

Register of Parks, Gardens and Demesne of Special Historic Interest in Northern Ireland

List of entries by new (post 2015) local council areas
(Texts Revised November 2020)

PREFACE

The texts in this document were drafted in 2020 to accompany the entries in the Register of Gardens, Parks and Demesnes. They replace much shorter entries originally drafted in 2004 and will be incorporated into the new local area plans, which are being introduced following the 2015 re-organisation of council areas.

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.

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. The demarcated boundaries of these parks, gardens and demesnes of Special historic Interest are included on the Department for Communities Historic Environment Map Viewer <https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/services/historic-environment-map-viewer>

AREA PLAN - ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY 01

ANTRIM CASTLE, County Antrim (AP ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY 01) AN/001 REGISTERED GRADE A

The gardens at Antrim Castle are distinguished by the rare survival of late 17th century/early 18th century formal garden features that include canals and round pond (Listed HB 20/08/054), formal clipped hedges, terraces, terraced mount and a wilderness wood all within the registered area of 51 acres (20.8ha), lying north of the Sixmilewater River and adjacent to the west side of Antrim town. Sadly the 17th century mansion that had been remodelled in the 19th century, is now gone, as has the landscape park that lay facing the house on the south side of the river. The gardens and house formed part of the now sadly diminished 'Massereene Demesne', (400ha) established in the early 17th century by Sir Hugh Clotworthy who acquired lands here from Sir Arthur Chichester and built a strong house beside a Norman motte on the banks of the Sixmilewater. His son John Clotworthy succeeded to the property in 1630; in 1660 he was raised in the peerage as Viscount Massereene. The present gardens and much else besides were created by his son-in-law, Sir John Skeffington who inherited the property in 1665. Skeffington, who had inherited Fisherwick Hall in Staffordshire in 1652, had married Mary, daughter and heir of Sir John Clotworthy, thus succeeded to the Antrim properties and the title, becoming the 2nd Viscount Massereene. A man of considerable wealth, Skeffington was able to heavily invest in the Antrim property, which he did soon afterwards. He started to remodel and enlarge the house into a large H-plan with corner towers. He also installed the impressive sculptured heraldic mannerist 'frontispiece' facade and doorway facing east towards the town; this 'frontispiece' heraldic extravaganza rivals and was probably inspired by that at Huntly Castle in Aberdeenshire (Clan Gordon, Cocks o'the North) erected by the 1st Marquess of Huntly in 1606. Although this house was again enlarged and remodelled in the early 19th century and its many 17th century gables removed, the imposing building remained essentially a 17th century structure; unfortunately it was burnt to a shell in October 1922 and the ruins removed by the local borough council in 1970. Whilst enlarging the house, the 2nd Viscount also laid out in the late 1660s a decoy and the 'Earl of Antrim's Deer Park' (638 acres) to the south, adjacent to the east shore of the lough. Richard Dobbs reported in 1683 that this deer park was enclosed by a wall of lime and stone in places, by wooden palisade and by the lough itself. By 1838 the deer park, which still hosted a herd of deer, was described as 'greatly ornamented by clusters of aged oaks'. To provide access to the deer park from the house and grounds he built a six-arched stone bridge with refuges within parapets, now known as the 'Deer Park Bridge' (Listed HB 20/08/003), spanning the river at a shallow point; it was probably erected in the 1670s. In addition to the mansion the 2nd Viscount focused on designing fashionable formal gardens to match those at Fisherwick Park and in the process created much of the present layout - features include the long narrow canal with its flanking tall hedges of clipped lime. This canal is in two sections, the upper canal with its hornbeam hedges is a Victorian addition. Adjacent to this is the Wilderness Wood, a term used at this time not for a natural woodland, but for a formal grove of trees - the trees usually planted in quincunxes and the wood itself divided by a series of geometric paths that were originally aligned upon features like statues, now gone; a few features in the wood still survive, notable a large oval pond on the main axis path and the remains of a smaller pond that was enclosed by yew hedges, relics of which survive. The original tree plantings in the Wilderness wood have long gone, but believed to have been originally elms; the trees there now appear to be largely the product of a natural regeneration in the 20th century and the wood lined with ditches made by the military during the second war. Adjacent to the wood and the canal lies a small enclosure lined with lime hedges; transformed into a memorial garden in the Victorian era, this was an early parterre of flowers, coloured gravels and topiary; it formerly extended further to the south and what were once yew topiary here have been allowed grow into large trees. Not far distant is the Norman motte (SMR7/ANT 50:109), which was transformed by the 2nd Viscount into a garden viewing mount,

with a spiral or corkscrew walk leading to the summit, in similar fashion to the contemporary garden mount at Warwick Castle. At Antrim the path was flanked by a clipped yew hedge, a few of these original yews survive, while there have been a number of attempts over the past decade to replant this hedge. The mount was surmounted by a cannon and the top provided splendid views of the grounds, the town of Antrim and the river. Below the mount on the east side is the walled kitchen garden, which appears also have been made in the later 17th-century, though remodelled in the 1850s. Unfortunately in the 1960s a road construction ran through this garden removing the eastern side; what remains (which was subjected to a restoration in 2009-12) stands on a terrace adjacent to the motte; prior to 1850 remodelling it occupied a square area subdivided into three portions, 1.26 acres (0.5ha), with an enclosed orchard to its north (0.6 acres/0.25 ha). After 1850 the garden was remodelled as a long rectangular area (1.08 acres/0.44ha), outside of which on the west side was a long terrace, 300ft (92m) long and 50ft (15m) wide, with another similar terrace flanking the garden's east side. The rectangular garden was itself subdivided by high dividing walls into four separate areas, all linked down the centre by an axial path which led to a large glasshouse with central conservatory built against the north-east end wall. Unfortunately, this glasshouse and the eastern part of the garden were completely removed by 1960s road construction, but the 2009-12 restoration works have seen the remaining walls rebuilt and conserved and the long terrace planted with a line of beds along its east flank, each with a stone seat. The work designing the gardens in the 1666-86 era was probably largely supervised by Skeffington himself with the help of his head gardener and perhaps also with advice from his cousin Sir Richard Newdigate (1679-88), who owned an extensive formal garden at Arbury Hall in Warwickshire. From correspondence with his cousin we know that the 2nd Viscount regarded 'planting' as his 'greatest intertainmt [sic]' and asked for (in 1686) seeds of evergreens 'all ye best and most curious kinds' to be sent to Antrim, as well as 'pines, firs and sorts of trees' and 'your flowers or rarities can be spared and may be sent in seeds'. He also expressed a desire for a Spanish gassimine (*Jasminum grandiflorum*). Besides Newdigate, he was obtaining seed from the Oxford Botanic Garden (founded 1621) and the large Brompton Park nursery in Kensington. Evidently the 2nd Viscount was building an impressive plant collection and was also known to have a stove for his tender plants, presumably located somewhere within the walled kitchen garden area. Unfortunately, with warfare about to flare up again in Ireland in the late 1680s, the 2nd Viscount left Antrim in June 1688, so it is unlikely further new work was undertaken on the gardens until after his death in June 1695. Indeed, the castle was reported sacked in March 1689 by the Jacobites and no doubt the gardens suffered as well. The property passed to the 2nd Viscount's only surviving son, Clotworthy (1660-1714), who succeeded him as the 3rd Viscount in 1695 and no doubt repaired any damage to the gardens and perhaps adding new features, but there is no record of this. He in turn was succeeded by his son Clotworthy Skeffington, 4th Viscount, who died in 1738, to be succeeded in turn by Clotworthy Skeffington, the 5th Viscount (1739-57), and first Earl of Massereene, a noted spendthrift. It seems that neither the 4th or 5th Viscounts Massereene did much to the gardens, for when Mrs Delany came here in 1758 she reported that 'the garden was acknowledged a fine one forty-years ago', implying little had happened since the death of the 3rd Viscount in 1714. During the long period from 1757 to 1805 when the property was owned by Clotworthy Skeffington, the 6th Viscount and 2nd Earl of Massereene (1743-1805), few or no improvements were made at Antrim as the Earl was constantly in debt and spent most of the time abroad, famously spending eighteen years in debtor prisons in France, only escaping as Revolution started in 1789. It was this long period of absence and of lack of finance that no doubt contributed most to the unusual survival of the formal gardens at Antrim. By the time the property was inherited by Chichester Skeffington, the fourth Earl of Massereene in 1811, the gardens had become an antique in their own right. Chichester, who had the financial resources, embarked on remodelling the house in the years 1811-13 in a Georgian castellated Gothick manner with a 180-foot long river front; it was faced in 1823 with an orange coloured stucco (described in one account as 'Roman cement'), lined to simulate

masonry and broken with pilasters with a surmounting embattled parapet, all carried around the corner towers. The architect is unknown, but Richard Morrison may have been involved. The earl died in 1816 leaving no male heir, so the property and title Viscountess Massereene descended on his daughter and heir, Harriet, who had married in 1810 Col. The Hon. Thomas Henry Foster of Oriel Temple, Collon, Co. Louth. After they inherited the Antrim estate he changed his name from Foster to Skeffington, and became Viscount Ferrard on the death of his mother in 1824. The couple undertook improvements to the house and gardens. The main gate lodge from the town was built in 1818, the Barbican Gate (Listed HB 20/08/015), in 'Hampton Court' Tudor-style, believed to be by 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. The area south of the river, much of which formed part of the 17th century deerpark, was transformed into a landscape park, where in 1838 the plantings here were 'judiciously disposed in clumps and belts and consists of almost every variety of forest tree'. The OS Memoirs of 1838 noted also a shooting lodge with a viewing platform in the south end of the park. The formal gardens, now an object of curiosity, were restored; the canal was lengthened and the small parterre beside the canal was rejuvenated with a clipped yew in its centre shaped as an obelisk. In 1843 a newspaper reported that it had an aloe in full bloom 'measuring nearly five feet in height and covered with innumerable bells'. Lord Ferrard died in 1843, by which time his son John, the 10th Viscount Massereene, had been running the Antrim estate, having come of age in 1833. Once his father was dead he was able however to engage on substantial alterations. As there was little room for the then fashionable massed bedding parterres beneath the castle windows, he transformed the east and west side strips of the walled garden into parterres terraces, named 'The French Garden', though there was nothing particularly French about them, except that 'the flower-beds being formed into a variety of patterns, among which...the *fleur-de-lis* is the most common and conspicuous'. A large conservatory with flanking lean-to ranges was built at the north end of the walled garden for vines, peaches and other tender fruits. A smaller glasshouse stood in a large hedged enclosure west of the canal that was used for growing kitchen produce and may have served that function since the later 17th century. Just south of this enclosure and immediately west of the house lay the old yard and stable blocks west of the house; this was demolished by the 10th Viscount not long after he inherited in 1844 and in its stead he built on a different site north-west of the house a handsome new stable block enclosing a square courtyard, the 'Castle Farm', but now generally known as Clotworthy House (Listed HB 20/08/004). Its picturesque basalt-faced south front with ashlar dressings faces the river and is built in a Tudor-style with curvilinear end-gables and a centrally placed grand entrance surmounted by cupola turrets and the family arms with motto 'per augusta'. The architect is unknown, possibly Charles Lanyon. In place of the former stable/farm yard the 10th Viscount created an unusual pleasure ground for his wife Olivia, who he married in 1835. It is composed of a network of small paths winding their way in a labyrinthine matter up and down small hillocks, through a rustic arch and tunnels with flanking rockeries; in the words of a writer in 1860 it comprised 'rich parterres of verdure, interspersed with beautiful flowers and shrubs, artificial mounds, roots of trees capped with the antlers of deer and flowers and moss growing among them in endless bearing variety of arbours, tunnels and winding paths'. One of the tunnels from the garden leads into the basement of a round tower to the north-east; this may have been built originally as an access into the gardens, but later it housed an elaborate water pump, possibly elected to upgrade the castle's water supply and sanitation in 1887 when William J. Fennell was undertaking work on the mansion; the upstairs of the tower was used as a rehearsal room by the Massereene Brass and Flute Band. The tower was demolished in 1970, but the pump, having been recently discovered has been conserved and is open to public view. The works to the castle in 1887, which involved building a tower at the west end of the castle complex, was the work of Clotworthy John Skeffington, the 11th Viscount Massereene. He succeeded in 1863 after his father had been killed from a fall from his horse in the grounds of the castle; an inscribed stone now marks the spot. It was round this

time that the small parterre garden flanking the canal was made into a memorial garden. Ornamental trees were added to the grounds in the last few decades of the 19th century; these include a surviving *Tilia tomentosa* (Silver Lime), the 2nd tallest of its kind in Ireland and Irish girth champion (3.99 x 26m); *Laburnum anagyroides* (Laburnum), the tallest of its kind in Ireland with the second greatest girth of its kind in Ireland (1.83m at 1.1 x 9.5m) and *Taxodium distichum* (Swamp Cypress) measuring 1.53 x 18.5m. Antrim Castle was burnt on 28th October 1922 during a family ball; there was a subsequent proposal in 1930 to rebuild a mansion to a design of Tullock and Fitzsimmons, Belfast architects, on the ruin foundations, but this never happened and the family remained living in Clotworthy House, where they had moved in the early 1940s, having abandoned Skeffington Lodge in the park; they remained there until the death of the 12th Viscount Massereene in 1956. The local borough council then acquired the property and in April 1970 they demolished the castle ruin on the grounds that it was a public danger, leaving only Fennell's 1887 corner tower. The wrought-stone east entrance frontispiece, which incorporated 17th century elements, was dismantled by the Historic Monuments Branch to be preserved and re-erected elsewhere (it spent many years in the Castlewellan depot). At the same time a by-pass road was built running through the gardens, removing the east section of the walled garden and the Wilderness Wood and divorcing the town gate lodge from the grounds. In 1992 the council restored and converted Clotworthy House into an Arts Centre to designs of Caroline Dickson. Subsequently, following excavations, the large enclosure, formerly a kitchen garden and then a hockey pitch, was transformed into a large and elaborate parterre in late 17th/early 18th century style with a raised terrace of stilted hornbeams. The model for the new parterre layout came from plans of a parterre of c.1720 that once existed at Castle Coole in Co Fermanagh. This area is bounded by a fine clipped lime hedge and a venerable yew hedge. In 2009-12 Antrim Castle grounds were subjected to an extensive HLF supported restoration/conservation scheme (£5.8 million); this involved restoring Clotworthy House, creating a flanking courtyard garden, incorporating a glass house on one side, with the long barn on its north side remodelled as an entrance with offices and incorporating the 'Oriol Gallery'. Restoration work was undertaken on the canals; the Wilderness Wood, ponds, parterre, walled garden, motte and site of the former house beside the river, where visitors can now see now the outline of the building marked in the ground. Antrim Castle Gardens won the Ulster in Bloom Special Award 2012. The grounds, which are owned by Antrim Borough Council and are open all the time for public access. SMR: ANT 50:109 Norman motte (otherwise known as the Mount or Mound). Antrim Borough Council. Public access at all times.

**CASTLE UPTON, County Antrim (AP ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY 01) AN/015
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Formerly an important demesne flanking the north side of the village of Templepatrick, now only the core area around the house of 70 acres (28ha) survives reasonably intact and is included within the registered area. The demesne has its origin in a grant of 1610 from Sir Arthur Chichester to Sir Robert and Humphrey Norton, who built a Scottish Z-plan fortified house here in 1611 called Castle Norton. Described at the time as 'a faire castle already built two stories high with two greate towres of flankers', the fabric of this building still exists within the east body of the present house [Listed HB 20/12/018A]. It may be added there is no evidence of any pre-plantation building here, though claims have been made that this place been a fortified priory of the Knight's Templar in the 12th-century and later a property of the Knights Hospitallers or Knights of St John. In 1625 the Nortons sold the property to Captain Henry Upton (1592-1642), from Trelaske, Cornwall, who had served under the Earl of Essex; he subsequently re-named it and served as M.P. for Carrickfergus. His descendants in turn, Arthur Upton (1623-1706); Clotworthy Upton (1665-1725); John Upton (1671-1740) and Arthur Upton (1741-1761), all married well and were politically active, building up the family estates in County Antrim. No doubt, during this time the house was enclosed by a formal garden landscape in line with their

status and the style of the period, but there are no obvious traces of this layout. The big change at Castle Upton took place after 1768 when Clotworthy Upton (1721-1785) succeeded his two elder brothers. Clotworthy had by that time carved out a successful career in England as a courtier, serving as Clerk Comptroller to Augusta, Dowager Princess of Wales from 1761-72. A year after he inherited Castle Upton he married Elizabeth Boughton, a lady of the Bedchamber to Princess Amelia. For his services he was raised as Baron Templetown of Templetown, County Antrim, in 1776. How much time he spent at Castle Upton is not clear, but in the early 1780s he clearly intended to extend and remodel the house, as he engaged Robert Adam to produce drawings, the first of which date to 1783 (now in the Soane Museum). As such house projects invariably go hand in hand with re-landscaping, it is highly probable that much of the original 300 acre (120ha) landscape park at Castle Upton was created at this time. This designed landscape (designer unknown) was further embellished with plantations to its west side in the 19th-century; sadly the greater park of the park was lost to a golf course development in the late 1990s, while a woodland screen on the west called Bessie's Moss, south-west of the castle, was also lost to a house development in 1989. Unfortunately, Baron Templetown died in 1785 and it is not clear how much of the actual building he did until his son John Henry Upton, 2nd Baron succeeded. He later married (1796) Lady Mary Montagu, daughter of the Earl of Sandwich and was raised as the first Viscount Templetown in 1806. He commissioned further drawings from Robert Adam (to 1789), who never came here. Adam kept the Z-plan of the first house and enlarged the building which developed an irregular plan with two offset rectangular blocks and a return block to the north-west. It was castellated to give it the appearance of a castle and the walls roughcast and painted white. Not all of Adam's schemes were carried out, including a 'Riding Room or Great Room for Exercise' that was planned to open off the dining room. At the same time the Viscount commissioned Adam to design and built around 1790 a stable yard (Listed HB 2/12/018B-L). This is a large rectangular symmetrical 'figure of eight' complex of rubble stone buildings in Gothic style arranged around two square yards with two-storey ranges and slightly taller pavilion-like square blocks with beveled corners and eight-sided hipped roofs at each corner with the front south range containing a distinctive 'barbican' entrance tower. Adam also designed the Templeton Mausoleum [Listed HB20/12/018P] in the small grave yard north-east of the stable block. This is a freestanding double-height severe but richly detailed neo-classical stone mausoleum erected 1789 by the Hon. Sarah Upton to the Right Honourable Arthur Upton. The side walls are almost plain but the front has an elegant ashlar composition of semi-circular arch, two niches and urns and medallions in lunettes. The monument has been in the care of the National Trust since 1965. In 1837 George Frederick Upton, the third Viscount Templetown (1802-1890) employed English architect Blore to 'restore' the house and put up a modest castellated gatehouse from the village (Listed HB 20/12/017). The new gatehouse, which stands on the site of the old 18th-century entrance to the park, has porter's accommodation hidden behind it, has semi-circular archways with machicolations and crenellated parapets, all built uncoursed squared basalt with ashlar dressings and loopholes in a symmetrical Romantic manner. Blore, who came here twice, carried out extensive works to the house, removing or altering many of Adam's elegant improvements (drawings in the V & A). The high demesne wall along the Antrim to Belfast road also dates to the 1830s, creating a barrier between the village and the house's grounds; the demesne is not walled on the other sides. To the east of the gatehouse entrance there is a separate tradesman's entrance with a two-bay single-storey lodge of c.1810 (Listed HN20/12/018B) giving access to the yard and walled garden. The latter (3.13 acres/1.27ha) has a rectilinear plan built in the 1780s with the graveyard occupying the north-west corner. Apparently the walls were topped with urns above each pilaster, all removed during the last war when American troops were billeted here. As was the case with other Irish walled gardens, this would have contained a combination of productive and ornamental. There was a well in the north-east corner and lean-to ranges against the north, west and south walls, but no indication of a glasshouse. The third Viscount also modified the grounds around the house, most notably

adding a fashionable rectangular parterre adjacent to the west facade in the 1840s; this was composed of around thirty-four flower beds, defined by dwarf box, which would have been filled with annuals, laid out in symmetrical pattern within network of winding footpaths between the beds; in the centre was a stone lined circular water basin with fountain. The west, south and north sides of the flat parterre were flanked by a higher embanked terraces surmounted with stone balustrade and pairs of Irish yews looking out into the parkland beyond. The Viscount also embellished the grounds; in 1836 the OS Memoirs report he planted that year '8,479 ash, 7,459 Canadian poplar, 855 willow, 725 fir, 255 larch, 50 beech and 500 oaks'. Unfortunately when the house and demesne was sold in 1923 the purchaser was a timber merchant who felled all the timber. It was subsequently owned by the Henderson family who farmed pigs and was acquired by Sir Robin and Lady Kinahan in 1963, who subsequently undertook restoration work on the house and gardens. Private; public access to mausoleum (NT) only.

**DRUMADARRAGH HOUSE, Co. Antrim (AP ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY 01) AN/151
REGISTERED GRADE B**

The relatively small site (9.1 acres/3.7ha) benefits from mature trees which provide a good shelter belt. It lies at Dixon's corner, 0.8 miles (1.3km) north of Burnside and 2.5 miles (4km) north-west of Ballyclare, flanking the south side of the Drumadarragh Road, where the present house (Listed HB20/06/012), faces north-west. This is two-storey rectangular Georgian-style block with a return and a five bay front with a central three-bay section flanked by large full-height two-bay gabled projections. The house largely belongs to the 1820s, but it incorporates earlier houses on the site; in 1666-69 a Robert Allin lived here in a house with two hearths and in 1769 there was a Patrick Allen here with a bleach mill, shown on Lendrick's 1780 map of County Antrim and again on Taylor and Skinner's road map of 1777 as 'the seats of Messrs. Allen'. The land had been leased from the Donegall estate until acquired by Charles Langtry 'in fee' in the 1820s when he built a house here. Langtry also added a walled kitchen garden (1.42 acres/0.5ha), with walls entirely of local quarried stone, to the west of the house and flanking the south side of the road; the south of this garden was largely removed in recent years to allow the area to better integrate with the larger ornamental garden. Langtry also put down small plantations south-west and north of the house. He remained in residence until 1864 and after his death it was sold through the Incumbered Estate Courts in 1891 to Thomas, later Sir Thomas, Dixon (1868-1950), a prominent public figure and successful businessman. He added a return to the house, but subsequently, after he married Edith Clarke in 1906, it appears he only occasionally lived here and acquired Cairndhu [An-013] and Wilmont [An-068] near Belfast. It was requisitioned by the military in the last war, after which it was occupied by Thomas Dixon's nephew, Daniel Dixon (1912-95), 2nd Baron Glentoran, who bought it outright in 1951. Much of the present garden was the creation from 1948 of his wife, the baroness Glentoran, formerly Lady Diana Mary Wellesley (1915-1984), daughter of the 3rd Earl Cowley, who he married in 1933. She transformed the grounds into a natural woodland garden that included a wild garden beside a stream, with herbaceous borders, island beds, productive areas, mature trees and an arboretum begun in 1964, although it has oaks grown from acorns from Windsor Great Park collected in 1953 during the coronation celebrations of Queen Elizabeth II. From the 1970s, when the garden was opened occasionally to the public in aid of the National Trust or Cancer Research, it was generally acknowledged as an outstanding example of a post-war woodland garden. It continues to be well maintained. Private.

**FISHERWICK, County Antrim (AP ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY 01) AN/128
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Small 18th-century partly walled parkland, which presently covers 35 acres (14ha), having unfortunately lost a portion of its south and west perimeter to housing. The park and associated house flanks the west side of the Main Street and Mill Road of Doagh Village, with the built-up Ballyclare Road on the south. The house (Listed HB 21/02/001) has its origins as a hunting lodge

within a surrounding walled deer park established around 1610 by Sir Arthur Chichester (1563-1625), Lord Deputy of Ireland (1604-15), believed to have covered almost six townlands. The hunting lodge was evidently built for Arthur Chichester (1739-99) the 5th Earl and 1st Marquis of Donegall in the 1760s. Around 1805 it was either completely rebuilt or extended and remodeled to form the present dwelling, and in January 1806 the Marquis and his family were forced to make a retreat there after the contents of the Belfast house were seized by his creditors. Fisherwick as the new house became known (the name taken from a Chichester seat in Staffordshire), was a single-storey dwelling in the cottage-style, with extensive stabling to the rear in a courtyard of which the house forms the south part; kennels (now demolished) were located ¼-mile (0.4km) north-east of the house. As it happens, the house was far too small and too isolated to serve as anything more than a permanent abode for such a noted figure and his retinue. Not surprisingly, the following year, Ormeau Cottage in the south-eastern hinterland of Belfast had become the Donegall's new home. When at Fisherwick, the earl improved the grounds, which were described by Dubourdieu in his *Statistical Survey* of 1812 as having '... the plantations have much improved and enlivened the look of this well placed hamlet...' (Doagh). The gardens however were not extensive, as was reported by The *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* of 1839. However, the area facing the entrance front of the house to the south, which is now grassed as parkland 'lawn' or meadow, until the later 19th century had a substantial artificial lake (7.4 acres/3ha) with two small islands; this lake was drained c.1880. Much of this landscaping was probably done during the short time the Marquis was in residence. Subsequently, the house became the centre of a thriving hunt club, the 'Antrim Hunt', formed by the Marquis himself in 1815, which at its height is said to have had forty members. In 1822, in order to pay off his creditors (as well as fund the rebuilding of Ormeau), the Marquis and his son and heir, Arthur (d.1883), began to disentail the Irish estate and sell it off through the granting of perpetual leases on low rents in return for lump sums. Fisherwick was not disposed of immediately, but in August 1834 it was advertised for let 'one hundred and seventy-six acres...land of the finest quality, part of which is beautifully laid out with Planting, Walks, and Ornamental Shrubbery, and a fine piece of water in front of the house, gives a pleasing effect to the whole'. It was let to James Agnew (1794-1880) of Kilwaughter Castle, who seems to have used it as an occasional sporting residence. It was eventually sold by the Donegall estate around 1847 and subsequently belonged to members of the Molyneux (1885-1905), Hagan (1905-43) and Patton families. There are still mature trees on the east perimeter of the front park and on the south-west, while a small wood of mature trees (2acres/0.8ha) occupies the area between the house and the road. Both original approach drives with their lodges (one of the north-west and the other on the south-east) have now gone and the house is approached by a relatively new entrance in the woods south-west of the house. Private.

**GLENDARRAGH, County Antrim (AP ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY 01) AN/036
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Modest sized Regency landscape park (172 acres/69.7ha) bordering and enclosed within the northern perimeter of Crumlin. It encloses Glendarragh House (Not listed HB 20/14/022A), described as a one-storey 'beautiful cottage' by Lewis (1837) was built in around 1805 for a member of the Heyland family, probably by Rowley Heyland for his son, Lt. Col. Langford Heyland, who succeeded to the families' Crumlin estate in 1816. The associated grounds described at the time as being 'highly embellished' - no doubt a reference to woodland plantings along the river below the house (beech, birch). Glendarragh later became the home of C.E. McClintock, the Land Agent for the Langford Lodge estate who enlarged the building and expanded the tree planting along the glen at the Crumlin River. Secluded within the beech trees on the north bank of the river, there is an attractive folly called the Cockle House, a gothic arched circular structure that lies above the waterfall, of the Crooked Glen. This was made with basalt walls and compacted earth domed roof dug into the side of the hillside with brick-dressed entrances on the east and west sides. The origin of the name 'Cockle House' and the date of construction are uncertain.

According to local folklore, it was built by Rowley Heyland as a place of worship for a Muslim servant; however there appears to be no documentary evidence to support this. It is likely that it was built as a deliberately rustic summer house. The walled garden at the east end of the park (originally 1.5 acres/0.6ha), was severed and a gate lodge lost when the railway was built in 1860. There is an ice house in the trees to the north of the house. Noted early 20th century gardens sloping from the house are now gone. Much of the original house was demolished in 1950 due to dry rot. The site of a corn mill on the north bank of the river in the south-west end of the demesne is now a public car park. Private house; river walks DAERA (Forest Service). Public amenity.

**HOLESTONE HOUSE, County Antrim (AP ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY 01) AN/088
REGISTERED GRADE B**

A late-Regency park (presently 140 acres/57ha) lying 0.8 miles (1.1km) immediately west of Doagh. As with nearby Fisherwick, this area here formed a part of a large deer park established around 1610 by Sir Arthur Chichester (1563-1625), Lord Deputy of Ireland (1604-15). The first house on the site was built at some stage after 1701 when the lease of the property was granted to the Gillian family by the Donegall Estate. It was marked on a map of 1768 and again on Lendrick's map of 1780, when it was occupied by John Gillian who renewed his lease in 1783. In 1810 a new lease was granted to James Owens (1777-1848) and converted to a grant 'in perpetuity' in 1824. The present house (Listed HB 20/06/011) was built following this grant 1825-27 and sits on an elevated site surrounded by shelter trees, most of which appear to have been planted in the early years of Owen's lease around 1810-15. 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 Regency 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, a short distance north-east of the house, is in the shape of a trapezium (1.4 acres/0.57ha) and is dated 1836; it is no longer cultivated and under grass. The wall around the demesne was erected around 1836. There were three gate lodges (now replaced), two of which belonged also to the 1830s. The main entrance (now abandoned) on the south side retains its four octagonal gateway coursed granite piers with recessed panels, decorative iron gates and matching railing, c.1836 (Listed HB 20/06/16). SMR: ANT 51:2 enclosure. Private.

**LOUGHANMORE (LOUGHERMORE), County Antrim (AP ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY 01)
REGISTERED GRADE B**

The fine and extensive late 18th century parkland (195 acres/79ha) at Loughanmore lies 3.3 miles (5.2km) directly east of Antrim town, bordering the south side of the M2 Motorway. The demesne was first established in the early 17th century by the Blair family and passed to James Adair of Kihnilt (d.1686) following his marriage in 1640 to Annabella, heiress to the property. His son, Benjamin (1655-1730) and grandson, Thomas Benjamin (1705-65), both married members of the Crymble family of Ballygillock (aka Ballygallagh), and in 1797 their estate also came to the Adair family on the expiry of the Crymble line. We have no detailed information about the late 17th/early 18th century house and associated designed landscape here, but the house at that time appears to have stood in what is now the farm yard beside the walled garden and was approached by a tree-lined avenue extending 0.12 miles (0.2km) north-west to the public road. In 1798 Charles Adair (d.1810) built a new house on a new site (he may have started it in 1785), this being a two-storey five-bay building over a basement. His grandson, Henry Adair, who is reputed to have fought the last duel in Ireland in 1840, inherited the property from his brother Charles in 1866 remodelled it in the 1860s and 1880s to a designs of James Boyd of Belfast, who gave it a distinctive five-storey tower entrance-porch and spire and a lower spire at the other end of the building. Boyd also remodelled the stables and offices and added a chapel. The property was sold

by the Adairs in 1920 to C.L. MacKean and eventually demolished in 1988. The present main dwelling, which faces south onto the parkland, was created out of the south side of the stable block (Listed HB 20/06/006A). The setting for the former dwellings is a fine and extensive parkland with mature shelter belts, clumps, avenue trees and new planting. The former productive and ornamental gardens were within a rectangular walled enclosure (2 acres/0.8ha) flanking the east of the house and yards; this had been remodelled (together with the stable block) by Henry Adair not long after he inherited the estate from his brother in 1866; he added castellated walls to its north and east side and an iron railing with looped ironwork along its long south side. Incorporated into the railings is a tall rubble-built folly tower built in 1870; it has a rectangular plan with gothic-vaulted openings at its base, and rises in diminishing stages surmounted with a circular brick spire and ball finial (Listed HB 20/06/006B). The former garden area is currently used as an equestrian arena. Just to its south is a circular two-stage pedestal supporting a cluster of three circular columns standing on a mound containing an ice house, now closed up (Listed HB 20/06/006C). The demesne wall was built in 1880 by architect John Boyd. The park formerly had four gate lodges; of these that on the north-east was demolished to make way for the M2 motorway in 1967. The main gate lodge, which lies north-east of the house, was originally a circular building but was replaced in 1929 by an Arts and Crafts style lodge to designs of Wimpens, Simpson and Guthrie of London (Listed HB 20/06/006E) for Charles L. MacKean of Larne who had bought the property in 1920. SMR: ANT 50:120 souterrain. Private.

**RAM'S ISLAND, County Antrim (AP ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY 01) AN/134
REGISTERED GRADE A**

The island (25 acres/10.1ha) on the east side of Lough Neagh, is of historical and archaeological significance, as it is the site of an Early Christian monastic site with associated Round Tower. It was transformed into a retreat with cottage orné and caretaker's lodge (both now ruins) around 1810 by Charles Henry, Earl O'Neill (1779-1841), owner of Shane's Castle to the north; the designer is believed to be John Sutherland (1745-1826), the celebrated landscape gardener. Prior to this the island had belonged to an 'old fisherman' named McArevy and is known to have had a garden in the late 18th century, when it was referred to as Innis or Ennis Garden. Around 1800 it was acquired by James Whittle of Liverpool, who planted trees here and had an orchard, garden and garden house, in which a man and his family lived (presumably the gardener). After it became part of the O'Neill estate a substantial cottage orné was built on the shore immediately below the Round Tower. Used as a romantic and decorative retreat for expeditions, particularly in the summer months, the cottage orné was a relatively large single storey thatched building (57ft x 32ft), described in the OS Memoirs as 'a most curious and elegant structure, beautifully planned and constructed, the furniture, which is most costly, being perfectly rustic and in good keeping with the structure'. The artist Andrew Nicholl sketched the west elevation with its bowed end bays each with a large French window-like opening, and two smaller pointed arch windows in between. The OS memoirs also mentioned a smaller thatched 'lodge dwelling', which must have been the caretaker's house. In 1837 Lewis describes the area around the cottage orné as, '... partially planted with fruit trees and otherwise improved and ornamented'. Earl O'Neill died in 1841 and the island passed to his brother, John, 3rd Viscount, who died in 1855 who continued to use it, in the words of Hall in 1850, as an '... occasional residence ...' but that the tower, '... standing among trees of every possible variety ...' was a ruin. After 1855 the island appears to have been owned by the Pakenhams of nearby Langford Lodge, but they did not make much use of it and the cottage started to decay; however tourists continued to take picnic trips to the island. It was also used as a shooting lodge. Between 1860 and 1883 no one is recorded as occupying the island. In the latter year an Alexander Nelson is listed as resident, with a Robert Cardwell succeeding him in 1892. The island remained in Pakenham ownership until the 1930s. In the 1960s it was leased and an attempt was made to have a self-sufficient garden for the Register of Parks, Gardens and Demesnes of Special Historic Interest (NI) - November 2020

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 no longer visible. The shell of the dwelling survives. The island was part of a flying boat base during the second war (RAF Sandy Bay). In 2007 a replacement jetty was constructed to serve a new ferry service that had been established through a redevelopment programme funded by the Lough Neagh Partnership (LNP). ANT 58:16 round tower. Private

**SHANE'S CASTLE, County Antrim (AP ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY 01) A/064
REGISTERED GRADE A***

This very extensive and fine walled demesne (2,228 acres/900ha), one of the largest and most important designed landscapes in Ulster, occupies the northern shore of Lough Neagh and south-east of Randalstown. It has medieval origins with a succession of early houses known as Edenduffcarrick on the lough shore. Ownership remained more-or-less continuously with the same family since the mid-14th century, when the Clann Aedha Buidha (Clanaboy or Clandeboye) O'Neills spread eastwards over the Bann into mid-Antrim. The village of Edenduffcarrick is first mentioned in 1470, and two decades later a Caislèn was 'destroyed' here. By the 16th-century Edenduffcarrick was the main residence of the Clandeboye O'Neills and as such featured regularly in their internecine conflicts, as well as English attempts to control the region. By 1596, the castle, which included a bawn and small harbour had become a 'ruinated pile'; it was rebuilt post 1606 by Shane MacBrian O'Neill after whom the castle was subsequently named; indeed, as early as 1613 he was officially being addressed as 'of Shane's Castle'. This early 17th-century fortified house was a Scottish 'Z' plan type, part of the fabric of which still survives in the ruins of the later house (Listed HB 20/04/051). Rose O'Neill, Shane's grand-daughter, married Randal McDonnell Marquess of Antrim in 1653 and some time afterwards she remodelled the house, making the entrance in the smaller of the tower towers of the 'Z'-plan house. Following her death in 1695 the house (by 1716) passed to a cousin John O'Neill, known as 'French John' and then in 1738 to his son Charles, none of whom made any major alterations to Rose O'Neill's house, which is depicted with its bawn and village clustered outside on a mid-18th century painting. In 1722 a vault was built in the south-west corner of a private graveyard closed in 1802 of what had been almost certainly the village church (of which there is no record), the vault being built by Shane O'Neill (French John) as 'a burial place to himself and family of Clanneboy' (Listed HB 20/04/042V); within the graveyard (ANT 049/054) are mature conifers, yew and ash trees; gateway to graveyard gates to 1684. There are no contemporary detailed maps showing the landscape at this time, but the area around the house to the north and west would have had formal geometric gardens and landscape, no obvious traces of which survive. In letter patent from Charles II in 1666 Rose was given licence to create a 2,000 acre deer park - this is shown on Lendrick's 1780 map of Antrim; it covered around 1460 acres (590 ha) west of the house and included much of the present demesne, with its north boundary being the old Randalstown road extending to Randalstown itself, while the west boundary ran some distance west of the River Main along roughly similar lines to the present west boundary of the registered demesne; this means that an enormous area of Shane's Castle demesne today has been managed continuously as parkland since the 1660s. Within the old deer park and possibly dating from the early 18th century is a decoy pond, now located in the woods 370m (1,200ft) east of the River Main; shown as a square without its pipes on the OS maps. While the creation of the landscape park at Shane's Castle is largely the work of the great landscape designer John Sutherland, much began in the 1770s before his time and following the death of Charles O'Neill in 1769. Charles had been succeeded by his eldest son John who represented the county of Antrim for several years in the Irish Parliament, and was created Baron O'Neill, of Shane's Castle, in 1793 and 1st Viscount O'Neill in 1795, before he was killed by insurgents at the Battle of Antrim in 1798. In the 1770s he had started not only to enlarge and remodel the old house, but to create a landscape park and clear away the adjoining village. The driving force behind these changes came from his wife Lady Henrietta Boyle, who had

been brought up at Tottenham House near Bath. By the 1780s the place was being much admired; for example *The Post Chaise Companion* of 1786 remarked that Shane's castle had 'most extensive and delightful parks, rich demesnes, and noble plantations'. They added projecting end bays to the house and built a lakeside terrace with a conservatory 'the castle wall forming one side, and the glass projecting into the lake on the other'. Linking a conservatory to a house was a revolutionary idea at that time and attracted much attention from visitors, including the Rev. Beauford in 1787, who noted that it had an alcove for meals at one end, leading 'to hot and cold bathing apartments with painted windows'. Sarah Siddons, the foremost actress of the day, visited her friend Henrietta O'Neill at Shane's Castle in 1784 and likened her reception there to 'an Arabian Night's entertainment', where they 'plucked our dessert from numerous trees of the most exquisite fruits' in the conservatory. Some of the outer walls of this conservatory still survives at basement level beneath John Nash's much larger replacement built in 1812-16 for Charles O'Neill (1779-1841), who inherited the castle on the untimely death of his father in 1798. While the first Viscount O'Neill had started to remove the old late 17th century formal gardens around the house and make the area into parkland, it was his son, Charles Henry O'Neill (1799-1841), created Earl O'Neill in 1800, aged only twenty-one, who energetically embarked upon completing this work and transforming the demesne into what it is today. It is possible that his father had already engaged John Sutherland (1745-1826), Ireland's premier landscape gardener and the Irish contemporary of Humphry Repton to undertake the landscaping of Shane's Castle. The Earl O'Neill held him in such high esteem that in 1822 he commissioned the painter Martin Cregan to paint him in his working books and open cravat, with Shane's Castle in the background; this picture which still hangs at Shane's Castle, is the only portrait known of an Irish landscape gardener of the period. Sutherland cleared away the last vestiges of the village of Edenduffcarrick, and under his guidance the old Antrim-Randalstown Road was re-routed north to its present course. Sutherland was an architect as well as a landscape gardener and was probably responsible for the stable yards built 400m (1,300ft) north-west of the house and the adjacent walled garden. Prior to this old stable and outer offices were evidently placed north of the house and close to the grave yard; a subterranean tunnel which still exists and appears to date from the 1780s linked the house and yard offices. The removal of the village and yard offices allowed the present park to be made north and east of the house, which today contains many well distributed venerable trees with substantial shelter belts, which once accommodated walks and rides; along the new Randalstown road Sutherland laid out three screen plantations, the Ross Brae Plantation, The Moss Plantation and the Ballygrooby Plantation, all of which have retained their original outline. Clumps and plantations also grace the meadows. It may be noted that in the 1830s the woods were mainly of beech, elm and oak, which also afforded cover for game such as pheasants and hare and so were not routinely thinned. The main area of this parkland is around the old castle where many mature parkland trees survive and includes some fine champion trees; a Turner's Oak (*Quercus x tureni*) is Irish Height and Girth Champion; a Cedar of Lebanon (*Cedrus libani*) and a Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*) both have the second greatest-girthed of their kind in Ireland. Other champions include a Dombey's Southern Beech (*Nothofagus dombeyi*); a Himalayan Fir (*Abies spectabilis*); a Ginkgo or Maidenhair tree (*Ginkgo biloba*); a Swamp Spanish Oak or a Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*) and a Blue Magnolia or Cucumber tree (*Magnolia acuminata*). Part of the parkland between the old castle and the present dwelling house was made into a deer park which was constructed in 1979. When the Earl O'Neill was making his new park and demesne, inevitably the old deer park had to be closed, so he made a new walled deer park on the west side of the River Main covering 400 acres (165ha); this excluded the woodland along the Main River and was largely a area of open pasture area dotted with trees and with an oval clump, Magees Clump on its north side, and a large central clump which contained the deer sheds. The old boundary of the 17th-century deer park runs through the centre of this new park, which had a ranger's cottage on its south side, called 'Deerpark Cottage'. This deer park was sold to DAERA (Forest Service) before the last war and is now known as Randalstown Forest. At the same time as Sutherland was

remodelling the west side of the, both the Deerpark Bridge (Listed HB20/04/042S) and the Dunmore Bridge were built (Listed HB 20/04.042R) in 1801 and 1803/4 respectively, very probably designed by Sutherland. At the house itself, the Earl O'Neill engaged the famous English Architect, John Nash, possibly on Sutherland's advice as the two had already worked on a number of projects together. Nash was engaged to remodel the house in a picturesque-castle style with a large 100m long embattled graveled terrace (Listed HB 20/04/043) with dramatic vault beneath (Listed HB 20/04/044). There is a conservatory at one end (Listed HB 20/04/042) and a two-tiered 'telescopic' tower at the other end. The terrace's stone parapet has twenty-one embrasures, each one filled with a twelve pounder cast-iron cannon, all dated 1790 and apparently removed from an English vessel that foundered in Lough Foyle in the latter years of the Napoleonic War. The only completed building on the terrace is the impressive 32 metre long conservatory (Listed HB 20/04/042), whose crenellated ashlar façade has an arcade of thirteen semi-circular glazed openings, each opening on a central pivot. Internally, it has a fully glazed tripartite roof, supported by two rows of twelve remarkably slender cast-iron columns. It was 'stocked with some rare exotics besides some remarkably fine orange and lemon trees' but after the 1870s was filled with camellias and is thus often called the Camellia House; it was restored in 2010 winning a 'highly commended' award from the Irish Georgian Society in 2011. After the fire in 15th May 1816 the Earl O'Neill halted all further building and moved to the stable yard, which had been built at this time to serve the new house 400m (1,300ft to the north-west. The yard takes the form of two quadrangular yards (Listed HB 20/04/040A/B; renumbered 042F), probably designed by Sutherland, with a stack yard on the west side and an adjacent walled garden on the south, all designed as a unit with an elegant cupola over the central arch linking the two yards. We do not know much about the house he built within the yard ranges post 1812 he initially remodelled north range of the east yard; later in the 1830s a much larger two-storey mansion out of this north range; the entrance faced south into the yard and the garden front (facing east) comprising a central full height canted bay, flanked by pairs of windows each side on both floors with the castellated polygonal ashlar corners turrets on each corner. As was the fashion at the time, the garden front faced elaborate flower parterres, shown on the 2nd edition OS map. The architect may have been one John Robinson who is recorded as being here in the early 1830s, or the London architect Robert Lugar who proposed designs 'for a house in castle style' for the Earl O'Neill, exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1840. South of the yards lay the walled garden (6.2 acres/2.51ha) - a large rectangular area with north-east south-west axis also built around 1800. It was divided into two equal sections (each 3.1 acres/1.26ha) with a long glasshouse range running down the central spine wall; more buildings lay in the north section. In 1838 the walled garden was described as being well stocked, with a grapery, pine pits (for pineapples) and other hothouse fruit, while earlier in 1817 Anne Plumtre described how 'one division of the garden was entirely devoted to roses, of which there were above 400 different species'. To the west on alignment with the walled garden, lay a large nursery (6.3 acres/2.56ha) enclosed on all four sides by narrow belts of trees, while to the south of both nursery and walled garden lay the pleasure grounds, with access into the walled garden lying in the centre of the long south wall. These pleasure grounds contained two 'pretty rustic cottages of wood', neither of which survives. The Earl O'Neill planned other improvement at Shane's Castle, notably in 1815, the London architect John Papworth was engaged to design a new park entrance which was exhibited at the Royal Academy. The Sandgate Lodge however, which was built at this time (1815) and located opposite the entrance, is now gone. He also added a number of picturesque cottages and garden shelters to the demesne, but all these are now gone save for Ballealy Cottage [Listed HB 20/04/042P]. The Earl O'Neill died in 1841 and was succeeded by his brother John Bruce Richard O'Neill, 3rd Viscount O'Neill (1780-1855), who completed building the demesne wall in the 1840s. He engaged the architect James Sands from 1841 onwards and Sands may have been responsible for the very grand entrance Complex, The Randalstown Gate Lodge (Listed HB 20/04/042I), built around 1848; this is the grandest of a series of porter's lodges that in the opinion of Dean are 'unsurpassed in

Ireland'. Dean believed that Sands also designed the Dunmore Lodge round 1850 (Listed HB 20/04/042L), the most decorative of the Picturesque lodges, adapted from *Pugin's Ornamental Gables*; in 1855 a bridge was built (juts outside the registered area) to give access to this bridge over the railway cutting (Listed HB 20/04/042T). Dean also credits Sands with the Antrim Lodge (Listed GB 20/04/042J), which is very much as Dunmore Lodge and the Whitegate Lodge c.1848 (Listed HB 30/04/042K). Kynes Cottage [Listed HB20/04/042M) may also belong this period; it replaced an earlier lodge, which presumably dated before the building of the Castle Road. The yards were extended in the 1840s with a series of new yards replaced the former stack yard (Listed HB 20/04/042/H); around the same time three demesne cottage were constructed to the north-west facing into the parkland (Listed HB 20/04/042N). After the 3rd Viscount died in 1855, childless, the property was inherited by Rev. William Chichester (1813-1883), who adopted the O'Neill name in 1868 was raised as 1st Baron O'Neill of the present creation. He commissioned Charles Lanyon, William Henry Lynn and Charles Lanyon in 1860, the contractor being James Henry of Belfast. This was reported as having been completed 'on the site of the old structure' in October 1861, though the large gabled Music Hall on the north side was not completed until 1863. The new house was a plain gabled High Victorian mansion in 'early Gothic' style with large square tower at one end, all built of ashlar from Cookstown with Caen stone chimneypieces; Lynn returned to add a billiard room in 1901 and Peddie did further work in 1911. Also from the 1860s the pleasure gardens south of the walled garden and nursery to the lake (where there is a shelter belt) were expanded and an arboretum included. Within this area an old quarry was transformed around this time into an impressive and extensive rockery with a pond and much rockwork, including a series of arches [Listed HB 20/04/042X]. It was photographed by Welch at the turn of the century, when it was stocked with ferns, monkey puzzles and other exotics. A description of 1887 shows how it contained rocks of the same curious formation as the Giant's Causeway with 'Forests of rare ferns, lakelets covered with water lilies...masses of gorgeous autumn plants laid out in borders and beds made it a little nook of beauty'. The visitor also noted a tropaeolum [nasturtium], 'the finest I ever saw, climbed in crimson festoons over the black basaltic wall.' The rockery was subject to a restoration in the 1990s and the pleasure gardens here are still maintained and planted with new varieties of rhododendrons and azaleas added. The 1st baron did other improvements, notably in the yards where new ranges were added including a saw mill [IAR 7170:000:00 and IAR 7170:001:00]. After his death in 1883, the demesne was inherited by his son, Edward Chichester, later O'Neill, the 2nd Baron (1839-1928). Unfortunately, it was during his time that the mansion was burnt by insurgents 20 May 1922. In the 1930s Shane O'Neill, the 3rd baron (1907-44) commissioned the London architect Oliver Hill to produce drawings for a very substantial Queen Anne Revival house to be located south-west of the old nursery, above the rockery, facing the lough. This was never built; instead, the present Lord O'Neill, Raymond, commissioned Arthur Jury of Blackwood and Jury to build a classical house in 1958-59 opposite the yard from the site of the 19th century mansion (HB20/04/042D). From the 1960s the old walled gardens were transformed: The Upper Garden, at the south side of the new house had a garden designed in around 1963/4 by Major Daniel which has now been altered. It is square but with a circular effect of lawns and beds and a yew hedge. Plants include hostas, lilies, peonies and roses. The vista to the lough at right-angles to the house, follows a 19th-century path, which is interrupted by a wall with a central opening flanked by pillars and the southern part is grassy and extends to the lough shore. At the southern end there is a bog garden. and south of the wall is the Lower Garden which was laid out in 1967/68; it contains small and medium-sized woody plants such as magnolia, cornus and two camellia borders with old fashioned roses and daffodils. West of this the arc of a former conservatory is planted with climbers. Nearby was a croquet lawn and tennis courts. The Shane's Castle Railway opened with a track laid from the Antrim Gate Lodge to the old castle ruins, and private station buildings at each end, but closed in the 1990s; by 1988, a symbolic figure statue [listed HB20.04.042U], sculpted in the 1920s, was erected in the disused burial ground. The great number of SMR: sites indicate the very considerable importance

of the area covered by Shane's Castle Demesne 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.

**THE STEEPLE, County Antrim (AP ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY 01) AN/125
REGISTERED GRADE B**

The gentleman's residence of circa 1819 (Listed HB 20/09/002) is set above well maintained grass terracing in flat parkland (registered area 18.5 acres/7.5ha), with clumps of mature trees and shelter belt planting, located 0.8 miles (1.3km) north-east of Antrim Main-street. House was burnt in 2019 and parkland that now survives is only a fraction of its former size when laid out in the Regency period for William Clarke, for his fine new two-storey stuccoed house with oversailing pitched roof, full-height bows and Tuscan portico. It replaced (on a different site) a modest dwelling here owned by the Jackson family, who had owned the property since the 17th century. In the 1830s the OS Memoirs make reference to the '... pretty shrubberies of evergreens and two very neat and well laid out flower gardens...' (OSM 1835) which have not survived. The Early Christian monastic round tower in the grounds was photographed by the local. W. A. Green in the early years of the 20th century, showing ornamental planting around it; this tower and the whole south part of the park is scheduled (AN 050:008/050:009). The former walled garden, where the ballaun stone rested, has now been built over. There are two gate lodges which Dean suggests are c.1845, but could be late 1820s; these are the North and South Lodges, both lie on the east side. The Clarke family remained here until 1929 when it was sold to a Mr. Fawcett and acquired by Antrim Rural District Council in 1956 for use as offices. SMR: ANT 50:8 ballaun stone, 50:9 round tower, 50:128 antiquity? The house was for a time the headquarters of Antrim Borough Council; unfortunately it was burnt to a shell on the morning of 2 July 2019. Public are admitted to the grounds. SMR 050:008 (ballaun); 050: 007 (settlement site) & 050:009 (Ecclesiastical site)-State Care and Scheduled.

AREA PLAN – ARDS AND NORTH DOWN 02

**BALLYWALTER PARK, County Down (AP ARDS AND NORTH DOWN 02) D/004
REGISTERED GRADE A**

The present demesne (269 acres/105ha) on the east coast of the Ards Peninsula, is a mid-19th century amalgamation of two adjoining older establishments, namely Ballymagown, later Springvale House (the site on which the present 1852 house is constructed) and to the west of this, Ballyatwood. In late medieval times all these lands were controlled by the O'Neill Lordship of Clandeboy, though claimed by the Archbishopric of Armagh. They were granted by James I to James Hamilton, later Viscount Clandeboy (c.1559-1643) around 1600, though the Archbishopric continued to maintain their claim to the land title. Ballyatwood, the most westerly of the two establishments, was leased to Hugh Hamill, a Scot, who settled here around 1672 and leased the property from Hamilton. An influential figure in the area, he and his descendants created a small demesne around their house at Ballyatwood, which is described by Harris in 1744 as the 'house and improvement of Hans Hamil Esq.' and important enough to be marked on Kennedy's County map of 1755. The other property to the east, Ballymagown (later Springvale House), was from 1671 leased to Hugh Montgomery (d.1707), the son of James Montgomery (d.1647), curate of Newtownards and Greyabbey and Chaplain to 1st Viscount Montgomery. After his son, Rev. Hans Montgomery inherited the property in 1726, he renamed it 'Springvale', and remodelled it as a two-storied block over a basement c.1730, only to sell it later in the 1730s to George Matthews

(d.1753), a naval captain, who Harris observed had a large collection of 'curiosities... ancient coins...gems, seals and Egyptian pebbles' accumulated on his travels to 'eastern counties'. Captain Matthews' son, John (c.1735-?), inherited the estate in 1753 and his son and successor, Major George Matthews (1756-1839), commenced a major rebuilding scheme in 1805 which witnessed the enlargement or replacement of the existing house, and the construction of new outbuildings and a walled garden. For some unknown reason this work was halted in 1812 with the interior of the house not entirely finished. Major Matthews sons all predeceased him and complications regarding multiple claimants and the various changes which he had made to his will in the last years of his life, lead to the whole property being placed in the Court of Chancery, where in June 1843 it was decided that the entire estate should be put up for sale. After a protracted delay, Springvale was advertised for sale in October 1845 and finally sold to Andrew Mulholland (1791-1866) of Belfast in 1846 for £23,500. Andrew Mulholland was a cotton and linen manufacturer, the son of Thomas Mulholland (1756-1820), a Belfast businessman who had risen from humble origins and by 1815 had purchased a cotton mill in the town. Following the destruction of the family York-street mill in an accidental fire in 1828, the Mulhollands moved into the flax-spinning business and erected a pioneering large factory in 1830 to facilitate new techniques involving the 'wet spinning' of flax. This move proved fortuitous, quickly earning the Mulhollands a fortune and marking the beginning of large-scale industrialized linen production in Belfast and eventually throughout Ulster. Andrew assuming full control of the business, which he later ran with his son John (1819-95) under the name of Andrew Mulholland & Son. By 1846, he had acquired enough wealth not only to invest in the Springvale estate, but also to commence the immediate extending and remodelling the house into the grand Italianate mansion we see today. Following the purchase, 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 (Listed HB 24/04/028 + park and garden walling) in Italian Renaissance style with large portico, flanked by large single-storey side wings, with the symmetry of the composition broken (but not totally upset) by a much less glamorous two-storey wing of 1902 to the north, which was originally much longer. Behind this, the north-eastern corner, there extends a single-storey wing (containing a billiard room and smoking room), and attached at a right-angle to the northern end of this is a single-storey conservatory with central domed bay. The openings are of the Georgian type and are embellished with Classical surrounds, whilst the slated roof has a large overhang supported on a dentilled eaves, and tall rendered chimneystacks. The side wings are gently curved to the rear and their roofs are obscured by balustraded parapets, whilst the north-eastern wing and conservatory are constructed in cut-stone with fine Classical detailing including Corinthian pilasters. 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. The stable block (Listed HB 24/04/029), located a short distance on lower ground to the north of the house, is a long, symmetrical rubble-built two-storey range, with slightly taller two-bay end sections and a central three-stage 'tower' for pigeon house. Attached to the west end of the block is a high rubble retaining wall, with another wall attached to the eastern end with two large gate piers. Believed to have been built as part of Major George Matthews' improvements of 1805-12, this block appears on the OS map of 1834. A long plain two-storey gable-ended range at the north end of the stable yard is the 'Albany' (HB 24/04/089) built as accommodation of servants in the 1870s. The kitchen garden, contemporary with the present early 1850s house, is of a walled long rectangular form (2.7 acres/1.1ha) with north-east-north south-west-south axis and with rounded corners on the north side; it is enclosed by a tall partly rubble partly brick wall, lined in brick to the inside. Victorian glasshouses here were replaced in 1911 by the Edinburgh firm McKenzie and Moncur Ltd; these were restored in the 1990s. The firm of William Richardson & Co of Darlington also designed glasshouses for the garden. Most of the walled garden is now under mowed lawn; a long pergola

flanks the main axis path; east of this lies a rose garden. There is some ornamental planting on the exterior, on the path from the house to the walled garden. Extensive replanting followed the purchase of the property in 1846 with thick woodland around the perimeter. The designer has not been yet established but the most likely candidate is James Fraser (1793-1863). Older shelter belts were retained as an important element in an exposed site and there are still mature woodland areas with stand of beech and oak that could date back to the early 1800s; many other trees were planted for the present house. There are mature woodlands, with rides and extensive parkland within the walls. Planting post 1846 was extensive and around 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. Lanyon was also engaged to add two ornamental bridges to the new parkland setting around the house. The first of these (Listed HB 24/04/027) is to the north-east of the house and carries the main drive over a stream. It is oblique to the stream and has a segmental arch of about 1.5m wide with vermiculated voussoirs. The balustrade-like parapet and has decorative balusters and a smaller centre pier. The inner and outer faces of central piers have shell motif, whilst the end piers have blocking stones above a cornice. There is a similar arched screen roughly 45m to the north-east of this bridge, where the stream flows underground. The second bridge (Listed HB 24/04/030) lies along a curving track about 100m directly west of the house. It is similar to the above but has eroded (possibly lion's head) decorative keystones, and the shell motif to the inner face of central piers only. The final decorative bridge (Listed HB 24/04/031), is located roughly 340m west of the house, and is basically of the same design, but with the shell motifs to the outer faces of the central piers also, and a (now disguised) repair in brick to the eastern side. There is a final bridge (Listed HB 24/04/097] of contrasting rustic appearance over a small stream further to the west. This is a simple rubble-built structure with a single 1m wide arch with rough rubble voussoirs, a rubble faced base wall and no parapets. The arch rises slightly above ground level giving the bridge a hump-backed profile. Built into an embankment west of the stable block is a rubble-built culvert face (HB 24/04/096), 1m wide (partly blocked and formerly with a grill) with a vermiculated keystone. Lanyon's other task was designing gate lodges; the main entrance north-east of the house was made in the late 1840s and has a Lanyon gate and lodge (Listed HB 24/04/025). Its screen is impressive with extensive walled quadrants contained by large pillars framing iron railings with wicket and carriage gates with single-storey Italianate lodge with cruciform plan. Directly opposite the main entrance, is another gate screen which map evidence suggests is post-1860 - It with much simpler than its neighbour opposite with plain square piers, spear head gates and similar flanking railings rising from a low wall. The southern gate is located along Ballyatwood Road, on the site of the main pre-1834 entrance, has a simple set of square cut-stone piers with flattened pyramidal caps, wrought-iron carriage and pedestrian gates and rubble-built quadrant walls. The long two-storey gabled dwelling on the opposite side of the road from the entrance, at the entrance to the post-1846 estate home farm, appears to have served as both a lodge for this entrance and possibly the home farm itself, and is captioned as a lodge on the 1860 map. The present western gateway off Greyabbey Road was created in c.1890 (Listed HB 24/04/040), after the purchase of the Ballyatwood estate and the subsequent expansion of the demesne and redirecting of the roads around it. It superseded an earlier gateway which stood at the former western boundary of the old smaller Springvale demesne, which Lanyon had added a lodge to in c.1846, much in the style of that to the main eastern entrance. The gate screen at the present entrance contains elements similar to that to the eastern entrance such as heavily rusticated sandstone pillars with a plain frieze and moulded caps, decorative spearhead iron carriage gates and railings, with a pedestrian gate to the north side. The lodge, designed by W.J. Fennell, is markedly different from that to the east, however, being an irregular single storey neo-classical sandstone and stucco building. In 1866 following the death of Andrew Mulholland, his son John (1819-95) inherited and started to focus on building up the family landed estates, acquiring part of Killymoon, Cookstown, the Ker family Downpatrick estate in 1874 and part of the Dufferin

estate in the Ards becoming one of the counties biggest landowners, MP for Downpatrick (1868-85) and in 1892 was raised to the peerage as Baron Dunleath of Ballywalter. He also acquired lands much closer to home, buying the adjacent Ballyatwood demesne and amalgamating the grounds into Springvale, which he now called Ballywalter Park. By that stage Ballyatwood wood, probably still a 17th-century house, had become very dilapidated, the last occupant being J.D. Hamil-Stewart who was killed on campaign with General Gordon in Khartoum in 1885. Following his death Mulholland bought the property, redirected the roads to the west and the demesne assumed its present extent. The old house and ancillary buildings were demolished and the northern part of the Ballyatwood demesne, where once the house and walled garden had stood, is now entirely wooded. One of the few features surviving from the old Ballyatwood demesne is a pigeon house (Listed HB 24/04/041) situated far to the north-west of the main house in wooded ground; it is a small single-storey gabled structure, with rendered walls and a slated roof with kneelers. To the south side is a doorway, with a small opening near the apex of the west gable. Above the doorway is a small (partly broken) slate plaque which reads 'H.H. [Hans Hamill – then owner of Ballyatwood] 1750'. The new enlarged demesne was enclosed along the roads to the south, east and west by relatively low rubble walling, mostly built in the 1880s (subsequently patched in places with concrete block); though it is possible that the eastern, and a section of the southern stretches may well be earlier. John Mulholland, 1st Lord Dunleath was succeeded by his second son, Henry Lyle Mulholland (1854-1931) 2nd Lord Dunleath, who added the so-called 'bachelor's wing' to the house, and is noted for having laid out a 9-hole golf course and cricket pitch within the grounds. The head gardener from 1906, William 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; he specialised in sweet pea growing. The son of the 2nd Lord Dunleath, Charles Henry Mulholland, the 3rd Baron Dunleath (1883-1956), inherited in 1931. He was a notable plant enthusiast and started to collect rhododendrons in particular, creating a special area for these at Ballywalter and keeping detailed records of all his plantings. One of his crosses was R. Dunleath, between *Arboreum* var. *kermesinum* and *elliottii*, to create a strong red flower (late February-May). His wife, Henrietta Grace, Lady Dunleath (1892-1969), after whom he named the rhododendron, was also a garden enthusiast and published a paper on the planting at Ballywalter in the 1960 *Year Book on Rhododendrons*. The rhododendron collection flourished in the first half of the 20th century and the surviving plants are recorded in Mary Forrest's, *Trees and Shrubs Cultivated in Ireland* compiled in 1988. 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. There were seven several gate lodges, one of which is by Lanyon c.1850 and another by Fennell c.1900. House private. SMR: DOWN 12:11 enclosure and tree ring, 12: 12 enclosure and tree ring.

BALLYWHITE HOUSE, County Down (AP ARDS AND NORTH DOWN 02) D/018
REGISTERED GRADE B

Modest-sized demesne park (75 acres/30.5ha) enclosing a restrained two-storey double-pile country house (Listed HB 24/01/119) located above the west shore the Ards Peninsula, a short distance north of Portaferry demesne. The house, which faces south-west onto the lough in a beautiful situation, began as an 18th century farmhouse belonging to the McDonnell family. It was acquired by a Portaferry solicitor, John Warwick (1811-91), who around 1860 remodelled the building, which was further extended and refurbished in 1874. There were two late 19th century conservatories attached to the house, one of which (on the north-west) survives, albeit reconstructed in the 1990s. The grounds fall away from the house to the south-west and the area near the house is maintained as an ornamental garden. There are other cultivated compartments

around the house. While some parkland planting was present in the 1850s, most of the present layout belongs to the 1870s with mature deciduous trees (mostly beech) south-west and north-east of the house. South-east of the house a large block of woodland (18 acres/7.2) which forms the south-east boundary of the property. The house is approached by an avenue from the south-west, which links to the coast road below; at the entrance to the park there is a gate lodge (Listed HB 24/01/118), built in 1874.. Private.

**BANGOR, County Down (AP ARDS AND NORTH DOWN 02) D/005
REGISTERED GRADE A**

An important designed landscape with early 17th 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 Clondeboyne 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 firr, 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. In the 1860s 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, demolished in 2007) 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 (3 acres/1.2ha) and its high enclosing walls built in Bangor clay brick (save only the outside of the north wall). This walled garden, which has a roughly north-south axis, is subdivided by an east-west wall into two areas; the smaller northern area (1 acre/0.42 ha) was where most of the glasshouses range formerly lay, including peach house. The larger south garden (1.96 acres/0.8ha) had a vinery on its south facing wall. Until the 1990s this northern area was used by the Borough Council for propagation. However, in 2007-09 the walled garden was subject to a major

restoration programme by the council (opened Easter 2009) which won the Royal Horticultural Society Award for Permanent Landscaping in its first year of opening. The historic quadrant path network was restored and each of the four quadrants given a separate theme; the flower garden, the herb and topiary garden; the kitchen garden and the damp garden. These four areas are separated by pleached lime trees and rose covered arches. The west part of the northern walled garden, which is also open to the public, has a tea house, glasshouses, sheds and a lawn, while the east section of the north walled garden is used as working-yard by the council for storage and maintenance. At the centre of the main southern restored walled garden is a fountain inspired (according to the council brochures) by the Victorian tongue twister "A twister twisting, which is etched on the sandstone around the base. A second sculpture, "The Curved Horn" is supposed to celebrate Bangor's maritime past. The restoration project did not include the 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 uninspiring Edwardian period 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 are a 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.

**CARROWDORE CASTLE, County Down (AP ARDS AND NORTH DOWN 02) D/083
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Parkland (135 acres/54.7ha) surrounds a fine Georgian Gothic house of 1818-20 (Listed HB 24/05/001) at the north-west end of the village of Carrowdore, 5.7 miles (9.2km) east of Newtownards in the Ards Peninsula. The three-storey four bay symmetrical castellated house, which has a dramatic three-stage round tower at one end, is located in the centre of parkland, facing north. It was built for Nicholas de la Cherois-Croommelin (1783-1863), who inherited the property from his father Samuel (1744-1816), who in turn inherited from his cousin Nicholas Croommelin to whom it has been bequeathed in 1757 by Thomas Montgomery, 5th Earl of Mount Alexander. What kind of house existed here prior to 1818 is not clear, but it is shown of Williamson's Down map of 1810, so must have been fairly substantial. The land had formed part of the large Montgomery estates since the early 17th century, passing to the first Earl Alexander in 1661. The surrounding walled parkland, which has changed remarkably little since first depicted on the 1830s OS map, was laid out at the same time 1818-20 for the new house; its creation involved the redirection north-westwards of what are now the Manse and Woburn Roads. The park was clearly professionally designed with narrow perimeter belts around the entire property containing mixed deciduous and evergreen trees, enclosing demesneland with blocks of woodland, mainly beech, including west of the house and clumps of trees. The main area of parkland with isolated trees is (as one might expect) north of the house. Between 1834 and 1860 a path was created to lead north-west through the demesne to the Church of Ireland (Christ Church, Listed HB24/05/004)); by 1932 this was an avenue. There was still a path in the 1990, however, the area now infilled with conifers. Immediately east of the house lies a large formal ornamental garden, substantial portion of which appear to pre-date the 1818-20 house. A large walled garden of trapezoidal shape (2.7 acres (1.1ha) is shown on the 1830s OS map adjacent to the house; on its north side an attractive stone rubble wall ends in a three-storey belvedere or gazebo. Adjacent to this garden on the east side, there was a second formal enclosure 3.97

acres/1.6ha), possibly originally containing an orchard. These gardens were substantially altered in the late 1840s or early 1850s by Samuel de la Cherois-Croommelin (1817-1885) after his father had fallen into serious financial difficulties and had gone to live more modestly in Cushendun (in the so-called 'Caves-house'). Samuel moved the productive garden to a new location south of the castle, knocked the south wall and made the area into a pleasure ground, with the east enclosure being made largely into a small lake (2.1 acres/0.86ha) fed by a small stream at the east. These gardens continued to be developed by Samuel's son, Frederick Armand Delacherois Crommelin (b.1871), who died without heirs in 1902 and the contents of the house auctioned. Today the ornamental gardens contains some impressive ornamental trees including huge pine, cedar, cordyline, *Cupressus macrocarpus*, eucalyptus and wellingtonia. In addition, there are clumps of rhododendrons, cherry trees, eucryphia and other ornamental shrubs disposed about the slope. Since the 1940s the lake has shrunk in size and the gardens are now confined to area closest to the house with borders along the north battlemented garden wall, lawns, and a small enclosed formal garden with glasshouse. The house and demesne were subsequently leased to Major Workman (1917-1931) and then sold to Mr. McNeill, then George Kinnaird, and Mr Mitchell. Finally, the present owner acquired it in 1972 and built a large house in the grounds in 1992, south of the castle. The old house was empty for a time, but is now occupied following a restoration scheme in 2010-11. The demesne had two gate lodges, both contemporary with the house, 1818-20; today only the Millisle Gate Lodge survives (Listed HB 24/05/003) 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.

