



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

Galway County Council, National Monuments Advisory Committee Minutes

GC/5/

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Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

Galway County Council, National Monuments Advisory Committee Minutes

12 March 1947 - 14 February 1989

GC/5/1

GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL

**National Monuments Advisory
Committee**

1947 - 1995

GC/5/



Identity Statement

Reference Code:	IE GCCA /GC/5/
Title:	National Monuments Advisory Committee
Dates:	1947-1995
Level of description	Series
Extent:	2 volumes

Context

Creator(s): Galway County Council

Archival History

Galway County Council Archives acquired this collection by official transfer from Galway County Council in 2000.

Archivist's Note

Descriptive list prepared by Patria McWalter, Archivist, 2012.

Scope and Content

The collection consists of two volumes of minutes of county Galway's National Monuments Advisory Committee meetings. The National Monuments Act, 1930 stipulated that every Local Advisory Committee should consist of not less than three nor more than five members, however as time passed the number of full members permitted grew.

The Committee gave advice on the care, protection and maintenance of national monuments in County Galway, and submitted proposals for vesting monuments in the Council.

Membership was made up of full and honorary members. Initial members for instance included Rev. Fr Crehan, Rev. Monsignor Hynes, Fr Egan (Chairman for many years), Lord Killanin, Dr T.B. Costello, Professor M Duignan, P Fahey, and H.P McGlory. Members in the early 1970s included for instance Rev. Egan, Cllrs J Donelan, and P Fahey, Fr Coen, D. J. Murphy (+1990), Martin Joyce, N.T. (+1991), M. J. Molloy (playwright, + 1994), Etienne Rynne (UCG) (+2012). In the 1980s membership also included P. Holland, Tom Fanning (UCG) (+1993), Dr A Claffey and Paul Gosling (UCG), James Joyce (Chairman 1991, appointed to National Heritage Council & the National



Wildlife Advisory Council in 1992), and in the 1990s also included Mrs Anna McHugh (Caherlistrane), Michael Mullens, Pierce Joyce, Erin Gibbons (Clifden), and Evelyn Varley. From the 1980s onward membership was made up of 10 members, together with at least 15 honorary members.

Full lists of members should be found in the minutes of the Annual Meetings of Galway County Council each year.

Arrangement

Chronological

Galway County Council Archives



GC/5/ National Monuments Advisory Committee, 1947 - 1995

Volumes of minutes of meetings, generally held four times a year, on typed sheets pasted or sellotaped into volumes, recording details of attendance and business transacted by the Committee, relating to advice given on the care, protection and maintenance of national monuments in County Galway, proposals for vesting monuments in the Council, details of correspondence, such as from Bord Fáilte, received and dealt with. Monuments receiving ongoing attention from the Committee included the Belleview Gates in Laurencetown, Athenry Town Walls, Clonfert Cathedral, Clontuskert Abbey, and Ross Errilly (Headford).

Signed and dated by the Chairman.

Average size 500pp.

1. 12 March 1947 - 14 February 1989 Includes:-
 - 'It was decided that a report be obtained from the County Engineer on the condition of the monuments which are at present vested in the Council and that consideration of what further monuments should be so vested be placed on the Agenda for next meeting' (12 Mar 1947).
 - 'That the Committee whole heartedly endorses the County Manager's recent suggestions to the County Library Committee for a new Civic Centre, including a Museum and Art Gallery' (19 Jun 1947).
 - 'A letter dated 30 June from the Irish Tourist Board was read and considered. In the Committee's view the substance of the letter was to the effect that National Monuments were of no interest to tourists. With this view the Committee strongly disagreed. The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to the Irish Tourist Board inviting the Board to reconsider the matter' (26 Aug 1947).
 - 'Kiltiernan Church: Prof Duigan pointed out that the task of conserving Kiltiernan Church was too big for the committee since any repairs should only be carried out in conjunction with scientific excavation of the entire site. He informed the Committee that, in consequence of recent appointment of Dr Benu to a professorship of archaeology in the Royal Irish Academy at the insistence of An Taoiseach, state funds were now once more available for such excavation; that he had been informed that a due proportion of such funds would be allocated to work in the West....' (26 Aug 1947).
 - 'The 'Spanish Arch', Galway: The County Manager drew the attention of the Committee to the question of ownership of the Spanish Arch. The adjacent premises had been purchased by Miss Claire Sheridan who claims thereby ownership of the Arch. The Arch was not vested in the County Council. The Harbour Board disclaimed ownership. Miss Sheridan has expressed orally her intention of preserving the Arch...' (26 Aug 1947).
 - 'Portumna Castle & Dominican Friary: Lord Killanian drew the Committee's attention to the announcement that the Harewood estate Portumna was to be sold and drew attention to the importance of the Clanricarde Castle and the Dominican Friary there. The Chairman under



took to raise the matter at the forthcoming meeting of the National Monuments Advisory Council...' (26 Aug 1947).

- 'High Cross & St. Jarlath's Church Tuam: The Hon. Sec drew the Committee's attention to the "Journal of the Galway Archaeological & Historical Society" II, 1902, p125 from which it appears that the County Council has assumed the custody of these monuments about 1901/02, and had carried out repairs to them at that time. He also drew attention to the bad condition of the Cross today....' (1 Jun 1948).
 - 'Gateway at Belleview, Laurencetown: Fr Egan proposed and it was agreed that this historic Gateway, with an inscription commemorating Irish Parliamentary Independence, 1783, should be preserved. The County Manager to be requested to have necessary inspection carried out and estimate submitted' (9 Feb 1950).
 - 'CLAREGALWAY CASTLE: Dr Costello stated that ivy is threatening to damage the Castle. The Hon. Secretary pointed out that Claregalway Castle is a private residence and that it was a matter for informal personal representations to the owners' (9 October 1951).
 - 'CLONTUSKERT ABBEY, ETC. BALLINASLOE: Prof Duignan reported that Clontuskert Abbey is remarkable for a number of interesting rare architectural features, that he believed the work of repairing it is beyond the technical and financial resources of the County Council, and recommended to the County Manager be requested to address an urgent plea to the Office of Public Works inviting them to assume responsibility for the repair and maintenance of this monument, and pointing out to them that the monument is in urgent need of attention...' (6 May 1952).
 - 'SPANISH ARCH, GALWAY: The Committee considered a verbal report to the effect that Mrs Claire Sheridan had sold the Spanish Arch and that the purchaser proposed to set up a "Spanish Tea Garden" thereon. The Secretary was instructed to write to the Mayor and Corporation to urge that everything possible be done to preserve the Monument and to safeguard it from inappropriate utilization' (16 Sept 1952).
- 'LETTER FROM AN BORD FÁILTE : The Hon. Secretary reported that for the adequate discharge of its functions, An Bord Fáilte had appointed an Archaeological Officer, Mr Hartnett, The National Museum; that he, the Secretary, had recently been invited to a Conference with Mr Hartnett and other persons concerned, but owing to absence in England had been unable to do so. He had since received a communication from Mr Hartnett outlining the sort of steps which the Board had under consideration with a view to improving attractions and facilities of national monuments from the point of view of the Tourist trade. The Bord is anxious to make the fullest possible use of its powers under the 1952 Act and drew attention to the fact that the Bord is empowered to undertaken the repair and conservation of ancient monuments...' (2 Mar 1953).
- 'Spanish Arch, Galway: A report dated 2253 from the Borough Surveyor, Galway, who stated that the estimated cost of putting this structure into a good state of preservation would be



£200, was read. This estimate was conveyed to An Bord Fáilte on 4/12/53 and a reply is awaited' (9 Dec 1953).

- 'Clontuskert Abbey: It was reported that the County Manager had made an Order authorising the expenditure of a sum of £680, as per County Engineer's estimate of 3/12/1953, on repair work to this Abbey and such work on the access road as may be agreed on with An Bord Fáilte - which has undertaken to pay the cost...' (2 Mar 1954).
- Aughnaure Castle: The preservation of this national monument which is in State care was taken up with An Bord Fáilte who are going to spend a certain amount of money on cleaning up same and fencing it in. The Acting Hon. Secretary reported that Mr Le Clere, together with Mr Harbison (Archaeological Officer, Bord Fáilte) of An Bord Fáilte, inspected the monument on the 27th February and a report is still awaited' (2 Mar 1954).
- Tempull Beag na Naomh and St Breacan's Church, Killanin: The Acting Hon. Secretary reported that the County Manager had made an Order authorising the carrying out of work on Tempull Beag na Naomh at an expenditure of £25 and on St. Breacan's Church at a cost of £20...' (2 Mar 1954).
- Athenry Town Walls (2 Mar 1954).
- 'Bellevue Gate: Fr Egan reported that this gate was to be taken over by the State as a National Monument' (6 Dec 1954).
- 'Folklore Museum:...."That the County Manager be asked to consult with the Corporation, County Council, National Monuments Advisory Council to the Board of Works, the Irish Folklore Commission, An Bord Fáilte, the Galway Archaeological Society and this Committee, with a view to the immediate establishment of a folklore museum in County Galway' (6 Dec 1954).
- 'Addergoole Cross: This cross has not yet been found. It was decided to ask Lord Killanin if he has been able to find out anything about it' (12 Jun 1956, see also 12 Aug 1960 & 16 Nov 1960).
- 'Dunsandle: Professor Duignan stated that the National Monuments Advisory Council have made exhaustive efforts to get a new owner and have set up a sub-committee to investigate the whole problem including taxation, maintenance, etc...' (12 Jun 1956).
- 'GRAVEYARD AT ROSSERRILLY: Mr Murphy stated that tombs had been broken into some years ago through vandalism, and that they were now in a very dilapidated condition. It was decided to write to the Commissioners of Public Works drawing their attention to this fact' (12 Aug 1960).
- 'ABBEYNOCKMOY CHURCH: Mr Murphy said he was informed that the stone taken to Dublin from the east window of the church at this Abbey in 1853 was not back in Ballyglunin...' (12 Aug 1960).



