well fenced pastures ...'. The demesne of c.120 ha. has many fine shelter belts, woodland and parkland trees, though the latter have diminished in number. The parkland was laid out in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century by John Sutherland, Ireland's foremost landscape gardener. It is probable that there were formal elements within the landscape of the previous generation, such as a straight avenue, which were removed. The road was diverted away from the house and an excellent landscape device introduced by Sutherland. This is the long narrow serpentine lake, which winds in a drumlin valley between undulating surfaces so that not all is visible at once and as it fades in the distance at both ends, it gives the impression of being a river. There is an elegant cold bath house in the parkland, which is not maintained. Dogs graves have been placed on top in more recent times. Until the early 20<sup>th</sup> century Portavo was the summer residence of the Ker family, who also lived at Montalto in Ballynahinch. It became their permanent residence from 1912 to 1980. At the present time there are cultivated ornamental gardens at the house, which are incorporated into the remains of the previous house. A substantial walled garden is grassed. Another substantial mid-19<sup>th</sup> century walled area, which was possibly an orchard or tree nursery is also grassed. The demesne has been improved from c.1980 and woodland management re-established. One of two pre 1833 gate lodges survives. Designs for unexecuted lodges c.1810 pre-date the several lodge drawings commissioned later in the century at Montalto,. SMR DOWN 2:36 souterrain – filled in. Private.

**BALLYWHITE HOUSE, County Down (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ARDS 24)**

The house is mainly 18<sup>th</sup> century, with late 19<sup>th</sup> century additions (listed HB 24/1/119). The latter included two conservatories, one of which remains. The site of the demolished conservatory has a garden at the present time. The house is in a fine position, with views to Strangford Lough. The grounds fall away to the south west and the area near the house is maintained as an ornamental garden. There are other cultivated compartments around the house. Attractive trees and shrubs are planted informally but the arrangement of the whole is organized into specific areas. This includes a paddock and managed woodland beyond the garden. There is a cultivated productive garden enclosed by a laurel hedge, with a wooden nectarine house. Private.

**DONAGHADEE: THE MANOR HOUSE, Co. Down (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ARDS 24)**

The plain two-storey manor house (listed HB 24/7/9) lies at the corner of High Street and Manor Street. It was built c.1775 after the property here had been acquired in 1771 by the Daniel Delacherois, a descendant from protestant French refugees. It is surrounded by a garden, which includes glasshouses., but the main garden is across the road. The ornamental part has been built over since the 1970s but the walled garden remains as a productive garden, complete with box edged beds. This is a rare survival. The garden is of stone and has an impressive castellated entrance. Private.

**PORTAFERRY HOUSE, County Down (Registered site – AREA PLAN ARDS 24)**

The demesne is laid out as a fine landscape park for the 1760 house, enlarged in the early 1820s after additions and alterations were made to the house by Andrew Nugent. It is placed in a splendid position overlooking lawns, pleasure grounds, a series of small lakes and parkland to Strangford Lough. The original 1760 house, was built by Andrew Savage, a former officer in the Spanish army, on a site chosen because it was near 'a beautiful well-spring up to which from the old castle'. The present building (listed HB 24/1/105) owes its appearance to Patrick Savage, who engaged Charles Lilley, a Dublin timber merchant in 1789-90 to start work on an enlarged house; later in 1814 William Farrell was engaged to complete the building, following Lilley's designs, this work being completed in 1820. The parkland incorporates extensive woodland blocks, screens and isolated park trees. Nugent's Wood

alongside the shore belongs to the National Trust. The pleasure grounds south of the house are not maintained, but there are banks of rhododendrons that give colour and daffodils in the lawns. A folly tower, which resembles a windmill stump, has far reaching views from the top. The walled garden near the town, which belongs to the local borough council, has an interesting zigurat wall to allow maximum heat to wall fruit. It is open to the public, as it is adjacent to the 16<sup>th</sup> century tower house, Portaferry Castle. There are listed farm buildings and three gate lodges built in 1830 (HB 24/1/102, 104 and 118). SMR DOWN 32:21 mound. Private.