**CLANDEBOYE (BALLYLEIDY), County Down (AP ARDS AND NORTH DOWN 02) D/012
REGISTERED SITE GRADE A***

Large-scale Victorian landscape park with 18th-century origin (1,353 acres/547.4ha) associated with a Regency house (Listed HB 23/10/002) located 2.3 miles (3.77km) south-west of Bangor and 3.3 miles (5.35km) north-west-north of Newtownards. One of the most extensive examples of Victorian parkland planting in Ulster, with large 64 acres lake, large-scale woodlands and a two mile private carriage corridor to railway station. The core of the demesne, Ballyleidy townland, was originally part of the vast estates accumulated in the early 1600s by (Sir) James Hamilton, later Viscount Clandeboye (c.1559-1643) and was depicted on Raven's Map of 1625-6. It was rented by John Blackwood (1625-98) of Bangor, whose father James (1591-1663) from Scotland had established himself in Ulster as a Bangor merchant. Around 1674, the debts incurred by Henry Hamilton (1647-75), 2nd Earl of Clanbrassil, allowed John Blackwood to acquire the freehold of the townland and other Hamilton townlands. John died in 1698 and was buried in Bangor Abbey and his son succeeded, also called John (1662-1720) who described himself 'of Ballyleidy' which means he owned a house on the property, possibly built himself rather than his father in the 1690s or perhaps earlier. He increased his land holdings to around 6,000 acres in the early 1790s though his marriage to his cousin Ann Hamilton of Killyleagh (d.1741) and it may have been around that time or a few years before that he built the first house at Ballyleidy. A tiny sketch of a two-storey gable ended house is depicted a demesne map by John Sloane around 1710. Another mid-18th-century map shows the house in more detail and apparently much larger; without supporting documentation it is difficult to be sure if the later 17th century house was enlarged c.1750 or is this is the same house, but the house on the mid-18th-century demesne map is a gable-ended two-storey, five bay symmetrical house facing south-east with four large chimneys. The map drawing seems to suggest each gable-end was flanked by lower projecting bay or tower surmounted by finials, so it is possible the house resembled Buncrana (1717) with overlapping wings. There is a yard to the rere. The c.1710 map shows the house at the head of along tree-lined avenue extending south-east, with formal gardens/orchards on the south-west side of the house. The c.1710 map also illustrates the divisions of the demesne (then 340 acres), naming the various paddocks, viz. Moorpark, Wellspark, Long park, Long Meadow, Pigeon Park, Bushy Park,

Horse Park, Big Park, Square Park and others. This landscape was so thoroughly re-landscaped in the later 18th-century that little on this map can be recognised except the old Bangor-Ballysallagh-road, which bordered the south of the original demesne, before being engulfed by the demesne itself and eventually closed in the 1840s. The Crawfordsburn-road, which borders the west side of the present demesne, was actually built around the 1730s, cutting off parts of the original demesne on its west side. The house is shown ('Ballydeedy') on Kennedy's 1755 map of County Down with side wings and surrounded with a significant amount trees. The demesne and estate were inherited in 1720 by Sir Robert Blackwood (1694-1774), who was created a baronet in 1763, having married heiresses twice, namely Joyce Leeson (d.1727), sister of the 1st Earl of Milltown. and secondly, Grace McCartney (c.1788), daughter of a Belfast merchant. Like his father, and grandfather, Sir Robert's son who inherited in 1774, Sir John Blackwood (1722-99), also reared as a Presbyterian, greatly increased the family fortune through marriage (1751), to Dorcas Stevenson (1726-1808), who was the heiress to most of her father, James Stevenson's (1699-1769) property in and around Killyleagh - formerly the Hamilton estate; this included two seats in the Dublin parliament. Sir John had a politically active career, as MP for Killyleagh (1761-8; 1776-83-90, 1798-9 & Bangor 1768-76; 1790-7) and opponent of the Union, he was also an enthusiastic agricultural improver, being treasurer of the Down Society for Promoting Agriculture. He died in 1799 to be succeeded by his eldest surviving son, Sir James Stevenson Blackwood (1755-1836), who succeeded his mother as the 2nd Baron Dufferin and Clandeboyne in 1808. He was also a politically active MP for Killyleagh (1788-90-7-1800), later for Helston and Aldeburgh and served a Secretary to Robert Stewart, Lord Castlereagh. When he inherited in 1799 his income, as estimated by Wakefield, was around £15,000 a year, so he had plenty of money to consider rebuilding the family house, which he did following his marriage in 1801 to Anne Dorothea (1772-1865) daughter of John Foster, 1st Baron Oriel. He approached a young London architect and former apprentice of Soane, Robert Woodgate (d.1805), who in 1799 had moved his offices to Dublin, having supervised the re-building of Baronscourt for the Marquis of Abercorn to Soane's plans. Woodgate it seems was commissioned to remodel and extend the existing house, but it is not clear if in fact anything of the early house was retained. The house he built, which seems to have been finished around 1804 was a large, but relatively unadorned and unpretentious, 'Soanic' Classical Style two-storey mansion, roughly square in plan with two wings or facades at right angles to each other. The original east front of the house was now of nine bays, the centre three being in a shallow bow. The south wing, built at right angles to the east front, was however made by Woodgate into another 'front facade', this being of seven bays, the five inner bays breaking forward with the three in the centre grouped under a slightly projecting pediment. While the house had two 'fronts' - the real front, the one with the entrance, was on the south, so effectively, the mansion had been re-orientated from the east to the south. To the north-west of the house were built two roughly square yards, that further west (the stableyard) much larger. In their present form these may have been also the work of Woodgate, possibly incorporating some of the 18th-century ranges that lay behind the old house. Both yards are today enclosed on all sides by two and single-storey rubble-built hipped roof ranges of former outbuildings, most of them appear to be early 19th-century in date; these are now converted to offices, workshops, stores and function rooms. Set in the centre of the larger yard, the dovecote (Listed HB 23/10/002C) is thought by some to be of late 18th century construction, but it too is more likely to be 1801-04. It is a freestanding, square plan rubble-built tower with corbelled upper storey and shallow-pitched pyramidal roof with central timber lantern. The chapel (Listed HB 23/10/002D), sited on the south-western outer corner of the stable yard, is a small single-storey rectangular barn style structure of c.1860 with rubble walls and a slated gable-ended steeply-pitched roof. To the south side of the building there is a memorable entrance of c.1890 in Hiberno-Romanesque Style, with similar decoration to the window openings to this side, whilst to the north there is a vestry projection. The former gasworks (Listed HB 23/10/002E), is located to the immediate north of the chapel; built in 1871-72, but incorporating the fabric of a smaller pre-

1834 outbuilding, it is a three-storey, rubble-built Scots Baronial Style building, with full-height gabled projection and tall square chimney to the western side. It was superseded c.1885 by a new gasworks located to the south, with the old building later converted to a grain dryer and silo. To the north of the yard lies the walled kitchen garden (3.77 acres/1.53ha), which was also probably built in 1801-04. It occupies a roughly square area with substantial chamfered corners and is divided by a wall into two equal-sized sections, the north 1.95 acres/0.79ha) and the south 1.83 acres/0.74ha). By the 1830s there were substantial buildings on the south side of the internal dividing wall, many probably glasshouses; there were further ranges outside the west wall, probably garden sheds. Today the walled garden is used by Conservation Volunteers and modern glasshouses outside are in use for the house. The building works of 1801-04 were probably accompanied by significant landscaping; certainly by the time of Williamson's 1810 Map of County Down, the demesne had been transformed into a naturalised landscape park and had by that period extended across the Bangor-Ballysallagh-road; that park is shown in detail on the OS 1830s map prior to being greatly enlarged again and transformed in the 1840s. The designer is unknown, but it must have involved removing the old formal layout, notably the main avenue, which extended out from the east side of the house. In its place was an expansive lawn, dotted with trees and clumps and enclosed on all sides by woodland save to the south-west, while a small stream was widened to look like a river and diverted to meander across the front lawn in sight of the house. Substantial block of woodland were in planted forming the basis of the park as it was remodelled again in the 1840s; woods in place by this time were the Tomb Wood and woods on Viceroy Hill to the east of the house; Sir John's Wood to the south of the house; Dorcas Grove to the rere of the house and Ursula's Wood screening and sheltering the walled garden. South of the Bangor-Ballysallagh-road, which was to be extensively landscaped in the 1840s, already had Helen of Novar's Wood; Lord James Wood; Clanbrassil Wood and a large section of what became Tower Hill Wood. The early 19th-century also saw narrow and regular perimeter belt planting along the Crawfordsburn-road, typical of that era. Roughly 300m south-east of the house, in a small landscaped clearing on the on the edge of Tomb Wood is a Neo-classical memorial urn (Listed HB 23/10/020) erected around 1816. On the east face this is inscribed, 'In memory of a loved and lamented nephew Robert Temple-Blackwood who fell at the Battle of Waterloo Sunday 18th June 1815, this urn is placed here by Anna Dorothea Dufferin'. To the south the inscription reads; 'What days, what hours, but knocks at human hearts, to wake the soul to sense of future scenes.' Following the death of Sir James Stevenson Blackwood in August 1836, aged 83 with no issue, his younger brother inherited, Huw, 3rd Baron Dufferin (1758-1839) succeeded for three years as 3rd Lord Dufferin, to be in turn in 1839 succeeded by his surviving son, Price Blackwood (1794-1841), 4th Baron Dufferin. He had married (1825) Helen Selina, the third daughter of the playwright Richard Brinslay Sheridan,, but in 1841 the 4th baron died after an accidental overdose of morphine pills, leaving a young widow and son, aged fifteen, Frederick Hamilton-Temple-Blackwood (1826-1902), who was to have a brilliant career as Governor General of Canada 1872-79; Ambassador to Russia 1879-81 and Constantinople 1881-84; Viceroy of India 1884-88; Ambassador to Italy 1881-91 and France 1891-96), becoming the 1st Marquess of Dufferin and Ava in 1888. Once he came of age in 1847, he started to make improvements to both the mansion and the park. Educated and informed, it is said that from an early age he yearned to have a nobleman's seat more in accord with the romantic ideal promoted by Sir Walter Scott. So he approached William Burn, the celebrated Scottish architect who had been engaged in rebuilding Bangor Castle nearby, to produce plans for remodelling the house and to add a chapel and a tennis court. He had a plan to re-clad his house in brick, so that it assumed looked more like an Elizabethan or Jacobean mansion. This was never carried out, probably because so much money was already being spent on the park at the time; however, not be put off, he then approached Benjamin Ferrey, who proposed in the mid-1850s a remodelling the house, now called Clandeboye, into a French Chateau. Finally in the late 1860s he commissioned plans from William Henry Lynn for a spectacular baronial 'Scotch Jacobean' palace. These plans

were financially impossible for him, yet he went on to commission Lynn to produce plans for another house 'of even more cyclopean proportions' away from the house in the demesne at Ursula's Fort and then a marine castle on Grey Point in Belfast Lough. Ultimately, all these schemes were put to one side and during the 1850 and 1860s Lord Dufferin made modest improvements to the house, moving the entrance from the south to the west, turning the former scullery and kitchen into an outer and inner hall. Whereas work to the house was modest, during these decades the park was subject to fairly comprehensive improvements, largely under the direction 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 old Bangor-Ballysallagh public road through the centre of the park and diversion of the Rathgael-road on the north side of the park. In the new additions to the park fields and farm buildings were swept away and in their stead, planting of new belts, screens and sweeping deciduous woodlands. Between 1852 and 1862 a number of lakes were dug, notably the Tower Lake in the south of the park and a very large great lake with islands to the south and east of the house (64.6 acres/26.1ha). This lake had a boat house, now ruined rubble remains, built in the 1850s (HB 23/10/002H). On the west side of the demesne an avenue was laid down outside the demesne boundary, to give access to Helen's Bay railway station; a single-span stone bridge (HB 23/10/002F) of 1863 was built to carry this private avenue which over Ballysallagh Road. The avenue is 1.92 miles (3.09km) long (covers 43.1 acres/17.4ha) 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 (Listed 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; to be named Helen's Tower by Lord Dufferin, in honour of his mother, Helena Selina, a grand-daughter of Richard Brinsley Sheridan (Listed HB 23/06/009). The tower, seen originally as a famine relief project, was not completed until 1862, no doubt due to Lord Dufferin's shortage of cash; it is a four-stage Scots Baronial Style square tower, with coursed basalt walls, rounded stair turret with gabled square turret, and bartizans. It later served as a gamekeeper's residence; it is now leased to the Irish Landmark Trust and contains a holiday apartment. In 1921 the design of the tower was repeated, on an enlarged scale, in a memorial at Thiepval in northern France. The tower commemorates the men of Ulster who fell during the First World War and was erected by public subscription. Helen's Tower was chosen for the design because many soldiers from the Ulster Division camped and trained at Clandeboy before being deployed in France and the tower would have been one of the last local buildings they saw before being sent to the front. Much of the significant landscaping took place south of the old Bangor-Ballysallagh-road, utilising and expanding the early 19th-century woodland blocks. From November 1863 to 1866 some £15,000 was spent draining, planting, road making and so forth in creating the new parkscape. On the west side the 'Mehetabek Valley' vista was created adjacent to the existing Clanbrassil Wood, with new perimeter plantings along the road; in the 20th century a reservoir (6.25 acres/2.52 ha) has been made at the south end of the valley. At the southern end of the park, the Tower Hill Wood was enormously expanded into a very extensive woodland with Earl Archibald's Wood and Lord James Wood on its north-west sector. South of Isabel's Clump and Catherine's Clump, a large open lawn parkscape was created, originally dotted with isolated trees and clumps, lying inside a narrow perimeter belt on the south-west sector of the park; this still exists but unfortunately the open park lawn here has been much disfigured by a 20th-century farm building. An open parkscape, west of Tower Lake Wood, still survives intact with sinuous woodland edges around it and isolated trees within. North of Tower Hill Wood Lord Dufferin made the smaller Dane's Wood, flanked by a small deer park (the latter is now part of the adjacent golf course). The east side of the new park south of the Bangor-Ballysallagh-road was also laid out with sinuous edges woodland blocks and open lawns dotted with trees - formerly covered by bog and poor land, this park expansion, which included a section in Lisbane townland, involved a considerable amount of drainage. New woodlands like Countess Harriot's Wood,

Gauntlet Hill Wood, Lord Warden's Wood (a perimeter planting), the Clinque Port Woods, Lady Victoria's Wood, were flanked by open lawns or parkland, all carefully disposed to provide views across the park and to project an Arcadian landscape that extended into infinity. Remarkably, this parkland has all survived intact, even the Lisbane section, now part of a golf course, still retains its historic integrity. The park possessed seven gate lodges, most of which were post 1850. The north Bangor Lodge along the Belfast-road originally had a Tudor Revival lodge of c.1850 by William Burn, which was sadly demolished by road widening and stood on the opposite side of the drive; now it has a 1960s single-storey gabled house with five bays. Along the west boundary of the park next to the bridge carrying the railway 'drive', is the Bridge Lodge, which was built around 1875, possibly by Lynn, and is a single-storey dwelling with hipped roof and three bays. To the east of Estate Road, along the former public road closed around 1847 there were two lodges; the more easterly of these, now set in woodland, was built before 1833 and served what was then the southern entrance to the demesne. West of this there was another later lodge, perhaps 1850, demolished in relatively recent years. At the south-western corner of the demesne, off Estate Road, is the Newtownards Lodge, a one and a half storey Domestic Revival Style dwelling of c.1890, with rendered walls and a relatively steeply-pitched slate roof. The building has been somewhat modernized in recent years, and the original gate screen has been removed. At the eastern side of the demesne, off Rathgael Road, is 'Cloister Lodge' - a one and a half storey picturesque gabled affair with rendered walls, which probably dates to the late 1840s. The seventh lodge is the Belfast or Ava Lodge, an L-shaped Tudor Revival single-storey dwelling of L-plan with the porch projecting from the internal angle, built in 1855 to a design by Benjamin Ferry. Mention should also be made of the former school house (HB 23/10/013) along the Estate-road close to the west boundary of the demesne. This is a picturesque (almost Ruskinian) gothic brick building of around 1858, which was converted to a public house in the mid-1970s with function room extensions subsequently added. Adjacent to it lies the Clandeboye Lodge Hotel, while opposite are the estate offices and the factory making yogurt. Lord Dufferin, who later (1888) became the 1st Marquess of Dufferin and Ava, and became a well-known statesman, diplomat, including Governor General of Canada and Viceroy of India. 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*. This is located north of the house and north-east of the walled garden. Some of the trees recorded by the Irish Tree Council here and in the Arboretum, include *Cupressus macrocarpa* 'Fastigiata' (Monterey Cypress), 2nd tallest of its kind in Ireland and Irish girth Champion (5.75 @ 1.05 x 32.3m); *Corylus colurna* (Turkish hazel), Irish height and girth champion (2.03 x 16.3m); *Embothrium coccineum* (Chilean Firebush) 2nd tallest of its kind in Ireland and Irish girth champion (1.99 x 16.5m). Today the demesne is a successful and maintained amalgam of woodland, farm with a golf course on the perimeter. 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, balustraded and terra-cotta vases, is now grassed-over, but the 20th 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 (Listed HB 23/4/5); the gas works, built c.1870 (Listed HB 23/10/020); classical limestone pedestal memorial at Campo Santo in Tomb Wood to the south-east of the house, c.1820 (Listed 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. In what had been the Holly Wood perimeter belt adjacent to the Ballysallagh Primary School (Listed HB 23/10/013) has been built in the 1990s the Clandeboye Lodge Hotel and the nearby farm building, which are used to manufacture yoghurt from the demesne's Holstein & Jersey herds. 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 4th 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 (AP ARDS AND NORTH DOWN 02)
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Coastal well wooded demesne (180 acres/73ha) at Helen's Bay, just north of the village of Crawfordsburn and just west of Bangor in the townland of Ballygrot. The present house of 1906 by Vincent Craig (Listed HB 23/15/007) sits isolated in lawns facing the bay, but the demesne landscape largely dates to the Regency era following the building of a previous house on a site to the west by John Crawford (1745-1829) around 1820. This building is depicted in one of Proctor and Molloy's illustrations of 1832 with some trees growing up beside the then new house. While the planting and layout of the present demesne was largely put down in the 1820s, there were earlier houses on this site, notably a house of shown on Kennedy's County Map of Down (1755), which must have belonged to James Crawford (1720-77), whose ancestors purchased the land here from Henry Hamilton, 2nd Earl of Clanbrassil (1647-77). Referred in the *Irish Builder* in 1904 as an 'excessively ugly old mansion', the 1820s house faced the bay with yards and walled garden, both still present, to its rere. The demesne is dissected down its centre by a stream (Crawford's Burn) whose steep banks, together with the sloping banks of a second minor stream to the east, constitute the backbone of the tree planting, which extends up the perimeter of the village, which was in existence by 1741; the focus of planting in the glens gives the trees better protection against the salt breezes from the sea; in particular the 'Home Plantation' provided much needed shelter for the walled garden and the Sea Hill Wood which is also 1820s, an important part of the landscape design. Further shelterbelts (which are mid 19th century and later) are present on the west and south west, notably Wightman's Plantation, Skelly Hill/Plantation and Quarryport Bank. Planting in these woods and screens is largely oak, ash, hazel, beech, mixed with larch and Monterey Cypress. The avenues into the demesne also follow the streams, which makes for twisting and in parts, particularly dramatic, approaches. The glens, which have a waterfall, are also traversed by footpaths and crossed by numerous bridges. The 'Crawfordsburn Fern' was discovered here; it is thought to be extinct. South of the site of the former 1820s house and its outbuildings, both now covered by a modern housing development, is a large, irregular pentagonal walled garden (3 acres/1.22ha), built in the 1820s, when there was also a nursery south of this. The garden was divided into ix units by cross paths and following the building of the 1906 house was subjected to an overhaul, with ranges of lean-to glasshouses built against the south-west facing wall, while the main herbaceous border ran north-south from the yard on the north side. In the early years of the twentieth century John Whytock was the Head Gardener and had regular column in *Irish Gardening*. Today access is through the south wall and the garden is partly cultivated by volunteers. 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. In 1892 Banim said

that it had, 'luxuriant growth of tree ... masses of crimson lend rich colour', while Robinson commented in the *Garden Annual and Almanac*, in 1908-13. After John Crawford's death the property passed to his eldest son, John Sharman-Crawford (1809-84), who ceded land to the Belfast Holywood and Bangor Railway for the cutting of their line in 1864-65, effectively slicing the demesne in two; a stone viaduct, designed by Lanyon, carried the railway across the glen. He died without issue and the property came to his younger brother, Arthur (1811-91) who was succeeded by his third son, Robert Gordon Sharman-Crawford (1853-1934), MP for East Belfast 1914-18, Mid-Down 1921-22 and subsequently a member of the NI Senate. Robert built the present Baronial-style house of rock-faced Scrabo sandstone at an estimated cost of £20,000 on a site to the east of its predecessor in 1906-07, and added a new farmyard. After his death in 1934 the estate was let for a time before coming in the possession of his grandson, Robert Hugh Carver (b.1920) who came of age in 1941, and assumed the name Sharman-Crawford. He was the last of the family to live at Crawfordsburn, selling the house and a portion of the grounds to the NI Tuberculosis Authority in 1948, who added extensions to the east side of the house. The NI Hospitals Authority took over the site in 1959 and it became a geriatric hospital; during this time an fiercely ugly fire-escape was added onto the north side of the building. In the early 1970s part of the grounds were given over to public use as Crawfordsburn Country Park, with the hospital remaining until around 1982 when the house and part of the grounds were sold back into private hands. In 2000 the house was greatly extended (MacRae Hanlon Spence Partnership) and converted to 38 apartments, with a large development of 22 further dwellings built on the site of the farmyard and offices (also by Craig) to the west. Since the 1970s re-planting for the Country Park has upgraded the site. The gates lodges include the Burn Lodge (HB23/15/007B), located at the what was once the main entrance (now Old Windmill Road). This is an unusual one and a half-storey Classical Style dwelling that dates to around 1812 and was built to a design by English architect John Nash; it resembles a drawing of a lodge proposal at Brighton drawn done by G.S. Repton for Nash's office, Nash probably designing this Irish building when he was working for the Earl of Caledon, whose wife was a Crawford. The other lodges, Helen's Bay Lodge is c.1870 (listed HB23.15.007C) at the west entrance and Home Farm Lodge is c.1900. SMR DOWN 1:39 mill. Crawfordsburn Country Park. Grounds public amenity, house private.

**CULTRA MANOR, County Down (AP ARDS AND NORTH DOWN 02) D/015
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Well wooded early 20th century demesne (71 acres/28.6ha) lying 1.5 miles (2.5km) north-east of Hollywood flanking the south side of the Belfast to Bangor Road. Demesne park created for a house of 1902-04, built for (later Sir) Robert J. Kennedy, a successful British diplomat who spend much of the time from 1874 to 1912 abroad. He inherited the land from his father Robert Stewart Kennedy (1807-54) whose family had held an estate here since the late 17th-century focussed on Cultra Manor, 0.7 miles (1.1km) to the west. Robert Kennedy's *de novo* manor house was built on open sloping land traversed by two streams flowing through glens with waterfalls. The manor house (Listed HB 23/18/002) designed by Belfast Architects firm of Graeme, Watt and Tulloch, is an architecturally bland, if uninteresting red sandstone building with balustraded parapet; it was refurbished 2010-11 with a new extension to rere and is currently used by the Folk Museum as an exhibition space, restaurant, conference and workshop venue. Any deficiency in the architecture of the house however is made up for in the quality and appeal of the landscape, the planting of which had been completed before the first stone of the house had been laid in 1902. For the house a flat terrace had been prepared in an elevated position between the two glens with commanding views of Belfast Bay. From the house the grounds slopes down to the road below, while south-east of the house the land continues to rise. The two glens are planted with chiefly deciduous trees, but also has some conifers, such as Scots pines near the house, and larch near the main entrance. There are walks and bridges, the trees being given some shelter from the salt breezes by the glens. The lawns to the north of the house descend to a rockery, which is not

maintained, neither is the once famous rose garden. The main entrance was off the Hollywood Road, where there is a gate lodge from which the main carriage drive curves up to the dwelling house. It is lined with colourful flowering trees such as laburnum and there is also rhododendron and laurel. Sir Robert Kennedy retired to his new house in 1912 with his wife, Hon. Lady Bertha and the couple died a few months of each other in 1936. One of their daughters remained living there until the 1940s. The mansion and its gardens (136 acres) were sold to the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum in 1961, which opened to the public in 1964. Since then the museum has gradually and sensitively 'developed' the site for its collection of vernacular and other buildings, as well as adding modern structures for exhibitions and administration. 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. SMR7/DOW 001:007) souterrain. Air raid shelter from WWII at Farm Hill Road [Defence Heritage No. 175]. Public access, part of MAGNI.

DONAGHADEE, THE MANOR HOUSE, Co. Down (AP ARDS NORTH DOWN 02) D/102
REGISTERED SITE GRADE B

Gardens associated with a plain two-storey manor house (Listed HB 24/07/009) at the corner of High Street and Manor Street in the town of Donaghadee on the north-east shore of the Ards Peninsula. The house was built around 1775 by a descendant from protestant French refugees, Daniel Delacherois (1735-90) on land he acquired in 1771; the site had previously been occupied by houses possibly going back to the 17th century. It At the front (south-west) of the house and south-east is a garden with trees, some beech, and shrubs behind the boundary wall with the streets. There is an enclosed rectangular garden north of the house with a high stone wall; it had a smaller section to the west with a free-standing green house. The larger area is mainly ornamental with a lawn and border and a green house against the north-eastern wall. The main garden is across the road; the ornamental part has been built over since the 1970s, but the walled garden remains. It is rectangular (0.43 acres (0.17ha) with stone walls, with a castellated vehicle entrance in the south-east from Kilaughey Road and two others (now disused) from the pleasure grounds, one opposite the vehicle entrance and one near the west corner. There was a well within it, now covered by a cast iron hand pump. It was a productive garden with box-edged beds with flowers, fruit and vegetables until the 1990s and produce was sold. There was an arbutus brought by the great grand mother of the present owner from her honeymoon in Killarney. However, around a café—Café Manor—was built on the outside abutting the south-east wall; there was a new pedestrian public access from the café to the garden. The garden is now largely ornamental, with statuary and columns, a rectangular pond, a large eucalyptus tree and small terraced and paved areas with seating towards the south-west end. The garden is laid out with a partly box-edged, partly stone-edged, perimeter border full of flowering shrubs and plants and geometrically-arranged paved and gravelled paths, some brick-edged. Towards the north-east there are some rectilinear lawns and a row of apple trees in a central position running from south-east to north-west. Against the south-west wall is wooden loggia and opposite, against the north-east wall, a summer house. Immediately outside the walled garden to the north and north-west are mature trees, forming part of a larger garden plot of 1.09 acres (0.44 ha). Private.

GLENGANAGH, County Down (AP ARDS AND NORTH DOWN 02) D/126
REGISTERED SITE GRADE A

Miniature coastal parkland (21.7 acres/8.79ha) on the east side of Ballyholm Bay and just west of Groomsport. It was created as the setting for a modest south-facing Regency house, probably of around 1820, later remodelled in 1882 and 1912 (Listed HB 23/01/001). It was probably designed as a seaside retreat or bathing lodge in the townland of Ballymacormick and first shown on an Admiralty chart of 1831, when 'Glenganagh' was occupied by Lady Dufferin, Anne Dorothea

Blackwood, (1772-1865) the wife of Sir James Blackwood 2nd Baron Dufferin and Clondeboyne (1755-1836). On the death of her husband in August 1836 she moved to the cottage permanently until her own death in 1865 by which time, part of the ground to the south had been separated from the garden and given over to an out farm, later known as 'Glen Cottage'. It was sold in 1880 to a Belfast merchant, Samuel Kingham who altered the house in 1882 and when inherited by his sons in 1911 was altered, mostly internally. The grounds are well wooded with mature deciduous trees, many of which were probably planted when the house was built in the 1820s. These include sycamore, which we would expect in this location, and some horse chestnut. There are a few mature Scots pines, notably, a group north-west of the dwelling house. There are walks in the woods, one leading to a shell house, beyond which is a partially stone-faced wall and grotto and, further south, a stone-lined tunnel through to the woodland to the west. On the east side of the Bangor Road is a demesne-related shelterbelt of long standing of deciduous trees. The woods enclose extensive lawns west and north of the house; north of the house was a rose garden now a lawn with a rectangular, island green house; some iron arches over paths remain. The rockery, which was north of the house, has not been kept up and the cinder house, which was also north of the house, has gone. Adjacent to the north of the house are the walled gardens, with parts beside the house now two ornamental gardens divided by a wall. The more easterly has a border at the south with ornamental bushes. There is also an island green house and some fruit bushes. This greenhouse is first shown on the 1901 map and is probably therefore of post-1882 construction; there were originally more greenhouses to the west of it, but these were demolished some time between 1939 and 1959. The westerly part has a rectangular lawn with borders and a path with stone edging. From it there is a doorway into the north walled garden. The house is approached by the main carriage drive which curves sinuously from south of it off the Bangor Road, where there is gate lodge. There is a service entrance further north off the same road. The gate lodge dates to around 1900 (Listed HB 23/01/002). Private.

**GREYABBEY (ROSEMOUNT) HOUSE, County Down (AP ARDS & NORTH DOWN 02) D/051
REGISTERED GRADE A***

The name, Greyabbey, which is also that of the adjacent village in the Ards Peninsula, derives from the late 12th century Cistercian Abbey at the site. The ruins of the abbey can be seen from the present house. The manorial demesne, long known as Rosemount, was established in the early 17th century and the present house was built during the early 1760s (Listed HB 24/04/017). Its associated parkland (315 acres/128ha), which is of a high quality, dates to the 1760s and early 1770s and as such is a relatively early example of an informal designed landscape in Ulster. Originally the property of the Clondeboyne 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', perhaps somewhere in the vicinity of the present walled garden, but its exact location is as yet unknown and needs to be established through archaeological survey. It seems to have been a double-pile dwelling as it was described by William Montgomery in 1683 as being 'a double roofed-house' with a 'baron and tower flankers with baking 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 with pleasant gardens, orchards, meadows and pasture enclosures 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)'. Harris also said that he 'laid out fine gardens behind it, executed in the form of a regular fortification, some bastions of which are yet to be seen'. The house that replaced the 1634 mansion, burnt in 1695, seems not to have been built until 1717 when Harris recorded that in that year '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 17th or 18th 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, but some believe the 1717 house 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 18th and 19th 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 2nd May 1769 and noted the 'excellent house of Mr. Montgomery's own planning, and not yet finished'. This fine 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 (Gothick windows on ground floor, inspired by Castle Ward, are a later addition, possibly c.1790 or later) and canted projections and diagonally set single-storey side porches on the side elevations, the latter being added in 1845-6 to designs of James Sands, who was commissioned by Hugh Montgomery after he 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 landscape park, laid out in early naturalistic style, 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 24/04/017F). The stable yard, being a complex of one and two-storey ranges of both 18th and 19th 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 present walled garden, which is unusually large with a rectangular shape with trapezoidal east end (5.5 acres/2.23ha) lies 100m (330ft) north-west of the house, adjacent to the yard with the village house gardens backing onto its west wall. The 1830s OS map indicates that the whole of the central section of the garden was under orchard at that time with the potting sheds outside the north wall, where there are still ranges. The present garden is largely under grass with fruit and ornamental planting around the perimeter; there is a small garden in the centre and a glasshouse. The garden also hosts a small swimming pool and tennis court at its northern end. The walled garden, which lies close to the abbey ruin at its north end, is well screened by trees. The three pretty gate lodges were added in the 19th-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 24/04/018) and the later town West Gate Lodge c.1860 (HB 24/04/16). The Abbey entrance lodge is in the 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; the stone steps and urns leading down to the parterre survive, but the parterre itself has been grassed over. The yews that Niven planted (a standard feature of his gardens) still however stand sentinel near the ha-ha (Niven's plan, dated 21 December 1843 is currently missing). Additional work was carried out on the house in 1846 by architect James Sands, for which the estimate exists. 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 17th century house. Private.

GUINCHO, County Down (AP ARDS AND NORTH DOWN 02) D/026

REGISTERED SITE B

Guincho, which has a notable plant collection, was created by Ida Craig and subsequently developed from 1947 by Mrs Vera Mackie (d.1975) in an attractive manner around a white-painted low Hispanic style house of 1933, described by Brett in 2002 as 'a fore-runner of a thousand hacienda style bungalows; but this one is Portuguese not Spanish'. It was named after Praia do Guincho, to the north of Lisbon where the couple had spent their honeymoon. The garden lies south of Helen's Bay on the west side of the Craigdarragh road, of the Belfast-Bangor road and the property covers 10.8 acres (4.4ha). The basic layout of the garden is retained and described by Malins and Bowe as an 'Irish compartmented-garden'. Many plants that Vera Mackay was expert in collecting and placing still survive, but as she died in 1975 and the house was empty at one time as a result, quite a few original plants disappeared. The plants originally formed a very valuable collection, including specimens from famous collectors such as Frank Kingdon Ward and Lord Talbot de Malahide. Some of the plants came from famous collections and are now the only survivors. The site, which formed part of an earlier house called 'Riversley' (c.1905), already had a mature wooded valley with stream, 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. Its good drainage and very mild climate allow a range of plants to be grown. Guincho was subsequently maintained under the supervision of Mrs Mackie's gardener, William Harrison, who was employed by subsequent owners of the property after her death. He wrote about the garden in, *In an Irish Garden* in 1986. Mary Forrest recorded plant material in, *Trees and Shrubs Cultivated in Ireland* in 1988. The purple-foliaged elder, *Sambucus nigra* f. *porphyrophylla* 'Guincho Purple' (originally marketed under the invalid name of 'Foliis Purpureis') was discovered in Scotland by Mrs Mackie and propagated by her sometime before 1970; it still grows in the garden. The garden contains two Champion Trees as defined by the Tree Council of Ireland—a *Banksia marginata* which is Irish Height and Girth Champion of its kind, and a *Pseudopanax crassifolius* which is the Irish Girth Champion of its kind. Private

LORNE, County Down (AP ARDS AND NORTH DOWN 02) D/089

REGISTERED GRADE B

Small mid-Victorian parkscape (12.8 acres/5.8ha) overlooking Belfast Lough and lying outside Hollywood off the Bangor Road, on the west side of Station-road, opposite the west entrance into the Royal Belfast Golf Club. The house or villa (Listed HB 23/16/002A), which faces north-east, was built from 1863 to 1865 for Henry James Campbell (1813-1889), a partner in the Belfast flax-spinning firm Gunning and Campbell, and a director of Mossley Mills; he named the house after the ancestral Campbell lands in Argyll. The villa, one of a number built in the coastal stretch east of Holywood in the wake of the opening up of the area with the coming of the railway, was designed by John Boyd of Boyd and Batt (Belfast) and built in a 'free' somewhat eclectic Jacobethan style, though referred to at the time as 'Tudor'. It is asymmetrical in plan with walls faced with yellow polychrome brickwork with cut-sandstone quoins. There is a tall four-storey round tower with pierced parapet on its east side, but its most remarkable feature is a magnificent cast iron conservatory on the rear south-west side; this is ornate with a large central bowed projection. This conservatory retains its contemporaneous tiled floor of square black, terracotta, deep yellow-coloured tiles and it has its original cast iron shelf for pots. It is not planted up. In 1991 there were Cicely Gibson roses, probably in the small rose garden at the east of the conservatory. The returns to the southern end of the building enclose a small narrow yard

which links into another yard to the south that has a large two-storey former stable block to the south side. This is constructed as the house, and to its northern wall there is a large shelter with a slate roof supported on slim cast-iron columns. To the east and west side of the yard are single-storey sections of relatively recent construction, but whose design and materials are in keeping with their surroundings. The enclosing park has broad, dense perimeter shelterbelts all around and the main carriage drive has woodland on either side. The river glen is filled with trees. All the woods are mainly deciduous; about 50 trees were planted in 1989 and young guides planted seedlings. There are some specimen trees to the north-east of the house, including a massive mature cypress-type evergreen. The builder, Henry James Campbell, who never married, died in 1889, leaving a bequest of £200,000 for the founding of a boys school in near by Belmont, Campbell College. It passed through a number of hands until 1933 when it was let (appropriately enough, given its original owner) to Campbell College. The Girl Guide Associate bought it in 1946. A large modern single-storey L-shaped building was added to the immediate south of the house in c.2008. Apart from the changes to the rear yard, there has been little alteration to the building over the years and both the exterior and the interior remain largely original. A large modern single-storey L-shaped building was added to the immediate south of the house in c.2008. While the original gates and railways have been removed, the main entrance still boasts a pair of unusual square gate piers cut in sandstone with splayed bevels to the shafts and pointed octagonal caps. Private.

MOUNT STEWART, County Down (AP ARDS AND NORTH DOWN 02) D/037
REGISTERED SITE GRADE A*

One of the most outstanding gardens (100 acres/40ha) of the British Isles and a proposed World Heritage site set within an important 18th-century walled parkland (882 acres/360ha) on the shores of Strangford Lough, 4.3 miles (7km) south-east of Newtownards on the Ards Peninsula. The garden here benefits from an excellent climate in which a vast range of plants can thrive; these climatic conditions, plus the plant collection and the garden design all combine to make this an outstanding garden in any context and it is rightfully renowned. The parkland, which was acquired by the National Trust in 2014, is a fine intact example of a late 18th century landscape in the Brownian manner, with mature woodland, outstanding garden buildings and a clever design layout adapted to the local drumlin topography that has survived almost unaltered over the last two centuries. The National Trust owns all the land within the walls save for 13.3 acres (5.4ha), which remain the ownership of the Mount Stewart estate; around 333 acres (143.8ha) of the coniferous woodland are leased to the Northern Ireland Forestry Service. The whole outstanding ensemble owes its origin to Alexander Stewart M.P. (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. Whilst living mainly in Colville town residence, he resolved to build a rural seat on the present site, then known as Templecrone (Templecran) and named after an ecclesiastical site in the east side of the demesne (FOW 011:007); nearby to the north lies an impressive Norman Motte (scheduled DOW 011:006). The building, which Alexander initially called Mount Pleasant, was a large long low two storey modest building, originally painted blue and occupying much the same ground as the present 1840s Victorian 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 Geddis's Demesne map of 1779 [presently in the house] as a row of 'Cabbens and Common' beside the public road, north-west of 'Kiln Hill'; beyond these cabins lay a larger building where the present Mount Stewart now stands. 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 build on the hill lying just south-west of the present walled garden. His son, Robert, later 1st Marquess of Londonderry (1739-1821), advanced his father's plans once

he inherited in 1781. Prior to his father's death he had been elected MP for the County Down and decided to settle in Mount Stewart. Even before his father's death in 1781 plans had started to be made the previous year towards building the Temple of the Winds, whilst as soon as he inherited started in earnest and between 1781 and 1789 spent nearly £3,000 on 'New Offices', 'Plantations' and 'Gardens'. In 1781 he engaged a Belfast nurseryman and landscape designer, William King, to improve the existing landscape and the architect James Wyatt to provide plans for 'New Offices' and 'Mansion house intended at Mount Stewart', for which he was paid in June 1783. Wyatt's plans were never realised, but possibly intended for Bean Hill near the walled garden; certainly an impressive stone wall in the form of a ha-ha enclosing an area to the east and south of Bean-hill indicates the site was intended for a building. 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. This garden, probably the work of landscape gardener William King, covered 7.34 acres (2.7ha) if one includes the slips gardens on the north side (1.68 acres/0.68ha) and west side (1.74 acres (0.7ha) both of which unusually were walled-in (normally slip gardens were bounded by bank, ditches or hedges or a combination of all). Without the slip gardens, the walled garden proper, which is subdivided by a wall into two separate units, has an area of 3.89 acres (1.57ha); the southern unit, being the main part of the garden has a T-shape (2.14 acres/0.86ha) including a small square area (0.38 acres/0.15ha) that was enclosed off as a rose garden in the early 20th century with an adjoining dairy built at the entrance (the Rose Garden was also known as the Atrium Garden); it may be noted that the entrance to the walled garden from the house was always from here, and it may be noted also that the present garden layout has remained unchanged since first shown on the OS 1830s map. The glasshouses originally extended the full length of the south backing wall of the lower garden; the present lean-glasshouse is a poor 1950s rebuild of a range that had been there before. It houses the relics of the White Syrian vine moved here from Newtownards in 1781 by his the gardener James Wallace. A useful account of the walled garden as it was in 1911 was written by Theresa, wife of the 4th Marquess. She notes the presence of a pergola covering the central path from the main entrance on the south to the projecting 'conservatory' at the north end; an extensive alpine rockery was located to the east of the conservatory and a herbaceous border 'a constant joy', A small rectangular enclosure in the south-east side of the walled garden (0.36 acres/0.15ha), between the rose garden and the farm yard, contained glasshouses in the 19th and 20th centuries; being close to the farm yard, this area evidently served as a forcing yard with hot beds and so forth. Along its east side are some stables and a loft named 'the apple store'. The adjacent farm yard complex comprising two courtyards (Listed HB 24/04/055) were also built around this time, possibly in 1784-5 (later than the walled garden), with the yard being repaired or substantially rebuilt in 1816-7 following what appears to have been a major fire in 1815. Further additions were put up here in the 1870s. The complex includes a hexagonal dovecote, probably dating to the 1780s, built as an eye catcher and originally screened from the yard behind with trees. Like many large landowners of the period, the first Marquess was an 'improving' landowner, keen to promote animal husbandry, new methods of cultivation and agricultural mechanisation and some of these progressive ideas appear to have been incorporated into the farm yard complex. The landscape gardener William King, who seems to have been first engaged in 1781 was paid for work at Mount Stewart 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. Typically for parks of the era it comprised a network of wide open meadows or 'lawns', enclosed by sinuous woodland screens, belts and blocks, so interlinked that one flowed into the next to create infinite prospects through which passed a network of meandering walks and carriage drives permitting views of this expansive, seemingly boundless Arcadian landscape. However, most of the demesne plantations were put down over a longer period, with payments being made

in 1785, 1787, 1789, 1789-91 and 1792-1801. It was during this landscaping, in 1796, that a substantial late Neolithic/Earl Bronze Age multiple cist cairn (20m diameter) was dismantled and in the north-east of the Temple Field; the remaining cist and was moved 115 yards north-east to the meadow's edge in the 1935 (SMR DW 011:009). 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 24/04/051). Located on the south side of the park, overlooking the lough, plans for a pavilion here were in place when Geddas labelled it 'Temple Hill' on his 1779 map. James 'Athenian' Stuart, who it appears was approached in 1780, was paid for his work in June 1783, while work itself begun in 1782. Stuart's plans were based the 1st 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 clerk of works, 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, when the hill was planted with a mixture of beech and Scot's Pine, the latter probably as nurse trees. 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 1793 work began on the west of the demesne building an embankment known as the 'Sea Plantation' which continued until 1803 at a cost of £1790 and involved reclaiming an area of 16.8 acres (6.8ha). The principal motivation was to move the Portaferry-road away from the house, allow space for a garden; the long term benefits of the plantation was to provide shelter for plants, without which the famous 1920s garden could never have been created; the vista through the plantation was created in the 1890s and modified in the 1920s to allow views from the house. Once the road had been moved, Robert Stewart decided in 1802 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 24/04/052). 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. 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; also known as McGivern's Lodge, it was substantially renovated in 1991 and the entrance gates re-located further to the south; both the West and Greyabbey lodges have had their render removed, probably in the mid-19th-century. At the rere 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, possibly by Dance, lying in a wooded area on the north side of the park (Listed HB 24/04/057); after the park expanded this became the Gamekeeper's lodge with associated kennels; this lodge retains its external render. At this time also (1805-09) the Laundry House was constructed at a cost of £510, with payments made to the stonecutter James Campbell; this building would original have been intended as an ornament in the park landscape, now sadly looks like a modern 'Southfolk'. In 1813 the Mountstewart School (and a similar school in Comber) was built for Viscountess Castlereagh, originally being set up under the governance of the Erasmus Smith Foundation; now a house and artist's studio (Listed HB 24/04/059). In the woods in the south end of the park close to a stream (to its south-west) on a small hill or rise is the ruin of an ornamented cottage, probably originally thatched in the fashion of the Regency *cottage orné*; it has stone walls, two rooms, some gothic openings, a large canted bay on its south-west and entrance in the north wall. Charles William Stewart (1778-1854),

unexpectedly succeeded as the 3rd Marquess of Londonderry in 1822 after the suicide of his elder half-brother Castlereagh (who had become Marquess the previous year). His first wife Catherine Bligh died of a fever in 1812 and in 1819 he married Frances-Anne, the daughter and heiress of Sir Henry Vane Tempest (1800-65) and the Countess of Antrim. So when he inherited Mount Stewart and the Londonderry title, he brought with him the enormous wealth of the Vane-Temples family. Unfortunately, there was a caveat to the marriage agreement, namely that Charles was not able to use his wife's income on his Irish estates. Consequently, in the 1820s the family's resources were focused on building work at Wynyard & Seaham in Co. Durham & Holderness House on Park Lane in London. Visits to Mount Stewart were occasional only; eventually, in 1835, the 3rd Marquess 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 Charles Campbell, who also worked on Wynyard after it was destroyed by fire in 1841. 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. Between 1830 and 1848 a new wall was built around the demesne and considerable expense and the demesne itself was enlarged was the addition of 92.5 acres (37.4ha) in Ballycastle on the north-west side of the property; this involved field removal and the planting of more woodland on the south and perimeter belts along the west and north sides; the newly planted woods on the south enclosed an existing farmstead that was subsequently remodelled and became 'The Cottage', occupied by the steward or farm manager. Now known as Ros Cuan, it remains in private ownership. The new park extension meant that the gothic style early 19th century lodge here ceased being a gate lodge and became a gamekeeper's lodge with kennels (Listed HB 24/04/057); this lodge was later used as a base for operations by the Hunting Syndicate in the later 20th century. Work on digging a 'new lake' was undertaken 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 19th century the house was only occasionally used by its owners, Frederick Stewart, the 4th Marquess (1805-1872), initially much time in Powerscourt, his wife's home, and post 1854 in England also, his last ten years being in a mental institution. His half-brother the 5th Marquess (1821-1884) equally spent little time at Mount Stewart. The 6th Marquess (1852-1915), also 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 7th 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 skilfully. 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 20th 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-na-nOg, built in the 1930s at the north end on high ground (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 7th 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 presented to the trust in 1963 by Lady Mairi Bury and in 1976-7 the house plus an endowment were accepted by the National Trust as a generous gift from Lady Mairi. Tir-na-nOg was acquired by the Trust from Lady Bury in 1986. The School House on the Portaferry-road was bought by the trust in following year, 1987. During his many years as head gardener, the late Nigel Marshal, (retired 2002) continued successfully to build up the garden's important plant collections. In 2014 the National Trust acquired through around 800-acres (c.325ha) of the parkland, together with the walled gardens and the Farm Yard, through purchase and allocation in lieu by HM Government. In 2018 the rose garden, with its enclosing pergola, in the main walled garden, was restored, together with the adjacent ornamental dairy. There are plans to rejuvenate the rest of the main walled garden and the farm building, with plans to transform the latter into a visitor reception centre. Visitor access to the Sea-Plantation adjacent to the lough is currently being planned. SMR DOWN 11:4 enclosure; 11:6 mound/motte; 11:7 church site; 11:9 cairn. The National Trust. Public access.

**PORTAFERRY HOUSE, County Down (AP ARDS AND NORTH DOWN 02) D/047
REGISTERED GRADE A**

The demesne is laid out as a fine landscape park for the c.1760 house (Listed HB 24/01/105), built by Andrew Savage (died 1773), a former officer in the Spanish army, on a new splendid position, replacing the old family tower-house residence in the town. The original park layout dating from this time (350 acres/140ha), with its carefully laid out woodland blocks, screens and clumps, remained largely unaltered save for a late 19th century extension (70 acres/38ha) on the north side. The house, which commands magnificent views of its parkland meadows, woods, pleasure grounds and a series of two small lakes, faces due south; a short distance to the north-west, carefully screened with trees, lies a double courtyard of offices (Listed HB 24/01/106), contemporary with the house. The house was extended to the west and remodelled in 1789-90 by architect Charles Lilley for Patrick Savage (1739-97) and again enlarged in 1818-20 by William Farrell for Andrew Savage (1770-1846), who in 1816 had changed his name to Nugent to inherit another property. The original early 18th century walled garden, known as the 'Castle Garden', which flanks the north side of old 16th century tower house residence in the town, was retained as the kitchen garden for the house and demesne into the 20th century; it lies 0.4 miles (0.6km) directly due south of the house, occupies 4.1 acres (1.6ha) with a very unusual, if not unique, zig-zag brick-lined walls on its west flank, angled to allow more south-facing walling for fruit growing. The walled garden now belongs to the local borough council who built in 1987 the 'Exploris Aquarium', in the garden's south-west portion. Important perimeter tree screening flank the west and north sides of this walled garden and until recent years trees also bordered the north-east side in the area west of the Templecraney Church Site (Scheduled DOW 032: 04), not yet replanted. Elsewhere, the 18th century parkland incorporates extensive woodland blocks, screens and isolated park trees with many beech and oak over a century old; of these woods, Nugent's Wood, running alongside the shore belongs to the National Trust, acquired by them to help

protect the view from Castle Ward across the lough. 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 circular gothic folly garden tower, 22 feet high (6.7m), which may have originally been a 17th or 18th century windmill stump, has far reaching views from the top (Listed HB 24/01/107); it lies in the parkland planting immediately south of the house. The demesne boasts three gate lodges, all built in the 1830s (HB 24/01/102, 104 and 118). The house was sold to the present occupant in 1986; extensive farm building ranges, much of it a pig farm, covering 11 acres (4.4ha) have since been built north and north-west of the house. SMR DOWN 32:21 mound. Private.

QUINTIN CASTLE, County Down (AP ARDS AND NORTH DOWN 02) D/049

REGISTERED GRADE B

Coastal castle with modest grounds and parkland (46 acres/19.4ha) on the south-east shore of the Ards Peninsular on the Kearney-road, 2.25 miles (3.6) directly east of Portaferry. Described by late Sir Charles Brett 2002, as 'one of the most attractive and exciting romantic buildings in the north of Ireland' this large castellated house of c.1854-55 (Listed HB 24/01/079) is dramatically sited on the rocky shoreline of Quintin Bay and protected from the spray of the sea by a long impressive castellated terrace. The castle was built by the Rev. Nicholas Calvert of Hunsdun in Hertfordshire, a member of a very wealthy English brewing family, whose wife Elizabeth Blacker had inherited the property in 1828 with 1,000 acres. It is believed there was a medieval castle of sorts on the site built by John de Courcy (c1150-1219), but there is no physical evidence for this; there was a dwelling here in the later middle ages held by the Savage family and later held by their followers, the Smiths; the place appears on a map of c.1580 as 'Smith's Castel'. In the 1630s it was sold by the Smiths to Sir James Montgomery (1600-51) of Rosemount, who 'roofed and floored ye castle, and made free-stone window-case etc., therein: and built ye bawn and flankers and kitchen wall contiguous'. Sold to George Ross (c.1650-1704) post 1660 but remained unaltered and in decayed condition; by the 1830s it was roofless. The architect of the new fantasy Irish castle is unknown, but was also built at the same time as the tall octagonal garden tower (Listed HB 24/01/080) south-west of the castle at the end of the long terrace. The main entrance (Listed HB 24/01/78) to the west of the castle is also of the same date c.1854-6; it is in an usual medieval style with timber gates between two crenellated octagonal towers, that on the south being larger. The new castles carefully planned landscape cleverly incorporates yards, offices and a walled garden into the design; the walled garden and yards at the main gates are not presently in the ownership of the castle, but remain intact and are very much an integral part of the architectural and landscape design; the walled garden (0.71 acres/0.29ha) is now a grass paddock. In making the parkland the public road that had previously followed the shore was diverted inland and sunk so it now cuts through the centre of the parkland 'lawn', which has been dropped about one metre below the ground surface to screen vehicles from view, there being originally no roadside hedgerow here (nor was one was ever intended). This road cuts the park into two parts with 16.3 acres (6.6ha) on the west side of the road and the remaining 31.6 acres (12.8ha) on the shore side. The castle itself was designed to emerge organically from the rocky coastal cliffs and is one of the best examples in Ireland of the 19th-century fashion for building castellated country houses on the shoreline; the rugged coastal location was intended to dramatically enhance its romantic silhouette and fairy-tale architecture, thus successfully creating a building that had (in the words of Jeremy Williams) 'a Byronic air of menace and exoticism' that was so popular in the Victorian era. Nicholas Calvert did not have long to enjoy his new castle as he died in June 1858; his wife then sold the property to William R. Anketell (Ancketill) (1820-89). The property was subsequently leased to various tenants, put up for sale on a few occasions through in Incumbered Land Estates Court (1868-79) and eventually sold by the Ancketills in the late 1890s to Rose Jane Ker, daughter of Nicholas Calvert and from her eventually passed to Louise (1897-1983), the romantic novelist, and her sister Magdalen King-Hall (1904-71). It was run as a nursing home in the 1977-92. It then became a private residence again, sold 2006

and again in 2013 to the Tayto Group who now use it as a private function venue for weddings and conferences. The demesne is now split up, but the house retains its fine stone walled terrace gardens, which were depicted by Welch and Hogg as fully planted up. SMR: DOWN 32:19 tower house and bawn. Private.

RUBANE HOUSE, County Down (AP ARDS AND NORTH DOWN 02) D/054

REGISTERED GRADE A

The site of a late 17th century former house called Echlinville, of which the late 18th library addition survives. The present house on the site, designed by Lanyon, dates from 1860 (Listed HB 24/02/033). It was institutional from 1950, being the De La Salle Boys' Home until 1985, after which it again in 1992 became privately owned. The demesne is remarkable for its mid-18th century 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 beside 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; this originally stood on an island. 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 and almost certainly created by James Echlin (died 1757) who had been resident here from the 1730s. The map shows extensive ornamental planting, with sinuous woodland paths, a pond with island, artificial meandering 'rivers' and other landscape features. The layout is shown to have contained numerous statues, urns, basins in addition to temples and garden seats, all in style of The Leasowes and of Stephen Switzer's *ferme ornée*. Part of the early layout extended across the Gransha Road to the east, where it incorporated a long canal, which still exists; this was labelled 'fish pond' on the 1790 map; this canal may predate the sinuous elements of the garden layout. Much of the garden as shown on the map was evidently in place by May 1750 when James Echlin, having decided to move to Dublin, placed a newspaper advertisement offering to let the demesne of 'Echlinville, alas Rubane', describing the 'handsome and convenient house' with 'Stable, Coach-house, a large Granary and all Offices fit for a Gentleman or Farmer; a large walled Garden and Orchard, planted with choice Fruit Trees' with 'large Groves for Shelter and Ornament'; a 'good pigeon-house' was recorded in 1754-55, together with mention of a 'valuable and Ornamental Plantation of Forest Trees'. Much of Rubane's layout survived into the mid-20th century, but subsequently it lost a great deal of its tree planting. Much nonetheless survives of this historically very important Rococo landscape. The walled garden to the rear of the house, now gone, was where a former head gardener named John Logan, raised the Echlinville seedling apple around 1820; it is a cooking apple, which bakes well, susceptible to canker, flowers early and is available from September to October. The yards and former kitchen garden to rear of the house have been developed from 2013 into a distillery, known as the 'Echlinville Distillery'. The Echlinville apple has been re-introduced here. SMR DOWN 18:15 enclosure? Tree-ring. Private.

AREA PLAN – ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE AND CRAIGAVON 03

ADDRESS, County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) A/001

REGISTERED GRADE A

Pretty late-18th century parkland in a demesne of 100 acres (41ha), some six miles (10km) west of Portadown. The demesne was established for the present house (Listed HB 15/02/048, includes outbuildings and stable yard) begun around 1700 for Thomas Clarke (d.1708) who held a substantial estate at Address, which his father William had acquired through purchase from Richard Newberry in 1655. Our knowledge of the early history of Address is limited, but a formal designed landscape was depicted on John Rocque's 1755 map of Armagh. In October 1760 the heiress to the

estate, 'the beautiful Miss Sara Clarke' who was 'well known in Dublin Society', married the Dublin architect, George Ensor (1724-1803), a younger half-brother of the better known John Ensor, Richard Castle's assistant. After his marriage, George Ensor continued his practice, but once his father-in-law, Thomas Clarke, died in 1776, the decision was made to retire and move with his family to Ardress and manage the estate. The present parkland landscape of woodlands, screens, clumps and meadows, largely belongs to the decade after 1778. The landscape designer is not known, but it is likely the Ensor's engaged a professional to undertake this, while George himself would have overseen the re-modelling and extension of the house in the early 1780s, notably to accommodate a large drawing room with Adamesque plasterwork by the famous Dublin stuccodore, Michael Stapleton. The parkland, which survives largely intact, is 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 early Victorian era and is known as the 'Ladies Mile'; this leads the walker in an arc to the east of the house, through old oak, beech, pine and chestnut trees. The small garden area at the south side of the house, which is grassed, with well-tended formal beds and decorated with a Coade stone urn has its origin in early 19th century when the house was again enlarged; this work by George Ensor (1769-1843) involved the front being extended by two lower wings with tripartite windows and a five-bay south front with quadrants added to mask the ad-hoc arrangement of rooms behind. Following George Ensor's death in 1843, the property was inherited by another George (1809-1879), who travelled to the Far East and elsewhere, but seems to have had limited financial resources. The property was generally neglected, partly demolished at the rear and at one point, put up for sale through the Incumbered Estate Courts in 1858. The dilapidated house was restored in the 1880s by his nephew Charles (1841-97), a cattle breeder, who also remodelled the present attractive model farm ranges. The family occupancy of the house came to an end in 1959 when the National Trust, using money from the Ulster Land Fund, bought the property and over 100 acres from Charles Howard Ensor (1916-2002). The trust removed the lean-to conservatory built against the south quadrant wall in the 1960s and the area was replanted in the 1970s; there is a wide herbaceous border and fine views beyond fastigate yews to distant fields. The south-front quadrants, facing the garden, now have busts in niches depicting the Seasons, one signed by Christopher Hewetson (covered over in winter for protection). South-west of the house and immediately south of the rear farm yard, lying just beyond small south front garden, lies the main walled garden, which has a trapezoid shape (1.2 acres/0.5ha) with a smaller walled garden immediately west of the yard (0.4 acres/0.2ha). Both these walled enclosures are of 18th century date and are largely under grass; there is a small 20th century garden pavilion in the centre of the main walled garden. This is apple country and in the early part of the 20th century some of the parkland was given over to orchards, notably the meadows west of the yard (8 acres/3.2ha) and north of the road (11 acres/4.5ha); the latter section had been added to the park in the later 19th century. The stable yard had farm animals re-introduced in 1980 to add to the display of agricultural implements that had been collected for the property by the Craigavon Historical Society. Public access.

**BROOKFIELD HOUSE, County Down (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) D/143
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Small parkland (13 acres/5ha) with elegant five-bay two-storey house of 1835 on the west outskirts of Banbridge in the townland of Drumnagally. The house (Listed HB 17/05/005A) was probably designed by Thomas Jackson and incorporates an early 18th century farmhouse; home of the Smyth family from 1728 until 1993, it was maliciously burnt in 2013 and is presently an overgrown ruin. The house is surrounded by the parkland and is approached from the south by a straight tree-lined avenue, 560ft (170m) long. The small park is in the Gardenesque style and largely dates to the 1840s; it retains its original layout with mature shelter belts and some woodland. The park's focus is a circular lawn or meadow (3 acres/1.2ha) south of the house with approach drives around each side. There was a 'summer house' in the lawn in the mid-19th

century, which must have been a light rustic building as it did not survive into the late 19th century. North of the house lies the walled garden of trapezoid form (0.75 acres/0.3ha), its walls are lined with brick (apparently locally made), dating to the 1840s. Originally divided into quadrants in typical fashion for walled gardens, the area is now under grass; in the post-war era the northern part of this garden was used as an orchard. The path from the house to the walled garden passed a small frame yard and a couple of glasshouses, now ruined. East of the walled garden and north of the house lies a small woodland block (0.7 acres/0.3ha) of mature trees, which of the original 1840s park; this provides an important backdrop to both buildings and walled garden. Late Victorian additions to the grounds include a rustic stone seat in the woodland and other rock-work south-east of the house. Until recent years there were lawns at the house and an ornamental garden. A delightful pair of single storey hipped gate lodges, long derelict (Listed HB 17/05/005B) announce the entrance from the Scarva Road. The property is now tightly enclosed on the west, south and east sides by housing estates. Private.

**BROWNLOW HOUSE, County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) A/008
REGISTERED GRADE A**

The area of the present-day Lurgan Park was once part of the Brownlow demesne park, which at its maximum size in the late 19th century was 422 acres (171ha) extent; in the surviving registered area (150 acres/59ha) several important features remain from that park, notably a large artificial lake (52 acres/21ha) and mature trees. The demesne was established in the early 17th century following a grant of 1610 and re-grant of 1629 to John and his son, William Brownlow, where they built a bawn (160ft/48m square) with 'a good house or castle of stone and brick, laid with lime, 3 stories high'. At some stage in the late 17th or early 18th century the house was considerably enlarged into a symmetrical three-storey block with wings set into a formal geometric landscape typical of the era. This was dominated by a long straight tree-lined 'Great Avenue', 0.5 miles (0.8km) long, aligned axially on its south-east facing front facade of the house, as shown on Dougan's map of 1751; the line of this avenue survived into the later landscapes. The antiquarian minded Brownlows evidently preferred to retain their old residence, described by Coote in 1803 as an 'antique castle', preferring in 1783-89 to make substantial additions to their seat rather than build anew. The Rt. Hon. William Brownlow (1726-1794) had already, prior to his work on the house, set about the creation of a magnificent landscape park at Lurgan, which prior to its expansion in the late 19th century covered 288 acres (116ha). Skilfully and very professionally designed around 1770 in the distinctive style of William Emes (who is not known to have worked in Ireland), this landscape, first shown on the Dorcus Hall demesne map of 1794, was centered around an enormous sheet of water, north and east of the house. Originally covering 58.2 acres (23.6ha), it was one of the largest artificial lakes in Ireland; in the mid-19th century the area immediately east of the house was drained thus reducing it to its present size of 52 acres (21ha). The park perimeter was enclosed by thick woodland belts with circuit carriage drives, the planting being especially thick on the west perimeter flanking the town, while there was also generous planting around the lake. The large meadow or lawn facing the house on the east side of the lake (now the golf course) was judiciously planted with clumps and isolated trees in the manner of the Picturesque, while old trees of the former 'Grand Avenue', flanking the south-west side of the lake, were retained. There are photographs by Welch, which date from the early part of 20th century, showing the lake and avenues of mature trees. When Arthur Young visited the park in 1776 he noted 'several buildings, a temple, greenhouses etc'; among these no doubt was the 'Shell House', marked on the OS 1834 map in the south-east corner of the park, flanking a circuit drive; like the 'temple', this no longer survives. 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'. It was into this 18th century landscape that Charles Brownlow (1795-1847), raised as the 1st Baron Lurgan in 1839, decided to replace the old residence with the present large Elizabethan-Revival house by William Playfair of

Edinburgh (Listed HB 14/24/018). This was largely built by a Scottish work force 'of freestone brought from Scotland' (Old Red Sandstone from Ardrossan) in 1836-41. An imposing stable and coach courtyard that had been remodelled from existing buildings stands at its south corner. Charles, the second Baron (1831-1882), added an ornamental stone balustrade to the terrace around the east and north of the house; this now looks down on a large unsightly expanse of tarmacadam east of the house. The second baron was the owner of the famous greyhound, Master McGrath, who was reared in the park and won many races in 1868-71; a monument to the famous hound was constructed to the west of the house after his death, but was removed in the 1970s. William Brownlow, third Baron Lurgan (1858-1937) who inherited in 1877, expanded the park eastwards into Derrylinahavil townland and during his time, as with his predecessors, the demesne grounds were open to the public. However, he began to sell the demesne lands immediately following his marriage to the daughter of the Earl Cadogan in 1893 (she did not want to live in Lurgan). He sold the house and demesne to the Lurgan Real Property Company who proceeded to fell many of the park's finest trees including those along the 'Great Avenue', while other parts of the park started to be developed for housing estates, starting with Windsor Avenue in 1895-98. Subsequently, Lurgan Borough Council bought parts of the park (for £2,000), the lake being acquired in 1909. They allowed the 160 acre great lawn east of the lake, to be taken over as the Lurgan Golf Club links; it had been established here in November 1893 and though vacated temporarily from 1899-1922, it remains in this location. In 1903 the house was acquired by the Lurgan Loyal District Orange Lodge; in 1943 it was used as a regional headquarter by General Patton. After hostile opposition from Nationalist members was overcome, the council in 1908 voted money to transform the area south and west of the lake (73 acres/30ha) into a public park and that year commissioned Joseph Cheal (1848-1935), a nurseryman and garden designer from Crawley, Sussex, to lay out the new public park in this area; this was the first of a number of commissions that Cheal & Son was to receive in Ireland. The original plans by Cheal, dated 1908, are still in the old Craigavon Borough Council office, now part of the larger Antrim City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council. They include vignettes of little buildings proposed for inclusion in the park, notably a bandstand, swimming pool, cricket pavilion, summer house and various timber bridges; of these only the latter were built. The site is mostly under grass with the lake as the dominating feature; the ground rises to the north and east beyond the lake. and there still many mature trees, though the site is less wooded than as shown on the 19th century OS maps. The public gardens were officially opened by the Lord Lieutenant, Lord Aberdeen and his wife, in August 1909. In the 1920s the 1887 cast-iron Jubilee Fountain by the Coalbrookdale Foundry, was moved to the park from the town centre (Listed HB 14/24/020) and entrance gates of 1840 (Listed HB 14/24/019). All other gate lodges are demolished. Site of a standing stone SMR: ARM 6:18.

**CASTLE DILLON, County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) A/010
REGISTERED GRADE B**

The sizeable walled demesne (635 acres/257ha) lies in pleasantly undulating countryside, with a large natural lake (53 acres/21.4ha) at its centre. An 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 ...'. The origin of the demesne lies in the early 17th century when in 1618 John Dillon 'began to build some three years since' a house at Mullaghbane (Castle Dillon) 'of brick and lymme and a very fair building', but no bawn on the north-east side of Lough Turcarra. Remodelled, apparently as a 'long low building' by the Chief Engineer of Ireland, Captain Samuel Molyneux ('Honest Sam', died 1692) after he bought the property in 1663-64. It was given some form of associated planned landscape in the early 18th century by his grandson, Samuel Molyneux M.P. (1688-1728), Lord of Admiralty and noted commentator on architecture and gardening. He is known to have added plantations to the demesne and built 'two little turrets or summer houses...advantageously situated for a view of

the lough and plantation about it'; some of the network of geometrically laid-out paths are shown on 1723 demesne map. However, the Molyneuxs spent most of their time away from their estate until 1759 when Castle Dillon was inherited by Sir Capel Molyneux, third baronet (1717-1797), son of the well known amateur botanist, St Thomas Molyneux, 1st Baronet (1661-1733). He rebuilt the family house in a rustic Palladian style with gabled wings (as depicted in a painting of 1784), which was unflatteringly described by the *Post Chaise Companion* in 1786 as 'the most agreeable [seat] in the Kingdom' were it not for the house itself; immediately to its east, the stable block, designed by the architect Thomas Cooley before 1782 was architecturally more successful and still survives though ruined (HB 15/03/010). Sir Capel's biggest impact on Castle Dillon however was the landscape park, which he started in the 1760s and was considered successful, perhaps because the place had 'every natural advantage of hill, wood and water'. He walled the demesne parkland (635 acres/257ha), cleared field boundaries to create large open lawns or meadows, each dotted with trees and clumps; he enlarged the large woodland block south-east of the lake (originally 110 acres/45ha), and created two small woodland blocks (each c.5 acres/2ha) bordering the lake to the west of the house. Except for parts of the northern boundary, he surprisingly did not put down perimeter planting tree belts; these were not planted until after 1841. As a political statement in the Whig tradition, commemorating the patriotic ideas of the era, Sir Capel erected two obelisks; of these only one survives, that on Cannon Hill, (now in State Care) built in 1782 outside the park, 0.7 miles (1.1km) north-east of the house. As part of the network of carriage drives in the new park, there were originally four gate lodges and of these the earliest and principal was that from the Ballybrannon Road on the north-west side of the demesne. Built probably in the 1760s in 'monumental Palladian style' this comprises a pair of square 'box-type' limestone rock-faced rusticated lodges with distinctive harmonising gate piers; traditionally this is supposed to have been the work of Sir William Chambers, though this is unlikely, these lodges are considered among the earliest examples in Ulster (HB 15/03/001); the 'Hockley Lodge' was added around 1780 to designs of Cooley (demolished in 1999). The walled garden, which no longer exists save for some fragments on the south-east side, occupied a very large trapezoidal area of 6 acres (2.4ha) in the north-east corner of the demesne. A stream (which still exists) ran through the garden; in later years the area east of this stream was devoted to apple trees. In the 1840s after the property had been inherited by Sir George King Aldercron Molyneux, 6th Bt (1813-1848), the park was improved with additional perimeter, clump and isolated tree planting, during which time (1844-45) the house itself was rebuilt in austere Classical-style (Listed HB 15/03/001) to designs of the architect William Murray of Dublin. The house ceased to be occupied in 1897 and having laid vacant was sold in 1928, after which it was converted onto a sanatorium and later a nursing home, becoming vacant again in the 1990s. The park was subdivided into a number of different owners and suffered accordingly. The woodland south-east of the lake has been both reduced in area and replaced with commercial forestry; parkland trees and perimeter planting felled, and modern houses built in various locations throughout the park. SMR ARM 12:30 enclosure, 12:32 enclosure or ? tree ring, 12:62 enclosure or ? tree ring, 12:67 enclosure and 12:85 17th century bawn and rath. Private.

**CONEY ISLAND, County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) A/053
REGISTERED GRADE A**

The wooded island is in the south-west corner of Lough Neagh, a short distance by boat from Maghera and is 9 acres (3.6ha) in area. It was an island retreat with a house of 1895 surrounded by an ornamental garden and deciduous 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 small castle, Coney Keep

(SMR: ARM 2:2) and a motte; the latter is flat topped 21m overall diameter and 5m high; the flat top in the centre is the base for a flag pole. A shallow silted ditch 4m wide surrounds the mound, excavation show this was originally 3.80m wide and 3.65m deep. A spiral path leads to the top of the motte and the monument is incorporated into the landscape. Archaeological excavation by Peter Addyman in 1962-63 between the motte and the castle revealed extensive prehistoric occupation, covering a long sequence from Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age to the early Christian period. Souterrain ware, glazed pottery and everted-rim ware found by Addyman all claimed to be associated with activity at the time the island was granted by Walter de Burgh, Earl of Ulster to the Archbishop of Armagh in 1265-66. It is in this grant that is the earliest name for the island 'Inisdaville' (island of the Blackwater). There was some ironworking on the island. The 16th century stone tower was apparently used by Shane O'Neill as a stronghold for his treasure; the interior of this castle is now occupied by the grave of the 7th Viscount Charlemont (1830-1913). There is evidence of a causeway, St Patrick's Road. The dominant tree species on the island are sycamore, ash, horse chestnut, beech, oak (*Q. petraea*), wych elm and Scots pine, while alder is dominant around the island fringe. 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 the Borough Council with public access. A Biological Survey was undertaken in 1986. A heronry was present on the island in the 1980s and 90s.

**DARTON, County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) A/061
REGISTERED GRADE B**

South-west of Killylea and bordering Fellows Hall, this is an 1850s house on an earlier demesne parkland (120 acres/48ha), with terracing. Demesne has 17th century origins, the earlier house being a low thatched gentleman's residence, replaced in 1856 by square cubic block in a sober Italianate style by architect John Boyd for Maxwell Cross. It faces due north, and on the east and south side a raised terrace was created, originally for parterres. This house was gutted by fire in 1924, by which time it was the home of the Shaw-Hamilton family; restored by the present owner in 1987. The yard on the west, partly incorporated earlier yard buildings; it has been extended south in recent years. The walled garden (1.25 acres/0.5ha), 170 feet (50m) north of the house belongs to the early 19th century; it is presently under grass with a number of isolated trees planted therein. The small woodland south-west of the house is of late 18th or early 19th century date. There are fine parkland trees flanking the main approach to the house from the north; these are a mixture of early and mid-19th century plantings. The fine perimeter planting on the west and north side of the park is mid-19th century in date and is a good surviving example of parkland planting from this era. The gate lodge at the head of the north entrance drive, which replaced a pre-1835 lodge, has a date stone of 1870 and has recently been restored as a residence; it has an L-plan and is built of rock-faced Armagh limestone masonry with semi-circular-arched windows and a centrally positioned chimneystack. Possible Tree-ring, Arm: 11:018. Private.

**DEAN'S HILL formerly THE DEANERY (ARMAGH), County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) A/012
REGISTERED GRADE B**

The modest-sized late 18th-century park of 48 acres (19.4ha), on an elevated site on the north-east side of the city on the north side of College Hill, extending north to the Ballynahone River. The elegant house (Listed HB 15/17/039) was built by a theologian, Dr. Hugh Hamilton in 1772-74. It is a tall imposing three-storey over a basement double pile house from which 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. In recent years park has lost a section in the north-west to accommodate Lisnally Special School and a

sports track on the south-west, but fortunately, these developments have not seriously damaged the integrity of this intimate designed landscape, which has otherwise survived intact. The approach to the house is flanked by fine limes, while a row of yew trees, a wisteria, glasshouse and a box edged border have been introduced near the house during the 19th century. The partially walled garden (3.3 acres/1.3ha) south-east of the house (stone walls with internal brick lining), has an old orchard, a now disused kitchen garden and ruined free-standing vinery on the eastern side. There was a large elm here that succumbed to disease in the 1980s, a notable laburnum is thought then be very old. The gate lodge in the Picturesque Style is c.1845 and the original 18th century gates have gone due to road re-alignment in recent years. Following Disestablishment of the Church of Ireland, the house and demesne were leased out and then sold in 1887 to Henry B. Armstrong in whose descendants it remains. Private.

**EDEN VILLA, County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) A/056
REGISTERED GRADE B**

The former grounds (25 acres/10.2ha) for the former house is now a public space on the north-east side of Portadown in the Bachelors Walk area. The house faced west with a terrace in front of it and the historic parkland mainly to its west and south, comprising mature shelter belts of beech and a beech/oak lined avenue to rere. Some yews survive in grounds; no exotics. The 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, which was an 18th-century two storey minor gentleman's house, with some 19th century extensions, last occupied by a Miss Atkinson in 1960, became a ruin and was demolished by the council (November 1997) and the area serves as a car park/works area. The walled garden, with low brick walls, to the west of the house site (1.1 acres/0.4ha) is partly under grass and partly sub-divided for a working yard. There are hard surfaced tennis courts in the central area of the park and is host to Portadown Hockey Club. However the grassed areas and paths of the remaining parts of the park are maintained. Mature trees on the gently undulating ground enhance the amenity.

**ELMFIELD, County Down (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) D/055
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Landscape park (65.5 acres/25.7ha) for a mid-19th century house lying 0.9 miles (1.5km) north-west of Gilford on the Moyallan Road. The present house (Listed HB 17/01/034 – including lodge) was evidently built in two stages, the first in the 1850s and the second a remodelling by the Glasgow architect William Spence (1808-83) for James Dickson (1818-79), whose brother engaged the same architect at nearby Gilford Castle (1865-67). The present landscape park, which is walled, belongs to the 1850s house; this itself replaced earlier dwelling, also called 'Elmfield' that is shown on Williamson's County Down map of 1810 and again on the 1830s OS map edition (with very few associated trees); as nothing is shown on Taylor's and Skinner's 1777 map, nor mentioned in the *Post Chaise Companion* of 1786, it is likely that the first house here was built around 1806 by William Dawson, who secured a lease of land in Ballymacanallen. The builder of the present mansion, James Dickson, who acquired Elmfield around 1848, initially with only fifty-one acres, was a partner in the linen weaving firm of Dickson, Ferguson & Co. He also acquired the adjacent property of Woodbank, possibly as a place to stay when Elmfield was being rebuilt in the early 1850s; his first house here is shown on the 1860 OS map with a similar foot print to the later house, save that it faced west not north and was a narrower block; the two yards to the south, the walled garden, lake and landscape all belong to the 1850s, while two yards to the south were added in the 1880s or a bit later. It seems likely that James Dickson was so impressed with William Spence's work for his brother at Gilford, that he engaged him to remodel his own house at Elmfield in a similar asymmetrical Scottish Baronial style with the main entrance beneath a tower on the north front. The work was started in 1867 when in May that year the newspapers advertised 'in consequence of the alterations being made in the castle grounds' that they were

getting rid of their flower parterres, then a declining fashion, and were advertising for sale 'large and well grown' some 'six thousand flowering bedding-out plant', such as 'Calceolarias, verbenas, heliotropes, geraniums, gazanias, ageratums, lobelia-speciosa &c'. Later that year the Scottish builder, William Barclay (1814-84) was seeking local stone masons for the work on the house, so it looks like the building work was undertaken in 1868-69. Spence's alterations transformed the exterior into a Scottish house with crow-stepped gables, bartizans, and like Gilford the whole was faced with rock-faced Armagh limestone and ashlar Giffnock sandstone, the latter being liberally as quoins, dressings, parapets etc. There are various full-height gabled bays to all sides as well as several flat-roofed single-storey square and canted bays, each topped with a pierced parapet. The landscape remained very much as laid out in the 1850s however; this was a clearly professionally designed work, but as so often in Ireland, the designer remains unknown. A tree screen was planted on the Moyallan-road of width 115ft (35m) with a wider and more substantial woodland (The Lurgan Plantation) on the south and east sides of the park fronting the Plantation-road and a small lake (0.8 acres/0.3ha) dug in the south-east corner, now screened with trees on all sides, the lake was originally intended to be visible as part of the parkscape. It was enlarged with an island in the 1860s and more recently in the 1990s restored. Beside this small lake is a rockery which looks to have been constructed in the 1860s and typical of the period with elaborate rockwork incorporating an archway, seats, a series of steps and little paths. There was also a summer house here, the floor of which survives. North of the house at the far end of the park is a ovoid wood in a slight hollow with stone-edged paths and walks. Between this and the house lies a modestly sized rectangular walled kitchen garden (0.84 acres/0.34ha) with north-east south-west axis with one rounded corner; it has stone walls, except for a brick coping and brick dressings around the two pedestrian doors; the long south-west wall of the garden was removed at some stage post 1974. Internally it has a south-west facing slope. The area was still part cultivated in the 1990s, but now under grass, save for a tennis court on higher ground in south-east. In the 1860s the garden here must have had a glasshouse, as the gardener, Mr. S. McGrady, was winning prizes for his greenhouse plants (the conservatory at the house was for more ornamental planting). The kitchen garden is surrounded and screened by a copse of trees mixed with laurel, rhododendrons and other shrubs. Beside the walled garden is one of the largest cypress in the country, *Chamaecyparis pisifera squarrosa* and east of the walled garden on the edge of the Lurgan Plantation is an enormous beech and a very large holly, *Ilex x altaclerensis Hendersonii*. Generally the parkland here boasts a fine collection of trees, notably lime, giant sequoia, copper beech, deodara cedar, Monterey pine, oriental spruce, walnut, red oak, noble and silver firs, variegated sycamore and holm oak. From 1975 these parkland trees have been supplemented by much additional planting; it may be noted a tree survey for management was carried out in 1987. 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. South-west of the house was a large conservatory, which backed against the stable yard; this had become dilapidated by the 1950s and was later demolished and replaced with a York-stone terrace in recent decades. More recently in the 1990s Nigel Hughes working for Françoise Goffinet Ltd designed a series of clipped yew edged gardens around the house. Following James Dickson's death in 1880 both Elmfield and the adjacent property of Woodbank (both of which he owned) were put on the market and sold. Elmfield was bought in 1884 by Forster Green, a Belfast tea and coffee merchant, who gave the house to his daughter Emily and her husband, Henry Albert Uprichard, whose descendants continued to occupy the house up until c.1950; the present occupants rescued the property from a developer in 1958 and embarked upon a restoration scheme. The line of the main avenue was altered post 1980, to run north of the walled garden and sweep down to the house from the north-east. There are two gate lodges; the main one off the Moyallan Road is in the same style as the house and probably the work of Spence; it is currently abandoned (Listed HB 17/01/034B); the second lodge, off the Plantation Road, is a plain box like dwelling, probably built in the 1850s but altered and extended. Private.

FAIRVIEW HOUSE (TANNAGHMORE GARDENS), County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) A/007

REGISTERED GRADE B

A small rectangular park (24 acres/9.7ha) located on the north side of Craigavon and Lurgan, known more often today as Tannaghmore Gardens. Originally this was the ornamental ground and orchards for Fairview House, which is a handsome large farm house (Listed HB 14/03/001) of c.1790 on the northern side of the site. 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 for Craigavon. It is maintained as such today and incorporates a sculpture trail, barn museum and a rare breed farm (cattle, sheep, pigs and ornamental fowl). Children's play ground created 2019. Public Access.

FELLOWS HALL, County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) A/016

REGISTERED GRADE B

The demesne (242 acres/98ha), which lies 2.5 miles (4km) south-east of Caledon, was established in the 17th century. The present east-facing Italianate house built by Col. George McClintock, dates from around 1857, but incorporates parts of James Maxwell's original house of 1664 (Listed HB 15/11/010 – including the farm). Nothing typical of a 17th century demesne layout survives though there are two extant date stones that date the first building here (which had one hearth) to 1664 - built for James Maxwell, a descendant of Bishop Maxwell (the land had once in 1610 formed an endowment for Trinity College, Dublin; thus the name 'Fellows Hall' (the townland itself is also called Crearum). A small drawing on a map of 1715 drawn up for TCD by Gabriel Stokes shows the house with a note 'very good dwelling house and other buildings'. The house was burned in the year 1752 and substantially rebuilt in 1802 for John Maxwell. The present naturalised style landscape park appears to be laid down at that time, is shown on the OS 1830s map, and survives largely unaltered, with its long curving woodland belts along the west-facing slopes and curving approach avenue on the east slopes of the ridge with a scatter of mature oak and beech. The former kitchen garden, mostly not walled to the south of the house and yards (1.6 acres/0.6ha) was under orchard by the end of the 19th century and is now under grass. However, there is a maintained ornamental garden, with an attractive circle of box-edged rose beds to the rere (west side) of the mansion. The house and demesne come into the Stronge family after the death of John Maxwell in 1820; the Stronges subsequently leased it to a Thomas Knox Armstrong, another relation of the Maxwells, who stayed there until his death in 1840. After this the lease was taken up by Col. George McClintock, who, in 1850, married Sir James Stronge's 3rd daughter, Catherine. Thus, Fellows Hall remained with the Clintock family until it was sold in the mid 1950s to Mr. J.R.B. Armstrong, a descendant of the occupant of the 1820s and 30s. A gate lodge at the head of the drive to the north survives and has been extensively renovated; the lodge at the head of the south drive has been replaced by a modern dwelling of c.2002. Private.

GILFORD CASTLE, County Down (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE & CRAIGAVON 03) D/097

REGISTERED SITE GRADE A

Created as the setting for an 1864-5 Scottish Baronial-style house, this is one of the best surviving examples of a Victorian parkland in Ulster. The parkland (201 acres/83.1ha) lies on the south fringe of the town of Gilford, bordering the south side of the Banbridge Road and occupying a loop in the River Bann. The house (Listed HB 17/01/002A) is of locally source rock-faced limestone with sandstone quoins, was built for Benjamin Dickson, a partner in the 'Dunbar, Dickson and McMaster' Spinning company, for the reputedly large sum of £23,000. It is 'de novo' or built on a greenfield site and prior to its construction the demesne was covered by scrubby ground with woodland alongside the river. In the 17th century it may have formed part of the Loughans Deer Park on the south-west, which was most probably attached to the 'castle' or manor shown on

Nevill's 1703 map, and later on Dougan's map of 1731, to be located close to road near the present War Memorial on Castle Street. This building, which belonged to the Magill family of Gill Hall in the 17th century, belonged to descendants of Sir William Johnston (d.1722) from 1700; it was badly damaged when attacked by insurgents ('Hearts of Steele') in 1772 and left vacant from 1841 when it passed to the Burges family of Parkanaur, sold to Benjamin Dickson in 1855 and finally demolished in 1864 during the creation of the present parkland. The present 'castle' of 1864-5, which belongs to a group of houses built during the height of the linen industry, was designed by the architect William Spence (1804-1883) of Glasgow, a pupil of John Bryce, and built by William Edmiston of Glasgow. Spence was also involved at this time with designing the nearby house of Elmfield for Benjamin's brother James (1887-88). 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 Benjamin Dickson ownership, the property was leased to Percy Jocelyn McMaster, as Dickson himself, who died in poverty, was unable to afford to live there. Following Dickson's death in 1894, the house was placed in hands of trustees and from 1901-10 occupied by Miss K. Carleton. The property was sold in 1918 to James Frances Wright of Monaghan, attorney-at-law and successful businessman in the Orient. The house, built of rock-faced Armagh limestone with quoins of Glasgow Blonde sandstone, is reputed to have cost around £23,000; it is a large asymmetrical two to three-storey mansion in the 'Scots Baronial style' facing north-west, with tall bay windows, a Renaissance-style open portico and a roofscape of different shaped gables, bays, half-dormers and a conical capped bartizan. Immediately south of the house is an extensive collection of outbuildings, largely of the same date as the castle itself; this includes a stable yard quadrangle (Listed HB 17/01/002B) with a decorative gate screen on its east side and south-east a shed with Belfast roof truss built in 1903 (Listed HB 17/01/002F). The fine associated parkland was created at the same time as the house and 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. It extends from the Banbridge Road on the north, flanking the Loughbrickland Road, down to the wooded banks of the River Bann, where it incorporates a large parkland meadow (34 acres/13.7ha) on the south side of the river, the latter being an important and integral part of the park layout. In all there are 63 acres of woodland while the open lawns or meadows boast 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 (Listed HB 17/01/002E), also designed by Spence. The walled garden, notable for its ashlar entrance and flanking iron railing screen on its south-west side was designed principally for kitchen produce; it is rectangular in plan (1 acre/0.4ha) with north-east south-west axis, stone walls with brick lining to facilitate fruit growing. Glasshouses and offices are in variable conditions. There are two park entrance gates; the Gilford Gate of 1902 (Listed HB17/01/002C) with piers by Richard Lutton of Portadown to designs by Young & Mackenzie and in the north-east, the Banbridge Gate, which retains a gable-ended lodge with decorative eaves c.1865 with a neo-classical style gate screen. During the war the castle was used as the headquarters of the American 6th Cavalry Mechanised Division, who were stationed here from September 1943 to May 1944. The property was sold in 2019 and the house restored 2020. SMR: DOWN 26:3 enclosure/tree ring? & 26:4 enclosure.

**GILL HALL, County Down (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) D/081
REGISTERED GRADE B**

This extensive walled demesne (288 acres/116ha) west of Dromore no longer has its original centre piece country house. This was a 3-storey 7-bay house built in the late 17th and early 18th century; exact dates of construction have not been established, but it is believed to have been started by John Magill of Gill Hall (1675-1713), later being enlarged and improved in the early

1730s by his son, Robert Hawkins-Magill (1704-1745), 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 5th Earl of Clanwilliam in favour of Montalto, the house ceased to be occupied. It was used by the Royal Air Force during the last war and afterwards fell into decay. The Irish Georgian Society was undertaking restoration work on the house, when on 1 June 1969 the building was mysteriously burnt and subsequently demolished with explosives by the army. However parts of the 18th century stables lying a short distance to the north still remain (Listed HB 17/13/021). Also surviving from the late 17th or early 18th century is a rubble built bridge over the River Lagan immediately south of the house site; it has four semi-circular arches and three cut-waters each side, rising to become pedestrian refuges in the parapet (Listed HB 17/13/030). The demesne is now farmed, with no evidence on the ground of an ornamental garden for the house. The River Lagan flows through the informal parkland, which was evidently created in the later 18th century by Theodosia Magill (1743-1817), only daughter of Robert Hawkins Magill, who married in 1765 John Meade, who the following year was raised at the 1st Viscount Clanwilliam, later in 1776 becoming the 1st earl of Clanwilliam. In 1837 the *Ordnance Survey Memoir* states of this park that it was, '... prettily wooded but the situation is not good' and there is a reference to some 4,000 trees in the demesne, mainly beech. Considering that the house has been gone since 1969, much of the parkland survives, with woodland along the river banks, good perimeter screening on the west, and a scattering of mature parkland trees throughout the park (beech, chestnut, limes, ash), but most notably in the area east, and to a lesser extent south of the house site. Relics of features associated with the earlier formal geometric layout also survive, notably the long straight tree-lined back avenue (0.6 miles/0.9km) south of the river and the (in part sunken) line of the main straight avenue formerly aligned on the house front (0.4 miles/0.6km) with north-east south-west axis. The Victorian pleasure grounds, marked 'back gardens' on OS maps, lay just north-east of the house, beside the office ranges. 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.