'LION'S TOWER, GALWAY: Motion received from Professor Hayes McCoy was read. It was agreed by the members that this monument was primarily of interest to Galway and to the people of Galway, and that if they want it preserved they should be prepared to help to pay for it.

Professor Hayes-McCoy's motion was amended slightly, and the following motion was carried unanimously, on the suggestion of Mr Joyce:

"That the Committee deplores the threatened destruction of the Lion's Tower bastion in Eglinton Street, Galway, built in 1646, and trusts that steps will be taken by the Corporation and citizens of Galway to preserve this historic memorial' (12 Aug 1960).

- 'YEAT'S CASTLE, BALLYLEA: Mr Dolan told the meeting of the vandalism which has been the cause of continued deterioration of this castle, and it was decided to write to Mr Yeats asking him if he would have any objection to the Committee's approaching the Commissioners of Public Works to take over the Castle...' (12 Aug 1960).
 - 'CONGRATULATIONS: Mr Joyce congratulated Fr Egan on the publication of his book on the *History of Ballinasloe*, and said he was honoured to have been associated with Fr Egan. The vote of congratulations was enthusiastically endorsed by all the members' (12 Aug 1960).
 - 'MILE-STONES, ETC: Mr Murphy said that many of the old mile-stones were destroyed during the course of road works, and it was decided to write to the County Secretary requesting that road workers be informed that these mile-stones should be preserved...' (16 Nov 1960).
 - 'LYNCH WINDOW, GALWAY: A letter from Bord Fáilte was read recommending that something should be done about this monument. Bord Fáilte stated that the Committee should get in touch with Mr Wilfrid Cantwell, Architect, who would give advice on the Lynch Window. The Committee decided to explain to Bord Fáilte that it had no connection with the Galway Corporation and that it was not responsible for the ancient monuments in Galway City which are under the authority of the Corporation. The Committee recommended that Bord Fáilte should write to the Corporation on the matter' (10 Dec 1962).
- 'ADDERGOOLE CROSS: Mr Murphy stated that the old church at Addergoole had recently been demolished and that His Grace, the Archbishop of Tuam, had protested about its demolition to the County Council. The proposal now is that the cross should be removed from its present position (in a field adjacent to the Cemetery) and erected in the cemetery itself. The Committee approved of this arrangement...' (26 Mar 1963).
- 'TUROE STONE: The way of access to this monument was discussed. Lord Killanin stated that he had visited there recently and that the driveway was in good condition. There was discussion as to whether the stone was the property of the Office of Public Works or not...' (26 Mar 1963).
 - 'KILCORNAN: Prof Duignan reported that this ruin is of a simple rectangular church of the 14th-15th century, with a partly restored East window. He considered it worth preserving, but for County Council preservation the object would have to be made over to them. The Secretary



was instructed to write to the Superior of the Brothers of Charity there and explain how simple it would be to keep it in repair, and that Prof. Duignan would be prepared to go out and advise on it by appointment' (13 Sept 1965).

- 'CORRESPONDENCE: The Secretary read a letter from the National Monuments Branch, Office of Public Works to the Secretary of Galway County Council informing him that Clontuskert Abbey had been placed in the guardianship of the Commissioners of Public Works for preservation as a National Monument' (14 Mar 1966).
- 'MONUMENTS IN ARAN: Deputy Molloy stated that the Council were neglecting the monuments in Aran. Dun Aengus and the Seven Chapels in particular. They also suggested that the existing paths to Dun Aengus be improved and better signposting be provided. Fr Egan to write to County Council and Bord Fáilte regarding this' (16 Oct 1967).
- 'Protestant Church in Gort: Father Coen said the difficulty here is that there is a Catholic graveyard on one side and a Protestant graveyard on the other. The Protestant Rector would be willing to have it used as a cultural centre. The Committee thought it did not come under their terms of reference' (8 Jun 1971).
- 'Kilmacduagh: Fr Coen referred to projected renovation by local effort. Mr Rynne said the road making would be in order but the ruin is a National Monument and may not be interfered with. Secretary to write to parish priest and County Council' (14 Dec 1971).
- 'Galway Town Wall in Corbett's Yard: Suggestion that National Monuments Inspector be asked to excavate on both sides of it' (13 Jun 1972).
- 'Architectural Heritage Year, 1975: It was suggested that the Committee advise the County Council to do something and members were asked to have proposals for next meeting' (8 May 1974).
- Athenry Town Walls: Mr Rynne stated that the National Monuments Council has recommended that the Commissioners of Public Works put the walls in repair. This being so, the Secretary is to recommend to the County Council that it forego any rights it may have in parts of the walls in favour of the Commissioners' (12 Mar 1975).
- County Archaeologist: Councillor Ryan said that the matter was being considered by the County Manager. He and Councillor Morgan agreed to try and get even a limited sum made available, say £1,000 for a trial period of four months' (12 Sept 1975).
- 'Lydican Castle: This is vested in the County Council. The Secretary to request that the protection wall which a farmer knocked to let this cattle in be replaced' (12 Mar 1976).
- 'Monument at Monivea: Mr Rynne said it is a National Monument and the finest mausoleum in Ireland. Secretary to write to National Monuments Council requesting that it be recognised as a National Monument and included in this list of National Monument' (12 Dec 1975).



- 'Appointment of Co. Archaeological Officer: Mr Rynne reported that Co. Manager was satisfied to sponsor a baronial survey carried out by students of Dept. of Archaeology, U.C.G. (14 Apr 1978).
- 'Terryland: Secretary instructed to write to Mr G Lee, B.E., U.C.G., and to President, U.C.G. asking that consideration be given to preservation and if not possible, to have its historical significance recorded' (16 Jun 1978).
- 'Athenry Walls: Secretary, Councillor Ryan and Fr Coen met County Manager before Meeting. Mr Joyce made the case for consultation with National Monuments Advisory Committee where planning permission was sought in proximity to historic and archaeological sites....' (12 Jan 1979).
- 'Athenry Walls: Fr Fanning reported a change of Office of Public Works Policy in regards to National Monuments. They were now prepared to grant money for "rescue-operations"' (12 Feb 1981).
- 'Inscribed Stone and Cross Head (Tuam): Dr Claffey said this was a subject of dispute. Stone and Cross Head were in possession of Member of Old Tuam Society. Diplomacy required. Undertook to have matter solved locally' (11 Feb 1982).
- 'Bellview Gate: Profession Rynne submitted report which stressed the architectural, historical and touristic value of Bellview. Secretary asked to send (copy) copies of report to County Council and Bord Fáilte asking that they give the matter special attention as this (1982) is bi-centennial year of its erection... ' (24 Apr 1982).
- 'Clonfert Cathedral' Agreed to offer advisory help to Bishop Empey re restoration of Clonfert Cathedral' (12 Jul 1984).
- 'BALLINDOOLEY CASTLE: A letter was received from the County Secretary, stating the position as regards Ballindooley Castle. In January, 1986, the Council was notified by the OPW that the building had been listed pursuant to Section 8 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1954. Prior to this the Co. Co. had taken proceedings against the owner who was fined but had appealed to the Circuit Court. ...' (10 April 1986).
- 'Clonfert Cathedral: Chairman informed the meeting that Mr T Fanning had told him that he and Mr Maurice Craig were trying to have Clonfert Cathedral declared a national monument thus become eligible for an E.E.C. grant' (11 Feb 1988).

500pp



2. 18 April 1989 17 January 1995 Includes:-
- **FÁS:** details of meeting which included representatives from FÁS and from the Dept of Archaeology, UCG... 'Dr Gosling said that in June, 1988, Co. Co. had agreed to contact the Dept of Archaeology before schemes involving the cleaning of graveyards were started. Headstone should not be cleaned.'
Ms Cait DeHora said there had been some improvement in the last few years but she felt the Archaeological Report had not received sufficient attention as regards notice beforehand of location of schemes' (19 Sept 1990).
 - '...case involving the Gardai, where a medieval Castle at Cahernamuck West, near Loughrea, was blown up by its owners, using legally held explosives. It appeared that the permit issued in respect of the explosives was for the demolition of "an old house", but that the actual permit was not in the possession of the Gardai who attended on the demolition work. Thus, they were unaware of the discrepancy between the licence and the actual character of the remains....' (5 Nov 1991).
 - **Lighthouse at Ballycurran:** Cllr Varley said that the Lighthouse at Ballycurran, Headford was in bad condition, and it was agreed to contact the Lough Corrib Navigation Trustees in relation to this matter' (11 Dec 1991).
 - **Correspondence:** The Secretary reported that two further submissions had been received for inclusion on the proposed list of estate gateways in Co. Galway. These were from Mr Kilcummins, and from a Mr Cronin listing examples in north-east Galway (no address given). Mrs McHugh states that a list of submissions was being compiled by Mr J Higgins¹, and would be forwarded to the Secretary' (8 Dec 1992).
 - 'The situation with regard to Tyrone House was discussed and it was stated that stones were being taken from the buildings on the site. It was proposed by An t-Uasal Breathnach, and seconded by Mrs McDonagh, that a letter be written to the OPW, asking that Tyrone House be listed for preservation as a National Monument or that it be listed for protection' (27 Apr 1993).
 - **Other Business:** The Chairman referred to letters he had received from the Minister, Mr Ml. D. Higgins, and the Minister of State Mr Noel Dempsey, regarding Inchagoill. Both stated that the developments taking place are on land owned by Coillte, and are a matter for Coillte, but that the developments do not pose a threat to the National Monument whose conservation and protection are matter for the OPW. The large tree overhanding (sp) the 12th century church was a unique evergreen oak which was preserved by Coillte...' (3 May 1994).
 - 'Mrs McHugh gave a brief outline of the events planned worldwide in connection with the Famine Commemoration which will be held from December 1995 to 1997. She also mentioned that GCC failed to pay a contribution of £100 to the Famine committee...' (7 Jun 1994).

¹ Archaeologist, appointed first Heritage Officer in Ireland to Galway City Council in 1999.