**RUBANE HOUSE, County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN ARDS 24)**

The site of a late 17<sup>th</sup> century former house called Echlinville, of which the late 18<sup>th</sup> library addition survives. The present house on the site, designed by Lanyon, dates from 1860 (listed HB 24/2/33). It was institutional for a number of years but is now privately owned. The demesne is remarkable for its garden buildings and follies, described in Barbara Jones, *Follies and Grottoes* of 1974 and in Howley's *Follies and Garden Buildings of Ireland* (1993). The garden pavilion of 1787 had Coade Stone embellishments. Some distance away at a stream there are remains of the 1740s designed landscape; a stone bridge, retaining a Coade Stone head and face and nearby an unusual structure known as the 'pebble house', which has a richly modelled tufa front, niches, battlemented parapet and ogival domed roof with lantern finial. The garden's buildings formed part of an important Rococo-style layout of c.1740, recorded in some detail in James Williamson's survey map of 1790. It shows extensive ornamental planting, with sinuous woodland paths, a pond with island, artificial meandering 'rivers' and other landscape features. Part of the early layout extended across the road to the east, where it incorporated a long canal, which still exists; this was labelled 'fish pond' on the 1790 map. Much of Rubane's layout survived into the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, but subsequently it lost a great deal of its tree planting. Much nonetheless survives of this historically important landscape. SMR DOWN 18:15 enclosure ? tree ring. Private.

**QUINTIN CASTLE, County Down (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN ARDS 24)**

The large castellated house of c.1855 incorporates the shell of an original late-16<sup>th</sup> century tower and 12<sup>th</sup> century John de Courcy castle (listed HB 24/01/079). Acquired by Sir James Montgomery from the Savages in 17<sup>th</sup> century, to which he added a house and walled court. Sold to George Ross post 1660 but remained unaltered and in decayed condition until 1850s when Elizabeth Calvert and her husband, Rev. Nicholson Calvert, remodelled the ruined house into a fantasy Irish castle. The King-Hall family, descendants of the Calverts, occupied the place in early 20<sup>th</sup> century; it was the home of Miss Louise King-Hall, the romantic novelist. Sold in 1920s and passed through several owners. It was run as a nursing home in the 1980s. The demesne is now split up, but the house retains stone walled terrace gardens, which were depicted by Welch and Hogg as fully planted up. The walled garden is in separate ownership. There is medieval-style gate-way leading into the grounds, built c.1855 (listed HB 24/01/079) and a tall octagonal rubble-constructed folly tower of c.1855, within the grounds (listed HB 24/01/080). SMR: DOWN 32:19 tower house and bawn. Private.

## AREA PLAN - CASTLEREAGH 25

**BELVOIR (FOREST PARK), County Down (REGISTERED SITE – AREA PLAN CASTLEREAGH 25)**

This Forest Park originated as a planned landscape in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, when the demesne was established for the house of 1740, which was demolished in 1961. The site has a long history of occupation and there are remaining evidences of an Anglo-Norman motte in a prominent position overlooking the River Lagan. There are fine mature trees and the remains of an arboretum begun in the 1840s, which has been added to under the aegis of DANI. The ornamental gardens and the walled garden are gone but there are many references such as that of 1744 by Harris in *The Ancient and Present State of County Down*, '... the Gardens are formed out of an irregular Glyn into regular Walks, beautified with Canals, Slopes, Terraces, and other Ornaments'. Early maps show fish ponds and a bowling green. The great oak tree is a feature, it has been photographed by R Welch and is mentioned in J C Loudon's *Arboretum et Fruiticetum Britannicum* of 1844 as, 'The largest oak tree in Ireland .... Belvoir Park, near Belfast. It measures about 28 ft in girth at 6 ft from the ground; but it is split, and much damaged. It is supposed to be between two and three centuries old. It grows about 50 yards from the banks of the River Lagan, in rather moist soil.' Other remains from former times are an ice house, stable block and grave yard. Belvoir Park Forest was designated in 1961 and is the only urban forest in Northern Ireland with this nomenclature. It occupies c.74ha and is run as a commercial forest as well as a public amenity. It is the site of origin of the tree, *Cupressocyparis leylandii* Robinson's Gold, discovered by the forester George Robinson in 1962, which now grows to the south of the stable block and is depicted on the Castlereagh Borough Council Coat of Arms. There are woodland and riverside walks and an emphasis on encouraging wildlife in the area. Part of the demesne is now a golf course and another part a housing estate. There have twice been controversial attempts to put a road through part of the Forest Park; public opinion played a large part in overturning this plan in 1994. SMR: DOWN 9:2 motte, 9:3 church and church yard, 9:58 cropmarks, 9:59 cropmarks, Public access.