**GOSFORD CASTLE, County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) A/018
REGSIETERD GRADE A**

The site of a succession of noble dwellings, beginning with Clancarney Castle, followed by an early 18th century house and the present nationally important Norman-revival castellated house designed in 1819 by Thomas Hopper for Archibald Acheson, 2nd Earl of Gosford (Listed HB 15/07/001). The demesne, on the north side of Markethill, was enlarged and remodelled for the latter house; presently it covers 622 acres (252ha), having lost 21 acres (8.4ha) on south-west perimeter after the building of the Gosford Road in 1967. Many demesne features pre-dating the 19th century lie on the west side, close to a stream immediately north of the village. It was here that Archibald Acheson built the first house, the Manor of Clancarney, which Pynnar recorded in 1619 as comprising a two-storey fortified house (80 x 22 feet) within a rectangular bawn (100 x 80 feet) with flankers. The evidence is confused, but it appears that following the destruction of this house in the 1641 Rebellion, Sir George Acheson had built another house in its place, probably on the same site from at least 1664. This is depicted on a map of 1693 as a sizable multi-gabled mansion with tall chimneys set within a large rectangular enclosure containing trees. This was probably, at least in part, incorporated into the third house on the site, built in the early 18th century and depicted on a map of 1754 a very substantial tall seven-bay three-storey Queen-Anne style house with hipped roof and four chimneys. This house, which was remodelled in the 1780s, then 'destroyed' by fire in 1805 and made habitable until the 1820s; substantial parts are still shown on a demesne map of 1847 but were entirely demolished in the 1850s save for one structure, probably an outbuilding, the lower walls of which were exposed in the woods in 2018 by gardeners from the borough council; it is possible that foundations of the earlier manor could

still be traced here. A surviving early feature however are two ornamental canals, which flank the former entrance from the public road. Shown on the 1754 map (complete with island in south canal), and again of Rocque's map of 1760, these probably date c.1700-10 and comprise a smaller rectangular northern section of 0.6 acres (0.24ha) and 275 ft (84m) x 90ft (27.8m) wide and a larger southern sheet of water, 1.1 acre (0.4ha) and 325 ft (99m) x 150 feet (54m) average width; originally these would have been clean-edged and set within lawns and formal gardens below the windows of the house. Between the canals stand the entrance with its tall semi-circular archway with moulded surround of typical 17th century form facing the former road; this is flanked by a pair of small long-disused lodges with curvilinear gables, c.1700, believed to be 'the oldest pair of non-defensive lodges surviving in Ulster' (Listed HB 15/07/037). Other features associated with the early demesne are a semi-circle of yews associated with Dean Swift called 'Swift's Chair' and Dean Swift's Well on the north bank of the stream (Listed HB 15/07/031); Dean Swift was friend of the Achesons and a regular visitor. Near the east of the well is a small pet's cemetery with plain grave markers dated 1797, 1813, and 1818, for 'Hotspur', 'Quiz', and 'Walter'. The original stable and farm yard quadrangles for the early house occupied the south part of what is now the main Forest Service public car park, flanked originally on its north and west side by the walled kitchen garden, which covered about four acres (1.6ha), all traces of which are now completely gone. The present castle, was built on an entirely new site in the northern part of the demesne, principally to allow the new building to overlook the sweeping grassy expanses of its newly re-designed natural-style landscape park. Designed by Thomas Hopper of London for Sir Archibald Acheson, 2nd Earl of Gosford (1776-1849), it was commenced in 1819 and is the first Norman-revival castle in the British Isles. The first recorded payment for building work was in 1820 and by 1834, when Lord Gosford was in residence, it was still not complete and it was stated then to have cost over £80,000; in the event it took over forty years to complete and was an enormous burden on the estate, long suffering from a struggling and impoverished tenantry, as was made clear in William Greig's '*General Report on the Gosford Estates*' in 1821. Facing the newly created parkland a terrace was built to the immediate west, south and south-east of the castle covering 1.6 acres (0.6ha) and encompassed by an ashlar ha-ha built to appear as a defensive curtain wall, complete with turret or corner tower. Just north-west of the castle was a square castle-style stable yard (now converted into homes) and west of this, separated formerly by an orchard, a walled garden of rectangular plan (2.4 acres/0.99ha) with roughly west-east axis with rubble-built walls with internal brick-lining (Listed HB 15/05/036). The walled garden layout of paths were removed in 1960 by the Forest Service (now DAERA) when they landscaped the area for public enjoyment. A Japanese cherry tree collection was displayed here and an early 19th century brick-built bee house (Listed HB 15/07/091) was moved here from Ashfort House, Middletown, with the aid of Built Heritage (DoE), what is now the Historic Environment Division. Unfortunately, this garden, although popular with the public, was closed to visitors around 2006 and sold to a developer. On the south side of the walled garden, where lay the principal entrance for visitors, was (and remains) a long paths with flanking borders, while north of the walled garden formerly lay a narrow walled slip garden (0.3 acres/0.12ha), now largely gone, to accommodate the bothies, garden sheds and cold frames; immediately to the north of this lay the gas house (demolished), while on the west of the walled garden there was a small pleasure ground (3.4 acres/1.6ha) containing a large free standing long glasshouses (demolished), which faced onto a network of lawns with shrubs and ornamental planting. To the south of this and extending as far as the old residence, lay the arboretum, which is largely still extant. This arboretum (11 acres/4.5ha), one of the best surviving in Ulster, was begun in the mid-19th 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*. Other trees include a few impressive giant sequoias (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*); western red cedars (*Thuja plicata*); a few large Atlas cedars (*Cedrus atlantica*); a couple of large Spanish oaks (*Quercus x hispanica* 'Luscombeana'); a number of large Lawson Cypressess, including *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana* 'Kilmacurragh'; a

Mediterranean cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*); noble fir with champion girth (*Abies procera*), eastern white pine (*Pinus strabus*), a couple of large Chinese white pines (*Pinus armandii*), a Bosnian pine (*Pinus heldreichii*), Bhutan pine (*Pinus wallichiana*); Western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*); European beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), London plane (*Platanus x hispanica*), and a champion Eastern Himalayan fir (*Abies spectabilis*) among others. A large English or Common yew (*Taxus baccata*) by the river on the south side of the arboretum looks 17th or 18th century and so must be a relic of the early house grounds. The arboreum is flanked on the east side by a modern conifer plantation, into which a number of trails have been placed (2019); the woodland on the east side of the old road (Draper's Hill) was replanted by Forest Service with conifers in the 1960s. As a setting for the new castle, the expansive landscape park was created in the 1820s and further improved on its eastern perimeter in the 1840s, the landscape designer is unknown, but the park comprised carefully laid out irregular large woodland blocks, parkland belts, screens and perimeter planting with clumps and isolated trees in the open lawns or meadows. The main 'lawn' which occupied the central area of the park, which was characteristically dotted with isolated trees, allowed views south-east and south from the castle for nearly a mile (1.3km) to the distant perimeter planting. Notwithstanding the splendour of both house and demesne, Archibald Acheson, the 4th Earl of Gosford (1841-1922), who inherited in 1864, preferred to spend most of his time in England. It remained the family home however until 1921 when the remaining contents of the castle were auctioned. There was a mass felling of parkland trees and woodlands in the 1930s, while the castle, having been left vacant until 1940, was occupied by the military (British and later US forces), while the now denuded park also housed a prisoner of war camp. The castle later served as a store for the Public Records Office and in 1970 became a military base again. In 1958 the Dept of Agriculture purchased both castle and demesne and during the 1960s and 1970s the old woodland blocks and large areas of what had been open parkland was planted with coniferous trees, thus blocking the once fine views that the castle enjoyed and seriously compromising its setting. The demesne made into a 'Forest Park' open to the public, for whom a car park was developed on the site previously occupied by the office ranges and walled garden of the 18th century house; a small deer park (stocked with red deer) was made in the remaining open parkland. The castle itself, having served for brief periods as a hotel was acquired by a few development companies in 2006; the western side of the castle together with the yard have since been remodelled into private apartments. Three mid-19th century lodges for the castle house exist. Gates and walls are listed (HB 15/07/007 & 032). Demesne cottages also survive. In 2017 the Forest Service officially agreed to transfer management of a large part of the park to the local borough council and in 2019 a new reception building was added to the old Forest Service (DAERA) car park. SMR ARM 17:32 site of enclosure, 17:33 enclosure/rath, 17:34 platform rath, 17:55 site of enclosure. DAERA (Forest Service) and Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Council, part public access. House private.

HOCKLEY LODGE, County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) A/021 REGISTERED GRADE B

Small and attractive Regency era park (115 acres/47ha) with a house (Listed HB 15/03/009 – including yards, walled garden, ice house and gate lodge). Located in the townland of Drumnasoo, a short distance from the north-east demesne boundary of Castle Dillon, north of Armagh. Described in the OSM of 1835 as, '... built in the cottage style', the house, which incorporates an earlier building, is a part two-storey, part one-storey over basement country house with a U-shaped plan. There is a distinctive two-level cast-iron veranda on the south-facing garden front flanked by end bays with pedimented gables. Leased to tenants by the Dillons in the 18th century, the lease passed to Henry Caulfield (died 1862), brother of the Earl of Charlemont from 1816, who was probably responsible for the present house and park; after his death it was occupied by his widow until 1878 and then by her daughter, Lady Zoe Stronge. It ceased to be a private house in 1983 and in 1985 became a nursing home. The house has an extensive collection

of yards to its rear and north-east, including a cattle yard and a dairy yard; the latter includes the dairy, an octagonal pagoda-like building with decorative timber casement windows and slated roof with lantern. The latter faces out onto mature trees of the parkland wood which flanks the east side of the yard. Elsewhere, the park had fine mature trees on the lawns near the house and the wood to the south. It includes some notably large trees, notably a Monterey Cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) 27.7m high with girth of 10.78m (at 0.9m); a Tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) 24.6m high and 5.13m girth and a Caucasian Fir (*Abies nordmanniana*) 30.7m high and 4.42m girth. The square walled garden to north-east of the yard (13 acres/0.54ha) is of interest as it contains old fruit trees, but is now heavily overgrown. This area and the garden house are in separate ownership. SMR ARM 12:35 rath. Private.

**LAWRENCETOWN, County Down (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) D/136
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Demesne parkland of 18th century origin (44 acres/17.9ha) south of the Banbridge Road (A50) and 2.5 miles (4.3km) north-west of Banbridge on the thickly wooded north banks of the River Bann. House (Listed HB 17/02/032) was present here by the 1770s then known as 'Laurencetown', the property of Thomas Dawson Laurence who also owned 'Hall's Mill' to the north. From 1797 to 1811 the demesne belonged to Ross Thomas, later of Greenwood Park, and it was probably during his ownership that the present landscape park was created, as shown on the OS 1830 map. This included shelter belts bordering the road to the north and east with clumps along the banks of the river to the south and west; most of the early woodland was beech. There were two approach avenues, one with a gate lodge, and a kitchen garden (probably then not walled) north of the house, while the park meadow was dotted with trees in the picturesque fashion of the time. In the 1820s, when it became the property of Alexander Stewart of Ards House, it was described as having 'six acres of fine orchard, the gardens extensive and highly ornamental, in one of which there is a fountain that hath a sulphurous water. The estate is well wooded'. At some stage between 1830 and 1859 the kitchen garden (2.4 acres/1ha) was remodelled and probably also fully walled; it took the form of a trapezium with a round north end and was divided into two sections, with a glasshouse and bothies on the dividing wall. In 1867 this garden was described as having fruit trees 'in full bearing' and an 'excellent' range of vineries. By the late 19th century the larger north portion was used just as an orchard and at some stage in the 20th century this north portion was demolished, leaving only the south section (0.9 acres/0.36ha), abutting the yard and presently kept as mowed lawns; a mission hall, built in the 1980s (where Dr. Ian Paisley preached his first sermon) occupies the south end. The house, which faced north-west and was known as 'Lawrencetown' by the 1850, was remodelled c. 1877 and until 1884 was owned by Henry Albert Uprichard, owner of the Springvale beach works; after this it was occupied by a succession of tenants. Since 1981 it has been in use as a religious education institution 'The Whitefield Collage of the Bible'. Gates lodges demolished, but gate screen of ashlar survives on north-east (formerly main) entrance. Mature deciduous woodland on the south and west side of the park above the river, but no tree screens survive along the northern road perimeter.

**LOUGHBRICKLAND HOUSE, Co. Down (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) D/033
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Small County House Parkland (39 acres/15.8ha) on the north perimeter of the village of Loughbrickland, south-west of Banbridge. Appears that Col. John Whyte had a modest house here from the 1730s, originally known as 'Coolnacran Lodge'. Rebuilt in the 1780s by John Whyte (1752-1814) and remodeled by Nicholas Charles Whyte (1784-1844), having been absent for many years, in 1826, when he engaged the architect Thomas Duff of Newry. House again extended in 1869 (Listed HB 17/03/051). The parkland, which dates largely to the 1820s, has survived remarkably intact, save only for the intrusion of modern house in the west corner close to where that been a gate lodge, demolished sometime before 1994. As good example of a small, well

designed early 19th century parkland, it comprises a large front 'lawn' (now divided by a clump of trees) with meadows on the east and west sides, all neatly enclosed with perimeter planting. There were originally three approach avenues, now reduced to two, with two gate lodges, both now demolished, that on the south now replaced with an unsympathetic house. On the east side of the house there are two adjoining rectangular walled gardens, now rather overgrown; one of the south (0.54 acres/0.22ha) flanking the yard, was probably originally largely ornamental, and a larger garden to its north (1.11/0.45ha) probably largely devoted to kitchen stuff. In the woods north-east of the walled garden is a large, 100ft (30m) diameter bivalent rath [SMR7/ DOW 33:019] with two massive banks separated by a ditch and a further ditch outside the outer bank. Walks through the woods from the garden led to this feature, clearly an important attraction for house visitors from where there were good views to the north and east with the Mourne Mountains beyond; only in the 20th century did this feature become engulfed in trees. In 2001 a woodland trail was created around this rath by the owners working with the local Loughbrickland Community Association and the local council; in 2008 this trail was made part of the Loughbrickland Historic Trail. House Private. Public access to 'trail'. Rath DOW 33:019.

LOUGHGALL MANOR HOUSE, County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE & CRAIGAVON 03) A/025

REGISTERED GRADE A

The present Tudor-Revival county house (Listed HB 15/2/16) was built in 1874 on high ground above Lough Gall (35acres/14ha), its associated demesne (registered area 264acres/107ha) is essentially 18th-century in layout with 17th-century origins. The park lies on the east side of the village of the same name, 6.35 miles (10.2km) west of Portadown and is approached down an impressive lime avenue that leads up hill to the house, where there has been a house since around 1610 when Sir Anthony Cope (1548-1614) of Oxfordshire acquired through purchase these lands and built for his sons, Arthur and Walter, a 'bawn of stone and lyme, a hundred and eighty foot square, and fourteen feet high, with four flankers and in three of them...very good lodgings...three storeys high...'. At some point before the 1650s the demesne had been split between Arthur and Walter Cope family, with Drumilly house (now lost) being established as Water's branch of the family on the west side of the lake. The Loughgall Manor house, probably destroyed in the 1641 Rebellion, was evidently enlarged and re-built on several occasions, but unfortunately there is very poor documentation for the Copes in the 17th and 18th centuries. In the late 17th century the property belonged to the Rev. Anthony Cope (1639-1705), but as the Dean of Elphin he was most likely not resident very much; his eldest son Robert Cope (1679-1753) was a resident; furthermore, his mother was an heiress and he himself married well twice in the first decade of the century. Consequently, we can be reasonably certain that the formal landscape around the house was created by him in the first two decades of the 18th-century. This included the lime avenue, which extends with north-west south-east axis from the village to the house site, 1295ft (395m). At right angles to this was another avenue of yew trees, extending 855ft (260m) north-east south-west to the old Portadown-road and possibly aligned on the side of the house (this is not clear). The yew avenue ceased to be an approach in the early 19th century, but still exists as a walk and comprises three ranks of trees each side. It is now known as 'Dean Swift's Walk', this being reflection on the fact that the famous dean stayed with Robert Cope, initially for a brief in 1717 and then for a month in 1722. At the time Robert was an anti-Whig, having served as MP in the reign of Anne but put under arrest by Parliament in 1715 after her death, where Swift visited him. It was said that Cope at Loughgall 'entertained that covetous lampooning dean much better than he deserved'. The house he would have stayed in seems from the Rocque's County Armagh map of 1760 to have been an L-shaped block standing about 65-70ft (20m) further downslope closer to the junction between the two avenues. Rocque's map also shows that the main lime avenue (not clearly shown) was extended on the same axis to the south-east of the house for around 500m. Such a layout was entirely typical of

the period; the surrounding demesne would have been geometrically divided up with tree-lined boundaries and around the house would have been a network of enclosures, walled or hedged, containing gardens and yards. Following Robert Cope's death in 1753, the property was inherited by his son Arthur (d.1795) who was responsible for transforming Loughgall into a landscape park; the date is unknown but probably dates to the late 1760s or 1770s. It involved planting narrow shelter belts along the outside of the park to the Lissheffield-road and to the demesne wall west of a small stream from the lake that then separated Drumilly which belonged to the other branch of the Copes. Six small irregular woodland blocks were planted in the west sector of the park and a circuit drive; isolated trees were probably added later in the century. As an attraction on the drive a stone hermitage (Listed HB 15/22/027) was constructed on the west side of one of the woodland clumps close to the Drumilly boundary (but it was never part of Drumilly); it comprises a rubble structure built in characteristic rustic or grotesque manner into the side of a mound with a narrow arch entrance leading into a short passage (width 2ft 7in/79cm) that led in a roughly circular chamber (10ft/3m diameter) with a little window on one side; (frames were still in situ in the 1980s), a small fireplace facing the passage, which looks like a later insertion, and a domed brick roof with hexagonal opening and earth covering the dome; the structure a typical of the 1760s and 1770s era and a rare survival in Ulster. Another feature from this phase of the park is the ice house (Listed HB 15/02/016C) which stood concealed in the park under a mound on the edge of another woodland block north-west of the house; it has a brick and rubble vaulted oblong chamber with short vaulted brick-lined passage with eastern facing rubble stone segmental arched opening. The location of the original kitchen garden for the Loughgall Manor in the later-18th century is not yet established; it may be added that the park in the adjoining demesne of Drumilly, part of which is now part of Loughgall Manor, was laid out in much the same time, possibly with same landscape designer. He carefully planted the edge of the lake so that tree screens allowed views across the water from Drumilly House and its approach drives towards the west and north-west. On the opposite shore, where there is a crannog (Scheduled ARM 888:025) and on the east shore a substantial block of woodland which hides the Drumilly walled garden (ARM 008:012), rather confusingly called a bawn, because the walls of the garden are surrounded externally on the east, south and part of the west sides by a narrow slip, 12 to 8ft width, defined by a ha-ha on the outside. The garden, trapezoidal in shape (1.12 acres/0.45ha), with stone rubble walls and flat stone coping, was made in the late 18th century at the same time as Drumilly's landscape park, as evidenced by the fact that the external slips are only present on those sides exposed to the open parkscape. Entrance originally to the garden was through the woods and agate in the north-west side; the present entrance is on the south-west. On the 1830s OS map edition is garden is under orchard, but it was designed and no doubt used originally as a typical kitchen garden for vegetable, fruit and flowers; from the 1990s it has been used as a heritage orchard. There was a small cottage in the wood near the entrance; probably rustic and thatched, and perhaps used as a tea house; it was evidently remodelled prior to 1860, by which time two boat houses had been added to the lake from the Drumilly property. Following the death of Arthur Cope in 1795 the Loughgall property was inherited by Robert Camden Cope, MP (1771-1818), who was an absentee landlord and died young; this son Arthur Cope (1814-1844) did not come of age until 1835, so during this long period from 1795 to 1835 the demesne was managed by the Cope agent, William Harvey and later his son John. This is probably why Coote makes no reference to Loughgall in 1804 nor does Ambrose Leet's 1814 Directory of Noted Places. After Arthur Cope inherited in 1836-36, he set about rebuilding house, yards and lodges. He began with the Manor house in 1836-38, built in a Tudoresque-style (Listed HB 15/02/016A). As the building took place when the first edition OS map was being surveyed neither the old, nor new houses are shown on the map, but Arthur's new house appears to have stood a short distance uphill from the old. The manor building is unexpectedly modest, Brett considered it 'rather dull'; it has a main front of irregular gables, some with bargeboards, rendered with stone dressings; windows with wooden mullions. A short distance north-east of the house a

quadrangular stable was also built in the 1830s, and not too far distant to the east (540ft/165m) a walled garden was built at the same time within what had been open parkscape; it was built of rubble stone with internal brick lining, has a regular long rectangular shape, typical of Victorian walled gardens, with north-south axis, with curved corners at the south; it has a slip enclosing all four walls; three of these slips, on the north, south and west were wide enough to be used as gardens which in this case was 60ft ((18m) wide, save a narrower slip on the east side. A large glasshouse was built against the north wall with potting sheds to the rere and more potting sheds in the south slide in the trees; the slips on the south and west were lined with trees to screen the garden from the park. The glasshouse had been rebuilt by the end of the 19th century; today there is a modern glasshouse here, with further glasshouses in the south and western slip. Arthur Cope final work, before in died in 1844, and his most remarkable legacy, is Loughgall's famous entrance, possibly the work of William Burn, though the architect remains unknown (Listed HB 15.02/002 and 003). It was described by Dean as 'a most striking Neo-Jacobean extravaganza in the form of an extensive gate screen and a pair of elaborate lodges behind' and by Brett as 'an astonishing extravagance of frilly ironwork and stonework' comprising two central piers topped with dragon finials, and wrought-iron carriage and pedestrian gates -'by R. Marshall of Caledon' helpfully dated 1842. An equally elaborate scrolling arch with central lantern originally spanned over the carriage gates, but this removed after it was accidentally hit by a lorry in the 1960s. Behind the screen are two L-shaped single-storey gabled lodges with a remarkable array of Jacobean-inspired detailing, including tapering columns and pilasters, flattened Ionic capitals, and scrolled brackets. The presence on the lodge of the Cope coat of arms crossed with those of Doolan indicates that these lodges were actually finished after Arthur Cope death, when his cousin Robert Wright Cope Doolan (1810-58), inherited the estate and changed his name by deed to Cope. In the 1850s Robert Wright Cope rebuilt the stable yard and altered the house, including adding a porch. Like Arthur Cope, he also died young and was succeeded in 1858 by his son, Francis Robert Cope (1853-1920); his mother Cecilia Philippa Cope (d. 1912) ran the estate with the agent, and having achieving his majority in 1864, her son spent much of his life in England, where he died unmarried in February 1920 (at The Cleavelands, Cheltenham where he lived). In his absence his mother, Mrs Cecilia Cope, invited the Dublin architect Frederick A. Butler to make alterations to the yard in 1874 and around this time made a pleasure ground in the area north of the stable yard and northwest of the walled garden. Within this ground, close to the icehouse, she built a pleasant footbridge (Listed HB 15/02/017) - a single humped masonry bridge with elliptical arch over a roadway cutting with decorative cast iron railing. The path over this bridge, flanked by Irish yews, leads (on the way to the walled garden) to what was once a fine long herbaceous border and then up to the house yards area where ther were round circular beds and exotic trees including a large monkey puzzle and a rockery with a croquet lawn below the house windows. The area still has some god planting including a fine Wellingtonia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*). Loughgall Manor remained a private residence until 1965 when it too was sold to the Ministry of Agriculture. It is used today as a horticultural research centre and plant breeding station. 8:22 enclosure/tree ring? 8:25 crannog in Lough Gall and 8:36 17th century bawn. DAERA private.

**MOYALLON HOUSE, County DOWN (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) D/085
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Victorian parkland, partly walled (53acres/21.3ha) and house (Listed HB 17/01/023A), both with 1790s origin, lying 3 miles (4.7km) south-east of Portadown on the Gilford Road. Lying in the townland of the same name, originally Moyallan, the property should not be confused with Moyallon Grange (Listed HB 17/01/058) and Moyallon Manor immediately to the south. Original house on this site was built in 1794 by Thomas Christie Wakefield (1772-1861), descended from Scottish linen producers whose family established the well known Society of Friends (Quaker) meeting house built in 1781 (Listed HB 17/01/022) a short distance south of the house. This first

house faced east, as it still does, with a small lawn (3.7acres/1.5ha) in front enclosed by narrow screens of trees; further small tree belts extended north of the house and south of its stable yard. Adjoining the road and north of the house lawn, is a long rectangular walled kitchen garden, 0.97 acres (0.39ha); the walls are of stone and unusually high, at least 15ft. The property layout remained much the same when surveyed for the first OS revision in the early 1860s, but following the death of Thomas Christy Wakefield in 1861, the house and park passed to his daughter, Jane (1831-1909) and her husband John Grubb Richardson (1813-90), the owner Bessbrook spinning mills. Two years later both house and grounds were transformed; the house being enlarged and remodelled with wings, possibly by Quaker-architect Thomas Jackson, into the present large two-storey over semi-basement three-bay detached elongated mansion with attic floor and rendered walls. At the same time as this remodelling of the house, the stable yard and outbuildings (Listed HB 17/01/23B) forming a U-shaped complex were only slightly altered, they retain many of the late 18th-century features; however, a new collection of outbuildings were constructed to the south-west of the existing complex in 1863; it may be noted that nearby there is an open barn with a Belfast Truss roof probably of late 19th century date. When the house was remodelled in the 1860s the house it was given a long covered veranda along the front of the house, the heating iron grid of which still remain. This would have been filled with plants and externally would also have supported creepers. This iron-veranda led into a large lean-to conservatory (of wood) abutting the south wing of the house; this was replaced by a large canopied opening by the 1970s and subsequently in the 1990s entirely removed and a flat-roofed extension built in its place. On the garden or west side of the house there was and still remains, a cast-iron walkway at ground floor level above the basement windows, supported on cast-iron columns and accessed by a flight of stairs in the centre and stone steps at the north end, with cast iron balustrade; again this raised balustrade would have been covered in creepers of various kinds and was designed to look out over a formal terraced garden laid out beneath the house windows. This rectilinear terraced garden (the terraces are still present), was divided into three levels and was centrally divided by a broadwalk aligned on the garden front of the house, 373ft (114m) long - beyond which lay the open parkscape which typically for the period and this type of formal garden, was an important backdrop to the original design; indeed, part of the major modifications of the 1860s was to extend the parkland westward and northward to the Bann-river. Pairs of fastigate yews and Wellingtonia trees were planted at the end of the central path west of the house, while today the lawns on each side of this central path have matching pairs of beds filled with small evergreens and heathers. The top terrace was probably originally occupied by a parterre filled with annuals, while the lower terraces are likely to have had more shrubby material, though no doubt also symmetrically laid out. South-west of the dwelling house, and backed by outbuildings, there is an elaborate rockery, a fashionable feature for a mid-Victorian garden. It includes large ovoid lumps of chalk and has a pointed arch and pointed arch recesses. Adjacent to this is a large bed filled with shrubs and rhododendrons. North-west of the house is a lawn with a mature weeping willow and a monkey puzzle tree and an impressive line of Wellingtonia. The rectangular walled kitchen garden (note above) with its high stone rubble walls was given an elegant brick-faced archway for pedestrian access in the north-west wall in the 1860s; also at this time an elaborate potting shed in the form of a decorative, castellated folly building with a corner tower was added to the north-west corner with outline of a pointed arched-opening at high level. Maps show the presence of another tower to the south-west corner of the walled garden, but this seems to have been demolished; both folly features would have served as attractive focal or vista stops in the garden. At this time also a fine two-storey head-gardener's house was built in the east corner, with access to the Moyallan Road. At some stage in the early 20th century the walled garden was reduced in size at the west side, leaving the castellated potting sheds and folly tower in what now became back yards. By the early 1990s the walled garden was no longer cultivated and there were horse jumps in it. The Richardson family vacated the property around 1950 and the furniture auctioned. The building was then leased to the Department of Health and Social Services who used it as a

special care school up until around 1973. After this it was rented for a time and run as a guesthouse and then, having lying vacant for a period, it was re-occupied by the Richardson family in the early 1980s. They converted the south wing to three self-contained apartments in the 1990s. Annual ploughing matches are held on the land. Two gate lodges were added in mid-Victorian era possibly to the designs of Thomas Jackson, the Front Lodge (c.1870) and Rear Lodge (1863) both (Listed HB 17/01/23C & D). Landscape is closely associated with Moyallon Grange to the south, through which there is access. Private.

RAUGHLAN (ROCKLAND), County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) A/031

REGISTERED GRADE B

Small wooded 18th-century demesne (97acres/39.1ha) on a peninsula site along the southern shores of Lough Neagh. 3 miles (5km) north-west of Lurgan and 4.6 miles (7.5km) north-east of Portadown. Formerly known as Rockland, the house (listed HB 14/03/010), is a long relatively low two-storey gabled double-pile south-facing house with rere returns. There is a tradition it began as an early 18th century hunting or fishing lodge for the Brownlow estate, but there is no evidence to support this, nor is there any evidence that a 17th-century dwelling stood here. On architectural grounds the house is largely later 18th century in date with substantial Regency century modifications, such as a bowed entrance bay, door case, Wyatt-windows, roof eaves and decorative chimney-pots. Captain James Forde, who is known to have lived here in 1814, may well have built the house from the 1790s, but has not been proven. There are detached stable and farm rubble-built yard buildings to the west of the house, which appear to also belong to the 1790-1820 era, while north-west of the house is a triangular-shaped walled garden (1.19acres.0.48ha) whose long north-west wall is curved as it follows the old line of the lough; this long wall has brick-lining on its inside, while the other two walls are left as rubble stone. This former garden is now completely covered in woodland; within it, and dating stands a small one and a half-storey square tower, which seems to be shown on the 1830s and 1900s OS maps; it was a rubble-constructed and rendered folly tower with a doorway and small window opening at ground level, and a smaller opening to the upper floor. Possibly this tower served as a vantage point to admire the scenery; it is attached to a high rubble wall, at the west end of which is a smaller single-storey lean-to structure with a doorway to its east side. The ground level of the tower contains a single room with a fireplace opening. A short distance to the north-east of the tower is a mid 20th century wind pump, now disused. The landscape, as shown on the OS 1930s map show the area north of the house to have been designed as an open parkland or lawn, dotted with isolated trees; subsequently this area was the focus of much exotic planting and contains some impressive trees, some rare, including Spanish evergreen oak, weeping ash, beech, copper beech, lime, maple, Mexican Pine, oak, plus a selection of conifers. The house approaches to the south and south-east are informal and pass through woodland. East of the house is a yew with lawn, copper beech and rhododendrons. There is little to indicate any residual features indicating an earlier designed landscape. 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; this former island has an ice house (07743:000:00), probably c.1800 in date, now overgrown, with an opening on the east side leading to a sunken chamber with brick dome. Rockland one had two gate lodges, one at the main entrance off Raughlan Lane, and the other to the south-east, at the junction of Derrymacash-road and Kinnego Embankment. Earthworks. SMR: ARM 6:17. Privately owned.

SCARVA (SCARVAGH) HOUSE, County Down (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) D/057

REGISTERED GRADE B

Late 18th-century parkland (216acres/87.3ha) incorporating early 18th-century formal elements, lying south-east side of Scarva Village and 4 miles (6.4km) south-west of Banbridge. The house (Listed HB 17/03/039A), an extensive and unusual U-shaped 18th-century building, stands prominently on a south-facing ridge with excellent views across parkland to Lough Shark and distant hills beyond. It has two long, low two-storey gabled wings projecting forward to the south from the main block - a long low double-pile block with hipped roof. The walls throughout are largely rendered (most of it recently renewed), slated roof with tall Tudoresque brick chimneystacks. The main block rectangular block was evidently built in the 1730s by John Reilly (or O'Reilly), who inherited the property from his father Myles O'Reilly of Lurgan on his death in 1735; he got married in 1738, perhaps the main stimulus to build. When Harris mentioned the place in 1744 he reported that John had 'a house and good improvements...standing pleasantly on a rising ground near the new [Newry] canal and Scarvagh Bridge' and was making preparations for 'forming a village' near this bridge. John built his house adjacent to the south-east side of a prominent linear Iron-age earthwork, the Dane's Cast (Scheduled DOW 033:020) and created a formal designed landscape around his new house, very clearly evident from residual traces shown on the first edition OS map. This contained a long tree-lined vista (1990ft/606m) aligned on the house front with south-west north-east axis. At right angles to this and the house were two shorter tree-lined vistas, one extending south-east to the road (1400ft/428m) and the other extending north-west (940ft/287m); the latter still survives and is used as an avenue, but originally all three may have just served as vistas rather than avenues. It is not clear where the main entry into the demesne was located in the 18th century, but by the 1830s the only entry was off the old Mill Road, opposite Fir Tree Lane at the corner of the walled kitchen garden; this is lined today with young lime and some old trees; at the entrance are fine stone piers. Although the wings are a later addition, the front court would probably have been part of the original layout with a screen and entrance gates into the court; the grass terraces opposite may also date from this period and have had parterres; the urns in this area however have been brought in from elsewhere subsequently. The property was inherited around 1770 by John Reilly's son, also John Reilly (1745-1804), who as the agent for the Marquis of Downshire did well for himself, becoming MP for Blessington and Chief Commissioner for Public Accounts and married (1773) a co-heiress. His eldest son John Lushington Reilly (1775-1840), who inherited in 1804, seems to have been responsible for remodelling the house and adding the two wings to produce the building we have at present. The house appears in the background of the painting of John Lushington Reilly and his family of 1823 - "The Reilly Family of Scarvagh" by Irish painter Joseph Patrick Haverty; it shows the building much as present on the OS map of 1834, although the Jacobean Style entrance bay is not indicated on either, the painting showing what seems to be a plainer gabled breakfront. Aside from some further work in the 1840s, the house appears to have seen little subsequent external changes until the late 1990s when the wings were converted into separate apartments. The Haverty painting sets the family within a parkland setting, which is correct as it is likely that the park was 'naturalised' in the later 18th century by John Reilly (1745-1804). This work involved planting substantial screens/shelter belts along the entire western perimeter of the park and along the Old Mill Road. Also he put down smaller isolated tree clumps and screens south and south-east of the house, notably alongside streams. Today the parkland boasts many fine mature trees, some of which date from this period and some from the earlier 1730s formal landscape. The park was however known for its elms, all of which have succumbed to disease. There is a huge Spanish or sweet chestnut (*Castanea sativa*) very just south-east of the house, beside the carriage drive (8.46m@0.3m in girth and 13.5m in height), which could date from the 1730s or 1740s; it now called 'King William's Tree', derived no doubt from the 'Sham Fights' that have been hosted here annually commemorating the Battle of the Boyne. The Danes' Cast was also planted

as part of the design with deciduous trees. With the creation of the landscape park a new entrance was also made in the top north corner of the demesne, with an winding avenue passing through the western shelter belts to the house front; this has lime trees and further south, oak. The walled kitchen garden to the north-east of the house appears to belong to the 1770s or 1780s and thus date to the creation of the naturalised parkscape; it has a combination of brick and stone walls, roughly square (2.22 acres/0.9ha) in plan and lies adjacent to the road and back avenue. In 1936 it was described as 'an extensive walled-in Fruit and Vegetable Garden in a good cultivated state. There seems to have been a glasshouse against the outside south-west facing wall of the garden, facing into what was formerly a combination of orchard and garden; this whole area is now covered with buildings, but the walled garden remains intact and is now under grass divided into four quadrants with box-edged paths. The rere gateway here has a modern c.2000 gate screen, but at the roadside next to the gate is a hexagonal WWII pillbox; one of two at Scarva, built to protect the canal approaches. On the north side of the park there is an impressive gate screen (Listed HB 17/03/039B) with rusticated piers created around 1840; the lodge which served this gateway stood on the opposite side of the road and survived (in a greatly altered form as a garage) until c.1997. To the south of this gateway, further along Old Mill Road, is the original northern entrance to the landscape park; the gateway once belonging to this has been removed, but the lodge remains - this is a plain one and a half-storey dwelling with decorative bargeboards, c. 1840, but extended post 1994. SMR: DOWN 33:20. Dane's Cast (scheduled). Private.

STRAW HILL (DONAGHCLONEY), County Down (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 14) D/141

REGISTERED GRADE B

Small but very good quality Mid-Victorian parkland (41.8 acres/16.9ha) on the northern banks of the Lagan River, flanking the north-west side of Donaghcloney village and lying 1.75 miles (2.8km) south-east of Waringstown and 4.6 miles (7.4km) north of Banbridge. In the late 1820s William Nicholson (c.1780-1845), a linen merchant, bought an eleven acres plot on the old Hall-road called 'Straw Hill' with a house, which stood on an elevated site above the river, that was said to date to around 1787. After William Nicholson's death in 1845, the property was inherited by his eldest son, William Nicholson Jnr. (c.1805-70), who around 1846-50 knocked the old 18th-century house down and replaced it with the present Tudor-style villa, renamed 'Donaghcloney House'. The site had previously very few trees and needed a landscape setting. He began by getting permission to re-route the Hall-road from the village to Banoge Mill, by pushing it further north. The park he created looks very professionally designed, so it's highly probable he engaged someone like the garden designer James Fraser to lay out the new landscape. Narrow tree belts were planted around the park's perimeter, isolated trees along the river banks, a small clump at the south-west end to hide the mill and a mixture of small clumps and isolated trees judiciously disposed in the open parkland, many characteristically placed within 300 ft (93m) of the avenue, which crossed the park from the north, where there is also a gate lodge (Listed HB 14/06/004). Much of the planting seems to have taken place in 1851 as a document for that year records about 11,500 trees, including 4000 larch, 1000 each of beech, Scotch fir and spruce, 500 each of Balm of Gilead, Silver fir, 400 oak and 250 each of alder, ash, chestnut, elm, lime, poplar and sycamore. Then there were 100 each of the following—birch, laburnum, mountain ash and willow, 100. A thousand laurels were also planted. Many of the coniferous trees like spruce, firs and larch, would most likely have been used as nurse trees; today's park is mostly deciduous. A square and modestly sized rectangular walled garden (0.68acres/0.28ha) was made behind the house with brick walls and is on two levels with a break running north-east to south-west. It was re-landscaped in the late 1980s with formally laid out paths, lawns and rose beds. Formerly, there was a glass-house in the south-west corner. Outside the west front of the house is a circular forecourt and at the north front a grass triangle. There is a gateway and lodge off the Hill-road on the north (HB 14/06/003B). Private.

**SUMMER ISLAND, County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) A/043
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Late Georgian parkland on gently undulating land (87acres/35ha) with a later Regency house (Listed HB 15/01/001) at Annasamry (summer height), 2 miles (3.3km) south-east of Moy and 5.7 miles (9km) north of Armagh City. Well known for its charming pair of vernacular gothick lodges, c.1790, which give access at Hall's Hill from the south. The park in its present form evidently largely dates to the late 1780s and must have been made for Thomas Clarke (d.1791), whose family had held lands here from at least 1664. The park is depicted with its south avenue and most of its plantations/clumps in place on a map of Annasamry dated 1794 by William Kigan for Thomas Clarke's son William (d. circa 1804). Summer Island (a name that first appears in the 1760s) then passed through William's sister to the O'Donnell family and sold in 1822 to Col. William Verner, who was responsible for re-building the present dwelling around 1825. Verner commissioned the cartographer William Armstrong to produce a map of the demesne in 1822 and this shows the carriage drive meandering axially though the park from the entrance, the shelter belts, woodland blocks and clumps and also a high number of isolated parkland trees dotted about. Many mature deciduous trees survive in today's landscape, both in the open parkscape and woodland. These are mainly oak and beech but also chestnut, lime and ash. The woodland west of the house ('The Jungle') has a mixture of mature deciduous trees (oak mainly) and at the gate lodges end there are screens with very impressive mature lime trees (the woodland here is called Hunter's Grove). As with the shelter belts and screens, the number of isolated mature parkland trees that survives at Summer Island is unusually impressive. The walled garden, not present in 1794, is first shown on Armstrong's 1822 map and there pre-dates Verner's time. No longer cultivated, it occupies a square area (1.24 acres/0.5ha) with north-south sloping ground and enclosing walls of stone and brick elsewhere using English Garden Bond; there are hot wall flues to be seen in places. The west corner is curved and in the apposite corner there is a small brick 'necessary house' or privy with gothick entrance. The top section of the long south-west side of the garden has a low wall surmounted by a good Victorian railing, a feature designed to allow views of the parkland from the walled garden (similar screens are also present at a number of other walled garden and usually date to the 1860s). Elsewhere on this south-west wall and also along the north-east wall of the garden, there is a narrow slip on the outside allowing woody plants to be planted to hide the wall from view. To the rere of the house is a large stable/farmyard and a collection of outbuildings most of which are shown on the 1822 map; the main exception being 20th century open sheds with Belfast Rood Trusses. After Col. Verner's death in 1871, the property was leased by his son, William Verner, to Joseph Atkinson, Jnr., who remained there until 1908 when it was acquired by Edward Cowdy. As mentioned above, there are two matching lodges at the entrance (neither are in use); these were described by JAK Dean as 'The prettiest pair of surviving Georgian Gothick porters' lodges in the Province'. Both the gate lodges and gates are listed (Listed HB 15/01/001). Private.

**TANDRAGEE CASTLE, County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) A/034
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Multi-phased demesne (158 acres/64ha) adjoining the west side of the village of Tandragree and lying 5 miles (8km) south-east of Portadown. The site is dominated by a hilltop with a little valley below on its south side; there has been a fortified residence on this hilltop from at least the 16th century. In 1610 'Tonregie', or Ballymore, was granted to Sir Oliver St. John (d.c.1630), Viscount Grandison, who by 1619 had built a new 'strong and commodious dwelling' set within a 'bawne of lyme and stone', as well as a church, and new houses within the town's 'fair large street'. He also created a deer park, which the 1621 Inquisition referred to as a 'park enclosed with a pale 8 foote in height, containing 300 acres of land', which was 'paled round about three miles compasse'. This deer park, by then walled, still existed in 1750, as shown on a map of that date, with its extensive woodland typically cut through with long vistas or lawns to facilitate hunting. This map

also showed the elaborate formal designed landscape that had by then been created by Tandragee, both around and below the house. This was most undertaken by Sir Oliver St. John who inherited when his father Henry (1628-79) had been killed in 1679 by adherents of the local rebel Redmond O'Hanlon. By 1703 he had castellated the house, itself a replacement for the original house of 1618 and in the early decades of the 18th-century terraced the slopes south of the house, down to a pair of large canals formed out of a stream below. Relics of the lower or eastern canal are still present today in a much reduced and naturalised form (300ft/100m) long and 85ft (25m) wide; originally is lower or east canal, which lay immediately below the house and terraces, was 580ft (177m) long and about 90ft (27m) wide with straight side. Adjoining and on alignment with this was the much larger eastern or upper canal, 740ft (225m) long and 130ft (40m) wide. As was the fashion of the day, both would have had clean straight edges with a fringe of lawn and a footpaths all the way around, possibly also flanking some topiary. The terraces, now covered with trees and later adapted into pleasure grounds in the Victorian era, would originally also have been open with crisp paths, statuary, topiary, balustrades and so forth. Formal parterres would have also flanked the north side of the house with the kitchen garden here too. Oliver died in or before 1743 and was succeeded by Sir Francis St. John, who around 1745 built a new house, with it and its predecessor shown in some detail on a map of 1750; the former a largely one and a half-storey building with crow-stepped half-dormers and a (seemingly) two and a half-storey crow-stepped central entrance bay, the latter a typically mid-Georgian two-storey seven bay residence with a symmetrical frontage with Gibbsian entrance. As Sir Francis had no male heirs, the estate passed to his daughter Mary (c.1715-93) and to her husband Sir John Bernard (c.1695-1766) and then to his grandson, Brigadier-General Robert Bernard Sparrow (1773-1805). It must have been Bernard Sparrow who late the century transformed the deer park into a typical 'naturalised' landscape park, making full use of what was by then well established old woodland in the old deer park; this involved leaving the woods on the west perimeter (where the old deer park wall became the demesne park boundary) and opening up large meadows to the west and south west of the old upper canal, which itself was drained, while the lower canal was naturalised. The large wood on the west side of the park (40 acres/16ha), which borders the Armagh Road, remarkably still survives intact as deciduous woodland and has been continuously under woodland since at least the 17th century. Sadly the other major block of woodland in the park (aside from the wood south of the castle), was destroyed to make way for the golf course. Sparrow's daughter, Millicent (1798-1848), married George Montagu (1799-1845), 6th Duke of Manchester and it was they who demolished the 1740s house and built much of the present castle (Listed HB 15/05/007). Believed to be the work of architect Isaac Farrell of Dublin, this Victorian Baronial castle was largely constructed from 1830-38 for Viscount Mandeville (later the 6th Duke of Manchester). It was extended in the early 1850s by William Montagu (1823-90), 7th Duke, with a large tall five-stage tower-house like block to the south-east complete with corbelled castellations and square bartizan, with a larger but lower two and a half-storey over high basement manor house-like section stretching westwards. Close-by a recessed central bay originally having a conservatory. Also added in 1852 was the main gate to the east of the castle, which opens into The Square; the 'Dark Walk' lime avenue from the house to Town Gate may predate the 1850s however. North of the castle is a large rectangular court (now partly built over) surrounded by two-storey service ranges with the castle itself enclosing the southern side. The yard is entered from the east via a large two-storey gate house with octagonal corner buttresses rising to tall pinnacles with an octagonal turret rising from the north-western corner. To the south and east of the castle the 6th Duke made a balustraded terrace, with the corbelled stone balustrade now partly overgrown; this was part of the transformation of the terraces below into pleasure grounds with inter-linking flights of steps. The walled garden north of the castle was rebuilt in its present form around 1850 by the 7th Duke; it is a rectangular (2.68 acres/1.08ha) with stone walls lined internally with brick, and a slip garden on the north side that was formerly used as the frame yard; this walled garden sits on the site of a larger 18th-century kitchen garden

(5.57 acres/2.25ha) which is shown on the 1st OS map edition to have had a 'hot house' in the centre. Today the walls of the walled garden survive, but since the 1990s the area has been largely covered with an assortment of buildings. William (1823-90), 7th Duke was succeeded by his son, George (1853-92), 8th Duke, and then by his son, William (1877-1947), 9th Duke, who laid out a golf course within the parkland to the south in 1911. The Manchesters sold the contents of the castle in 1925 and vacated the building 1928. It lay empty until WWII when it was occupied by Allied troops, notably the American 6th Cavalry Mechanised Division from September 1943 to May 1944, who were visited there by General George Patton, who was guest of honour at a ball in the castle. By the end of the war, however, it was in a state of disrepair. It and part of the grounds were sold by Alexander (1902-77), 10th Duke in 1955 to three local businessmen who converted a section of the castle to a factory producing fruit juice, later changing to the production of potato crisps, initially within the castle courtyard with a purpose-built factory subsequently constructed to the north. The castle itself was damaged by fire in 1983 and is now largely a shell, although the courtyard buildings to the north remain in use. The southern portion of the demesne remains a golf course, with Tandragee Golf Club securing a lease of the course land in 1949 and buying it outright in 1975. Two 19th century gate lodges remain and the Markethill Road Lodge, is now the entrance to the golf club (Listed HB 15/5/025). SMR ARM 14:13 the castle. Private.

**THE ARGORY, County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) A/002
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Large Regency demesne (308 acres/125ha) and house (Listed HB 15/01/002) on the banks of the River Blackwater, 1.5 miles (3km) north-east of Moy and 8.5 miles (14km) north-west of Portadown. While the park and its gardens, now in the care of the National Trust, were created for the present house of 1819-24, there was an earlier house in the demesne south side of the public road - a substantial two-storey gabled vernacular dwelling (Listed HB 15/01/005) with a moulded stone entrance architrave bearing a '1698' date stone. It is believed to have been built by the Nicholson family, who held the townland of Derrycaw until it was acquired in 1740 by Joshua McGeough of Drumsill House near Armagh; after this, the Nicholson's continued to occupy the house as stewards of the estate and indeed, it still known today as the Stewart's House. The McGeough family never have intended to live at Derrycaw and the land along the river seems to have been largely woodland, as indicated by the sale in August 1808 of 'several thousands of oak and elm trees, some of which are large sized, together with a great quantity of ash, birch and alder'. While it was family circumstances that propelled Walter McGeough, later McGeough Bond, to commission the otherwise unknown architects, Arthur & John Williamson, of Armagh in 1819 to build what turned out to be an atypical Greek Revival house, the actual choice of location in an attractive position overlooking the river may well have been encouraged by the tree felling of 1808 opening up new views of the river. The Williamson's were probably related to the famous architect Francis Johnson, and the new house, built of Caledon sandstone, has elements of his style and indeed the style of Thomas Duff who was the executant architect and clerk of works. The house as built was an oblong seven-bay two-storey block, its original entrance with its distinctive tripartite door facing west; the main entrance however was shifted in the 1830s and the house enlarged in 1871 (this extension was rebuilt after a fire in 1898). An extensive complex of outbuildings were also added north of the house in 1820, dominated by a large cupola with a decorative weathervane and a turret clock, the latter by Waugh & Son of Dublin. The inner walls of these ranges are in brick, the outer walls a combination of squared stone and brick. The eastern or 'Fold Yard' is entered via a large elliptical carriage arch which is topped with a cornice, blocking course and ornamental urn. The western or 'Laundry Yard' originally had a pond in the centre and a structure with a curved wall to the eastern side which housed a pumping arm. This eastern side was altered in 1906 with the installation of the acetylene gas plant. To the south of the stable block is the larger 'Coach Yard'; its iron and glass porte-cochère is a late Victorian

addition. To north of the outbuildings are the main pleasure grounds, designed as a kitchen garden by the Williamsons as part of the overall architectural scheme. It is rectangular with a gently curving rampart wall at the far end overlooking the river; the walls terminate each end with charming pavilions with overhanging pyramidal roofs - a 'Pump House' and a 'Garden House' (originally the head gardener's house). Both these and ramparts are faced with rockface quoins. In the 1850s the kitchen garden was re-located to the east (see below) and the garden made into an informal pleasure grounds. The formally trained yew arbour in the centre seems to be an original feature which was retained *in situ*. Otherwise it became a more conventional Victorian pleasure garden we see today with herbaceous borders, a tulip tree and a well-placed Cedar of Lebanon; outside are oaks, hornbeam and rhododendrons. Adjacent to the north of the house is another garden designed as part of the original scheme, the 'sundial garden' probably a combined vegetable and cut flower garden; it now has old roses behind clipped box-hedged paths. The gates are original and is the sundial; it is by Lynch & Sons, Dublin, dated 1820. In the woods to the east an ice belongs to the 1820s. The walled kitchen garden, which lies 350m east of the house, was built in the 1850s to replace the terraced garden behind the house yards. It is rectangular with brick walls (0.68acres/0.28ha) with a small yard to the north and was enclosed outside on its west, south and east sides, by a very narrow slip, 5m (15ft) wide. It is still used by the National Trust. There are fine well designed walks around the parkland and woods; beyond the west lawn of the house the ground slopes down to the riverside lime walk, whose pollarded limes are underplanted with daffodils. This leads onto a circuit walk which meets the main avenue. To the south of the lime walk there is a good stand of oak. An ilex avenue leads to the walled garden. Two original gatelodges survive, namely 'Derrycaw Lodge' and 'Stonefield Lodge' (Listed HB 15/01/003); both a very similar and both apparently designed by Thomas Duff of Newry and built around 1835. Walter Albert Nevill MacGeough Bond, who inherited the property in 1945, who gave both the building and the demesne to the National Trust in 1979. Public access.

**THE MALL (ARMAGH), County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) A/013
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Long established as a unique urban space, The Mall or 'Commons' of Armagh is arguably the oldest designed recreation park in Ireland outside Dublin. It lies 0.2 miles (0.3km) north-east of the old cathedral and takes the form of an ellipse or flat-oval area (10.3 acres/4.1ha) with north-west south-east axis, measuring 453m (1485ft) long and 127m (415ft) across the centre. The area is almost flat and is surrounded by a low boundary wall in limestone rubble (Listed HB 15/17/001), which itself is enclosed by a road on a slightly higher level, the latter flanked by town buildings, mostly residential on the east, commercial on the west and with the old goal at the south end and the Sessions House at the north end. Marked as 'The Old Common' on Rocque's Armagh Map of 1760, it is sometimes also referred to as the 'ancient commons', but it has not been established how ancient it is; however, it appears to have served as a common or waste ground in the 17th century. Corporation minutes show that it was being used as a racecourse in 1731 with the appointment then of a 'Clerk of ye course' and twenty years later, the City Corporation enclosed the area with a ditch and hedge in the form of the familiar ellipse it has assumed ever since. The ground appears to have been drained at this time, the west end being swampy ground, and the area levelled and lowered inside the race-track, now the surrounding road. It is depicted on Rocque's 1760 map as 'Horse Course' with the starting and winning posts on the west side and a large steep-sided mound (marked 'Rich Hill') at the south-east end, perhaps a viewing platform for the racing; this was replaced by the County Gaol in 1780, Often accompanied by other gambling activities, the racing was terminated by Archbishop Robinson around 1770 'as unbefitting to an ecclesiastical capital' and moved to another location. In 1773 an Act of Parliament was passed to enable the sovereign (Lord Mayor) and burgesses of the city to transform the area for 'useful purposes'. However, not until William Newcombe (1729-1800) succeeded as Archbishop (in 1795) that the Common was leased (in 1797) to the sovereign and burgesses in order for them to make

a public walk. Subscription money was raised and the 'walks were promptly ditched in, gravelled, and encompassed with a plantation of elm, larches &c' in 1799 for what now became known as 'The Mall'. At the entrances in front of Barrack-street and College-street, neatly constructed walls 'adorned with iron gates of good workmanship and pleasing form' were erected, while around the perimeter 'a very fine mall or terrace' was built with a dwarf rubble wall 'coped with cut stone' within which was 'a neat gravel walk, encompassing a lawn'. The trees were planted in a double row and comprised beech, elm, sycamore and possibly oak, shown graphically on James Black's 1810 painting 'View of Armagh'. They survived for much of the 19th century, but were gradually replaced, notably after storms in 1893-94. Today there are over two hundred trees around The Mall perimeter, predominately lime (*Tilia x europaea* and *Tilia Cordata*); horse chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*), Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and a lesser number of other species. The surrounding paths, which now have a bonded sand coloured resin based surface, were formerly of gravel, while a transverse path known as 'The White Walk' was added in 1836 to facilitate a short cut from Charlemont Place to Russell Street; this has iron railing and four-centred arch lamp holders added in the 1870s. There are wrought iron gates and railings at each end of the Mall; those at the north-west end have elaborate piers inside the gate is a date-stone of 1798 and nearby an inscription 'Fur 4 P.O', indicating the distance of the circumference in furlongs. In the 19th century the enclosed grassland was used as a hay meadow, to help with its upkeep, while part of the area was also used for cattle grazing in that part of the green known as The North Meadow. In August 1854 the Mall provided the venue for the Royal Agricultural Improvement Society of Ireland's National Cattle Show, an event that was of great importance to the city at the time. Aside from hay and cattle, the green of the Mall has been the setting for many forms of public entertainment, sport and military parades. Football was played here until the 1890s and cricket was a regular feature from 1853; the Armagh Cricket Club, formed in 1859, was allowed to move to The Mall from the Palace Demesne in 1861. The club built its first pavilion in The Mall in 1911 and in 1969 the present pavilion was erected. The only other buildings in The Mall are various memorials and sculptures; the oldest of these is a memorial to the Crimean War commemorated by a cannon captured during the siege of Sebastopol in 1854. Opposite this on the White Walk, is the 1906 South African Campaign Memorial, commemorating men of the Royal Irish Fusiliers who died in the Boar War (1899-1902); this takes the form of a statue of a capless bugler standing on a boulder by the Irish sculptor, Kathleen Trousdell Shaw (1865-1958). Opposite the Court House is the 1914-18 Great War Memorial (Listed HB 15/17/22), a bronze female figure of Mourning Victory personifying 'Peace with Honour' made in 1926 by the London sculptor, Charles L. Hartwell (1873-1951). It stands on a raised granite paving (1990-91) with large iron urns on stone plinths at each corner; German field guns used to flank this memorial until they were removed for scrap iron in the early years of WW2. At the south-east end of the Mall is a bronze sculpture, 'Turning Point' - a piece of art in its own right and not a commemorative work. It is of a 2.5 metre diameter bronze globe with four supporting figures, two male and two female, by the Northern Ireland artist Brian Connolly. It was commissioned during the 1990s and installed here in 2012 from its original location in Belfast. In 2003 an HLF funded restoration of the park was undertaken on behalf of Armagh City and District Council; this involved resurfacing all the paths and edgings, installing new street furniture and lighting, among other works.

THE OBSERVATORY (ARMAGH), County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) A/032

REGISTERED GRADE B

The grounds for the Observatory comprise a small landscape park, originally 12.2 acres (4.94ha), but now reduced to 8.2 acres (3.3ha). The Observatory building and astronomer's residence (Listed HB 15/03/003) were built in 1798-93 on a hilltop just north of the Royal School on the north-west fringe of the city. Designed by Francis Johnson, this was Primate Robinson's last public

building scheme for Armagh and was conceived by him both as being part of an attempt to establish a university in the city as well as an adornment to its environs. It is a neat two-storey over half-basement, three-bay, double-pile, gable-ended classical building of coursed rubble, probably originally rendered, which is entered on the north side through a projecting Tuscan style limestone porch with block parapet and cornice; the south front is dominated by a copper-domed three-storey observatory turret placed centrally in the elevation. The building was set in an austere parkland with woodland screens on the north, south-west and to the west of the buildings, the latter with an ice-house. There was one carriage drive - this sweeps steeply uphill from the road to the south-west to the entrance on the north side of the building. At the carriage drive entrance is an attractive single-storey gate lodge with hipped roof c.1791, also by Francis Johnston and extended c.1963; unusually, the lodge projects beyond the line of the gate screen out onto the roadside. There was no pleasure ground as such, but there were walks through the shelter belts, one of which survives. A small stable yard and adjacent walled kitchen garden, 0.8 acres (0.3ha) were located in the south-east corner of the park; these were largely demolished around 1940 and the rest swept away to accommodate the Planetarium in 1965-7, designed by G.P. and R.H. Bell; only small sections of rubble walling remain. In 1827 a free-standing observatory tower was erected east of the house, also probably designed by Johnston, and now houses a 15-inch reflector, this being the first telescope designed by the famous Irish optician Thomas Grubb (1800-78). The tower was linked to the main block in 1835 by a wing designed by William Murray and further modified in 1841. South of the lodging a free-standing observation dome was built in 1885 to house the [Rev. Thomas Romney] Robinson Memorial Telescope; made of cast-iron and wood with a felt-covered paper mâché dome, this has been cited as a very early example of a prefabricated building (Listed HB 15/16/004). In 1929 much of the parkland on the south-west (3 acres/1.2ha) was sold for the building of the Armstrong Primary School by James St John Phillips (Listed HB 15/16/021), but the rest of the original parkscape survives, complete with its fine mature trees. 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 200th anniversary of the foundation of the Observatory, as was also the Lindsay Sundial Garden on the north side of the house. The lodging continued in use as an observatory *and* home for successive Astronomers and Directors and their families until 1989, when the Director moved to another house in Armagh, allowing staff to move into the former domestic rooms. Private. Public access to grounds during office hours.

THE PALACE (ARMAGH), County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) - A/029

REGISTERED GRADE A

The Archbishop's Palace walled demesne occupies 348 acres (141ha) on the south perimeter of the City of Armagh, the grounds now belonging to the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Council who use the palace of 1768-75 and stable yard for office accommodation. The palace and its demesne owe their existence to Archbishop Richard Robinson (1708-1794), who, following his elevation to the Primacy of Armagh in 1765, demanded a residence in Armagh appropriate to his status; his predecessors had resided mainly in the palace in Drogheda, while the see house in English Street, had fallen into disrepair. Accordingly, in 1769 an Act of Parliament was passed for the enclosure of a demesne incorporating the townlands of Parkmore, Drumarg and part of Ballnaone, church property that fittingly included the remains of the Franciscan friary, founded in 1263, whose impressive ruins now lie at the entrance to the demesne (ARM 012:016). The building of the palace in the centre of the demesne on a height overlooking the city had already begun by 1768, if not earlier, for by February 1769 Robinson 'hath already erected and covered in the shell of a house for himself and his successors'. The building (Listed HB 15/18/016), a chase but dignified classical block of nine bays and four bays deep, was originally of two-stories over a high rusticated basement, but it was subsequently raised in 1825 by Francis Johnson, who also

added a porch. The original palace building, completed in 1775 at a cost of £10,322 17s 9d was evidently the work of Dublin architect George Ensor, but the Sardinian architect, Davis Ducart may also have been involved. Lying on slightly higher ground 93 yards (85m) to the west is the cobbled stable yard - a two-storey Palladian quadrangle built at the same time as the palace (Listed HB 15/18/018), probably also by Ensor; it was burnt in 1859 and rebuilt with a few additions by the Belfast architect W.J. Barre. Also in the 1770s an icehouse was built in the woods behind the yard (Listed HB 15/18/015), while between the house and yard a chapel for the Archbishop was erected in 1781 of ashlar limestone in the form of a classical Roman temple to a design by the English architect Thomas Cooley (Listed HB 15/18/017); the Primate's Chapel was completed by Francis Johnston after Cooley's death in March 1784 (chapel deconsecrated in 1977). The Clerk of Works for the construction of buildings 'in and about the demesne' at this time was Euclid Alfrey and William Johnston (father of Francis); in addition to the house, yards and chapel, their work will have included the 48m high eye-catcher Rokeby Obelisk (Listed HB 15/18/021), erected in 1782-83 on a hill 0.6 miles (0.9km) south-east of the palace; designed by Thomas Cooley from a sketch by John Carr of York, this obelisk was built to commemorate the friendship between Archbishop Robinson, by then raised as the first Baron Rokeby and Hugh Percy, the first Duke of Northumberland (1714-1786), who as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland had appointed him to the Primacy. The Obelisk was originally set on the north side of a small woodland plantation atop the hill in a carefully designed parkscape laid out in the Reptonian Picturesque manner then popular. The landscape designer is not known, but he made skilled use of the undulating landscape by setting the palace in sweeping open meadows ('lawns') with isolated trees, clumps, belts and perimeter screens - all of which were judiciously laid out so as to enjoy fine views of the city and its cathedral both from the palace and from a network of walks and drives which meandered their way through surrounding meadows and shelter belts. The planting in the park seems to have been nearly all undertaken in the 1770s; a report of 1775 says that young trees to the value of £283 6s 3d had then been planted in the demesne; the species were mostly beech and ash, but also included sycamore, chestnut, lime, ash and elm; remarkably, the woodland and screen boundaries then established remained unaltered into the mid-20th century. When Arthur Young visited in 1776 he admired the 'large lawn' around the palace, which 'spreads on every side over the hills, and skirted by young plantations, in one of which is a terrace, which commands a most beautiful view of cultivated hill and dale.' Inglis visited the park in 1834 and found it '... in excellent order ... laid out with much taste'. At a slightly later date, probably in the 1780s, the main Newtownhamilton road was diverted westward to its present course (A29/B31) to expand the parkland; it notable that much of the parkland planting lies east of the old line of this road. Within this area lies the architecturally notable Palace Farm (Listed HB 15/19/013), erected in the 1790s, probably to a design by Francis Johnson, 0.3 miles (0.5km) south-west of the palace. Enclosed by open parkland, with flanking tree screens each side, this yard comprises a large and pleasantly designed quadrangle fronted by twin farmhouses; it was admired by Sir Charles Coole in 1804, who remarked that 'his grace's farmyard, implements of husbandry and mode of culture, afford a bright example to the gentry'. Invariably, demesne farm buildings were located conveniently to the walled garden; however, here the walled garden, which was built for kitchen produce (vegetables, flowers, fruit) in the 1770s lay in the north of the demesne where it was characteristically carefully screened with trees from the parkland. It occupied a large rectangular stone walled area (440ft/121m x 440ft/134m) covering 4.25 acres (1.72ha), which was typically divided by paths into four quadrant sections with a circular pond in the centre. The walled slip gardens lay on its north and east sides; one of these areas, the frame yard, is known in 1863 to have included three 'Green Houses', two 'Vine Pits'; a 'Vinery'; 'Fruit House'; 'Mellon Pit' and 'Mushroom Pit' in addition to offices and a 'cole pit'. One of the other walled slip enclosures was made into a pleasure garden, known as 'Lady Anne's Garden', laid out in box-edged rose beds; it was entered via a fine wrought iron gate, c.1840 and named after a sister (died 1842) of Lord John George de la Poer Beresford, Primate from 1822 to 1862. All these slip gardens were removed in

the 1950s and are now covered by car parks, while the walled garden area itself has been used since the 1970s by Armagh Rugby Club; its enclosing walls were partly cleared at this time although much of the walling to the east and north has survived, along with a section to the south. North of the walled garden lies the old head gardener's residence/aka Frazer House (Listed HB 15/18/014), a relatively large two-storey gables house built sometime around 1790; currently this is used to house the planning, and births marriages and deaths registry office. Significantly perhaps, the ruins of the adjacent friary were not incorporated into the landscaped parkland in the 1770s, but rather left obscured behind a wall and within an orchard (it may be noted that in 1557 the friary then had its own orchard and garden). Indeed, stones from the friary were robbed to build walls in the demesne in the 1760s and 1770s and not until the early Victorian era that it became a romantic ruin in the park; by 1888 Bassett referred to 'the picturesque effect of the immediate surroundings' [of the friary] being 'heightened by splendid Irish yews and stately forest trees'; some of these yews are still present in this area and there is a wall with a high arch opening onto the friary church at its west end. The present public entrance to the demesne lies a short distance from these ruins; this dates from the building of the 'Friary Road' by-pass in the early 1970s, which removed the northern perimeter tree belts of the park and resulted in the demolition of the main 18th century gate lodge and the movement of the Cooley-designed limestone entrance gates piers - effectively cutting the palace demesne off from the city. The damage was made worse by the later building of the large unsightly Armagh City Hotel (2006), which now dominates much of what used to be the north-east part of the parkland. Of the three former gate lodges into the park, only one is now extant, that on south of the demesne from the Newtownhamilton Road (not listed). The enclosing wall of the demesne, which unfortunately has been damaged, removed and lowered in a number of places, was largely built in the 1770s on the north, east and south sides, while the wall flanking the later section on the west was constructed between 1803-05 at a cost of £3,233 10s 8d, by Archbishop William Stuart. Unlike many large contemporary parks, no lake was made in the Primate's Demesne, but below the palace meanders a stream north to south through the park; in the 19th century some small weirs were built on the stream to enliven its water and so add to its picturesque effect, while it was crossed by a number of small bridges, some relics of which still remain. There is no historic arboretum in the park, but from the mid-19th century a number of exotic trees, including sequoia, were planted around the palace and on its approaches; since the 1960s the council have added to this collection. South-west of the palace a small ornamental garden was made around the mid-19th century, which is overlooked by a fine metal curvilinear lean-to glasshouse of c.1860 with heating pipes (Listed HB 15/18/020); in section it is quadrant shaped with recesses, possibly for pots, along the base of the wall. The building contained vines and shelving for pots and is now used to grow flowers for Armagh City and District Council. The associated garden has stone-edged paths, flowering shrubs, including magnolia, topiary and stone urns. Close by on the south side of the palace is a 20th century garden with stone sundial, clipped box hedges and a 'Garden of the Senses' created in the 1990s. The main house remained the archbishop's palace until 1975 when a see house was built beside the cathedral. The palace and the core of the demesne were conveyed to Armagh City and District Council two years later and since 1981 the palace has been used as their offices with the service drive becoming the main entrance. The palace outbuildings have become a visitors' centre—'The Palace Stables'—with an adventure playground made beside the public car park to the west, all concealed in woodland, however the car park for the council office was less well concealed. In 2015 improvements were made to the front sweep of the palace, removing unsightly fencing and confining cars to a relatively discrete car park north-west of the house. Separate from council ownership is a golf course which occupies 126 acres (51ha) of the north-east section of the parkland. This had its origin in 1893-94 when a golf course was established here, but unfortunately in 1975 what had been previously a discretely laid out course was dramatically remodelled and extended to eighteen holes, resulting in the removal of much of the park's 18th century south-eastern woodland belts but also saw the planting of extensive

fairway screens of fir, which are not only out of character with the original park scheme but block the historic vistas south; however, the golf course remains part of the registered area in the hope that this damage can be reversed at some stage in the future. SMR ARM 12:16 Franciscan Friary ruins, ARM 12:017 St Bridget's Holy Well. Public access to part of the grounds.

**TYNAN ABBEY, County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) A/035
REGISTERED GRADE A***

Outstanding demesne parkland of 585 acres (237ha), noted for its fine trees. Its house is now gone, having been gutted by fire in 1981 and subsequently demolished in 1988. The demesne lies over a mile (2km) south Caledon Village on the east bank of the River Blackwater, contiguous to the south-east side of Caledon demesne and south of the Cortynan Road and the former railway line (Portadown and Cavan Branch Line, GNR). There are at least two crannogs in the lake (formerly 16 acres/6.6ha extent) at Tynan suggesting an importance in medieval times, but there was no abbey here, the name being an early 19th century romantic invention. The first recorded house here, which belonged to a Captain Manson, dates to the 1680s and was known as 'Fairview'; it was described by Ashe in 1703 as a modest two-storey "very pritty house, well tymber'd and regularly built". The property passed through marriage into the Stronge family in 1747 and is believed on the basis of a datestone to have been re-modelled in 1750. No relics of this house or of an associated early formal landscape have been identified. Some of the present naturalised landscape park may belong to the later 18th century, but for the most part it evidently belongs to the late Regency, 1810-22, when the house was remodelled for Sir James Stronge, 2nd Bt. (1786-1864) in a Tudor-Gothic style, almost certainly by English architect, John Nash, (1752-1835) who was also involved at Caledon at this time. That house faced east, while on the north side it looked out onto a shrubbery laid out in geometric patterns, removed by the 1850s; a ballaun stone of possible Early Christian date (ARM 015:045) may have originally been moved here to form a focal point of this garden. The south or garden front of the house, which boasted a conservatory and an open loggia of the kind often favoured by Nash, looked down upon a series of grass terraces with the parkland and its lake beyond. These terraces were later planted (probably in the 1840s) with box edged beds, planted annually for colour (geraniums and begonias), and clipped yews (in domes) running the whole terrace length with fastigate Irish yews at each end; these yews still remain. At the west end of these terraces an Early Christian High Cross, c.700-900 AD was moved here in 1844 from Tynan Churchyard (scheduled ARM 015:001); it originally came from the nearby Glenarb monastic site. In the mid-1860s the Newry architect W.J. Barre (1830-67) undertook further 'extensive alterations and additions' to Tynan Abbey for Sir James Stronge, 3rd Bt. (1811-85), notably removing Nash's orangery and raising that section on the south elevation with gables; in 1877 W.H. Lynn did some further work to the house. The stable yard (Listed HB 15/11/001), which lies detached from the house, 100m (330ft) north-west, is a collection of four, largely stone-built early 19th century ranges, possibly by Nash, mostly with slated hipped roofs, linked to form an attractive quadrangle. Since the 1981 loss of the main house this yard has served as the residence, the latter being focussed in the south range where it incorporates the former head gardener's house, a tall cube-like three-storey dwelling house with an almost pyramidal oversailing roof rising to a central brick chimneystack. This building was flanked by glasshouses; to its east a lean-to conservatory and to its west a vinery, 82 ft/25m long which contained hot wall flues, demolished in the 1990s. This area is now occupied by a modern house conservatory and a storage building. These face south onto the original 18th century walled garden (not listed), a short-rectangular area (1acre/0.4ha) with enclosing stone walls, stepped to accommodate the slope on the south side, with internal brick lining (garden Flemish Bond) with ashlar block coping on the west side only. This enclosure, which in the late 19th century/early 20th century appears to have contained an ornamental garden, is now covered by a mowed lawn, save for a gravel terrace in front of the residence. To the west lies a second adjoining walled garden, rectangular in shape (0.9 acres/0.35ha) added in the 1840s (replacing an orchard) and this

garden was originally devoted entirely to fruit, flowers and vegetable produce. It has uncoursed stone walls with no internal brick lining and is now entirely under grass; a few apple, pear and plum trees remain. The north facing wall of this enclosure boasted a lean-to orchard house (100ft/32m long), now demolished, close to which, an attractive horse-shoe shaped entrance with cut-stone surround, leads to the former frame yard to the north. To the north-west of the main house site in the woods is an ice house, probably of early 19th century date (not listed). The walled garden and yards appear to have been designed as an integral part of the parkland design, and it is this parkland rather than any buildings that makes Tynan Abbey of outstanding heritage value. The parkland was professionally designed, possibly by the landscape gardener John Sutherland, who was responsible for the adjoining park at Caledon. No doubt the trees were supplied by a large nursery on the south side of the demesne in Coolkill; covering 17 acres (7ha) this was operated from at least 1806 by one Robert Neilson, but by 1844 had been taken over by George Clarke, a Drogheda nurseryman, but must have closed within ten years for by 1858 the area was integrated into the parkland. This parkland comprises thick woodland belts enclosing expansive open meadows dotted with clumps and isolated trees in the fashion of the Reptonian Picturesque. The ground undulates and there are excellent views to the lake in the centre of the park and beyond to distant woodland. To provide enjoyment of these views, the park was traversed by circuit drives and aside from a separate entrance to the stable yard, it was also crossed by three entrance carriage drives, one from the north; one from the south (disused) and one from the south-east off the Coolkill Road. The latter entrance ensemble (Listed HB 15/11/002), known as the Ballindarrang or Castle Lodge, is one of the most dramatic demesne entrance gates in Ulster. Probably designed by John Nash, c.1810, it comprises a large battlemented structure incorporating a square turret, polygonal tower and a double 'portcullis' gate in Tudor archway. The Lemnagore Lodge on the north (Listed HB 15/11/030) is a gabled one-and-a-half-storey 'stockbroker Tudor' lodge in the Picturesque manner, rebuilt c.1850 with adjacent limestone piers, the latter probably designed by Lynn in 1877 (Listed HB 15/11/031). The south lodge (Abbey Lodge), which lies close to the former nursery, is a two-storey gabled limestone building, probably designed by Barre in the 1860s (not listed). The park contains an unusually large number of mature deciduous trees both in the woodlands, screens and open parkscape. These include many oaks, mostly *Quercus robur*, some of which are of very considerable size; one of these in the park is currently designated the Irish height champion (77m x 5.90m girth); some others measure 26.5m x 7.25m and 24m x 8m girth. The park also boasts some large ash trees (*Fraxinus excelsior*) including the largest in Ireland (27.8m x 7.20m girth); another very close to the latter measures 17m x 6.03m. There are also some very large European larch (*Larix decidua*), one measuring 28.5m x 4.52m girth. Other large trees in the park include a Morinda Spruce (*Picea smithiana*) 30.5m x 3.55m; a Sitka Spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) 44.3m x 4.72m; a Giant Sequoia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*) 42m x 7.92m; an Indian Bean Tree (*Catalpa bignonioides*) 8.2m x 1.62m and the largest Phellodendron in Ireland (*Phellodendron amurense* var. *sachalinense*), 13m x 1.64m girth. There is also an enormous Portugal Laurel (*Prunus lusitanica*) 13m x 2.67m, reckoned the Irish girth champion and second tallest in Ireland. In the early 1840s the Ulster Canal was built through the western fringe of the demesne and a decade later the Portadown and Cavan Branch Railway (later part of Great Northern Railway) was built through the north part of the demesne (closed 1953). Along the bank of the disused canal is a row of twelve very impressive Sweet Chestnut trees (*Castanea sativa*), one of which 18m high with girth of 6.66m; no doubt these were planted shortly after the canal was dug. The building of the canal may have been the stimulus to undertake further improvements in the park, for around this time an additional network of demesne paths was laid out, notably in the area south and south-west of the walled garden; one of these, immediately south of the walled garden, known as the 'Abbot's Walk' is lined on one side with Irish fastigate yews which have grown to enormous sizes. On the south side is beech backed by laurel and along the western wall of the garden is a row of large lime trees. The Early Christian High Crosses were also brought into the park at this time; one of

these from the ecclesiastical site of Glenarb, Co. Tyrone, was placed on the main avenue north of the house known as the 'Well Cross' as it is set on a vault over a spring (scheduled ARM 11:013). Another stone cross, also from Glenarb, known as the 'Island Cross' (scheduled ARM 15: 002), is placed on what was an island in the lake, but due to the lowering of the water level is no longer an island. There was a boat house on the south shore of this lake in late Victorian times, but generally from the mid-19th century onwards, the park remained remarkably unaltered. Like many demesnes it was occupied by troops during World War Two and several structures from this period have survived, including a small Nissen hut just north of the stable yard, and several larger Nissen type buildings east of the drive, possibly used for vehicles. Tynan Abbey itself was gutted by fire in January 1981 in the wake of a terrorist attack which witnessed the murder of its owner, Sir Norman Stronge, and his son, James. Its ruined shell stood until November 1998, when, for reasons of public safety, it was demolished. The foundations of the house remain, along with a small section of the south side wall, a courtyard gateway to the north, and the (partially reconstructed) main entrance.

Designated an ASSI in March 2010 with Caledon. 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.

**UMGOLA HOUSE, County Armagh (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) A/036
REGISTERED GRADE B**

A small villa park of 7 acres (2.9ha) lying 0.3 miles (0.5km) west of the Palace Demesne in Armagh, north of the Monaghan Road with modern housing estates flanking its north and east sides. It has a very well maintained garden and is surrounded by mature trees. This villa (Listed HB 15/19/14 – includes a conservatory and glasshouse, gates and railings) is a substantial late-Victorian polychrome brick Freestyle mansion, built in 1890-1, possibly by J.H. Fullerton of Armagh, for John Compton, who had purchased the Umgola Damask Weaving Factory in 1882. It has bracketed eaves, and gables with elaborate 'fretwork' bargeboards. The house was extended in 1905, including a new entrance and porch to the south garden front and a fine iron-framed conservatory by Phillips & Sons of Belfast, the plans of which survive; this has a curved roof with somewhat exotic pointed dome entrance bay with coloured glass panes and a classical door case with pediment. The long line of greenhouses to the south-west of the house, containing vines and peaches, and the smaller (now demolished) one to the east were added in 1912. North of the garden is a large L-shaped two-storey brick-built stable yard and a pair of attractive semi-detached houses (probably for coachman and gardener), all contemporary with the main house. South of the house in the trees is a small square brick summer house with slated pyramidal roof, c.1912. One or two original features of the gardens 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. The main entrance to the garden has pair of square stone piers with pyramidal caps and decorative iron gates. Originally this entrance opened directly off Monaghan Road, however the road was redirected roughly 25m southwards in the later 1900s.

**WARINGSTOWN HOUSE, County Down (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE and CRAIGAVON 03) D/067
REGISTERED GRADE A**

The demesne grounds here have their origin in the mid-17th century and are relatively modest in extent (Registered area is 87 acres/35ha), considering the considerable architectural importance of this house (Listed HB 14/06/001). This was built in 1664-66 on rising ground (apparently on the site of a rath) by William Waring (1619-1703), a linen and textile merchant, who also built the nearby Holy Trinity Church 'roofed with Irish oak' (1681) and founded the village, formerly Clanconnel, on lands previously owned by the Maginis family. 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 rear. 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 are of early or mid-18th 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. Samuel Waring M.P. (1660-1739) who succeeded his father in 1703 and successfully introduced linen manufacture to the town (he also co-founded the Irish Linen Board in 1710), modified and expanded the grounds into a formal or geometrical layout then popular. Full details of this layout have yet to be ascertained, but it is known to have contained some fine trees; indeed, Waring prided himself on his arboreal and horticultural experiments and wrote what is believed to be the earliest work on silviculture to be published in Ireland (1705): *A Short Treatise of Fri-Trees containing Plan and Particular Directions (with Observations) for Planting and improving thereof*, published anonymously in Dublin and dedicated to Waring's patron, James Butler, 2nd Duke of Ormonde (1665-1745). Some of Waring's plantings were noted by the Rev. John Dubourdieu in 1802 in his *Statistical Survey of the County Down*, observing 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 lost in the Big Wind of January 1839, when it was reported that 'a row of noble beeches were prostrated'. Lewis in 1837 mentions the 'ancient and flourishing forest trees' that then existed, which must also have been part of the early layout. Samuel's eldest son and heir, Samuel Waring (1697-1793), replaced much of the old formal layout with a naturalised landscape parkland in the fashion of the day, evidently in the 1760s/1770s; this new parkland, of modest size, contained ornamental grounds south-west and south of the house and flanked on the south by a large 'lawn' or open parkland meadow (16.6 acres/6.7ha) which was delimited by perimeter tree screens (c.40 feet/12m wide) along-side the road on the north-east (Banbridge Road) and south-east (Clare Road); a rath (scheduled, Down 020:091), surmounted with trees, was left as a feature within this lawn. A further meadow (11.6 acres/4.7ha) was also then created at on the south-west side, delimited on all sides by broad tree belts. In the late 19th century this park was further extended to the south with the creation of an open meadow (10.5 acres/4.2ha) enclosed by trees belts and flanking the Clare Road. A kitchen garden (2.5 acres/1ha) was made around 1770 north-west of the house and approached by a straight walk (about 290 feet/90m long) from the house court; the garden was enclosed by clipped beech hedges rather than walls and was divided equally into an orchard (east side) and productive garden (west side); the area is presently covered with trees and scrub. The 'pleasure grounds, gardens and shrubberies' lying south-west of the house were described by Lewis in 1837 as 'extensive and kept in the best order', while the Ordnance Memoirs, also written in the 1830s, noted that the pleasure grounds here included an 'ornamental ground very tasteful' and a flower garden 'reckoned the best in the county'. Within the pleasure grounds to the west of the house there is still 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 pleasure 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 tree collection in the grounds, now in possession of the owner of the house; this included an old London Plane near the pond; mulberry, weeping beech, tulip tree, a Luscombe oak (*Quercus x hispanica* 'Luscombeana'; Chinese Plum-yew (*Cephalataxus fortunei*; and a 'very old' larch. The UAHS publication for the area (1968) noted that these grounds and planting associated with the house, 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 late 18th century parkland has changed little from the OS of 1834, except for the presence of a small housing estate of 20 houses (occupying nearly 5 acres/2ha) in the south-east corner of the parkland. This adjacent cricket ground, which occupies much of the parkland's old south lawn, has been present here since 1851 when the club was established and is understood to be the second oldest in Ulster. SMR: DOWN 20:91. Neither now part of the property. House private.