- Minutes of the meeting attended by the Minister for Arts, Culture and the Gaeltacht, Mr Michael D. Higgins at Athenry Castle (24 Sept 1994).
- **'Heritage Bill:** The members were informed by the Chairman that under the Heritage Bill, sites and monuments such as those listed by Paul Gosling would be protected...' (17 Jan 1995).

150pp

Galway County Council Archives



INCPES OF

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Members of Committee:-

1977 List

Full Members:

Rev. P. K. Egan, P.P., Portumna.
Very Rev. G. Canon Quinn, P.P., Gort.
Martin Joyce, N.T., Aghrim, Ballinasloe.
Mr. James Joyce, Co.C., Laurencetown.
Mr. D. J. Murphy, Ballygaddy Road, Tuam.
Mr. Etienne Rynne, University College, Galway.
Rev. Fr. Martin Coen, C.C., Craughwell.
Mr. Michael Ryan, Co.C., Moate, Moylough.
Mr. M. J. Molloy, Milltown.
An t-Athair E. MacFhinn, ~~Coastal Road, Galway~~ ^{Co. no} ~~Coastal Road, Galway~~, Gaillimh.
Na hAille Choir, Indreabhán.

Honorary Members:

~~Sen.~~ Michael P. Kitt, T.D., Lehanagh, Castleblakeney, Ballinasloe.
~~Senator~~ Mark Killilea, Caherhugh House, Belclare.
Mr. Robert Molloy, T.D., 1 Dalton Drive, Salthill, Galway.
Mr. Toddie Byrne, Co.C., Kinvara.
Dr. T. Claffey, Tuam.
Mr. John Waldron, "Xavier", Taylors Hill, Galway.
Mr. Henry Doherty, Athenry.
Councillor Brendan Holland, ~~Williams Gate Street, Galway~~ 'Brozna', Fr. Griffin Rd.
Captain Eugene Daly, Raheen, Athenry.

~~Sen. Michael P. Kitt, T.D., Lehanagh, Castleblakeney, Ballinasloe.~~
* An t-Athair E. MacFhinn, ~~Coastal Road, Galway~~ ^{Co. no} ~~Coastal Road, Galway~~, Gaillimh.
Na hAille Choir, Indreabhán.
* Rev. P. K. Egan, P.P., Ballinasloe.

Galway County Council
Meeting Room 15
1977

GC/5/1

NATIONAL MONUMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Minutes of Meeting held at the County Buildings, Galway, on 12th March, 1947.

Present: Right Reverend Monsignor Hynes, Lord Killanin, Dr. T. B. Costello, Professor M. Duignan and Mr. H. P. McGlory.

Apologies for inability to attend were received from Rev. Fr. Crehan and Mr. P. Fahy.

It was proposed by Dr. Costello, seconded by Professor Duignan and unanimously Resolved:-

"That Monsignor Hynes be appointed Chairman of the Committee."

Professor Duignan proposed, Lord Killanin seconded and it was unanimously Resolved:-

"That an Honorary Secretary to the Committee be appointed."

Mr. McGlory proposed, Lord Killanin seconded and it was unanimously Resolved:-

"That Professor Duignan be appointed Honorary Secretary."

The County Manager informed the Committee that premises for holding meetings would be available in the County Buildings and that the services of a Shorthand-Typist would also be available when required.

The County Manager read list of monuments which are vested in the State and also list of monuments which are vested in the Council.

It was decided that a report be obtained from the County Engineer on the condition of the monuments which are at present vested in the Council and that consideration of what further monuments should, be so vested be placed on the Agenda for next meeting.

The County Manager suggested that the Irish Tourist Board should be requested to erect sign posts on the roads adjacent to the more important monuments, and to make available locally printed pamphlets giving the history, etc., of such monuments.

It was agreed that the Board be requested accordingly and that they be informed that the Committee would be prepared to undertake the work of compiling the history of the monuments in question.

Dr. Costello requested that the following monuments be vested in the Council:-

- (1) Inscribed slab taken from the old wall at Galway at present in possession of Mr. Kerins, Cregg.
- (2) The Lally monument $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of Tuam.

Mr. Fahy wrote requesting that something be done to preserve the old Church at Kiltiernan.

Professor Duignan stated that the preservation of this Church was already ^{being} considered by the Office of Public Works.

It was arranged that the next meeting of the Committee would be held as soon as possible after the County Engineer had submitted his report on the condition of the monuments at present vested in the Council.

Thomas M. Costello 19/6/1947 *ms*

NATIONAL MONUMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MINUTES of Meeting held at the County Buildings, Galway, on 19th June, 1947, at 4.30.p.m.

Present: Very Reverend Canon Crehan, P.P., Dr. T.B. Costello, Lord Killanin and Professor Duignan.

In the unavoidable absence of the Chairman Lord Killanin proposed, Canon Crehan seconded, and it was agreed that Dr. Costello should take the chair.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and signed. It was then decided to consider the reports received from the County Engineer before any matters arising from the Minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE: Messages of apology for inability to attend were received from Right Reverend Monsignor J. Hynes, Chairman, and Mr. Padraig O'Fathaigh. Mr. O'Fathaigh once more drew attention to the importance of the early monastic remains at Kiltiernan.

Replies were read from the Irish Tourist Board to the Committee's suggestion that the Board provide sign-posts to the National Monuments in the County and publish descriptive booklets to be compiled by the Committee. The Board stated that they were in communication with the Office of Public Works about the matter.

COUNTY ENGINEER'S REPORTS: Reports from the County Engineer's Staff on the condition of the monuments already vested in the County Council were then considered:-

(1) "Giants' Grave", Grannagh: It was agreed that there was no immediate danger to the monument but that it should be kept under observation in view of possible encroachment by the adjacent gravel-pit.

(2) Cist at Annaghkeen, Headford: It was agreed to request the County Manager to have the Engineer's proposals carried out, viz., to remove briars and bushes, to re-erect entrance style, and to clear up the site generally at an estimated cost of £12.

(3) Stone Cresses and Holy Well, Ballingarry: The Engineer was unable to locate these monuments. It was agreed to ask Mr. Padraig O'Fathaigh if he could help.

(4) Castle and Town Walls, Athenry: Professor Duignan pointed out that these remains were in State charge, that repairs had been carried out in recent years and that further repairs were contemplated. It was agreed that the question of ownership should not be raised and that the only action taken should be to call the attention of the Inspector of National Monuments to the present condition of the monuments in question.

- (5) Lydican Castle, Ardrahan: The Committee agreed -
 - (i) that the castle should be cleaned out and a barrier erected so as to keep live-stock from fouling the interior;
 - (ii) that the question of further expenditure be deferred.
- (6) Glinsk Castle, Ballymoe: The Engineer reported that no work is required.

Very Reverend Canon ^{Crehan} Glynn pointed out that the Castle was fouled and bogged by livestock, that a gate should be erected so as to prevent this, and that the tops of the walls required treatment.

Dr. Costello stated that at his suggestion the Castle had been taken over by the State about five years ago.

Professor Duignan pointed out that the Council's records were incomplete.

It was agreed that an inquiry as to ownership should be addressed to the Inspector of National Monuments, and that if it is not vested in the State an effort should be made to find out if it had ever actually been vested in the County Council.

- (7) Church and Monuments, Ballynakill, Glinsk: It was agreed that steps be taken to confirm the County Council's ownership of these remains, and that if they are vested in the Council, the repairs, etc. proposed by the County Engineer at an estimated cost of £20 should be undertaken at once.

The Committee then considered the following questions arising from the Minutes of the last Meeting:-

- (8) Slab at Cregg: Professor Duignan reported that the slab had been presented to the Archaeological Museum, U.C.G., by Mrs. C. Kerins, Oranmore.

- (9) Lally Monument: It was agreed to recommend that the County Engineer be asked to submit an estimate of the cost of repairing the monument.

- (10) Kiltiernan Church: It was agreed that the Office of Public Works be urged to come to a speedy decision in the matter.

- (11) Teampall Beag na Naomh, Killannin and St. Breacan's Church, Rosscahill East: Lord Killannin drew attention to the condition of Templebegnanevee in the townland of Killannin (O.S. 68) and of St. Breacan's Church in the townland of Rosscahill East (O.S. 68). It was agreed to recommend that these early churches be taken over by the County Council - any necessary repairs to be carried out in consultation with Professor Duignan.

- (12) Publicity: Lord Killannin proposed and Professor Duignan seconded the motion that the County Manager be asked to consent to the publication in the local Press of the Committee's activities. Motion agreed to.

- (13) Civic Centre and Museum, etc.: Lord Killannin proposed and Very Reverend Canon Crehan seconded the following Resolution:

"That the Committee wholeheartedly endorses the County Manager's recent suggestions to the County Library Committee for a new Civic Centre, including a Museum and Art Gallery."

Motion agreed to.

- (14) Date of next Meeting: It was agreed that the next meeting should be held on Tuesday, 26th August, 1947.

26/VIII/1947 J. H. Jones

A meeting of the Committee was held in the County Buildings on Tuesday, 26 August, 1947 at 3.30 p.m.,
The Chairman, Rt. Rev. Mr. Hynes in the Chair. Present: Canon Cogan,
Dr. Costello, Mr. the Mayor, Prof. Dignam. The County Manager also attended.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

Correspondence: A message of apology for inability to attend was received from Lord Kilanin.

A letter dated 30 June from the Irish Tourist Board was read and considered. In the Committee's view the substance of the letter was to the effect that National Monuments were of no interest to tourists. With this view the Committee strongly disagreed. The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to the Irish Tourist Board inviting the Board to reconsider the matter.

Matters arising from previous minutes: On the recommendation of the County Manager it was proposed by Mr. Hynes, seconded by Dr. Costello, and unanimously agreed to rescind the decision of the previous meeting with regard to Lydican Castle, Ardrahan and instead to adopt the Engineers report in its entirety; the work to be carried out in consultation with Prof. Dignam.

Glinisk Castle: It was decided to communicate once more with the Office of Public Works

Ballynahill Church: It was decided to communicate once more with the O.P.W. Canon Cogan stressed the urgent need of attending to this church and to Glinisk

Castle.