**PURDYSBURN HOUSE, County Down (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE – AREA PLAN CASTLEREAGH 25)**

Demesne for house of 1825 now demolished. There are institutional buildings next to the house site and recent incursions into the planned landscape. However there are remaining demesne walls along the road and mature trees in parkland. There is a part cultivated walled garden, which contains a maintained Union Jack layout, canal, dividing wall and castellated tower. Institutional, no access.

## **AREA PLAN - BELFAST 26**

**ALEXANDRA PARK, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

This has been a public park since 1887 and was named in honour of the Princess of Wales, who had visited Belfast in 1885. The land was bought by Belfast Corporation to establish a park in the north of the city. It was well laid out with trees, lawns, seats and a lake enclosed by railings. The designer was the architect J.C. Bretland and a great deal of this work was carried out by the unemployed as part of a relief scheme. Photographs in the Lawrence and Welch collections taken in the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, show the park in the early stages of development. The lodge and fine Gothic Revival gateway with four piers were added in 1888 (listed HB 26/47/5). Two more areas were added to the park in 1904 and 1906. Bridges were built in 1912 and by the 1920s sports facilities were added and increased in 1979. More land was acquired in 1984 bring the area to 20 acres. The area around the park is heavily built up. The upper levels to the west retain their traditional layout, while the eastern area, where the land falls away bordering the Milewater Glen, is informal with a layout designed to encourage wildlife. Public access.

**BOTANIC GARDENS/BELFAST BOTANIC GARDENS PARK, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

The park has a notable history and is important in the present day as a heavily used public park and thoroughfare, which has excellent features and planting. It was established in 1829 by the Belfast Botanic and Horticultural Society and was open to members. It never became a true botanic garden in that plant collections were not maintained on the site. Belfast Corporation purchased the gardens in 1895 and opened them to the public. Prior to that the Palm House (listed HB 26/27/3) had been built in 1839 to the designs of Sir Charles Lanyon, with wings constructed by Turner of Dublin and the dome, added in 1852, by Young of Edinburgh. The Tropical Ravine (not listed) was opened in 1889, built to the designs of McKimm. Gate lodges and a Gardener's House were provided, but only one of lodges (1865) remains today (listed HB 26/27/33). The remarkable Ruskinian-Venetian Gothic gate lodge with clock tower by the Stranmillis gate, designed by William Batt and built in 1877, once formed an important architectural focus for both the gardens and the area, but was demolished in the 1960s. The site is well documented. An early description is by Forbes in his *Memorandum* of 1853, who noted that it was, "...a very valuable institution, and a charming spot in every way. The grounds are extensive and in excellent order, and its plants numerous and well kept". Eileen McCracken gives a full account in, *The Palm House and Botanic Gardens* of 1971. There are photographs from the Welch (from 1892), Hogg and Green Collections which add to the historical analysis of the site. New features have been added during the passage of time, such as the Rose Garden and Bandstand but the formal bedding at the Palm House and the rows of heavy park benches are retained. Two large herbaceous borders are fully maintained, both the Palm House and the Tropical Ravine are planted up with suitable material and the public can enjoy lawns and mature trees. Some land was lost in 1912 for the Ulster Museum and the pond has gone but the basic layout remains of this important green space in a heavily built-up area.

**BELFAST CASTLE, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

The castle area was formerly a Deer Park on the slopes of Cave Hill. The house dates from 1868-70 (listed HB 25/51/1) and the tree planting on the hillside was established for the house from that time, using both deciduous and conifer trees. There are photographs by R J Welch of juvenile trees growing on the site taken in 1896. A photograph from the Lawrence Collection looking east from above the Castle shows how growth on the hillside and terraced lawns at the house (pre 1909). The grounds of c83ha are now administered by Belfast City Council Parks Department. The formal gardens near the house have recent layout and planting and there are wonderful views from the terraces. Most of the area has informal woodland paths with wilder and grassy ways further up the hills, which are steep. Early settlements on Cave Hill are recorded, SMR: ANT 57:25 ruins of a fort. Public access.