**WOOD BANK, County Down (AP ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE AND CRAIGAVON 03) D/137
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Modest-sized parkland (48 acres/19.5ha) flanking the east bank of the River Bann, adjacent to the larger demesne of Elmfield, on the north-west fringe of Gilford. The grounds slope down to the river from a late 18th century house facing north-west (Listed HB 17/01/033). There is perimeter planting along the river and along the road on the north side of the park where there is a block of woodland. A chestnut avenue leads to the house. The first house here is believed to have been built by a Thomas Kennedy in 1693, though there is little supporting information for this. The present building appears largely late 18th-century and was probably built by Abraham Atkinson (d.1809), a linen draper, of Stramore, who bought the property from a Thomas Kennedy in 1791. A small drawing of a house of similar description (two-storey with symmetrical five-bay wide front and a hipped roof) appears on a survey map by Thomas Preshaw of 1800. James Williamson's 1810 map of County Down also shows a house on the site here, which he does not name. Woodbank was bequeathed to James Christy of Stramore, and occupied by William Dawson, on lease, from 1810-14, after he acquired the lease of the adjacent Elmfield in 1806. In the 1820s following Christy's death, it then passed to his daughter who had emigrated to New York with her husband Abraham Bell. Ownership remained with the absentee Bells until 1861 and had been leased quite a number of times to various tenants, all linked to the linen industry. Minor alterations to the park took place in the 1850s, mainly moving the entrance from its original position at the north end of the property to a position further south, nearly opposite the entrance to Elmfield. The new avenue crossed open park to the house, while the older, much longer avenue, passed through a woodland screen on its journey; a separate farm/tradesman's entrance always existed immediately east of the house and yard. The new entrance had a gate lodge from the 1850s; the gate lodge currently at the head of this drive is roughly square and somewhat unusual in that it is split level, the eastern half set higher than that to the west. Otherwise the lodge is relatively plain with painted roughcast walls, an overhanging, slated hipped roof, and window openings of slightly varying size, most with sash frames. It may be noted that a single-storey dwelling (along, incidentally, with what looks like a dovecote) is shown along the drive to the east of the house on Preshaw's map of 1800. This house may have acted as a lodge of some kind, however, its position at the end rather than the head of the drive suggests not. On the OS six-inch map of 1833 a long, curving drive to the north had been created and at the head of this is a small, unmarked building which is undoubtedly the thatched 'mud' 'gate house' has been recorded; as already stated at some point around the 1850s this drive and its gate lodge were abandoned and the present drive brought into being. Then in 1861 the property was sold to James Dickson, then partner in the linen thread firm of Dunbar McMaster, who had acquired the neighbouring Elmfield some previously. He leased it to his brother-in-law, John Blain and again it passed through a number of different tenants, with 'Collen Bros.' named as freeholders in 1897. Before the Great War the owners were Richardson and Henry A. Uprichard, the latter the owner of nearby Bannvale House. The Sinton family came to the demesne around 1932 and are still there. The original walled garden (1 acre/0.4ha) lay behind the house and yards to the south and was divided into two sections; in the 20th century it was in part planted with trees and covered with lawns and is no longer cultivated. Today, there are maintained ornamental gardens by the house, divided into compartments. In front of the dwelling house, at the north-west, is a broad gravel forecourt flanked by a lawn with two terraces beyond which the land slopes down to the north. At the north-east façade is a secluded rectangular garden which was mainly created in the 1970s. This slopes quite steeply down to the north-east. A lawn with an 'L'-shaped grassed terrace occupies most of it. A flight of six disc-shaped steps is built into the angle which is also marked by a small modern weeping dwarf tree. The garden is bounded at the north-east by densely planted evergreen trees, including some leylandii. Near these is a small square area tiled with square cream and orange tiles which may have been the floor of a gazebo or summer house. The garden

is bounded on the south-east by a path running parallel to the wall behind which are the outbuildings, on the south-west by the house, where there is a bed with shrubs, and on the north-west by a herbaceous border backed by higher planting with a pair of dwarf weeping willows framing the exit to the forecourt. In the 1980s and 1990s, plants were bought from Long Lane Garden Centre. There is all year round colour from the shrubs. Other features are an arch with a climber over the south-east path, a sundial and sculptures of various materials. There is an octagonal stone basin, now used for plants. Private.

AREA PLAN - BELFAST 04

ALEXANDRA PARK, County Antrim (AP BELFAST 04) AN/179

REGISTERED GRADE A

Public park (20 acres/8ha) located in North Belfast between the Antrim and the Shore Roads created in stages from 1885 to 1906. It occupies a long narrow area formerly scrubby area bordering the north bank Mile Water including the Richmond Brick and Tile Works, on lands, initially only seven acres, bought in July 1885 by Belfast Corporation in order to establish a park for the north of the city; further land was acquired in 1887. Originally the park was scheduled to be named Princess Park (in honour of the Prince and Princess of Wales who visited Belfast in 1885), but this was changed to Alexandra Park, the princess's actual name. It was professionally laid out with trees, lawns, seats and a lake enclosed by railings by the architect J. Corbett Bretland (1846-1921), the Borough Surveyor and opened - without any official ceremony on 7th May 1887. Bretland probably also designed the gate lodge (completed in 1888), and the gateways. A great deal of this work was carried out by the unemployed as part of a relief scheme. When it was opened it was reported that it was 'well furnished and around are flower pots tastefully and well laid out. It is well supplied with seats and is well supplied with all the requirements necessary for a public resort. In the centre is a very pretty lake which adds much to its beauty'. Glasshouses for propagation were added in 1899. Photographs in the Lawrence and Welch collections taken in the early years of the 20th 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 26/47/005). Two more areas were added to the park in 1904 and 1906. Two rustic ridges were built in 1912, by which time the park had a bandstand, summer house and fountain to the north of a small lake. In the 1920s sports facilities were added and increased in 1979. In the 1920s tennis courts, bowling green and a playground were introduced. 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. During the last war demonstration allotments were laid out and the pond utilised by the National Fire Service. After the war concrete bridges replaced their more elegant rustic predecessors. In 1994 a 'Peace Wall' was erected across the park, while improving community relations saw the opening of this barrier in September 2011. Public access.

BALLYDRAIN (MALONE GOLF CLUB), County Antrim (AP BELFAST 04) AN/116

REGISTERED GRADE B

This partly walled demesne park (75 acres/30ha) dates from the 17th century and occupies a fine undulating site dropping to the River Lagan on the east and south sides, adjacent to Wilmont park, south-east of Dunmurry in the townland of Malone Lower. The present house on the east side of the property has been much altered unsympathetically; it was built in 1835 to the designs of English architect Blore on the site of earlier houses and is now the club house for the golf club. A conservatory of 1880 has now gone. The first known house on the site was built by William Stewart (d.1641), a Scot, who leased the land from the Chichester (Donegall) estate in 1608.

Stewart's successors continued to live here, namely his son Thomas Stewart (1660-1715); his son John Stewart (1701-91); his son in turn, Thomas Stewart (1660-1715) and then his son John Stewart (1701-1784). John's eldest son William Stewart (1735-1808) established the neighbouring demesne of Wilmont in the mid 1760s. In the mid-1760s Ballydrain passed his younger brother, Robert Stewart (1742-97). Like many landowners in the Lagan Valley in the mid to later 18th century, the Stewarts were involved in the linen trade and Ballydrain and Wilmont both had bleach greens. It was due in large part to these business ventures the Stewarts were able to invest in new houses such as Wilmont and Macedon, near Whitehouse, built by another brother. In 1805, shortly before his death, Robert's son, George Alexander Stewart (1778-1805), sold Ballydrain to his cousin, John Younghusband (1754-1843), the son of Martha Stewart (1731-58) and Israel Younghusband. The property remained in his possession until 1834, when he sold it for £13,500 to Hugh Montgomery (1794-1867), the second son of Hugh Montgomery of Benvariden (1743-1832). The English architect Edward Blore (then also engaged at Crom, Co. Fermanagh and Castle Upton, Co. Antrim) was commissioned to design a new Tudor Revival mansion, which was completed around 1838. Hugh also replaced the gate lodge (a Blore building) and built a walled garden, and sometime around 1857 acquired Lakefield, demolishing the house and merging its lands with his own. His house stands south-east of a stocked natural lake (22 acres/9ha) on the north side of the park, now owned by the golf club. There are fine mature trees, including a lime avenue. In 1867 the estate was inherited by Hugh's eldest son, John Ferguson Montgomery (1832-76). Upon his untimely death in a riding accident in May 1876 it passed to a younger brother, Thomas Montgomery (1837-1909), who previous to this had been renting Malone House. Thomas extended and re-orientated Ballydrain House to designs by William Henry Lynn shortly after this, adding a billiard room and conservatory a few years later. The perimeter shelter belts were thinned except for the one along the Upper Malone Road which has thickened and broadened. While there is a predominance of deciduous trees, there are also some conifers in the perimeter belt along the road and in the area south-west of the dwelling house. According to Eileen Black, Thomas Montgomery was responsible for planting the distinctive yew avenue at the nearby Drumbeg church. Some dead elms in the demesne were removed prior to 1991. After Thomas's death in 1909, his widow Isabella continued to reside at Ballydrain until she died in 1917. The demesne then came into possession of her nephew Hugh Wyndham Montgomery, who in the following year sold it to John Barbour Morrison, Director of the Ulster Spinning Company. J.B. Morrison lived at Ballydrain until 1940, when the property was requisitioned for military use with General Leroy P. Collins, Commander of the US Army's Northern Ireland Base Section, setting up his HQ within the house in October 1943. It was returned to Mr. Morrison at the end of the war, and on his death in 1947 it was left to his son John Maynard Morrison and (J.B.'s) brother James Morrison, neither of whom went on to live there, although the land continued to be farmed. In 1960 the estate was sold to Malone Golf Club who laid out a 27-hole course within the grounds to designs by Cmdr. John Harris of the firm of C.K. Cotton, created a car park, and adapted the dwelling as a clubhouse. The course was officially opened on the 2nd June 1962. Between 1964 and 1966 the two gate lodges were demolished and in the latter year the walled garden was converted to a bowling green (for Malone Bowling Club). Damage caused by a terrorist bomb explosion in February 1972 resulted in the demolition of part of the clubhouse. West of the dwelling house was a flower garden with formal beds and a sun dial on a stepped plinth overlooking the lake. It is now a car park. The site of a conservatory remains at the south of the dwelling house, just east of the main entrance; it dated to 1880 and was designed by James Boyd and Sons, Paisley, Scotland. Lying 700 feet (215m) south-west of the house is a square walled garden (1. acre/0.4ha) lying 700 feet (215m); the garden walls are brick on the inside and stone on the outside; there was a long, narrow glass house with a curved central portion, against the north-west wall. The garden and glass house first appear on the OS six-inch map of 1857. The glass house is known to have contained at least one vine and, according to Eileen Black, there were plants from abroad as the Montgomery family were a travelling army family. The 1857 map

also shows other buildings outside the walled areas to the north-west and a building outside it to the south-east. One of these remains. It is at the north and is a garden house (Listed HB 26/16/009). The site has been a golf club since 1961. SMR: ANT 64:6 enclosure, 64:76 tree ring. Private.

BELFAST CASTLE, County Antrim (AP BELFAST 04) AN/084

REGISTERED GRADE A

One of the last large scale parklands to be made in Ulster (presently 200 acres/81ha), this was made for Arthur, the 2nd Marquis of Donegall in 1868-70 on the eastern and south-eastern slopes of Cave Hill (1182ft/360m), immediately overlooking north Belfast. It was created to accompany a large extravagant *de novo* castle (Listed HB 25/51/001), built in 1868-79 in Scots Baronial-style to designs prepared in 1865 by the firm of Lanyon, Lyon and Lanyon at a cost of £11,000. A well known landmark in Belfast, it is a tall dramatic pile, built in sandstone with rock-faced walls, square in plan, with an assemblage of towers, turrets, oriels, dormers corbie-stepped gables, bartizans and other picturesque features; a particularly noteworthy architectural feature is a curving stone staircase on the east or garden front, added in 1894 by the 9th Earl of Shaftsbury for his mother, the Dowager Countess. The castle was built beside what was formerly the north boundary of an 18th century deer park on the slopes of Cave Hill ; there were no trees growing in the immediate vicinity at the time, so the creation of the new park had to be accompanied by a massive tree-planting programme. The trees planted were mainly broad-leaved varieties, with some conifers, notably Scot's Pine. Most of the trees were placed on the west side of the castle, almost entirely woodland up to the top of Cave Hill and McArts Fort (SMR7/AN057:025); areas to the north and south were intermixed with some open spaces, while the area east of the castle, downslope to Downview Park, was predominately open parkscape. 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 carriage drive up to the castle from Innisfayle Park on the south has many exotics with snowdrops and daffodils. However this planting took over a decade and more to achieve as so much of the available money was being spent on the castle rather than landscaping. Other buildings that were erected at the time included the Gothic-style Chapel in 1865-69 (Listed HB 26/51/002), later known as the Chapel of the Resurrection, lying to the south-east of the castle in what was originally open countryside. It is now surrounded by a c.1950s-60s mixed housing development (Innisfayle Park and Waterloo Park), although a *relatively* generous amount of ground has been retained around the building itself. At the main entrance a gate lodge (Listed HB 26/51/003) was also erected around 1870 (to designs of John Lanyon Jn.), again now rather incongruously located on the Antrim Road. To the north a large house called 'Martlett Towers', with its own lodge were absorbed in 1882 into the demesne through purchase; a row of estate worker's cottages were later built within its former grounds. After the 3rd Marquess died in 1883, the property passed to the 8th Earl and Countess of Shaftsbury, but after the Countess died in 1898 the castle was only occasionally occupied by Anthony, 9th Earl of Shaftsbury (1869-1961). In 1934 he gave 200 (80ha) acres to Belfast Corporation, who subsequently purchased the walled garden and other demesne buildings, while the family was given to the Church of Ireland. The park was opened to the public in July 1937 and the castle adopted for use as a wedding venue. A major restoration project in the 1980s saw the castle reopen to the public in 1988, while 350 acres of land on Cave Hill acquired by the council in 1992 as a County Park with a European Union grant. 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. The broadleaved woodland, dominated by beech, includes extensive areas of mature and regenerating trees above the castle; extensive planting of 'native trees' (oak and ash) has been carried out here in recent years. Early settlements on Cave Hill are recorded. SMR: ANT 57:25 ruins of a fort. Public access.

BELLEVUE (BELFAST ZOO), County Antrim (AP BELFAST 04) AN/098**REGISTERED GRADE A**

Formerly the Hazelwood Estate the area (presently 67 acres/27ha) became a public park in 1920. The land which lies just north of the Belfast Castle grounds, adjoining the west side of the Antrim Road, 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. Cheal and Sons Ltd, Nurseries of Crawley, were engaged to lay out the site. The work took nine years due in part to the outbreak of war in 1914 and to difficulties of the terrain. The work involved the 'grading of rugged landscape slopes, putting in a system of zigzag pathways, planting trees and shrubs, levelling and tarmacking the upper plateau, building a castellated wall around the perimeter of the plateau - and - the *piece de resistance*- constructing a grand floral staircase'. This was built to reach the heights on the steeply sloping hillside; it 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 gardens were opened in July 1920 and having quickly become popular was expanded in 1922 with the acquisition of neighbouring Hazelwood House to the south. This area was landscaped in 1922-25 with a centrepiece of a lake (later used for boating), while the house was converted into a cafe. In the late 1920s a bandstand was added here with seating around it for 500 people and open air dancing facilities. A zoo was opened on the site in 1934 which became enormously popular; the added attraction of the Floral Hall designed by architect David W. Boyd (Listed HB 26/51/024) was built in 1936 as a dance hall on the south side of the zoo and gardens were extended to surround them. A miniature railway was built around the plateau and an amusement park constructed, while in the south-east section of the park a small nine-hole golf course was built. A larger amusement park was added in 1952. 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. Also from 1974 the zoo was re-designed along lines 'reflecting the needs of the animals in terms of behaviour, social grouping and physical activity, encouraging the occupants to behave as naturally as possible in front of visitors.' - resulting in the zoo facilities moving south onto the site of the old Hazelwood House, while a car park and visitor centre were made along the plateau where the original zoo was located. Sadly, the Floral Hall building, which closed in 1972, remains unused, though the Belfast Buildings Trust have plans to restore it. SMR: ANT 57:10 Hazelwood crannog. Public access.

BELFAST BOTANIC GARDENS PARK, County Antrim (AP BELFAST 04) AN /101**REGISTERED GRADE A**

Former botanic gardens, later adapted as a public park (35.4 acres/14.3ha) lying on the west bank of the Lagan-river, about 0.9 miles (1.5km) directly south of Belfast City Centre. 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 1828 by the Belfast Botanic and Horticultural Society in response to demands for a botanic garden for Belfast and open to society members. The gardens initially comprised a 14 acre plot of land called 'The Course' at the junction of the Malone and Stranmillis Roads in what was then a rural area; previously it had been the nursery ground of John Bullen, leased by him from the Donegall Estate. Subsequent to 1828, the society acquired more pieces of land over the years so that by 1887 the garden held 17 acres. 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. Some 25-acres were then added along the Lagan, though this land was not utilised as

part of the garden and some land was ceded to Queen's University. In 1913 there was a small exchange of land with Queen's University, while in the previous year site of the Ulster Museum was earmarked; it was not in fact built until the 1920s. In 1840 at the instigation of Lord Donegall the society/company received the title Royal Belfast Botanical and Horticultural Society and the gardens became The Royal Belfast Botanic Gardens. Until 1895 one paid to be admitted, though this income was never enough money and from the 1830s until the 1870s the society would raise money by hosting garden fetes, flower shows, private events or public occasions like Mr Coswell's first Irish balloon ascent in the Britannia, the largest balloon in the world; the last big event of its kind in the garden was the Great International Fruit and Flower Show of August 1874. 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". The garden developed under its various curators, initially Thomas Drummond; John Campbell; from 1835-64 John Ferguson; William Hooker Ferguson 1864-68; Forsythe Johnston 1868-77 and Charles McKimm (1877-1908), However, the basic layout has remained largely unaltered from the 1840s. The entrance (The Stranmillis Gate) was on what was then the Belfast-Lisburn Road and here in 1877 a remarkable Ruskinian-Venetian Gothic gate lodge with clock tower was built, designed by William Batt; it once formed an important architectural focus for both the gardens and the area, but was demolished in 1965. This entrance leads to the Main walk in the garden which leads to the Palm House. The area south of this main walk is the Pinetum, established in 1838; by 1851 the gardens had over 170 different species of conifer, which compared well to what Glasnevin had at the time. The main walk itself used to be lined with junipers, cypress, roses, and *Araucaria brasiliana*. During the 1880s rockwork was laid each side of this path so that it appeared to be driven through solid rock, but this was removed and replaced back with flower beds. At the Palm House there have always been flower beds; in recent decades these have tended to be annuals and wallflowers, but in the 19th century according to Eileen McCracken's account, the beds had more of a mixture of plants and in the 1850s contained a monkey puzzle, *Camellia japonica*, New Zealand Flax, *Garrya elliptica*, a *Magnolia grandiflora*, *Magnolia purpurea*, and species of rhododendrons. In the 1870s the shape of the beds was changed and replaced with sixteen irregular shaped beds with permanent plants of uneven height with the centre bed being adorned with a massive urn filled with pelargoniums and surrounded with yuccas, agaves, bamboos and dracaenas. The Palm House itself (Listed HB 26/27/003) was 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. Lanyon drew up the original plans for a conservatory in the garden, but with the discovery of iron curvilinear glass and its successful manufacture by the Dublin firm of William Turner at Hammersmith, that Turner was engaged to produce the side wings in the 1830s, which are today among the earliest examples of curvilinear cast & wrought iron work, its construction initiated before Glasnevin and Kew. The foundation stone was laid by the Marquess of Donegall in 1839 and the two wings completed in 1840 for £1,400. Each measures 64 x 20 x 19¼-feet with a monopitch glazed roof. The east wing was, and still is, the stove house, the west wing as a cooler glasshouse. Later the botanic gardens decided to complete Lanyon's original design for the centre house, but add a dome to it, which resulted in Young of Edinburgh being engaged to build the 37ft 3inches high elliptical dome, which was completed in 1852. The house was originally heated by a brick flue but in 1862 a boiler and hot water system was installed; gas lighting was introduced in 1881. The building was extensively renovated in 1980-83 and new heating system, staging and lighting introduced. The Palm House looks out across the Main Lawn, the heart of the garden. Like a gentleman's parkland, it was once dotted with isolated trees, including chestnuts, maple, oak and elm. Shrubs in beds surrounded the lawn. At the east end of the lawn was once the 'Upper Pond' with a small island, all removed in 1866. Beyond this in the area now occupied by the rockery and a stream crossed by a bridge, was the 'Lower Pond', filled with aquatic plants.; this was drained in 1869. Also flanking the main lawn is the Tropical Ravine (Listed HB 26/27/083), which was opened in 1889, built to the designs

of McKimm; its roof was replaced in the 1970s and again in 2016-18 the roof was again replaced and the whole building save the outside walls was substantially rebuilt. The predecessor of the Tropical Ravine was the Orchid House, which was approached by a shrubbery called the Dark Walk. The Curator's House, demolished in the 1960s, fronted by three terraces, stood in the stead of the extension made to the Ulster Museum in the 1960s. Gate lodges were provided for the park, but only one of lodges (1865) remains today (Listed HB 26/27/033). 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. Public access.

CLIFTON HOUSE, County Antrim (AP BELFAST 04) AN/081
REGISTERED GRADE A

The present-day grounds which front the building (1.2 acres/0.5ha) are curtailed from an area that once included productive gardens, necessary to support the inmates of the institution. The gardens are not remarkable in themselves, but they enhance the fine building (Listed HB 26/49/001) of 1774, built for the Belfast Charitable Society and used until the 1880s as the city's poor house. 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; further work on the building and gardens took place in 2000. Institutional.

CRANMORE, County Antrim (AP BELFAST 04) AN/019
REGISTERED GRADE A

John Templeton's noted garden, begun in 1793, stands on the west side of the Malone Road and covers 9.6 acres (3.9ha). There are some mature trees which are thought to date from that era. J C Loudon in *Arboretum 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 17th century'. Set on the Malone Ridge with a wonderful view of the Belfast Hills, this was the home of John Templeton (1766-1825), the noted naturalist, botanist and collector, known as the 'Father of Irish Botany'. In his day it was approached by an avenue of chestnut, larch, elm, ash and pine, and had gardens, sheds, stack yard, greenhouse, orchard and pond, the latter he kept roach in and was a long, narrow sinuous pond east of the dwelling house with a bridge over it. The property had 13 acres of parkland with additional farmland extending to the bog meadows. The gabled house, which faces south-east, is now in ruins (Listed HB 26/18/010) and thought to be the only surviving 17th century house in Belfast; it was originally called 'Orange Grove', its name being changed by John Templeton to Cranmore 'Great Tree'; however, it was still often called 'The Grove' into the early 20th-century. The building ruin and 19th-century illustrations of the building indicate that it was probably built in the second half of the 17th-century; it was a gable-ended rectangular two-storey five bay house with low side walls, gabled parapet, steep roof and chimney-stacks projecting externally from the end gable walls. Examination of the walls would suggest it begun life as a much more humble one-store dwelling, possibly in the early 17th century. It had a projecting porch with curvilinear gable, and an small extension to the rere; the present large rere extension looks 20th century in date. In the 17th-century the property was known as the 'Rookery', indicating the presence there of trees. John Templeton inherited the property from his parents, James (d.1793) and Eleanor Templeton, Eleanor having herself inherited it from her family, the Leggs and before them it belonged to the Eccles family when legend has it that William

III, when overtaken by a heavy downpour, rested there *en route* to the Boyne campaign. Templeton inherited in 1793 by which time he was already a well known botanist; he was a friend of Joseph Banks and discovered the *Rosa x hibernica* Templeton, a cross of two wild roses, and *Orobancha rubra* (red broomrape). Shortly after inheriting the property, he began to lay out a garden on the ground mainly to the north and west of the house- influenced by Rousseau's *Letters on the Elements of Botany*. According to Hincks in 1827, the gardens here 'had been partly an orchard, partly an osier ground...through it a stream of water, raised on an artificial rock...he collected from various parts of the world rare and unusual plants which he endeavoured to naturalise in this climate...so great a variety of the native of the forest has perhaps never been collected in so small a place'. Much of his garden was experimental with different types of soil where he raised and improved trees, shrubs and flowers, many exotics, from seed. He published on and depicted plants. Some of his manuscripts *Flora Hibernica* are in the Ulster Museum and some in the British Library. Following Templeton's death in 1825, the property was inherited by his son, Robert (1802-92), an army surgeon, who spent much of his time away and left the property in the care of a gardener. Robert and his family remained there in 1887 and during this time it was visited and described on many occasions. In 1844, the *Magazine of Natural History* is quoted as saying that all the trees there at the time except the chestnuts and oaks were planted by Mr Templeton and that such a great variety of native species had, perhaps, never been planted in such a small place before. In front of the house are two (three until recent decades) extant sweet chestnut trees (*Castanea sativa*), which from their size were probably planted in the 17th century; all three are mentioned by John Dubourdieu in 1811 giving their girth as 12ft (3.56m) for the south tree and 6.10ft (2.08m) for the middle tree. One of the trees is now a champion tree with a girth of 7.09m at a height of 0.4m and a height of 19m. It is called the King William Tree because it is believed that he sheltered under it. Loudon says that the demesne was renamed after it ['big tree']. Today there are two sweet chestnut trees before the dwelling house where there were three. Prior to the publication of *Arboretum et Fruticetum Britannicum* in 1838 Mrs Templeton sent John Claudius Loudon the height and girth of at least one sweet chestnut, possibly the champion tree (60' high and 15' at 1'), as well as the heights of other trees and shrubs: *Ptelea trifoliata* 26', *Pinus banksiana* 17', *Pinus cembra*, 24', *Pinus mugho* 11', *Abies Canadensis* 16', *Acer rubrum* 30', *liquidamber* 15', and a *Swedish juniper* 18'. Loudon says that the first *Rhododendron maximum* in Ireland grew here but had recently died, however there was another of 9 ½' in height and 37' diameter. A description published in 1839 says that the English style of gardening was 'an artful imitation of nature' and that the most natural garden of this kind was that of Mr Templeton's 'in which the whole surface was turf, and the plants growing thereon all intermixed'. In 1887 the property had been bought by John Watters, a land surveyor and around 1889 had been acquired by Walter Henry Wilson of Harland and Wolff, who lived in the residence to the south, 'Maryville' and by 1904, if not before, the house was vacant and seemed to remain so. By this period the site had been reduced to a plot to the north and east of the house, the main drive marking the southern limit, with Malone Road and what is now Cranmore Park the boundaries to the east and north respectively. In 1921 Royal Belfast Academical Institution ('Inst.') acquired the site. The school had already acquired Maryville to the south, which served as the residence for the Principal, and in the land to the rear of this, playing fields were created at some point prior to 1920. The Cranmore site was left largely untouched until the 1960s, when the eastern half was drained and additional pitches laid out for school use. The western half of the grounds remained undisturbed until the early 2000s a row of houses was built on the northern edge, facing into Cranmore Park. There has been subsequent tree planting. Access for school activities only.

**DRUMGLASS, County Antrim (AP BELFAST 04) AN/161
REGISTERED GRADE A**

The Classical villa on the east side of the Lisburn Road, adjacent to Marlborough Park, was built in 1854-6 for the iron-master Sir James Musgrave. The north-western end of the grounds were

donated for a park in 1922 and landscaped by 1924. This small park (5.4 acres/2.2ha) 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 (1826-1922). 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; this house became the Victoria College girl's school. 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 26/18/008). Public access.

**DUNVILLE PARK, County Antrim (AP BELFAST 04) AN/180
REGISTERED GRADE A**

This small park (4.5 acres/1.8ha) flanking the north side of the Grosvenor Road and the Road Victoria Hospital is in a heavily built up area of West Belfast. The area slopes gradually from north to south and today is surrounded by a low, modern iron railing with two imposing entrances, one in the centre of the north-west perimeter and the other in the south corner; in addition there are three secondary pedestrian-only entrances. The land was donated to the people of Belfast for use as a public park in 1889 by Robert Grimshaw Dunville, owner of a distillery on the Grosvenor Road. Earlier, around 1872 his uncle had established the Sorella Trust for the purpose of remembering his sister Sara, but he died childless in 1874, so the business and administration passed to his nephew Robert Grimshaw Dunville, who proceeded to buy five acres of waste ground 'the scene of many riots'. This land he donated to Belfast Corporation in 1889 for use as a public park and donated £5,000 towards the laying out of the park and additional money for perimeter railings and a decorative terracotta fountain by A.E. Pearce (Listed HB 26/32/003). This benevolence also included 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. Trees were always envisaged as an important part of the composition of the site and narrow perimeter belts of deciduous trees were planted on the north-west perimeter and west sector. There are a few newer trees in the northern area which include ash and rowan. and there were once crescent-shaped clumps in the western part. The oak tree, one of which was planted in each city park in anticipation of the coronation of Edward VIII on May 12, 1937, disappeared a month after it was planted. The park was opened in August 1891 by the Marquess of Dufferin and Ava, although the focal point, the large fountain, was not complete until September 1892. This had been commissioned in May 1891 to replace a terraced grassy mound and comprised a large, ornate French Renaissance-style structure in light-coloured terracotta built by Doulton and Co., of Lambeth, London, to designs by Arthur Ernest Pearce (1859-1934). It has a large, roughly 20m diameter concrete basin, and a tall (about 14m) three tier, ornate central shaft that includes a secondary basin. The shaft was originally taller, having been topped with a ball finial, directly under which were busts. At third stage level, set between divisions with elaborate scrollwork, were four seated (or crouching) figures holding urns over their heads, out of which the water flowed. Below the rounded base on which the figures were hip knob-like drops. large pedimented drinking fountain is built into the perimeter of the main basin, with the date '1892' thereon. The fountain has not functioned since the 1960s and, due to a combination of vandalism, weathering, and, in former years at least, neglect, much of the highly decorative detailing, including human figures and elaborate drops and finials described above, have disappeared altogether, whilst other areas of decorative relief have been badly damaged. A now vanished plaque on the drinking fountain read 'The Park, formed and completed, was presented as a free gift to the City by Robert G. Dunville, of Redburn, 1891'. The keeper's lodge was not finished until 1893. Photographs by R Welch show the park in 1900 and again in 1930 fully planted up. The park was originally staffed by the keeper or foreman, as well as a ranger and a labourer, who assisted the foreman in maintaining the grounds. Play facilities for children were added in the mid-1920s, but their presence was not without controversy as the Northern Ireland's government's Director

of Education blamed them for truancy from school and asked the Corporation's Public Parks and Playgrounds Committee if the swings could be locked until 3.30pm, which the Committee declined to do! During WWII, like many other civic parks, Dunville became an authorised assembly point where the populace were to gather in the wake of air raids; air raid shelters were also constructed in the park 'with the proviso that, after the war, they would be converted into toilets and shelters for waiting tramcar passengers'. By this time plans had been drawn up for the redevelopment of the site for housing, but these were shelved because of the war. In 1949 the building of a school was proposed for the site, with a separate scheme in the same year for a car park serving the adjacent Royal Victoria Hospital on part of the land. Both were rejected in their turn, the former on the grounds that the original 'Deed of Gift provided that the park would not be used for purposes other than that of a public. A new facility for the public was added to the park in 1962 with the construction of a community building for older people. Locally known as the 'Old Men's Shelter' (due to the fact that women were not permitted), this was located close to the southern corner of the park and contained a kitchen and open fireplace. In 1964 an office building with a yard and store was added for the park staff and the foreman's lodge abandoned. This left the park unmanned at night and, as a result, incidents of vandalism rose. By 1969 the fountain had fallen into disrepair, with the now disused lodge in such poor state that it had to be demolished the following year. The decline in Dunville's fortunes continued in the early 1970s and the park as a whole fell into disuse. The Old Men's Shelter was closed due to vandalism and later taken over as a base for the British Army, whilst the store cum office, (which stood on the site of the present corrugated metal-clad day centre), was demolished. A well-attended concert given by all-Ireland champions St Paul's Youth Silver Band in 1975, the first musical event to be held there for a decade, is said to have marked a halt to this decline and the following years witnessed a revival in community-based programmes and events within the park, which has continued to the present. A renovation fund was established and the park subject to a major refurbishment as part of the Belfast Council Investment programme. The paths were restored together with the terracotta fountain (but without water into the basin). Neat lawns now cover the park, with a sympathetically designed adventure playground in the north-west section and in the eastern area, a modern floodlit third Generation sports pitch for football and GAA with changing pavilion and small car park. Public access

**FALLS PARK, County Antrim (AP BELFAST 04) AN/181
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Formerly part of the estate of Thomas Sinclair (1812-67), the areas of the park (53.4 acres/21.6ha) together with the land now occupied by the City Cemetery were acquired by Belfast Corporation in 1866, though at that time these grounds were outside the city boundary. That changed after the passing of the Public Parks (Ireland) Act in 1869 and the park opened in 1873. The Sinclairs were Belfast merchants and linen drapers who among other things, used the lands to exercise their horses, though part of the land had been a bleach works since the 1770s belonging to the Sinclairs. It is of interest to note that William Sinclair (1759-1807) was a friend of Theobald Wolfe Tone, who in person, visited Sinclair at the Bleach works in October 1791 remarking that it was located in a 'most romantic and beautiful country'. By at least 1832 the bleach green—'Falls Bleach Yard'—covered all of what is now the southern half of the present park. By the late 1850s the mill had been redundant for some years and was in a dilapidated condition when was available for sale when Belfast Corporation in 1866 was looking for land for its municipal cemetery. Thomas Sinclair was paid £12,000 for the land and four years later, the council decided to utilize fifty-seven acres of the acquisition as a public park. Following an 1872 change in legislation that allowed parks to be maintained outside town boundaries, this plan was given the go-ahead, although the actual size of the new park was reduced to 46 acres. Falls Park was officially opened in January 1876. At the time of opening the old mill (which stood close to the site of the present children's playground on the height to the north-east of the bowling green)

was still in place, along with the associated dwelling house and also an ice house. These were pulled down in the following decade or so and improvements made to the grounds including the installation of a drinking fountain in 1877, children's play equipment a year later and Tudor Revival ranger's lodge in 1879 with gate piers are in a High Victorian Gothic style, all probably designed by the City Surveyor, J.C. Bretland (Listed HB 26/25/001). The park ranger's lodge, built at a cost of £280, is located a few metres to the north of the main entrance. and is a mainly one and a half-storey, roughly cruciform, Tudor composition, with gables to three sides and a steeply-pitched (partly hipped) roof. The walls are constructed in red brick with blue brick employed for a string course, relieving arches, with sandstone for the sills, lintels and parapets; there are kneelers to the gables. It remained occupied until around 2000 and a high metal security fence now surrounds the building. Photographs by R. Welch show early development in the park, which was well laid out with paths, bedding and trees; most of the matter being on the east side, where there is a hill, whose southern slopes was arranged in a semi-circle with formal rose beds of long standing. There are also roses in the eastern corner. A fine beech hedge flanks the bowling green (1905) on the east, close to a lawn tennis court, added in 1892. Belfast's Town Clerk visited the park on March 26, 1884. At the Parks Committee's meeting the following day it was reported that he was pleased with the work, that broken stones and gravel be ordered for the main drive up to the bridge and for the glen walk, that the new shrubberies be enclosed with a wire fence, that a plan for a tool shed be drawn up and that a collection of flower seeds and a bag of corn be ordered. Music was also a regular feature and the park, which had a bandstand from when it first opened. Initially this does not appear to have been a particularly elaborate, or even substantial structure, but it was later replaced about the 1920s with a permanent bandstand located just north of the bowling green. The eastern side of the park also saw a concentration on deciduous trees with a mixture of strong autumn colour. North-east of the 1926 pavilion is a new clump of birch trees. An older clump nearer the road has mature oak trees and there is a clump of mature Scots pine at the east near the gate lodge. Other mature trees are lime and cypress at the south and there are many beech trees, especially from the road north-west above the stream. In August 1919, as in Woodvale Park, special trees were planted to celebrate the Declaration of Peace following World War I. Hay was certainly made in the early days of the park as we learn from minutes of a Parks Committee meeting on September 13, 1882, that its hay was to be sold by auction. In 1929 the park was described as having, "... great natural beauty situated at the foot of the lack Mountain, which forms the most picturesque background ...". During World War I a large section of the park was converted to allotments (145 in total) that were rented to local residents. An open-air pool was added in 1924, known localled as 'the Cooler' fed by the Blackmurphy Stream, but the pool closed in 1979 for health reasons; at the time of opening it was the largest outdoor pool in the United Kingdom (200 x 160ft). A pavilion was added to the tennis courts and a putting green laid out in 1926. Allotments were re-introduced during WWII and, during the air raids of April 1941, a significant number of local people slept rough in the park, believing it a safer place than their houses. As in many other parks, the railings were removed for the war effort; the park was not enclosed again until 1960. A shelter was erected close to the southern edge of the park about 1962, and a toilet block built north of the main entrance around the same time. In the early 1970s the outdoor swimming pool was closed and, although attempts were made to re-open it in 1977, regular bathing was never reintroduced. It lay prone to vandalism for some years after this and was subsequently completely filled-in. The bandstand, largely unused by the 1970s, was demolished in that decade, with the shelter removed about the 1980s and the toilet block shortly after. Despite the loss of these various facilities more recent years have witnessed improvements to Falls Park, such as the construction of a large pavilion or club house adjoining the bowling green and a new playground. Public art was also introduced to the park for the first time in 2008, with the installation close to the main entrance of a 4m high stainless steel sculpture of a hunting dog—'The Spirit of Hedge and Hound'—designed by Martin Heron. Sports facilities, including a new 3G pitch in the central and western section. Public access.

GLENBANK, County Antrim (AP BELFAST 04) AN/182**REGISTERED GRADE A**

This small park (8 acres/3.2ha) lies the head of the Crumlin Road in the north-west side of the city (Ballysillan Lower). It was formerly the ornamental grounds of the late 18th century Glenbank House, which originally belonged to Thomas Sinclair (1754-1838) a Belfast linen merchant; it later belonged to Thomas Mackay (c.1783-1841) and William Ewart (1817-89), later Sir William, of the firm William Ewart & Son, who had a large spinning factory not too far north, whose son George Herbert Ewart (1857-1924) offered in 1920 the house and its 7.5 acres to Belfast Corporation (now Belfast City Council) as a public park which was accepted. A further three-quarters of an acre was given by the Ewart family to the park and the Belfast Superintendent of Parks, James Davies, supervised the landscaping with the help of fifty-three men under a £3,000 grant from the Unemployment Relief Scheme. The park was officially opened by the Lady Mayoress on August 18, 1923. The old dwelling house itself was still standing at the time of the opening, as it was originally planned to retain it and use it as public library but, due to its state of disrepair, it was subsequently demolished, but the terrace on which it was situated retained. The park has three entrances (vehicular and pedestrian access) and is delimited on north-east side by a brick wall, on the north by the Legoneil Road and by housing on the east. There was one gate lodge, built by the Ewarts c.1870, which was retained until the 1930s. Internally, the park has lawns sloping to the south west with views over the city; the Foyle River lies just outside the park on south-west side. There are tree clumps, specimen trees, including some good Scots Pines, elms, a weeping ash and other good, mature deciduous trees and various recently planted trees. Also some beds mainly with shrubs and until the 1990s there were formal flower beds on the terrace and formal beds of daffodils in the grass. A children's play area (which once had a sand garden) upgraded several times in its history. A rectangular brick-walled enclosure at the north, now used as a community garden, was the former walled kitchen garden for the old house; today it has tarmacadam paths, rectilinear plots and a poly greenhouse. Public access.

GLENCAIRN AND FERNHILL, County Antrim (AP BELFAST 04) AN/35-AN/38**REGISTERED SITE GRADE A**

Public park (60.8 acres/24.6ha) located on the western fringe of north Belfast, above the Crumlin Road and 1.5 miles (2.3km) directly east of the summit of Divis Mountain. Now administered by the City of Belfast Parks Department, it is formed of two adjoining historic demesnes, both once owned by related families. The sites of both houses (of which only Fernhill survives) are on high ground separated by a shallow valley with the former Fernhill plot higher than that of Glencairn as the whole park slopes upwards from the south-east to the north-west. The larger area to the west is Fernhill, whose east-facing house (Listed HB 26/38/004A) was built in and 1864 still exists; in its original form it was a two-storey rectangular block with lower rear returns. The house and park were made for John Smith (d.1880), a Belfast butter merchant and remained in the Smith family until 1898 when it was bought by Samuel Cunningham (1862-1946), the youngest son of Josias Cunningham (1819-95) who had built Glencairn House to the south in the 1850s. Among other things, Josias was the chairman of *The Northern Whig* newspaper and also of the tobacco firm of Murray Sons & Co. Ltd. He was a well known figure in the Irish turf and housed some of his horses at Fernhill in the stableyard (Listed HB 26/38/004B), which is located a short distance north of the house. This has a long rectangular in plan with a long two-storey gable-ended range to the west and entered from the south through carriage and pedestrian entrances in a tall wall. The most notable horse kept here was 'Tipperary Tim' winner of the 1928 Aintree Grand National. This yard was made into a People's Museum in the late 1990s, but is now closed. A lime avenue survives from Smith's original planting at Fernhill and there is a stand of mature Scots pine trees framing the house at the west. East of the house lies the house 'lawn' or parkland which has a number of good mature trees which also date from the 1860s, though some of the best trees,

including a tulip tree, have now gone. From 1984 Belfast City Council began to leave some grassland in the park uncut in spring and summer to allow wild flower meadows to develop. This continued for several years and resulted in many new species of wild flowers and grass in turn attracting new animal and insect life, thus creating an environment much as it would have been when managed as a demesne. There was an extensive rock garden at Fernhill, a photograph of which is in Young's 1909 book, *Belfast and the Province of Ulster*. and there were once borders beside the house. The house at Glencairn (demolished and now the site of Parkview Care Home), also a former home of the Cunningham family dated from the mid-19th century, where is an oak avenue and some exotic trees remain from domestic times. Both Fernhill and Glencairn had been damaged during the Belfast Blitz, and the latter was abandoned by the family for a time and taken over by the Civil Defence. Both houses remained in Cunningham family possession until 1962 when the two demesnes were bought by Belfast Corporation and opened as a public park. In 1975 the Parks Department transferred its offices to Fernhill House, but in 1991 both houses were put up for sale. Glencairn was later demolished and the present care home built on its site. Fernhill was acquired by the Glencairn People's Project who, amongst other things, established a local museum within the building. The museum opened to visitors in 1996 and closed in 2008, and since that time the property appears to have remained vacant. SMR: ANT 60:27 rath. Public access.

**GROVELANDS GARDEN (MUSGRAVE PARK), County Antrim (AP BELFAST 04) AN/038
REGISTERED SITE GRADE B**

Municipal garden (7.6 acres/3ha) created in the 1970s within a corner of Musgrave Public Park (57 acres/23ha), lying at the junction between Stockman's Lane and Musgrave Park-road, 200m north-west of The King's Hall. Balmoral. It constitutes a triangle of land established in 1974 as the Belfast Park's Department's horticultural training centre. The site was created as a hedged off corner of the informal and much larger:-MUSGRAVE PARK (not on the register). Previously it was part of open parkland in Musgrave Park, but in 1972 Groveland's House (circa. 1905) ceased to be the house of the Director of the Park. The building was converted to a lecture room and offices, but the small walled-in garden immediately around it proved far too small to serve as an apprentice training ground, so 5 acres (2ha) were set aside for the purpose of demonstration gardens, a water feature, bedding displays etc. Initially the area was not open to the public, but from mid-1975 onwards this was gradually relaxed. At one point there were 'mixed borders, an extensive heather garden, rose plantings, a bog and water garden, [and] a rock garden' as well as the extant trees and shrubs. There was also a nursery area, a plant house and small cactus and succulent house. It seems that this area started to be diminished from about 1996 as an item in the *Belfast Telegraph* indicates: 'Parts of well-known parks including Botanic Gardens, Cathedral Gardens, Cavehill Country Park, Glencairn Park, Musgrave Park and Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon Park are also set to be leased'. It may have been then, or in the years immediately following, that its area was reduced and a south-western entrance to Grovelands set south of the bowling greens, with a children's play area and recycling centre introduced south of the bowling greens. Grovelands today contain a wide variety of trees, shrubs, conifers, heathers, bedding displays and lawns. Well planted with a wide choice of material giving interest all the year round. A gate pier from Fortwilliam Park, formerly one of the most exclusive villa-lined roads of Belfast, has found a home at Grovelands (Listed HB 26/15/001), built in the 1860s to the designs of William Barre. The park is a popular location for wedding photographs and its pathways link with Musgrave Park. Musgrave Park itself (including Grovelands) lies on land that was presented to the Corporation by Henry Musgrave in the 1920s and laid out as a public park in 1934-5, the land being divided into quadrants by tree-line paths running from a sub-circular perimeter tree-lined path. In the north quadrant was a large, irregularly-shaped lake with two islands with trees, in the south quadrant, tennis courts and in the east quadrant a bandstand west of the main entrance and two bowling greens. Bulbs are an attraction of Musgrave Park in the spring. Public access.

**MALONE HOUSE (BARNETT DEMESNE), County Down (AP BELFAST 04) AN/053
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Regency landscape park (116 acres/47ha) now a public park centered on the present house of 1982, a replica of the 1825 building (Listed HB 26/16/001). It straddles the west bank of the Lagan-river flanking the Milltown Road (formerly the Malone Road), about 1 mile (1.7km) directly south-east of the King's Hall, Balmoral. The demesne has origins going back to 1606 when Sir Arthur Chichester leased lands here to Moses Hill, who built a 'ayre timber house walled with bricks' within a 'stronge fort' with a 'strong palisade and a drawbridge called Hillborowe', on a site directly beneath the present one, overlooking what was then a strategically important ford over the River Lagan. It was later burnt in the 1641 Rebellion and Hill transferred his interests to Hillsborough. By 1659 the Hills were succeeded in Malone by the Legg family, successful merchants in the overseas trade, whose association with the place was to last for over two centuries. They are known to have built a house at Malone about the time of the Restoration and from a Donegall Estate map of 1767-70 we know that this house was located just north-west of the present stable block. It was a very substantial gable-ended mansion of seven bays and three stories, plus a attic floor, and a two bay two-storey extension on the south-west side. The house itself faced north-west with a large sweep in front, no doubt formerly an enclosed front court, flanking the Old Coach Road. To the house there was a yard flanked by long stable/coach house block to the south-west; the latter must in part lie under the present stable yard. There was another smaller range flanking the yard, behind which lay a large orchard to the south-east. The Legg business interests grew and the Malone estate was in time expanded until the time arrived that they wanted a new house and park. This happened in 1821 when the last Legg in the line died without an male heir and the property passed to a nephew, William Wallace (1789-1868), who duly assumed the surname Legge (now spelt with a second 'e'). Having obtained the security of further long lease obtained in 1829 from the Donegall Estate, he set about transforming the demesne, commencing a new house around 1831 and creating for it a suitable landscape park. Landscaping for the new park seems to have been fairly thorough as no visible traces of the old house in the form of soil, crop or shadow marks have yet been discovered of the old house. The new Malone house (Listed HB26/16/001B) was located on an eminence 160m (525ft) east of the new stable yard. It is notably prominent across the park especially to the south despite being a rather modest compact classical house with hipped roof, whose north-west facing entrance front has five-bays and two-stories. The garden front on the south-east has a large shallow bow of the kind much favoured in the Regency era. The house, became the headquarters of the National Trust in Northern Ireland in 1971, but in 1974 it was destroyed in a terrorist arson attack and what we see today is a replica built 1980-82 (architects: Robert McKinstry and Melvyn Brown). The house was accompanied by a new parkland with woodland; some woodland blocks were already present on the site; for example, there is a record of the planting of 6,350 trees in 1799 in the 'Demesne in Malone' by William Legg and first OS map of 1833, surveyed when the house was just built, showed extensive the extensive plantations south-west of the house and south of the stable block were already present. A public road running through the heart of the demesne ('The Old Coach Road') was closed c.1835, though the avenue leading from the front gates to the stable yard roughly follow its line today. Plantations also were retained along the line of that old road and along the perimeter of what was then the Malone-road. The newly built yards west of the house were surrounded and hidden with plantations and more woods were planted flanking the new house and extending into the south-west part of the park where the older, pre-1830 plantations are present. An oak tree in the north, one in a row, all probably of similar vintage between the public park and the QUB pitches, was carbon dated in 2006 to having started to grow in 1810. Some of the open lawns west, north and north-east of the house are also of long-standing and have some trees of 3m or greater girth. The many fine, mature hardwood specimen trees, mostly oak and beech, trees along the main carriage driveway. An older oak avenue is

extant west of the dwelling house along the former service drive. Near the house are both a horse and a sweet chestnut tree. Downhill south-west of the dwelling house are more horse chestnut trees, and also beech, lime and sycamore. In addition to the planting in the 1830s and before, addition planting was later added by William Wallace Legge, predominantly oak trees. Data collected in the first decade of the 2000s by Ben Simon recorded the following trees of 3m or greater girth in what is now the public park, the Mary Peters Athletics Track area and Queen's University land and housing area beside Dub Lane: native oak 54, beech 50, sycamore 24, lime 21, sweet chestnut 6, ash, 3, Turkey oak 2, and non-native conifers 4. The last including a veteran larch which had a girth of 5.65m at 1.2m. The old copses have been maintained and added to over the years. The original park has a productive kitchen garden (2.47 acres/1ha) lying 170ft (50m) immediately east of the house; this seems to have also served as an ornamental garden. It has subsequently gone, replaced by trees, while the present house has a modest garden today on its east front - a semicircular area laid out in formal rose beds with a terrace and central fountain beyond. There are azaleas, herbaceous plants and rhododendrons near the house. Some English yew trees (now unclipped) survive from a 'Dark Walk' which runs from the west of the dwelling house towards the south-west. A walnut tree at the east is also from the older planting. In the 1860s the property passed through marriage to Viscount Harberton, who leased it to various tenants before selling it in 1920 and again resold in 1921 to William Barnett, a grain-merchant, whose horse, Trigo, won the Derby and St. Leger in 1929. Following his death in 1943 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 Corporation finally took possession of Malone in 1946, and from August of that year the public were allowed access to the grounds, although the official opening ceremony only took place in May 1951. Dignitaries at the event planted a commemorative avenue, mainly of sycamore, but with some elm and oak trees dotted throughout the parkland. When the park was first opened to the public sheep grazed in the parkland and were kept off the paths by metal fencing. In 1990 Belfast City Council's Parks Department decided to make a daffodil garden in the park, and so Barnett Demesne Daffodil Garden came into being. This is located throughout the parkland, but mainly north-west of the dwelling house with a different area for each of the twelve officially recognised divisions of daffodil. In scale with the property drifts of 5,000 of each cultivar have been planted in drifts in the lawns and subsequently managed. During the spring months these areas are labelled and there is an on-site map and special leaflet. From about 1984 part of the parkland—to the south—has been treated as meadowland and it is now species-rich. As part of an 'art in the park' programme the Forest of Belfast officer commissioned wooden sculptures in this park and also Wilmont (Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon Park) [AN-068] and the Belfast Botanic Park [AN-101]. The gate lodge was rebuilt in 1921 to the designs of Blackwood and Jury (Listed HB 26/16/001b). Yards converted into offices with an adventure ground adjacent, screened by trees. Discretely designed bike trails in the southern section, includes a 'Jump Park' for mountain bike. SMR: ANT 64:81 fort, 64:91 site of house and bawn on the site of Malone House. Public access

OAK HILL, County Antrim (AP BELFAST 26) AN/162

REGISTERED GRADE B

Located north of Wilmont or Dixon Park, adjacent to what is now the motorway, this small park (9 acres/3.6ha) was created as the setting for an early Victorian villa, built 1847 (Listed HB 26/16/008). It is a west facing gabled two storey house with dormered floor and bargeboards. It has a good conservatory to the rear which is contemporary with the house and behind this a stable yard. It was originally flanked by two small adjoining walled gardens; both now have buildings within them. The screen planting on all sides of the property survives as mature trees (*Pedunculate oak*, *Quercus robur*) which shelter the maintained ornamental gardens, most of which were created from 1960 by May Noble, who acquired the property in 1859 from William Stephens, a Colditz Castle escapee. She created over three acres of planting, mainly large irregular shaped beds set in

lawns, and containing heathers, azaleas, conifers and rhododendrons. There is a rose garden and pergola. Sold 1996. In 1998 part of the land to the north of the house was regrettably developed with housing. Private.

ORMEAU (PARK), County Down (AP BELFAST 04) D/045
REGISTERED SITE GRADE A

Late Georgian landscape park on the south bank of the River Lagan, transformed into Belfast Corporation's first public park in 1871 (104.1 acres/42.1ha). Flanked on its east side by the Ravenhill-road, the land of the park slopes gently east down to the river and when first created as the setting for what became the Donegall family house, the land around here was still countryside on the fringe of Belfast; today the park is entirely bounded by roads and housing and with the building of the bridge in 1815 lies on a major arterial route in and out of the city. The first park and house was established around 1790 for Edward Brice Kingsmill (d.1796) the agent for the Lord Dungannon at Belvoir and surveyor for the Port of Belfast; it is shown on Williamson's 1792 map of Belfast and was called 'Ormeau', being derived from the French 'Ormes d'eau', meaning elms by water. It passed to his son Robert Kingsmill (1772-1823), and then by Robert's brother-in-law, to Captain Skinner. We have no pictorial image of the original house, but it was believed to have been thatched and most likely was a gentleman's *cottage orné*, like Derrymore; indeed, it was referred to at the time as 'The Cottage'. When Skinner gave up his lease of the property however in 1803 and the land reverted back to the original land owners, the Donegall estate, George Augustus Chichester, 2nd Marquis of Donegall (1769-1844), decided to retain it for himself rather than lease the property out again. The Marquis had succeeded his father Arthur Chichester (1739-99), the first Marquis, be he, like his son, was a heavy gambler, so much so that George Augustus could not afford to continue living in Fisherwick Park, their handsome Staffordshire seat with its Capability Brown landscape park. This had to be sold and in his need to avoid his creditors, the 2nd Marquis decided to retreat to Belfast, finding Ormeau Park very suitable, being rural but also convenient to Belfast. He moved there with his wife and children in 1807; his wife being Mary May, who he married after her father had obtained his release from a debtor's prison. Between 1804 and prior to moving into the house, the 2nd Marquis evidently enlarged and altered the accommodation at Ormeau Cottage to accommodate his large household. It has been claimed, but without any solid evidence, that John Nash was engaged in 1804 to prepare the additions to the buildings in the *cottage orné* style at in the Royal Lodge, Windsor; this was certainly possible as Nash was engaged in a number of Irish projects at that time. Lack of finance prevented further work being undertaken until after 1822 when the 2nd Marquis and his son Arthur started to sell off parts of the Belfast estate by granting perpetual leases on low rents, in return for lump sums. In a ten year period they raised over £300,000, enough to keep their creditors in check, but true to form, much of the money went elsewhere, including on building work at Ormeau Cottage. The word cottage was dropped from about 1825, after which time the building was enlarged and remodelled; we know very little about the work as no doubt the Marquis was keen not to draw public attention to any sign of lavish spending, lest he annoy his creditors. We do know that the architect William Vitruvius Morrison (1794-1838) was involved, while an engraving of the completed building in the Tudor-Jacobethan style was published by Edward Proctor in 1832. Only one other illustration of the building was later published, that being a drawing by Burgess in the *Irish Penny Journal* for 1841, where it stated that the house 'was originally built as a cottage residence in the last century and has since gradually approximated to its present extent and importance by subsequent additions and improvements'; so it appears that Morrison, as he had done at Glenarm, remodelled externally what was already a large building. The house was indeed enormous, as is evident from the OS 1834 map and the later large scale 1858 map, being 280ft long (85.6m) and 144ft (43m) at its widest. The size of the park in the 1830s was 107.2 acres (68.9ha) and had been heavily planted by the Marquis of Donegall, supplementing earlier planting. The size of the park in the 1830s was 107.2 acres (68.9ha) and many of the trees are shown on

John Williamson's map of c.1792; indeed, the landscape as shown on the 1834 map is fundamentally late 18th -century in character and much may have been put down prior to 1804. This includes long and even perimeter belts along the Ravensdale-road (then the 'Newton-Breda-road') planted by 1792 and around the north of the property following the river course (planted post 1792), with further fairly even belts enclosing a series of parkland 'cells' north and east of the house; that one to the east of the house was the front 'lawn' (34 acres/13.6ha), separated the house front by a smaller lawn of 2.3 acres(0.9ha), the belt separating the two no doubt being largely shrubs. Significantly, there were few clumps and isolated trees in the park by 1834. The south limit of the original 1790s park came as far south as the modern Broughton-gardens street; only with the building of the present Ormeau-road and bridge by 1815 was the park extended further south. The 2nd Marquis added very extensive planting along the west side of the property on the banks above the river and maps indicate that he laid down a very extensive network of meandering paths and drives through these woods. The Marquis extend the park south, where he located the main entrance, replacing the earlier main entrance in the north-east sector of the park off the Ravensdale-road. Indeed, planting here was even extended beyond the Ormeau-road alongside the river banks and a narrow screen of planting was also placed alongside its east side of the Ormeau-road north of the river to hide vehicle traffic from view from the house and battery. The home farm was also west of the Ormeau Road as, as name Haypark Avenue testifies. As with the house, most of the ancillary buildings were probably added post 1825. The stable yard complex (demolished) was built in the south portion of the park, probably replacing one much nearer the house, while a large trapezoidal-shaped kitchen garden (4.9 acres/1.9ha) was laid out alongside the newly built Ormeau-road. This was replaced in the 1840s by a long rectangular walled kitchen garden (2.3 acres/0.93ha) flanking the west side of the stable yard complex. By 1834 the main entrance off the Ormeau-road had a gate lodge, there was a separate gate lodge securing access into the stable yard; the main entrance lodge survived in a form until the 1970s, while this entrance is still used today, but no longer the main entrance. There was also a gate lodge at the old late 18th-century main entrance off the Ravenhill-road - an area that fell outside the Victorian public park and is long gone. A 'hot house' marked on the 1834 OS map south of the house, roughly where 'The Lodge' was later built, was probably a relic of the old late 18th-century kitchen garden; nearby there was a pheasantry, while the park also had an ice house, two summer houses and a ornamental folly 'battery' projecting into the Lagan west of the house with cannons and a flag pole; the latter is shown in a drawing by Malloy used as a frontispiece to Proctor's Views; the later was kept as a feature in the Victorian public park. In 1844 the 2nd Marquis died; his son Arthur, the 3rd Marquis, then discovered that the estate was heavily in debt and much of the Donegall income was under the control of receivers appointed by the creditors. Ormeau had to be vacated by the family and the house was occupied for near ten years by the Marquis's agent (and cousin), Thomas Verner Jnr., with the steward Downey farming the land on his own account. The demesne continued to be farmed until the early 1860s, after which it was let out for grazing. In the same decade much of the usable standing timber was cut down and sold to a Mr. McCavana, a timber merchant. The contents of the house were auctioned off in 1857, with the building partly damaged by fire in 1861 and demolished at some point between 1864 and 1867. Discussions about making the area into a public park and cemetery began in 1864 when negotiations began between the Corporation and the Marquis of Donegall. No agreement was reached and 1865 a sub-committee was established with a view of exploring the powers required to create public parks. However, the Marquis was keen to get ready cash for his planned new seat on Cave Hill and he approached Edward Kemp (1817-91), a very well known English landscape architect and author, to transform the site into a suburban community with forty-two villas and gardens on it. The Corporation needed to move quickly and in 1869 the Public Parks (Ireland) Act was passed and the Ormeau Park land was subsequently bought by the Corporation on a long lease, with a fixed annual rent of £1,752 16s 3d. Out of the 175 acres, the Corporation reserved 98 acres for a public park, 37 to the eastern side for grazing, and, in order to help pay the rent, 40

acres –to the south- allocated for housing development- eventually to become North Parade, South Parade and Park Road. Belfast Corporation opened their first public park, Ormeau Park, on 15 April 1871 and an estimated crowd of thirty thousand attended the official ceremony. However, the park had not yet been landscaped and following a competition in 1873, plans by the young Belfast architect Timothy Hevey (1846-78) in conjunction with J.F. MacKinnon, were chosen to complete this work. What ever happened subsequently is not entirely clear as it would appear that the commissioned plans were not fully acted upon, perhaps for cost reasons. Instead, the present layout took place in stages under the supervision of the borough surveyor and along with the park superintendent, Thomas Dickson, who had been appointed in early 1874. J.C. Bretland, then Assistant Surveyor for the Borough of Belfast, who was responsible for architectural features in many of Belfast's parks was also involved and in 1878 he designed the Superintendent's House, built for £645. It occupies the site of and probably incorporates part of 'The Lodge' built in the 1840s in a clearing in the park's wood area, close to where the early 19th century 'Hot House' used to stand. It is an attractive 1½-storey building in the Picturesque tradition with steep gabled roofs, brick chimneystacks and walls, sandstone eaves and sills. There was originally a veranda to the south-eastern corner of the building, but this has been removed. The whole was surrounded by an ornamental garden of shrubs and flowers and continued to be occupied until the late 1970s. Unused, it later became derelict and by the early 2000s had been reduced to a roofless shell, but fortunately was acquired on lease by the Hearth Housing Association in 2003 and restored, with tenants in residence by July 2008. Other additions to the park followed in the 1870s; a new main gateway was made to the park in 1879, being the more northerly of the two opening off Ormeau Road, located close to the southern end of Ormeau Bridge. However, the present gate screen was not installed until 1895 by the firm of Thomas Brown & Co (Listed HB 26/03/001B). This screen is set back at an angle from the road in a wide entrance court met by curved railings to the sides, is in grandiose French Renaissance style. It has double carriage openings flanked by arched pedestrian openings, in which are hung very fine wrought and cast-iron gates with details in highlighted gold paint. The ashlar piers are constructed in red sandstone, the central one freestanding with chamfered corners projecting into short composite pilasters, half-fluted; above them is a frieze of swags. In the centre of the pier are emblazoned in low relief the arms of the City, and on its top are a set of four embellished brackets, set diagonally from each corner. South of this entrance, the railings continue in a sympathetic, but a much simpler style enlivened by the stabilizing posts with their scrollwork brackets. These railings (about just over 1m high) rise from a low wall as before, however here the sandstone is used for the coping only, with rubble fieldstone [possibly basalt] below. The railings terminate roughly opposite Delhi Street, their enclosing role taken over by a wall of coursed square rubble. The former main pre-public park entrance remains to the south of this main entrance, set roughly opposite Candahar Street. Here there is a smaller, less ornate, gate screen, constructed of cast and wrought-iron with a central carriage access flanked by pedestrian gates. The gates themselves have typically late-Victorian piercings and are supported on slim missile-like cast-iron piers. The park was given a bandstand (Listed HB 26/03/001A) around 1886, which originally stood west of the present basketball courts, before being moved to its present location in the 1940s in the south-west quarter of the park, west of the golf course. This bandstand, possibly designed by J.C. Bretland, is octagonal in plan with slim cast-iron columns with ornate scrollwork brackets, supporting a bell-shaped metal overhanging sprocketed roof topped with a finial. Between the columns are painted metal railings with simple open circular 'panels', whilst the underside of the roof is sheeted in timber. The former front 'lawn' or meadow of the Donegall house along the east side of the park flanking the Ravenhill-road was kept for grazing in 1869 and then much of it (36.5 acres/14.8ha) was leased to Ormeau Golf Club in 1892, where a nine-hole golf course was laid out and a pavilion and club constructed at the southern end of the course. Originally members only, by 1911 it had become a municipal course for use of the (fee-paying) general public, the idea of an exclusive 'club' viewed by some on the Corporation as incompatible with its position within a public space.

North of the golf course and off the Ravenhill-road a house named 'Oakleigh' was built around 1882 for the manager of the Corporation gasworks, while a few years earlier in 1880 a large roughly circular 'riding track' was laid out at the north end of the park, with a large 'cycling track' running parallel to this added c.1890. Within the area bounded by the latter a large oval pond or small lake (2.5 acres/1.05ha) with small island was made. Aside from these late 19th century structural works to the public park, the Corporation also undertook a good deal of tree and garden planting. Notwithstanding the extensive felling of the 1860s, much survived. In 2009 there were several trees with a girth of 4m or more and, when the park was opened in 1871, the *Belfast News Letter* described it as already being 'remarkably well wooded'. By 1873 'The Parks and Playgrounds Committee' set up by the Corporation was adding trees to the river banks and advising that planting following the earlier 19th century pattern of woodland along the Lagan and parkland in the east, while also recommended formal beds and tree planting along the main central path. Today there is no woodland in the north, but there is elsewhere. It is mainly deciduous, such as beech, but with a good mixture of conifers, especially Scots pines. There is a network of winding paths through the woodland as had been the case in the early 19th century. An article published in 1875 gives an impression of the 'improvements' made thus far, which were described as being 'steadily progressive'. It involved the thinning of trees, removal of very old and dead trees to create 'a more specious and delightful prospect'. The ground was levelled in many places to facilitate 'clumps of beds', notably by the main entrance 'planted with handsome shrubs and flowers' - the 'variegated the grounds wherever they are most admissible and most likely to please the eye'. It noted that by that date the 'walks were neatly kept and very happily laid out. Seats are in abundance' while a croquet had been added, swings 'for younger patrons', and a suitable enclosure for equestrian exercises was under consideration. Some early planting by the Corporation in 1879 included '100 variegated holly, 100 English Yew, 50 Pampas grass, 100 Arbutus, 100 Aucuba japonica, 50 variegated 'tree box', 100 Berberis darwinii and a few specimen trees', bought from a small little known nurseryman called George Mann in Poyntzpass, Co. Armagh; later in 1881 the same nurseryman supplied 200 rhododendrons. Trees from this era in the park today include beech, horse chestnut, and a very large black poplar near the golf course. As with the woodland, there is a network of winding paths. The central section of the main path, which runs from north-east to south-west, has conifers along it, and beds, dating from the late nineteenth century. Today, as in the 1870s, there are seasonal bedding displays at key points, for instance, flanking the south-western entrance, there are always colourful raised borders. Near them there is also a sloping, apsidal bed which always has an eye-catching display of colourful plants, sometimes depicting an anniversary. This faces the Ormeau Road in order to be seen by all passing. There are formal rose beds in the lawns inside main entrance. The two bowling greens are edged by magnificent beds of flowering plants, many of which are annuals. There has been a tradition of formal flowering beds in Ormeau Park since it opened to the public. In 1931 the Parks Committee heard the Superintendent of Parks's proposal to send surplus flowers from Ormeau Park to local hospitals. The bowling green, located in the south-east corner of the park was made in 1892 and was the first greens in a Belfast park. These occupied what had been the southern section of the old walled kitchen garden associated with Ormeau Park House. The northern section remained in use as a walled garden managed by the Parks and Playgrounds Committee (and its descendants). They built glass houses and a garden house in the garden and in 1927 they discussed propagating houses and later the City Surveyor was to be asked to plan greenhouses. At a meeting in 1931 Messrs John McNeill Ltd., Belfast's, quotation for flowerpots was accepted as it was the lowest (£73.14.10 ½). At one time, as a public health experiment, public shelters were built within the walled area. It was once proposed to use it as the headquarters of the Parks Department, however, Glencairn was chosen instead. In the early 1970s, with the reorganisation of local government, there was an initiative for tree planting on a large scale and the garden was used as a nursery for young trees, brought mainly from England and The Netherlands, until they were needed, however, the whole area is now a recycling and

storage depot and can only be accessed from Park Road. Tennis courts, with a pavilion, were later introduced to the park, (sited to the west of Oakleigh), and a children's playground was constructed at the north-eastern corner in 1912. As seen above, there had been swings and benches from the early 1870s in the public park, as well as sites for cricket and croquet and, later, hockey (in 1938 at least). At the north-west and north are pitches, an indoor tennis centre and 'Ozone' complex, with outdoor tennis courts south of these and a BMX track dating to the 1990s between them. A school—'Park Educational Resource Centre' (earlier known as Oakleigh Special School) catering for special needs—lies east of the tennis courts and opens onto the Ravenhill Road. In its early days as a park it was served by the tram routes on both the Ormeau and Ravenhill Roads. Animals were also kept within the grounds from its earliest days, with deer, geese, swans, goldfish, and even an emu present at various points in the 1870s and 1880s, with a pair of lion cubs presented to the park in 1903 and a pair of ostriches in 1904. More seriously, Ormeau was also the site of an army camp in 1907, the Middlesex, Berkshire and Essex Regiments stationed there during the Belfast Dock Strike of that year. The 1920s witnessed a major change in the layout of the grounds with the construction of a new road along the Ormeau Embankment, which entailed the loss of the riverside walk, a notable feature of the park since its opening. This road swept away the old north-eastern entrance off Ravenhill Road, and a new entrance was created further westwards, opening off the new road itself. Its gate screen is set at an angle, back from the road, and has double carriage gates flanked by pedestrian accesses. Apart from the mildly decorative arched wrought-iron gates the screen is identical to that at the main entrance to Musgrave Park having four sturdy square cut-stone pillars in simple classical style, each topped with a raised shallow pyramidal cap set on an oversailing cornice, with incised panels to the faces of the shafts. Shortly after the outbreak of World War II, part of the park (like many others in Belfast) was divided into allotments, with Ormeau chosen as one of the spaces within which demonstration plots were also laid out. The Garden Plots Association devoted 4ac to 256 allotments in the park where tenants grew vegetables and flowers. At the same time the pond was utilized by the auxiliary fire service for practice sessions, however, despite its usefulness, it suffered the same fate as those at Falls Musgrave and Woodvale Parks and was filled in shortly after 1945. Unlike its counterparts though, Ormeau appears to have been spared the loss of its gates and railings for the war effort. The loss of the pond was perhaps the single most obvious change to the park in the post war years, but there were many other alterations. By 1956 the bandstand had been moved to its present southerly location, a number of shelters and more lavatories had been put in place, a putting green laid out and new pavilion added close to the tennis courts, an athletics track constructed on the eastern side of the playing fields to the north, and an extra bowling green created to the immediate north of Oakleigh, with latter now converted from a private dwelling house to a school ('Oakleigh Special School'). There were no further notable changes until c.1970, when the lodge which formerly served the north-eastern Ravenhill Road entrance was demolished, with the older lodge close to the more southerly Ormeau Road entrance (a remnant of the old Donegall estate) suffering the same fate later in that decade. The 1990s and early 2000s witnessed several major changes on the northern and southern edges of the park. On the playing fields to the north, the athletics track was cleared away and a large modern style indoor tennis centre built. To the immediate north of this a BMX track was created around the same time, and an all-weather football pitch laid out a short distance to the south, (with the extant grass pitches repositioned). At the southern edge of the park the walled area and neighbouring site where the old stables once stood, (which was later used as a nursery), was converted to a depot for the Council's Parks Department, and more recently to a recycling centre. To the east of this a new children's playground was established, and much further east, a new clubhouse for the golf course, a few metres west of where the old clubhouse had stood. Basketball courts were introduced on the site of some of the early 20th century tennis courts, to the west of what was now the Park Educational Resource Centre, the

successor to Oakleigh Special School. Oakleigh house itself had been demolished c.1980s and replaced with a modern purpose-built school complex. Public access.

**STORMONT CASTLE AND PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, County Down (AP BELFAST 26) D/063
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Early to mid-Victorian landscape park for a house for 1850 (Listed HB 26/13/014), modified and expanded in the 1920s to accommodate the Parliament Building and its park (total registered area 261.4 acres/105.8ha), lying north of the Upper Newtownards-road, 3.8 miles (6.6km) east of Belfast centre and 4.9 miles (7.9km) north-west of Comber. The history of the property begins in the late 18th-century when the Jackson family owned a modest seat called 'Storm Mount' in the townland of Ballymiscaw, more-or-less on the site of the present house. In 1805 Esther Jackson, the daughter and co-heiress of Samuel Jackson of Storm Mount married Rev. John Cleland (1755-1834), second son of Moses Cleland and was then Rector of Newtownards and agent for the Londonderry estate. The property passed to their family and Cleland built a late Georgian style house c.1830, which was just finished when depicted on the 1834 OS map, as a south facing rectangular block with an orchard and woodland on its west side. The Rev. Cleland died in June 1834 to be succeeded by his eldest son, Samuel Jackson Cleland (1808-42), who married the following November, Elizabeth (Eliza) Joyce of Thornhill. Samuel started to enlarge the demesne around his house by acquiring neighbouring lands. The old Killeen-road just south of the old house had been closed and the traffic diverted south to the Upper Newtownards-road, allowing the park to eventually extend south to that point, removing old field boundaries and farm houses, including Rosepark, regarded at the time as one of the principal residences in the area. It was while this was being demolished by Samuel in 1842 that he was killed by a collapsing wall. His wife buried him in St Elizabeth's Church of Ireland (also known as Kirk Church) cemetery Dundonald where a high colonnaded mausoleum with a pepper-like cupola of Mourne granite for £2,000. Samuel's eldest son, John Cleland (1836-93), was a minor when he died. Before he assumed his majority in 1857 his mother had already approached Dublin-born architect Thomas Turner (c.1818-91), a former assistant to Charles Lanyon in Belfast, to draw up plans to enlarge and remodel the old house. He produced a grandiose scheme to turn the house into a vast towered and turreted Baronial castle, with a tower not unlike Prince Albert's at Balmoral; a perspective view of the proposals was published in the pages of *The Builder* in 1858. The new scheme involved substantial additions on the side and rear of the old house, which was cased in freestone and dressings (Scrabo sandstone) to correspond with the rest at a cost of £10,000 (builder: John Lowry). The building consists of a large five-bay (virtually) triple-pile block to the west with a much lower single and two-storey wing to the east / north-east which links to a large, battered, four-stage entrance tower (with attached five-stage turret) to the south-east, which has a Renaissance Style portico accessed via stone steps with heraldic beasts on the end piers. The whole is in rock-faced sandstone with hipped and gabled slate roofs, and complete with all the hallmarks of the genre, including crow-stepped parapets, conical-capped 'fairy-tale' bartizans, canted and square bays, and (to the east of the main block) several four to five stage turrets. The Cleland monogram was used on two stone shields, which were held by snarling gryphons, which still adorn the castle entrance. To the rear of the house, to the immediate north-east (Listed 26/13/016) was built the stable yard, which is roughly square in plan and enclosed on all sides with low ranges the south and east of which are faced on the outside with crenellated rock-faced walls as the castle. The entrance is to the south-east and is flanked by octagonal turrets. To the immediate south of this is a corner section with quadrant wall which is attached to a four-stage battered clock-tower, with walls as the castle and a concave leaded roof supporting a large open timber cupola with leaded ogee roof and weathervane. On the outside of the south-western corner of the yard is a shorter, but broader two-stage crenellated tower with taller attached turret, whilst attached to the western side of the yard is a large modern structure which, to the south, also links to the castle itself. The yard was being built when John married (1859) Theresa

Maria, daughter of Thomas Leyland of Haggerstown Castle., Northumberland. By this stage neighbouring land had been acquired though the efforts of his father and mother and large areas of woodland had been established. John was to create very grand formal terraced gardens on the west and south sides of the house, dominated at the north end and flanking the stable-yard, a very fine symmetrical buff-pink sandstone Gothic conservatory, octagonal in plan with glazed roof and lancet framed windows and flanked by linear ranges of lean-to glazed glasshouses (length 252ft/76.8m), all almost certainly also designed by Turner and built around 1858-59 (Listed HB 26/13/015). The central octagonal conservatory is constructed in timber and is surmounted by an octagonal glazed lantern and sandstone pineapple finial. The conservatory roof is set behind a crenellated parapet wall with tall crocketed pinnacles with *fleur-de-lys* finials rising from the octagonal corner buttresses, thus greatly enhancing its Gothick appearance. Three pointed-arched openings with crocketed hood mouldings rising to fleur-de-lys finials housing bipartite multi-pane timber French doors with a central mullion rising as a Y-tracery overlight with interlacing glazing bars. Doors open onto five nosed sandstone steps to paved front area. Six octagonal stone chimney-pots, arranged in pairs, surmount the parapet wall and on the other side of the backing wall are single storey former estate worker's houses and bothies built in relatively simple style (Listed HB 26/13/051). The boiler house with its sunken pit, lay directly behind the conservatory, accessed by a door through the wall. This range has been remodelled to serve as offices for the Stormont Estate and now fronts onto a bitmac driveway. The conservatory and its flanking ranges fronted onto the north side of elaborate formal gardens laid out on terraces, west of the house and stable yard. Today the area is covered by mowed lawns, with a square upper terrace accessed via two original sets of four steps each from the lower terrace which extends eastwards along the southern facade of the house. To the south and west this lower terrace lawn is flanked by a bordering path, access to which is gained via two sets of original eight sandstone steps on the west edge of the lawn; each had a wrought iron railing on each side with a gate of each set, all of which has long been removed. The former existence of an elaborate geometric garden of beds and intersecting paths, removed c.1914, is known from early photographs, notably a number taken by R. Welch in 1894; these were evidently very much in the style of the eminent Victorian garden designer Ninian Niven. The opportunity to learn more about this garden followed the restoration of the castle and the conservatory in 2000-02, following which, the Construction Service proposed developing the lawns into a modern garden. The Historic Environment Division (then Built Heritage, NIEA), proposed that a restoration of the Victorian garden would be more appropriate and accordingly an archaeological excavation was undertaken in April-May 2002 to identify the arrangement of paths. The archaeological excavations succeeded in recovering the former line of the gravel garden paths beneath the turf, and in the process also revealed the presence of a fine circular water pool in front of the conservatory. The pool has a diameter of 25ft with a depth of over four feet, lined throughout with cut Scrabo stone. It was discovered that at a later period, perhaps 1870s, a fountain was built in the pool centre. The gravel paths varied from 1m to 2m in width and were laid out concentrically in a symmetrical pattern that incorporated a small lawn, rose and peony beds, beds of annual planting and specimen planting; the designer may have been a professional landscape designer like Niven or the head gardener to the Cleland family from 1851-68, David Morrison, may have been responsible. Excavation revealed the base of a sundial, fragments of which turned up in storage; it had a central column and a flat platform supported by three coiled fish, while on the surface there are time keeping symbols. hourglass and sundial. In the event the finance was not available to restore the gardens, save the round pool which was conserved and kept *in situ*. Beds were planted alongside the conservatory and its ranges and more beds on the east side flanking the side walls of the Stable-yard. Immediately west of this former garden, now lawn, lies the former walled kitchen garden (0.75 acres/028ha) now partly covered by a carpark, being an extension to another carpark to its west, made in the woods. Two walls survive of the walled garden, constructed of red brick with sandstone quoin stones. The original wrought-iron railings surmounts the wall on the east side which is of plain

design. The 1850s park contained a generous planting of woodland surrounding the house and largely confined to the northern area over the now closed Killeen-road. It had three 'lawns' or meadows, one to the immediate south of the house and its terraces, which was heavily dotted with isolated trees, so designed that looking south the park seemed to continue into infinity; a large part of this lawn is now covered by Government offices. To the north of the house were two large 'lawns' enclosed by woodland belts, the larger on the west containing three round clumps. The lawn on the east side still survives intact, while the larger west lawn is where the Parliament buildings were erected. John Cleland died in 1893 and following his death, the house and grounds were let to Charles Allen, the director of the ship building firm Workman and Clark Ltd. After his departure the house was left vacant for a while and during this time saved from demolition; finally it was sold in 1921 with 235 acres for £21,000 to the newly-formed Northern Ireland Government. The house went on to serve as the official residence of the (NI) Prime Minister Sir James Craig and subsequently, became the offices of the Prime Minister and the Cabinet. Under Direct Rule it was used as by the staff of the Secretary of State, and it now serves as the Office for the First and Deputy First Ministers. South-west of the house on lower ground and screened by trees is the Speaker's House (Listed HB 26/13/017), a large two-storey with attic red brick Queen Anne-style dwelling, designed by Knott and Collins for the Speaker of the House of Commons of Northern Ireland in 1926. It consists of a large nine-bay hipped roof main block with projecting end full-height bays small one and a half storey side wings. Although intended for the Speaker, it was later occupied by several Prime Ministers. Despite the damage caused to the historic Cleland planting by this building, there are fortunately still many trees remaining including some of the oldest of the Cleland parkland trees, which continue to enhance the site. Since the 1930s the grounds to the south of the castle have gradually become populated with other government buildings, the most noteworthy of which is the rather ugly International Style 'Dundonald House', completed in 1963 for the NI Ministry of Agriculture, a building far too large for this location. The west part of the demesne was chosen as a site for the Northern Ireland Parliament, the new Parliament Building (Listed HB 22/13/013) was built to the north-east of the old mansion. This is a multi-bay four-storey Neo-Classical structure on a grand scale, designed by Arnold Thornley (1870-1953) of Liverpool and built in 1927-32 at the head of the lengthy processional Prince of Wales drive that extends down to the Newtownards-road. It is constructed of Portland stone, with a robust and dignified exterior, and symmetrical front elevation, which is dominated by a grand Ionic temple set on an arcaded base, with three-storey high columns and a finely carved tympanum with symbolic figures thereon. The temple front is flanked by long rows of uniform window openings, with those to the principal floor having hoods on brackets. The building was completed in 1932, along with matching gates, lodges and a branch of the Provincial Bank, also by Thornley. The Main entrance at the head of the long processional drive on the Newtownards-road has grand Classical style gate screen (Listed HB 26/13/020) with Portland stone carriage pillars surmounted by large fluted urns on corniced cappings. There is a two-storey cube lodge (incl. in listing) with pyramidal roof and central chimneystack. The lodge (Listed HB 26/13/021) at the west entrance of Massey Avenue is as the front lodge with the gate screen (included in listing) like that of the front but smaller. West of this gate the Provincial Bank (Listed HB 26/13/010), broadly similar to the lodges, was also designed by Thornley and completed in 1932. The Parliament Building, which sits in a commanding position at the north end of the site, is framed by mature trees growing behind on the hill summit and broad lawns below, flanking on either side by greenery. A double lime avenue sharply defines the straight processional drive, also designed by Thornley, that ascends 180ft for a distance of 0.74 miles (1.18km/1,183m long from base of steps). A statue of Sir Edward Carson (1854-1935) stands 32 high on level ground beneath the final rise to the flight of steps. This bronze statue (Listed HB 26/13/019) is work of L.S. Merrifield and unusually was unveiled in 1933 whilst the subject was still alive; it is set on a tall tapering rounded stone pedestal which itself rests on a large circular stepped base which incorporates benches. The upper part of the avenue is effectively edged with eye-catching dark fastigate yews

and *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*. Radiating roads, planned by Thornley, leads from the statute at the epicentre of the Massey Avenue entrance to the west, to Stormont Castle to the east, and on either side of the building, where wings were originally intended to be added. To the south is the straight and impressive driveway, later named the 'Prince of Wales Avenue' up a hill from the southern gate to the building was planted with double rows of lime in the lower section. False perspective was created by widening the space between the parallel rows at the northern end. Red twigged lime trees, *Tilia platyphyllos* 'Rubra' was chosen on the advice of W.J. Bean (1863-1947), Curator of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. All 305 trees survive today, having been continually successfully managed. Irish yews *Taxus baccata* 'Fastigiata' were chosen for the upper avenue, but have not fared so well on the higher and more exposed site. Bean was also responsible for the pine clumps on the hills to the south. There are three planted glens and on the north-west side a memorial cedar grove with a statue, 'The Gleaner', presented in memory of the 36th Division. More commemorative plantings were carried by members of the Royal Family in 1951 and 1953. At the north east side there is the tomb of Sir James Craig (1871-1940), 1st Viscount Craigavon (Listed HB 26/13/018), sited in 1940. Designed by Roland Ingleby Smith, and dating from 1942, this is a large block of Portland stone with a carved armorial to one end and a memorial inscription to a long side. Since 1932 the Estate Superintendant has supervised maintenance. Horticultural advice and expertise were provided for many years by Hugh Armytage-Moore (1873-1954) of Rowallane; much of his influence can be seen in the decorative section which lies between the westerly glen and the Massey Avenue entrance, where groups of ornamental flowering shrubs and trees flourish. By 1955 the condition of some areas of the grounds was giving cause for concern and W.H. Campbell (1900-64), Curator of Kew, advised on felling and draining projects in the damp sections either side of the avenue. This was followed in 1968 by a full survey by Derek Lovejoy & Partners, one result of which was the re-enforcing of the yew rows in the upper avenue with *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*. However, a suggestion to add a central lake was not taken up. The need for an overall management plan and assessment of priorities led to reports on all aspects of the landscape from 1984. Nature conservation became a priority in the 1990s and depletion of the woodlands has been checked by the on-going planting of native species. Following the reconstruction of the Parliament building in the 1990s, the layout and planting in the vicinity of the building has been sympathetically designed by Mansil Miller. The total holding of land here today is 407 acres, following further acquisitions made on a piecemeal basis in 1929 (south of main avenue); 1956 and 1967 (eastern side) and 1964-65 (to the west). In the 1990s three more fields were taken into the estate holdings. SMR: DOWN 5:1 enclosure/tree ring. Public access to parts of the park; garden area of Stormont Castle usually accessible on European Heritage Open Day.