Lally Monument: It was decided that Dr. Costello and the County Engineer should consult together for the purpose of considering the questions of ownership, transfer of ownership to the County Council, and of repair.

Teampall Beag na Naomh; St Berhan's Church:
The Hon. Sec. was instructed to invite the help of the Parish Priest, Fr. Duillins, so as to secure a transfer of ownership to the County Council and the admission of the present owners of a right of access to the public.

Kilkeran Church: Prof. Duguan pointed out that the task of conserving Kilkeran Church was too big for the Committee since any repairs should only be carried out in conjunction with scientific excavation of the entire site. He informed the Committee that, in consequence of the recent appointment of Dr. Bern to a professorship of archaeology in the Royal Irish Academy at the instance of An Taoiseach, State funds were now once more available for such excavation; that he had been informed that a due proportion of such funds would be allocated to work in the West; and that he would seek a grant for excavations etc. at Kilkeran at the first favourable opportunity.

The "Spanish Arch", Galway: The County Manager drew the attention of the Committee to the question of the ownership of the Spanish Arch. The adjacent premises had been purchased by Miss. Claire Sheridan who claimed legal ownership of the Arch. The Arch was not vested in the County Council. The Harbour Board disclaimed ownership. Miss. Sheridan has expressed orally her intention of preserving the Arch.

On the proposal of Prof. Duguan, seconded by Canon Geban it was agreed to communicate with the Office of Public Works and to ask for the issue of a Preservation Order.

Publicity: It was agreed to supply reports of the Committee's activities to the public Press.

Date of next meeting: It was agreed that the next meeting of the Committee should be held in October, on a date to be arranged by the Hon. Sec. in consultation with Canon Geban and Fr. Costello.

Condition of National Monuments: The Committee discussed the unsatisfactory condition of many National Monuments, in State care or ownership. Canon Geban proposed and Dr. Mc Glory seconded a resolution which was passed unanimously to the following effect: "That if the Government is not prepared to make sufficient provision for the maintenance of National Monuments it should transfer the responsibility for them to the Local Authorities."

10/XI/1947 JHsu

A meeting of the Committee was held in the County Buildings on 10 November at 4 p.m., the Chairman, Rt. Rev. Ugr. Hynes presiding. Also present: Lord Killanin, Dr. T. B. Costello, & Prof. Duignan.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read & signed. A message of apology for inability to attend was received from Very Rev. Canon Cehen.

Teampall Beag na Naomh & St. Berchar's Church: Prof. Duignan reported that he had called on Fr. Mullins & left with him a written statement of the Committee's proposals & requirements. Fr. Mullins had promised his wholehearted co-operation. No report had yet been received from Fr. Mullins.

Condition of National Monuments: The Hon. Sec. informed the Committee that, on further deliberation he had decided to defer forwarding the Committee's resolution to the Office of Public Works so as to give the Committee a further opportunity of considering the matter. On the Chairman's recommendation the Committee agreed to let the matter drop for the present.

"Spanish Arch" Galway: The Chairman & Hon. Sec. undertook to raise the matter at the next meeting of the National Monuments Advisory Council in Dublin.

Portunna Castle & Dominican Friary: Lord Killanin drew the Committee's attention to the announcement that the Warewood estate Portunna was to be sold and drew attention to the importance of the Claurucarde Castle and the Dominican Friary there. The Chairman undertook to raise the matter at the forthcoming meeting of the National Monuments Advisory Council. Lord Killanin undertook to approach Lord Warewood and to ask what his intentions were.

It was decided to hold the next meeting whenever the Hon. Sec. could report that positive action by the Committee was required.

1st June 1948 J. Hynes

A meeting of the Committee was held on Tuesday 1st June 1948 at 4 p.m. in the County Buildings. Rt. Rev. Ingr. J. Hynes, Chairman, presided. Also present were: Dr. T. B. Costello, Very Rev. Canon Cehan, Lord Killanin, Mr. Mc Glory and Prof. Duignan.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and signed.

Teampall Beag & St. Berchan's Church, Keshon Sec. reported that Fr. Mullins had secured the owners' consent to the transfer of these buildings to the County Council. The Committee decided to inform the Co. Manager and request him to implement the Committee's recommendation of 19 June 1947.

"Spanish Arch" & Athy Doorway, Galway: The Hon. Sec. reported that the matter had been considered by the National Monuments Advisory Council; that the Council had written to the Galway Corporation strongly deprecating the removal of the Athy Doorway and pointing out that the "Spanish Arch" was Municipal property. The letter does not appear to have been discussed by the Corporation.

Postunna Castle & Friary: The Hon. Sec. drew the Committee's attention to a report in the 'Irish Press' of June 1st 1948 to the effect that the Harewood estate, including Friary and Castle, has been acquired by the State. No further action by the Committee was therefore considered necessary.

High Cross & St. Jarlath's Church, Tuam: The Hon. Sec. drew the Committee's attention to the

"Journal of the Galway Archaeological & Historical Society," II, 1902, p. 125, from which it appears that the County Council had assumed the custody of these monuments about 1901/1902 and had carried out repairs to them at that time. He also drew attention to the bad condition of the Cross today. It was proposed by Very Rev. Canon Cehan, Sec. by Dr. Costello, and agreed that subject to the confirmation of the County Council's ownership, any steps necessary for the care and maintenance of the High Cross should be taken at the earliest possible moment; that the Inspector of National Monuments be invited to advise the Committee in the matter.

Ballynakill Church & Effigy: Hon. Sec. reported he had consulted the Inspector of National Monuments who informed him that these monuments were not in State custody, but in the custody of the County Board of Health. Proposed by V. Rev. Canon Cehan, seconded by Lord Killanin & agreed that the repairs proposed by the County Engineer at an estimated cost of £50 (Minute of Meeting 19 June 1947) be carried out.

Glinisk Castle: It was agreed to draw the attention of the National Monuments Advisory Council to the condition of this National Monument in State Care.

Sally Monument: Dr. Costello reported that the owner was prepared to convey this monument to the County Council. Proposed by Lord Killanin, seconded by Mr. Mc Glory and agreed that the

County Engineer should be invited to inspect the monument and to consult with Dr. Costello in the matter.

Proposed Museum, Art Gallery & Borough Library:
Proposed by Lord Killanin, seconded by Mr. Mc. Glory and agreed to forward the following resolution to the County Manager: "That the Committee welcomes the proposal to acquire the Mayoralty House for use as a Public Museum, Art Gallery & Borough Library. Besides providing invaluable amenities for both citizens and tourists such a step would also preserve a fine 15th century house".

Monuments in Galway City: Proposed by Lord Killanin, seconded Mr. Mc. Glory and agreed that a survey of the monuments still surviving in the town was urgently necessary. Prof. Duggan undertook to prepare a list of such monuments and to invite the co-operation of the Engineering School, M.C.G.

Reports to Press: It was agreed to supply reports of the Committee's activities to the local press.

Dates of Meetings: The Hon. Sec. drew the Committee's attention to the irregularity of its meetings and suggested that the matter should be remedied. It was agreed that the Committee should in future meet once every quarter approximately fourteen days before the meetings of the National

Monuments Advisory Council in Dublin.

Corporation Representation: The Committee was of opinion that its work could be considerably assisted by direct liaison with Galway Corporation. Proposed Lord Killanin, seconded by Canon Cielan & agreed that the County Manager be invited to take steps to have a representative of the Corporation nominated to the Committee.

12/1/1948 J. H. P.

There was a meeting of the Committee on 12th October 1948 in the County Buildings, Galway, Rt. Rev. Hugh Hynes in the Chair. Also present Lord Killanin, Mr. Mc. Glory, & Professor Duggan. The minutes were read and signed. A letter of apology was received from Very Rev. Canon Cielan for inability to attend.

It was agreed to consult with the County Manager on the implementation of the Committee's recommendations & the Secretary was instructed to take the necessary steps.

It was agreed to ask the local papers to provide reports for the Committee's meetings.

It was decided to hold the next meeting on Wed. 1st Decr. 1948.

Thomas B. Light
30 March 1949

* Present Dr. T.B. Costello, Very Rev. Canon Cehan, Lord Killanin and Prof. Duignan. There was a meeting of the Committee on Wed. 30 March 1949 at 2.30 p.m. * Prof. Duignan proposed and Lord Killanin seconded the motion that Dr. Costello be elected Chairman.

It was unanimously agreed to send a message of sympathy to the relatives of the late Chairman, Rt. Rev. Degr. J. Hynes.

It was agreed that it be suggested to the Co. Manager that in nominating a successor to the late Mgr. Hynes, an effort should be made to find a representative of the south, or south-east of the County.

The whole question of dealing efficiently with the Committee's business and decisions was discussed. Prof. Duignan pointed to the need for an arrangement whereby the minutes and ^{recommendations} ~~decisions~~ of the Committee would be conveyed immediately and automatically to the County Manager.

It was agreed that the Hon. Sec. should consult with the County Manager with regard to the matter and request (1) the appointment of a shorthand typist at each meeting who would enter the minutes in the minutes book and send a carbon copy to the Co. Manager; (2) the attendance of the County Engineer or his representative to advise the Committee; (3) that a representative of the Galway Corporation be appointed to the Committee so that it might ^{and Engineer} be able to supply the Co. Manager with a list of the Committee's recommendations to date and to ask for a report.

Lord Killanin drew the Committee's attention to the possibility that Brehens Castle might be bought for

reconstruction. It was decided to inform the Inspector of National Monuments.

21 Jan 1949.

Killanin

NATIONAL MONUMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Minutes of Meeting held at the County Buildings, Galway, on 21st June, 1949, at 3.p.m.

In the Chair: Lord Killanin.

Present: Professor Duignan.

In Attendance: M.A. Martyn, B.E., Assistant County Engineer.

A letter of apology was received from Canon Crehan, P.P., and a verbal apology from Dr. Costello for inability to attend.

Minutes: The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

Matters arising out of Minutes: The Hon. Secretary reported that he had interviewed the County Manager and put forward the views of the Committee:-

- (1) To request the provision of a Shorthand-Typist who would attend meetings, enter the Minutes in the Minute Book and send a copy to the County Manager.
- (2) To request the attendance of the County Engineer or his representative at meetings for the purpose of advising the Committee.