**BELLEVUE (BELFAST ZOO), County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

Formerly the Hazelwood Estate the area became a public park in 1920. The land was acquired in 1910 and planned as a garden from 1911 when tramways extended to the vicinity. Bellevue Gardens – Belfast New Pleasure Grounds, were not however begun until after the First World War. Cheals Nurseries were employed to lay out the

site. One of the features was a Grand Floral Staircase to reach the heights on the steeply sloping hillside. This is no longer in use but is recorded as it appeared in its hey-day in the photographs from the Green Collection. The top area was known as the Hanging Gardens of Babylon and there are stories of problems of subsidence during the construction. This is now part of the Zoo car park and there are still fine views from behind the remaining stone balustrades. The Zoo was opened on the site in 1934; the added attraction of the Floral Hall was built in 1936 and gardens were extended to surround them. The early landscaping is recorded in the photographs in the Hogg Collection taken during the 1930s. Belfast City Council Parks Department took over the site in 1962 and upgraded the planting and layout from 1974 to a high standard. SMR: ANT 57:10 Hazelwood crannog. Public access.

**CLIFTON HOUSE, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

The present-day grounds are curtailed from an area that once included productive gardens, necessary to support the inmates of the institution. The gardens enhance the important listed building ( HB 26/49/1) of 1774, though they are not remarkable in themselves. From early maps it can be noted that there was little ornamental planting on the site. However there are mature trees which give shelter from the wind to this elevated position and also from the noise and pollution from busy roads adjacent to the property. The garden layout was redesigned and landscaped in 1993 to plans and planting sympathetic with the age of the building. Institutional.

**CRANMORE, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

This is the site of a noted garden of John Templeton, begun in 1793. There are some mature trees which are thought to date from that era. J C Loudon in *Arboreum et Fruticetum Britannicum* of 1844 mentions the ‘... very fine chestnut trees which are in front of the house, and which were probably planted in the 17<sup>th</sup> century’. He goes on to recall that Templeton was a noted plantsman and collector. The house is in ruins but listed ( HB 26/18/10) as it is thought to be the only surviving 17<sup>th</sup> century house in Belfast. Legend has it that William III rested there en route to the Boyne campaign. The ruined house and surrounding trees border school playing fields, which were drained and created in the 1960s. The school has owned playing fields on the site since c1925. There has been subsequent tree planting. Access for school activities only.

**DRUMGLASS, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

The Classical villa was built in 1854-6 for the iron-master Sir James Musgrave and the north western end of the grounds were donated for a park in 1922 and landscaped by 1924. This small park fulfils a need in a built-up part of Belfast and is laid out with grass, bedding and a children’s play area. The land was a gift in the will of the owner of the house at Drumglass, Henry Musgrave. He had intended that the area should be larger but in order to make a good sale of the rest of the property a parcel of land was retained by the Executors of the will to sell with the house. The pretty Queen Anne Revival style gate lodge to the house (c.1882) is sited in what is now the public park, but it is in private ownership (listed HB 26/18/8). Public access.

**DUNVILLE PARK, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

This small park is in a heavily built up area. Four and half acres of land were donated to the people of Belfast for use as a public park in 1889 by Robert Grimshaw Dunville. The park had been established as a Trust in memory of a member of the Dunville family, but was finally fully donated, together with money to enclose the area with railings in 1891. This benevolence included laying out the grounds; the erection of a decorative terracotta fountain (listed HB 26/32/3) and a superintendent’s lodge built in the form of an octagonal Ionic temple, now demolished. The large gates and piers were put up in 1892. Photographs by R Welch show the park in 1900 and again in 1930 fully planted up. It is maintained in a simpler form today, but subject to vandalism. Public access.

**FALLS PARK, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

Formerly part of the Sinclaire Estates the areas of the park and that which is now occupied by the City Cemetery were acquired by Belfast Corporation in 1866, though at that time these grounds were outside the city boundary. The park opened in 1873 and covers 44 acres. The Tudor Revival style Ranger’s Lodge, probably designed by J.C. Bretland, was built in 1879 (listed HB 26/25/1), while the gate piers are in a High Victorian Gothic style. Photographs by R. Welch show early development in the park. It was described in 1929 as having, “... great natural beauty situated at the foot of the lack Mountain, which forms the most picturesque background ...” An open-air pool was added in 1924, which no longer exists. The park is well laid out with paths, bedding and trees. There are sports facilities and water features. Public access

**GLENBANK, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

This park was formerly the garden of a late 18<sup>th</sup> century house which has now gone. The 3.3ha site has been a park since 1922. There are lawns sloping to the south west with views over the city, formal bedding, mature and recently planted trees and a children’s play area. Public access.