STRANMILLIS HOUSE (COLLEGE), County Antrim (AP BELFAST 04) AN/065

GRADE B

College grounds, one time private walled demesne (49 acres/20ha) close to the west bank of the Lagan-river, 0.7 miles (1.1km) directly south of the Botanic Gardens and flanking the west side of Stranmillis-road. Stranmillis House is at the centre of a much older establishment. The demesne originated in the early 17th century, though the present house dates from c.1858 (Listed HB 26/17/003). It replaced an earlier house of 1801 and much of the present planting is associated with these two buildings. However the first house here was built by Sir Moses Hill in 1611 and this stood to the west of the present mansion where there are today outbuildings - 'Sir Moses's Cellars'. After the Hills gave up their leave, the landowner, the Marquis of Donegall, used the land to form part of a deer park, with what is now the Stranmillis Road acting as a horse course enclosing the eastern and southern boundaries of the park, and the Malone Road, then the main route to Dublin, marking its western limit. From the 1770s 'The Course' as it was called, was subdivided into plots, one of which, at the south end, was a 40-acre plot leased to the Black, Belfast merchants, who first built a summer residence here and then subsequently the house

county house on the site in 1801. This is shown on the 1830s OS map as clearly modest building, north facing, with a yard to the rear and relatively little associated planting. The place was transformed however, after it was sold to Thomas G. Batt in 1857 and a new house built on the site in fashionable Jacobethan-style by Lanyon and Lynn. Stables and offices in two yards (still present) were built a short distance west of the new house and a professionally designed landscape park was created with sweeping drives, tree clumps and isolated trees and woodland screen along the park perimeter to the north, east and south. There is still some very good plant material amongst the maintained landscape and a 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 and was made a feature of the park. The kitchen garden was originally south of the house, but later in the century a rectangular walled kitchen garden (1.43 acres/0.58ha) with NE-SW axis was made north of the stable block and north-west of the house; it has long ranges of lean-to glasshouses. Thomas Batt did not live long to enjoy his creation as he died in 1861. The house and park were then sold to various Belfast merchants until 1919 when in 1919 the property was purchased by Queen's University for £13,500, who sold it in 1922 to newly-established NI Ministry of Finance for £15,000 as the site for a new teacher training college. The main house was extended in 1922-24 by Roland Ingleby Smith and in 1926-29 the neo-classical 'Main Building', also designed by Smith assisted by Thomas F.O. Ripplingham was built as the architectural centrepiece of the site with its eye-catching central cupola. Ripplingham, who later succeeded as M. of F. Chief Architect, designed the Principal's House ('Lagan Lodge') built to the south-east in 1934, the Henry Garrett Building in 1944 (extended 1953), and the back lodge in 1949. The large Modern Style complex containing halls of residence and a dining centre was erected on the western side of the grounds in 1966-68, with the 'Central Building' (complete with circular music department) built to the south-west of the Main Building, in 1968-1970. Since that time further buildings have been added to the north-west and south-east. The well developed and attractively planted ornamental grounds enhance the many buildings that now occupy the site, many of which are listed including and two gate lodges of 1933 and 1940s (Listed HB 26/17/050 & 051). It borders Lennoxvale (AN/047) to the north. SMR: ANT 61:16 site of fortified house? Private. Access for students.

WILMONT (SIR THOMAS AND LADY DIXON PARK), County Antrim (AP BELFAST 04) N/068

Grade A

Landscape park, now a public park (124 acres/50ha) on the River Lagan, lying on the Upper Malone Road, 1.2 miles (1.9km) south-east of Dunmurry and 1.9 miles (3km) directly south-south-west of the King's Hall, Balmoral. The property was presented to Belfast Corporation by Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon in 1959, thus it bears their name. The demesne has its origins in the mid-18th-century when William Stewart (1735-1808), who had a bleach yard at Drum Bridge, obtained the lease of two plots of land here from the Marquis of Donegall and by 1767 had built a house here called 'Wilmont', which was apparently a play on his name. By the 1820s the fortunes of the Stewart family were in decline and by 1837 the vacant house, passed through the hands of the Court of Chancery, mortgaged and in 1847 leased by the Northern Bank to Alexander McKenzie Shaw, a Belfast brewer. By this stage there were already some plantations along the river to the south and along the Upper Malone Road boundary, but McKenzie decided to plant 21,000 trees in the demesne and repair the house, before buying the property outright in 1855 (trees planted were 14,603 in 1848 & 7,714 in 1849). Unfortunately, McKenzie found himself in debt and in 1856 was obliged to sign the property back over to the Northern Bank. At this point, one of its directors, James Bristow (1796-1866), later chairman, having seen the property decided to lease it himself. He demolished the old house around 1857 and engaged the architect, Thomas Jackson (1807-90) to build a new residence on a *de novo* site in a commanding position on the east side of the property (Listed HB26/16/005A). His new house was a plain brick-built two-storey, three-bay

classical villa, with curved bows, cambered upper windows, eaved roof on bracket cornice, a profusion of chimneypots and a balustraded porch; there is a lower wing ending with a wing as high as the main block. He retained the existing yards/offices to the south, but added a new gate lodge to north (demolished) and re-directed the main avenue to his new house. He also built the walled garden around 1859-60; this occupies a rectangular area (0.99 acres/0.4ha) about 400 ft (125m) south-west of the new house from which it was well screened from house and park by trees on all sides. There were irregular shaped slip-areas on both the west and south of the garden, small orchards for apples and pears on the south, and potting sheds against both the north wall (still surviving) and in the west slip. The potting sheds on the north wall were rebuilt in the 1890s; to the outer face of the east wall of the garden there is a pet cemetery, with memorials on the wall dating from 1905, 1932 and 1938. Internally the ground in the garden has a gentle north-south inline, enclosed by a high brick wall (English Garden Bond) with stone coping, stepped downhill on the slopes. A map of 1969 shows two glass houses against the western wall and several free-standing glass houses outside the garden at the west. There was an ice house outside the south-west corner, although there appears to be no trace of this today. The garden presently has clipped hedges in a formal arrangement; since 1981 over seventy camellia cultivars have been growing in it. It is one of four centres in the United Kingdom for International Camellia Trails since 1971. The camellias are tried throughout the year for various characteristics, blooming season being March to June. The walled garden also presently houses the Fleuroselect display of annual bedding plants. Much of the present parkland was also laid out for the 1850s house; the existing older (mostly oak) woodlands were extended considerably on the south and east; new woodland blocks were created to the north towards Old Forge House; the park was also decorated with small tree clumps and isolated trees and these were supplemented by succeeding generations so that the park today boasts many fine specimen trees, both coniferous, including cedar, cypress and Scots pine, and deciduous, with some magnificent exotics to the south-west of the dwelling house. The Stewart family interest in the house ended in the late 1879-80 when it was acquired by Robert Sturrock Reade (1837-1913), the chairman of the York Street Flax Spinning Company, President of Belfast Chamber of Commerce in 1881 & 1906. He removed the old yard built new outbuildings to the south-east corner of the demesne arranged around a roughly rectangular yard around 1880, most of which survived until the early 1990s when most of the older structures on the western side of the complex were demolished and replaced with modern buildings. A long two-storey range on what had been the south side of the yard was subsequently in part converted into a coffee shop. Reade also made a new rear drive and gate lodge, and the 'shaded walk' to the north of the walled garden. This gate lodge built in the 1880s (Listed HB 26/16/005B) is sited at the south entrance off the Upper Malone Road; it is a neat, picturesque single-storey gable-ended dwelling with attic level, symmetrical frontage, red and painted brick walls and an oversailing roof with decorative bargeboards and relatively tall polychrome brick chimneystacks; rere extension added c.2002. The rhododendron which fringe the park woods seem to date from Reade's time as does a bamboo walk north of the house, which runs from west to east, just east of the bridge carrying the carriage drive. The forecourt and terrace and level lawn to the south of the house backed by rhododendron, and trees, was probably made in the 1890s with a path from the forecourt leading to a yew walk which runs from east to west. This leads to a circular pond to the west. An azalea walk runs at right-angles to the yew walk and is backed on the west by the wall of the walled garden and on the south by a hedge. A path runs from east to west between the two borders which are filled with azaleas of all varieties. Reade added new potting sheds to the north wall of the garden and to the north of these built a relatively small fountain, with circular stone basin and a central crown-shaped metal fountainhead. On the basin there is a plaque which reads 'Golden Crown Fountain- Restored July 2002'. In an opening in hedging at the end of the path to the east of the fountain there is an ornate wrought-iron pedestrian gate installed around 1900. In 1919 the property was sold to Sir Thomas (1868-1950) and Lady Edith Dixon (1867-1964) who seem to focus much of their energy

of changing the house interior. In 1934 Wilmont served as the temporary residence for the Governor of Northern Ireland, after Government House in Hillsborough was damaged in a fire, and during World War II the house was the HQ for the US forces stationed in this country. In 1959, Lady Dixon handed the 134 acre Wilmont estate over to Belfast Corporation, for use as a public park. The new 'Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon Park and Playing Fields' (as it was originally known) was officially opened in April 1963, with the house, which became an old peoples home, opening a few weeks afterwards. That year a children's playground was made to the south of the house and a car park provided to the north. In 1964, the park was chosen to become the setting for a large rose garden (11 acres), with an area within the parkland to the west and north-west of the house set aside for trial purposes. The first trials took place in 1965-66, and in 1975 'Belfast Rose Week' was inaugurated, to involve the visiting public to a greater degree in the Trials. In the late 1980s the rose garden area was redeveloped, officially opening again in July 1990. The overhaul involved the extensive planting of alder and oak for shelter and encircling azaleas and rhododendron for early colour. 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 some interesting plant material. The main house closed as a nursing home in the early 1990s, with ownership reverting to Belfast City Council, and despite various proposals in recent years, it has yet to find a permanent use.

**WOODVALE PARK, County Antrim (AP BELFAST 04) AN/183
REGISTERED SITE GRADE A**

Park (23 acres/9.3ha) in the grounds of a former house called Glenvale in West Belfast at the head of the Shankill Road, north-west of Belfast City-centre. 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 19th century. Glenvale house formerly stood in the southern corner of the new park; at the time of purchase it belonged to Rev. Octavius Glover. The house and offices were all demolished following the purchase and the park name was changed to 'Woodvale'. A new gate screen and railings were installed in 1887 (Listed HB 26/38/002), a pond created in the north-eastern corner, (which was initially supplied with a single swan), and provision made for the playing of cricket and football all, bar the swan (which was a donation), at a cost of £495. Although the park was officially opened on August 18, 1888, the landscaping—to the plans of City Surveyor Josiah Corbett Bretland—was unfinished, with flower beds and tree planting incomplete, the planned porter's lodge not yet built, and the staff not yet appointed. It has four entrances, two at the north, one at the east and one at the south. A Porter's Lodge, shelter and bandstand were subsequently added. An additional piece of ground was added to the north-western corner in c.1903, but, at only a quarter of an acre, it made little impact on the overall space. It has a decorative octagonal summer house (north of the same bowling green), whilst the larger lodge had a greenhouse. Photographs from the Welch collection show some of the features in 1922, the year in which tennis courts were provided on the west side of the park. Following World War I, as in Falls Park, a special tree was planted in August 1919 to celebrate the Declaration of Peace. This is an oak tree which is in the south-west of the park. It is surrounded by railings and has a plaque. When visited in November 2011 a recent poppy wreath and small Union flags were on the railings. The large pond, used for ice-skating in winter, was infilled in the late 1940s and replaced by a children's playground. There are sports facilities, bedding, mature trees and lawns. Part of the north section was refurbished as part of the Belfast Council Investment Programme with additional facilities included a 7-a-side football pitch, bowling pavilion, children's playground, outdoor exercise area and community garden. Home of Northern Ireland's Tree of the year, 2015. Public access.

GROUP OF CONTIGUOUS SITES – EDGEHILL (COLLEGE): LENNOXVALE: MOUNT PLEASANT: RIDDEL HALL: SUMMER HILL, County Antrim (SUPPLEMENTARY SITES - AP BELFAST 04)

These grounds are individually worth noting and also together form a large block of planted up area within the urban surroundings of south Belfast. The combined area is 22 acres (9ha). In the north-west is Edgehill (now a Methodist College), a house built in 1875 by Young & Mackenzie (Listed HB 26/17/006). 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 26/17/017), 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 18th 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 (Listed HB 26/17/001). The gardens are referred to in the UAHS booklet as, '... essential to the character of the terrace'. Private. Riddel Hall on the eastern side of the site was built as a hall of residence from 1913-15 (Listed HB 26/17/034) 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. The hall was given a large modern extension on its west side in 2012. Private. Summer Hill is an attractive late Victorian House on high ground (Listed HB 26/17/008). 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.

AREA PLAN – CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05

**ANDERSON PARK, County Londonderry (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) L-089
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Municipal Park (11.3 acres/4.6ha) of Edwardian date lying in the centre of the town of Coleraine, north-east of the Diamond. The main ornamental park, which occupies undulating ground, is divided into a north section (1.8ac) and south section (2.9ac) by the east-west running Circular Road; a further section (6.5 acres/2.6ha) lies west of the Millburn Road and is mostly devoted to sporting activities. The park is named after a local businessman, Hugh Anderson, who had bequeathed £3,000 in 1876 to the Coleraine Town Commissioners to create a public park. The land was bought in 1902 and the park was laid out by the well-known Dublin-based landscape gardener, William Sheppard, who was awarded the contract in July 1902 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. Much of Sheppard's original informal layout survives, with its network of serpentine paths amidst lawns, trees and shrubs; a stream runs along the south boundary of the park and originally flowed into a small lake in the west sector, now infilled. The focus of the park section north of the Circular Road is a cast-iron drinking fountain (Walter McFarlane & Co), erected in 1911 as a memorial of the park's donor (Listed HB 03/18/022); it has an oriental design with pierced cupola, similar to others produced by the firm for public parks in Ireland and Great Britain. The park section south of the road has recently been rejuvenated, resulting in the restoration one of its three original ponds. The large park section west of the Millburn Road, once dominated by a small lake (1.2 acres/0.61ha), now has a playing field in its south section; four modern tennis courts

with pavilion in its central section and a modern ornamental circular rose garden in the north section; in the centre of the latter, the Phoenix Fountain, is also a recent addition, as is a pergola for climbing roses. A small car park lies just north of the Rose Garden. The park is well maintained and gains much from its mature trees, which gives the park a wooded appearance. Coleraine Borough Council. Public amenity.

ARDNARGLE, County Londonderry (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) L-040

REGISTERED GRADE B

Small late 18th century parkland (65 acres/26.3ha) on flat land in the Roe Valley, just north of Limavady. Survives intact with its mature surrounding shelter belt trees and mature mid-19th century woodland to east and south of house. *The Register of Trees for Co. Londonderry 1768-1911*, lists many trees planted in the tree belts by John Ogilby in 1796, these being mostly ash and sycamore with some beech, and Scotch fir, and the parkland tree planting here, according to an 1835 account, was 'well-disposed giving the appearance of a greater extent than they cover'. Avenue west of house is lined with oak (north side) and beech (south side). Some conifers were added to the tree screens in the 1960s, and there is an area of comparatively recent planting on the extreme south east of the park. An artificial oval pond or miniature lake (0.6ac) in the west sector of the parkland is an original 18th century feature. The substantial, but relatively plain house, which replaced an earlier dwelling, was built in 1788-90 with extensions c1855 (Listed HB 02/10/005); it later served as a dower house for Pellipar at Dungiven. The productive kitchen garden and orchard lay just north of the house. The ornamental gardens east of house have also now gone. Private.

BALLYDIVITY, County Antrim (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) An-005

REGISTERED GRADE A

Small 18th century demesne (125 acres/50.6ha) located 2.5 miles (4km) south-east-south of Bushmills in the townland of Ballydivity. Its associated house (Listed HB 05/07/007) is an austere and modest east-facing gabled-ended three bay two-storey building that was built for James Moore, a linen draper, between 1737-48 on land granted by the Antrim estate. It later passed to the Stewart family, was sacked by insurgents in 1798, and substantially rebuilt in 1800-1810. At that time c.1810, the Castlecat Road, which had then been only 14m from the house's front door, was realigned a further 20m east to facilitate greater privacy; north-east of the house a gate lodge was also added around this time from the new road, but this was demolished in the 1970s (DeListed HB 05/07/008). A demesne map of 1816 shows the outline of the planting at Ballydivity much as it is today, with wood shelter strips flanking each side of the line of the old road ('Old Road Plantation'); woodland east of the present Castlecat Road ('Fir Plantation') and woodland west and north of the house ('Springwell Plantation; The Laurels & Sheepwalk Plantation'). Today the woodlands, which have been managed, contain some trees that are c.200 years old; in the 1832 Memoirs these woodlands contained larch, beech and fir some of which at that time had been 'but a few years planted'. The main walled garden (1.1 acres/0.5ha) of irregular plan lies just north of the house; it had a slip garden flanking its west and northern sides, with glasshouses placed in the centre of the garden. There are still two 20th century glasshouses here, but since the early 1990s the garden has largely become overgrown, though there are still mowed areas near the house. There is another smaller walled garden, called the Top Garden, that lies to the north of the offices; this is disused; a garden house is attached to the latter walled garden. A small maintained ornamental garden lies to the south of the house. Private.

BALLYHIBISTOCK HOUSE, County Antrim (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) An-006

REGISTERED GRADE A

Miniature Early Victorian park (26 acres/10.5ha) located 0.5 miles (0.8km) north of the village of Derrykeighan and 3.9 miles (6.3km) south-east of Bushmills in the townland of Ballyhibstock

(Ballyhivestock) Lower. Laid out and planted with shelter belts trees to the south and east of the house in the early 1830s by Charles George Stuart after his father's death in 1826. Stuart was an agent for several important north Antrim estates. 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 (0.45 acres/0.18ha), which lies a short distance north east of the house front, was 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 good quality garden. Private.

**BALLYLOUGH HOUSE, County Antrim (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) An-007
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Demesne landscape (220 acres/85ha) of largely early 18th century date, but with earlier origins. It is located in the townland of Ballylough More on the east bank of the River Bush, 2 miles (3.2km) south of Bushmills. The house at the centre of this landscape is a large three-bay north-facing gabled block of two-storeys over a basement flanked by sweeping castellated quadrant walls (Listed HB 05/07/004), built c.1730 by the agent for the Antrim estate, Alexander Stewart. The Stewarts had been granted the land here by Randall, Earl of Antrim, in 1625, and are recorded as living here by 1641, mostly probably then occupying the McQuillan and latterly the O'Kane tower house; the ruined remains of this now form an impressive focal point in the garden 100 yards (93m) south of the house. The landscape layout associated with the c.1730 house was formal, and comprised three, probably four, straight tree-lined avenues or vista aligned on the house at the cardinal points, similar in many respects to the geometric landscape once associated with c.1700 layout at Springhill, Co. Londonderry. North of the house and axially aligned on the front façade ran a straight tree-lined avenue, 0.5 miles (0.7km) long extending due north, a few trees of which survived until 1933. Aligned on the south facade of the house ran an avenue of beech trees, 200 yards (180m) long; known in later years as the 'beech walk', its remaining ancient trees were felled in 1941-42. A straight avenue approach from the west, also of beech tree (0.3 miles/0.7km), was later naturalised into an irregular line; this remains in use as an avenue. Beyond the beech walk, lying 350 yards (315m) south-west of the house, was a duck decoy, all trace of which had gone by the 1830s, but the standard form for that period had four pipes projecting from a central rectangular basis. Some naturalisation of the landscape followed its purchase by Archdeacon Anthony Traill (1755-1831) in 1789, who also remodelled the house c.1792 and added the return and quadrant walls c.1815. Most of the woodland blocks appear to belong to the late 18th century improvements by Archdeacon Traill; these include Peter's Wood to the south-west of the house; Rabbit Hill Plantation, south-east of the house, Crow's Plantation and Whitegate Plantation, north of the house. The north-east serpentine avenue, still the main entry into the park and house, also belongs to the late 18th century modifications to the park. The lodge to this north-east gate has an early Victorian gate lodge c.1840 in the picturesque manner; the other lodge into the property stands at the west gate entrance; known as the Drum Lodge (Listed HB 05/07/005), this has a distinctive two storey castellated gothick circular tower, c.1800; it was restored in the early 2000s and is now joined by a gabled extension. The long rectangular walled kitchen garden (1.76 acres/0.7 ha) flanks the east gable of the house and runs alongside the former line of the south beech walk; this garden, which retains some of its old walls, is part of the original c.1730 formal demesne layout. The area is currently maintained as an ornamental garden, sheltered by the curving walls that screen either side of the north facing house front. A beech hedge subdivides the upper portion near the house; it contains a substantial fully maintained area, 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. SMR: ANT 7:4 McQuillan 15th 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.

BEARDVILLE, County Antrim (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) An-069

REGISTERED GRADE A

Modest-sized Georgian parkland (registered area 74 acres/30.1ha), lying 4.4 miles (7.15km) north-east of Coleraine and 3.45 miles (5.55km) south-east of Portrush, on land that had been leased by Francis Macnaghten from the Earl of Antrim in 1709; the Macnaghten family were to hold Beardville for much of the 18th-and 19th-centuries, The house, which is a rectangular two-storey over basement plain symmetrical five bay block with widely spaced windows, steep hipped roof, substantial chimneystacks and slightly battered roughcast walls (Listed HB 03/05/014). There is an armorial plaque over the main door incorporating the date 1715. On the west side there is a single-storey over basement extension with hipped roof, perhaps late Georgian in date. A drawing by Lord Mark Kerr dated October 1928 shows the house much as it is today, but with dormers (three in front and at least one of the west) and a greater abundance of tall chimneystacks. A survey by Thomas Roe in 1712 shows the demesne in a nascent stage of its development, with 'house, orchard, garden, stead and meadow or moss'. The original formal demesne had wide straight edged shelter belts on its south-west and south-east sides, with woodland blocks on the south-west and south-east sides, the latter enclosing a walled garden. The landscape was enlarged and remodelled as a naturalised parkland around 1795-1800; this involved removing formal elements from around the house, including no doubt a straight avenue aligned on the south-west façade. The house and park are shown on Taylor and Skinner's 1777 map (as 'Bardy-Field'); also marked on Lendrick's 1780 map and is mentioned ('Bardyfield') in *the Post-Chaise Companion* of 1786. The new landscape park was entered down two winding avenues south-west and south-east of the house; both these avenues were given gate lodges in the early 19th century, one being now derelict (Listed HB 03/05/014B & 014D). Plantations were also added to the north and east sides of the demesne around 1800, which at its greatest extent covered 211.6 acres (85.6ha). There were regular perimeter plantings along the Cloyfin-road and the Ballyhome-road, with substantial perimeter shelter belts on the north and east sides of the park. As one would expect, the walled garden to the west was enclosed in woodland, but the central area of the park was left largely open, save for a few round clumps south-east of the house. Both gate lodges survive and are believed to be 18th-century in date; the north entrance (Listed HB 03/05/014B) has a pair of small cube-like dwellings with rubble walls and a slated pyramid roof topped with a small ball finial. Sweeping behind each is a quadrant wall in matching stone, culminating in a square pillar, believed to be c.1790. At the head of the south drive is a more unusual arrangement with two hipped roof single-storey lodges with now blind 'Doric' windows in front attached to either side of a semi-circular archway topped with a pediment with oculus and ball acroteria. This is believed to be of similar date or perhaps earlier. In 1835 the OS Memoirs noted that the tree planting at that time was mixed, but 'principally fir' and was in general 'from 30 to 40 years old, but many are of more ancient date'. The outer plantations on the north and east were removed in the 20th century and the demesne is now much reduced in size to about 80 acres extent. The walled garden, which dates to around 1715-20, lies north-west of the house; it has a square plan (97 x 96 yards) covering 1.9 acres (0.8ha), with stone walls and some internal brick-lining. The area south of the walled garden was formally an orchard. The demesne passed hands in 1845 to one Hugh Lecky, whose son, also Hugh, converted the walled garden backsheds in the south-east corner, including an Apple House, into a dwelling around 1939-40. Subsequently, the walled garden was planted with trees, with tennis court made in the centre and a rectangular pond, associated lawn and herbaceous border close to the new dwelling. North-east of the house on sloping ground is the 'Mistress's Cottage' (Listed HB 03/05/014C) is a two-storey house, refurbished in 1986, and probably a former dairy, laundry etc. North-west of the house are two

rubble-constructed outbuildings, that on the north a former stable. The main house was shut up c.1940 and remained empty until sold in 1965; it has been subsequently restored. SMR: ANT 6:11 tree ring. Private.

**BELLARENA, County Londonderry (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) L-002
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Parkland (195 acres/79ha) occupying flat ground bordering the north bank of the River Roe with splendid views of Binevenagh (height 1263ft/385m), 4 miles (7km) north of Limavady. Known once as Ballymargy, it was renamed Bellarena ('beautiful strand') in the 1790s, apparently on the suggestion of the Earl-Bishop of Derry. The pre-dominantly late-Georgian house, which faces south-east over the river, was largely built in 1797 by Marcus Gage, incorporating an earlier house of 1661; it was remodelled to a design of John Lanyon in the 1830s (Listed HB 02/08/002A). To the rear is a late 18th century coach yard (Listed HB 02/09/002B) and a farm yard to north-west, probably largely built in 1830s (Listed HB 02/09/002C). The demesne (180 acres/73ha) has very necessary shelter trees beyond to the north and west, with the main woodland planting east of the house around the walled garden and along the mill race to the mill pond. Sampson, in his *Statistical Survey of the County of Londonderry* (1802), noted that the park 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'. From 1801-31 some 43,000 trees were added to the demesne, supplemented with further extensive shelter plantations on the north demesne fringes in the 1840s. Within the park to the north of the house stands a circular folly tower, probably built as a viewing station over a racecourse that lay immediately to its north. There are well maintained pleasure grounds flanking the house, including some specimen trees and large mature clumps of shrubs, notably rhododendrons. Beyond these pleasure grounds to the east of the house lies the walled garden, which was probably built in the 1790s. This comprises a long rectangular area with enclosing stone walls, some brick-lined, which is divided by a wall into two areas; a rectangular kitchen garden area (1.3 acres/0.52ha) on the west with a smaller area to the east (0.7 acres/0.3ha); the latter has been an orchard from at least the 1830s and has a former head gardener's house in its north-east corner. The main rectangular kitchen garden contained a free-standing glasshouse in its north sector; this has now been replaced by a modern summer house, while the associated garden has been rejuvenated with near paths, lawns and pleached limes. A long narrow slip garden (0.6 acres/0.24ha) formerly bordered the walled garden on the south. There is an ice house built into the embankment on south side of the drive (Listed HB 02/09/002D), and a Victorian Dispensary (Listed HB 02/09/003) lies on the west perimeter of the demesne. There are three gate lodges: these include the main entrance lodge on the east side, built c.1910 (Listed HB 02/09/002E); a Rear Lodge c.1865 at the West entrance (Listed HB 02/09/004) and a third lodge c.1835 on the north-east (Listed HB 02/09/004). House is private.

**BENVARDEN, County Antrim (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) An-011
REGISTERED GRADE A**

This well maintained walled demesne parkland (270 acres/109ha), established in the late 17th century on the River Bush, nearly 6 miles (9km) west of Coleraine and 2 miles north-west of Dervock in Benvardin Townland. The park, which incorporates elements of the previous 18th century landscape, was laid out in its present form during the first decade of the 19th century and survives remarkably unaltered. It was created to accompany the rebuilding of the house for the Montgomery family, owners of the Montgomery Bank, who acquired the property from the Macnaghten family in 1797. This low rambling house (Listed HB 04/02/002), which replaced the thatched Macnaghten dwelling, survives substantially unchanged, as does the associated surrounding designed landscape, which was laid out on both sides of the River Bush in the fashionable Reptonian picturesque style of the Regency era. Described in the 1830s as containing

'every variety of tree, very tastefully and judiciously disposed', it typically comprises a series of open park meadows, mostly dotted with clumps or isolated trees, and enclosed by tree belts and screens, mostly oak and beech; the planting in this park remains remarkably unaltered in layout since it was created. The most notable tree, lying north of the house, is a Grecian Fir (*Abies Cephalonia*), 26.5m high with girth of 4.76m (the Irish girth champion). There were two main avenue approaches; the present main drive, whose entrance (with gate lodge) lies just west of Benvardin Bridge and follows the west bank of the Bush River, was laid out c.1820 to replace an earlier avenue whose entrance lay 370ft (113m) further west; this latter drive was finally abandoned c.1860. The other main approach avenue, lay out c.1810, which also had a gate lodge now demolished, entered the demesne 500m east of Benvardin Bridge and crossed the parkland east of the River Bush, crossing the river below the house, via a wooden bridge, later replaced in 1878 with a magnificent cast iron bridge 90 ft. long with squared rock-faced abutments (Listed HB 04/02/002D); this bridge and latter avenue ceased to be used in the 1970s and the parkland east of the river was leased to the Ulster Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (USPCA) and a Safari Park established here; most of the land has reverted back to the estate and the land integrated back into the historic parkland. Opposite the south front of the house and screened by trees lies the stable yard, c.1800, laid out in parallelogram-plan, entered by an elliptical-headed carriage arch with gable and cupola-like open bell cote with bell inscribed 'Glasgow 1781' (Listed HB 04/02/002A & B). Abutting the south-west side of the yard and well screened by trees on all sides, lies the walled garden (1.98 acres/0.8ha), dating to c.1800 but which an earlier garden on the same site depicted on an estate map of 1788. This garden (Listed HB 04/02/002C) is enclosed by rubble stone walls 16ft high with internal brick-lining; it is subdivided by a wall into two portions, with the larger section lying to the north (1.2 acres/0.48ha). 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. Both sections of the walled garden are still fully cultivated in high order and in the traditional manner with vegetable plots, free-standing espalier and wall fruit trees, extensive clipped box hedges, together with herbaceous and mixed borders, a rose garden, a parterre garden, fish pond with fountain, glasshouses utilized ornamentally and for fruit, including a melon house, tomato house, mushroom house and associated potting sheds. Some minor alterations to the grounds near the house were made in 1865 during the Crimean War when the Montgomery family excavated an oval pond near the river, which was surrounded with fastigate yews and rhododendrons (the soil at Benvardin is acid) and a network of gravel paths. This garden area, which had become overgrown by the 1960s, has been restored by the present owners, who have added azaleas, camellias and other shrubs. The present owners have also carried out much new tree planting in the parkland reinforcing the mature shelter planting, most necessary as the site is very exposed to the winds. SMR: ANT 12:2 tree ring 2:26 oval crop mark. The house is private. The gardens are open to the public (opening times given on their website); tea rooms, plants/vegetables for sale and disabled access.

BOVAGH HOUSE, County Londonderry (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) L-055 REGISTERED GRADE A

A small, high quality well wooded parkland of 48 acres (19.4ha) with mature trees set on the southern banks of the Agivey River, enclosing a house (Listed HB 03/03/028) built in c.1730-40 for the Marquess of Waterford's agent. According to the 1835 OS memoirs this house, which survives largely unaltered, incorporates an 'ancient castle' of the O'Cathans that had been acquired by the Beresford family in the 17th century; however, it is possible this earlier residence lay one mile to the west in Mullinabrone townland. The 1802 Statistical Survey noted the demesne had 'good quality old timber', no doubt relics of a formal landscape setting of c.1730-40. An ancient beech avenue, now incorporated within woodland west of the house and yards, evidently constitutes part of this early layout. The present landscape is largely of early 19th century date; it includes the main parkland drive, which meets the road near Bovagh Bridge, where there was once a mid-

Victorian gate lodge, now long gone; a second twisting avenue south of the house served principally as a tradesman's entrance. A large plantation of about eleven acres ('Bovagh Wood') south of the Mullaghinch Road, now mostly felled, was also apparently planted around 1800. The original kitchen garden lay to the west of the house and rear yards; the present mid-Victorian kitchen garden, presently engulfed with trees, lies south-east of the house above the Mayoghill River on land that had been previously orchards; it has an irregular shape, 1.2 acres extent and still includes relics of box and formal yew trees, all now overgrown. There was no glasshouse in the kitchen garden, but there is a Victorian glasshouse immediately to the south-west of the house, with a small box parterre in front. The main avenue contains the remains of a collection of exotics. Two Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) in the park have been designated as Irish champions. House private.

**CROMORE, County Londonderry (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) L-038
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Demesne of 140 acres (65.6ha) lying on the south-east side of Portstewart, some 2.8 miles/4.5km north of Coleraine (townland of North Ballyleese). Original house here, a two storey four bay buildings with dormered attic, had a small associated park of 33 acres (13ha); both park and house were considerably enlarged in 1834 for John Cromie, who extended the somewhat austere main house block by a full height bay each end, adding also at one end a pavilion in the form of a Doric temple to serve as an entrance (Listed HB 03/07/011). His architect has not been established, but in the 1850s a balancing conservatory was built at the opposite end of the house, the latter probably designed by Lanyon and Lynn, who earlier (1856-7) had also designed a gate lodge and associated screen on the east side of the park (Listed HB 03/07/010). By this stage the parkland, which incorporated the 18th century tree belts, had reached its present extent of 104 acres (56.6ha). The 1850s gate lodge was erected for a new avenue providing access to the then new railway line just outside the eastern demesne boundary; this access has long been redundant and the earlier avenue on south-west now functions as the main approach to the house. Save for the area north-west of the house, much of the original woodland in the demesne has survived, albeit now depleted, with open meadow parkland south-east and east of the house. The walled garden (1.1 acres/0.44ha), which lies unusually close to the house on the east side is no longer cultivated and its glasshouses long gone; this garden is 18th century, partly rebuilt in the 1830s. Troops were billeted in the park during the war and subsequently the property was sold by the Montagu family; it operated as a care home until 2014.

**DOG LEAP, County Londonderry (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) L-041
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Twentieth century house and garden (6 acres/2.4ha) on the north bank of the River Roe and south of Limavady. House of 1923 was built to design of Buchanan and Reid, while the well planted and maintained gardens, which lie on sloping ground towards the river, were developed from the early 1930s. Early features were an Italian Garden and Bog Garden; subsequent additions included a rock garden, rose garden, cherry avenue, five ponds with extensive lawns and shrubberies, all lying south and west of the house. Gardens open for wedding photos.

**DOWNHILL, County Londonderry (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) L-005
REGISTERED GRADE A***

One of Ireland's best known demesnes, Downhill is celebrated for its spectacular settling on Ulster's north coast and for its impressive ruined late 18th century palace and associated neo-classical parkland buildings, most notably the Mussenden Temple. Lying west and south-west of Castlerock village, the demesne is physically divided into two sections by the Mussenden Road (A2) - the south section (117 acres) is currently owned and managed by the Forest Service (DAERA), while the northern portion (148 acres), largely belongs to and is managed by, The

National Trust. The south section contains the two significant pre-demesne features, namely the medieval church and graveyard (SMR: LDY 2:1) and an impressive earthwork, 'Dungannon Fort', possibly Iron Age (SMR: LDY 2:6). The North section contains most of the heritage demesne buildings, including the vast shell of the neo-classical palace and associated yards to the rear; this sits on a wind-swept plateau 350m south of the basalt sea cliff edge, dominating the whole landscape for miles around. (Listed HB 03/12/015, including ha-ha). The palace was built in stages from 1775-87 by the rich and eccentric Frederick Augustus Hervey (1730-1803), 48th Bishop of Derry and later 4th Earl of Bristol. His principal architect was the Cork born Michael Shanahan (1731-1811); other architects involved at various times included (Sir) John Soane (in 1780), James and David McBlain, Richard Louch (in 1783) and Placido Columbani (in 1784-85); while other architects consulted included James Wyatt and John Henderson. The Earl-Bishop, as he is now normally known (he is also sometimes called the 'Edifying Bishop') was attracted by Downhill's Ossianic setting, which 'being isolated and dwarfed by a vast untamed wilderness beside the ocean's infinity' had all the qualities of sublimity that was so fashionable at that time. Planting on the high exposed headland was impractical, but the Earl-Bishop decorated the landscape near the house with a number of high quality neo-classical buildings. One of these included 'The Mausoleum' (Listed HB 03/12/014) standing on rising ground south of the palace; it was erected in 1779-83 as a cenotaph to the memory of the bishop's elder brother, the 2nd Earl of Bristol (1721-1775) and modelled by Shanahan on the Roman mausoleum of the Julii family at Saint Remy in Provence; the upper portion of the monument with its statue was unfortunately blown down by the 'Big Wind' of January 1839. North-east of the palace he built a circular castellated 'banqueting house' (or belvedere), but the principal garden building was the domed rotunda Mussenden Temple, built in 1783-86 as a library of the cliff's edge to the north of the palace (Listed HB 03/12/016); for years, the symbol of the National Trust in Northern Ireland and one of Ireland's finest neo-classical buildings; named in honour of Mrs Fredeswide Mussenden, a cousin of the Earl-Bishop, it was loosely based by Shanahan on the Temple of Vesta at Tivoli, a popular destination for 18th century Grand Tour' travellers to Italy. Other demesne buildings include impressive demesne entrance gates, namely the 'West Gate' or Lion Gate (1781-83), comprising a pair of Adameque gate piers, surmounted by carved snow leopards or ounces, adopted from the Hervey family arms (Listed HB 03/12/018); formerly quadrant walls linked these gate piers to porter's lodges, now demolished. The other significant demesne entrance, the 'Bishop's Gate', originally named the 'Coleraine Battalion Gate', lies to the east gives access to the Black Glen; built in 1783-84, it comprises an elegant neo-classical pedimented arch with an adjoining distinctive Gothic-style porter's lodge (Listed HB 03/12/012), the latter designed and built by James McBlain in 1784. Following the National Trust restoration of these buildings in the early 1960s, the then warden, Miss Jan Eccles, established a notable garden here, including a bog garden, which is still largely maintained by the Trust. The planting here extends into the deep sided Black Glen and Portvantage, where shelter from the winds allowed trees and shrubs to be planted from the late 1770s and 1780s; at this time trees were also planted within the glen to the south of the road; surviving correspondence indicates that Shanahan was being advised by William King, a nurseryman then (1778) engaged on landscaping at Florence Court. The walled garden, located 180m west from the house and close to the Lion Gates, was built under Shanahan's directions in 1778-83; it comprised basalt walls, c.3 m high, enclosing an area of 2.6 acres (1 ha), subdivided into two major sectors and dominated by a domed dovecot with an ice below, built in 1783 (Listed HB 03/12/019). Sycamores were planted on the garden's east and south sides to give some wind protection to this garden, while internally a network of hedges (escallonia was used in the 19th century) to give additional shelter for the garden produce. Following the Earl-Bishop's death in 1803, the Hervey Bruce family, who inherited the property, continued to embellish the demesne, notably adding artificial lakes to both the Portvantage Glen to the north and the Glen south of the road. At the same time many more trees were being added and in 1809 the Dublin Society registered 39,000 trees to have been recently planted at

Downhill, these are known to have included alder, beech, elm, rowan, oak and sycamore, together with a variety of conifers, such as larch, Balm of Gilead (*Abies balsamea*), Silver and Scotch firs, Weymouth pine and spruce fir; two enormous champion Sitka Spruce (*Picea sitchensis*), possibly planted around 1860 from seed, now stand at 45-50m high with girths of 6.45m and 7.10m. In the early 19th century the Hervey Bruce family also added ornamental planting along the road east of the Bishop's Gate (mostly oak and sycamore), while the lands of Freehall Dunlop were added to the demesne in the 1870s. This followed the purchase by Sir Hervey Bruce of the Clothworker's Ulster holdings in 1871; following this, with architect John Lanyon, the palace at Downhill was rebuilt having been burnt in 1851. The new village of Castlerock was developed on the fringe of the demesne in the 1870s; demesne buildings from this period include the Freehall gate lodge, which gave access to the new village; a school house and close-by, a fine terrace of twelve estate buildings known as the 'Apostles Terrace' designed and built in 1881 by F.W. Godwin. With the death of Sir Hervey Jukes Bruce in 1919, the house was only occasionally occupied by the family; during the Second World War it was occupied by the Royal Air Force and some military units, following which, in December 1946, the house contents were auctioned, palace dismantled and demesne lands sold. Some 210 acres, mostly south of the road, was purchased by the Forestry Division of the Dept. of Agriculture, while the National Trust, who acquired the Mussenden Temple and 13 acres in 1949, subsequently acquired their present holding at Downhill in a series of separate purchases made in 1961, 1968, 1980 and 1987. The Trust consolidated and partly demolished the ruins of the palace in 1986-88; they added a car park on the site of the old rose garden beside the walled garden in 1988-89 and at this time also restored the fabric of the walled garden and dovecote. NT public access and DAERA (Forest Service), public access.

DRENAGH, County Londonderry (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) L-006

REGISTERED GRADE A

Largely intact 18th and 19th century partly walled demesne of over 500 acres (200ha) lying immediately east of the town of Limavady. It contains fine parkland with isolated trees, clumps, shelter belts and woodland and occupies undulating ground descending to the Castle River running to south of the house and to the Curly River to the north and east. The present neat Classical-style house, designed by Charles Lanyon from 1837 (Listed HB 02/11/002), sits amidst lawns with views out over balustrading to the north-west side. This house lies 100m north-west of the site, now occupied by lawns, of the original 'good and commodious' house known as 'Fruit Hill', which had been built by Col. McCausland after he inherited the property in 1729 following the death of William Conolly, the famous Speaker of the Irish House of Commons. His house was extended in the 1790s, when the parkland to the east of the house was probably also created; the walled garden, together with the Gardener's house and barn (Listed HB 02/11/002C) may have been built at this time also. In the 1840s, following the building of the present house, the demesne was expanded considerably on all sides and to the north-west incorporated Streeve House, a house of c.1735 that became the dower house (Listed HB02/11/006). South-east of the house Lanyon also designed c.1840 a Renaissance-style high (6m) balustraded terrace, standing over round-headed 'exedra' and approached by a flight of steps (Listed HB 02/11/002E); this was designed to overlook a large square shaped 'Italian Garden'; currently it overlooks what has become dense woodland, though the area of the garden itself was cleared of encroaching woodland c.2005. West of this area on the hill slopes there was formerly an informal woodland garden with specimen trees and shrubs, now overgrown. In the 1960s a handsome stone pond was added to Italian Garden by Lady Margaret McCausland and her friend Frances Rhodes, a Canadian landscape artist. To the north they designed the 'Chinese Garden' in 1968, which was still fully planted up in the 1990s. Inspired by both Chinese and Arts and Crafts design, it consists of an enclosure of uncut stone, entered through a circular 'Moon Gate' entrance and culminating in a loggia. Close-by to the west of this in an open area, they also designed the 'Orbit Garden',

which has a mill wheel as a pivotal feature and was planted with shrubs, trees and herbaceous material. An area south east of and adjacent to the house had a late 20th century ornamental garden, which is now grassed. To the east of the house and yards, lies the walled garden (3.2 acres/1.29ha); this is roughly square in plan and largely late 18th century in date; it was enlarged c.1840 and boasts stout high brick slightly battered walls. Its glasshouses, now all removed, lay against the north-west and north-east walls; there are lean-to garden sheds outside the north-west wall, renovated c.2008; nearby are the bases of the former cold frame, while a narrow slip lay outside the south-east wall. The walled garden, which had been used for nursery planting in the 1990s, has now been converted into one large lawn, dissected by its historic circular and cross-paths, with a large marquee standing in the north-east corner. Fine mature trees survive within the parkland, both in the woodland and screens; these include exceptional stands of beech and oak. There are also no fewer than nine champion trees, notably a large-leaved lime (*Tilia platyphyllos* 'Laciniata Variegata' (Irish height and girth champion); a Portugal laurel (*Prunus lusitanica*), Irish height champion; a very tall Lombardy Poplar (*Populus nigra* 'Italica'); Sawara Cypress (*Chamaecyparis pisifera* 'Squarrosa'); Atlas cedar (*Cedrus atlantica*); medlar (*Mespilus germanica*) with very large beech (*Fagus sylvatica*); Lawson Cypress (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*) and Sitka Spruce (*Picea sitchensis*). The main approach avenue from the south, located off the Broad Road, is entered by Logan's Lodge and gate screen, built in 1830 by the architect John Hargrave (Listed HB 02/11/003). The main entrance off the Killane Road on the north-west side of the demesne, has a Classical-style gate lodge, gates and screen of c.1840 by Lanyon (Listed HB 02/11/001). There is a Gamekeeper's Lodge with decorative bargeboards (Listed HB 02/11/002I) sited within the north-east corner of the demesne at the north end of a long drive off the Broad Road. SMR: LDY 9:12 enclosure, 10:1 church and graveyard, 10:13 ancient grave, burial place of Fin McQuillan. Private.

DUNDERAVE, County Antrim (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) An-026 REGISTERED GRADE A

Dunderave, which adjoins the north-east side of the village of Bushmills, has been rightly described by the late Sir Charles Brett as 'by far the grandest 19th century house in north Antrim'. Not surprisingly, the parkland created as a setting for this house (421 acres/170.3 ha) 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 18th 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 this site [Bushmills House], though after he returned from India in 1825 he seems to have lived mainly at Roe Park and Beardville. His house here and its surrounding parkland, which was confined within the townland of Clogher North, was 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 mansion; this walled garden (0.9 acres/0.4ha) remained in use and has survived to the present, though it was superseded by a much larger walled garden to the north in the 1840s. In 1843 Francis's son Sir Edward Charles Workman Macnaghten, 2nd 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 twenty-four, he decided to replace Bushmills House with a much grander mansion. This was located on a new site 240 yards (220m) north-west and was designed by Charles Lanyon (later Sir Charles) in an Italianate palazzo-style (Listed HB 05/08/005). Built in 1846, 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 stands on exposed high ground, with good views out over lawns to the north, west and south, and sweeping driveways, both partly through woods, from the west to the Whitepark Road and to the south-east to the Castlenagreer Register of Parks, Gardens and Demesnes of Special Historic Interest (NI) - November 2020

Road, both avenues in part following the line of the original avenues. The old shelter belts created for Bushmills House were extended for the new 1840s parkland; this included adding new plantations on the south fringe of the park in the townland of Clogher and carrying the parkland landscape to the north across the Whitepark Road into the townland of Ballytaylor, opposite the main entrance gates; this parkland extension was further enlarged with the addition of McKinley's Hill in the late Victorian era, so the parkland on this side of road now covers an area of 93 acres (38ha). Aside from this minor addition, it is noteworthy that the layout of the plantations put down in the 1840s have survived largely unchanged to the present day. The 1840s also saw the building of an impressive second walled garden; this has a long rectangular shape with rounded corners (1.9 acres/0.77ha) with north-east south-west axis and lies 160 yards (145m) north-east of the house. It has narrow slip gardens on its south and west sides and all the whole garden is well screened on all sides by trees. Its walls (c.16ft high) are composed of coursed basalt with brick-lining inside, surmounted by an unusual moulded terracotta coping. The central section of the south facing wall was raised in height by about 4ft to accommodate a substantial lean-to glasshouse, now demolished. Further lean-to glasshouses, all now demolished, were placed against the west end of the south facing wall. To the rear of the glasshouses are the brick-built ruins of a long lean-to range of potting sheds and boiler house. The walled garden is no longer 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 05/08/006, 007 & 009). 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.

**DUNLUCE CASTLE, County Antrim (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) An-103
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Of historic interest, this garden has no remaining planting. Comprises three terraces, probably of 1630s date, covering 1.55 acres (0.63ha), 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. An extensive programme of archaeological excavations was carried out on the adjoining village site between 2008-2012 and in 2014-15 further excavation work was also undertaken in the garden areas by the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork (CAF), at Queen's University, Belfast, together with the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA). The work indicated that the creation of the gardens involved extensive landscaping and earthmoving; this included the building of two retaining terrace walls, both of which traversed the garden in an east-west direction. The gardens probably ceased to be cultivated from the early 1640s following the partial destruction of the castle; the adjacent village was largely abandoned by the end of the 17th century. SMR: ANT 2:3 Dunluce Castle. Castle open to public.

GARDENVALE, County Antrim (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) An-030
REGISTERED GRADE B

Victorian house and associated parkland (112 acres/43ha) lying 6 miles (9.6km) north-east of Ballymoney and just over 1 mile (1.8km) south of Moss-side in the townland of Carnfeogue. The present east-facing Italianate house (Listed HB 04/03/005a) was built in 1876 to a design by W.H. Lynn for Alexander McNeill, incorporating an earlier, much more modest 18th century house known as 'The garden', which had belonged to his father and grandfather. There was little planting associated with the earlier house and the present park, whose designer has not yet been established, was laid out entirely for the new house in the 1870s mansion. Save for a few modern houses on the south-west perimeter and some farm buildings north of the house, the park's layout survives unchanged from the 1870s. The parks screens, belts and woods are composed of deciduous trees with a clipped rhododendron avenue. Until the 1990s the kitchen garden which lies south of the house was partly cultivated, but now grassed over. Originally this kitchen garden, part walled, was of rectangular form (0.63 acres/0.26ha), but was enlarged in the 20th century (0.9 acres/0.4ha) with a beech hedge making up the shape to the east and south. It still contains a wooden-framed lean-to glasshouse at its north end. There were two gate lodges; the north lodge, which lay at the head of what had been the main entrance prior to 1876 was demolished c.1980; the lodge at the south entrance, now the main access into the property, still survives; it was built c.1876, probably designed by W H Lynn (Listed HB 04/03/005). Private.

GUY WILSON DAFFODIL GARDEN, County Londonderry (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) L-039
REGISTERED GRADE B

Collection of daffodils occupying about 1ha in the south side of the campus of the University of Ulster, Coleraine, close to the Portstewart Road at Fort View in the townland of Ballysally. Previously an old quarry site near the River Bann, it occupies an attractive site with south and south-west sloping lawns, informal paths, irregular-shaped island beds of shrubs. This planting gives all year round interest for visitors but the object of the gardens is to provide shelter for the daffodil collection. The garden is named in memory of the renowned daffodil breeder, Guy Wilson (1885-1962) of Knockan, Broughshane and was started in 1971, three years after the university opened, when 165 daffodil cultivars were planted in clumps of twenty or more bulbs. The garden, intended to be the National Collection of Narcissus, was designed by staff from the Department of Agriculture (DAERA), was opened in 24 April 1974. In the years following it was enormously expanded under the guidance of Dr. David Willis, then the University's Grounds Superintendent. Donations were made from collectors New Zealand, Holland, U.S.A and Great Britain and the collection currently comprises around 1600 old and modern cultivars. The bulk of the collection contains Irish varieties, including many of the Wilson cultivars, as well as those from other famous Irish breeders, such as, Tom Bloomer, W. J. Dunlop and J. Lionel Richardson. Contemporary Irish daffodil breeders such as Brian Duncan and the late Kate Reade are also represented in the garden. 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.

KNOCKAN AND ASH PARK, County Londonderry (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) L-045
REGISTERED GRADE A

Miniature woodland demesne (21 acres/8.5ha) enclosing a pair of late 18th century houses, lying south-west of Dungiven on the old Derry Coach Road. The main house, Knockan (Listed HB 02/05/006), was built in 1789, incorporating a 17th century house, facing east above the north-west bank of the Owenbeg River. Mature woodland surrounds the property, with many trees planted c1780 and before, but woodlands here suffered badly in Hurricane Debbie in 1961. Inside the woodlands, and flanking the house on the south and east of the house are lawns, some ornamental gardens, now mostly gone, fringed with shrubberies. Behind the house on its west

and south-west flank, lies a small (0.4ac) hedged productive garden (beech on south & yew on west), partly cultivated with glass house, box-edged beds and some fruit trees. Ashpark House to the north of Knockan, was built in 1796 (Listed HB 02/05/005), and served for many years as the dower house for Knockan. It also has mature woodland on its east and south sides, flanking lawns, but its gardens have not been maintained for decades. Both houses are mentioned in the OSM of 1821 as having good gardens and plantations. No walled gardens were built and there is no associated parkland. The gardens are open by arrangement and the houses are private.

**KNOCKTARNA HOUSE, Co. Londonderry (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) L-009
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Demesne parkland of just under 50 acres (20ha) flanking the north bank of the River Bann 1.7m south-east of Coleraine off the Mountsandel Road. Lying on south-west facing ground (Townland of Knockarna), in a beautiful situation, the park encloses a Victorian gentlemen's residence, c.1825 (Listed HB 03/06/004), built for Alderman Hugh Lyle; it was enlarged in the early 1840s when the grounds were also greatly modified. Except for an area south of the house, most of the woodlands were planted between 1830-45; *The Register of Trees for Co. Londonderry* records that Hugh Lyle planted thousands of trees in 1834 and thousands more in 1835; these evidently included alder, ash, beech, larch fir, oak, Scotch fir, spruce and sycamore. The house is surrounded by lawns that sweep down to the river, while the enclosing woods, which contain many rhododendrons, are dissected by a network of meandering paths. The entrance drive enters from the Mountsandel Road at the north-west corner with no gate-lodge; there is a tradesman's entrance immediately west of the house close to the kitchen garden; the latter, which is not walled, erected in the 1840s; it has a long rectangular plan (0.8 acres), with north-west south-east axis, and by the late 19th century contained glasshouses within its central area. There is an overgrown pond on the north-west side of the house and a large old orchard to the south. SMR: LDY 7:41 enclosure. The Vice Chancellor's Residence for the University of Ulster. Site Upgraded to the Register March 14th 2005.

**LESLIE HILL, County Antrim (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) An-048
REGISTERED GRADE A**

A parkland demesne (400 acres/162ha) located close by the west side of the town of Ballymoney on a ridge above the Bann Valley, principally in the townlands of Prospect, Ballypatrick and Drumnamallaght. The double-pile gabled-ended house of 1755-60 (Listed HB 04/15/008), built for James Leslie (1728-96) on the site of an earlier 17th century dwelling, was formerly flanked by Palladian-style two-storey wings; these were demolished in 1955, but one was rebuilt c.1998. Landscape associated with this house was originally geometric with a straight avenue aligned on house front extending north, but much of present landscape layout appears to date to the 1760s, save for changes on the north side following the re-alignment of the Coleraine Road in 1840s. The lawn meadow to the north of house ('The Front Land') was naturalised in the late 18th century and this area again modified in the later Victorian era c.1890 when a large lake was added (3.6 acres) complete with island and boat house. A ha-ha separates the south front lawns from parkland and exposes the fine distant parkland views dotted with isolated trees. In 1796 James Leslie was succeeded by his nephew James Leslie (1768-1847) and his wife Mary Cuppage of Donaghcloney, Co. Down. He continued to carry out planting in the park which by the 1832 Memoirs tell us were 'very judiciously and handsomely arranged. There are several well gravelled paths throughout the demesne, running through the plantings. In the summer the appearance of the place is greatly improved by the luxuriant foliage of the numerous fine trees that surround it'. The parkland still has good stands of deciduous trees and mixed woodland with many mature tree; the OS maps gives the names of some of the various demesne woods (The Wilderness, Donaghey's Plantation; Garden Wall Planting; Colonel's Planting; the Bog Planting; The Moss; Sandford Planting; The Mill Planting and Railing Planting); the various tree clumps. Many of the

latter plantings were added by James Leslie (1800-81) who inherited from his father in 1847 and his son Edward Douglas Leslie (1828-1904). Late 19th century planting additions are also named (Pigeon Clump; Long Clump; Archery Clump and Smiley's Clump). Most of the parkland trees are beech and oak; the demesne planting includes a number of impressive trees, notably a champion hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*), 21m high x 3.56m girth, and lying close to the mansion a very large yew (*Taxus baccata*) with fluted bole, 13m high x 4.96m girth, probably associated with the early 17th century house. A late 19th century, 'Robinsonian' garden created by Edward Douglas Leslie is no longer distinguishable. A small enclosed garden to the south-east of the house has two lily ponds constructed c.1891 comprising ten sunken troughs arranged in an oval pattern, connected by an underground pipe. 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 garden (1.6 acres/0.6ha), which lies just east of the house. It dates to c.1760 and is enclosed with 14-18ft high brick-lined stone walls and divided into two portions; the larger west section being of long rectangular form (1.1 acres/0.4ha) with north-east south-west axis. Foundation remains of glasshouses with hot-wall flues survive on north wall of main garden section and a free-standing pit-house for melons, which lies close to entrance, was restored c.1990. This west section of the garden is partly under cultivation with vegetable plots, borders, and lawns rose garden and fruit trees; the smaller east section is not currently in use. In the 19th century the area south of the walled garden was occupied by a large orchard. West of the house lie offices and farm buildings which have been restored and were open to public view from 1989-2013 (as 'Leslie Hill Farm'); these buildings include the Coach House, rebuilt c.1800 (Listed HB 04/15/012); close-by is an impressive mid-18th century Barn (Listed HB 04/15/009); with a Byre and Dovecote (Listed HB 04/15/010). About 160m west of the house, on either side of gateway, lies a gate lodge of c.1800 ('Currie's House') with a smaller 'Pay Office' lying opposite (Listed HB 04/15/013). The main entrance into the park on the north side of the park is flanked by a disused Italianate-style gate lodge of 1911; this replaced a lodge removed when the road (The Coleraine Road) was realigned in the 1840s. SMR: ANT 17:38 oval feature and 17:59 souterrain (not visible). The house is private.

**LISSANOURE, County Antrim (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) An-049
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Sometimes also known as Lisanoure, this large, mostly walled, demesne park (724 acres/293ha) lies 6 miles (9.6km) east-south-east of Ballymoney in the townland of Castlequarter. The parkland occupies undulating ground around Lough-guile (39.1 acres/15.8ha), was laid out in its present form as a 'picturesque-style' landscape during the last two decades of the 18th century. The higher ground just north of this lough was the site of a castle, presumably a tower house, by at least the 15th century and home to the Macartneys of Auchinleck from 1649. Following the death of George Macartney in 1778, his son and heir, George Macartney (1737-1806), later (in 1792) Earl Macartney, the distinguished statesman, colonial administrator and diplomat, rebuilt the house and laid out the present parkland. Built on a terraced platform in a romantic castellated Gothick style, perhaps best described in this instance as gingerbread gothic, this new house (or 'Castle' as it continued to be called) had a ground plan similar to the Earl-Bishop's palace at Downhill, Co. Londonderry, enclosing a large rectangular court with curved yards to the rear. Following his death in 1808, Lord Macartney's nephew and heir, George Hume Macartney (1793-1869) continued to modify the house, notably in the 1820s, but in 1847 it was accidentally destroyed by an explosion and today nothing remains save the stable yard to the rear (Listed HB 04/07/10). Subsequently, the family moved to The Cottage, a picturesque villa by J. B. Keane built in 1829 (Listed HB 04/07/002); though in reality the building was only very occasionally inhabited during the rest of the century. This house sits in lawns, with a view of the lake and its crannog, while the designed landscape survives substantially unaltered from the late 18th century. Although Earl Macartney was rarely resident at Lissanoure (he was Governor of Grenada 1776-79;

Madras 1781-85; Cape Colony 1796-8, and was in China 1792-3 and Italy 1795-6), surviving papers indicate that he was personally involved in creating the park at Lissanoure in the 1780s and is remembered in, 'Macartney's Walks', one of the 3½-miles of gravel walks laid down at this time. Considerable drainage schemes were undertaken in making the park, with Lough Guile being joined to the 'five Islands Lough' (an artificial lake north of the house) by two canals; these little islands in this lake were all planted up, bridges built and boats were used on the waterways. Shrubberies graced the area around the castle and tree-lined gravel paths provided walks. The parkland had enclosing tree belts and screens with clumps in the open meadows or lawns, much of which survives. Particularly dramatic shelter belts run along ridges on the tops of hills. Parkland trees were mostly oak, with some 'spruce and larch firs' also being planted in the 1780s; Macartney himself gave directions for the planting of Weymouth Pine, Scots Fir and alders and on the Castle Island he directed that whitethorn clumps be planted with 'tall elms, ash, oak, firs, cedars', together with 'laburnum and other tall shrubs mixed with them' all flanking an elaborate network of walks around the house. Some of this early planting survives; for example, a variegated holly (*Ilex aquifolium 'Aureomarginata'*) which is the Irish Height (16.5m) and Girth Champion (2.42m). Another tree, a monkey puzzle (*Araucaria araucana*) stands 29.5m high and is the second tallest of its kind in Ireland; it may pre-date Lobb's 1844 re-introduction of this tree from Chile. The kitchen garden (1.6 acres/0.7ha), which lies 250m (275 yards) west of the former house, was historically approached via two bridges over the canal (now only one is used) from Castle Island. It is a rectangular enclosure with rounded corners (91 x 74m) with north-east south-west axis, enclosed by stone walls built c.1820 to replace an earlier unwallled kitchen garden (2.7 acres/1.1ha) lying 65m north; the latter is shown on the 1785 map of the demesne to have been square in plan (104m square); by the 1860s it was being used as an orchard. The walled garden, which is now kept as a grass paddock, has against its north wall an impressive wood framed glasshouse with tall steeply pitched roof, restored c.1980; this backs onto a mid-Victorian, but extensively renovated garden house (both Listed HB 04/07/009). South-east of the walled garden in the Blairscroft Plantation lies an ice-house of typical circular form, while the area immediately south of the walled garden, now lawn, was formerly the estate nursery. During the Second World War a number of US army battalions were stationed at Lissanoure, together with an internment camp (all traces of latter now gone). The property subsequently was sold to the Mackie family, who in 1979-89 renewed the parkland plantations with some 46,000 trees and re-established many lost walks. Of the three gate lodges two remain; one at the now disused north entrance, c.1830 and probably by J.B. Keane and one at the south entrance of c.1860 (Listed HB 04/07/011). South of The Cottage is a ruined church and graveyard (ANT 018: 013); other archaeological features include ANT 18:10 mound or crannog, 18:11 fortifications or motte, 18:12 crannog on Lough Guile; 18:14 enclosure or tree ring. House private, public access to lake.

**LIZARD MANOR, County Londonderry (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) L-014
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Late Victorian demesne (46 acres/18.5ha) located on high ground above the north side of the Aghadowey River, 6m south of Coleraine (townland of Rusky). The park, which was laid out and planted in 1865-70 encloses at its centre a large line-rendered Italianate south-facing gentleman's residence, built in the early 1860s as the agent's house for the Worshipful Company of Ironmongers (Listed HB 03/03/017+ stables); it was designed by the English architect John Mullins (c.1795-1880), the contractor being Samuel Kirkpatrick of Coleraine. The company's crest is a lizard, thus the name; the first agent to reside here was Henry Anderson Jn, followed by Captain Edmond Stronge, a noted breeder of pedigree cattle; he later purchased the property and remained resident until 1896 when he sold it to his son Charles who modified the house. The park, whose designer is as yet unknown, survives remarkably intact, save for a modern house which has been built in the parkland east of the house. Lawns flank the house on the west and east sides, beyond which lies deciduous woodland (28 acres/11.3ha), to the west, east and south

down to and along the river; one of these woods on the west side is called 'Spion Koppe', named after the battle of Spion Kop in Natal, South Africa in 1900. North east of this wood lies the largest park meadow on the property (8.4 acres); this area, which flanks the road, was once (from the 1870s) the venue for the Aghadowey Agri-horticultural Society annual show held in August. The other large open park meadow (7.6 acres), lies on the east side of the demesne; unfortunately, in the 1990s a modern house, was built within this area, though the park meadow's two tree clumps have survived. To the north of the house lies the walled garden (0.9 acres), which is no longer cultivated; it is roughly square in plan with enclosing brick walls, while its former glasshouse, which was centrally placed against its north wall, was in ruins by 1990 and has now been removed. The walled garden is flanked by a small orchard and a tennis court, now redundant. West of the house there is a maintained ornamental garden enclosed by a beech hedge; its free-standing glasshouse has now gone and there is now a swimming pool in this area. Privately owned. Site Upgraded to the Register March 14th 2005.

**MAGHERINTEMPLE, County Antrim (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05)
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Modest sized parkland (55 acres/22.2ha), lying 1.9 miles (3km) south-east of Ballycastle in the townland of Churchfield, named after the historic ruins of Culgeightrim Church, outside the demesne to the north-west. The first house here, called Churchfield, built sometime before 1786, was described in the OS Memoirs of 1835 as being a plain two-storey Georgian dwelling, the property of the Casement family from 1790. It was considerably enlarged in 1874-78 for John Casement, adding an austere asymmetrical Scottish-baronial block in Ballyvoy stone with gate lodge in matching style (Listed HB 05/04/021 + gate lodge and outbuildings). The architect was probably Samuel 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. The original walled garden, square in shape (0.6 acres/0.24ha) flanked the south side the house; with the remodelling of the house in the 1870s the walled garden was located just south of the house flanking the rear yards; this garden, placed on a slope, has a rough polygon shape of six sides. There is a bog garden at the bottom. The walled garden is fully planted up with vegetables, fruit and ornamental plants in the 1990s; the present layout dates from 1973. There is a small block of woodland flanking the north-east of the house (4 acres/1.7ha), and a shelter tree belt alongside the road to the north, all these woodland blocks date to the 1870s; there was no block planting associated with the pre-1870s house. The gate lodge, located north-east of the house on the Churchfield Road, replaced an earlier lodge serving the former drive further to the north. 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.

**MOORE FORT, County Antrim (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05AP) An-054
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Early Victorian parkland (65 acres/26.6ha) located on an elevated site over the River Bann, 2.5 miles (4.1km) west of Ballymoney in the townland of Drumaheglis. The focal point is a typical late Georgian gable-ended two-storey five-bay stuccoed house (Listed HB 04/01/009), built in 1833, together with associated yards for James Moore, a distiller with premises on the north-west of the demesne. It replaced an earlier residence of the Moore family who were first recorded living here in 1729. However, the present landscape dates to the 1830s and its mature trees still frame fine parkland views across lawns, notably to the south. There are two flower gardens to the west of the house, one of which is centred on an ice house; to the north are two ranges of early Victorian outbuildings either side of the large rectangular yard with an early 20th century barn on the south-west. The productive garden, partly walled, lies to the east of the house and is mentioned in the *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* of 1837; this was originally of long rectangular form (1.03 acres/0.4ha), later it was subdivided with the walled inner section (0.4 acres/0.16ha) being used as a garden; a slip garden on one side contained the glasshouse. The avenue is planted up as

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mixed woodlands, some of which are contemporary with the house. An inner shelter belt to the south west of the house was replanted in the early 1950s, largely with larch and firs. The property formerly had two gate lodges of c.1850; one stood on the opposite side of the road from the front drive and the other at the head of the back entrance. After the death of William Moore c.1895 the house remained largely unoccupied for three decades until it was sold c.1927 to Thomas Henry, whose family remained here until 1995. The house has been subsequently renovated and extended. SMR: ANT 16:4 rath, in a wooded area near the house. Private.

MOORE LODGE, County Antrim (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) An-055
REGISTERED GRADE B

This small 18th century demesne (70 acres/27.9ha) encloses a beautifully positioned house, set high above the River Bann, lying 2m (3.2km) north-east-north of Kilrea in the townlands of Moore Lodge and Carney Hill; a narrow 10 acre (4ha) strip on the opposite west bank of the Bann also forms part of the designed landscape of this property. This well preserved good quality parkland, surrounded by mature, mostly deciduous trees, has long been admired; it was described in 1814 as 'certainly one of the prettiest and most retired spots in this county'. The original 17th century house (the 'Vow'), sold to by the Galland family to William Moore in 1717 for £500, was burnt in 1729 and replaced post 1759 by the present east-facing two-storey Georgian building, which was improved in the 1840s and had an extension added in 1901 (Listed HB 04/11/003a); it is noted for its frontage dominated by a large symmetrical pair of full-height bowed bays. There was a notable garden here in the early part of the 20th century, which is now only remembered by an unpublished account written in 1951, *The Gardens of Moore Lodge 1902-1939*. South-east of the house in the wooded bank of the river lies an octagonal pigeon house or dovecote with pyramidal slated roof (Listed HB 04/11/004) dating sometime pre-1832, probably c.1800, while north of the house lie substantial ranges of outbuildings (Listed HB 04/11/003b). Behind the yards and lying north-west of the house lay the productive, partly walled, garden; formerly 1.6 acres (0.65), this was slightly altered in size in the early 20th century to its present rectangular form (1.4 acres/0.55ha); it contained a large glass-house when described in the 1951 account of the gardens. The designed landscapes survives intact, save only for a modern house and outbuilding that has been built at the extreme south end of the park. The property, which remained almost continuously in the hands of the Moore family since the early 18th century, was sold in 1982 but then bought back by another member of the family four years later. SMR: ANT 22:29 souterrain. Private. Site upgraded to the Register on March 14th 2005.

O'HARABROOK, County Antrim (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) An-056
REGISTERED GRADE A

Small late 18th century demesne parkland (102 acres/41.5ha) bordering the Ballymoney River, 1.5 miles (2.5km) south-west of Ballymoney in the townlands of Enagh Lower and Ballynacree Beg. Described by Atkinson in 1833 as a 'splendid demesne', it survives remarkably intact from when first laid out for the O'Hara family in the 1770s. While the earliest occurrence of the placename 'O'Harabrook' first appears in 1749, the long low two-storey house, which stands above the south bank of the river, appears to largely date from the 1770s or 80s; it has a late Victorian extension and an Edwardian conservatory (Listed HB 04/04/001). The demesne planting remains today as it was described by the OS Memoirs in 1835, being 'varied and extensive' with 'many beautiful old trees'. Beech is the dominant tree in both woodland and park screens; some noble trees grace the parkland to the south of the house, while mixed woodland, which contains a number of rides and paths, surrounds the house and extends to the east. Other trees here include oak, lime, elm, ash and sweet chestnut; yews populates the area outside the enclosed Quaker graveyard ('Lamb's Fold') near the river, north-east of the house. One of the park's ash trees (*Fraxinus excelsior*) is a champion (30.5m high x 5.77m girth). The approach to the house from the south has varied mature avenue trees, mostly later 19th century in date, while the main south entrance avenue,

now redundant, contains beech, yew, ash, elm, horse chestnut and lime together with rhododendron. The productive garden, which lies 170m south-east of the house, originally occupied a short rectangular area (3 acres/1.2ha) with north-west south-east axis, but in the 19th century was divided into two portions with a kitchen garden on the north side (1.4 acres/0.55ha) and an orchard on the south. The kitchen garden has no conventional walls but is protected on the north-east side by the tall trees of the south-eastern avenue; to the south by the orchard and to the west by a line of trees. Half of this area is maintained, with herbaceous borders, vegetable plots, commercial soft fruit plantations and Victorian ornamental stone-edged beds. The present owners, the Cramsie family, who acquired the property from the O'Hara's in 1889, added a pond in 1989, with associated planting, to the area north of the house. Older ornamental planting around the house includes an impressive Wellingtonia; a monkey puzzle to the east, and a sycamore with a bell hanging from it. The present main entrance, which enters from the south, was laid down in the 1890s to replace the earlier sweeping avenue to its north, whose entrance had a gate lodge, long demolished. There were two other gate lodges; the south-east lodge which lay opposite the gate (now replaced) and the North Lodge of c.1840, the latter of which survives. Outside the park boundary, close to the south-east entrance a small portion of land was given to the Reformed Presbyterian Church for a manse. A feature in the demesne worthy of notice is the 'Old School House', which lies at the fork on the south-east avenue; it appears as a ruined wall and may have been intended as a gothic folly or possibly a functional building. 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 occasionally open to the public on special days.

**PELLIPAR, County Londonderry (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) L-018
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Demesne parkland (300 acres/122ha) bordering the River Roe to the north of Dungiven in Lackagh townland. Landscape mostly planted c.1800 with some residual traces of an earlier formal layout; also some Edwardian modifications close to the house. Fine mature trees remain within the parkland, with large circular clump ('Montgomery's Clump') in the north-east. There are fine tree belts along the banks of the Derryware Burn, and mature shelter belts on the west and east flanks; south and east of the house are formal avenues of beech and lime. The house itself was probably begun in the early 18th century on lands of the Skinner's Company Estate; it was then known as 'Mattsmount', but name was changed to 'Pellipar', c.1800, when it was enlarged and remodelled. The house owes its present appearance to a substantial remodelling in the style of a French Chateau in 1907 (Listed HB 02/06/007A). The Edwardian era also saw the addition of a rectangular hedged kitchen garden (2.4 acres/0.97ha) south-east of the house, with sun-dial in centre and slip garden at the south-east end. The original 18th/19th century kitchen garden, also hedged, lay immediately west of the house (1.5 acres), bordering the river; it was enlarged to the south in the 1840s with the addition of a small orchard (0.9ac); the whole area is now open meadow. The woodlands immediately east and south-east of the house contain relics of WW2 army arms dumps. There is a small conservatory and a small modern ornamental garden at the house. To the west of the rear drive to south of the house and flanking the river are the farm buildings (Listed HB 02/06/007B). There were originally six gate lodges of the pre-1830 era, two of which survive; one of these comprise a pair of Classical Style lodges with screen at the north entrance from the Ballyquin Road (Listed HB 02/07/002A); another at the south-east entrance off the Ballyquin Road is now roofless (Listed HB 02/07/002D). The lodge at the east entrance off the Ballyquin Road was demolished pre-1973, but its 'descending' iron gates survives (Listed HB 02/07/002C). Private

ROE VALLEY PARK, County Londonderry (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) L-022
REGISTERED GRADE B

Southern part of Roe Park Demesne, formerly part of an 17th century deer park, and now covered by extensive mature 18th century woodland bordering the River Roe (130 acres/52ha). The 18th and 19th century focus of this demesne was Roe Park House (Listed HB 02/12/031), which since the early 1990s lies in the centre of a golf course to the north of the deer park and outside the Supplementary Registered area; this house, then called Mullagh from the townland, had been built in the 1720 as a modest dwelling by Rt. Hon. William Conolly, Speaker of the Irish House of Commons and builder of Castletown, Co. Kildare. His house and the demesne was inherited in 1743 by the McCausland family who enlarged the building, subsequently called 'Daisy Hill'; it was further enlarged by Sir Francis McNaughton after he acquired it in 1826, by which time it was known as 'Roe Park' (from 1995 it has been a Radisson hotel). Much of the linear woodland planting on the river banks in the old deer park was undertaken in the later 18th century; by 1802 Rev. Sampson was describing it as 'one of our best examples of modern improvement'; further additions and improvements were made in the 1828-35 era. The 'judiciously planted ravines and banks' of this demesne gorge contained a number of 18th century summer houses, one of which has been restored within the present Country Park. Also at the very south end of the present demesne lies the site of the former O'Cahan castle and bawn, which had been re-edified by Sir Thomas Phillips as the centre of his Limavady estates. It was graphically depicted with its formal gardens and orchards on a 1622 estate map (barony of Keenaght); traces of these gardens still exist (LDY 16:3 and 8). This part of the demesne is now the Roe Valley Country Park, maintained by NIEA; Department of Agriculture (NI). Public access with visitor centre car park, and tea rooms.