The County Manager expressed his approval of these proposals.

(3) With regard to the appointment of a representative of the Corporation, the County Manager was of opinion that the question would best be met by applying to the Corporation for ad hoc assistance according as questions relating to the city represented themselves.

(4) The Committee's views with regard to the nomination of a successor to the late Monsignor J. Hynes were conveyed to the County Manager.

The County Manager expressed the opinion that he should be kept informed by the Office of Public Works when monuments were taken into State custody or care or when Preservation Orders were issued. The Hon. Secretary reported that he had interviewed the Inspector of National Monuments in this regard and hopes that the situation will be better in future.

Mr. Martyn, Assistant County Engineer, drew the Committee's attention to a letter dated the 20th June, 1949, received from Mr. H. Finnegan, B.E., stating that the landowner at Glinsk, Ballymoe, had recently offered to sell him the stones of the Castle. The Hon. Secretary was instructed to inform the Inspector of National Monuments at once.

The Committee's Previous Recommendations to the County Manager:

Ballynakill or Glinsk Church and Monument: An estimate has already been received from the County Engineer. The Hon. Secretary directed

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attention to the fact that the Inspector of National Monuments finds, by experience, that the use of cement in repair work can prove disastrous to certain types of stone, particularly sand-stone and certain types of free stone. He recommends - (i) that gauged mortar, not containing more than 10% cement, is the ideal mixture. They have found also, by experience, that iron straps or ties should never be used - (ii) where necessary bronze should be used. The Committee recommend that these points be brought to the notice of the Engineering staff. Mr. Martyn stated that work on the Abbey would commence week beginning the 28th June, 1949, under the supervision of the local engineer - Mr. H. Finnegan.

Cist at Annaghkeen, Headford: Mr. Martyn reported that the work herein was carried out about a year ago.

Lally Monument: Mr. Martyn reported that the local Engineer was in consultation with Dr. Costello on the matter.

Lydican Castle, Ardrahan: Mr. Martyn reported that the repair of the Castle was carried out about eighteen months ago at an expenditure of £60 and that further work at an estimated cost of £38 was recommended. The Committee recommended that the question of further work at Lydican be deferred.

Teampall Beag na Naomh, Killanin, and St. Berchan's Church, Roscahill E.: The matter was being brought to the attention of the local Engineer - Mr. Tracy - he was to be asked to communicate with Professor Duignan when he returns to Galway at the end of the month.

Athenry Town Walls: The Committee was of opinion that the matter should be left in the hands of the County Engineer.

Other Business: The Hon. Secretary drew attention to the lists of graveyards vested in the County Council which are to be found in the Appendix to Report of the Church Temporalities Commissioners 1881. It was recommended that copies of the lists of graveyards, etc., in the care of the County Council should be circulated to members of the Committee for reports on the condition of any ancient monument therein.

SIGNED:

Thomas S. Costello

CHAIRMAN.

Date:

9 February 1950

NATIONAL MONUMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MINUTES of Meeting held at the County Buildings, Galway, on 9th February, 1950, at 3.30.p.m.

In the Chair: Dr. Costello.

Present: Father Egan, Lord Killanin and Professor Duignan.

In Attendance: J.B. Collins, B.E., Assistant County Engineer.

A letter of apology was received from ^{Mr. V. Rev. Canon} An t-Athair Eric Mac Fhinn, and a verbal apology from Mr. H.P. McGlory for their inability to attend.

Minutes: The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and signed.

Correspondence: A letter from Professor Mrs. M.D.O'Sullivan, forwarded by the County Manager, was received relative to Renvyle Castle. Lord Killanin reported that the castle was in very bad condition and devoid of architectural interest. Dr. Costello recommended that we call the attention of the National Monuments Council to it as its repair is beyond the means of the Local Committee.

Ballynakill or Glinsk Church and Monument: Mr. Collins reported that so far nothing had been done in this matter. He promised to ask the County Manager to sanction expenditure involved.

Lally Monument: Dr. Costello reported that the necessary repairs have been completed.

Teampall Beag na Naomh, Killanin, and St. Berchan's Church, Roscahill E: Lord Killanin reported that these ruins appear to be deteriorating. He proposed and it was agreed that immediate steps be taken in the matter.

Athenry Town Walls: Mr. Collins reported that this work had commenced - in fact, that a sum of £200 had already been expended on it.

Ruins of Temple Jarlath, Tuam: Dr. Costello read a letter from the Old Tuam Society intimating that they had exhausted their funds on the maintenance of this monument and asking the County Council to repair top of walls and remove growths. Professor Duignan reminded the Committee that County Council had taken over this Monument 1901/1902 (Minutes of Meeting 1st June, 1948). It was agreed to ask the County Manager to have the monument inspected and an estimate submitted.

Leacht in Fahy's Land, Monument Park, Tuam: Dr. Costello reported that Mr. Fahy had re-built the Leacht, but that now it has fallen down and the inscribed slabs are in danger of being broken. Mr. Fahy is willing to have repairs done by County Council. It was agreed to request the County Manager for a report and estimate.

Gateway at Belleview, Laurencetown: Fr. Egan proposed and it was agreed that this historic Gateway, with an inscription commemorating Irish Parliamentary Independence, 1783, should be preserved; the County Manager to be requested to have necessary inspection carried out and estimate submitted.

(2)

Clontuskert Abbey & The Teampaillin, Ballinasloe: Fr. Egan drew attention to these. It was agreed to ask the County Manager for a report by the County Engineer and to bring the matter to the attention of the National Monuments Council.

Portumna Castle: Lord Killanin mentioned that rumour has it that access to the Castle is not now allowed, and recommended that the matter be referred to the Inspector of National Monuments for investigation.

Proposed Visit of Royal Society of Antiquarians of Ireland: It was agreed to draw the attention of County Manager, County Council, Mayor and Corporation to the proposed visit to Galway - June 28th to July 1st, 1950 - of the Royal Society of Antiquarians, and to suggest that, in accordance with long standing custom, a formal welcome be extended on that occasion to the Society by the local authorities.

Other Business: It was agreed that the next Meeting of the Committee should be held on Thursday, 13th April, 1950, at 3.p.m.

SIGNED:

BRION O'RIOGAIN SP CHAIRMAN.

Date:

13 4 1950:

NATIONAL MONUMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Minutes of Meeting held at the County Buildings, Galway, on 13th April, 1950, at 3.p.m.

In the Chair: Canon Crehan.

Present: An t-Athair E. Mac Finn and Professor Duignan.

In Attendance: J.B. Collins, B.E., Assistant County Engineer.

Messages of apology were received from Rev. Fr. Egan and Lord Killanin.

Minutes: The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and signed.

Matters Arising Out of Minutes:

Ballynakill Church: The County Manager wrote on the 30th March, 1950, to the Inspector of National Monuments requesting confirmation of the County Council's responsibility - no reply since received.

Glinsk Castle, Ballymoe: The County Manager wrote to the Inspector of National Monuments on the 30th March, 1950, for confirmation of the report that the Castle has been taken over by the State. No reply, as yet, received.

Lally Monument: The County Manager wrote on the 30th March, 1950, to Dr. Costello asking him to help in the completion of the necessary form of consent by the owner - no reply since received. No reply received from Dr. Costello.

Teampull Beag na Naomh Killanin & St. Breacan's Church, Rosscahill East: The County Manager wrote on the 30th March, 1950, to Rev. Fr. Mullins, P.P., Rosscahill, asking for his assistance in the completion of the necessary forms of consent by the owners. No reply received.

Temple Jarlath, (Tuam) - The County Manager has instructed the County Engineer to have the ruins inspected and to submit an estimate of the cost of maintenance. Mr. Collins reported that the repairs, etc., will cost about £42 approximately. The Committee agreed to request the County Manager to take the necessary steps.

Leacht on Fahy's Land: The County Manager wrote to Dr. Costello on the 30th March, 1950, asking for information as to the historical value of the Leacht and for assistance in securing the owner's consent to its transfer to the County Council. No reply received.

Gateway at Belle View, Laurencetown: The County Manager wrote to the County Engineer on the 30/3/50 asking him to have it inspected by one of his Engineers and to submit an estimate of the cost involved. Mr. Collins reported that the owner is a Mr. John Grady who lives in a dwelling-house of which the Gateway forms part. He estimated the cost of the necessary repairs at £25/£30. The Committee agreed to request the County Manager to do everything possible to have the Gateway put in repair. The Committee also recommended that the Office of Public Works be notified to issue a Preservation Order.

Clontuskert Abbey & The Teampaillin, Ballinasloe: The Hon. Secretary reported that the matter had been submitted to the Inspector of National Monuments and is under consideration. On the recommendation of An t-Athair E. Mac Finn it was agreed to request the Inspector of National Monuments to include a nearby "Station Cross" with Clontuskert Abbey.

(2)

Portumna Castle: The Hon. Secretary reported that the Inspector of National Monuments confirms Lord Killanin's statement in this matter, and that the Inspector has promised to consult with the Forestry Department.

Proposed Visit of Royal Society of Antiquarians of Ireland: The Hon. Secretary reported that the Committee's instructions had been carried out.

Correspondence: Aughnanure Castle, County Galway: The Office of Public Works has informed the County Council that a Preservation Order has been issued for Aughnanure Castle and requesting the County Council's co-operation. The matter has been drawn to the attention of the County Engineer by the County Secretary.

Rev. Fr. Egan wrote to say that His Lordship, the Bishop of Clonfert, has given permission to submit all church ruins under diocesan control to the National Monuments Advisory Committee for the purpose of their preservation or to have them declared National Monuments if so desired. He feels that it is the only effective way of dealing with them as their condition is rapidly becoming worse. Consideration of the matter was deferred to the next meeting.