**GLENCAIRN AND FERNHILL, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

These former garden sites are now incorporated into parks administered by the City of Belfast Parks Department. The two adjoining estates were owned by related families. Fernhill is a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century gentleman's residence, now no longer used as such. A lime avenue and some trees remain from the former gardens. There is a photograph of an extensive rock garden in Young's 1909 book, *Belfast and the Province of Ulster*.

The house at Glencairn also dates from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, where is an oak avenue and some exotic trees remaining from domestic times. The grounds are mostly under grass at the present time. SMR: ANT 60:27 rath. Public access.

**GROVELANDS, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

Grovelands is a maintained ornamental garden. This is very well planted with a wide choice of material giving interest all the year round. There are island beds, herbaceous borders, evergreen beds, and formal bedding. The latter are popular for wedding photos. The well placed mixture of trees, shrubs, perennials and annuals make the gardens interesting. There is an enclosed area near the ex-Parks Director's House, which is open to the public during working hours, which is laid out in compartments demonstrating garden styles. The park was until recently used as a training centre for Belfast City Council Parks Department apprentices and manual staff, a scheme centered at Grovelands since 1974. A gate pier from Fortwilliam Park, formerly one of the most exclusive villa-lined roads of Belfast, has found a home at Grovelands. It is listed ( HB 26/15/1) and was built in the 1860s to the designs of William Barre.

The site occupies c.2.9 ha and was created as a hedged off corner of the informal and much larger:- MUSGRAVE PARK.

The land for the park was presented to the Corporation by Henry Musgrave in the 1920s. It once had large pond. At the present time it is in grass, with copses of trees and avenues along the thoroughfare. Bulbs are an attraction in the spring. There is a bowling green and tennis courts. Public access.

**MALONE HOUSE (BARNETT DEMESNE), County Down (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

The demesne dates from the 17<sup>th</sup> century and today is centered on the present house of 1982, a replica of the 1825 building (listed HB 26/16/1). An earlier house of c.1665 was near the existing stable block. The layout retains an early 19<sup>th</sup> century 'landscape' style, which was developed round the site of the present house. The position of the house affords excellent views to and over the River Lagan valley. The view back across to the house is depicted by Molloy in Proctor's, *Belfast Scenery in Thirty Views*, of 1832. There are good stands of mature trees set in parkland, which is maintained and replanted as an informal landscape. The last private owner, Mr Barnett "... had bequeathed Malone House and approximately 103 acres to the City to be preserved as a public park for the recreation of the public."\* The area of c41ha was opened as a park in 1951 and an avenue of commemorative trees were planted. The gate lodge was rebuilt in 1921 to the designs of Blackwood and Jury (listed HB 26/16/1b). SMR: ANT 64:81 fort, 64:91 site of house and bawn on the site of Malone House. Public access. The adjoining:-

**CLEMENT WILSON PARK**

This was acquired as a public park in 1975. It was already laid out as a recreational area for employees of Wilson's factory, to which the public latterly had access.

**MARY PETERS ATHLETICS TRACK**

The track, together with 12.5 ha of woodland and paths were acquired from The Queen's University in 1985 by the City of Belfast. These sites form an important part of the LAGAN VALLEY REGIONAL PARK.