THE MANOR HOUSE, RATHLIN, County Antrim (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05) An-109
REGISTERED GRADE A

The only sizable house on Rathlin Island, this is located in Churchquarter townland, facing south onto Church Bay and the harbour below. Started in 1763, most of the present building dates to between 1832 and 1857, renovated and enlarged in the 1990s (Listed HB 05/16/001 + stables), it was the home of the Gage family, who bought the island from Lord Antrim in 1746 for £1,750. 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 small enclosed garden beside the house on the west side (0.2 acres/0.09ha), which was largely ornamental, but also had some fruit trees. The walled garden, described as the 'new garden' in 1797, is lozenge-shaped (0.82 acres/0.33ha) with stone walls (no brick), lying some 300 yards (280m) north-east of the house on high ground; this was the vegetable and fruit garden and was still partly cultivated with vegetables, including potatoes, in the 1980s but is now grass. It is noteworthy that one member of the family, Miss Catherine Gage (1815-1892) collected and drew plants on the island; she compiled a complete list of plants on the island and over her life painted over 500 watercolours on Rathlin, many of wild and cultivated plants. The Gage family sold most of the island in the 1920s but retained the Manor House as a summer residence until 1973. It was subsequently sold by the Gage family and lay derelict for a number of years until restored by the Rathlin Island Trust in the late 1980s; the Manor was acquired by the National Trust in 1998 and then re-opened as a 12-room hotel. It was refurbished in 2015-6 and subsequently reopened as a guest house in 2017. At one time there was a small rectangular flower garden in a quarry to the west of St. Thomas's C of I. Church. NT.

**WALWORTH, County Londonderry (AP CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS 05)
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Ornamental gardens and lawns, together with a cultivated walled garden, enclosing the earlier remains of the 'stronge bawn of lime and stone', built for the Fishmongers Company from 1615. The present house, which lies on the south and south-west side of old bawn area, on the site of the original plantation period manor, is a plain, but elegant gable-ended two storey house of c.1730 (Listed HB 02/10/002); it served as the agent's house for the demesne, following the building of a new residence ('New Walworth') 0.7 miles (1.1km) distant to the west. A flat expansive lawn sweeps away from the front (south) of the house, flanking the approach avenue; west of the house lies a terrace with loggia and further west, all enclosed by mature woodland, lies a rectangular lawn with flowering shrubs. Mature trees, mostly of late 18th and 19th century date, augmented in the early 20th century, surround the entire house and gardens, notably on the west side. Also enclosed by mature trees, lying north-west of the house and its rear yards, lies a long rectangular 18th-century walled garden with rubble-stone walls, lined internally with brick (90 x 66 yards or 1.09 acres/0.4ha); this garden retains a mid-19th century sundial at the west end, and has narrow outside slips, each 20ft wide, on its north and east boundary; these are now covered by trees. Glasshouses are now gone. Samson, writing in 1802 in, *The Statistical Survey of The County of Londonderry*, noted that this garden was, '... one of the best and earliest gardens of the county, well walled, and stored with excellent fruit trees'. Since 1989 the walled garden has been laid out as a good quality formal ornamental garden; the lines of its historic gravel paths have been restored and a rectangular pond created in the centre with brick paving and timber pergolas. The garden contains an extensive rose collection, notably on its east side; there are 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.

AREA PLAN - DERRY AND STRABANE 06

**ABERFOYLE, County Londonderry (AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) L-042
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Victorian ornamental grounds (7 acres/2.9ha) situated in urban surroundings just north of The Foyle Arts centre and Queen's Quay. Created as the setting for an Italianate stuccoed villa of 1873 (Listed HB 01/22/007), a good portion of the area remains planted up. First house on site, known as 'Richmond' was built c.1845; subsequently remodelled 1870s. Present name 'Aberfoyle' transferred from nearby house, itself re-christened 'Talbot', in the 1930s. The site slopes towards the River Foyle with good views to the east across ornamental lawns and shrubberies each side of a twisting carriage drive. South of house is a rose garden and to the south west another lawn with shrubs alongside the Northern Road entrance avenue. The west end is occupied by a large rectangular, brick, walled garden, which in the 1990s was cultivated by the Centre for Environmental and Horticultural Studies; prior to this it was for a time a commercial nursery and contained three long glasshouses. A large conservatory at the west end of the stable block was demolished sometime before 1991. The main gateway into the park, opening off the Strand Road, has a gate lodge built in the 1840s. The University of Ulster's adjacent Magee College bought Aberfoyle in 1999 and integrated it into their campus and a number of modern buildings were subsequently added to the site. The house is currently used as offices.

**ARDMORE, County Londonderry (AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) L-032
REGISTERED GRADE B**

A small well wooded park (9 acres/3.6ha) with mature trees above the west bank of the River Faughan on steeply sloping ground lying a short distant south-east of Beech Hill (L-029). The house, on a height above the park, faces north-east over the river and dates from the early 19th

century, apparently assuming its present form in 1819; a fine conservatory was added in the 1840s (Listed HB 01/06/012). A large bleach green lay to the immediate north-east of house extending to the river. The park has two entrances, each with gate lodges, both pre-1830 in date; that on the north was greatly enlarged around 2005. An unwall'd productive garden, now grassed, lay west of the house and north of the carriage drive. New ornamental gardens were being constructed in the early 1990s east of the main house. Property is Private.

ASHBROOK, County Londonderry (AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) L-001
REGISTERED GRADE A

Small 18th century well wooded demesne (34.7 acres/14ha) on the Ardmore Road, 2 miles (3.5km) south-east of the walled city of Derry in Currynrierin townland. While the demesne was first established in the 17th century by Sir Thomas Ashe, the present house here dates largely from the 1730s, incorporating parts of an earlier house of 1686 (Listed HB 01/06/006A). Much of the present landscape dates from the 1770s and 1780s and the property still contains many fine mature trees surviving from that time. It includes glen side-walks leading to the River Faughan, to which there is public access. The house, which has service buildings to its rear, is set in lawns and shrubs, with trees a short distance away. A walled garden of around 1.2 acres (0.5ha), not cultivated since the 1970s, lies south of the house, partly flanked by the main road; its glasshouse had gone by 1991. An additional section to the walled garden at the south-west end (0.4 acres/0.2ha) was used as an orchard, separated from the rest by a beech hedge, which still exists. The demesne, partly walled, has two entrances. Property is privately owned. SMR: LDY 22:17 enclosure.

BALLYARNET, County Londonderry (AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) L-061
REGISTERED GRADE B

The present garden layout (12.6 acres/4.1ha) dates from the 1920s and contains remains of a summer house and pond, located in Ballyarnet townland, 3 miles (4.7km) north of the walled city of Derry. The Beragh Hill road separates the ornamental grounds into two portions, with the house and larger area (9.5 acres/3.8ha) on the north side of the road and the walled garden and associated grounds on south side. The house (Listed HB 01/27/018A) is an Arts and Crafts-style replacement, currently empty, of c.1890 for a house said to have been built prior to the siege of 1689. A dairy building, c.1890, with faux-timbered walls (Listed HB01/27/018B) lies north of the house and a farmyard with northern ranges (Listed HB 01/27/018C) lies south-east of the house; remains of glasshouse in yard. House faces west onto a lawn around which ran a short avenue approach from the entrance gates (currently out of use). On two gently sloping terraces above this lawn to the north are the main ornamental grounds (not currently maintained) framed by a network of straight geometrically laid out paths incorporating a rectangular pond, remains of a stone built summer house, rockery, tennis court (now gone) and a good collection of ornamental trees and shrubs, mostly dating from the 1920s and 1930s; the rhododendrons and azaleas were noted to flower in succession. There is a old laburnum at the entrance gate and a straight walk flanking the woods of the property on the west side, entered from the road. The kitchen garden to the south of the road, occupies a long rectangular area in two sections (0.7 acres/0.3ha) was under cultivation when last visited (2017); a small orchard on its east side has long been grubbed up. Private.

BARONS COURT, County Tyrone AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) T/004
REGISTERED GRADE A*

Ireland's only surviving ducal seat and one of the grandest houses and demesnes in Ireland. The unwall'd demesne laid out as a landscape park from the mid-18th century (1.488 acres/600ha) lies 2 miles (3.3km) south-west of Newtown Stewart and 7.7 miles (12km) north-west of Omagh in a valley on the west side of Bessy Bell (1387ft) incorporating three lakes, Loughs Catherine, Fanny

and Mary. 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; the presence of the important O'Neill crannog of Island McHugh (Scheduled/TYR17:033) in Lough Catherine means that this area was of considerable importance in late medieval times and the presence of this site was probably an important consideration in Sir George Hamilton building his Scottish-style plantation strong house here in 1612. The grant of lands hereabouts – the 'Manor of Derrygoon' (or Derrywoon/Dirrywoon), had been made by King James I to George Hamilton of Binning and later purchased by Sir George Hamilton of Greenlaw (d.1654), a younger brother of James Hamilton (1575-1618), 1st Earl of Abercorn. By 1622 Sir George, who unlike his brother was a Roman Catholic, had 'begun to build a fair stone house, 4 storeys high, which is almost finished' this being the Scottish-style plantation castle and bawn at Derrywoone (scheduled/TYR017:034), which lies about half a mile north of the present house within the demesne; it has recently (2005) been stabilised and conserved. There is no evidence that the Derrywoone residence was destroyed in the 1641 Rebellion, but appears to have been abandoned to ruin by 1667 when the manor here was granted to Sir George Hamilton of Dunnalong (d.1679). This eventually passed to Sir George's grandson, James Hamilton (c.1661-1734), who succeeded as the 6th Earl of Abercorn in 1701, and with whose descendants - Marquesses of Abercorn from 1790 and Dukes of Abercorn from 1868 - it has remained to this day, the present owner being James Hamilton (b.1934), the 5th Duke. The 6th Earl was an absentee landowner who ran his Irish estate through agents with the Cloghogall and Derrywoon manors being managed by John Colhoun; when the earl came to Ulster he would stay at his father's house in Strabane. His son, James Hamilton (1686-1734) succeeded in 1734 as 7th Earl of Abercorn with 70,000 acres in five manors in north-west Ulster. The 7th earl was very English orientated and devoted much time to scientific study, becoming a fellow of the Royal Society. He rarely came to Ireland, but must have had an interest in his Irish holdings as on one of those rare visits, the 7th earl selected Derrywoon as the most suitable location for a country residence, initially looking at renovating the small medieval castle on Island McHugh, but in early 1740 opting to build on high ground above the east side of Lough Fanny just north of the present house. Consequently work began in 1741 on a small 'rustic Palladian' villa, part of which survives as the 'Agent's House' (Listed HB 10/04/044). The architect and builder was James Martin (d.1745) who was also responsible for Clogher Cathedral; when the 7th earl died in 1744, the building had to be finished by his son James Hamilton, the 8th Earl (1712-89). The building of the 'Agent's House', which originally had an upper floor, involved brick-making and making stone windows frames by a mason called McDonagh. It was also accompanied by landscape changes to what was now being called 'Baronscourt'; at that time the eastern of the demesne was delimited by a road running between 1000ft (305m) and 1,200ft (365m) inside the present road, which in fact remained the boundary for another century until the present Baronscourt Road was built (B 84). Inside this former road was a ditch which must have been present by the 1740s as there is a reference to 'repairing' the ditch and there were plans to build a demesne wall, which never came to pass. The new villa was entered from this road via what became known as Johnstown gate (which later had gate lodges) leading onto what was originally a straight tree-lined avenue, typical of the era. The present avenue of trees, 600ft (185m) long, were planted by the 3rd Duke in the late 1940s; however, the original avenue was chopped down before the 1830s, presumably because they conflicted with the naturalised landscape. Two oaks in the circular lawn in front of the 'Agent's House' are likely to be two survivors of this original avenue. The anchor between them apparently comes from the French frigate Lausun on which King James II left Ireland after the Battle of the Boyne; it was presented to the 1st Duke by the Waterford Harbour Commissioners. Flanking the avenue is the walled garden (3.53 acres/1.43ha) laid out in a square with high stone walls and brick-lining inside; while there is a reference to the building of a 'garden wall' in the 1745, though this garden seen rather grand for this size of house. From the late 19th century lean-to glasshouses lined the full length of the south-facing wall; there is a record of the Scottish company MacKenzie & Moncur providing glasshouses for Baronscourt

in the early 20th century, which presumably included rebuilding some or all of these houses (all now demolished). North of the north wall were the lean-to potting sheds, now demolished. and the frame yard, which is still used and delimited from the park to the north by a hedge. The walled garden was used for 'Baronscourt Nurseries' in the 1990s; it remains fully cultivated, covered with polytunnels for nursery purposes. Just south of the 'Agent's House' a large granary building was erected in 1740-44, later converted into stables. With building work completed, work focussed on the greater landscape. The canal was widened between the two lower loughs and tree planting the vicinity of the house; a head gardener, James Broomfield, was engaged early in 1745 to oversee the planting but only last until 1748 before leaving. Much of the planting was in fact overseen by William Doyle (fl. 1745-56) who early in 1745 was given '1,100 and ½ chestnutt, 1,400 beech, 500 laburnums, 2,000 ash trees all fit for planting out, and also 100,000 ash of one year old only fit to transplant into a nursery'. The 8th earl's instructions seem to be in advance of their day, without the stress on formalism as he was demanding that: 'I will have ten clups of trees planted in the park where you think proper, at a distance from the house, about 100 or 150 in each clump, and the trees above five feet from each other. These must be mixed, half chestnuts and the rest birch and "liburnums"'. Also in February 1745 the 4th earl was instructing that Doyle to 'get the glasses of the hotbeds mended...and plant the 100 firs from Mr. Stewart of Killemoon [Killymoon], not too near the house'. In 1750-1 a partly walled deer park was made on the west side of Lough Fanny, known as the 'Lough Fanny Deer Park' to distinguish it from the later deer park on Bessie Bell. It was 120 acres (48ha) in its original form, but in the 1840s was enlarged (295 acres/119ha) when the park was extended west to the Drumlegagh-road North. Deer were first introduced into the park in April 1751, the first animals being two bucks and nine does transported from London. Fifteen years later in 1766 there were 300 deer in the park of which 200 were does. It was later decided by 8th earl to build a new house on a different site closer to the lake and work on foundations began in July 1776. Some cellars were dug, stone arrived, but all sorts of problems emerged, not least bad weather and work was halted until the Scottish architect George Steuart arrived on site until June 1779 with a team of 17 masons, 6 carpenters and 2 plasterers from London to take over the operation. Later his team increased in size Steuart's house was completed in 1782, at a cost of £8,015.8s0d, its entrance facing south, and while there is nothing left of this house, it is recognisably the basis of the present garden facade. The 4th earl came for the last time to see his finished house in 1782, but died in 1789. Ever conscious of the importance of creating good designed landscaping, no doubt inspired by his uncle the Hon Charles H. Hamilton (1704-86), the creator of Painshill, the 4th earl undertook large-scale planting to compliment the new house, both before and after it was built. In March 1778 he appointed Thomas Hudson as head gardener to oversee the tree planting; in April 1785 Hudson planted 1,000 oaks and 230 ash with aid of 118 labourers and 49 horses'. When Daniel Beauford came here in 1786 he was able to wax lyrical 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', while the Earl-Bishop of Derry thought it 'impossible to see the demesne at Baronscourt and not wish to emulate its elegance and I fear it is equally impossible to succeed in the attempt without the assistance of Mr. Hudson...who 'has given proof of his ability so far beyond what Mr. Shanley or King, or any of the common manufacturers of lawns and plantations can rise to'. Hudson was discharged from his post at Baronscourt in early July 1790 for reasons unknown. By this stage the 4th earl had died leaving no heir, the property and title passing to his nephew John James (1755-1814), who became the 9th earl and was raised to be 1st Marquis of Abercorn. He was very politically active, a close friend of all the leading statesmen of the day, but also had time for his Irish estates and it was he who brought (Sir) John Soane to Ireland in May 1791 to see how the Steuart house could be made more suitable to the Marquis's larger family and more expansive style of living. Soane came to Baronscourt in May 1791 and produced a reworking of the existing house by reversing it from back to front. Robert Woodgate, Soane's assistant was sent to Baronscourt in September 1791 and he directed the work on the new house

over the next four years. Unfortunately, the new house had hardly been completed when in December 1796 it was very seriously damaged by a fire, so bad in fact that the earl decided not to rebuild as Ireland was experiencing unsettled times. In 1803 creepers were planted over the burnt out part of the building and in 1810 a mason from Derry called Turner engaged to build these walls up by eight feet to the top of Steuart's first floor and re-roofed it. In 1818 the 1st Marquess's grandson, James Hamilton (1811-1885) succeeded to the estate and titles, being later raised to 1st Duke of Abercorn in 1868. At first the Marquis did not indicate his intention of making Baronscourt his permanent home, but then in 1835 engaged the architect William Farrell to prepare some drawings to rebuild Baronscourt. In the end, in April 1835, he engaged Sir Richard and his son William Vitruvius Morrison to remodel house in 1836-41. They entirely rebuilt the west wing and while they kept the plan Soane's entrance vestibule, and his idea of a rotunda, the house was pretty-much rebuilt, so that much of what we see today is the product of the Morrison's work. Their building work was accompanied by a major enlargement of the parkland; on the west side the deer park was extended back to the Drumlegagh-road North and on the east side the old road was re-aligned to its present line (Baronscourt Coach Road/B 84). This enlargement involved a considerable amount of landscaping and tree-planting, much of which was overseen by Edmund Murphy (c.1800-1866), a landscape designer, later one of the editors of the *Irish Farmer's and Gardener's Magazine* and referred to by Loudon in his *Encyclopaedia of Gardening*, as one of the principal 'rural artists' in Ireland of the day (Loudon himself came to Baronscourt but not on commission). Expansion of the park was accompanied by new gate lodges; Richard Morrison c. 1837 in fact drew plans for three entrances and accompanying lodges, but none were executed. Those lodge that were built included the Newtown Stewart gate lodge (Listed HB 10/04/001K) which is adaption of Design 4 from P.F. Robinson's *Design for Lodges and Park Entrances* and may be the work of Robinson himself or more likely the Morrisons; the associated screen (Listed HB10/04/001H) is in contrasting Classical style. At the western entrance off Drumlegagh Road North is Rock Cottage (Listed HB 10/04/001H), an unusual rustic lodge rebuilt in the late 1830s or 1840s on the site of an earlier lodge. Dean believed it to be by P.F. Robinson and was a variation on his 'Design No 2'. Other lodges have gone, namely the Church Lodge or 'Devine's Gate' of c1835 in the picturesque manner. 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 by the celebrated garden designer William Broderick Thomas (1811-98). Thomas, who was the grandson of Viscount Midleton in Cork, was one of the most fashionable garden designers of the day, having been engaged by the Queen at Buckingham Palace and by the Prince of Wales at Sandringham. His work at Baronscourt, which was his earliest Irish commission, involved making the terraced garden overlooked by the 'Duchesses' bow window at the base of formal grass terraces, consisting of four rectangular parterre divisions, each made up of a geometrical arrangement of beds, many circular, with surrounds of red brick and white quartz chippings and incorporating ornamental urns, chain beds, upright yews and a grand central fountain. It is believed that thirteen 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. The Marquis was appointed Lord Lieutenant of Ireland (July 1866-December 1868) and again as Duke (March 1874-December 1876) and one of the result of this appointment was that he became familiar with the gardening work of Ninian Niven (1799-1879) who laid out the viceregal parterre and had been engaged as gardener at the Chief Secretary's Lodge. In 1876, when still the Lord Lieutenant, and now Duke, he engaged Niven to create a terraced garden to the south of the house. His plan, which is in the house, shows four ornamental terraces with a pattern of various beds and parterres and incorporating trees such as cedar, monkey puzzle, clipped yews and thuja. At the far end of the bottom terrace two symmetrical fountains are depicted flanking a group of statuary with surrounding semi-circular yew hedge. His planting scheme has long changed but the basic

framework of his design remains to this day. It was here on the lowest terrace that the pale peachy orange *Potentilla* 'Sophie's Blush' was discovered. In the early 1990s this garden 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 1920s and 1930s, rhododendrons were placed here. In the 1890s James, the 2nd 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 2nd 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 4th 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 3rd Duke as 'surprise trees'. 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. A log-built Russian style house, the 'Pushkin House', designed by Richard Pierce, was built as a retreat in the park south of the house for the late Duchess of Abercorn in c.2005. 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.

**BEECH HILL (SKIPTON HALL), County Londonderry (AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) - L-029
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Small but well wooded demesne (45 acres/18.4ha) located on the Ardmore Road, 2.5m (4km) south-east of Derry City in the townland of Ballyshasky. The demesne hosted a series of houses from the 1620s, known initially as Ballyshaskey and later Skipton Hall, but the present house was begun in the 1720s, and subsequently enlarged and remodelled, notably in 1890-92, and again in c.1905 and more recently after it became a hotel in 1989-91 and 2000. Residual traces of the early 18th century formal landscape include a lime avenue, incorporating some beech, aligned on axis with the south front of the house. The demesne was subject to a major remodelling in the early 19th century, when the short rectangular shaped walled garden (1.5 acres/0.62ha) with low stone rubble walls and rounded corners was built and much of the present woodland planted; this included a moss house which stood on a small hillock, now quarried, marked as 'The Bower' on later maps. In 1833 Atkinson wrote 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 grounds around the house were subject to remodelling in the 1870s when terraced lawns were added to rear of the house and the main west avenue was re-aligned, with a flamboyant medieval style entrance gate lodge (Listed HB 01/06/007); flanking this avenue and west and south-west of house on descending ground, two ponds were created, controlled by sluices and fed by small stream flowing through the property. The house is still surrounded by mature trees, with woodland walks. World War Two Nissen hut remains can be found in the woods east of the house. Overflow car parks are amongst trees. The walled garden is partly cultivated. Public access as hotel.

**BOOM HALL, County Londonderry (AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) L-003
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Much denuded late 18th century landscape park occupying sloping ground in Ballynashallog townland above the west bank of the River Foyle, south of Brook Hall (L-004) and 2 miles (3.2km) north east of the walled city of Derry. Originally 124 acres (50ha), the park is now reduced to 66 acres (27ha), a substantial portion on the south having been lost in the early 1980s to the building of the Foyle Bridge and Madams Bank Road and another portion in the north-east lost for the building of the Foyle Hospice Day Centre. The present austere classical villa (HB 01/25/004A), was destroyed by fire in the 1970s and is now a gaunt ruin; it was built around 1772 for Robert Alexander (1722-90), elder brother of James Alexander, first Earl of Caledon (1730-1802) and derives its name from the nearby boom placed across the river to block the relief of the city in 1689. Prior to this the land here had been part of the Hon. Irish Society's holdings granted to that body as part of the Plantation settlement. During the famous siege the land south of the present grounds was occupied by the star-shaped 'Charles Fort' fortress, which guarded the west side of the boom (site lost to road and housing development). According to the 1690 map drawn up by Captain Francis Neville, a small house with what appears to be outbuildings is shown within the vicinity to the west of the fort, but little is known of this or any other dwellings that occupied the site prior to the later 18th century. The land was leased to the Alexander family at some stage following the Williamite War, possibly to John Alexander (d.1747) of Ballyclose, Co. Londonderry and Gunsland, Co. Donegal or his son Nathaniel (1689-1761). It was the latter's second son, Robert Alexander, who decided to build a house here, though he may have owned it in conjunction with his younger brother James Alexander, 1st Earl of Caledon from 1790. Probably designed by local architect Michael Priestly (d.1777), it was a rectangular symmetrical block of two-storeys above a low basement and had a bold projecting stone cornice and a relatively high hipped roof. Its entrance front had seven bays with a three-bay central breakfront, while its rear (facing the lough) was dominated by a broad full-height canted-bay with flanking bay each side. The front breakfront and rear bay are entirely of ashlar, while the remaining walls are of coursed stone rubble, probably originally rendered, framed with ashlar quoins and window architraves. In the 19th century a projecting porch with Tuscan order columns was added, leading into a cubic central hall. To the north-west of the house lies the partially ruined stable yard, c.1770, also probably by Priestly, with extension of c.1850 (Listed HB 01/25/004B). This yard is enclosed on all sides by linked two-storey ranges built in rubble with cut-sandstone dressings; its entrance is in the south range where there is a formally arranged frontage with a central segmental-headed carriage opening, flanked by similar openings all with an oculus over. Adjacent to this lies a long 18th century rectangular brick and stone walled garden (1.7 acres/0.69ha), probably contemporary with the 1770s Hall and stable block; a small walled garden (0.7 acres/0.28ha) on its south side was replaced c.1850 by a garden enclosed to the south by a ha-ha. To the north of the walled garden c.1850 an L-shaped unwallied slip garden and orchard (1.6 acres/0.64ha) was added and subsequently enlarged to 2.5 acres/1ha) in the late 19th century. While the buildings were impressive, the volume of tree planting was comparatively modest, with very narrow tree screens around the demesne perimeter, save for the original entrance in the south-west corner. Most planting in fact was to the west and south west of the house, screening the house from the yards and walled garden, and in the meadows bordering the Foyle. After 1790 the property was inherited by Robert's second son, Henry Alexander MP (1763-1818), who subsequently sold or transferred the lease to James Du Pre Alexander (1777-1839), 2nd Earl of Caledon. For several decades the house and demesne was sub-let to the Dean of Derry, Thomas Bunbury Gough and later William Ponsonby (1772-1853), Bishop of Derry. About 1849 it was sold by James Du Pre Alexander, third Earl of Caledon (1812-55) to Daniel Baird (1795-1862), who passed it to his widow Barbara Baird (1806-80), who leased it. On her death it passed to her grandson, Daniel Maturin-Baird (1849-1924), and his son, Edgar Maturin-Baird (fl.1924-46), both of whom also leased it. In 1949 it was sold to Michael Henry McDevitt (d. 1969). The house had been

abandoned in the 1960s and became a ruin after a fire in the early 1970s. Part of the demesne was lost to the building of the Foyle Bridge and Madams Bank Road in the early 1980s; south of the latter the former Culmore-road demesne avenue, lined with mature sycamore trees, has survived wedged between the new Mount Pleasant and Gleneagles Housing estates and retains its gate piers on the Culmore-road (Listed HB 0/25/004C). In 1996 what remained of the grounds of Boom Hall were purchased by Derry City Council. Land in the north-west corner of the demesne was subsequently lost with the building of the Foyle Hospice Day Centre opened in 2001. The east area of the demesne, notably near the river and stable ranges, retain many fine mature trees. SMR: LDY 14:41 cropmark, 14:45, 46, 47, 48, 49 & 50 enclosures. Private.

**BROOK HALL, County Londonderry (AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) L-004
REGISTERED GRADE A***

Expansive late 18th century partly walled landscape park (142 acres/57.5ha) on gently sloping ground bordering the north-west bank of the River Foyle, 2m north-east of the walled city of Derry in the townland of Ballynashallog. The park, which commands fine views across the river to the east and south-east, now marred by inappropriate housing developments, was created in its present form as the setting for a villa dating to 1775 (Listed HB 01/25/002A); it is well known today as the home of a large arboretum established in the 1930s. The demesne is located on land granted to the Hon. Irish Society under the Plantation settlement. The earliest house on the site was built before 1689 and is shown as a substantial mansion with formal gardens and orchards on several late 17th century maps. The building served as the headquarters for the commander of King James II's forces, the Duke of Berwick, at the time of the Siege. The earliest and most accurate map to depict the area is the 'Map of the City of Londonderry' by Thomas Phillips, dated 1685, while another more schematic map by Francis Neville of the 1689 Siege, also shows the house and some of the enclosed gardens and orchards flanking the waters of the Foyle. Fortunately, the Phillips map is accurate enough to be able to relate it to modern features on the ground; it shows the area west of the back drive to the present west boundary of the demesne to have been subdivided into large regular fields with two straight drives or lanes linking the Culmore-road with the river, where there is another drive. The house sits north of the walled garden, facing a long court or garden that extends down to the river where there were gate piers. Flanking this court/gardens there were orchards and gardens, all in a formal layout typical of the period. This early layout does not correspond with the present walled garden, save perhaps for one of the dividing walls, and no doubt the stone from the old house and associated features were used in the building of the present walled garden in the late 18th-century. There is however a living relic of the 17th century, namely a pair of senscient yew trees (*Taxus baccata*) just north of the walled garden, one of which measures 5.28m girth at 0.75m (2010, Tree Council of Ireland), one of the largest in Ulster. There is also a large Holm Oak (*Quercus ilex*), which has a girth of 5.54m at 0.91m, which suggests an early planting, perhaps in the late 17th or early 18th-centuries. Another feature that no doubt belonged to this period was an avenue of lime trees above the walled garden; unfortunately those that survived (34 trees) were all removed in 1974 to facilitate works associated with the city sewer; it was subsequently replanted as an avenue of Japanese cherry trees interspersed with witch hazel. Following the siege of the city the property was occupied in 1691 by Sir Matthew Bridges, Governor of Londonderry and Culmore and by the mid 18th century it was in the hands of the Rea (or Wray) family, and remained so until at least 1786. Shortly after this date, it was purchased by Sir George FitzGerald Hill MP, 2nd Bt (1763-1839), probably around the time his marriage in September 1788 to Jane, daughter of John Beresford MP. This important marriage, which brought him into the circle of the Marquess of Waterford, ensured his return as MP for Coleraine (1791-95); subsequently, when his father died in 1795 he replaced him as MP for Londonderry (1795-1801 & 1802-30). It is likely that he began work on his new house at Brook Hall in the late 1780s, building on a site on higher ground above the old dwelling 'a modern mansion on a very elegant plan with an extremely fine prospect'. It

was said that Sir George 'had spent upwards of £12,000 on building the house and converting unprofitable bog to pasture'. Hill's house comprises most of the present mansion, the subsequent additions being a single-storey north-west entrance front which was added in the early Victorian era and a post 1852 two-storey side addition. Hill's house was a rectangular rendered block with central bowed bays to the south-east and north-west. The basement storey to the rear projects and acts as the base for a decorative cast-iron veranda that spans this entire side of the block. Contemporary with Hill's house is the stable yard, a short distance to the east, with several rubble and brick built hipped roof ranges. It is clear that much of Hill's expenditure at Brook Hall went onto creating the landscape park. In *Notes of a Journey in the North of Ireland* in 1827 Mitchell wrote of Hill's landscaping that 'evidently neither expense nor skill has been spared in furnishing and maturing one of the most luxuriant collection of shrubs and plants that I ever behold'. Earlier in 1802 the Rev. G.W. Sampson refers to Hill as 'a very spirited planter', noting admiringly the 'rapidity with which the demesne of Brook-hall has taken the lead of most other improvements' which he believed, reflected 'credit on the zeal of the proprietor'. Hill's original late 18th-century park layout has survived substantially intact; regular perimeter belts ranging from 35m to 80m width were planted along the Culmore Road and the boundary with Boom Hall, with perimeter belts c.80m average width along the river side slopes. Typically for the period, much planting follows the contour lines with woodland blocks flanking the house on the west and north-east, the latter hiding the yards from views. The walled garden was well screened from the house, with the main open lawns, all decorated with isolated trees and clumps, being south-west of the house and to the north, inside the road perimeter belts. Save for planting along the river, the northern section of the park was left largely open lawn, save only for five of six irregular tree clumps down its centre and some isolated trees. One of the avenues into the park, whose entrance on the Culmore-road at Thorn Hill was later dignified with a gate lodge (the 'North Lodge' now gone), passed through this open lawn to the front facade of the house. The main avenue to the house entered close to the boundary with Boom Hall on the Culmore-road west of the house; this originally passed through a mixture of woodland and lawn in its journey to the house. This latter drive remains today with a single-storey Classical Style lodge of about 1820 date; it has an octagonal plan with rendered walls a hipped ('umbrella') roof and Doric portico; it was extended in 1969 (Listed HB 01/25/002B). The neighbouring gate screen (Listed HB 01/25/00D) is also in Classical Style, and appears to be contemporary; however, the ornate cast-iron gates and railings look later than the screen itself, possibly late 19th century. In the area between the screen and the road there are two large ship anchors from the ship 'Sunbeam' placed here by Commander Frank Gilliland in 1929. Much of Hill's planting was hardwoods and included oak, both deciduous and evergreen, beech, lime and Spanish chestnut. There were certainly conifers as the 1837 *Memoirs* for Templemore makes specific mention of a Scots Pine in Brook Hall with a girth of 10ft 8 ins (at 1ft 3ins). The walled garden was created in its present form by Hill most probably in the 1790s and is a typical example of its kind. It lies close to the Foyle, is a long and large rectangular walled enclosure (3.4 acres/1.4ha), divided into two sections (there are no slips). The smaller east section (1 acre/0.4ha), which may be a slightly later addition, has some brick-lined walls and appears to have been the main working/frame yard area, with a separate section flanking the river for potting sheds and no doubt hot beds. A south facing wall (55m long) was made on its north side to facilitate a lean-to glasshouse; in the early 20th century this was replaced by two short lean-to glass houses. Two ponds in the garden seem to be a late 19th century introduction to the garden; another pond was made just outside the garden to the north. Between the two ponds in the garden, Commander Frank Gilliland had a croquet lawn. Today the area is under mowed grass with a fine weeping beech and a collection of camellias and magnolias, the National Collection of *Escallonia*, with some other shrubs. To the south-west, the main garden (2.3 acres/0.94ha) is a short rectangular area which also has south-east sloping ground; this too is now mowed grass with a number of shrubs. It is enclosed with stone-walls, some of which might incorporate elements of earlier gardens/enclosures on the site, but this is difficult to demonstrate. The garden

typically had a central path, which may have been flanked in its late Victorian heyday with a herbaceous border, but the rest of the garden was evidently always devoted to kitchen stuff, including espalied fruit trees. The ruin of a small and rather rare brick-based late 19th century glasshouse survives in the centre of the garden. In 1989 the south-west end of the garden was leased to the City Parks Department as a nursery for the city's planting. Having built the house and park, Sir George FitzGerald Hill lived at Brook Hall in grand style, receiving the great and the good, including the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, the Duke of Richmond, who came to stay in January 1808 and was 'elegantly entertained'. However, his lifestyle was causing him to become increasingly beset with financial troubles and in 1822 matters got so bad that he decided that he had to sell Brook Hall to the Bishop of Derry. This came to nothing, but increasing debt prompted him to procure the lucrative post of Governor of St. Vincent in 1830 and, in 1833, Governor of Trinidad, where he died in office in 1839. Due to his absence from Ireland after 1830, Brook Hall was let to his brother-in-law, Henry Barré Beresford (1784-1837) of Learmount. After George Hill's death in 1839, his title and property were inherited by his nephew, Sir George Hill (1804-45), 3rd Bt., after whose demise ownership passed to his widow, Lady Elizabeth Sophia Hill (d.1900). In 1846 the house is recorded as being rented to a relative, Major James Hill, but in 1852 Lady Hill leased Brook Hall to Samuel Gilliland (1811-1878), a Londonderry merchant who had built the Rock Flour Mills in the city in 1846. Gilliland, who was an alderman of Londonderry Corporation and Chairman of Londonderry Port and Harbour Commission, eventually bought Brook Hall in 1858. Following his death in 1878, Brook Hall was inherited by his son, George Knox Gilliland (1844-1914), who like his father was a Londonderry corn merchant and owner of the Rock Mills. He and his wife Francis Jane Cooke (1859-1921) had an interest in the park and gardens and from the 1880s a substantial amount of exotic additions started to be made. This was mostly conifers and included the Blue Atlas Cedar, Californian redwoods and silver firs. As regards deciduous trees, the large copper beech and fern leaf beech in front of the house and the very fine eucalyptus (blue gum) south of the carriage drive date from his time. In May 1914 George Knox Gilliland died of pneumonia to be succeeded by his son George Francis (Frank) Gilliland (1884-1957), a Royal Navy Commander. Frank developed a serious interest in horticulture, particularly trees and shrubs, and when he returned to Brook Hall in 1918 after the war he started corresponding with W.J. Bean at Kew, the Daisy Hill and Slieve Donard nurseries and others, acquiring plants, which by the early 1930s was becoming a significant arboretum planted in the parkland to the south and south-west of the house. He became friends with Hugh Armitage Moore (1873-1954) of Rowallane, who advised on the layout and position of trees and shrubs in the arboretum which eventually covered an area of about 35 acres (14ha). Like his parents, Frank Gilliland was particularly fond of conifers and also created a good collection of bamboo at Brook Hall. He was no doubt encouraged in his conifer interest by Geoffrey T. Taylour (1878-1943), the 4th Marquess of Headfort, regarded by most as Ireland's premier garden owner with whom he also became friendly. The Commander, it may be added, also enjoyed yachting and built a boat house below the walled garden. By 1950, when his arboretum was among the finest in the country, he suffered a stroke which left him bedridden at Brook Hall for the next seven years before he died in 1957. Having no heirs, he left the property to his cousin, David Gilliland (1932-2019), a lawyer. Fortunately, David also developed a passion for trees and shrubs, becoming chairman of the Northern Ireland Heritage Gardens Committee in 1985 and Vice-President of the International Dendology Society. He also assembled a large collection of auriculas, which he kept on the terrace beside the house; here retaining walls were added and near the house were pots with Judas trees and embotrium. Following the serious damage caused to the arboretum in September 1961 by Hurricane Debbie, David embarked upon a restoration of the arboretum, which he also expanded, developing the already fine range of conifers of all shapes, sizes and colours, birches and maples for Spring and Autumn colour, the flowering shrubs including berberis, cotoneaster, Japanese cherries, and pieris, all aided by the fact that woody plants grow quickly here as the area is frostless and well sheltered. There is a shelterbelt of trees and shrubs

along the north of the arboretum, while the arboretum planting now extends south to the shore and also north-east of the dwelling house, where there are also mature trees, between it and the farm buildings. In the 1980s he catalogued the collection recording over 900 varieties of trees and shrubs, including many rare conifers and a hundred flourishing varieties of rhododendron, a speciality of the collection. Among the rare woody plants in the collection is a Pindrow or West Himalayan fir (*Abies pindrow* var. *intermedia*) which came from Sir John Ross at Rostrevor House and which got an award of merit at the RHS in 1944. In 1980 it was one of only 2 in Ireland, the other being at Kildrum, David's childhood home. There are particularly fine collections of abies, cypress and pines with almost 900 tagged specimens. On the avenue is a large Dawn Redwood (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*) with a height of 21m and girth of 2.62m, grown from the original seed distributed by the Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University, in 1948. Nearby there is a fine example of a Chinese Red-barked birch (*Betula albosinensis* var. *septrionalis*) with height of 17m and girth 3.96m, and a good New Zealand Red Beech (*Nothofagus fusca*), 23m high. Also close to the avenue is a large Noble Fir (*Abies procera* Glauca), 21m high and with girth of 4.9m. Other notable trees include a Leyland Cypress (*X Cupressocyparis leylandii* 'Leighton Green', 30m high; Maries's Fir (*Abies mariesii*), 23m high & 1.80m girth; a Monterey Cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa* 'Lambertiana') with height 13.8m & girth 2.81m; Mexican White Pine (*Pinus ayacahuite*) 18m high and girth 2.9m; a Macedonian Pine (*Pinus peuce*), 24m high and 2.94m girth; Forrest's Fir (*Abies forrestii*) 22.6m high; Chinese Fir (*Cunninghamia lanceolata*), 17m high with girth of 1.75m; Big Cone Pine (*Pinus coulteri*) 23.8m high; Pindrow Fir (*Abies pindrow* var. *intermedia*), 18.7 m high & 2.02m girth; Santa Lucia Fir (*Abies bracteata*) 20.5m high; Summit Cedar (*Athrotaxis laxifolia*), 14m high and girth 1.57m; Patagonian Cypress (*Fitzroya cupressoides*), 13m height and girth 1.54m; Table Dogwood (*Cornus controversa*), 1.2m girth; Sakhalin Spruce (*Picea glehnii*) 18.0m high & 1.08m girth, Chinese Larch (*Larix potanini*), 9.3m height & 0.96m girth; Willow Oak (*Quercus phello*) 11m tall and 0.9m girth and *Nothofagus glauca*, 11.7m high and 0.76m girth - all Irish champions. In addition there numerous unusual or eye-catching trees, for example, the calico bush or mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*); Korean fir (*Abies koreana*), paperbark maple (*Acer griseum*), silver birch (*Betula alba*), sweetgum (*Liquidambar*), black gum or black tupelo (*Nyssa sylvatica*) many coming from the Hillier Nursery, Hampshire, England. Other trees include the box leaf azara (*Azara microphylla*) from Chile Caucasian or oriental spruce (*Picea orientalis*), cedar gum (*Eucalyptus gunnii*), a kind of yew (*Podocarpus macrophyllus chinensis*) and the now common dove or handkerchief tree (*Davidia involucrata*). At the north end of the walled garden, he built up the National Collection of Escallonia and collections of camellias, magnolias and other shrubs; near the house is a collection of azaleas. A large 19th century ice house is located close to the water of the Foyle some distance north of the walled garden and appears to have been used to store salmon. Nearby is a second World War pill box, now collapsed, built to control access up the Foyle. In 1993 David Gilliland granted local charity access to the slipway and boathouse, from where the Foyle Search and Rescue presently operate. Private. SMR: LDY 14:55 cropmark.

**BROOKE PARK, County Londonderry (AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) L-049
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Municipal Public Park of 18 acres (7.2ha) located north-west of the walled city on high ground. It was opened in 1901 on lands of a boy's orphanage, Gwyn's Institute, whose grounds dated from 1840. The buildings were demolished in 1973, but the outer walls are retained. Surrounded by housing, the park covers a roughly rectangular site, mostly walled, on rising ground sloping from north to south, mostly grassed with paths, terracing and some bedding with commanding views over the city and St. Eugene's Cathedral. The main entrance gate and access to the city lies on the south side on Infirmary Road, close to Christ Church (CofI) with gate screen and classical ashlar lodge of c.1840 (Listed HB 01/22/001). A bronze statue, known as the 'Black Man' of Sir Robert A. Ferguson M.P. of c 1840 by the Dublin sculptor John Edward Jones, set a short distance uphill

from the entrance, is also Listed with the gate lodge; this statue was moved here in 1927 from Shipquay Street. The public park was named after James Hood Brooke (died 1865) who left a bequest of £15,000 for the establishment of a 'people's park' for the city; Gwyn's Institute came onto the market in 1901 and was purchased with the aid of more money donated by the Hon. The Irish Society. After landscaping was complete in August 1901 the park was handed over to Londonderry Corporation and was opened to the public in 1902; that year a park superintendent was appointed (salary £50 a year). Visited by the King and Queen in July 1903 who both planted oak trees to celebrate their visit. The park is now administered by Derry District Council and was subject to a major rejuvenation programme by the Council in 2014-16; this involved the buildings a 'café' and play area on the site of the former institute; a small walled garden, a Horticultural and Environment Training Centre, a new contact sport centre, synthetic pitch and the restoration of many historic features of the municipal park, including the oval pond at the base of the institute grass terraces.

ENAGH HOUSE, County Londonderry (AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) L-065
REGISTERED GRADE B

Mid-Victorian park (117 acres/47ha) located less than 0.5 miles east of the Foyle Bridge, in the townlands of Stradreagh More and Gransha. The focus is a modest archaic looking Georgian-style house of c.1860 (Listed HB 01/05/001) which resembles one of an earlier era. The landscape 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 ha-ha! 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*). There is a conservatory on the south side of the main house. The gate lodge of c.1855 has recently been replaced with a larger dwelling, a short distance west of the former site where iron gate piers and side gate still remain SMR: LDY 14:15 nearby church ruins and graveyard. Private.

GLENGALLIAGH HALL, County Londonderry (AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) L-028
REGISTERED GRADE B

Mid-19th century Demesne Park (38.6 acres/15.6ha) with mature trees located 2.5 miles (4km) north-west of the walled city of Derry in the townland of Ballynagalliagh. Contains a relatively large south-east facing symmetrical Tudoresque-style house of c.1847 (Listed HB 01/26/003). There are perimeter woodland screens flanking parkland on east and west sides of house and thick woodland belt, mostly beech, on south side of house. Pleasure grounds north-east of house had ornamental garden with formal flower beds in the 1990s; still has an ornamental trees and a garden walk to the north, the latter flanked with iron posts and chains. Rectangular productive garden, partly walled, to the north-east of the house, which was in cultivation in the 1990s, but now out of use. It is said that during the period 1933-44 when in a previous ownership, the gardens had eleven gardeners! Arts and Crafts style gate lodge c.1900 (Listed HB 01/26/00B). Private.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, County Londonderry (AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) L-015
REGISTERED GRADE A

Early Victorian parkland (24.4 acres/9.9ha) located on the west bank of the Foyle 1.4 miles (2.2km) south-west of the walled city of Derry. Its house, now called Termonbacca after the townland, was built for The Honourable The Irish Society for their General Agent in 1846-48 to a design of Sir William Tite (Listed HB 01/12/006). House centrally placed in a regular square-shaped parkland (24ac) above the west bank of the River Foyle south-west of Derry City. Original

layout of narrow perimeter belt screens around property survive intact with mature trees save for some gaps of the south and north-west sides. Main parkland areas lie to the east and south of the house, from which there are fine views of the river. Substantial woodland clumps of mature trees, all survivals of the original layout, lie north and west of the house. An L-shaped walled garden (0.76ac), north-west of the house is screened by woodland; it had glasshouses against the south and south-west facing walls, but this garden, which was in cultivation in the 1990s, is now abandoned. House approached by gently twisting avenue through park from north-east corner; gate lodge now gone. In 1980s the house was used as Boy's Community School (St. Joseph's Catholic Home); subsequently became a Carmelite retreat house. SMR: LDY 14:1 enclosure. Private.

**HOLY HILL (HOLLY HILL), County Tyrone (AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) T/022
REGISTERED GRADE A***

Fine intact and well wooded demesne park (195 acres/79ha) lying 0.8 miles (1.3km) south of Artigarvan and 2.5 miles (4.3km) north-east of Strabane. The name is also written as Holy Hill House and Holyhill. The demesne has a plantation origins being part of lands granted by James II to Sir George Hamilton, brother of the first Earl of Abercorn, who in 1611 built here a large timber dwelling of 62 feet by 30 feet; unfortunately, like so many other plantation houses it was destroyed in the 1641 rebellion. Hamilton's agent, Captain George Magee, acquired the property in the 1650s and by the 1660s appears to have built a modest house here, which in the 1680s he sold to Rev. John Sinclair, whose descendants were to remain until the 1980s. As soon as he acquired the property, John Sinclair built himself a substantial house, which was enlarged considerably around 1736 by building the present front block whose harled and washed white entrance facade is the house front today. It is a east-facing three-storey over basement and five bay block with hipped roof, unpretentious, *almost* vernacular in appearance (Listed HB 10/11/001A). In the early 19th century the 1680s house was removed to make way for the present Regency building, serving to make the history of this house a bit confusing. The demesne was surveyed in the 1730s by William Starratt; today there is nothing surviving of the formal landscape that was associated with the 1730s and earlier house. The present naturalised landscape park, described by Young in 1909 as a, '... richly wooded park' and its walled garden, all date to the end of the 18th-century. The parkland was professionally laid out with a good balance between open meadows and flanking deciduous woodland blocks; the woodland screens on the east side are substantial, notably the Round Wood south-east of the house. The areas to the north, west and south of the house are also well wooded especially flanking the mill race, while to the south are well placed woodland blocks, allowing views across the park from many vantage points. The screens and woods were also carefully designed to facilitate driven shoots. East of the house is the 'lawn' which in typical fashion was decorated with isolated trees; the two open meadows on the north side of the park, flanking the main drive into the property, were also decorated with isolated trees. The parkland trees are deciduous throughout, mostly oak and beech, and save for Glackens's Wood on the south perimeter are all mature. Except for a few modern houses penetrating the edge of Glackens's Wood on the south, the layout of the parkland at Holy Hill has remained entirely intact from its appearance on the 1830s Ordnance Survey map; indeed the degree to which the entirety of this landscape has survived is remarkable and unique in Northern Ireland. The offices and yards to the west of the house are equally well preserved and currently beautifully maintained including a yardsman's house; barn; laundry, forge, stables and byres (Listed HB 10/11/001B-G). These outbuildings may have been the work of James Sinclair, who inherited the estate in 1804 and who, judging from a description of his activities written in 1821, was particularly vigorous in improving farming methods in the area. Within a wooded area about 75m North-east of the stable is a former saw mill (HB10.11.001K), that is set on sloping ground. It is a two-storey gable-ended building, rectangular in plan, with rubble walls and had an overshot wheel, built sometime before 1854 and still shown on maps as a 'saw mill' in

1951. The house is set in a maintained ornamental garden with herbaceous borders and lawns. A water garden was added in the 1970s. The walled garden (Listed HB 10/11/001L), well screened from the house and park on all sides, has a square plan (1.7 acres/0.67ha), which lies 10ft (52m) south of the house; it is enclosed with 3m high stone rubble walls set in lime mortar with the north and west walls lined internally in brick. The walled garden is presently under grass, save for a small section in the north-west corner that is cultivated. There is a rectangular lean-to glazed timber glasshouse (for vines) that still survives against the garden's north wall; this has a red brick plinth wall and a boiler house on the north side of the wall. On west side of the garden is a freestanding ruined glasshouse with sunken passage and cast iron frame and painted angled ridge tiles and timber eaves.; the latter appears to be the glasshouse that was supplied to Miss R.L. Sinclair by Messenger and Co of Loughborough. Formerly, there was an orchard, also well screened from the park, lying to the south of the walled garden. Gate lodge off the Art Road, c.1810, now demolished. Following the death of the last of the male Sinclair line, William Hugh Montgomery Sinclair, in 1930, his wife Bessie inherited and following her death in 1957 it was inherited by Major General Sir Allan Adair, the Liberator of Brussels. As he had no surviving male heirs it was sold on his death in 1983 to Hamilton and Margaret Thompson. Private.

LEARMONT, County Londonderry (AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) L-012

REGISTERED GRADE B

Sometimes known as Learmont Castle or 'Laremount', the holding goes back to the early 17th century, passing from the Skipton, Montgomery and from the late 18th century to the Beresford families. The present Gothic-Tudoresque-style ashlar house, which faces north, is placed above a steep terraced drop to the River Faughan and was probably built to a design of J.B. Keane of Dublin c.1830 (Listed HB 01/01/010); it replaced a house on the same site of c.1710. The terracing, which is probably 18th century in date, is grassed and decorated with ornamental yew trees of mid-Victorian date. South of the house lie coach and stable yard range and adjoining the west and south-west of this is the walled garden (1.4ac), which is 18th century in date and divided into two sections. The large associated designed informal landscape, now covered by coniferous plantations, once covered a large area south of the River Faughan and north of the Park Road (220ac); a smaller area of parkland lay south of the road covered (64ac). Much of this parkland planting was apparently undertaken in the 1820s, though in 1837 Lewis noted in his *Topographical Dictionary*, that the demesne had 'large and valuable timber ...' suggesting an earlier date for planting. There were Victorian pleasure grounds close to the house on the north-west and north-east sides; some tree and shrub planting here survives. The demesne park was entered through two main ornamental drives from the Park Road, both with gate lodges, south-west and south-east of the house; a road south of the yards linking with a crossroads served as the tradesman's entrance. The demesne is presently administered by DAERA (Forest Service) and contains extensive commercial plantations; mature deciduous trees survive around the house and yards and on the north fringes demesne. Paths are maintained and the site is an amenity. From 1950-83 the house was used as a Youth Hostel, during which time the east wing was demolished; in 2000 the coach house to rear of house was sold into private hands, while house was converted self-catering apartments; part of gardens were reclaimed and a pond added. SMR: LDY 29:2 Turrasaglin Well. Public access to Forest Park. House private.

MOLENAN (MULLENAN), County Londonderry (AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) L-060

REGISTERED GRADE B

Small parkland with mature trees surrounding a relatively large Classical-style house built by the Moore family c.1840 with rear section of 1886 (Listed HB 01/12/014); the house stood on the site of an earlier house of possible 17th century date, the townland of Mullennan having been granted to the Hon. Irish Society under the Plantation Settlement. Ornamental planting around the house survives, as do shelter belt trees around the park, but a large meadow (10 acres/4ha) on south

side of the small park (29 acres/11.7ha) has in recent years been separated from property and contains a modern house, while a woodland block on the north of the property (9 acres/3.6ha) is now covered with commercial coniferous trees. The surviving area around the house, 13 acre extent, has much of its Victorian and Edwardian planting, including a number of ornamental specimen trees, notably a large tulip tree. Pleasure grounds include shrubberies with rhododendrons and a pond. Rectangular walled garden (1 acre), lying east of the house on the opposite side of the Balloughry Road, was in full cultivation until the 1970s. Orchards of 1.1 acre (0.4ha) and 0.7acre (0.28ha) to the west of the house. 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, this built, c.1880 and following renovation in c.2000 is used as a holiday cottage. Private.

**MOYLE HOUSE, County Tyrone (AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) T/061
REGISTERED GRADE A**

The house and surrounding garden have early 18th century origins; much has now gone but the lime trees in the avenue survive and 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. This had been O'Neill castle from at least the 15th century, while a house, the 'Manor of New Stewardstown' [Newtownstewart] had been built in its vicinity by 1617. The land was procured by Trinity College, Dublin sometime pre-1720 for use as a glebe and the then incumbent, the Rev. John Hall, Rector from 1713-35, built a new brick rectory in 1725-27. It was at this time that the formal geometric landscape was laid out around the house, comprising the avenue, walled garden and other features. Remains of this large formal garden can be seen in St Joseph's photos of 1952 and on the OS maps. The lime avenue 730 feet (222m) long, divided centrally by the Strahulter Road, as been incorporated into the changing landscape throughout the following generations. The walled garden flanks the lime avenue in the fashion typical of the late 17th/early 18th century formal gardens. It is a long rectangular form (1.1 acre/0.43ha), is now under grass having been abandoned sometime before the early 1950s; it still has a few fruit trees, relics of espalier apples that once lined its long axial paths. The ruins of the old castle on the north-west of the grounds, evidently survived until the early 1780s when the Rev. Thomas Leland converted the remains into what Beaufort described as a 'pretty summer house'. Shaw Mason in 1814 called it a 'neat circular cottage' and marked as 'summer house' on the early OS maps. The rectory, described in the OS Memoirs of 1834 as 'an old building...surrounded by old trees' with an 'aspect of comfort and retirement' was largely demolished in the 1840s. A new 'Moyle House' was erected to the south of the present Strahulter Road; this was demolished after a fire in the late 1920s. The eastern side of the former yard for the old house were adapted as a residence in the late 19th century and designated 'Moyle Cottage' on OS maps. The present Moyle Cottage was built on a location just south of the original house site in the 1920s. There is a gate lodge of 1855. SMR: TYR 17:10 Site of Castle Moyle. Private.

**ST COLUMB'S, County Londonderry (AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) L-050
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Public park (74 acres/30 ha) on the east bank of the Foyle opposite the Queen's Quay, occupies the former demesne of an early 19th century house (St. Columbs) that had been purchased by Londonderry Corporation in 1939 for a hospital. The country house (Listed HB 01/09/001) at the centre of the park, was leased to the Health Board from 1946-85. Following renovation in 1993-94, it has been used as a peace and reconciliation centre and is managed by the St. Columb's Park Reconciliation Trust; an extension was added in 2010. The site, which enjoys views over the River Foyle, is grassed, with paths, incorporating fine mature trees, notably beech, on undulating land and along glen sidewalks. A section on the east side contains playing fields. The original

productive garden, evidently walled and rectangular in plan (0.9 acres/0.4 ha) lay on the east side of the house and yards; this area is currently occupied by lawn and ornamental planting. This early garden was replaced later the 19th century by a triangular shaped walled garden (90.8 acres/0.3ha) to the west of the house; this garden was cleared of undergrown in 2016 and is being rejuvenated as a garden. Public access to park. SMR: LDY 14:2 St Columb's Church 14:14 St Columb's Well.

TEMPLEMOYLE/MUFF GLEN, County Londonderry (AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) L-046
REGISTERED GRADE B

Long demesne woodland strip (94 acres/38ha) flanking each side of the Muff Glen River, lying immediately to the south of Eglinton in the townlands of Fallowar; Templemoyle; Lower Derryarkin; Gortinreid & Edenreagh More. The property, which was associated with the North West of Ireland Agricultural Society School in the Victorian era, was previously part of the Grocer's Company early 17th century Plantation settlement. It was leased from 1810-23 to David Babington who undertook extensive planting in the glen, recorded in the *Register of Trees for County Londonderry, 1768-1911*. Subsequently, an Agricultural School was established here with an associated network of productive gardens with accompanying nursery, all laid out for the education of pupils. The 'Templemoyle Agricultural Seminary' was taken into the National Model system in 1854, but closed in 1866, after which the main school building was demolished. Little remains of this school buildings, but an area of 34ha of the valley of the Muff River is still covered with mature woodland. The house became a nursing home in the 1990s. Private. Muff Glen is owned by Forest Service and has public access.

THE OAKS, County Londonderry (AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) L-030
REGISTERED GRADE B

Original demesne parkland c.1800 of Oaks (190 acres/77ha) lies on the north bank of the River Faughan and opposite another demesne parkland called Oak Lodge, also about 180ac extent. The present house at Oaks, was built by the Acheson family c.1802 and rebuilt as a substantial Classical-style following a fire in 1867 (Listed HB 01/02/003). There are no surviving ornamental gardens around the house today and the walled garden is not cultivated. The main interest in the demesne today is the tree planting along the River Faughan, which are the remains of the extensive planting in this demesne and in its companion demesne on the south bank of the river, undertaken during the 18th century, supplemented in the early 19th century and again in the 1820s-30s, when upwards of 400,000 trees were planted. Some of the planting here is recorded in the *Register of Trees for County Londonderry, 1768-1911*. Some of the trees standing includes a silver fir (*Abies alba*) and sessile oak (*Quercus petraea*), the former being, according to the TCI, the earliest known of the species to have been planted in Ireland, 1742. Main entrance lies on north-east boundary of demesne where there still stands a gate screen; the gate lodge was demolished, c.1950. Private.

THORNHILL, County Londonderry (AP DERRY AND STRABANE 06) L-033
REGISTERED GRADE B

One the mercantile villas with associated parkland (50 acres/20.2ha) bordering the River Foyle to the north of the city. The house, which stands on an elevated site with steep terracing below, was built for the Watt family in 1882-83 in a Baronial-style with irregular plan (Listed HB 01/25/001A); it occupies the site of a pre-1830 dwelling, possibly with late 17th century origins. The parkland, which lies on gently sloping ground down to the river, has surviving woodland along its south-east perimeter, with walks and mature trees. Lawns with shrubs lie west of house, while the walled garden, which has a trapezoid plan, stands to the west; it was partly cultivated in the 1990s when there were several glasshouses against its north-west wall. Property sold to the Convent of Mercy in 1932 as a girls-school and extensive additions were added in the 1950s-60s. In 2003 the house

became a retreat centre. The main entrance to south-west has a gate lodge of c.1885 (Listed HB01/25/001B). Private.

AREA PLAN – FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07

BELLE ISLE, County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) F/022 REGISTERED GRADE A

Island demesne (457 acres/185ha) at the north end of Upper Lough Erne, lying 4.5 miles (7km) south-west of Maguiresbridge and 6.3 miles (10km) south-east of Enniskillen. It is reached via a bridge and the approach to the house is a straight avenue. It is sited in a glorious position of great natural beauty, which has long been acknowledged. The original plantation house here known as 'Manor Gore', dated from the 1620s and the present house was built at various stages in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries (Listed HB 12/5/32). The island had formed part of a proportion of 1000 acres called Manor Gore (Newtowngore), but also known variously as called Manor Inishmore, Manor of Carrick and Manor of Belle Isle, which had been granted under the Plantation Settlement of Fermanagh, to Paul Gore (d.1629), a Londoner and Elizabethan adventurer, knighted in 1621. By 1622 he had commenced 'bawne of lyme and stone 60 foot square with 2 flankers' which he had leased to 'an English gentleman' who appears to have had 'a dwelling by the bawne', but who had agreed to build 'a strong howse of lyme and stone' with the enclosure itself. This house was not however the first on the site; the island name 'Ballymacmanus', or 'Seanaod MacManus', derived from the fact that it had been a stronghold of the MacManus clan, the second most powerful family in Fermanagh (after the Maguires) during the 14th to 16th centuries. It was here that in the latter half of the 15th century, Cathal Og MacManus (1439-98), head of the clan and Vicar General of Clogher, oversaw the compilation of the *Annals of Ulster* written at Belle Isle by his chief scribe Rory Lunny (the manuscript remained at Belle Isle until the 1630s). In 1629 Sir Paul Gore's title and lands passed to his eldest son, Sir Ralph Gore I (d.1651) and in turn to his only son, Sir William Gore (d.c.1703), followed by his son, Sir Ralph Gore II (d.1733), all MPs and politically active. Belle Isle is mentioned by John Dolan in his *History of Fermanagh* (1718) as being 'much improved and beautified at his own expense' by Sir Ralph Gore II, 4th baronet, who had a distinguished political career and was among other things, Speaker of the Irish House of Commons. Dolan's comments indicate that the house was given a formal garden and landscape; this would have no doubt included the usual straight tree-lined approach avenue, either the present one (0.3 miles/0.5km) with north-east axis or the much shorter one running roughly parallel (760ft/230m) running into the centre of the present yard; this has long served as a service drive. We may also assume that enclosed gardens were associated with the house and some idea of these may be found in Dean Henry's *Upper Lough Erne* (1739), when he stated that the ground from the dwelling 'chiefly agreeable for its situation' descended 'in an hanging level to the lough, a parterre, enclosed on the east and west sides with high walls covered with fruit trees, and having on the extremities on each side square turrets, which hang over the lough'. He also noted that at the foot of the 'parterre is a quay, where used to ride all kinds of pleasure boats'. He described the house as a 'small lodge'; it is not clear if this original building occupied the site of the present house or lay to its north-west, which is perhaps more likely. After the death of St George Gore St George in 1746, the demesne was subject to substantial improvements by his brother Sir Ralph Gore, 6th baronet (1725-1799), who previously had had a noted military career on the continent. He followed his brother as MP for Co. Donegal in 1746 (-64), became Baron Gore in 1764, Viscount Belleisle in 1768 and finally Earl of Ross in 1772. He rebuilt the house in the 1750s, substantial portions of which still survive in the rere parts of the present mansion. It is entirely possible this new house was built on a different *de novo* location from the old residence and, as we would expect for this natural landscape-conscious period, was orientated to take full advantage of the magnificent views of the Lakeland. He rebuilt the house

and created the naturalised landscape park, sweeping away the old formal garden terraces and walls; indeed much of what survives of the landscape today was created during his fifty-three years of ownership. The landscape park with its irregular woodland blocks, screens, clumps and isolated trees were created by him once he inherited. Thomas Wright came here in the 1740s and may have designed an ornamental building here (now gone). By the 1770s many of Ireland's foremost landscape artists were attracted to the beauties of Belle Isle, including the painters Thomas Roberts and Jonathan Fisher. When Arthur Young came here in 1776 he remarked upon the 'uncommon beauty' of the property with its woods, its 'walks around the island', the 'temple built on a gentle hill' commanding views of the wooded islands, the 'grotto' from which the wooded islands appeared 'in an uncommon beauty', and the lawn below the house 'scattered with trees that forms the margin of the lake'. Fisher commented upon the park's 'grotesque seats and ornamental spots on the most interesting situations' and admired its 'handsome cottage with a kitchen and other conveniences', the latter being presumably a reference to a *cottage orné*, which no longer exists. Loudon in his *Encyclopaedia* of 1825 also remarked 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 ...'. The basic 18th-century park layout survives today and as in the 18th century the trees are predominantly deciduous (beech and oak): Blackbog Wood dates to the 18th century and once extended further south. Bridge Wood, too, dates to the 18th century with the main approach passing through it. Another drive also once passed through it, on its eastern side. Templehill Wood, which is entirely beech and oak, also dates to the 18th century and formerly extended further south. The southern part of Slatequay Wood is 18th century while the northern part is 19th century. The shelter belt of carr and scrub running around the perimeter of the island from east to east-south-east to south-east is for the most part a more modern development. The rectangular brick walled garden (1.4 acres/0.6ha), though not specifically mentioned by Young, was an integral part of the Earl of Ross's re-landscaping. It was originally enclosed by extensive slip-gardens, much of which by 1833 were being used as orchards. From 1833 at least, the garden had been divided into two on either side of a central path running from a wide, semi-circular-headed entrance with wooden gates at the south-east to a rectilinear garden house with wings at the north-west. A garden house (probably a different building than that of today) was shown on the 1833 map. From then until 1960 at least there was a pair of glass houses adjoining it on either side. The easterly one remains and was a vinery, but now has peach trees against the wall in it. The 1960 map also showed another smaller glass house to the east and a small building. The central path inside the garden is flanked by a formal arrangement of beds and yew, probably dating to Edwardian times. On either side of the path there is a line of triangular-shaped beds with scallop-shaped beds at either end all edged in box and on either side of this is a yew hedge, clipped into a point at the top. In 1991 there were roses in the beds and fruit trees were noticed at the south-west, however, at that time the garden was said to be uncultivated. Today fruit and vegetables for the cookery school are grown in some of the box-edged beds while a few others have annual flowers such as dahlias. There are opposing breaks in centre of the yew hedge and also towards the south-east end, giving access to the rest of the walled garden. To the east of the central path is an orchard of new apple trees, with a line of old apple trees close to the south-east wall. There is a new tennis court towards the south-east wall. The Earl of Ross died in 1799 [not 1802] after which time the house and demesne were inherited by his daughter, Mary (died 1824), who in 1793 had married Richard Hardinge (1756-1826), created a baronet in 1801. They lived at Belle Isle until around 1809 after which time the property fell into a long period of decline. It was leased to a tenant and apparently at times left unoccupied. In 1826 the house and its demesne passed to Sir Richard Hardinge's nephew, the Rev. Charles Hardinge, second baronet, who had no Irish interests and remained in England. The Gore link with Belle Isle was finally broken in 1829, when Hardinge sold the property for £60,000

(a considerable sum at that time) to a clergyman from Cumbria, the Rev. John Grey Porter (1789-1873) whose father had been appointed Bishop of Killala in 1795 and in 1797 to the extremely valuable see of Clogher. Having acquired Belle Isle in 1829, the Rev. John Grey Porter lived there until his death in 1873. The house, which in the 1830s was in a state of dilapidation, was remodelled and extended by Porter in the early 1850s, while his only son and heir, John Grey Vesey Porter (1818-1903), who inherited in 1873, remodelled the whole building in its present Tudoresque rambling style in the late 1870s. After his death his nephew, John Porter Archdale (1855-1934), inherited; he had changed his surname to Porter-Porter in 1876. The new owner extended the house again in 1907 to accommodate his large family, adding, amongst other things, the enclosing terrace, the tall tower and many other features designed by English architect Percy Richard Morley Horder (1870-1944). Around this time he created what was once a very fine rockery north-east of the house; traces were still evident in the early 1990s, but all trace is gone. There used to be a couple of watercolours of the rockery in the house by the famous garden artist Beatrice Parsons, who stayed here and at Castle Archdale for a time during the Great War. What appears to have been a late 19th century shrubbery was approached off the main avenue via a whalebone arch, which is still present. John Porter-Porter's second son, Nicholas Henry Archdale Porter (1890-1973) was the next owner. He bequeathed the property to his niece, Miss Lavinia Baird, who served as the first woman deputy lieutenant in Northern Ireland (in 1983), and was later High Sheriff of County Fermanagh (1987). In 1991 she sold Belle Isle to the 5th Duke of Abercorn, the present owner. Outside the walled garden flanking the west side of the approach path is a modern building which houses a successful cooking school. The main house, renovated to a high standard in 2015, can be hired and is a popular wedding venue. There are self-catering cottages in the yard and elsewhere on the property. Two substantial gate lodges were built at the same time as the house were restored and extended in the 1990s. There was a decoy pond south-west of the dwelling house on West Island. SMR: FERM 230:51 tree ring, 230:52 enclosure, 230:53 old boat house, 230:78 tree ring and 230:94 ?monastery. Private.

**BELLEVUE, County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) - F/003
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Late Georgian Parkland (60 acres/24ha) with relatively large part Georgian, part late Victorian country house (Listed HB 12/07/032), located 2 miles (3.3km south-east of Enniskillen. The house, which faces south-west, sits on a drumlin summit between Upper Lough Erne on the west and Lough Acrussel (39.4 acres/16ha) to its east. The first house on the site, sometimes known as Drumcoo after the townland name, appears to have been built around 1770 by Captain Alexander Gordon, who in 1762 had married Catherina Montgomery, a niece of Colonel Margetson Armar, by then the owner of Castle Coole. Gordon may have been an agent for the Belmore estate and the house originally erected as an agent's house. Plantation belts to the south of the house alongside Lough Erne and a small plantation immediately east of the house most probably were also put down in the 1770s. No doubt, contemporary with this was the kitchen garden, which was enclosed with clipped hedges and occupied a rectangular area (1.8 acres/0.7ha) to the south of the house (690ft/201m); this survived until the 1950s but has now been cleared and forms part of the parkscape. The house, which in 1835 was described as 'a plain 3-storey house, [which] cost about 1,800 pounds', was acquired by the Collum family around 1840 and later passed to William Collum who considerably enlarged the house in 1878 to its present appearance - this being a building roughly rectangular in plan with symmetrical three-bay two-storey over basement hipped roof original section to the front, and a large full-width rear return with a 'flattened' hipped roof. The façade was unified with its later rere by means of lined render, moulded surrounds to the openings and a prominent moulded eaves course, which, to the front, is topped with a balustrade-like parapet. Also of this date (1877-78) is a remarkable glasshouse (listed with house) now in a ruinous condition and overgrown, flanking the east side of the house. This was a curvilinear lean-to iron glasshouse erected by Richard Turner (1798-1881), of the famous

Hammersmith Iron Works in Dublin. The building, which was heated, housed vines and had a central projecting doorway with cast-iron anthemion finials to both the doorway and corners. The glasshouses faced onto a large rectangular formal garden flanking the house. It was probably around this time that small woodland belts and blocks were planted behind the house (now screening a modern farm complex) and alongside the demesne road flanking the west shores of Lough Acrussel. The main carriageway, which come from the Belfast Road on the north was originally flanked by twin gate lodges, reduced to one by the mid-19th century, but demolished in the early 1970s. Private.

**BELTRIM CASTLE, County Tyrone (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) T/005
REGISTERED GRADE A**

The demesne (313 acres/127ha) lying on the western side of the village of Gortin, has its origin in the early 17th century, when a bawn 'of lyme & stone, 42ft square, 7ft high with no flankers' was built here by William Hamilton by 1622. The appearance of the house in the 18th century remains conjectural, but a long narrow pond north-west of the site could be the relic of a canal associated with formal gardens of the early house. The present house, a modest sprawling two-storey manor was built around 1820 (Listed HB 11/16/013) 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 19th 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 large rectangular kitchen garden, partly walled, lies east of the house and yards; it was originally enclosed with hedges and covered 3 acres (1.2ha), but was reduced in size to 2.6 acres (1ha) in the later 19th century with the building of a north wall. The area today is partly cultivated on the west side and otherwise covered with farm buildings, yards and grass paddocks. One of three demesne gate lodges survives. SMR: TYR 18:47 17th bawn. Private.

**CASTLE ARCHDALE, County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) F/004
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Lake-side demesne (480 acres/194ha) on the eastern shores of Lower Lough Erne, 9.5 miles (15km) north of Enniskillen and 3.6 miles (5.8km) west of Irvinestown. There are islands incorporated into the demesne, but these are not included within the registered area. The demesne, which presently is composed mainly of three townlands, namely, Bunaninver, Ballymactaggart and Rossachrin, was established following the Plantation Settlement when a grant of '1,000 acres called Tullana', was made to John Archdale (or Archdall, d.1621) in 1610. who by 1615 had erected a 'bawne of lime and stone, with three flankers 15 feet high; in each corner there is a good lodge slated, with a house in the bawne, of 80 feet long and three stories high, and a battlement about it.' It was attacked and burnt in 1642 and subsequently rebuilt in 1665 by William Archdale (d.1701), then attacked and burnt again in 1689 during the Williamite Wars and again possibly in part rebuilt. A substantial part of this T-plan house and associated rectangular bawn, now known as Old Castle Archdale, survives in the northern part of the present demesne in Bunaninver townland (State Care, SMR7/ FER173:032) surrounded at the present time by thick coniferous forest plantation. It is approached at the end of a long straight avenue (0.28 miles/0.45km) long with south-east axis, of late 17th century or early 18th century date. No trace of any of the associated garden enclosures around it are evident, but formal fields on the first edition 1830s OS map are probably of late 17th/early 18th-century date. It is not clear when Old Castle Archdale was finally abandoned, but in 1773-76 another much grander classical house called 'Castle Archdale' was built in an elevated position 0.9 miles (1.5km) south west of the old house for Colonel Mervyn Archdale (1725-1813), son of Col. Nicholas Montgomery of Derrygonnelly (d.1763), who changed his name to Archdale after he married William Archdale's

daughter Angell (d.1745). The new house was a fine classical, six bay, three storey block, facing south-west-south, with an associated yard on a lower level to the rear. The house became derelict by 1959, became ruinous and was eventually demolished in 1973, but the adjacent stable block remains intact; it is a large square yard formal arrangement of building (Not Listed) that has been landscaped internally with cobbles and the ranges restored. Excellent views could be enjoyed from the house site across the 18th century parkland, which was, to quote from an early 20th century visitor, 'probably unsurpassed in Ireland'. Beyond the lawns and ha-ha, mature hardwood woodland form a foreground to a vista of the lough, with distant mountains behind. The trees are mainly deciduous, but there are also some conifers including fastigate yew and some exotics (and rhododendrons) where the woodland meets the lawn, giving a strong colour contrast. 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. As well as its fastigate yew trees there are several more good specimens in the rock garden. As well as generally sloping from west down to east there are little rocky heights within the rock garden around which wind paths which are finely-cobbled where they reach a pedestrian entrance into the walled garden. This once expansive rock garden was painted by Beatrice Parsons, the famous garden painter, when here during the Great War. The garden was rediscovered cleared of overgrowth, but during its restoration many stones were taken from it by visitors meaning that it is now much lower than it originally was. It has old azaleas and berberis but many bluebells and California poppies have self-seeded themselves there. Below are lawns with specimen trees and shrubs as it was from the nineteenth century at least. The stone base of a sundial also remains. The sundial was in a circular bed, with smaller circular beds on a north to south axis with it. At the southern perimeter is the rectangular brick base of a free-standing, plunge or cold bath, a comparatively rare feature in Irish country house gardens. The walled garden (3.27 acres/1.32ha), 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. The garden was essentially tongue-shaped, whose interior slopes gradually from north-west down to south-east. Its high wall is sandstone with a fine capping. Its circular southern end was delimited not by a wall but a canal, a rare idiosyncratic feature also found at Florence Court and Castle Coole, suggesting the garden designer William King was involved in the landscaping here in the 1770s. Old photographs show that the long axial path in the garden was a herbaceous border delimited from the path by a strip of grass and there was a pergola along the south axis at right angles. Today the garden is divided with the north-west part used for storing machinery and supplies and the rest an ornamental garden. The present paths follow the original formal layout with the main paths dividing the interior into four. General Mervyn Archdale (1763-1839) held the property from 1813-39 when it passed to his brother, Lt.-Col. William Archdale (1768-1857) and from him to his nephew, Captain Mervyn Edward Archdale (1812-95). He was followed by his brother, William (1813-99), and then by a nephew, Rt. Hon. Edward Archdale (1850-1916), with the property subsequently inherited by his nephew, Henry Blackwood Archdale (1887-1939). His cousin, Mervyn Henry Archdale (1904-) was the next owner, living in the house until 1942 when it was requisitioned by the RAF as a flying boat station. 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 the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (DAERA) and contains a marina, caravan camp site, an 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 (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) F/005
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Loughside demesne (575.7 acres/233.1ha) occupying two peninsulas on the west side of Lower Lough Erne, lying 5.2 miles (8.3km) east of Belleek and 7.1 miles (11.4km) south-west of Pettigoe. Though this demesne is largely covered with forest planting, having been developed for this purpose since 1913, it remains an important site, both for its peninsular position on the shores of Lower Lough Erne and for the remnants of the dwelling and garden. The demesne has its origin in an 1610 Plantation grant to Sir Edward Blennerhasset, of 'the middle proportion of Banaghmore', where, by 1619, Edward's son Francis was occupying a three-storey stone house within a bawn which became known as 'Castle Hasset'. Much of the structure of this early house and bawn, built between 1613 and 1619, can still be traced in the later adaptations and rebuilding of the 18th-century Gothick mansion ruin (scheduled SMR7/FERM 171:003). This includes the flankers originally belonging to the bawn described in 1619 as 'a strong bawn of lime & stone with 2 flankers & within it a strong [three-storey] house...67ft long & 25ft broad'. The house was probably attacked in 1641, but judging from the fact that the flankers were re-used, it may not have been destroyed. In 1671 (some sources say 1662) the Blennerhasset estate was sold to James Caldwell I (c.1630-1716), an Enniskillen merchant who was created a baronet in 1683. In the same year a reference to a house named 'Castle Caldwell' is recorded. Sir James was succeeded by his second son Sir Henry Caldwell (d.c.1726), followed by his only son, Sir John Caldwell I (d.1744). We do not have much information about the associated demesne and garden landscape for the house at this time; we can assume that the 17th and early 18th-century house was enclosed within formal (geometric) gardens and other walled courts. The straight road leading through the Rossbeg Peninsula (0.32 miles/0.52km) with north-east south-west axis belongs to this period and would have served as a tree-lined avenue approach so typical of this era. It is flanked on the north side by a plantation church of 1630 on a mound (FERM 171:019), later rebuilt by the Caldwells in the 18th-century as a chapel, now a roofless ruin; the graveyard has Caldwell and Johnston family vaults. In 1744 the demesne and estate was inherited by Sir John Caldwell's son, Sir James Caldwell II (c.1722-84), who married Elizabeth Hort, daughter of the Archbishop of Tuam and with her dowry of £10,000 he began to make changes to the demesne. By 1778 he noted that he had 'layd out above sixteen thousand pounds upon a most comfortable house and a very large court of excellent offices....two very large walled gardens with fish ponds and a most beautiful temple, glazed with painted glass and a vast expenditure on a demesne of 700 acres, making it worth three times worth as much as it was.' The natural advantages of the site enhanced by Sir James's work made it one of the attractions of the county and some idea of its appearance at this time can be deduced from Arthur Young's description of 1776 and a line-engraving entitled 'Caldwell Castle the beautiful seat of Sir James Caldwell in Ireland' published by F. Newbery of London in 1780. James Caldwell II's work was carried on by his son Sir John Caldwell II (1756-1830) who 'extended and regularised' the house along gothick lines, writing in 1791 that 'part of the old house was so shattered and its walls in so ruinous a state that I was obliged to pull it down entirely and a new and commodious building is now rising from the ruins.' While Sir John Caldwell II in 1791-92, rebuilt and enlarged the house considerably, examination of the present ruins (in need of conservation) suggests that a surprising amount of the original fabric of the 17th century building may still be in place; following its transformation into a Gothick on the lines of Strawberry Hill, it must have appeared quite a fantasy castle, the more so as at that time as the lough levels were much higher and the water came close to its walls. The later 18th century improvements would have seen the removal of the walled enclosures that would have formerly enclosed the house and allowed the house to be opened up and visible across the newly appreciated 'naturalised' landscape, where

the Caldwell's had been planting extensively. The walled garden (1.71 acres/0.69ha) was located a short distance south-west of the house and is depicted on the 1830s OS map with a south wall composed of semi-circular alcoves for stone-fruit - an unusual but not unique feature in Ireland; it is depicted on the 1780 Newbery line-engraving of the demesne, so was clearly present by then. Inside the walled garden there was a fish pond, while the house yards and offices, with a quay, flanked the east side of the garden. There was another walled garden with its own quay built at the south-east end of the Rossergole Peninsula, close to a 'Bathing house' marked on the 1830s OS map; this garden has a trapezoidal shape (1.59 acres/0.64) and may well have been originally ornamental in the 18th century, though by the 1830s is shown as orchard. The 'Bathing House' at the tip of the peninsula is the octagonal 'beautiful temple' mentioned by Young; ; it was a belvedere approached by a three-arched stone bridge, built by Sir James Caldwell II in the mid 18th century and foundations are still in place. Castle Caldwell was inherited by Sir John's daughter, Frances Arabella Caldwell (1792-1872) who married John Bloomfield in 1817. It passed to their son John Caldwell Bloomfield (d.1897) in 1849. Little appears to have been added to the main house after the 1790s, although the 1835 *OS Memoirs* mention 'alterations in its arrangement have been made of late by Major Bloomfield which have partly robbed it of its ancient style...'. Although an enterprising individual, who was a co-founder of the Belleek Pottery in 1853, J.C. Bloomfield's time as owner coincided with a decline in the fortunes of the house and demesne. The last hurrah perhaps was the building of the gate lodge, the Railway Gate, around 1865-66 into the newly constructed railway embankment for the Irish North Western Railway Company's branch line from Bundoran Junction (Irvinestown) to Ballyshannon. It is likely the INWRC built and paid for the gate and lodge for then owner J.C. Bloomfield, with the Company engineer, Thomas Brassey, likely responsible for the design. Trains rumbled overhead and carriages entered the demesne underneath and arch beside the castellated porters house. Set against the lodge is a large (rough 1.5m) stone fiddle, which is inscribed 'To the memory of Denis McCabe fiddler, who fell out of the St. Patrick barge belonging to Sir James Caldwell....& was drowned off this Point August Ye 13 1770...'. Much of the demesne was sold off to the Wigan Mining Company and the Scottish Insurance Company in the 1870s with the house and demesne lands put up for auction in 1877. Although the castle does not appear to have been sold, it was not reoccupied by the Bloomfield family on a permanent basis, and was noted by the valuers in 1884 as 'dilapidated...[and] going to ruin'. It was reduced to a shell after a fire in the early 1900s and 'in ruins' by 1912. In 1913 the demesne was bought by the Forestry Commission, an early acquisition, so much so, that the forest planting itself has become historic. There is a noted large Sitka spruce in the car park planted in 1921. Also a champion Field Maple (*Acer campestre*) 3.75 @ 13.2m. It is now run by the Forest Service, and as well as forestry, it is used for public recreation and as a nature reserve, with the ruins of the castle (now fenced off for security purposes) is a Scheduled Monument. SMR: FERM 171:00 Plantation castle, 171:16 round cairn, 171:17 platform rath, 171:18 rath, 171:19 17th century ruined church and graveyard and 171:35? Crannog. Public access. FER 152:8 – AP site, circular enclosure.