Membership of the Committee: The Hon. Secretary reported that an inquiry had come from the National Monuments Council, Dublin, asking for particulars of the Committee's membership and activities, etc. This had drawn attention to Section 22 (2) of the National Monuments Act, 1930, according to which every Local Advisory Committee shall consist of not less than three nor more than five members. He had drawn the County Manager's attention to this Paragraph. The County Manager had advised that the Committee at its present meeting should agree that three of its members should consent to become honorary members. In view of the small attendance consideration of the matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Committee which is fixed for THURSDAY - the 11th May, 1950 - at 3.p.m.

Signed:

Thomas B. Costello

CHAIRMAN.

Date: 11 May : 1950

NATIONAL MONUMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Minutes of Meeting held at the County Buildings, Galway, on 18th December,
1950, at 2.30 p.m.

IN THE CHAIR: An t-Athair Eiric Mac Fhinn

PRESENT: Lord Killanin, Professor Duignan, Fr. Egan and H. McGlery.

MEMBERSHIP: The following letter dated the 6/10/50 from the Galway County Council was discussed:-

"The Galway County Council at their Annual Meeting on the 4th instant re-appointed the existing members of the National Monuments Advisory Committee on the understanding that these members in excess of five would be regarded as honorary members and the Committee would nominate the members who are to be regarded as honorary. I shall be obliged if, in due course, you will let me have the names of the honorary members of your Committee."

It was decided that the members of the Local Monuments Advisory Committee had no power to decide who should or should not be members and to request the County Council to regularise the situation. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to submit a record of attendances to the County Council.

NEXT MEETING: It was decided that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on the 5th February, 1951.

SIGNED: Thomas A. Costello

DATE: 3. Sept : 1951

NATIONAL MONUMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, GALWAY, ON MONDAY,
3rd SEPTEMBER, 1951, at 2.30.p.m.

IN THE CHAIR: Dr. T.B. Costello.

PRESENT: Rev. Fr. Egan, An t-Athair Eiric Mac Fhinn, Lord Killanin and
Professor Duignan.

A message of apology for inability to attend was received from
Canon Crehan.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

It was agreed that in future each member be circularized with a copy
of the Minutes of each Meeting.

MEMBERSHIP: The Committee decided to submit this matter again to the County Council,
with a record of attendances, for a ruling regarding who should or should
not be members, and to request them to regularize the position.

"AN TEAMPAILLIN", BALLINASLOE: Letter 20/6/51 from the Assistant Secretary, National
Monuments Advisory Council was read in which it was stated that according
to Section 12 of the National Monuments Act, 1930, a local authority is
bound to maintain a national monument which is in its ownership prior
to the passing of the Act, and it would appear, therefore, that the local
authority is responsible for the maintenance of "The Teampaillin". The
Committee decided to ask the County Manager to request the County Engineer
to have this monument inspected and a report submitted thereon - giving
an estimate of any repair works that may be necessary.

CLONTUSKERT ABBEY & STATION CROSS, BALLINASLOE: It was decided to ask the County
Engineer to inspect Clontuskert Abbey and nearby Station Cross, and to
submit an estimate of any repair works that may be required.

GATEWAY AT BELLE VIEW, LAURENCETOWN: It was decided to write again to the Inspector
of National Monuments, 10, Hume Street, Dublin, asking for a reply to
Committee's letter of the 13th April, 1950, asking the Inspector to con-
sider the possibility of issuing a Preservation Order in this case.

TUAM CROSS: Dr. Costello referred to this Cross and stated that it is deteriorating
rapidly and there is danger of it falling - he thought that it should be
put under cover.

{ TEAMPULL BEAG NA NAOMH, KILLANIN, and As negotiations with the former Parish Priest,
ST. BRECAN'S CHURCH, ROSCAHILL EAST, Fr. Mullins, in these cases, were not too
successful, the Committee now decided to re-open the matter with Fr.
O'Reilly, the new Parish Priest.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS: A discussion took place regarding the holding of meetings
regularly and it was finally decided that the Committee meet on the
second TUESDAY or WEDNESDAY of the Months of OCTOBER, JANUARY, APRIL
and JUNE.

NEXT MEETING: It was arranged that the next Meeting of the Committee be held
on TUESDAY, 9th October, 1951, at 3.p.m.

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Signed:- Thomas B. Costello

DATE:- 9 Oct 1951

NATIONAL MONUMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, GALWAY, ON TUESDAY,
9th OCTOBER, 1951, at 3.p.m.

IN THE CHAIR: Dr. T.B. Costello.

PRESENT: Lord Killanin, Professor Duignan, An t-Athair Eric Mac Fhinn,
Padraig Uas. O Fathaigh, and Mr. H. McGlory.

CORRESPONDENCE: Messages of apology for inability to attend were received from
Canon Crehan and Rev. Fr. Egan.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

MEMBERSHIP: Letter 4/10/51 from the County Secretary was submitted stating that the
Council at its meeting on the 29th ultimo appointed the following to be
members of the National Monuments Advisory Committee until the next Annual
Meeting which will be held in June 1952:

Professor Michael Duignan; Lord Killanin; Dr. T.B. Costello,
Canon B. Crehan and Mr. H. McGlory.

The members in excess of this number who are at present on the Committee
may be continued as Honorary members until the annual meeting in 1952,
viz:

An t-Athair Eric Mac Fhinn and Rev. K. Egan.

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to draw the County Secretary's
attention to the apparent contradiction implicit in the second paragraph
of the County Secretary's letter in as much as the name of Padraig Uas.
O Fathaigh does not appear therein.

"AN TEAMPAILLIN" & CLONTUSKERT ABBEY & STATION CROSS, BALLINASLOE: Reports from
the County Engineer setting out the estimated cost of repairs to these
monuments were submitted. It was decided to defer the matter until the
next meeting so as to give the Hon. Secretary an opportunity of visiting
Ballinasloe, of conferring with Fr. Egan and, if possible, with the
Engineer on the spot.

GATEWAY AT BELLEVIEW, LAURENCETOWN: No reply was received from the Inspector of
National Monuments re the issuing of a Preservation Order in this case.

TEAMPULL BEAG NA NAOMH, KILLANIN, and ST. BRECAN'S CHURCH, ROSCAHILL EAST: Re
negotiations in this matter, Lord Killanin stated that he would interview
Rev. Fr. O'Reilly, the new Parish Priest. It was agreed to provide
Lord Killanin with blank forms of consent for signature by the owners
in question.

TUAM CROSS: It was decided to take no action for the time being.

CLAREGALWAY CASTLE: Dr. Costello stated that ivy is threatening to damage the
Castle. The Hon. Secretary pointed out that Claregalway Castle is a
private residence and that it was a matter for informal personal
representations to the owner.

MERLIN PARK CASTLE: Lord Killanin drew attention to this monument and requested
that we should get the Engineer to inspect it and report thereon.

"SPANISH ARCH", GALWAY CITY: Mr. McGlory informed the Committee of the proposed sale
of the "Spanish Arch". The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to the
Galway Corporation drawing attention to the proposed sale of Mrs. Claire
Sheridan's house at the "Spanish Arch".

NEXT MEETING: It was decided that the next meeting of the Committee be held on
TUESDAY, 8th January, 1952, at 3.p.m.

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Signed: Padraig Uas. O Fathaigh

DATE: 15th January 1952

NATIONAL MONUMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, GALWAY,
on TUESDAY, 15th JANUARY, 1952.

IN THE CHAIR: An t-Athair Eric Mac Fhinn.

PRESENT: Prof. Duignan, Rev. Fr. Egan and Mr. H. McGlory.

CORRESPONDENCE: Messages of apology for inability to attend were received from Lord Killanin, Dr. Costello and Mr. P. Fahy.

MINUTES: The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

MEMBERSHIP: The committee decided to let this matter rest for the time being.

AN TEAMPAILLIN AND CLONTUSKERT ABBEY, BALLINASLOE: This matter was deferred until next meeting.

GATEWAY AT BELLEVIEW: Letter 2/1/52 from the Office of Public Works was read requesting us to forward a copy of our letter of the 5th November last. The Hon. Secretary reported this had already been done.

TEAMPULL BEAG ^{na h-ábhaibh}: The Hon. Secretary stated that Lord Killanin had delivered the forms of consent to Rev. Fr. O'Reilly.

MERLIN PARK CASTLE: Letter from County Manager dated 29/12/51 was read, stating that the initial cost of repair and protection of this Castle would be £200. The Committee requested the Hon. Sec. to write to the Office of Public Works and the Minister for Health re the preservation of this attractive little Castle.

SPANISH ARCH: The Hon. Secretary reported that he and Mr. McGlory had been speaking to the Borough Surveyor re the proposed sale of the Spanish Arch, and that the latter requested that we write again to the Town Clerk pointing out that the official information is that the Spanish Arch is municipal property.

Signed: Brian du Canóic Ó Riordáin SP

Date: 16 9 1952.

NATIONAL MONUMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT THE COUNTY BUILDINGS,
GALWAY, ON TUESDAY, 6th MAY, 1952.

IN THE CHAIR: Dr. T.B. Costello.

PRESENT: Professor Duignan, An t-Athair Eric Mac Fhinn,
Canon Crehan, and Rev. Fr. Egan.

Message of apology for inability to attend was
received from Lord Killanin.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the previous meeting were read.

KAN TEAMPAILLIN, BALLINASLOE: The Hon. Sec. reported result
of his inspection of above. The Committee agreed to
recommend to the County Manager that repair and maintenance
of this Church be undertaken by the Council.

CLONTUSKERT ABBEY, ETC. BALLINASLOE: Professor Duignan
reported that Clontuskert Abbey is remarkable for a number
of interesting rare architectural features, that he
believed the work of repairing it is beyond the technical
and financial resources of the County Council, and recommended
that the County Manager be requested to address an urgent plea
to the Office of Public Works inviting them to assume
responsibility for the repair and maintenance of this monument,
and pointing out to them that the monument is in urgent need
of attention.
It was also agreed that St. Augustine's Well and the roadside
Station Cross should be included in any repair and maintenance
works undertaken.

TEAMPULL BEAG NA NAOMH, KILLANIN: The Hon. Secretary reported that
no reply was received from Fr. O'Reilly.