\* from Craig Wallace and Robert Scott in *Malone House*, 1983

**ORMEAU (PARK), County Down (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

This area was developed as River Lagan-side demesne for Ormeau Cottage of 1807 and a later house, Ormeau House of 1823, which are now demolished. Following the passing of the Public Parks (Ireland) Act in 1869 Belfast Corporation suggested that the grounds should be acquired for a city park, as the house was by that time derelict and the grazing let out. Part of the holding was sold for building but the present site has been a public park from 1871. It is the first public park to have been set up by the Corporation. The handsome gates and railings (listed HB 26/3/2 & 4) date from the late 1870s and early 1880s, having been put up by Belfast Corporation. The Curator's House was built in 1878 and is listed ( HB 26/3/3). Timothy Hevey, a young architect, won a competition to plan the layout of the grounds when it was changed from a private to public area. Useful photographs by R J Welch were taken over the years 1884 to 1929. The gardens retain fine mature trees, particularly giving shelter on the western side, though many of those planted by the original owners were felled and the timber sold at the time of their departure. There has been subsequent tree planting; with exotics from the time of the public opening and after lean years, recent planting of stands of many species. Some Victorian bedding remains at the centre of the park and the bandstand (listed HB 26/3/1), which was added at the turn of the century. The river has since been embanked and the perimeter road built on the western side. There was a lake at the northern end, which has now gone and that

area is now devoted to sports fields and associated buildings. The eastern side has a school and a golf course. The walled gardens are used by the Parks Department. There is a children's play area and facilities for bowls. Public access.

**STORMONT CASTLE AND PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, County Down (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

Stormont Castle is a house of 1850 (listed HB 26/13/14) but the grounds date from the time of a former house of 1830. There are a few mature trees from that era. There is a fine restored glasshouse with bothies on the back (c.1857 listed HB 26/13/15). Formal bedding in the vicinity of the glasshouse and immediately to the west of the house, was recorded in its original form in R Welch's photographs of 1894 but have now gone. The demesne was purchased over the period 1921 to 1978 for the Parliament Buildings and now amounts to c162ha. The main building (listed HB 26/13/13) dates from 1932. The Prince of Wales straight and impressive driveway up a hill from the southern gate to the building is planted with double rows of lime in the lower section. The north end, beyond a plateau containing the statue of Sir Edward Carson (listed HB 26/13/19), is lined with fastigate Irish yew and *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*. To either side of the main avenue are lawns and further woodland planting. There are three planted glens and on the north west side a memorial cedar grove with a statue, 'The Gleaner'. At the north east side there is the tomb of Lord Craigavon (listed HB 26/13/18), sited in 1940. The design of the layout of the public area is attributed to W J Bean, H Armytage-Moore and later (1950s) by W H Campbell. Gate lodges and ancillary buildings are part of the entire conception and are listed ( HB 26/19/16, 17, 20 & 21). The eastern part is occupied by later government buildings and playing fields. SMR: DOWN 5:1 enclosure/tree ring. Public access to parts of the park.

**STRANMILLIS HOUSE (COLLEGE), County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

Stranmillis House is at the centre of a much older establishment. About 19ha of undulating grounds are walled in. The demesne originated in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, though the present house dates from c.1855 (listed HB 26/17/3). It replaced an earlier house of c.1801 and much of the present planting is associated with these two buildings. The site became a college in 1922 and was subsequently adapted. The well developed and attractively planted ornamental grounds enhance the many buildings that now occupy the site, many of which are listed – the main building of 1928-30 ( HB 26/17/49) and two gate lodges of 1933 and 1940s ( HB 26/17/50 & 51). There is some interesting plant material amongst the maintained landscape. There are fine mature shelter belt and woodland trees, including an impressive turkey oak and a sycamore avenue now hidden in woodland. A photograph by R J Welch shows a very mature oak? Uprooted by a storm on December 23 1894. A pond formed in the ice age from a kettle hole lies in a declivity on high ground. SMR: ANT 61:16 site of fortified house? Private. Access for students.

**WILMONT (SIR THOMAS AND LADY DIXON PARK), County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

The property was given to Belfast Corporation by Lady Dixon in 1959. The c.53ha were part of a demesne founded in the 18<sup>th</sup> century for a house of 1740, which is now gone. The present Wilmont House, built to the designs of Thomas Jackson, dates from 1859 ( HB 26/16/6) and the grounds retain many features from the gardens for this house and many subsequent developments added by the City Council. There are fine mature trees in undulating woodland and parkland, with the River Lagan adding interest. A large part of the park contains the International Rose Trial grounds, set up in 1964 and remodelled from the late 1980s. Judging takes place over a long period but the highlight is Rose Week, which has been marked every year in July from 1975. Camellia trials have taken place since 1981. A Japanese Garden was added in 1991. The walled gardens have been redesigned from their traditional layout and contain interesting plant material. There are also remains from former times, for example, an ice house, gate lodge ( HB 26/16/6b) stable block and a yew walk. The recreational facilities take the form of picnic benches, children's playground, lawns, good planting, band concerts, café and shop. This is not a park designated for organised sports, though part of the original holding is now a private golf course. SMR: ANT 64:7 enclosure, 64:8 tree ring, 64:36 church and graveyard, 64:74 tree 'oval', 64:75 tree ring. Public access.