CASTLE COOLE, County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) F/006 REGISTERED GRADE A*

This extensive landscape park (917 acres/371ha) is important as the setting for one of Ireland's finest Neo-classical mansions (Listed HB 12/17/004). While it retains much of the integrity of its late 18th century parkscape, it also has significant residual traces of an earlier formal landscape and planting. The demesne occupies rolling drumlin topography incorporating three lakes, Lough Coole (35 acres/14.2ha), Lough Yoan (35.5 acres/14.3ha) and Lough Breandrum (3.4 acres/1.4ha) and lies on the south-east fringe of the town of Enniskillen, bordering the north side of the Dublin and Belfast road. The demesne was founded in the early 17th-century, but retains earlier features including a number of Early Christian period crannogs, notably two on the south shore of Lough Coole (FERM 211:051 & 059). This lake, which today is famed for its Greylag Geese, gave its

name to a Gaelic territory that belonged to the Maguires, a branch of the family that formerly controlled Fermanagh. An Englishman Rodger Atkinson replaced this branch of the Maguires, having being granted the Manor of Coole and 4,576 statute acres here in 1611, so it is perhaps not surprising that he built his strong house and bawn (briefly named 'Castle Atkinson' in 1639), on the south-east side of lake, close to the crannogs; nothing above ground remains of this house. Having been sold in 1640 and leased several times, it was sold in 1656 to John Corry, a Belfast merchant of Scottish origin, whose successor, Col. James Corry (c.1683-1718), built a fine Queen Anne period house on the same location in 1709, designed by architect John Curle (fl. 1690-1722) and shown on William Starrat Philomath's map of 1723 (burnt accidentally in 1797). This was two-storey seven-bay house with dormered attic in hipped roof with tall chimney stacks and high wide eaves, which faced south-west. It was flanked each side by service and office ranges forming a kitchen yard, stable yard and haggard; beyond these lay a 'barn and kennels'. The house and offices were enclosed by formal gardens (10 acres/4ha) laid out in the formal geometric fashion of the period; earthworks of these remain visible today (Scheduled FERM 211: 082). Features include a sunken bowling green immediately to the rear of the house (2.8 acres/1.1ha); this area (and the level area to its south-east) was used as the demesne cricket pitch in the late 19th century. The bowling green was separated from a sunken parterre (1.6 acres/0.7ha) on its north-west flank by a bank which still stands at c.12m wide and 1.5m high; radiating walkways in the parterre are also still visible. North-west of this, on a terrace 1.6m higher, was a bosquet (1.9 acres/0.8ha), while the south-east flank of the bowling green had a orchard and melon ground (2.8 acres/1.1ha) with a rectangular 'Flower Yard' (0.5 acres/0.2ha) flanking the south-west side of the house. The small octagonal brick pump house (Listed HB 12/17/049) in this area is a later feature, probably built in the 1790s. The front of the 1709 house had an enclosed forecourt, typical of the era, and this faced down a long straight avenue (470m/1550ft) extending to what was then the Dublin Coach Road; this avenue, 25m wide inside, was later lined with four rows of oak trees, many of which still survive; tree-ring dating on a tree that fell in 1984 gave a starting date of 1725, but as trees would have stayed in the nursery for around five years before being planted, the avenue must have been planted c.1730. Another avenue extended at right angle south-east of the house and in the diagonal between these, running uphill and due south of the 1708 house, a vista of oak trees was planted (double row), some of which survive in the park today. One of the oaks has a girth of 25 ft. (7.7m), while we know that other trees planted included sweet and horse chestnuts, beech and ash. Oak was the dominant tree planted in the 'Rookery Wood' (c.1730) on the north side of the house gardens (5.7 acres/2.3ha), possibly a formal grove, while a beech wood was planted around the slopes of Coneyburrow Hill, north-west of the canal; terraced earthworks suggest the former presence of a path around this hill as part of the formal landscape. These works were undertaken by Col. Margetson Armar, who managed and later owned the estate from 1726 to his death in 1773. Col. Armar was also responsible for a large ornamental canal, 950 feet (290m) long and 90 feet (27m) wide, which faced the garden front of the house and continued the line of the avenue north-eastwards, its vista from the house originally extending to Toppid Mountain. Known as the 'Banjo Lake', it incorporated a half-moon basin at the house end and a circular basin at the far north-east end, above which a small earth platform may have supported a summer house. The outline of this canal can still be discerned by its marsh vegetation, especially from aerial photographs. In the 1740s Armar commissioned the architect Richard Castle (c.1690-1751) to produce plans to rebuild the house, but these were never carried out. The demesne around this time covered around 400 acres (160ha) and was enclosed (not continuously) by double ditches and banks. The first step towards a 'naturalised' landscape came with the creation of a drive around Lough Coole, c.1760, but the process was greatly accelerated following the death Colonel Margetson Armar (1700-73), who had managed the estate from 1726. When his sister-in-law, Sarah Lowry-Corry, succeeded to the property in 1774, her son Armar Lowry Corry (1740-1802, later 1st Earl of Belmore), took over its management, which he inherited in 1779 on his mother's death. From the outset Armar planned

to build a new house and landscape park and from the mid-1770s the process began by expanding the demesne and converting farmland into parkland. Around 1779 a landscape gardener was engaged to draw up plans for a new landscape park in the naturalised style for Castle Coole and to produce designs for a new walled garden. The contract evidently went to 'Mr. King' (John and his brother William), Belfast nurserymen, who had already worked at Florence Court in 1778. A detailed cartographic survey of the existing demesne was undertaken (in 1779-83) and a large-scale plan (unsigned) produced for an informal landscape park dominated by a new house 320m (1050ft) south-east of the old one 'on a gentle eminence'. The plan for this 'New Park' which was only partly realised, envisaged the complete eradication of all the early formal landscape features, such as the oak avenues and vistas, field boundaries, the 1709 house and its gardens and their replacement with a classic 'Brownian' landscape park of lake, meandering streams and carriage-drives (including a complete circuit drive), clumps, isolated trees, screens and belts enclosing sweeping open meadows in the drumlin terrain. As part of this new scheme the process of field clearance for emparkment continued apace during the early 1780s on the south-west, south, south-east and east of the demesne (Killynure, Gortgonnell, Derrymakeen, Thomastown and Rossvullan) and around 1783 the old Dublin Coach Road was moved south-west to a new route along the north shore of Lough Yoan and a new entrance and gate lodge (demolished) was built, another gate lodge was also built from the Old Enniskillen approach, known as the 'Twin Lodges' (not listed); this was substantially remodelled in the 19th century. As the demesne was extended outwards new double ditch/banked boundaries were made, as in Killynure where it enclosed a new woodland screen of beech, oak and ash. The walled garden or 'Fruit and Flower Garden' was built in the 1780s much as proposed in the original plan; it was completed by at least May 1787 when it was producing 'ripened peaches'. This 'new garden' (3.1 acres/1.2ha) was built 350m south of the present 1790s house on a south facing slope within the woods and is divided into three separate sections (each angled to the slope); the stone walls (12ft high) have internal brick lining which follows the contours and ashlar door surrounds with keystones. On its south sides all three walled enclosures are bordered by an artificial pond (890ft/270m) which follows the hill contour, an unusual and distinctive feature also used by King at both Florence Court and Castle Archdale. The central section had 'four green and hot houses whose united lengths are about 500ft', and included two graperies, two peach houses, 'melon house, cheery house, orangery and greenhouse' One of these lay against the north wall (where there are hot wall flues), while those in the central area, rebuilt in the 19th century, are now divided into two sections and in rather poor condition. The central section of the garden, presently partly cultivated and under lawn, has a 1790s sundial (Listed HB 12/17/053), set on a baluster-like pedestal and a stepped stone base on the main path. The garden's west section has the former gardener's house which has been considerably enlarged to form a residence. A short distance south-west an additional (but unwallled) 'kitchen garden' was made around 1830 and apparently functioned as a commercial market garden for the locality; it occupied a flat area (3.4 acres/1.4ha) and was abandoned and planted with trees by 1908. The icehouse, which lies in the woods a short distant east of the walled garden, was operational by 1794, with ice being originally drawn from a specially created pond below it to the south (infilled by 1850). While work on the 'New Park' and walled garden continued apace in the 1780s, Armar Lowry Corry (raised as Baron Belmore in 1781, Viscount Belmore in 1789 and 1st Earl Belmore in 1797) remained undecided about the design of his new house. Work began on preparing the site for a new house in May 1788, levelling the hill by 12ft and excavating ground for a basement and tunnel. Initial plans for the house were produced in October 1798 by Dublin architect Richard Johnston (1759-1806), and later finalised plans dated 1790 by English architect James Wyatt (1746-1813) for whom Johnson evidently acted as Irish agent. The new house (Listed HB 12/17/004) was built 1790-93; its interior completed by November 1798. Faced with Portland stone, it generally recognised as one of the most accomplished and impressive classical houses in Ireland, if not the British Isles, in terms of its design, scale, setting and state of preservation. Monumental in scale with Palladian plan of

central block with giant Ionic entrance portico linked by straight Roman Doric colonnades, it has an uncomplicated but effective and robust appearance. Isolated from any office buildings, it is linked to the yards (not built until 1817) by an impressive segmental-headed service tunnel (Listed HB 12/17/050B) completed in December 1796; running north-east from the basement (160ft/49m long), this was built to be able to facilitate vehicle access and is flanked by 'various spacious repositories such as wine vaults'. The sums spent on the house was so enormous (one source says £70,000 and another £120,000), that further work on the demesne was postponed until Somerset Lowry-Corry (1774-1841), 2nd Earl, succeeded to the property in 1802. His first substantial act was to bring into the park an additional 320 acres (129ha) on the west and south sides (Breandrum and Drumcrin) in 1813; this enlargement brought two lakes into the demesne, Loughs Breandrum and Yean, and entailed the movement once again of the coach road which was now re-routed to the western side of Lough Yean. In 1809 the 2nd earl commissioned Dublin architect Sir Richard Morrison (1767-1849) to design a new stable and coach yard north-east of the house. Completed by 1817, if not before, 'The Grand Yard' (Listed HB 12/17/050A) is a square flanked by two storey ranges built of rendered rubble walls with ashlar window and door surrounds, hipped roofs and pediments (gifted to the National Trust in 1987 and partly restored). It was built as part of a larger complex consisting of two large squares flanking a laundry yard with ancillary buildings on the south-east side. The other square was the less pretentious farm yard (currently in poor condition); this had a tool house, forge, carpenter's workshop, slaughter house, potato house, cart sheds, stables for workhorses. Flanking this on the east is the Steward House (Listed HB 12/17/051) and ancillary buildings (cow sheds, dairy, straw house, saw mill, timber yard and piggery). Except for the piggery and an ornamental dairy west of the yards, the designs followed Morrison's original plans. Finance for further work then ran out; it was not until 1838 that Sir Richard Morrison and his son, William V. Morrison were invited back, this time to design entrance gates, piers and lodges for the Enniskillen (west) and Dublin (south) approaches into the park; these were not executed, but Morrison was undoubtedly responsible for the rustic Greek-style Thomastown Lodge or south lodge (now ruined) and gates with pine cone finials (Listed HB 12/07/028). Also around this time (c.1838-40) the Heather Cottage Lodge (Listed HB 12/07/021), was built, possibly also by Morrison; its thatched overhanging eaves, rustic veranda and canted bay projections are reminiscent of the Cottage orné-style so popular in the previous Regency era. The year following the death of Armar, the 3rd earl in 1845, the well-known landscape gardener James Fraser (1753-1863) was commissioned to report on the plantations at Castle Coole; at the time the estate was in serious financial difficulties and none of his recommendations were followed. When Somerset Richard, the 4th Earl (1835-1913) came of age in 1856 he set about improving the main entrance from the Dublin road; in 1857 a new approach avenue was laid out by the county engineer James Wray, who also appears to have designed the new ashlar sandstone gate lodge (Weirsbridge Lodge) in the Lombardic style (Listed HB 12/17/056); two years later this entrance was given a new 'Ornamental Wrought Iron Entrance' by Turner and Gibson of the Hammersmith Iron Works in Dublin. The Sligo Leitrim Northern Counties Railway was added to the west demesne perimeter in 1862, this being the last major change to the property in the 19th century. Castle Coole remained with the Earls of Belmore until the 7th Earl sold the house and 77 acres (31.1ha) of the demesne to the National Trust in 1951. In 1965 the Trust acquired the lodge at the main entrance and the 'Heather Cottage', with a further 340 acres (137.6ha) of the demesne land bought in 1983 (315 acres/127.5ha) declared inalienable). The stable yard or Grand Yard was given as a gift from the 8th Earl in 1987. Land acquired included Breandrum townland, in the north-western corner of the demesne, which had been converted into a gold course some prior to 1957; the Enniskillen Golf Club had originally been established in 1896. Castle Coole was subject to a major restoration programme 1980-88 when a whole house's Portland stone was replaced; more recently the 'Grand Yard' has been restored and car park created 450 yards from the house. SMR: FERM 211: 045, sandstone ballaun stone; 211:046 rath, 211:051 submerged crannog; 211:059 crannog/Goose Island; 064 and 066 crannogs on Lough Yoan; 211: 046 well

preserved rath in Drumcrin, now tree covered; 211:069 platform rath, 211:074 and 075 circular features, (these sites are not within the designated area, though are close to its boundary); 212:038 rath, 212:039 and 040 Holy well and 212:075 enclosure/tree ring. Near the site of a Holy Well in Ballylucas (212: 116) are the cropmarks of an 18th century cock fighting pit (212: 104). Walled garden private. Scheduled zone 211: 082, 42 acres/17ha. Designated as an ASSI. Public access.

**CASTLETOWN MANOR, County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) F/008
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Demesne (164 acres/66ha) with early 17th century origins lying 5.34 miles (8.9km) north-west of Enniskillen and 3 miles (5km) south-east of Derrygonnelly. 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 substantial remains of the Plantation house, Monea Castle of 1616-18 (FERM 11:061) lies in low ground at the southern end of the demesne. It may have replaced an earlier tower house; this area had been a Maguire centre as evidenced by the nearby crannog (FERM 191:062) lying 230ft (70m) to the south of the castle on the edge of a small lough, now silted up. The building is a three-storey tower house with Scottish detailing, was built by Malcolm Hamilton (*d.c.*1627-30), Chancellor of Down and later Archbishop of Cashel (1623), upon 1,000 acres ('Derrinefogher') he acquired in 1615 for £530 from Robert Hamilton. Described by Pynnar in 1619 as 'a strong castle of lime and stone,' the building originally lacked a bawn; however, this was remedied sometime between 1620 and 1630. Following Malcolm Hamilton's death, the estate was escheated to the crown for violation of the rules of the Plantation, and re-granted as the 'Manor of Castletown' in December 1631 to James Hamilton, Viscount Clancarty and Robert, Lord Dillon, who by some arrangement subsequently restored it to the late Archbishop's family. Rory Maguire 'slew and murdered eight Protestants' here in 1641, but he failed to take the castle and unlike most nearby rural plantation houses Monea survived the Rebellion. It was subsequently occupied by the Archbishop's widow and was eventually inherited by Gustavus Hamilton, the Governor of Enniskillen (1688), who incurred enormous financial losses in the Williamite Wars. His great impoverished wife and children continued to live in Monea following his death in 1691, but in the end were forced to sell the property for £295 to Hugh Montgomery of Derrygonnelly and Robert King of Lissenhall, Swords, Co. Dublin - the latter taking the castle and the rights of the manor. In 1711 King devised Monea to his daughter Mary (*d.*1733), who in 1713 married William Smyth of Drumcree, Co. Westmeath (*d.*1742), who served as High Sheriff of Fermanagh in 1736. It next passed to their second son, Thomas Smyth (1714-92). At some point in the 1790s -possibly 1790- the estate was sold to James Brien of Stralongford, Co. Tyrone (*d.*1811). There appears to be not supporting evidence for the tradition that the castle was burnt in the 1750s and may just have been abandoned sometime in later 18th century in favour of 'Monea Cottage', a cruciform building on the site of the present house (Listed HB 12/11/077), lying 400m due north of the old castle. This house, probably built in the 1790s by James Brien, was a low, largely one and a half-storey residence with a rear return, originally thatched as a gentleman's cottage. There is some evidence it was renovated and possibly extended in 1834-36, but the surrounding landscape park is contemporary with the late 18th century cottage, although the house was enlarged and remodeled in the 1870s. The entire parkland has a radius of mature shelter belt trees, which undulates with the contours of the land. The main woodland areas lies to the south-east and north-east of the house, with substantial perimeter planting also on the north. Most of the planting is deciduous, mainly beech, oak with some mixed planting in the south. Also many horse chestnut here, maples and other trees. The 'lawn' to the south of the house has a ha-ha and includes some fine acers. The walled garden (1.38 acres/0.56ha) lies on the north-east side of the house and belongs to the late 18th or early 19th -century; it is shown on the 1830s OS map to have been divided centrally by a wall or hedge. The enclosing walls are stone though the south-west side is delimited by outbuildings. Today a

portion of the south of the garden is cultivated and maintained, the rest being under grass, save for a riding arena in the north-west corner. Within the east side of the garden is a single-storey building with square rubble walls, presumably a former garden bothy. Until the 1960s the garden originally had shelter tree belts on its west and north sides to provide shelter for the garden produce (originally mostly kitchen stuff) and to screen it from the parkland. At some stage in the 1840s or early 1850s a beech avenue was planted up to the house and then down across the parkland lawn to meet a lane to the old castle; these beech trees are still present and a spectacle on their own right and now an important part of the landscape. By 1860, Monea Cottage was in possession of James Brien's grandson, John Dawson Brien (1815-81). In 1870-71 he added the present front section of the building and made substantial alterations to the existing house at the same time, most notably the raising or rebuilding of part of the eastern wing. To-day the main front of the house is a mildly Italianate south-facing two-storey square block with cement rendered façade and a slated hipped roof with slight overhang and stone chimneystacks. After John Dawson Brien's death, his wife, Frances, continued to live in the house until her death in 1917. It was occupied by their grand nieces, Constance and Elinor Reade until their deaths in 1968 and 1974 respectively. The present owner acquired the house in 2001. Of two mid-19th century gate lodges, only one is extant but much altered. There is an inner gate 'screen' of c.1870 in date (Listed HB 12/11/077C) along the west drive, 60m from the house with octagonal pillars. 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 (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) F/010

REGISTERED GRADE A*

Demesne parkland (966acres/390ha), the ancestral home of the Brooke family, Viscounts Brookeborough, lying about 2.6 miles (4.1km) north-east of Brookeborough and 3.2 miles (5.2km) south-west of Fivemiletown. Following the 1641 Rebellion, land here was forfeited by the Maguires and granted to Henry Brooke (d.1671), the son of Captain Basil Brooke (1567-1633) of Magherabeg and Brooke Manor, Co. Donegal. Henry's grant of 10,077 statute acres was confirmed by Royal Patent in 1667 (The Manor of Brookeborough), and after some legal wrangling, passed to Thomas Brooke (1650-96), his eldest son by his second wife. Thomas married Catherine, c.1670, the daughter of Sir John Cole of Newlands, Co. Dublin, and from this marriage came the name Colebrooke. It is not clear when the first residence at Colebrooke was actually built, but it seems likely this happened just after Henry Brooke (1671-1761) inherited the property in 1696. Henry is referred to as being 'of Colebrooke' by 1713 and a survey of the property was undertaken by the celebrated William Starrat, 'philomath', in 1722. The early house evidently faced south, rather than east as today, and was aligned on a tree-lined straight avenue, 0.5 miles (0.8km) long, which can clearly be traced on the first OS map edition and in today's landscape. No doubt the house was enclosed by geometrically laid out courts and gardens, but all evidence of these seems to have been swept away. On Henry's death in 1761, the house and demesne were inherited by his son Sir Arthur Brooke (1715-1785) supposedly bad tempered and certainly a spendthrift, leaving on his death 'Colebrooke, denuded of trees and heavily encumbered'. St. Roman's (Col) Parish Church (Listed HB 12/04/023) with its octagonal stone-clad spire was built during his time (1762) located on a rise in the south-east corner of the park. Sir Arthur's son, Major Francis Brooke (1720-1800) restored the fortune of the estate leaving his surviving son Henry Brooke (1770-1834) 1st Bt. (2nd creation), a prosperous estate in 1800. It is not clear how much tree-planting if any took place at Colebrooke in the last decades of the 18th century or exactly when work on the landscape park begun, but most is likely to be contemporary, or date a bit before, the present house (Listed HB 12/04/002e), which was built in 1820-23 to designs by William Farrell of Dublin (Contractors: Thomas Colbourne and Richard Richards). Farrell – in his specifications - retained part of the previous house which stood on the site, which Alistair Rowan states is still standing to the rear; however, it is not clear how much ultimately survived,

and the present owner believes that the older house was completely demolished. The new house, facing east, is a somewhat austere Classical mansion with a square rubble walls, cut-stone dressings, eaves plinth and portico, and a slated hipped roof with overhang. The main front block is a two-storey, with a nine bay front dominated by a large full-height pedimented Ionic portico four giant Ionic columns. The outbuildings (Listed HB 12/04/008) mostly seem to be contemporary; these are arranged around two square yards of roughly similar size set back to back on an east-west axis. The yards are largely enclosed by long one and a half to two-storey hipped roof ranges, but with the (north-south) range shared between the yards and those to the north and south of the eastern yard restored recently. A few metres to the south-west of the yards, on the south side of the drive, are some farm buildings which documentary evidence indicates were built in or just after 1851 to designs by William Farrell and included a 'stable and turf shed...turf shed, ash pit and privy...carhouse....barn, piggery and yard walls...[and a] cattle shed.' The landscape designer is unknown but the topography, always a challenge for designers, is an undulating drumlin landscape, one group of drumlins are named 'The Alps' for their particular shape. The other significant feature of the park is the Colebrooke River that meanders through the landscape just below the house where the main approach avenue, having wound its way around woodland blocks in parkland then followed the river up to the house. The park is enclosed by thick woodland planting with a number of woodland blocks and screens flanking the river; throughout the park there is a careful balance between woodland blocks and open parkland cells, with views possible across the landscape in numerous directions from the various meandering driveways, a typical feature of the Regency Picturesque. Work was evidently still progressing long after completion of the house as in 1835 the OS Memoirs reported that that the parkland 'is very handsomely laid out. It has every advantage of hill and dale that could be desired, and which has been judiciously planted to the best effect...A great variety of walks and drives run through the demesne...The present baronet [Sir Arthur Brooke] is greatly improving the grounds by planting, levelling and making roads, keeping from 50 to 60 labourers constantly at work'. The Memoir specifically mentioned the 'oak, ash, sycamore, elm, chestnut, lime and the different firs all appear to flourish very well' at Colebrooke. Despite extensive and clear felling in the late 1940s/early 1950s, the park still boasts extensive mature deciduous woodlands, a fine approach avenue of oak, and many mature parkland trees. Today the park boasts several Champion Trees of Ireland, all but three—a beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), a Smooth Japanese Maple (*Acer palmatum*) and a Scots laburnum (*Laburnum alpinum*)—are conifers. The laburnum has been supine for a number of years but is the 4th largest (?tallest) of all laburnum species in Ireland. A Likiang Spruce (*Picea likiangensis*) at 23.2m is the second tallest of its kind and, at 2.74m, the Irish Girth Champion while two others are 3rd and 5th greatest-girthed. A European Larch (*Larix decidua*) at 35m is the second tallest of its kind in Ireland. Two of the Silver Firs (*Abies alba*) are champions and one, which now has a girth of 6.36m, is Irish Girth Champion; it is 39m tall. The other champion trees are a Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) and a Sitka Spruce (*Picea sitchensis*), which is now 44.5m tall and 5.5m in girth. Other notable trees are an ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), a tree with character and habitat value, a field maple (*Acer campestre*), and another laburnum (*Laburnum alpinum*) all of which are exceptional specimen trees. The park was also accompanied by some good garden buildings, notably a classical iron bridge, the Park or White Bridge (Listed HB 12/04/011), built in the 1820s to the east of the house carrying a (now disused) drive over the Colebrooke River, and to the north-east along the river the Fivemiletown Drive or Kidd's Bridge (Listed HB 12/04/015) also 1820s; Kidd's Bridge has aubrietia hanging from it. The iron bridge is likely to be the work of Richard Turner. Along the river between these bridges there is a later iron bridge. On the north side of the Colebrooke River a small deer park (65 acres/26.2ha) was created in the 1840s for fallow deer; subsequently this park was enlarged to 120 acres/48.8ha), possibly to accommodate the red deer that Sir Victor Brooks (1843-1891) was known to be importing; however the Brooke's had another deer park nearby at Largy (Largie). Within the area covered by the deer park, but pre-dating it (as it is shown on the 1834 OS map)

was 'The Cottage', a small T-plan building in a woodland strip facing south-west overlooking the river, still marked on the OS six-inch map of 1908. This appears to be the building in the following OS memoir of 1835 'a very pretty rural cottage stands in a planted glen through which the river winds' and appears to have been a rustic thatched cottage orné, which were enormously popular in Ireland during the Regency era and used principally for picnics or somewhere where the females of the household could retreat to for the afternoon. Typically these cottages often had associated gardens, so it is noteworthy that close-by to the west, the OS maps show an enclosed 'Cottage Garden' occupying a long, narrow area on the river bank. This area was later included in a much larger garden area of about 2.4ha, also called the 'cottage garden' that was developed as a woodland walk and garden in the 5th baronet's time. It is approached from the dwelling house via the White Bridge and through a gate; it is said that the Lord Brookeborough, the Prime Minister, was fond of walking through the 'Cottage Garden' prior to meeting his chauffeur at the road to go to Stormont. Planting includes rhododendron, including ponticum, and primula of which Lady Brookeborough, the prime minister's wife, was fond. The walled garden (Listed HB 12/04/010B) to the west of the house yards has rectangular plan (2.2 acres/0.9ha) with a substantial brick wall down the centre dividing the garden into a north section (0.97 acres/0.39ha) and a larger south section (1.33 acres/0.54ha). Unlike the central wall, the perimeter walls are of stone with the north and west walls being lined with brick internally. The ground slopes from north to south and has a pair of steps near the north of the central path, which runs north to south and edged with irregular stones. The hillside north of the walled garden was extensively dug out to accommodate the north wall of the garden and there is a stone retaining wall. The northern section of the garden was always designed to be ornamental with lawns and flower beds; it has a curved brick-lined south facing wall with foundations and frame of an iron glasshouse (Listed HB 12/04/010A) of national importance (The glass having been removed for safekeeping). The glasshouse is positioned against the centre of the garden's curved brick north wall and was built 1833-36 by the ironmaster Richard Turner (1798-1881) of the Hammersmith Works, Dublin. Turner specialised in the design and construction of glasshouses, using the technological advances that had been developed by John Claudius Loudon and others in previous decades. The central range of the glasshouse at Colebrooke is generally accepted as the earliest example of Turner's work; like other early works of his this was executed in conjunction with a man called Walker (which continued until 1844) who was responsible for the heating systems. From an early stage Turner's curvilinear iron glasshouses had ventilating, sliding roof sashes, glazed pilasters as standard features of his buildings. At Colebrooke the south facing glasshouse is 132 feet long and comprises a higher central house with flanking wings in a unique concave plan. The centre house (35ft 10in x 15ft x 7in wide by 18ft high) is marked on the first OS map edition of 1834, while the wings, which have canted ends, were built shortly afterwards (each are 48ft x 1ft 10in wide by 11ft 4in high). The central house would have served as a conservatory for ornamental plants (it still has mature passion flower and some yellow roses), while the west wing (which has opening vents) was the vinery and the east wing was for peaches. Dr Edward Diestelkamp observed that the width of the sheet glass (averaging 7½-inches) in the wings supports an 1830s date. As we might expect, the Colebrooke ranges are similar to the Peach House at the Viceregal Lodge, Phoenix Park (1836-37). Turner returned to Colebrooke to build another glasshouse in the 1860s (see below). While the area in front of the glasshouses was ornamental, and as such the north garden was a pleasure ground, the south section (1.33 acres/0.54ha) would have been devoted to kitchen produce, supplemented by another enclosure to the south-east (0.73 acres/0.29ha). The potting sheds with the elaborate two-storey boiler house for glasshouses and former head gardener's house survive behind the north wall of the garden. Ambitious plans to restore this glasshouse in a HLF scheme c.2010 were never undertaken. Both sections of the garden are currently in production with fruit bushes and a range of vegetables in both northern and south section and also a couple of polytunnels in the south section. There are old plum trees against northern part of the eastern wall, old apple trees against

the north wall. A mature fastigate yew tree in the north-east corner is the remaining one of a pair of symmetrically-placed trees; the other was in the north-west corner but was felled c.2008. In the 19th century the main access for 'respectable visitors' to the walled garden ran through a woodland garden to north of the mansion and yards - an area designed a summer house (now gone), now largely treeless and partly occupied by a farm buildings. In the west of the demesne in the townland of Lurganbane is the dower house, Ashbrook (Listed HB 12/04/007), a substantial two-storey house built around 1838 with stone facade; it appears originally to have served as the agent's house, as Nutfield was then the Dower House (in Aghavea). Also in Lurganbane, close to the south end of the present designated demesne (but originally outside the bounds of the demesne as it stood in the mid-19th century) there is a two-storey farmhouse Listed HB 12.04.021) with a half-hipped roof. Other buildings of note in the demesne include the memorable Classical 'triumphal arch' gate screen in cut-stone at the main entrance with its lodge (both Listed HB 12/04/006). This lies at the south-eastern end of the demesne and opens off what was originally the main road to Belfast, but having being superseded by the A4, is now a quiet side road. The tall semicircular headed carriage gate here is flanked by pedestrian openings, all encased with Tuscan pilasters with a blocking course over the entablature. Either side of this are curving sweeps of relatively simple iron railings rising from low cut-stone walls with panelled cut-stone end piers. The gate lodge, like the arch, was also designed by William Farrell around 1830; it has a T-plan with symmetrical frontage and central bowed porch projection. After lying derelict for some years both were restored by the Landmark Trust; the lodge can be rented out as self-catering accommodation. Opposite the gate (outside of the demesne) is a former estate schoolhouse of c.1840 also well restored and can be rented out as self-catering accommodation (Woodcock Cottage). The Fivemiletown Gate (Listed HB 12/04/017) at the north-east corner of the park, just west of the A4 road, is a Tudoresque single-storey lodge, also by Farrell c.1830-35 with a sweeping gate screen [included in listing] with decorative iron railings. At the main house is a sunken garden on the west side, added in the 1920s and made with some of the coping from the walled garden walls. The centrepiece of the sunken garden is a rectangular pool with a jet surrounded by stone flagging on two levels with an apse at one end. Closely the north wall was a largely free-standing rectangular curvilinear conservatory built by Richard Turner, the payment for which was made in 1864 'with the winged projection'. In the 20th century Colebrooke was the home of Sir Basil Brooke (1888-1973), 1st Viscount Brookeborough from 1952, who served as Prime Minister of Northern Ireland from 1943 to 1963. After his death the house stood vacant for a period, but both it and the wider demesne have been restored by the current owner, the 3rd Viscount. 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.

**CORKILL, County Tyrone (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) T/044
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Sometimes spelt Corkil or Corkhill, the park (132 acres/53.4ha) lies 5 miles (4.06kn) and 2.5 miles (south-west) of Trillick overlooking the west bank of the Ballinamallard River. This is a *de novo* house built around 1812 by James Lendrum (c.1750-1814), the owner of nearby Jamestown or Magheracross House. He probably intended the property to be a dower house, as he remarried in July of the former year -when he appears to have been over 60 years old- and died in the latter year. The house he built was a gable-ended rectangular east facing rather plain two-storey three-bay over semi-basement late Georgian house, with symmetrical frontage and a shallow two-storey rear return which was enlarged c.1960. A short distance south-west a large L-shaped range of offices, with two detached structures to the south-west and west, while on the north-east side is the former part-walled kitchen garden (1.64 acres/0.66ha) of which half was orchard and the other half by the house devoted to kitchen stuff; later in the 19th century the kitchen garden was sub-divided by a beech hedge. The kitchen garden had a glasshouse until the 1990s; today the garden is now under grass with some trees and shrubs; the beech hedge is still present. The

house was refurbished in the early 1960s by Marcus Beresford Lendrum (1883-1969) who had inherited the property in 1933 from George Crosby Lendrum (1846-1933). The flat-roofed extensions to the rear were added to designs by T.J. Houston of Belfast, while around the house the garden was extensively restored with topiary and rock work, contrasting with the informality of a planted glade under mature trees beside the Ballinamallard River. The planting continued onto an island in the river and riverside walks were made. 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 (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) T/015
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Small early Victorian park (13.2 acres/5.35ha) and house on the south perimeter of Omagh. close to east bank of the Drumragh River. The park is unusually intact and an excellent surviving example of a modest early Victorian gentleman's parkland, its remarkable survival probably due to its being owned by the same family continuously until 2003. Built on a small hill, Creevenagh (Listed HB 11/15/003A) is a substantial two-storey block with hipped roof built around 1840 by Daniel Eccles Auchinleck (1797-1849), the agent of Henry Corry, M.P. of Castlecoole. The family had plantations in Demerara (now part of Guyana), South America, and some of the doors are of mahogany from there. Inherited by his son Thomas Auchinleck (1837-93) who leased the property for a while but took up residence c.1865 and later in 1883 added a large extension to the house on the north-east. The surrounding parkland was created at the same time as the house, c.1840 graced by mature parkland trees, notably some walnuts and yews, and clumps of rhododendron. It has mature and maintained shelterbelts around the perimeter on the south, west and north, with an area of woodland east of the dwelling house. The main entrance is in the north-west near the junction of the two bounding roads where there is a gate lodge. The main carriage driveway sweeps south and then curves round to the front of the dwelling house. A service entrance runs south from the minor road to the outbuildings which are south east of the dwelling house. The stables and offices (Listed HB 11/15/003) south-east of the house are flanked on the south side by the walled garden (1.23 acres/0.5ha) in part still cultivated in the 1990s but now under grass. The walled garden walls are unusually high and built of stone with a lining of brick on the inside; the south side has no wall and bounded by a pond, now silted up. Creevenagh passed to Daniel George Harold Auchinleck (1877-1914) in 1893, and remained with his widow, Madeline until 1949. It then passed to her sister-in-law, Norah Auchinleck Darling (1872-1951), and from her to Lt-Col. Ralph Auchinleck Darling (1897-1958). The last in the line to own the house was Gerald Darling (1921-96), whose widow sold the property in 2003. Ruined gate lodge. Private

CROCKNACRIEVE (CROCKNACREEVE), County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) - F/026

REGISTERED GRADE A

Regency era demesne (170 acres/68ha) and villa located atop a drumlin 1.3 miles (2km) south-west of Ballinamallard and 1.5 miles (2.3km) north-east of St Angelo airport. Modest *de novo* house (Listed HB 12/16/034), described in 1834 as a 'neat and handsome building', was built in 1817 for Captain John Johnston (1775-1831), Clerk of the Crown for Northwest Ulster. It remains substantially unaltered and comprises a three-bay two-storey over basement rectangular block facing south-east, with a single-storey over raised basement wing on its north-eastern flank. It has a shallow-pitched overhanging hipped roof with a large off-centre chimneystack and an off-centre entrance porch (a later addition). The 1830s Ordnance Survey Memoirs note 'a small but very neat conservatory attached to the south side of the house', which was demolished in the late 1850s to make way for a canted bay. The house wing is linked to large square stable yard to the north, enclosed by two-storey ranges; those on the north have unrendered walls and dressed stone surrounds. To the rear of this yard is a freestanding L-plan range added in 1859 by Nicholas

Archdale (1820-77) shortly after he bought the property. The kitchen garden occupies a roughly rectangular area (1.65 acres/0.7ha) lying 300ft (90m) south-west across the lawn from the house. In 1834 this garden was described as being 'very handsome, well sheltered and kept in good order'; at its north end there is the remains of a two-storey garden house, now largely removed, which predated the 1830s. From the 1830s until the 1970s, the southern portion of this garden was under orchard; today the garden is under grass. The demesne, described in 1834 as being only 70 acres (28ha) was laid out in 1817 and its plantations were later described as making 'very rapid growth'. Although subsequently enlarged, it otherwise remains remarkably little altered, comprising a meadow or 'lawn' in front of the house, enclosed by mature deciduous woodland screens; the kitchen garden is also enclosed by woodland and to the west, north west and north are mature deciduous woodland belts and blocks. To the south-east there is a further woodland block and parkland planting associated with the dower house, Brookville, added to the demesne in the 1840s; this is a substantial two-storey hipped roof house with rendered walls and a central recessed bay to front, the ground floor level of which is now covered by a large lean-to conservatory / porch. There are two carriage drive approaches to the house through the park; the main drive on the north side from the Enniskillen Road, and another from the south (Enniskillen/Mossfield Road), which also services Brookfield. Both have gate lodges; the latter on the south lies opposite the entrance gates, is a three-bay single-storey dwelling of c.1850, while that on the north is a ruined stucco single storey two bay dwelling c.1840 with pedimented portico supported on a pair of Doric columns; it has been suggested the latter is the work of architect J.B. Keane, one time assistant to Richard Morrison. The property was sold in 1901 by Edward Mervyn Archdale (1853-1943) to a local farmer, who in turn sold it in 1921 to Simon Christopher Loane (1883-1971), whose descendants remain. Private SMR FERM 192: 015 (standing stone).

**CROM CASTLE, County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) F/009
GRADE A***

Crom is a heavily wooded lough shore and island demesne (1590 acres/644ha) on the south side of Upper Lough Erne, 2.8 miles (4.5km) west of Newtownbutler and 5.7 miles (9km) south of Lisnaskea. It occupies twelve townlands and straddles the border with Cavan. Much of the demesne is covered with woods and open parkland, but there are also a number of smaller lakes whose shores, together with those of the main lake, have extensive areas of carr, fen and swamp. The focus of the demesne is the large early Victorian castle, while the area also contains a plantation castle, a number of follies, a large farm yard complex (now the NT Visitors Centre), stable and forge yards, turf house and boat house. In addition there are twenty two cottages, including two gate lodges, a former chaplain's residence (now in ruins), an old school and alms house as well as a church and a walled garden with associated buildings. In the sixteenth century the land belonged to the Maguires, but lost their lands after the nine years war in 1607. The old castle at Crom was begun in 1611 by the patentee, Michael Balfour, who had been granted a proportion of 1,500 acres the previous year. The castle's location was determined by strategic consideration for it lay on the main route between the forts of Enniskillen and Belturbet. The building was finished by Stephen Butler who acquired the property in 1616, but later in 1624 it was leased to the bishop of Clogher, Dr. Spottiswoode. With the bishop's death in 1644, his third daughter, Mary, and her husband Colonel Abraham Ceightoun (c.1620-1705) acquired the freehold in 1655. When the plantation commissioner Captain Pynnar arrived to inspect the place in 1619 he found *'upon this proportion there is a bawne of lime and stone being 60 feet square, 12 feet high, with two flankers. Within the bawne there is a house of lime and stone'*. Abraham Ceightoun, MP and High Sheriff of Fermanagh, defended the castle successfully twice in 1689 against the Jacobite forces who laid siege to the castle. The old castle (scheduled, HB12.02.002B), which was burned accidentally in 1764, is now a ruin and picturesque focal point in the park, together with the addition sham walls and towers that were added in the 1830s. The old avenue approach to the old castle from Newtownbutler, which was abandoned in the 1830s, can still be traced running south the Green Lake, though the Kill Upper Wood,

through Aghadrum into Doorat. Adjacent to the old castle is an enclosed terraced formal garden (also scheduled, 2.95 acres/1.2ha), almost certainly of early-18th century origin, but remodelled c.1830. It is a long rectangular area enclosed by walled ramparts on the lake side (south and west sides) and by a ha-ha on the north and east sides; a box hedge, presumably also planted in the 1830s, has now grown into small trees. Internally this garden area has a raised terrace on the east, where in the Early and Mid-Victorian era, a great marquee was erected on festival days. Below the area, now all grass, was in the mid and late Victorian era laid out as a formal garden with parterre beds (possibly of early 18th century origin, but as yet unproved). In the 1840s-60s the terraces were lined with canon facing out across the water which fired on great fete days, but in the 1870s these were removed and the two walled terraces were planted with lime trees, which are still there. The west side of the enclosure was formerly occupied by the original garden associated with the plantation castle and a surviving feature of this is conjoined pair of umbriferous female Common yews (*Taxus baccata*), which in the 19th century a large yew (The Great Yews) was joined on the west side by a second yew that has now grown to a great size also; externally both appear as one tree. The roots form a mound - the stems are about 5 feet high, but the trees have a diameter of 144ft (43.8m) x 110ft (33.6m) and a circumference of 395ft (120m); in 1909 they had a circumference of 243ft (74m) and a diameter of 82ft (25m) x 71ft (21.6m). The tree is unusual in that the branches 'near the top of the bole had in their youth of the tree been entwined into a sort of lover's knot, and have long since become intergrafted into a framework of great strength'. Until the 1920s, possibly a bit later, the branches were supported on 'trellising of poles' supported by 76 'oak posts averaging 5½ ft high'. Wooden pillars were present as early as 1739 when William Henry, Dean of Killaloe, found 'in the centre of the garden' was this 'curious yew tree;', which he said was 'planted 70 years ago' and said that 'horizontally it forms a shade 75 feet in circumference, which is supported by three circles of wooden pillars'. Following the death of Abraham Ceightoun in 1705, he was succeeded by his grandson John, and in 1715 by his brother Brigadier David Ceightoun or Creighton (1671-1728), who commissioned a survey of the demesne from William Starrat in 1722; this showed that the woodlands at Crom occupied roughly the same area of the demesne as they do today. He also commissioned plans to build a handsome new house at Crom to replace, but not on the same site as, the old castle; this was never built, nor evidently was a fine gazebo on Gad Island that he engaged Edward Lovett Pearce to design. The old castle was itself burnt to the ground in 1764 when owned by Brigadier Creighton's only surviving son, Abraham (1703-1772) who inherited in 1728 and was created Baron Erne in 1768. The castle was not rebuilt, but Abraham's son, John Creighton (1731-1828), who was created first Earl Erne in 1789, inherited the family estate in 1772; he decided the family needed a summer residence at Crom (previously they had been staying at Knockballymore). Accordingly, probably in the late 1770s or 1780s, he built a one-storey gentleman's cottage retreat on the island of Inisherck, known as 'Ennesshirk Cottage'. It was a U-plan house facing south-east with another U-plan office range to the rear. We have no known illustrations, but in all probability it resembled the thatched gentlemen's cottage orné at Derrymore in County Armagh. Plans were produced to completely refurbish the house with decorative bargeboards and bay windows in the 1840s; this never materialised, but instead it was demolished and the present attractive much more modest gabled cottage was built for the head gardener (Listed HB 12/02/002M) - this remained the head gardener's house until around 1950 when occupied by the last head gardener, Mr Heslop. An elegant parkland was created for the cottage of around 20 acres at the eastern end of the island of Inisherck, presumably also in the 1780s. It was typical of its period, with expansive lawns, clumps, isolated trees and an enclosure of shelter belts around the perimeter with the existing ancient woodland serving as a backdrop on the north. It was crossed by winding avenues and paths, which were linked to Crom mainland by the later demolished Inisherck Pier and now in-filled dock. From the 1840s many of the old paths and avenues were abandoned, but the park continued to be regularly mown for hay in the 1950s and today the area retains much of its late 18th-century character with many old sessile oaks as well as some old sycamore, and ash trees; the area also has a number of rare trees including a *Cercidiphyllum japonicum* (katsura) and *Acer negundo* (box elder). Though he never built on a grand scale at Crom, John Creighton, first Earl of Erne, greatly enlarged the family fortunes and bequeathed a large sum of

money in his will, proved in 1828, for his successor to build a new castle at Crom. His heir was Abraham Crichton, 2nd Earl of Erne (1765-1842), but unfortunately he was mentally unable to succeed (he was known as the 'Mad Earl'), so instead the estates fell on his nephew, John Crichton (1802-1885), who later in 1842 became the 3rd Earl of Erne. In 1828 John Crichton set about planning the new castle, appointing the English architect Edward Blore to the task. Blore produced drawings in 1830 and work on building began in 1831 with Mr Henry of Harrington-street as builder, who was replaced as builder after a dispute in 1834 with Charles MacGibbon of Edinburgh. Blore's design was for an imposing 'Elizabethan' or 'Tudor Manor House' style building of blue-grey local limestone with sandstone dressings - an east facing rectangular block of 2.5 stories over a basement with two wings enclosing a court to the rear (Listed HB 12/12/02/002A). With the completion of a large conservatory in 1837, the house building was completed and furnished in 1838. Unfortunately, much of the newly built castle, save the west wing, was burnt in a fire in January 1841, so it had to be rebuilt to the original specifications by Dublin architect John Sudden. The castle witnessed several external changes in the later 19th century, including the building of the octagonal pavilion at the end of the conservatory wing in 1851, the addition of a floor to the north end of the east wing in 1861, with the north wing raised a storey in the mid to later 1870s. In 1834 William Sawry Gilpin, the celebrated English picturesque landscape gardener was engaged to help design a suitable landscape setting for the new house. His work involved subtle modifications to a landscape that nature and 18th century alterations had already produced, by accident rather than design, into a landscape that conformed to picturesque principals. He removed about 20 acres (8.1ha) of woodland in Knocknabragh, thus opening up vistas from house towards Killy Upper. He would have advised on the position and species of isolated trees and clumps in the park, the planting of some new woodlands, as that at Corraharra, and the laying out of the access avenues, including the 'back avenue' through Mullynacoagh. He may have recommended making the flower parterre on the west side of the new castle in the early 1840s, but this may also have been the work of a parterre design like Nesfield, who designed parterres for some other house by Blore; this elaborate parterre survived into the period of the Great War, its outline can still be clearly discerned on aerial photographs. On the slopes nearby from the 1860s, if not a bit earlier, an arboretum was formed covering about 4 acres containing a pair of Oriental planes, tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*); a Cedar of Lebanon (*Cedrus libani*), a large weeping beech (*Fagus sylvatica pendula*), a Monterey Cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) with a large girth of 3.5m; a purple maple (*Acer palmatum Atropurpureum*) and a range of other trees, one of which (a maple) was planted by the Duke and Duchess of Connaught on a visit in 1902. Prior to Gilpin's landscaping in 1831-32, sham ruins were added to the old castle to create a long romantic facade with towers at each end which could be admired across the rolling parkland. In 1833-84, again prior to Gilpin's arrival, an impressive avenue of lime trees was planted on the north side of Corlatt with its axis aligned on the old castle across the lake. In the 1840s further alterations to the park were made; in 1848 Lough-na-Capple was in-filled (now called the 'Blind Lake') in Knocknabragh. A Robinsonian style woodland garden covering about 9 acres was made in the west side of the Killy Upper Wood around 1880 known as 'The Cullighs', containing a network of paths with rhododendrons, azaleas, magnolias, camellias and other shrubs mixed with exotic trees like Morinda spruce and the grand fir. Also in Knocknabragh is the farm building complex (Listed HB 12/02/002N) located close to the shore; the main part of the complex, a rectangular yard delimited by two-storey ranges on three sides, was designed by Edward Blore and built in 1835-36. In 1847-51 the yard was extended and refurbished and transformed into a model farm complex with steam engine powering a saw mill, bone crushers, thrashing mill, liquid manure tanks with pump and churning machine in dairy. It also had a cow house, bull house, piggery, fowl yard, hay barn, with the west side occupied by demesne 'cottages', the latter assumed their present form in the later 19th century. The 'Model Farm' complex was built as part of the 3rd earl's efforts to encourage his tenants to adopt improved agricultural techniques in the immediate post famine years of the 1850s. The yard, adapted briefly as a toy factory in the 1950s, was in a ruined condition in 1987; it was subsequently restored as the National Trust reception and interpretation centre. Just north-east of the farm yard complex in the woods is the site of the demesne Tilery, established in 1850, to make bricks, tiles and drainage pipes; nothing

remains of the kiln. Nearby however, the remains of the silo built in the 1880s still survives also in the woods; operational in 1885 it is probably the earliest example of a silo to survive in Ireland. Also designed by Blore in the 1830s were the two gate lodges, namely the East Gate Lodge (Listed HB 12/02/002O), an L-shaped 1½-storey gabled building with decorative bargeboards at the main entrance built around 1840 and the West Gate Lodge (Listed HB 12/08/003) located in Mullynacoagh at the south-west corner of the demesne and designed in an attractive gable-ended Tudoresque-style with the porch set at an angle in the intersection of the gabled projections. Blore however did not design the Stable Yard (Listed HB 12/02/00C) located to the north of the castle, built 1833-35 in a Gothic style comprising a square court enclosed with two-storey ashlar-face buildings. Unlike the farm building complex, this was designed by Monaghan architect and builder John Clarke. Adjacent to the west side of this yard is another yard added a bit later in the late 1830s, known as the 'Forge Yard', delimited by single-storey ranges on all four sides, save only the centre of the west which is occupied by a two storey gabled dwelling, the Butler's House. Nearby to the north on the shore of the lough is the 'Turf House' (Listed HB 12/02/002E) designed by Edward Blore and built 1835-40 for storing turf, a long single-storey gabled range used for storing turf, until the 1860s when it was adapted as a saw mill and a pump installed to supply water for the house; today it still houses machinery associated with its long use as a saw mill. It has an adjacent dock, constructed 1862-3 for steamers and a yacht slipway adjacent with rails on sleepers. South-west of the Turf House in the woods and formerly approached by a path from the north is the ice house, which has a conical stone-lined chamber with brick passage on north side, probably built in the 1830s. Adjacent to the Stable Yard there was formerly the demesne gas works built in 1854 at great expense and demolished around 1920. The adjacent 'Riding House' (Listed HB12.02.002D), a large gable-ended rectangular building with elaborate iron-trussed roof was built in 1860 for training horses, though it seems to have been used more to store the earl's phaeton and other vehicles and hosting tenants' annual dances. Although the 'White Bridge' linking Inisherk to the mainland was not constructed until 1836, work on building the walled garden (Listed BB 12/02/002K) began in October 1832 with the drawing of stones and bricks by boat across to the island to build the wall. The new garden was rectangular (3.15 acres/1.28ha) with east-west axis with curved corners and walls of brick on east, west and south sides and stone rubble on the north. Work on the garden was completed in 1833 when fruit trees and box hedges had arrived from Scotland. Glasshouses formerly ran the whole length of the north side but these were all demolished in the 1970s save for one in the north-west corner. These glasshouses had been built in stages with Charles MacGibbon building the first hot house in 1834; a pine was added in 1855, a new heating apparatus in 1855-56, another hot house and greenhouse in 1860, a propagating house in 1861-62; a camellia house in 1872 and a lime house/kiln and boilers in 1876. There was an octagonal glasshouse in the very centre of the garden. Most of the potting sheds (mushroom house, apple store, implement store, gardener's office, gardener's tea room and boiler house) with bothy (Listed HB 12/02/002L) were built 1833-34 along the north side of the north wall facing the slip-yard which contained the cold frames. Outside the garden wall on the north and much of the south side was a ha-ha delimiting a narrow slip 7m wide allowing the outside walls to be used for fruit and serving as extra protection for the garden; a hedge apparently grew on top of the ha-ha giving yet more protection. The garden was still in full production during the 1939-45 war and remained in use until the 1960s. At the entrance to the island of Inisherk from the White Bridge is the picturesque gabled 1½-storey Bridge Cottage (Listed HB 12/02/002G); the south-west portion of this house was building in the 1830s and was enlarged around 1850-52 to form two houses; in the 1950s it was amalgamated to form one residence. The present single-tract concrete 'White Bridge' (HB 12/02/002H) was built in 1961; it replaced wooden bridges on oak piles, built in 1836, rebuilt 1862 and again in 1914-18. The nearby Boat House (Listed HB 12/02/002F), built in 1844, was designed by Dublin architect, George Sudden in the picturesque manner with bargeboards on the lough shore to the south-west of the castle; it is a distinctive split-level stone built structure in Tudor-style with slipway and contains a sail room to the rear with the 'Club Room' of the Lough Erne Yacht Club at the front with a bay window. Visible from the boat house on a hill on the opposite side of the White Bridge is a hexagonal gazebo, commonly called the 'Tea House' (Listed HN 12/02/002J) built in a mild gothic style

with roughcast walls, pointed arched openings, hexagonal leaded roof and final, built in the late 1870s. To the immediate south-east of the Tea House are the ruined rubble remains of a gabled Boat House (HB 12/02/0021), probably built in the late 18th century to serve the gentleman's cottage on Inisherk Island. Contemporary with the Early Victorian phase of the demesne is the demesne church and graveyard - the Crom Episcopal Church (Holy Trinity, C of I) Parish Church (Listed HB 12/08/007) on the Derryvore Peninsula, south-east of Crom Castle built in a light Gothic-style, a nave and 'truly picturesque' spire. The foundation stone was laid in July 1840 during a children fête and it was consecrated with great ceremony in 15 July 1842, the architect however is unknown; the chancel with vault and vestry were added in 1867-69 and the old steeple tower was replaced by a memorial tower of three storeys over basement was added to design of John Henry Fullerton (1844-1924) of Armagh in 1885-88; the original 1840 graveyard was extended in 1887. The church provided with its own parkland setting at the tip of the Derryvore Peninsula, comprising some 8 acres of lawn with a sprinkling of mature isolated trees set against a backdrop of trees, designed to be seen across the lough; unfortunately, the present fringe of alder carr is a modern development and blocks the view of the parkland, seriously spoiling the designed view of the church and its setting - an important feature of the Crom landscape. Also on the same peninsular, which is now largely covered with coniferous plantations, is 'The Forester's House', a three bay gable-ended rectangular building of 1½-stories with diamond lattice frame casement windows on north-east shore of Derryvore, remodelled around 1870; nearby is the demesne Alms House, also a gable-ended three-bay rectangular building of 1½-stories, which assumed its present appearance in 1867-68 and could accommodate four female inmates; both buildings are used as holiday homes to-day. From around 1860 the Derryvore Peninsula was connected to Inisherk by a Chain Ferry, a shallow ferry boat known as a 'Flat' which was moved by a chain running on a cogged wheel; at the Inisherk end, below the walled garden is a pier for this boat and a small rubble built building with horse-shoe plan to accommodate waiting passengers. At the same time as work was progressing on the church in the early 1840s, a fine rectory was being built for the demesne clergyman (the Earl of Erne's chaplain), known as 'The Cottage' in Mullynacoagh. Built in gothic style, it was 1½-storey gabled building with cross mullioned and oriel windows, designed by architect Samuel Clarke and incorporated an earlier building. It had its own parkland which swept down to the lough and was a very visible feature of the demesne; unfortunately, in 1972 it was burnt by terrorists; its ruins remain but the old parkland is now overgrown and views from the lake blocked by the omnipresent alder carr. Access to the rectory from mainland Crom was via a pier at Corlatt, adjacent to which is the 'Old Demesne School House', a gable-ended 1½-storey L-shaped building with bargeboards, dormers and veranda containing a 'teacher's residence' and two schoolrooms; it was first built in the 1820s and remodelled in 1848; the school was closed in the 1930s. The back avenue, that extends from the Corlatt Pier to the back entrance (above) passed close to labourer's cottages built in the open parkland; one of these in Mullynacoagh is a gable-ended 1½-storey long rectangular building with bargeboards and dormers, remodelled from an earlier dwelling into two labourer's cottages in 1885-6. Another, smaller pair of labourer's cottages, also gable-ended 1½-stories with four bays was also built in 1888 to designs of the architect Laurence Mcoboy Fitzgerald, the estate architect to the Duke of Devonshire at Lismore Castle. East of Corlatt Pier in the waters of Lough Erne is Gad Island occupied by Crichton Tower, a circular two-storey castellated tower built as a folly in 1847-48 on a natural rock outcrop. In 1885 John Henry Crichton (1839-1914) succeeded his father as the 4th Earl of Erne and it was during his time that the once extensive Erne estate were sold through the Land Acts. As his son died before he did, having been killed in Belgium in October 1914, the remaining estate plus the demesne was inherited by his seven-year old grandson, who himself was killed near Dunkirk in 1940. The War Department requisitioned the demesne and castle in November 1940 and it accommodated the Seaforde Highlanders in April 1941; later in autumn 1942 American troops were in occupation and remained until 1944. A hutted camp was built north of the castle; some relics from this period remain in the demesne. Notwithstanding difficulties, the demesne remained entirely in the hands of the Crichton family until 1980 when a large part of the townlands of Inishfendra, Gole and Reilly were acquired by the Dept. of the Environment (N.I) from the late Henry (Harry) John Crichton (1937-2015), 6th Earl of

Erne, to be managed as nature reserves. The remaining area of the demesne, together with part of the townlands of Derryacrow and Doorat lying outside the demesne, were acquired by the National Trust from Lord Erne in 1987. This involved the transfer of some 1,350 acres to the Trust, while the earl of Erne retained ownership of the castle itself. Further lands have subsequently been acquired by the National Trust to the north of the demesne in Derrymacrow and Bleanish Island townlands. The stables are used as offices now and the farm is a Visitors Centre, with holiday accommodation. SMR: FERM 261:20 Plantation castle and 29: castle. NT. House private.

**DRESTERNAN CASTLE, County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) - F/046
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Small demesne (40 acres/16ha) and house of c.1760 lying on a hill summit 1.6 miles (2.6km) south-east of Derrylin and 3.5 miles (5.7km) north-west of Crom Castle. Despite the name 'castle' there is no certain evidence for an early 17th century fortified house here, the present residence (Listed HB 12/08/036B) was built, according to Trimble, in 1758 by Daniel Winslow of Derryvore, whose family retained ownership into the 20th-century. The house, a double-pile compact square block with hipped roof and rendered walls has a south-east facing three-bay front of two-storey over a raised basement, with the entrance, approached up steps, oddly placed off-centre. Flanking the south-west side of the building is a three-sided square yard with two-storey ranges, constructed of squared and random rubble, sections of which have been rebuilt with concrete blocks; in the later 20th century the roofs were replaced with metal sheeting. Directly south of the house and aligned on its front facade (but at a slight angle as the house faces south-east) is a lime avenue 465ft (142m long) leading up from the Mount Prospect Road. Adjacent to the west side of this avenue is a trapezoidal shaped walled garden (1.8 acres/0.7ha), on gently sloping ground (north-east to south-west), enclosed by stone walls, bevelled at the corners on the roadside; sections of the south facing walling is brick-lined. The 1835 OS map shows an usual path layout (paths are usually depicted accurately on OS maps), which runs alongside the wall in many places and divides the garden into variously shaped plots; from the 1850s into the 20th century, much of this garden was under orchard - it has long been under grass and contains a large oak tree. In its north wall is an arched vehicle entrance and close-by a small outdoor privy. West of the garden is a service avenue leading to the yard (still in use) and west of this a second carriage drive leading to the rere of the house, out of use by c.1850. At the head of this avenue is a single-storey gate lodge, c.1800 (Listed HB 12/08/006) with rendered and whitened walls and a steeply pitched thatched hipped roof; the main avenue appears also to have possessed a lodge (long gone), but retains rendered square gate piers with pointed stone caps (missing finials). There are mature trees around the house and a curved ha-ha on its east side, while the house is enclosed within a large semi-circular enclosure, 1000ft (300m) diameter, defined by tree-lined boundaries that may once have formed part of an early/mid-18th century formal landscape. In the 1830s there were a couple of small plantations (described in the OS Memoirs as 'principally ornamental') associated with this demesne, but these had gone by the end of the century. Private. FERM 260: 038 (rath south of the road).

**EDENFEL, County Tyrone (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) T/021
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Mid-Victorian well wooded parkland (27.9 acres/11.3ha) with house of 1862 on the southern outskirts of Omagh close to the east bank of the Drumragh River. The house (Listed HB 11/15/001) built on a hill for Captain Lewis Mansergh Buchanan is an attractive asymmetrical stone-built, multi-gabled two-storey plus attic gentleman's residence, which blends elements of the picturesque and Tudoresque. It has roughly finished squared limestone walls with ashlar quoins and dressings, has a varying pitch (generally steep) slated roof with an overhang, decorative barges and finials to front, whilst the chimneys are constructed as the walls and have tall decorative octagonal clay pots. The architect was the then newly formed partnership of John

Boyd and William Batt of Londonderry. About 130m east of the house is a roughly square yard enclosed by on all sides by ranges, contemporary with the house; a long range to the east was built in 1874, renovated for a dwelling in recent years. South of the yard is the part walled garden (0.77 acres/0.31ha) - the west half of which is still under partial cultivation with box edged beds. It is delimited on its west side by a clipped hedge; the remaining area of the garden is under grass. 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 (now DAERA) grant in the early 1990s. The site is now fully maintained. A terraced ornamental garden near the house is planted up. Private.

ELY LODGE, Co. Fermanagh (REGISTERED SITE – AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) F/040

A much admired Landscape Park (740 acres/300ha) carved out of ancient woodlands on the western shore and islands of Lower Lough Erne, 5 miles (8.1km) north-west of Enniskillen. Work began on the landscape 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/69ha), 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 12/11/088) and the other is a Tudor Picturesque style lodge of c.1830 (Listed HB 12/11/090, grade B2) with associated causeway bridge incorporating flood arches. Farrell also designed a pump house (Listed HB 12.11/081), and possibly the main landing pier, now mostly high and dry (Listed HB 12/11/079), while Sutherland was probably responsible for the garden House (Listed HB 12/11/087) 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 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 12/11/079; 081; 087; 088; 089 & 090).

**FLORENCECOURT, County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) F/014
REGISTERED GRADE A***

One of the finest 18th-century 'Brownian' style landscape parks in Ulster, Florence Court lies close to the Cavan border, 4.6 miles (7.4km) north-west of Swanlinbar and 7 miles (11.3km) south-west of Enniskillen. The demesne (1309 acres/530ha), which includes the walled deer park (168 acres/68ha) on its west flank, woodland, parkland and home farm, has an outstanding setting overlooked by Cuilcagh Mountain (2188ft/667m) on its south-west. Since the early 18th century until January 1974, it was the home of the Coles: the Barons Mount Florence and the Earls of Enniskillen, one of Ulster's most prominent Plantation families. In 1954, the house and 5.7 hectares were given to the National Trust, who acquired an additional 50.6 hectares of parkland in 1985. The Cole family left Florence Court in January 1974 and sold the greater part of the demesne to the Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, which now constitutes Florence Court Forest Park. The house (Listed HB 12/09/002) comprises an early to mid 18th-century seven-bay block of three storeys over a basement that is linked by straight arcades to octagonal pavilions in a façade nearly 80 metres in length; these arcades and pavilions are a secondary addition to the house c.1775 and were built as an integral part of a much larger architectural ensemble to the rear, comprising a laundry yard and a stable yard with linking curved sweeps. Close to the house there is also the cattle yard, barn yard, tile yard and forge, while other buildings on the demesne include the sawmill, carpenter's shop, the dower house, St John's Church, Hollybank house, two gate lodges and a number of estate dwellings. The history of the demesne begins with John Cole (1680-1726), grandson of Sir William Cole who successfully defended Enniskillen during the 1641 Rebellion. Wishing to move out of Enniskillen and Portora, John in 1719 embarked on building a residence Glenawley on lands he inherited from his parents, which he named after his wife Florence Wray, whose dowry he used to start building. Writing in 1739 Henry told us that he 'cut out noble Vistos, laid out gravel walks, cut down most of ye woods', but that the house was not finished by the time of his death in 1726 being evidently 'only the left wing of a very grand building designed by Mr Cole, which he did not live to execute'. His son, John Cole (1709-67) later (1760) First Baron Mountflorencia, finished the house by the early 1730s and its formal landscape, depicted on a demesne map of 1768 (Mulvihill). This shows the former 'Grand Avenue' running east-west and aligned on the front facade of the house, extending 3515 ft (1,070m) to the road, a feature that comprised two massive parallel banks and ditches, 75m apart, with two further fosses 10m apart bounding the carriageway - features that appear on aerial photographs. All trace was demolished around 1780, but a second avenue, also shown on the 1768 map, survives aligned on the north facade of the house; known as the 'West Avenue' (today called the 'Post Office Avenue') this has a narrower width of 60m, and in like manner is delimited by massive banks. There must have been at least two rows of trees each side and in the fashion of the era no doubt were staggered in a quincunx. The trees were evidently Scots pine and elm for Henry in 1739 mentions 'two grand avenues leading up to the house on different sides and a third laid out in ye woods all planted with fir and elm, as also the roads which are laid out broad and straight'. The avenues were flanked by neat geometrically laid out fields and the area around the house had 'gardens, vacant places and four acre park' that may have included terraced 'hanging gardens' south of the house where the American Garden now stands. The deer park, also shown on the 1768 map was evidently created in the 1720s and may have originally been delimited by a wooden palisade as the present wall looks later 18th century in date. The demesne itself was delimited by earthen banks and fosses rather than walls and a number of the early home farm fields units on the south side of the demesne, outside the landscape park, retain their massive flat topped enclosing banks. In 1754, John Cole was left money by his deceased cousin and brother-in-law, Baron Ranelagh of Newlands, and this may have prompted him to embark on remodelled the

house at Florence Court from 1757 and engaging Dublin rococo stuccadores to decorate the new enlarged rooms. A housewarming party to celebrate the completion of the work was held in 1764, but having completed this work, Cole then decided on adding new yards each side of the house. This was an enormous and sophisticated operation involving sinking the yards each side of the house down to the basement level of the house, but retaining the original height of the ground to the rear of the house (The Crescent Lawn) and screening the yards from the front with long arcades terminating in pavilions. It has been suggested on stylistic grounds that it may be the work of the Piedmontese architect Davis Ducart (d.1780), who was working on the Tyrone Navigation at the time. Work was ongoing with John Cole's death in 1767, for a codicil to his will during that year makes reference to the unfinished 'colonnades at Florence Court'. His son William Willoughby Cole (1736-1803), later (1789) 1st Earl of Enniskillen, completed the work, presumably in the early 1770s, if not before. Having completed the house attention was focussed on creating a fashionable informal landscape park setting for the house. There is no known documentary evidence for the undertaking of this work, but it probably began in the early 1770s; it may have still been in progress in July 1778 when Michael Shanahan, architect to the Earl of Bristol, wrote to his patron in Rome telling him that he had written to 'Mr King at Lord Enniskillen to procure in time ample store of tamarisk, laburnums, myrtles, roses of every kind, sweet briars, etc, etc, as your Lordship ordered', indicating that the Belfast based landscape gardener William King was working at Florence Court at that time. An engraving of Florence Court by Milton in 1786 shows that the park was well finished by that date. The new park (600 acres/243ha) occupied most of the east half of the demesne and is essentially Capability Brown inspired, with its wide open spaces, great natural curves, clumps of trees, natural woodland and boundary screens. Its creation involved the removal of the early 18th-century formal 'Grand Avenue', together with much of the regular field layout around the house. The disposition of the new park layout, first recorded in the 1814 estate map, comprises a series of open areas or 'cells', each dotted with trees and surrounded and separated from one another by belts of woodland. The largest of these cells was the 143 acre (58ha) Front Lawn or Broad Meadow, around the east and south sides of the house, and the 52 acre (21ha) Killymanamly Green (Back Lawn), on the west side of the house; the Kennel Field (6.89ha) and Sheep Field (5.33ha) to the south, with cells outside of these comprising McGrath's or Horse Park (8.9 acres/3.6ha), the School Field (6.9 acres/2.8 ha), Liscofker Park (31 acres/12.5ha), Kiln Park (5 acres/2ha) and Juggy's Meadow (4 acres/1.6ha). These open meadows were well decorated with clumps and isolated trees, many the latter being planted around 1800 - the Broad Meadow or Front Lawn had, aside from clumps, over 120 isolated trees in the early 20th century. In the 19th century the fields were all extensively drained to ensure *Juncus effusus* (soft rush) and *Holcus lanatus* (Yorkshire fog), so much a feature of wet Fermanagh pastures, did not spoil the appearance of the 18th-century parkscape. The old formal 'West Avenue' was retained in the 1770s scheme; while the removal of the Grand Avenue necessitated creating a new main approach to the house., which took the form of a belt drive, commonly called the White Walk, which ran through Liscofker Park and along the perimeter of the Broad Meadow or 'Lawn'. The new 'grand entrance' to the demesne (Listed HB 12/09/030), built at the entrance to this drive, consists of a pair of single-storey twin lodges with rendered and roughcast walls, slate roofs and canted facing out onto the road; between the buildings is a tall cut-stone screen incorporating square rusticated piers with ball finials and wicket entrances - it is possible the wrought iron carriage gates belonged to the earlier main entrance; like the White Walk, this was restored by the National Trust in the 1990s, having gone out of use after the 1950s. An integral part of

the 1770s landscape park was the partly walled kitchen garden (5.2 acres/2.1ha) lying north of the house, immediately east of the West or Post-Office Avenue and within the west edge of the Garden Wood. It is delimited on the south and east sides by two long narrow ornamental ponds (0.64 acres/0.26ha), a highly unusual feature seen also at Castle Archdale and Castle Coole, the latter known to have been designed by William King. A brick wall, original to the garden, divides the area into two sections, the 'Upper Garden' on the south (2.5 acres/1ha) and the 'Lower Garden' on the north (2.7 acres/1.1ha), while another brick wall bounds the north end of the garden, beyond which was the former late Victorian slip garden containing the frame yard and potting sheds; this latter wall was built in 1869-70, prior to which the slip garden to its north was an integral part of the garden. The west perimeter of the Upper Garden is also bounded by a brick wall, also original to the garden, with a pretty building known as the 'Rose Cottage', the former head gardener's house (Listed HB 12/09/036); this appears to have been built around 1840, but later remodelled, probably around 1870 for gardener John Sutherland. The centrally dividing wall supported the original potting sheds, one of which still survives (the apple store) and probably glasshouses, but once the north wall in the Lower Garden was built in 1869-70, it was used to support the garden's glasshouses. These comprised two lean-to houses, each 50ft (15.2m) long, spaced 37 ft (11.4m) apart; the house on the west side contained apricots, nectarines and peaches, while the eastern one contained the vinery. The area between the two houses, on axis with the main garden path, was occupied until the Great War by a central glasshouse, probably curvilinear; the latter was demolished around the time of the Great War and no images of it has yet surfaced.. Also in the Lower garden was a large free-standing conservatory demolished in the 1930s. The two lean-to ranges survived until the 1970s when they were demolished by the Forest Service; however recently 2018-21 similar sized lean-to houses have been replaced here by the National Trust. The west side of the Lower Garden is flanked by a long wooden pergola, a 1974 Forest Service rebuild of an original Edwardian era pergola, the latter being part of the work of Scottish head gardener James Sutherland, who came in 1886 and stayed for eighteen years, redesigning much of the garden, including the rose garden in the Upper Garden approached via a rustic bridge over the pond. There was formerly a woodland garden south of the walled garden, another Sutherland designed feature. While the new 1770s landscape park involved planting extensive new woodlands, mostly oak, there were already a number of existing woodlands shown of the 1768 Mulvihill map, possible of medieval origin. Prominent among these was the Cottage Wood (42 acres/17.1ha) flanking the south side of the Broad Meadow. This wood was so-named because it contained an ornamental 'Swiss' thatched cottage orné in the centre of the wood, known as the 'Cane Cottage' (because the interior rooms were lined with split bamboo canes) Now demolished, it was erected around 1790, apparently by the young John Willoughby Cole (1768-1840), later the 2nd Earl of Enniskillen, following his return from the Grand European Tour. Nearby there was also a discretely located caretaker's cottage (demolished), while the Cane Cottage itself faced north across a small wood clearing known as Juggy's Meadow. Visible at the other end of the meadow was the 'grotesque-style' Juggy's Bridge (Listed HB 12/09/071) over the Finglass River, whose soffit is composed of grotto-like stones projecting a different angles to give a rustic effect. Close-by to this bridge is a remarkable pseudo-megalithic, composed of boulder rings enclosing a rustic seat. Here too on the banks of the Finglass River is the original Irish yew (*Taxus baccata* L. 'Fastigiata'), the mother plant of countless millions of Florence Court or Irish yews found throughout the world, every one from cuttings from this tree or from its descendants. The tree is female; but according to Charles Nelson, who has undertaken a very detailed analysis of the tree's nomenclature and history, some male stobili have been reported from its progeny on several occasions. The original of this tree was found together with another in a wild state by a tenant of the Earl of Enniskillen growing as a sport on the slopes of Cuilcagh Mountain sometime prior to 1776; one he gave to Baron Mountflorenc (later the Earl of Enniskillen) and the other he planted in his own garden, which grew there until it died in 1865. The one given to Mountflorenc was planted in a small demesne nursery; subsequently in the 1790s the nursery ground became

part ornamental area associated with the Cane Cottage and the yew no doubt became part of this area's attraction and remains so today, though it has largely reverted to habit. Also added to the demesne in the time of William Cole, the 1st earl of Enniskillen, was the late Georgian demesne church, St John's (C of I) parish church (Listed BH 12/09/001A-B) - a gothic structure of c.1790 with a four-stage tower, spire and chancels added in 1819. The entrance to the church yard has a Victorian iron gatescreen (Listed HB 12/09/001C) with decorative openwork piers. Other structures belonging to the late 18th-century include the Ice House (Listed HB 12/09/049) south of the house on the bank of the river; it has a brick-vaulted passage with buttressed pointed entrance arch entrance leading to an impressive domed brick chamber, all hidden above by earth and shrubs. Also of 18th-century date is the nearby Eel-house Bridge (Listed HB 12/09/068), probably also built in the 1770s; it is an elegant two-arched rubble bridge spanning the Larganess River with both sides embellished with rusticated vee-jointed sandstone voussoirs and containing a chamber, presumably for storage of eels. The nearby Gorteen Bridge to the north (Listed HB 12/09/067) also dates to the period when the park was created in the 1770s. The Pleasure Grounds (2.8ha), which extend from the south side of the house buildings down a south-facing slope to just beyond the River Larganess, was created in the later 1840s by William Willoughby Cole (1807-86), who inherited the property and title of 3rd Earl of Enniskillen in 1840. His main passion was as a geologist and collector of fossils (for which a museum was made in the south pavilion of the house), but his wife, Jane Casamaijor, who he married in 1844, was a garden enthusiast. The area of the pleasure grounds was the site of the 'hanging gardens' mentioned by Dean Henry in 1739 - a term sometimes used at that time for terraced gardens, all of which were no doubt swept away as part of the landscaping process in the 1770s. The pleasure gardens, which at the time was termed the 'American Garden', or the 'Rhododendron Garden' was designed by the celebrated garden designer James Fraser (1793-1863) and involved a team of 30 donkeys toiling away transporting peat for the plants from the mountains. The garden retains its network of meandering paths and today boasts a range of woody plants, notably cultivars of *Rhododendron* and *R. arboretum*, dominate the garden, especially in the valley meadow area where they are dispersed together amongst other popular Victorian shrubs such as azaleas and Viburnum. At the north end of the pleasure garden in a commanding position with a 'chocolate box' prospect of Cuilcagh Mountain is the reconstructed Heather House, a circular thatched-roofed rustic arbour, 5m diameter with conical roof, originally composed of turf with a covering of straw and heather thatch, with walls lined with heather and internally covered with filleted bark panels of beech, ash, silver fir, Scots pine and birch. It was demolished some time in the 1930s, but its raised cobbled pebble floor allowed it to be relocated in the 1980s, and in the 1990s the National Trust reconstructed the building based on a surviving photograph c.1860, though the location had to be moved slightly. It was burnt by vandals in 2015, but has since been rebuilt (HB 12/09/069). In addition to the pleasure grounds, Fraser was probably also responsible at this time for some alterations to the west side of the park and for designing a square elaborate flower parterre (now removed) for the raised Crescent Lawn at the back of the house, which was originally flanked each side by chestnut trees. Not long after the completion of the pleasure grounds, a saw mill (Listed HB 12/09/047) was built on its west side, a surprising location considering the noise potential. An inscription on the hub of the waterwheel gives the year of its casting as 1848, and it seems likely that this date coincides with the actual construction of the mill. Water for the wheel was derived from a mill pond to the west of the building, while water for the pond itself derived from a headrace that met the Larganess River 585 metres to the west in Tullyhona Wood. To the north of the mill are some separate single-storey sheds and a demesne carpenter's workshop. The mill building and its machinery was fully restored by the National Trust in the 1990s. At roughly the same time, or possibly a little later, a hydraulic ram (Listed HB 12/09/049) was built to the south of the sawmill in order to supply water for the house. When water was needed, a ram would pump it up to a tank in the roof of the main block, approximately 240 metres away. The installation of this water tank resulted in a rebuilding of the roof in the

south-west corner of the main block. The new roof was higher than the old and contained, in addition to the tank, a third-storey three-room attic lit by dormer windows. In 1869, Lowry Egerton Cole, later the fourth Earl of Enniskillen, married Charlotte Marion Baird, a rich heiress from Dumfriesshire. As a result of this marriage, the family fortunes received a much-needed boost and money became available for improvements to the demesne. The walled garden was the focus of alterations in the early 1870s (see above). At this time also was built the Stewart's house, aka Dower House (Listed HB 12/09/048), a picturesque 1½-storey gabled building with decorative bargeboards located at the end of a lane north-west of the house. Significant alterations were made at time to yards around the house, notably the Laundry Yard and the Cattle Court (part of house listing), while the Tile Yard was also built; two range of the latter survive and its central area is used as a National Trust car park. The demesne went into a period of decline from the late 19th century; in the 1940s and early 1950s extensive tree-planting, mainly Norway and Sitka spruce took place, though the saw mill close in 1953. That year the Earl of Enniskillen transferred the house and 5.7ha of land to the National Trust, endowed by the Ulster Land Fund, and on 3 June 1954 the house officially opened to the public. On March 25th 1955 the central part of the main house was gutted by a fire, but was subsequently rebuilt by the National Trust (1955-59). Following a dispute the Coles left Florence Court in January 1974 and in June that year the Forest Service acquired 1065 hectares of the demesne from Lord Enniskillen. The area included the greater part of the demesne, together with the mountain land to the south, running to the summit of Cuilcagh Mountain. The land was sold to the Forest Service by Lord Enniskillen on the understanding that the greater part of the area would be converted into a forest park. A car park was made in the Garden Wood with a reserve car park in the School Field; the former main avenue to the house, the White Walk, in the area of Liscofker Park was surfaced with macadam and the main entry and the Grand Gate Lodges repaired externally. The walled garden, which in 1974 was an overgrown wilderness, was in part restored by the Forest Service, old paths reinstated and in 1976 a large programme of tree planting took place in the west of the demesne, especially in the deer park. In the early 1990s the National Trust managed to gain control from Forest Service of the Broad Meadow and in the late 1990s also the walled garden; since that period have rejuvenated the northern section of the garden for kitchen produce with the help of volunteers, have restored the central axial borders and currently (2020-21) restoring the two lean-to glasshouses against the north wall, which had been demolished in the 1950s. 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. 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 & DAERA: Forest Service. Public access

**FORT HILL GARDENS, County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) F/013
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Public Park (5.7 areas/2.3ha) on the east side of Enniskillen lying north of the East Bridge and Belmore-street, where it crowns a small steep-sided drumlin that historically commended the eastern approach to the island town. It was officially opened as 'Fort Hill Pleasure Ground' in 1891, but was first laid out as a public promenade in 1832, utilising the impressive earthworks of a 17th century artillery star-fort atop the hill (FERM 211:56). Known as the 'East Fort' on Windmill Hill, this was one of a pair of forts built in the late 1680s to protect Enniskillen and was composed of sods - square in plan, with a spear-shaped bastion projecting at right-angles from the rampart in the Dutch manner at each corner. It was repaired in 1796, when the outside was reinforced with masonry walls, but following decommission, the masonry was removed in 1823 to make what is now Belmore-street, formerly Gaol-street. Not long afterwards, in 1832, the Town Corporation planted and enclosed as ornamental ground in the area adjoining the fort, which at that time was known as 'Camomile Hill' or 'Commons Hill' (since the town charter of 1611 the inhabitants had the right to graze their animals on the hill). The area, once enclosed, appears to

have been landscaped right away as Slater's Directory of 1846 says that the hill was 'beautifully laid out with walks and planted, as a promenade for the inhabitants.' Indeed, the OS six-inch map of 1835 shows the main avenue from the eastern entrance as it is now with a pair of circular paths east of the fort and other winding paths; at that time the only building on the hill other than the fort was the 'School House' or 'Battery' on the south side opening off Forthill-road, built in 1827 and used as a school until 1910 when it was converted into a private residence. At the southern corner of the site there is a small single-storey dwelling which originally served as a gate lodge - a relatively plain, hipped roof building with symmetrical front with central porch, shown on the OS town plan of 1858 without the porch, which appears to have been added c.1900. A panoramic view of Enniskillen about 1860 from the south-west shows the hill thickly wooded, particularly on the east, and topped by the Cole Memorial Column (Listed HB 12/20/001), known locally as 'Cole's Pole'; this monument was erected by public subscription between 1845-57 in honour of General. The Hon Sir Galbraith Lowry Cole, K.C.B. (1772-1842), second son of the 1st Earl of Enniskillen. Although rarely in Ireland, General Cole was MP for Enniskillen from 1797 until the Union of 1800, which he opposed, and subsequently in the UK for Co Fermanagh from 1803 to 1823. The fluted Doric column, 98ft (30m) high, with a high plinth, is surmounted by a c.4m high 'heroic grand statue' by the celebrated Longford sculptor Terence Farrell (1798-1876). Internally the column can be ascended by 108 steps leading onto the abacus which is railed. By the 1880s, the park had evidently deteriorated and the trees had thickened and blocked out the views, so the town commissioners therefore decided in 1889 to overhaul it. so that it was 'far in advance of anything else in Ireland at the time'. The East Battery or Fort in the 1880s at least, if not before, was included as an important part of the park landscaping. A network of winding paths to make the most of the space was laid down; in addition to a small pond some other features were constructed near it and a dell, in which there was a waterfall and fernery, a cave and a drinking fountain. An early photograph shows rusticated fencing above the fernery and dell, but today sadly all traces, except for some rocks, have now gone. One path, the east path, goes right into the centre to the Cole Monument at the west and to a flower bed, formerly a fountain, at the east, taking in a cast-iron bandstand (Listed HB 12/20/005) that was added to the park in 1895. The bandstand is octagonal with slender columns supporting an extremely elegant oriental-style roof which, in turn, supports eight pillars grouped in pairs and supporting a large four-faced clock topped by a dome and finial. There is much finely-detailed decorative ironwork, for instance, at the top of all the columns and at the base of the columns supporting the clock. Much of this is foliage but there are eight rampant dragons at the base of the clock supports. At present it is painted red, green and white. The bandstand, one of the finest in all Ireland, commemorates Thomas Plunkett, MRIA, chairman of the Town Commissioners and the driving force behind the creation of the park. The bandstand clock was repaired in 1990 by J. B. Joyce Tower Clocks Company of Whitchurch, Shropshire, England, who may in fact have made the whole edifice. Echoing the old ramparts, the hill slope is terraced with a path running between the two terraces at right-angles to the east path. The north and south corners of the upper terrace are marked by decorative stone pedestals which probably once supported bowls. North of the band stand and west of the fort there are small, cube-shaped clipped evergreen shrubs, such as laurel and Portugal laurel, and, west of the fort, bamboo. South of the fort are some rugosa-type roses and other flowering shrubs such as lace cap hydrangea. At the south-east are modern ornamental cherry trees and rhododendron. There are many mature trees dating to the 19th century including copper beech, hawthorn, horse chestnut, pedunculate oak, sycamore, Austrian pine, common yew, holm oak, Lawson cypress, monkey puzzle and wellingtonia as well as fastigate (Irish) yews, cedar and Scots pine, the latter being in the west. The park was opened by the Countess of Erne, herself a Cole, on August 7th 1891 to great ceremony with a Grand Fête, fireworks displays, a balloon ascent and parachute jump. The Town Commissioners were superseded by the Urban District Council which operated until 1949, after which came the Borough Council and then the Fermanagh District Council. The children's play area in the west

actually dates to c. 1895, although it has, of course, been modernised. Features that have disappeared include the tennis courts which seemed to date to the late 19th century renovation, and a toilet block in the north-east which was more recent. In the 1980s bands still used the bandstand, however, it is not currently used, and in recent years the FDC has encouraged the use of Fort Hill as a nature trail. From the park there are views over the town. SMR: FERM 211:56 Artillery Fort. Public access.