MERLIN PARK CASTLE: Hon. Secretary reported that letters in this
connection have been sent to the Department of Health and
Inspector of Monuments.

National
Mon HISPANISH ARCH, GALWAY CITY: The Hon. Secretary reported that a
letter in this connection has been sent to the
Town Clerk, Galway.

GATEWAY AT BELLEVIEW, LAURENCETOWN: Hon. Secretary reported that
no reply has been received from the Inspector of National
Monuments.

MERLIN CASTLE (between Clonberne and Kilkerrin): Dr. Costello
reported that he had received complaints that this Castle
constitutes a menace to the public. The Committee agreed
to request the County Manager to have it inspected by a
member of the Engineering Staff.

EYRECOURT CASTLE: Fr. Egan suggested that an enquiry be addressed
to the Inspector of National Monuments, with a view to
possible preservation of surviving fragments of Eyrecourt
Castle. The Committee agreed with this suggestion.

MISCELLANEOUS: Letter, dated 17th April, 1952, from the
National Monuments Advisory Council, Dublin, regarding
destruction of ancient monuments throughout the country,
was submitted and read. It was decided to write to the
National Monuments Advisory Council offering co-operation,
and also to seek the co-operation of the County Committee
of Agriculture.

Circular, dated 18th April, 1952, from Dept. of Local Government,
addressed to each Co. Secretary, regarding finding of objects of
archaeological or historical interest during turf cutting,
was submitted and read.

Signed: *Erin O'Riordan SP*; Date: *16.9.1952*

NATIONAL MONUMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, GALWAY, ON TUESDAY, 16th
SEPTEMBER, 1952.

IN THE CHAIR: Canon Crehan.

PRESENT: An t-Athair Eiric Mac Fhinn, Lord Killanin and Professor Duignan.

IN ATTENDANCE: J.B. Collins, Assistant County Engineer.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the two previous Meetings were read and signed.

"AN TEAMPAILLIN", BALLINASLOE: The Hon. Secretary drew the Committee's attention to correspondence which had passed between the County Manager and Rev. Fr. Egan in regard to "An Teampaillin". After due consideration the Committee decided to reaffirm its recommendation to the County Manager that the necessary repair works be carried out.

CLONTUSKERT ABBEY, BALLINASLOE: The Hon. Secretary reported that the recommendation of the previous meeting had been implemented, but that no reply had, as yet, been received from the Office of Public Works.

TEAMPULL BEAG NA NAOMH, KILLANIN: It was reported that the forms of consent had not been returned from Fr. O'Reilly. The Committee requested that a further letter be sent to Fr. O'Reilly to know what is the present position.

MERLIN PARK CASTLE: The Hon. Secretary reported that he had written, as instructed, on the 6th May to the Secretary, Department of Health, and to the Inspector of National Monuments, but had so far received no more than a formal acknowledgment of the receipt of his letter. The Committee requested that we write again to the Department.

SPANISH ARCH, GALWAY: The Committee considered a verbal report to the effect that Mrs. Claire Sheridan had sold the Spanish Arch and that the purchaser proposed to set up a "Spanish Tea Garden" thereon. The Secretary was instructed to write to the Mayor and Corporation to urge that everything possible be done to preserve the Monument and to safe-guard it from inappropriate utilization.

LERHIN CASTLE: The Hon. Secretary stated that, as far as we know, this Castle has very little architectural value. Mr. Collins, Assistant County Engineer, said that it looks delapidated and needs looking after - as it is a danger to children playing nearby. It was reported that the Castle is on private property and, therefore, it is the responsibility of the owner to take whatever measures he thinks fit to render it safe.

NEXT MEETING: It was decided that the next meeting of the Committee be held on TUESDAY, 2nd DECEMBER, 1952.

SIGNED: *Eiric Mac Fhinn*

DATE: *2 na Meán Fómhair 1952*

NATIONAL MONUMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING HELD AT THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, GALWAY, ON
TUESDAY, 2nd DECEMBER, 1952.

IN THE CHAIR: An t-Athair Eiric Mac Fhinn.

PRESENT: Rev. Fr. Egan and Professor Duignan.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letter of apology for inability to attend was received from
Lord Killanin.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and signed.

CLONTUSKERT ABBEY, BALLINASLOE: The Hon. Sec. read a letter dated 25/11/52 received
from the Office of Public Works in which it was stated that as this Abbey is vested
in the local authority, the Commissioners have no responsibility for its maintenance.
The Committee, therefore, decided to write to the National Monuments Advisory
Council to let them know the position and to urge the necessity for amending the
National Monuments Act. It was also decided to ask the County Manager whether or not
it would be possible to have the work done on a repayment basis.

TEMPULL BEAG NA NAOMH: No reply has been received from Fr. O'Reilly.

MERLIN PARK CASTLE: No reply from the Department of Health.

LERHIN CASTLE: The Hon. Sec. read a letter dated 28/11/52 from the County Engineer
stating that this Castle is on private property - and being at a distance from the
County Council maintained road - is no danger to anyone using the road. The
Committee decided to take no action.

MISCELLANEOUS: The Hon. Sec. read a letter dated 19/9/52 from An Bord Failte
inviting the County Council's co-operation in the protection and maintenance of
historic monuments and in the erection of road signs thereto. He also informed
the Committee that the County Manager has authorised the expenditure of £200 for
the erection of road signs to be provided by An Bord Failte. The Committee decided
to request the County Manager to draw the attention of An Bord Failte to the real
necessity of having the Irish versions of all the place names in question submitted
to a competent authority.

NEXT MEETING: It was arranged that the next meeting of the Committee be held
on the TUESDAY or WEDNESDAY preceding the March 1953 meeting of the National
Monuments Advisory Council, Dublin.

-----cc00oo-----

Signed: *Eiric Mac Fhinn*

DATE: *2nd Dec 1953*

NATIONAL MONUMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING HELD AT THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, GALWAY, ON
-----MONDAY, 2nd MARCH, 1953-----

IN THE CHAIR: An t-Athair Eiric Mac Fhinn.

PRESENT: Lord Killanin, Rev. Fr. Egan, Professor Duignan and Mr. H. McGlory.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and signed.

MERLIN PARK, CASTLE: Letter had been received from the Department of Health to the effect that the matter had been submitted to the Office of Public Works.

LETTER FROM AN BORD FAILTE: The Hon. Secretary reported that for the adequate discharge of its functions, An Bord Failte had appointed as Archaeological Officer Mr. Hartnett, The National Museum; that he, the Secretary, had recently been invited to a Conference with Mr. Hartnett and other persons concerned, but owing to absence in England had been unable to do so. He had since received a communication from Mr. Hartnett outlining the sort of steps which the Board had under consideration with a view to improving attractions and facilities of national monuments from the point of view of the Tourist trade. The Board invited the co-operation of local bodies in the selection of monuments for inclusion in the Board's programme. The Hon. Secretary reported that he understood that the Board is anxious to make the fullest possible use of its powers under the 1952 Act and drew attention to the fact that the Board is empowered to undertake the repair and conservation of ancient monuments. He proposed that the Committee should co-operate as fully as possible with the Board and suggested that members with local knowledge should assist in the drawing up of lists of monuments which might be submitted for the Board's consideration. This was unanimously agreed to. He also suggested that the Committee might ask the County Manager to invite the assistance of the Board in the difficult and expensive task of repairing Clontuskert Abbey. This also was unanimously agreed to.

NEXT MEETING: It was arranged that the next meeting of the Committee be held on the TUESDAY or WEDNESDAY preceding the JUNE 1953 meeting of the National Monuments Advisory Council, Dublin.

Signed: Pádraig Eiric Mac Fhinn

Date: 22as Measún Fogháin 1953

NATIONAL MONUMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, GALWAY, ON TUESDAY, 22nd
SEPTEMBER, 1953, at 3.30.p.m.

IN THE CHAIR: (1) An t-Athair Eiric Mac Fhinn
(2) Dr. T.B. Costello.

PRESENT: Lord Killanin, Rev. Fr. Egan and Mr. H. McGlory.

IN ATTENDANCE: County Manager.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed.

The proposal that Lord Killanin act as Honorary Secretary to the Committee during the absence of Professor Duignan was submitted and was unanimously accepted by all members.

The Honorary Secretary informed the meeting that he had been in correspondence with Mr. Hartnett of An Bord Failte, who had kindly consented to come to the meeting at 4.p.m., and, in the meantime, he asked the members to consider any important matters for submission to him. It was agreed to submit, for his recommendation, the following ancient monuments:-

- (1) Clontuskert - (an old Abbey);
- (2) Portumna - (ruins of Dominican Friary);
- (3) Aughnanure (ruins of O'Flaherty Castle);
- (4) The Spanish Arch, Galway.

The County Manager also requested that the matter of sign-posts to places of historic interest - and the issuing of pamphlets, giving a brief history of such place of historic interest, - be also brought to the notice of Mr. Hartnett.

MINUTES OF MEETING WITH OFFICIALS OF AN BORD FAILTE ON TUESDAY, 22nd
September, 1953, at 4.p.m.

IN THE CHAIR: Dr. Costello

PRESENT: Lord Killanin, Rev. Fr. Egan, An t-Athair Eiric Mac Fhinn and Mr.
H. McGlory.

IN ATTENDANCE: County Manager, County Engineer, Mr. Hartnett and Mr. Harbison
of An Bord Failte.

Mr. Hartnett addressed the meeting and said that it was the object of An Bord Failte to protect and maintain sites of historical importance, but with regard to monuments vested in the Commissioners for Public Works, there is very little they can do on the fabric of the building - as they are only concerned with certain improvements in the amenities, such as, the clearing up of sites and access to them.

MATTERS FOR ATTENTION OF AN BORD FAILTE.

SIGN-POSTS TO NATIONAL MONUMENTS: In this respect, said Mr. Hartnett, it was noted that the County Council had already submitted their requirements. The matter is under way, and the Galway signs will be ready early next year; sign-posting will be bilingual giving name of monument and location.