**WOODVALE PARK, County Antrim (REGISTERED SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

His park is in the grounds of a former house called Woodville. The land was acquired by Belfast Corporation in 1887 after successfully advertising for land for a park in the north-west of the City, which was subject to urban expansion at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Gates, piers and railings were erected in 1887 (listed HB 26/38/2), probably to a design by J.C. Bretland. The park of c.10ha was laid out and opened in 1888. A pond, Porter's Lodge, shelter and bandstand were subsequently added. Photographs from the Welch collection show some of the features in 1922. There are sports facilities, bedding, mature trees and lawns though the pond has gone. Public access.

**BALLYDRAIN (MALONE GOLF CLUB), County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

This demesne dates from the 17<sup>th</sup> century and occupies a fine undulating site dropping to the River Lagan on the east and south sides. The present house was built in 1835 to the designs of Blore (listed HB 26/16/2) and is the club house for the golf club. A conservatory of 1880 has gone. There are fine mature trees, including a lime avenue, a stocked lake (probably natural), a walled garden – now used for bowling – with a garden house (listed HB 26/16/9) and a stable block. The site has been a golf club since 1961. SMR: ANT 64:6 enclosure, 64:76 tree ring. Private.

**OAK HILL, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITE - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

Begun in 1847, extended in the 1860s and including a conservatory the house (listed HB 26/16/8) is surrounded by mature trees which shelter the maintained ornamental gardens. In 1998 part of the site was built over. Private.

**GROUP OF CONTIGUOUS SITES – EDGEHILL (COLLEGE): LENNOXVALE: MOUNT PLEASANT: RIDDEL HALL: SUMMER HILL, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITES - AREA PLAN BELFAST 26)**

These grounds are individually worth noting and also together form a large block of planted up area within the urban surroundings of south Belfast.

Edgehill (Methodist College) is a house built in 1875 by Young & Mackenzie (listed HB 26/17/6). The steeply sloped grounds are separated from the house by a terraced lawn. Shrubs cascade down the slope to an ornamental pond. The site is surrounded by mature trees, including some very large specimens, which add to the importance of the planned landscape of the area. Private.

Lennoxvale gardens were created for the house of 1876 by Young and Mackenzie (listed HB 26/17/17), which stands in wooded lawns at a high point from which the gardens drop down, via a rockery, to a series of lakes in the valley below. Spring water was retained and the lakes created to provide Belfast's water supply from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century until 1840. The boat house has gone but there are walks round the lakes. There is a summer house in the maintained garden. Private.

Mount Pleasant has a terrace of houses built in 1863 on the south side, which have front gardens in the centre of the cul de sac in a unified group. The houses, 1-9 are listed ( HB 26/17/1). The gardens are referred to in the UAHS booklet as, '... essential to the character of the terrace'. Private.

Riddell Hall was built as a hall of residence from 1913-15 (listed HB 26/17/34) to the designs of W H Lynn in a commanding position overlooking terraced lawns. The garden shares an extensive tree covered woodland boundary with Stranmillis House (College) grounds. There are mature trees, a flourishing Embotrium row, terrace lawns and a former productive garden. The gate lodge is possibly also by Lynn and there is a gardener's cottage. Private.

Summer Hill is an attractive late Victorian House on high ground (listed HB 26/17/8). The garden on the south side of the house has mature trees and a box parterre. The garden lies at the west end of Mount Pleasant and is accessible by pedestrian gate. Private.

The above text was first published on the internet in 2004. It has been subject to ongoing subsequent revisions. When resources are available it is intended to produce a considerably enlarged printed version with accompanying maps. The present issue has been posted January 2007. Inevitably, the above document has errors and shortcomings, but Built Heritage: EHS welcomes comments on these landscape/garden texts. Please contact Terence Reeves-Smyth at 028-90543006 or [terence.reeves-smyth@doeni.gov.uk](mailto:terence.reeves-smyth@doeni.gov.uk). Thank you.