Mr. Hartnett informed the meeting that An Bord Failte contemplate having a descriptive plaque in bronze or plastic erected near such historic ruins - such plaque to give a brief history of the place or monument - those connected with it - and date of foundation; also a plan of the building to be inscribed thereon.

PRINTING OF PAMPHLETS: The Committee were also informed that An Bord is considering the printing of pamphlets - (An Fogra Failte being the Advertising Branch of An Bord Failte) - said pamphlets to give in detail the history of such historic ruins and monuments throughout the country. It was suggested that where there is a Caretaker, a supply of these pamphlets could be left with him for distribution to persons interested in the particular ruin or monument - a small charge of 1d. or 2d. being made for such pamphlet, if necessary. The Committee submitted the following places of historic interest as those requiring pamphlets:-

- (1) Kilmacduagh;
- (2) Claregalway Friary;
- (3) Kilconnell;
- (4) The Carmelite Friary, Loughrea.

CLONTUSKERT ABBEY: Rev. Fr. Egan, being familiar with this historic ruin, gave an outline of the repairs necessary to prevent it from deteriorating further. It was decided that before any funds can be advanced by An Bord for its further preservation, the County Engineer is to have the Abbey inspected, and a full report, giving estimated cost, submitted to An Bord Failte.

KILCONNELL: Mr. Hartnett informed the meeting that this ruin is kept in a tidy condition by the Caretaker who is engaged by the Board of Works. The question of regional supervision of national monuments arose, and Mr. Harbison of An Bord Failte stated that this matter of regional supervision and maintenance is being gone into and that nothing definite has been arrived at yet.

PORTUMNA: Mr. Harbison informed the meeting that this matter had already been raised with the Inspector of National Monuments - and they hope to have something done at an early date. The old Dominican Friary ruin is on Forestry lands and this Department object to people trespassing on their property.

AUGHNANURE CASTLE: (scheduled in 1950). This is an important historic ruin being on the main tourist road from Galway to Clifden. It was agreed that Lord Killanin and the two officials of An Bord Failte would inspect same and see what could be done by way of preservation.

SPANISH ARCH, GALWAY: The County Manager gave a brief outline of the developments in this matter - the question of ownership being the only difficulty arising here. Messrs. Hartnett and Harbison took note of this and requested the County Manager to submit an estimate of the cost of any necessary work so that consideration might be given to the making of a grant by An Bord Failte to the Galway Corporation to cover the cost.

GATE-WAY AT BELLE VIEW: An Bord Failte were asked to do something about financing the cutting of trees on top of this Gateway. The owner, a Mr. John Grady, will do nothing in this respect. The estimated cost of repairing this Gateway in 1950 was £25 to £30. It was agreed by the two officials of An Bord Failte that this Gateway is worthy of preservation.

NEXT MEETING: It was arranged that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Wednesday, 9th December, 1953, at 3.p.m.

Signed: Desmond Guinness :

DATE: 9th Dec 1953 :

NATIONAL MONUMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, GALWAY, ON WEDNESDAY,
9th DECEMBER, 1953.

IN THE CHAIR: An t-Athair Eiric Mac Fhinn.

PRESENT: Rev. Fr. Egan and Lord Killanin.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed.

1. MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES:

Sign-Posting: The Acting Hon. Secretary reported that he had visited Mr. Hartnett of An Bord Failte who informed him that the Bord are experimenting, at the moment, on the type of sign-posts to be used - and that the matter is well under way.

Clontuskert Abbey: Rev. Fr. Egan informed the Committee that he had inspected this monument with Mr. O'Connor, Assistant County Engineer, on the 15th October, 1953 - from whom a report is still awaited. The Committee requested that this matter be again brought to the notice of the County Manager.

Portumna: In addition to reports made by Mr. Hartnett, the Acting Hon. Secretary reported that he had written to the Inspector of National Monuments, who replied stating that some satisfactory arrangement will be made with Department of Lands later on.

Aughnanure: This monument was visited by Mr. Hartnett in company with Lord Killanin - who stated that he had been informed, unofficially, that work will commence on this structure in February. The Inspector of National Monuments is to inspect same before work commences. The Committee recommended that the work be done, by contract, by the County Council for An Bord Failte.

Spanish Arch, Galway: A report dated 2/12/53 from the Borough Surveyor, Galway, who stated that the estimated cost of putting this structure into a good state of preservation would be £200, was read. This estimate was conveyed to An Bord Failte on 4/12/53 and a reply is awaited.

Gateway at Belle View: On 27/11/53 County Manager wrote to Inspector of National Monuments regarding necessity of having a Preservation Order made in respect of this Gateway. A reply was received in which Mr. Le Clere stated that as they are now working in Portumna, they will have an early opportunity of inspection, when they will be in a position to formulate any actual intentions. The Acting Hon. Secretary informed the Committee that he visited the owner - a Mr. O'Grady - who wants very much to have the Gateway preserved - but feels that it is worth something and would like some monetary contribution for same. The Committee recommended that steps be taken to get Mr. O'Grady to vest said Gateway and that he might be appointed Caretaker following Mr. Le Clere's visit.

2. CORRESPONDENCE:

Teampull Beag na Naomh & St. Breacan's Church, Killanin: The Acting Hon. Secretary reported that the consent of the owners for vesting of these monuments in the Council had at last been obtained.

Breac-Chluain (Near Clonfert Crossroads): This matter was raised by An t-Athair Eiric Mac Fhinn who requested that as the owner may demolish it owing to the fact that it is dangerous to children - that something should be done for its preservation.

House at Dunsandle: Reference was made to the proposed sale of this house, and it was recommended by the Committee that a letter be sent to the Irish Land Commission asking that all necessary steps be taken to ensure that the building itself is not demolished.

NEXT MEETING: It was arranged that the next meeting of the Committee be held on TUESDAY, 2nd March, 1954.

Signed: Killanin

DATE: 2 Nov 54

NATIONAL MONUMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, GALWAY, ON TUESDAY, 2nd March, 1954.

IN THE CHAIR: Lord Killanin.

PRESENT: Clr. O'Dowd and Mr. J. Sweeney.

IN ATTENDANCE: County Manager.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed by the Chairman.

1. The Chairman had been informed that Clr. O'Dowd and Mr. J. Sweeney had been added as additional members, without voting powers, to the National Monuments Advisory Committee, and welcomed them on their first visit.
2. Apologies for inability to attend, owing to inclement weather, were received from An t-Athair Eiric Mac Fhinn and Rev. Fr. Egan.
3. MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES:

- (a) Sign-Posting: The Acting Hon. Secretary reported that no further news had been received from An Bord Failte and requested that the matter be again raised with Mr. Hartnett in this respect - and also in regard to the question of pamphlets.
- (b) Clontuskert Abbey: It was reported that the County Manager had made an Order authorising the expenditure of a sum of £680, as per County Engineer's estimate of 3/12/1953, on repair work to this Abbey and such work on the access road as may be agreed on with An Bord Failte - which has undertaken to pay the cost. A report dated 2/3/1954 from the Co. Engineer was received stating that the work had not yet been commenced owing to bad weather conditions.
- (c) Aughnanure Castle: The preservation of this national monument which is in State care was taken up with An Bord Failte who are going to spend a certain amount of money on cleaning up same and fencing it in. The Acting Hon. Secretary reported that Mr. Le Clere, together with Mr. Harbison of An Bord Failte, inspected the monument on the 27th February and a report is still awaited.
- (d) Spanish Arch, Galway: The County Manager informed the Committee that the sum of £200 had been made available by An Bord Failte for the restoration and future preservation of this monument. Letter, dated 25/2/1954, from Borough Surveyor was read stating that work had already commenced on this structure.
- (e) Gateway at Belle View: The Acting Hon. Secretary informed the Committee that a report is awaited from the Inspector of National Monuments as to whether or not this Gateway should be taken over by the State or the County Council.
Clr. O'Dowd drew attention to the coat of arms which is visible on the house - once the home of the Laurences - and requested that same should be inspected and, if thought fit, reported to the National Monuments Council.
- (f) Teampull Beag na Naomh and St. Breacan's Church, Killanin: The Acting Hon. Secretary reported that the County Manager had made an Order authorising the carrying out of work on Teampull Beag na Naomh at an expenditure of £25 and on St. Breacan's Church at a cost of £20. The County Engineer's report indicates that work on same will commence in a fortnight's time.
- (g) Breac-Chluain: The Acting Hon. Secretary drew attention to this monument and requested that the County Engineer be asked to report on its condition giving details of the work necessary to make it safe.

4. MISCELLANEOUS:

- (a) Athenry Town Walls: A discussion took place re the preservation of these walls and, finally, it was decided that the views of Mr. R.W. Powell, Assistant County Engineer, Athenry, as well as those of the Inspector of National Monuments, be obtained.

Mr. Sweeney informed the Committee that the issue of a pamphlet, giving the history of the Town Walls and other monuments of historic interest in Athenry, is desirable.

The Acting Hon. Secretary is to take this matter up with Mr. Hartnett. Mr. Sweeney informed the Committee that the sign-posts had arrived in Athenry, but had not yet been erected - as they are awaiting authentic information in regard to some of the monuments.

- (b) Lady's Holy Well: Attention was drawn to this Holy Well, which is frequented yearly by pilgrims. The Committee requested that this matter be raised with An Bord Failte - and recommended that something be done to preserve it.

- (c) St. Mary's Collegiate Church: Mr. Sweeney was informed that the preservation of this appears to be a matter for the Representative Church Body.

- (d) Parson's Fairgreen: Mr. Sweeney informed the Committee that there is the base of a Cross left in a field from olden days - and the County Manager stated that a plaque could be put up giving the history of this Cross.

The Acting Hon. Secretary requested Mr. Sweeney to let him have a list of the various monuments and old ruins in Athenry, when he will pursue the matter with Mr. Le Clere.

5. NEXT MEETING: It was arranged that the next meeting of the Committee be held on the 1st JUNE, 1954, at 3.p.m.

Signed: Padraig L. Mac Donnagáin, Sec.

DATE: 1/6/54