**GARDENHILL, County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) - F/058
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Demesne with late 17th century origins located 1.3 miles (2.2km) north-east of Belcoo on an elevated site in rolling countryside enjoying wide views, notably south towards Lough Macrean and Cuilceagh. Its parkland (240 acres/97ha) of later 18th century date encloses an unpretentious vernacular-style gable-ended one and two storey rectangular house (Listed HB 12/10/018) facing south-east south with entrance at the east end; the building is currently in a state of dilapidation (included in the Buildings at Risk register). To the north and east of the house are the remains of what must have been an impressive complex of vernacular-style farm buildings, laid out in irregular fashion and now in ruined condition, overgrown by trees. While first mention of the name 'Gardenhill' appears in a letter of 1735, the present house (and presumably many of the yard buildings) appear to have been built by Richard Hassard (c.1680-1750), not long before his marriage in 1706 to Mary Eney. At the time the Hassards were one of the county's leading gentry families having originally secured a grant here in the Restoration land settlement of the 1660s. Described by Rev. William Henry in 1739 as a 'small seat', it remained modest during the following two centuries, though it was enlarged and modified at various time, notably by Alexander Jason Hassard (1837-74), who inherited in 1847 following the shooting of his uncle, William, by an assassin in the avenue leading to the house. There were three avenues, all evidently later 18th century date, approaching the house from the west, south and south-east; one of these (on the west) has been hewn through mountainside rock. The park may have possessed two gate lodges pre-1834 (but these are not labelled as such on maps); the south drive was realigned further westwards at some point prior to 1856 and a new 'lodge' (demolished) built to serve this entrance. Unusually, there is no circuit drive or perimeter screen planting; instead the parkland planting is arranged in a series of belts (largely deciduous, mainly beech with some larch) that follow the 600ft, 500ft, 450ft and 400ft contours of the south-west facing hill slope. The area south and south-west of the house, extending into the townland of Carrownalegg is dotted with isolated parkland trees, all of which have survived remarkably intact, no doubt due to the remoteness of the situation. There is little evidence for any planting associated with the early 18th century house. In 1877 the demesne was sold through the Incumbered Estates Courts to William Nixon, whose family owned the property until the 1930s, though it was only occupied intermittently since the 1880s. The house has been vacant since the 1980s. Private. SMR FERM 228:008, Platform Rath.

**JAMESTOWN (MAGHERACROSS), County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) - F/025
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Also known as Magheracross House, Jamestown is a small mid-to late 18th century parkland, presently of 61 acres (25ha), bordering the Ballinamallard River and lying 1.2 miles (1.9km) north-east of the village of Ballinamallard. It encloses a house described by the 1834 Ordnance Survey Memoirs as 'very neat and commodious', which they stated had been 'built about the year 1740', when in the ownership of George Lendrum I (died 1763); however, on architectural grounds this south-west facing, symmetrical two-storey, five-bay house with hipped roof and two central stacks (Listed HB 12/16/010), was probably built in the 1760s by James Lendrum I (d.1814); it was modified and extended c.1815-20 by George Lendrum II (1776-1855). The park, which the Ordnance Survey Memoir in 1834 commented had been 'elegantly and tastefully laid out',

probably dates c.1770; it is low-lying and within the floodplain of the Ballinamallard River which meanders through it with mature deciduous woodland belts along the river and alongside the minor road south-east of the house. The park 'lawn', which extends south-east from the house, was formerly dotted with many isolated trees and clumps, but these are now gone and the area is now open meadow. The area west of the river (14 acres) is now lost to the park save for woodland screen (largely deciduous) alongside the north-western bank of the river which screens a number of unsightly modern houses. North-west of the house and close to the river and bridge (IHR: 948) is a large natural oval mound made to look artificial by landscaping. It has a spiral pathway to the summit where there were commanding views of the river valley. The Nicholas Willoughby Estate map of 1788 shows two trees on the summit; today it is covered with beech & pine. Trees in this area include Irish yews and copper beeches; there is a large cedar nearby. South-east of the house are two attached rectangular courtyards, a coach yard and farm yard, of good quality two storey ranges of early 19th century date (Listed HB 12/16/011). The former kitchen garden, which was enclosed by a hedge and was shown the Willoughby Estate Map of 1788, occupied a parallelogram area (1 acres/0.4ha) flanking the east side of a minor road opposite the house; this garden ceased to be used in the 1990s and the hedges removed. There are three entrances off this minor road, all east of the dwelling house: two curve to the dwelling house and the third, which is very short, is a service entrance to the out buildings. The demesne was sold in 1916 and thereafter changed hands several times. From 1980-2003 it was run as an award winning guest house, before being sold again. Private. SMR 7: FERM 193: 005, Church and graveyard; Natural mound, SMR7/FER193:004. The prehistoric henge north of the river and house (TYR056: 024) was formerly part of the park and the area is still important to its setting.

**KILLYREAGH, County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) F/017
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Mid-Victorian house and park (78 acres/32ha) on undulating ground with mature trees south-east of Enniskillen and north of Tamlaght (0.7 miles/1.1km). House is a dignified south-west facing two-storey rendered L-plan house with stone quoins, hipped roof and a five bay symmetrical front with full height central entrance projection (Listed HB 12/07/036), completed on a *de novo* site in 1861 for William Auchinleck Dane (1816-73), a younger son of Richard Dane of Killyhevlin, agent to Lord Belmore. Immediately behind the house is a service yard, open on its north side, and a rectangular enclosed stable yard, both linked by a long south range which overlooks a long garden balustraded grass terrace; there was a glasshouse at the west end of this terrace until the 1950s, linked to the yard behind via a brick 'arcade'. The terrace, whose balustrade came from nearby Aughentaine Castle, demolished in the 1950s, boasts good herbaceous borders and overlooks a large sloping lawn on its south-east side, enclosed on three sides by flowering shrubs, notably magnolias, rhododendrons, azaleas and camellias. North-west of the house is a small lawn with large lime tree and copper beech against a small mixed deciduous woodland (2 acres/0.8ha). There are mature mixed woodland screens to the east, south-east and south of the house and yards; a hard tennis court has been made behind the trees south of the house c.1990. The main approach avenue, which curves up from the Ballylucas Road on the south, was lined with beech, probably in the 1930s, while the gate lodge at the head of this avenue was demolished c.1970 and replaced by a bungalow; the original plain cut-stone gate piers survive. The original kitchen garden (0.25 acres/0.1ha) lay on the north side of the stable yard, now part of a modern agricultural yard, while in the 1980s there was a vegetable garden south-west of the garden lawn. The park has shelter belts along its south boundary with many old beech and oak trees; the belt near the gate lodge has been replanted in recent years. There is a good parkland clump west of the house (1.6 acres/0.5ha) and a woodland block (6 acres/2.5ha) to the north-west, part of a much larger woodland block (Boonybrook) linked to the adjacent Castle Coole Demesne (Killyreagh remained part of the Castle Coole estate until 1889, when the freehold was acquired by the then owner, Whitside Dane. The park lawns to the south-west and south of the house

contain a number of isolated parkland trees; the park on the west and north sides have been planted with willow as a crop in recent years. The property was sold to Samuel Smith in 1907; subsequently owned by John N. Carson (from 1919); F. La Touche Vaugh (from 1936); Col. Michael Crichton (from 1947); and Charles Plunkett (from 1972); the present owners acquired Killyreagh in 1988. Private. SMR FERM 122: 144/161 & 162, Burnt Mounds.

**KNOCKBALLYMORE, County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) - F/017
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Small demesne (90 acres/36ha) of 17th century origin with important early Georgian house (Listed HB 12/01/001A), located 4 miles (6.4km) north-east of Newtownbutler, on the border with County Monaghan, 1.5 miles (2.4km) north-west of Clones. The park, which is enclosed by trees just above Knockballymore Lough and on the south side of the River Finn, retains residual traces of the geometric landscape associated with the 1720s house that was built by Nicholas Ward (d.1751), who succeeded to the property in 1718 through his marriage to the daughter of Edward Davys, MP (1660-1705). Almost exactly a hundred years previously it was reported by Pynnar that there was 'an excellent strong house and bawne' on the site as well as a nearby corn mill, in the possession of Edward Hatton (d.1630), Archdeacon of Armagh. This 'castle of Knockballymore' (Cloncarne), which records suggest was destroyed in the 1641 Rebellion and subsequently rebuilt, probably may have occupied the site of the present stable yard north of the house. The new residence built by Nicholas Ward c.1720 is an unusual cuboid double-pile house with hipped roof, painted roughcast walls, cutstone trim, including moulded stone eaves course, and symmetrical east-facing front of five-bays and two and half stories over a basement. There are two roof dormers at each side and four tall chimneystacks on the outside end-walls (the house may originally have been gabled), while the front has a central tympanum with eyebrow window; at the rear, typical for houses of this period in Ulster, the basement windows are at the ground floor level. To the immediate north of the house and set on much lower ground is the stable yard (Listed HB 12/01/001B); this is square in plan and enclosed on three sides by two-storey ranges with random rubble walls, which appear to be largely 18th century in date, but remodelled in the 19th century. There was formerly another yard north of this, now devoid of buildings save for an open lean-to shed and enclosing walls, the latter may, in part, be of 17th century date; the area is now a garden enclosure with mowed grass, small glasshouse, and rectangular plots for vegetables and flowers. The original kitchen garden, now covered with trees, lay 760ft (230m) north-east of the house; it occupied a triangular area (2.8 acres/1.1 ha) between the Magherveely Road and the River Finn; the area, which by the late 19th century had been reduced in area to 1.3 acres (0.5ha), was enclosed largely with hedges, save for parts of the west side. On its south side was a single storey late 18th century octagonal 'garden house' (Listed HB 12/01/001C) now ruined; evidently a garden pavilion, it had rubble walls with brick dressings, slated roof and pointed arched windows with decorative geometric glazing. At the west end of this productive garden lies Knockballymore Bridge (Listed HB 12/01/002), which carries the Knockballymore/Oakfield Road over the River Finn; composed of two round-headed arches of random rubble with dressed abutment quoins, voussoirs and angled cutwaters, it is built at an angle to the river and is possibly c.1800 in date. Nearby, at the head of the drive to the house, is a decorative wrought iron gate screen with central carriage gate, flanked by pedestrian gates, and terminated by octagonal ashlar piers with spear head pinnacles, all c.1860-70 (Listed HB 12/01/001D). The area east of the Knockballymore/Oakfield Road on the east side of the demesne contains a thick belt of young woodland with mature beech/oak on the fringes; within this woodland lies a linear earthwork (The Black Pig's Dyke), which is scheduled (FERM 262:029). Immediately south of the house (85ft/26m) on lower ground lies Knockballymore Lough, which until the 20th century, when the lake level dropped, covered 25 acres (10ha); it is now divided into three lakes and has two possible Early Christian crannogs on its fringes (FERM 262: 021 & 022). On the south side of the lake in Lislea Townland stretches a large area of open parkland, probably of late 18th century

date, dotted with mature isolated trees and providing an important setting for the house; on its south-west side there is a large prehistoric hilltop enclosure, whose banks are topped with mature trees (scheduled FERM 262: 010). The front meadow or 'lawn' east of the house is flanked by the approach avenue on its north side; this meets a large circular sweep of late 19th century date in front of the mansion. In the mature woodland screen immediately south of the house is a footpath that leads directly down slope to a small modern wooden pier; in this woodland here lies a dry closet with a three-seater timber bench, now ruined. The present curved avenue approach dates to the period 1760-80, and replaced an straight tree-lined avenue c.1720 which was 670ft (200m) long and aligned on the front facade of the house. Originally, there was most probably an enclosed entrance courtyard immediately in front of the house. To the rere of the house are two banked terraces leading down onto a mowed lawn terrace (190ft/58m x 95ft/30m) with a herbaceous border down the north side. Originally this mowed lawn terrace formed part of a tree lined vista of c.1720, flanked by trees which extended 1,350ft (410m) on axis with the rere facade of the house; it is possible there was a path (rather than a carriage-drive) down the centre of this vista, which may have terminated in a wooden folly; a few of these vista trees survive, while this area of the park west of the house has been dotted with isolated parkland trees since the later 18th century; some of these have been planted in the 1990s and later. At right angle to this tree-lined vista lay a canal (0.58 acres/0.23ha) some 450ft (140,) long and 50ft (15.6m) wide; this too would have been lined with trees on each side and presumably had some form of wooden bridge crossing the water on axis with the house. The canal, which linked the waters of lough with the River Finn, appears to have dried up around the 1840s. The naturalisation of the landscape at Knockballymore was most likely undertaken by Bernard Smith Ward (d.1770); on his death the property passed into the hands of the Abraham Creighton, 1st Lord Erne (1703-72) and his son John Crichton (1731-1828), 1st Earl Erne, both of whom used it as an occasional residence when not able to use their seat at Crom. It was subsequently leased (and at times served as the Earl of Erne's agent's house) until 1919 when it was sold by the Erne Estate to William Frederick McCoy (1886-76), a lawyer and later Stormont MP for South Tyrone. The present owners acquired the property in 1987. Private. FERM 262: 010 (hilltop enclosure, scheduled); FERM 262: 021 and 262: FERM 022 (possible crannogs); FERM 262: 029 (Black Pig's Dyke, scheduled); FERM 262:030 (post medieval mill).

LISGOOLE ABBEY, County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) F/018

GRADE A

The Abbey name is derived from the fact that this was an Early Christian monastic site, occupied later by the Augustinians and the Franciscans. The present demesne (370 acres/150ha), much of which appears to date from the later 18th century, flanks the west and south banks of the Upper Lough Erne channel in an undulating landscape, 1.3 miles (2km) south of Enniskillen. The main house (Listed HB 12/19/035) and offices, visible from the Killyhevlin, lies just above a private quay on the west edge of the lough channel. There are references to a garden here belonging to the first owner after the Dissolution in the 16th century, but no evidence of this remains. The Attorney-General, Sir John Davies, held the 'Manor of Lisgoole' under the Plantation Settlement and after his death in 1626 the 'fair stone house, but no bawn' at Lisgoole passed to his daughter, Lady Hastings (d 1679); however, in 1641 this house was destroyed by the rebels and was the scene of an infamous massacre of men, women and children. There was a house here from at least the 1680s, which in 1698 was leased to Thomas Smith, brother-in-law of William Conolly M.P., who retained a 'credible house at the Castle of Lisgoole' into the early 1720s. It was subsequently leased in 1739 to James Armstrong, who acquired the freehold in 1758. His nephew John Armstrong, who inherited in 1777, was evidently responsible for the present two-storey Regency style villa, though this undoubtably also incorporates Smith's earlier residence, while the squat square 'tower' may be a remnant of the Plantation or monastic era. After experiencing some financial difficulties, Armstrong sold the property in 1819 to Michael Jones of Cherry mount,

Co. Donegal, who later undertook some 'improvements', most probably remodelling the windows on the entrance front and extending the return; the romantic Irish 'stepped' battlements on the house may have been added at this time (later extended c.1913). The associated yard and office buildings, which lie on the south-west side of the house, are mostly of mid and late 19th century in date, but incorporate earlier range in the south side. South of this, and also located on the slope above the lough waters, is the part-walled kitchen garden (0.85 acres/0.34ha), which is still utilised, though largely as an ornamental garden. This garden and of an adjacent orchard (1.1 acres/0.45ha) which formerly lay on its west side were created in the mid 19th century, replacing an earlier kitchen garden (1.36 acres/0.55ha) and orchard on the same site, but probably enclosed behind hedges rather than walls. The present part-walled garden, which is bounded on its south side by a demesne roadway and on its north by a narrow slip garden (with lean-to garden ranges) is today largely covered with lawns and ornamental woody plants, clipped hedges, accessed by paths which in part follow the original layout. The garden is screened on its north and south sides by deciduous woodland, beyond which, on the north, is a modern complex of farm buildings. Most of the woodland on the demesne lies west of the house and gardens, mostly in the adjacent townland of Culky. This includes a large woodland block of 25 acres (10.5ha) and a smaller block at the west end, all shown on the 1830s OS map and probably c.1800 in date. At the west end is the gate lodge, Italianate in style with a symmetrical frontage, rendered walls, semicircular-headed windows and flat-roofed porch, probably built around 1850 when the main entrance to the demesne was moved south-westwards (into Culky townland) with the building of the new road to Derrylin. This lodge is shown unmarked on the 1857 OS map, but is referred to as a 'lodge' on that of 1906. The identity of the architect is not known. A rear extension was added in 1979 to designs by Richard Pierce. The central and north side of the demesne is intensively farmed and many parkland trees had gone by the beginning of the 20th century. North of the house is an area of specimen trees and shrubs, which mostly date from the early 20th century, set in grass with a small 'rustic' timber summer house c.1920 in the NE corner of the rose garden; there is also a maintained ornamental garden and pergola here. Demesne buildings are in generally good order. SMR: FERM 211:43 abbey site and 211:68 tree ring. Private.

LISNAMALLARD (MILLBANK) HOUSE, County Tyrone (AP OMAGH AND FERMANAGH O7) T/012 REGISTERED GRADE A

Once on the outskirts of Omagh the house and grounds (32.5 acres/13.2ha) are now part of the town, located 0.6 miles (0.9km) north-east of the Court House on High-street, south of the Old Mountfield Road on the north bank of the Camowen River. The south-facing house (Listed HB 11/12/002) is a relatively small three-bay two-storey over basement late Georgian residence with additions of c.1900 including a large rear return making it effectively a double-pile house, with a large glazed entrance porch and, to the sides, several oriel windows of Edwardian date. A datestone inscribed 'E.P. 1724' is preserved in a wall to the north of the house, but no house is shown here on Taylor's & Skinners 1777 map, nor recorded in Ambrose Leet's Directory of 1814, so if there was a house here it must have been modest. The house, originally called Millbank, is essentially a Regency building, probably built between 1815-20 for Joseph Orr who lived here until his death in 1847. In 1881 the property, by then called Lisnamallard after the townland, was acquired from the Orr family by Charles Scott, owner of the nearby Excelsior Mills. There has been continuous planting on the site since it was built, both along the avenue from the north and around the park to the west and south of the house. Today, mature trees surround the house and gardens and there is an avenue of mostly beech. The original kitchen garden (1.1 acres/0.42ha), formerly an orchard, lay immediately to the east of the house, but was removed in the 1890s and replaced with ornamental gardens. At about the same time (1896) a large long (86ft) greenhouse was erected into the garden extending from the east side of the house; this backed onto an existing wall which still stands and contains the above mentioned stone, plus beeboles. The glasshouse was demolished around 1980 and the space created made into a planted terrace. 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. The house was requisitioned for military use during the Second World War, during which time it fell into disrepair; as a result the post-war years witnessed extensive refurbishment works. In 1964 the property was divided in two to be re-united in 1981, refurbished 1982-85 and sold to Omagh District Council in 1994, who had already (1965-67) acquired the southern part for a Leisure Centre and land to the west for leisure purposes. The house now functions as offices for the Council's Environmental Health Unit. Public access.

**MANOR WATERHOUSE, County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) F/020
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Archaeological remains of an important late 17th century formal landscape, lying 2 miles (3.3km) south of Lisnaskea, crossed by the Crom and Foremass Roads. Site originated as an early 17th century house and bawn, 'Castle Waterhouse', which passed via marriage (1642) to John Madden of Maddenstown, Co. Kildare. Sited between the Hollybrook River on its west and a riverlet on its east side, the house was rebuilt as a three-storey mansion after the 1660 Restoration and given an impressive formal landscape in the 1670s, depicted on George Black's 1688 demesne map. This mansion, which was flanked by walled courts, including a kitchen garden on its east side, faced north-east onto a long tree-lined vista/avenue, 0.5 miles (0.8km) long, extending to the north boundary of Tattygare Townland; another tree-lined vista/avenue extended axially to the south-west, also 0.5 miles (0.8km) as far as the former Keady Lough, now infilled. On the north-east side there was a second parallel tree-lined avenue and like the others was broken by a series of tree-lined ronds and half-ronds and met at right angles by tree-lined field boundaries and avenues. In 1739 the Rev. Henry stated that the immediate approach to the house was 'through a large pleasure garden, that contains a variety of gravel walks, wall fruits, evergreens, and a curious collection of flowers and shrubs' and that on the 'south side of the house are large gardens, with several walks and terraces that descend steeply to a deep, solemn glen, through which by the several cascades'. When Mrs Delany visited the distinguished writer, the Rev. Samuel 'Premium' Madden (1686-1765) here in 1748, she noted he had planted 'a very fine wood of all sorts of forest trees...just by the house', probably along the banks of the Hollybrook River. By 1786 the Madden family had vacated the house in favour of Hilton Park in County Monaghan and the house fell into decline, being finally abandoned by c.1800 or earlier; around this time the Crom Road was driven through the south section of the park. Ruins of the mansion survived well into the 19th century, being finally removed by 1900. Many of former boundaries survive as hedge rows. Private.

NECARNE CASTLE (CASTLE IRVING), County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) - F/007

REGISTERED GRADE A

This significant demesne (680 acres/275ha), sometimes known as Castle Irvine, dates from the early 17th century, and was created shortly after the foundation of the adjacent town of Irvinestown, a short distance to the north. Although the house (Listed HB 12/15/012) is presently a ruin, the parkland retains extensive early 19th century landscaping with mid-19th century additions, whose historic layout has survived largely intact. The original plantation period house, whose walls are incorporated in the present ruin, was built by Sir Gerald Lowther, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in Dublin, who by 1620 had erected a house with bawn here and had established a settlement, called 'Lowtherstown'. Having passed through a number of hands, the property was acquired c.1667 by Christopher Irvine (1642-1714), whose descendants were to remain until the 1920s. The house, which became known as 'Castle Irvine', was remodelled sometime in the early 18th century and given a geometric landscape of Formal

Avenues and vistas aligned on the house. By the early 1800s this house appears to have consisted of a four-storey 'rectangular block between 50 and 60ft across, with two substantial round towers on the NE and NW corners'. Little of the old formal landscape is still present on the 1830s Ordnance Survey map, which by then had been replaced with a professionally designed naturalised landscape park, probably the work of Colonel William Irvine (c.1730-1814), evidently sometime in 1780-1800. Essentially it comprised a large enclosed lawn or meadow (80 acres/32ha), south-east, south, south-west and east of the house, dotted with trees and clumps, and enclosed by thick woodland belts of oak and beech. The kitchen garden (3.9 acres/1.6 ha) lay on lower ground to the east of the house, occupying a trapezoidal area; it was probably enclosed by hedges at this stage, only later (in the late 1830s) being walled in stone (see below). Around 1830 Major George Marcus Irvine (1760-1847), generally known as George D'Arcy-Irvine, commissioned the architect John B. Keane (c.1790-1859) to enlarge and remodel the house and yards. He built a two to four-storey Tudor Gothic (sometimes also described as 'Elizabethan') mansion around the existing house, now known as Necarne Castle; this had a five-bay two-storey south-west facing front, with octagonal turrets at the corners, buttresses ending in curious pinnacles and an arcaded central porch with balcony above. The front returns by a corridor around the E side to the edge of one round tower, where a Gothic dining room was built as a separate wing at right angles; another wing, designed to imitate a C13 peel tower, with big crenellations and two-centred arch windows, was extended to balance the dining room. Keane was also responsible for designing an impressive range of enclosed and paved service yards on lower ground (Listed HB 12/15/013), being the Outer (square) yard and 013B, the (rectangular) Inner Yard. These lie directly to the rear of the remodelled house and are enclosed by two-storey ranges with rubble walls with cut-stone dressings and slated hipped roofs incorporating a mixture of segmental, semicircular and pointed arch heads with a tall Classical Style cut-stone cupola incorporating a clock at the main entrance to the yards from the north. East of the house an impressive five-sided walled garden (HB 12/15/017) replaced the earlier kitchen garden which the OS Memoirs described as being 'broken-up' in 1835; its high stone enclosing wall (recapped in 1991) encloses 2.8 acres (1.1ha) and the whole was formerly surrounded by a narrow slip that varied in width from 42ft (12.7m) to 64ft (16.6m) enclosed by a hedge. Inside the garden, a lean-to glasshouse (125 ft./39m long) lay against the north wall facing south-east, built sometime in the mid-19th-century. This walled garden itself, no longer planted with fruit, vegetables and flowers, became the focal point of an Equestrian Centre, for which the demesne was adapted during the 1990s. Its interior was laid out as a horse jumping arena with a judging box at the east; the jump arena itself is level but the ground around it slopes; the original interior sloped from east down to west. The gardener's house, which lay outside the walled garden on its west side (HB 12/15/016) had been built before 1834 and in recent decades has been replaced by a modern dwelling; during the second war when the army occupied the castle, it became for a time the home of the then owners, the Hermons. The kitchen garden was typically enclosed entirely by woodland, both to screen it from the parkland and to provide shelter for the garden; unfortunately, these shelter belts on the south and part of the west side have been removed, a matter made worse by the construction of buildings here, which are a serious eyesore on the historic landscape. Beneath the tree canopy in the area between the house and the walled garden there was formerly a pleasure garden of meandering paths with trees and shrubs, in the early 1990s there was still laburnum, Philadelphus, rhododendron, monkey puzzle and yew in the area; it also included a conservatory. Facing the garden front of the house lay the main area of the parkland which swept away unimpeded from its windows in the Brownian fashion of the late 18th century. The parkscape is still (though to a lesser degree than in the past) studded with both isolated specimen trees and clumps with views of clumps and shelter belts in the far distance. In the middle distance there is a carefully placed classical single-span cut-stone bridge over a stream (Listed HB 12/15/018), which is both an eye-catcher and practical access to the other parts of the demesne; it has an elliptical arch and dressed voussoirs with similar stonework to the soffit.

Beyond the bridge on its south-west side there was a long narrow lake, but seems not to have last long and is not shown on the OS 1834 map. Around 1850 the park was expanded to its present limits with the addition of new woodland blocks, notably Knockroe Wood on the West; Dromore Wood on the north; Mullagh Moss Wood on the east; Derue Wood on the south; Drumsara Wood and Clogh Wood on the south-west; the new enlarged park may be the work of landscape gardener James Fraser who was active in the area at the time. One the three gate lodges into the demesne belongs to this enlarged phase of c.1850; this is the East Entrance on the Mossfield Road (Listed HB 12/15/010) designed by William Farrell of Dublin in the Tudor style. It is gable-ended and T-shaped in plan, it has rendered walls with cut-stone dressings and detailing, a slate roof with parapets, kneelers and finials, and a tall cut-stone chimneystack; the accompanying gate screen (Listed HB 12.15.010) has broad curving sweeps of iron-spearhead railings rising from low cut-stone walls and square piers with unusual domed caps. After the death of Charles Cockburn D'Arcy Irvine (b.1863) in 1922 the family moved to England, and for a time the castle was occupied by the South Staffordshire Regiment whose duty was to patrol the newly established border of Northern Ireland. In 1925 the property was bought by Captain Richard (Dick) Outram Hermon (1898-1976) of the White House, Balcombe, Sussex, and his wife Coralie [nee Porter] of Belle Isle, Lisbellaw. During WWII both the RAF and the US Armed Forces, Army and Navy, used Necarne for a large military hospital with attached mortuary. A stone slab from the mortuary is preserved to the west of the castle/dwelling house with a commemorative plaque mentioning the US Army 28th Station Hospital. The Hermon family moved into the garden house at this time and, in fact, never returned to the castle. Following the death of Captain Richard Hermon in 1976 the house and demesne were put up for public auction; it was subsequently re-sold to Fermanagh District Council and from 1991 to 2012 it served as an equestrian centre. SMR: FERM 173:36-?enclosure/?rath, 173:51 rath, 173:66 Plantation Castle and 173:79 cropmark/tree ring

**SNOWHILL, County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) - F/048
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Small but notably attractive late Georgian landscape park (86 acres/35ha) enclosing a handsome and dignified mid-18th century house (Listed HB 12/07/104). It lies in undulating drumlin landscape, 2.5 miles (4.5km) north-west of Maguiresbridge and 1.1 miles (1.8km) north-east of Lisbellaw, flanking the Millwood Road on the west and the Snowhill Road on the north, both mid-19th century replacements for earlier roads that passed through the present parkland. The house, which is located on a hill summit facing south-east across the parkland, is a gabled-ended double-pile two-storey over basement block of c.1740-50, with lugged architrave window surrounds and a pedimented front door with Gibbs surround. Snowhill, which had belonged to the Crawfords from at least 1712, was built either by William Crawford, or his son Ralph who inherited in 1749. The mansion formerly boasted a formal geometrically laid out landscape, more typical of the 1730-40 era, with a tree-lined avenue, 550 feet (168m) long aligned on the south-east front of the house, relics of which were still present in the 1830s complete with a circular feature (?folly) at the south-east end. The stable and farm ranges to the north-east have all been replaced by modern outbuildings for a dairy farm, save for only for a south section of a mid/late 19th century rectangular yard. The naturalised parkland was evidently created sometime around 1800 by James Johnston (1738-1808) who acquired the property in the 1780s. This landscape survives largely intact and comprises about 23 acres (9ha) of woodland and a series of open meadows, the largest being the 'lawn' south and east of the house, dotted with clumps and fine parkland specimen trees, including holm oaks, beech, chestnuts and maples. Woodlands, mostly beech flank the house and around the perimeter of the prominent hill of Snowhill (332ft/101m high) west of the house. Just outside the park boundary to the south-east and north-east are a series of tree rings planted with beech (diameters 25-47m/90-156ft) with enclosing ditch and outer banks, all of 18th century date (see SMR-FERM 212:069); there are further woodland blocks and a meadow north-west of the house. Following the closure of roads on the west and north

perimeter around 1850, further modification to the park were undertaken by Samuel Yeates Johnson (1815-95), a grandson of James. The old approach carriage-drive which approached the house from the south-west was replaced by a new drive from the north-west; its construction involved raising the carriage-way on embankments and building a viaduct over a laneway. In the late 1850s the entrance was given a decorative iron gate screen (Listed HB12/07/047) with shallow S-curve sweeps, while on the opposite side of the road a single-storey attractive gate lodge was built c.1858 in picturesque Tudoresque style (Listed HB 12/07/048). The productive kitchen garden lay 400ft (123m) south-west of the house across the parkland from which it was screened by trees; it occupied a trapezoidal area (1.2 acres/0.5ha) and was enclosed not by a wall but by a beech hedge, the south section of which survived into the 1970s. The garden has now been cleared away completely and forms part of the parkland meadow; this includes an old orchard west of the productive garden which survived until about 1960. The rear of the house have the relics of a small modern garden which used to have a swimming pool at its north-east end. The house and park were sold by the Johnson family in 1921. Subsequent owners included the Eadie family and John Judd. the latter who sold it in 1985. SMR FERM 212: 021; FERM 212: 069; FERM 212: 070; FERM 230: 020. Private.

**TEMPO MANOR, County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) F/043
REGISTERED GRADE A***

Partly walled 18th-century landscape park (230 acres/93ha) with 17th century origins, adjacent to the north-east side of Tempo Village, lying 7.5 miles (12km) north-east of Enniskillen. The park, acknowledged to be the setting of Maria Edgeworth's novel, *Castle Rackrent*, occupies undulating ground with notable stands of mature trees in the shelter belts and woodland, the later fringing a long curvaceous lake, Demesne Lough (7.9 acres/3.2ha), historically two lakes co-joined, and the Tempo River, which flows through the demesne, north-east to south-west through a deep wooded valley, joined to the north by a tributary, via a waterfall in a rocky glen. A winding avenue through open grass and woodland leads past Demesne Lough to the present house of 1861-67 (Listed HB 12/06/001), which stands on a height in the park and occupies the site of the original Maguire house. The demesne of Tempo stands apart from most others in that its owners, a branch of the Maguires, were one of the few native families to hold onto much of their estate through the difficult 17th-century and most of the 18th century as well. The Manor of Tempo (Insolaghagesse or Tempodessel) had been granted to Brian Maguire in 1610, who 'saw the futility of being a rebel' and lived in the 'English manner', managing to retain his entire estate intact through the 1641 Rebellion until he died in April 1655. Pynnar in 1611 reported he had built a 'great copelled house' at Tempo and had another 'castle' at Tullyweel. Although his grandson, Cuchonnacht Mór, emerged as a leading supporter of James II, the family retained their Tempo estate and his son, Brian, who died in 1712, became a protestant, thus further securing its future. It subsequently passed to his sons, Robert and later Philip (d.1789), whose son Hugh 'the extravagant' died in 1799, after which the estate, heavily in debt, was sold by his son Capt. Cohonny (Constantine) Maguire (1777-1834) to a Londonderry merchant called Samuel Lyle (d.1822), who only came down to collect the rent, but never lived there. The old Maguire house, still present in 1834 and 1859 when the OS maps were published, had an irregular south-west facing front composed of three units: a gable-ended 2½-storey block on the north-west, probably the original 17th century house facing north-west with a two-bay hipped roof range to its rear joined to the house by a single bay, single-storey block, the latter containing a hall and front door. The very extensive planting in the demesne was probably put down by Philip Maguire in the 1770s and 1780s as the timber (oak, ash and fir) was mature by the 1830s. Lyle sold it in 1814 to the distinguished Belfast banker William Tennent (1759-1832), who like Lyle, did not use the property much, if at all, before he died from cholera in 1832, though there is an undated sketch for a proposal to remodel the centre of the old Maguire house, which may date to his time. His estate passed to his only surviving daughter, Letitia (1806-83), and her husband, James Emerson (1805-69), who

she married in 1831 and he assumed the name Tennent. Knighted for his government and colonial services, Sir James was something of a philomath, a writer, collector, naturalist, a successful colonial administrator, politician and a former member of the pan-Hellenic movement who assisted the Greek fight for independence. In the 1850s Sir James and his wife, who was a good botanical artist, decided to retire to Tempo and accordingly having completed his *Natural History of Ceylon* in 1860, he commissioned the Belfast architect Charles Lanyon, senior partner of Messrs Lanyon, Lynn and Lanyon to replace the old house. Together with assistant Thomas Turner, Lanyon produced plans for a compact 2½-storey Jacobean-style house facing north-west with high-pitched roof, dormers, curvilinear gables, rectangular and round-headed plate glass windows. Work began in 1861 and in 1867 a billiard room wing were added with campanile with inverted squinches rising to a convex spire, the latter looking like a belvedere from the lake. However, the coach house to the north (Listed HB 12/06/004) was largely retained and dates back to the Maguire ownership of the property. Whilst building the house, over hundred men were engaged in the demesne, cleaning the lakes and waterways, adding to the planting and re-planting. When Henry Coulter visited in 1861 he found the demesne to be of great 'beauty being richly planted with extremely fine old trees', but that they had fallen into 'a wild and neglected state. The fine old timber had been allowed to suffer considerably from decay, the ground was overgrown with weeds, and sadly in want of drainage', so much so the place was 'little better than a wilderness'. In addition a new carriage drive was put down, while around the house on the south-west and south-east sides, the falling ground was carefully terraced as it fell down to the lake, bisected with paths and stone steps with expansive lawns beyond. The result of this landscaping was a remarkably close inter-relationship between planting, lake and building, a unity that was further developed in the Edwardian era. The kitchen garden in the Maguire era was a long narrow area, probably delimited by clipped hedges, lying to the north of the Demesne Lough. This was abandoned in the 1830s and a walled garden (1.7 acres/0.68ha) was made in the early 1860s in the north-east section of the old garden. In 1869 it was described as being 'stocked with small fruit, vegetable and choice fruit trees of all kinds. There is a greenhouse with vines and peach tree' - the latter house being a free-standing structure within the garden. Near the house there was a flower garden and a great deal of evergreen planting in the grounds which were laid out in the 'Gardenesque' manner as dictated by J.C. Loudon - a planting style in which individual exotic plants were allowed to develop their own natural character as fully as possible. On James's death, aged sixty-five, the property was inherited by his only son, Sir William Emerson-Tennent (1835-76), who unfortunately died of an illness in November 1876, leaving a widow, Sara Armstrong (1847-1940) and two young daughters, Ethel Sarah (1871-1951) and Edith Letitia (Eda) (1873-1953). Tempo Manor continued to be occupied by Sara, even after she married Henry Cavendish Butler (1811-91) of Innisrath, but in May 1893 Ethel, the eldest daughter, married (later Sir) Herbert Hay Langham (1870-1951) of Cottesbrooke Park, Northampton, 13th Bt. They moved into Tempo Manor and within a few years Langham had built a large collection of ornamental fowl at Tempo, including building a wire aviary near the lake; later he developed a passion for collecting butterflies, became a keen amateur photographer and was a contributor to the *Irish Naturalist*. After he inherited in England the 'wreckage of the Langham Estate' in 1909 he decided to sell the ancient family seat of Cottesbrooke in Northamptonshire. With the additional money from the sold Langham estates, Lady Ethel and her husband started to develop new gardens around Tempo Manor from 1913. This included a rose garden, developing an existing pinetum, but most notably developing the planting around the lake in an informal 'Robinsonian' style with flowering shrubs, notably rhododendrons, enhanced by the evergreen trees behind. A walk around the lough, included an high embanked rockery, largely created in the 1920s with stones brought by horse and cart from the mountain nearby, one of the best examples of its kind in Ireland, now no longer maintained. The grounds include some very large surviving trees *Sequoiadendron giganteum*, Wellingtonia, Grant Sequoia (6.71 x 38m) and a *Picea sitchensis* (Sitka spruce), 5.81 x 39m remarkable buttressing up to 1.40m. Another *Picea sitchensis* (5.2 x 54m) is

recorded as the second tallest of its kind in Ireland and sixth tallest tree in Ireland. The gardens were further developed by Sir John Langham, 14th Bt (1894-1972), a botanical illustrator of note, and his wife and cousin, Lady Rosamund Rashleigh Langham, MBE (1903-1992), well known as a poet, supporter of the Girl Guides, horticulturalist and gardener, opening Tempo Gardens to the public every May to raise money for charities. The property was subsequently inherited by Sir James Michael Langham, 15th Bt (1932-2002). The family still live at Tempo Manor, but sadly the contents were sold in September 2004. The two gate lodges are of the same era as the Lanyon house. SMR: FERM 212:95 crannog? Also 193:31 – stone head, 192:54 & 55 – crannogs, 212:20 – rath. Private.

**TERMON (ATHENRY), County Tyrone (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) T/063
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Regency era parkland (95 acres/38.3ha) with house of 1815 (Listed HB 11/19/003), now derelict, lying 1.08 miles (1.74km) south-east of Carrickmore and 3.9 miles (6.26km) west of Pomeroy. Notable for its very fine mature trees in woodlands and parkland screens that retain its original layout. Known originally as Athenry, the townland name, subsequently as Termon, the house, built on the site of an earlier dwelling, was built as a rectory, though its size is more that of a grand country house, being an austere cube-like west-facing block of three-storeys over a basement with a three bay front of widely spaced windows and four bay rere elevation. It has a hipped roof, projecting porch and large part two, part-single storey wing. Much of the ground floor to the south was covered by a lean-to conservatory, the outline of which is still visible. Built 1815 for the Rev. Charles Cobbe Beresford (1770-1850), then Rector of Termonmaguirke, mostly at his own cost (£3,293), the Board of First Fruits contributing a small percentage (£100). In 1850 the property was inherited by Beresford's daughter Charlotte Frances, who had married the Rev. Samuel Alexander (1808-89), who in turn was Rector of Termonmaguirke until 1898. By this stage the family had inherited Termon on disestablishment and later owned by their son Col. Charles Murray (1845-1902) and then his son, Major Charles Adam Murray (1889-1958). Just north of the house are the outbuildings arranged around a roughly square yard, many of these buildings being contemporary with the house; they include coach houses, stables, turf house, cow house, larder, harness room, and office rooms. On the north-west side of the yard is the walled garden (2.56 acres/0.95ha), a roughly long rectangular area with north-west south-east axis. It had a slip garden on its west side. The area is now used for grazing; a beech hedge and some fruit trees survive on garden walls. The *Statistical Survey* (1802) mentions that Sir John Stewart '1st Baronet of Athenree' (1757-1826), Attorney-General of Ireland (1799-1803), whose father Rev. Hugh Stewart was Rector of Termon. had 'planted with taste and judgment in a mountainous situation', but this appears to be a reference to Ballygawley Park, where he lived, not Termon. The planting at Termon/Athenry looks to have been professionally laid out by a landscape gardener at the one time for the new house in 1815, with well defined open lawns or meadows, good screens and woodlands of oak and beech. The park is divided centrally by the Camowen River which flows north-east to south-west, its banks heavily wooded and dissected by driveways and paths with four bridges and two summer houses, one each side of the river - an area of noted beauty. Other smaller streams in the demesne flow into the Camowen and there was an oval pond in the east of the park. An artificial lake (1.15 acres/0.46ha), made in the 1840s, possibly as famine relief, lies north-west of the house on the edge of the pleasure grounds, and would at one time have been visible from the house rere. It had a boat house (demolished in the 1980s) on its south-west side and the lake was fed by sluices which remain, though since the 1970s the lake has become silted up and overgrown. The pleasure grounds, now overgrown, extended around the house on the south and east sides, originally neat lawns with a network of paths with beds containing flowers, shrubs and exotic trees, some of which survive in the undergrowth. Other paths and former driveways circuit the park woods, some leading to a well-preserved Neolithic period Portal Grave (Scheduled TYR 036:002). There are two entrances into the park; the main approach drive to the

house enters from the south and arcs through the park to the house; the other service entry starts at the west and runs east. There are two 'gate lodges' off Termon Road, one at the main gateway to the south, and another at the rear entrance to the north. The former has the appearance of a modern bungalow, suggesting that the original lodge has either been completely demolished or extended and modernised out of recognition, whilst that to the north, a small plain single-storey house with gabled ends, appears original. A new house was built north-west of the walled garden in 1970. SMR: TYR 36:2 megalith, portal grave. Private.

**THE WATERFOOT, County Fermanagh (AP FERMANAGH AND OMAGH 07) F/011
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Established in the early Victorian era on the north shore of Lower Lough Erne, this demesne, which boasts fine mature trees and parkland, takes its name from the confluence of two rivers, the Waterfoot and the Termon. It lies directly on the Donegal border bordering the Letter Road (B136) and Termon River, 1.3 miles (2.1km) south-west of Pettigo. The well-known 17th century tower house, Termon McGrath, stands a few hundred metres north-east. The present house, which faces south towards the north shore of Boa Island, is an irregular two-storey manor with hipped roof, (Listed HB 12/07/046). According to the Ordnance Survey Memoirs it was built in 1830-2, but was substantially remodelled/enlarged in the 1850s by Col. Hugh William Barton (1800-1870) of the Lifeguards, grandson of Thomas, founder (1725) of the well-known wine-business in Bordeaux; his descendants have retained ownership to the present day. The architect John B. Keane is known to have designed a kitchen and block at the west end in 1831. Contrary to some speculation, there is no evidence for an earlier house here and it is likely this spot (townland of Gubnaguinie) was chosen for its scenic location. By 1835 some of the plantations had been put down, notably those in the immediate area of the house; by 1860 the park layout, which covers 94 acres (38ha), was much as it remains today. This included plantations north of the house and along the north boundary with the River Termon; there are apparently references in a letter to sacks of acorns and beech trees being imported from Germany for the parkland trees. A small area of open parkland or lawn (2.5 acres/1ha) was made south and south-west of the house permitting views over the lough; this area is edged with some exotic trees, some coniferous, with carr woodland along the loughshore, while the woods here have some particularly fine beech, horse chestnut and oak trees, and also yews, Scots pines and several other firs. The house is approached down a long carriage drive that begins at Letter Bridge; there is a single-storey Italianate style gate lodge c.1870 (roofless and not listed) on rising ground to the south of the main drive, just east of a bridge; the latter formerly carried the line belonging to the Enniskillen, Bundoran and Sligo Railway (which operated between 1866 and 1957); it has been suggested the lodge was designed by architect Robert Williams Armstrong—a founding partner in the Belleek Pottery. Immediately north the house is the stable range accessed from the east through a tall, semicircular-headed arch dressed in cut-stone. North-west lie the farm yard offices, c.1850, now dominated by large, late 20th century barns, with another barn just north of the yard to the rear of the house. Just east of the farm yard is the walled garden (1.1 acres/0.4ha) delimited by a stone wall built c.1840-50 in a low sheltered position and no longer used. It has an irregular plan to accommodate the contours with round-ended north side; there is a cart entrance in the south-west wall and a trabulated pedestrian entrance in south-east section. In the early 1990s its paths were edged with *Lonicera nitida* and there was a small, rectangular free-standing glass house near the wall at the north-west; some apple trees remain in this garden. South-east of the walled garden and immediately north-east of the house is the former pleasure garden, originally (in the 1830s) the kitchen garden which had an early 'greenhouse', possibly erected in the 1830s. This area now contains laurel and rhododendron with winding paths edged with stones, one leading to a pump house. A path lined with clipped hedge on the west leads from east of the house down to the shore, where are two boat houses south-east of the house. Private.

AREA PLAN - LISBURN AND CASTLEREAGH 08

BELVEDERE, County Down (AP LISBURN and CASTLEREAGH 08) D/014

REGISTERED GRADE B

Georgian parkland (27.1 acres/10.9ha) and house (Listed HB 19/23/021) lying off the Ballylesson-road, 3 miles (4.8km) north-east of Lisburn and 2.4 miles (3.8km) south-east of Dunmurry. The house, facing south-west, has a two-storey four bay front, with widely spaced windows, hipped roof, and projecting columned porch and stands on high ground with panorama view to the north-west, surrounded by mature park woodland on the north-east and south-east sides. The earliest documentary evidence for the present house dates from March 1787, but internal window and door fixtures indicate an earlier house here from at least the 1760s, probably the 1750s, when it appears to have been called Thornhill. It was purchased in 1786 by James Watson Hull (1758-1831), a Lisburn man who made his fortune in India, but he sold the property in 1793 to Andrew Durham, a former colleague in the East India Company, who passed it to his son Andrew on his death in 1811. It was sold again in 1844 to Robert Calwell (d.1856) who was probably responsible for remodelling the building to assume its present appearance. While the property changed ownership many times in its history and the house was clearly remodelled a number of times, the landscape appears to have remained unaltered from when it was created, probably in the 1770s. It is a small compact well wooded parkland with an ovoid artificial lake (2.09 acres/0.85ha) lying 90m south-east of the house front and once forming a centrepiece of the designed landscape; however, the lake, which has its origin as a mill pond for Drumbo Glen Mills, has now partly silted up and is concealed from the house by regenerating trees. The property is entered from the Ballylesson-road (no gate lodge recorded) and the house approached via a lime avenue that sweeps in a half-circle around and up the steep hill to the house. Another service drive from close by entered the property in a southward direction and ran to the yard complex which lies on the south-west side of the house. The walled garden (1.41 acres/0.57ha), a long rectangular area, lies adjacent to the yard, and is no longer cultivated; it has a curved corner on its east side., the walls being of stone with brick lining on the inside of the north-east wall. Much of the property is covered in dense mature broadleaved woodland, notably beech. SMR7/ DOW009:045, enclosure/rath. Private.

BELVOIR (FOREST PARK), County Down (AP LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH 25) D/006

REGISTERED GRADE A

Early 18th-century walled demesne, now a park run by the Forest Service (255 acres/103ha) lying on the east banks of the meandering River Lagan, south-west of Newtownbreda and 3 miles (4.8km) directly south of Belfast city centre. The demesne was established for the house of the 1730s, which was demolished in February 1961. Lying on the important River Lagan corridor, the site of Belvoir has had a long history of settlement occupation, as is evidenced by a large Norman motte (DN SMR 9:2) in a prominent position overlooking the river. In the late medieval period the area became part of the O'Neill Lordship of Clandeboyne and with the break-up of the O'Neill estates in the early 17th century large tracts of land in this area came into the ownership of Moses (or Moyses) Hill, one of the main benefactors of the Plantation settlement in County Down and south Antrim. His grandson William Hill (d.c.1692-93) inherited the Trevor estates through marriage, which was eventually split between the two sons of Michael Hill, namely Trevor Hill (1693-1742), who inherited the Hill properties and became Viscount Hillsborough in 1717, and his younger brother, Arthur Hill (c.1694-1771), who received the Trevor estates. With the support of his mother, who was also a Trevor, Arthur started to acquire lands at Ballylenaghan, which by 1731 was being referred to in documents as 'Bellvoir' or 'Belvoir'. The original house here had been started by 1739, magnificently sited on an elevated knoll with view north over the Lagan. The house faced south-west, while the view from the opposite garden front, looking

north-east across the terraces and artificial canals, was to the spire of the new church at Knockbreda that Hill's mother had built in 1737 with designs of Richard Castle; the church was clearly carefully positioned as an eye-catcher in the landscape. The new house, possibly also designed by Castle, was described in 1744 as 'agreeable seat' and appears to have been plain unrendered brick block of two stories over a basement with a seven bay entrance facing south-west. It had a 'handsome, well planted' avenue and an impressive garden 'formed out of an irregular glyn into regular walks, beautified with canals, slopes, terraces, and other ornaments'. Mrs. Delany mentioning its 'very rich' prospect in 1758, and Edward Willes describing it as a 'most noble demesne' with 'very fine' plantations in 1759. The first glasshouse in Belfast is believed to have been constructed at Belvoir in 1757. Relics of the early formal landscape are evident on the early OS maps and on the ground, notably the formal canal, 465ft (142m) long with south-east north-west axis which was divided to four separate units, the longest section being 130ft (40m) long and 40ft (12m) wide. These impressive canals are still present, but hidden in the undergrowth. Between the canal and the house above were a series of terraces, which would have hosted parterres, topiary, statutory and other ornaments. Mrs Delany in 1758 mentions the 'grounds are laid out in enclosures' which is what we would expect in an early formal landscape and there is evidence that tree-lined avenues or vistas, c.800m long, extended from the house to the south, south-west and south-east. Early maps also show a bowling green. There were already mature trees present in the demesne at that time, as dendrochronology of oaks here has dated a few to the 17th-century. The 'great oak tree' would have been such a feature; it was photographed by R Welch and is mentioned in J C Loudon's *Arboretum et Fruticetum 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 grows about 50 yards from the banks of the River Lagan, in rather moist soil.' Around 1756 Arthur began to considerably enlarge the house and work was still ongoing when Mrs Delany visited in October 1759, commenting on the 'charming place, a very good house, though not quite finished'. This new mansion, a Palladian heavy brick-faced block facing north, was probably designed by English architect Christopher Myers (1717-89). It was attached to the north gable of the old house, which then became the east range of a service quadrangle to the house here. The new enlarged house, demolished in 1961 (save the yards), had a large engaged sandstone central portico on its seven-bay front, with a large wooden pediment. It is well depicted on a series of paintings by Jonathan Fisher (c.1735-1809) probably commissioned by Arthur Hill (who changed his name to Hill-Trevor in 1759 after he inherited the Brynkinalt estate in Denbighshire) around 1770. Significantly, as Arthur died in 1771, Belvoir remained largely unoccupied until 1783 as it had been inherited by Arthur's eight-year old grandson, who did not take up residence here until he came of age. Fisher's paintings show that by 1770 the old formal landscape had been removed and replaced with a naturalised landscape park. In addition to the oaks along the river, many of which pre-dated the demesne, the landscape park included many beech and Spanish chestnuts; many trees were lost in the night of the Big Wind here in January 1839. The woodland in the north was named 'Galwally Wood', while south-east of the dwelling house, on either side of the tributary of the Lagan, was the 'Big Wood'. During the 19th and early 20th-century the parkland here was noted for its particularly fine isolated trees (or in small clumps) dotted around, some of which survive today engulfed in coniferous plantations. There are particularly fine mature parkland trees throughout the demesne, many still in open land others, however, within the recent forested areas. There are massive oak trees in the northern part of the demesne in what is now 'The Garden of Peace,' in the parkland south-west of the dwelling house and in what is now the golf course. The 2nd Viscount returned to live at Belvoir in 1783 and a few years later, in 1785-90 added an extra storey onto the house, making it rather top-heavy. He remained at Belvoir until early 1796, when he and his family left Belfast for good and moved to the Trevor ancestral home at Brynkinalt. In 1808 the household furniture, library, cattle and crops all belonging to the estate were put up for auction. It was eventually acquired by Robert Bateson

(1782-1863) of Orangefield, and then inherited by his second son, Sir Thomas Bateson (1819-1890). He developed an arboretum at Belvoir, supposedly begun in the 1840s, which contains many magnificent exotic conifers. In 1900 the contents of the house were sold and the house leased for a time. In the 1920s the new Northern Ireland government considered Belvoir as the site for the new parliament building and, later, as a possible residence for the Governor, but these proposals came to nothing. Sir James Johnston died in 1924 and his family vacated the house in 1925. During the next few years parts of the estate were disposed of by Lord Deramore's agent; to the south-west, part of the old Derramore House grounds were sold off for the building of a new house, 'Ardnally', and to the north-east 163 acres were leased to create a new golf course—'Belvoir Park Golf Club'—which opened in the Summer of 1929. In 1934 the rest of the demesne (as well as the rest of the estate lands in the wider area) were leased to J. and W. Stewart Ltd., a building company, who shortly afterwards were reported to be planning to undertake a massive housing development which, at the time, was believed to be the most extensive of its kind ever undertaken in Ireland. Although some housing was built around the fringes of the estate, the grand plans were never fulfilled and the demesne remained largely intact. During the war the demesne was occupied by troops but in 1950 it was handed back to J. and W. Stewart Ltd from whom in 1955 the Northern Ireland Housing Trust acquired all the estate land held by the company and in 1959 set aside part of the demesne to the south-east for housing development. The rest of the land was offered for lease to the Ministry of Agriculture, 'for the planting of a commercial forest with public access', and in 1960 the Ministry agreed to take on 170 acres for the creation of 'Belvoir Park Forest'. The major part of the demesne was designated 'Belvoir Park Forest' in 1961 and Forestry Service planted many areas, mainly with conifer plantations. These are 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. In the course of the 1960s, as the new housing development took shape to the south, some land was set aside to the north for a new sewage plant, and along the eastern edge a small strip was lost to the construction of a new dual carriageway. The house and its attached service wings, which had latterly been used as a store for building materials, was demolished by the army in February 1961, whilst the gate lodges at the main entrance to the east were cleared away in 1963 to make way for the aforementioned dual-carriageway. The outbuildings to the immediate south of the mansion were, however, retained. By 1975, Belvoir Forest Park, along with contiguous parkland at New Forge, Malone and elsewhere, had become part of The Lagan Valley Regional Park, Northern Ireland's first and, to date, only Regional Park. 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.

**BROOKHILL, County Antrim (AP LISBURN and CASTLEREAGH 08) AN/076
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Partly walled demesne parkland and gardens (85.6 acres/34.6ha) of 18th and 19th-century date, incorporating residual 17th-century elements, lying 5.1 miles (8.2km) north north-west of Hillsborough and 4.1 miles (6.6km) north-west of Lisburn in the townland of Ballyellough. The 18th century house built near the site of the early 17th century house, was demolished in 1960. However there are very fine stands of parkland trees in the surrounding area and a notable block of woodland, which includes exotics, to the south-east of the house. The site has a long history of settlement; at the front avenue within woodland is a Norman motte-and-bailey (Scheduled ANT 063:037) and a short distance south-east is an Early Christian ecclesiastical site (ANT 063:036). In the early 1600s the land here became part of the Killultagh estate of Sir Fulke Conway (d.1624), who in 1611 built here a house 'of cadgework...with a stone bawne about it which shall be buyled 15 foote highe'. On account of 'a small river near it' that 'sinks into the

earth', the property was called 'Brook Hill' or 'Brookhill'. After Fulke Conway's death his estate passed to his elder brother Edward Conway (1564-1631), later 1st Viscount Killultagh, and from him to his son, Edward (1594-1655), 2nd Viscount. The younger Edward was largely absent from his Irish lands, and in 1631 appointed Yorkshireman George Rawdon (1604-84) as his agent, who occupied the house. Unfortunately, in the Rebellion Sir Phelim O'Neill 'fired' Brookhill ' in October 1641 and 'Lord Conway's library in it, to the value of five or six thousand pounds'. It is not clear when the site was reoccupied, but the end of the 17th century the High Sherrif of Antrim, Edward Ellis was living here and his widow was still there in 1735. Their was on the south side of the yard which occupied the former early 17th century bawn; most of the structures surviving today in this yard appear to be late 18th-century or 19th century in date and include a tall basalt-built bell tower and a decorative stone gateway (Listed HB 19/03/064B). However, a section of walling along the yard's west side appear to contain fabric of the original bawn wall. This late 17th and early 18th-century house evidently had an associated formal landscape; the straight avenue with south-east north-west axis, formerly aligned on the side of the house, is probably an early feature. By the mid-18th century it belonged to James Watson (1700-77) of Clough, who the OS Memoirs of 1837 suggest rebuilt the house, which was again 'overhauled' by his grandson around 1795, involving 'adding the rear wing and the two bows in the front to it, roofed the old house in the new, with other improvements at very considerable expense'. The extensive woodland planting to the north east, east and south-east of the house evidently belong to this era, as does the walled garden (2.25 acres/0.91ha) to the south of the house (Listed HB 19/03/064C) adjacent to the Ballinderry Road. It is four-sided and the walls are of stone with some brick on the inside of the north-east wall. Described in an OS memoir of 1837 as 'a most beautiful garden containing about 4 (sic) English acres, enclosed partly by a stone and lime and partly by a brick wall'. The south-west wall along the road, has been lowered on either side of the two entrances in it for the two modern dwellings within it. In the 1990s there was a bothy (now gone) at the east corner and, earlier, a large glass house. One of these dwellings was built in it in the 1970s. The lease of Brookhill House and grounds was sold in 1854 to John Grubb Richardson (1813-90) and again in 1868 to William Thomas Bristow Lyons (1812-87) whose son, William Henry Holmes Lyons (1844-1924) evidently acquired the freehold from the Wallace estate. It was probably he who modified the parkland adding many isolated trees and small clumps to the land both south (The Lawn) and west of the house. From 1901 the property changed hands a number of times eventually being acquired by the Northern Ireland Tuberculosis Authority who planned to erect a sanatorium there; however, this proposal was dropped in c.1953. As a result the house appears to have been abandoned for some considerable time, and having fallen into disrepair, was demolished by the army in 1960. The present modest dwelling was built upon the site at some point prior to 1971. SMR: ANT 63:37 fort, 63:59 house and bawn, 63:61 fort, 63:62 site of megalith and ?enclosure. Scheduled motte ANT 063:037. Private.

HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE, County Down (AP LISBURN and CASTLEREAGH 08) D/027 REGISTERED GRADE A

There are two parks at Hillsborough, integrated with but separated by this small town, all the product of the various developments made by the Hill family, later Marquesses of Downshire, who lived here from the 17th century and who became the largest landowners in Ireland. They were descended from Moyse Hill (c.1550-1630), who came to Ireland in 1573 with the first Earl of Essex, and for his various services was granted various lands and lived outside Lisburn. Among the lands that he purchased were eleven townlands from Brian Oge Magennis in the lordship of Kilwarlin in 1611, lands that included the former medieval settlement of Crumlin or Cromlyn, later Hillsborough. In the 1650s the Cromwellian administration awarded Arthur Hill (1601-63), a former colonel in the Royalist armies, outright ownership of what became known as the 'Manor of Hillsborough and Growle'. Early in 1651 he had started to build at Hillsborough a residence

'commanding the chief road in the County of Downe, leading from Dublin to Belfast and Carrickfergus' and by the end of the decade the present fort, with its pear-shaped bastions in four corners, had been built. In the 1660s he founded the settlement of Hillsborough, built a new church in 1662 to replace the old church of St Malachy's at Crumlin; this church was later replaced by the present Gothick revival church a century later. After Arthur Hill's death in 1663 little happened at Hillsborough until the early 18th century when a house was begun at Edenticullo, in what is later became part of The Great Park, by the mother of Trevor Hill (1693-1742). Two early maps, one dating to the 1746 by NF Martin (lost) and another dating to 1750s (wrongly dated to 1771) both depict a treelined avenue aligned roughly on the church/fort, leading to a house on a rise just south of what became in c.1770 the lake. Trevor Hill, once he came of age commissioned William Halfpenny to build a barracks in the town. Much of Hillsborough as we know it today however was the work of Wills Hill (1718-93), later 1st Marquess of Downshire, who inherited from his father Trevor Hill in 1742. While having a very active and successful political career, he found time to be resident in Hillsborough for lengthy periods each year and was active in transforming the demesne and town. Having built a new market house, he started nearby on the site of the present house, a 'new mansion' shown on the 1755 map of County Down. Work on what is now called the 'Small Park' was underway by the 1750s when visited by Mrs Delany, who wrote of 'a gravel path two Irish miles long, the ground laid out in very good taste, some wood, some nurseries; shrubs and flowers diversify the scene; a pretty piece of water with an island in it, and all the views pleasant'. The 'water with an island' was a reference to the lake in the Small Park - a lake that had been earlier adapted as a mill pond, and in medieval times was probably the location of the Magennis crannog. The engineer/architect from Cumbria, Christopher Myers, was engaged to remodel the fort adding sham Gothic turrets,. In the 1760s he also enlarged the modest house begun in the 1750s; this occupied the footprint of the present house and is shown on the Byers demesne map of 1788. Other work also carried out in the 1760s and 1770s is also shown on this map is the Small Park which then occupied 68 acres and contained the lake of 9 acres with its small island of 0.4 acres, the walled garden of 4 acres with its associated frame yards, a small west lawn and a large fifteen-acre meadow west of the lake. Also present by 1788 south of the lake was the ice-house whose entrance is lined with large rounded sandstone blocks, which deliberately imitates a grotto or the entrance to a mysterious cave. This too probably belongs to the earl's improvements of the late 1750s or 1760s. The 'Great Park' to the south of the village was largely created during 1770s with the building a perimeter wall for £1,285 and the digging of a large lake, which with its two massive dams all existed by 1777, when it is shown on the Taylor & Skinner Map; account books indicate there was an 'extension of lake' in 1787-92. In 1793 Arthur Hill (1753-1801) became the 2nd Marquess of Downshire and he engaged architect Robert Furze Brettingham to carry out enlargements and modifications to his house at Hillsborough, his work shown on a map of 1803. Arthur Blundell Sandys Trumbull Hill (1788-1845) who became the 3rd Marquess of Downshire in 1801 engaged the Lichfield-based landscape gardener John Webb (c1754- 1828), to produce plans to re-landscape the grounds at Hillsborough Castle. Webb's proposed dramatically re-landscaping and enlarging both the Great Park and the Small Park. His suggestions were not carried out but he influenced subsequent developments, notably the re-directing of the Moira Road and bringing the area flanking the south side of the house into the park. In the 1830s and 40s the house was remodelled again, mainly by the architect William Sands, and took on its present appearance at that time (Listed HB 19/05/075). The new south facade of the house with its portico, instead of serving as the main facade, as Webb had proposed, was given a balustraded garden terrace with a Greek Revival Doric summer house at the east or town end. A rectangular parterre was laid out below this terrace and another rectangular parterre made on the west side of the house, flanking Broad Walk (running alongside the former line of the old Moira Road) that became in the 1880s the famous Irish Yew Walk with its line of Irish yews. A pond was made at the west end of this

walk and the spoil used to make a hill on its west side, upon which was built a summer house, later to be replaced by the Lady Alice Temple. Also aligned on this temple is the straight lime walk, often known as the moss walk, which runs to the site of the early church site at the north-east end. Trees (*Tilia x europaea*), along this walk appear to have been planted in the 1860s and it was at about this time that an arboretum was stated in the Small Park, mainly conifers, notably at the upper end of the lake. They included a *Pinus radiata* (formerly called *Pinus insignis*) or Monterey Pine, which was planted by the marquess himself in 1872; by 1926 it was 100 feet high and by 2005 it was measured by Aubrey Fennell at 43.5m high with girth of 4.39m, which was claimed then to be second tallest of its kind in Ireland. Other large conifer trees noted in this area during a visit in 1905 included *Abies pinsapo*; *Abies Douglasii* (*Pseudotsuga macrocarpa*); *Abies Albertiana* (*Tsuga heterophylla*); *Abies Deodara alba* (*Cedrus deodara*); *Cupressus erecta viridis* (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana erecta viridis*); *Thuja gigantea* (*Thuja plicata*); *Libocedrus decurrens* (incense cedar) and *Sequoiadendron giganteum*. The Irish Yew Walk, one of the most dramatic additions to the park, appears to have been planted in the late 1770s. Described as a 'ramped allee', this feature, is aligned upon the south portico of the house and comprises a wide path flanked by a gently sloping glass verge on each side on which has been planted a line of Irish or Florence Court yews. The Lady Alice's Temple (Listed HB 19/05/079) was built by Col. Hill in honour of his sister, Lady Alice Maria Hill, later Countess of Bective and is unusual in that the ten Ionic columns supporting a masonry entablature & copper-clad masonry dome are made of cast-iron. After it was acquired by the State in 1925 Hillsborough Castle became the new residence of the governors of Northern Ireland and subsequently became known as 'Government House'. The Great Park, acquired by the Office of Works, was leased to the Department of Agriculture and the area around the lake was opened to the public. The fort and courthouse were retained by the Downshire family, but leased to the government; the lease was transferred to Historic Royal Palaces in 2018. The house became the home of the various Governors of Northern Ireland, and then Secretaries of State; 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 walled garden was cultivated until the 1970s and later grassed, retaining a summer house (Listed HB 19/05/078). There are some notable plants in the park, including a very large *Rhododendron arboreum* hybrid, which is in the *Guinness Book of Records*. The early 18th century cast iron gates at the main entrance to the town were removed here from Richhill House during the 1930s (Listed HB 19/05/076B). Other buildings of note include the Lodge and Guard House (Listed HB 19/05/077); Ice House (Listed HB 19/05/080); Garden store (Listed HB 19/05/081). Boundary walls and gates in the Small Park are included with the house. The residence together with the Small Park and its walled garden were transferred on lease to Historic Royal Palaces in 2014. Following this, a major restoration and rejuvenation programme was undertaken. This included work on the main house (ongoing), the Lower Courtyard, the Stable Yard, terraces adjacent to the south and west front, the iron 'Richhill Gates'; the Broad Walk (or Yew Walk) and pond and associated paths; the valley on the south fringe of the park, known as the 'Lost Garden'. The area fringing the Lime Walk, and the Walled Garden where a reception centre has been built in the slip yard. Outside the park on the west side a large car park with access from the Dublin-Belfast road has been made. Both the Court House and the Fort were transferred to the Historic Royal Palaces in 2017. Outside the registered area is the impressive Downshire Monument of 1848 (Listed HB 19/05/114. 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 (AP LISBURN and CASTLEREAGH 08) D/031
REGISTERED GRADE A**

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, which lies 2 miles (3.3km) west of Hillsborough, was built in 1755, improved in 1834 (Listed HB 19/05/133) (+ the gates Listed HB 19/05/134). The grounds around the church are modest in size (2.8 acres/1.3ha) and the gardens of interest, which lie north-west of the church and hall, 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 BC 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 and is currently undergoing an HLF funded restoration. The church is in use. SMR: DOWN 14:4 church.

**LARCHFIELD, County Down (AP LISBURN AND CASTLEREAGH 08) D/086
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Walled 18th-century parkland (242 acres/98ha) and house remodelled in 1837-40 (Listed HB 19/06/003), lying 4 miles (6.4km) east of Hillsborough and 5.2 miles (8.4km) north-west of Ballynahinch. The demesne's origin lies in the purchase of a house here by Daniel Mussenden (c.1685-c.1763), a leading merchant of the port of Belfast around 1734, when he put forward proposals to plant 5-6 acres of 'assorted trees' in the form of an octagon with 8,000 trees set in six avenues or 'vistas', each 20ft wide and radiating from the central clearing; relics of this layout, which appears to have been carried out, can be discerned on the 1830s OS map on the north side of the park, though by that time most regular plantations had been removed or modified to conform with naturalised landscaping of the later 18th century. This planting preceded by well over a decade his enlargement of the house which faced west and was being furnished in the mid-1750s; it appears to have had a *cour d'honneur* as there is a reference to his acquiring stone urns from Dublin and Northern England to embellish it in 1755. He was still planting trees in the 1750s; for example, in 1757 he was importing sapling firs and ashes from Liverpool, as well as fruit tree, globe artichokes, pineapples and strawberries from England. There was also a canal in the demesne which in the absence of further evidence we may presume lay north-west of the present. walled garden, where there was later a small lake. The property passed to Daniel's son, William Mussenden I (1712-80), who is most likely to have created the present parkland and removed or altered his father's formal planting. He was succeeded in 1794 by Daniel II (c.1746-1829) who is noteworthy in that he was married to Fridiswide Bruce (1766-85), a second cousin of the noted Frederick Hervey Earl-Bishop of Derry, who following her early death several years later named the 'temple' at his Downhill estate in her honour. The gateway opposite the Lisburn Gate Lodge (Listed HB19/06/003C), the main entrance into the park, has a pair of square rusticated cut-stone piers with reeded friezes with paterae ball finials and decorative iron carriage gates, which appears to belong to this period. Daniel's son, William Mussenden II (1782-1860), inherited in 1829 and extended the house at some point between 1835 and 1845 by building new south and west fronts and reorientating the building southwards; the park would appear to have assumed its present form during his time though most of its features originate in the 18th century. The kitchen garden for example, which in its original form covered exactly 3 acres (1.2ha), as shown on the OS 1830s map, flanking the north side of the old west facing house. The old approach avenue ran along side the west wall of the garden, which was exposed to the park, suggesting this is was the garden created in the 1740s and 50s, though some of the walls may be later. The north-west corner is angled and there is brick on the south-facing wall. It is shown divided into panels on the OS six-inch map of 1834 with a free-standing building towards the west and another towards the east. At a later date there were a wooden framed glass houses with a vinery to the east. A modern glass house now rests on the site of the vinery. When the house was being remodelled in the mid-19th century, a large portion of the south-west side of the garden was made into a separate garden adjacent to what was now the rear of the house. The south wall of the walled garden was also modified at this time to incorporate a railing allowing visibility between park and garden - a feature also seen at other gardens at this time. In

1990 the garden was partially-maintained although the original glass houses had gone, but from 2000 it has been developed mainly as an ornamental garden with summer colour, and a central hedged square with urns from Macedon House as the centrepiece. The southern section of the area, screened by shrubs along its north side, is now under lawn and used for visitor parking for the associated popular wedding and corporate venue, established in the courtyard in 2007. The west side of the garden from the 18th century has been flanked by farm yard buildings; today these consist of a sprawling complex of structures loosely arranged around a rectangular yard, with a square yard to the north (Listed HB 19/06/003B). Some of these buildings today are 18th-century, most however appear to belong to the late 1830s and 1840s; some were still being added in 1880s/90s. Also added around 1840 was the walled deer park (20.9 acres/8.47ha) in the very north of the demesne; it was supplied by water from the adjacent River Raveret on the north side; today it has a few ponds (recent creation), is used to raise pheasants and is largely covered with trees. The substantial enclosing tree belts and screen of the park were all thickened in the late 1830s and 1840s; these include McCartney's Belting, south-east of the house; Hillsborough Planting, south-west of the house; the Schoolhouse Planting (a school was established in that area by the Mussendens) and, west of the house, The Marlhole Belting. The deer park was not surrounded by shelterbelt and was separated from the park to the south by Low Wood. Other areas of woodland are The Clump, which is between Low Wood and the house and covers a rock outcrop and is mixed woodland including several larch trees, and the Fishpond Plantation, surrounding the fishpond north of the house. Oak Wood is west of the house and Buxtown Road Wood west of that wood. There are many mature shelterbelt and woodland trees including many beech and oak trees as well as a variety of other species. North-west of the house there is some very mature beech near a former carriage drive. A yew (*Taxus baccata*) has been designated an Exceptional Specimen Tree by the Tree Council of Ireland who say that it could well date back to 1640. An area of snowdrops in the east of Low Wood is planted in the shape of the Crimea, no doubt due to the fact that William Mussenden III (1836-1910) was a participant in the Crimean War and survivor of the ill-fated Charge of the Light Brigade. He was the last of the family to live at Larchfield, leasing the house and grounds to Ogilvie Blair Graham (1820-97) of Belfast in c.1865, with the latter later acquiring the freehold. Mr Graham, who became a partner in the York Street Flax Spinning Company, built two new gate lodges, both probably by Charles Lanyon. The main one is the Lisburn Lodge (Listed HB 19/06/003C) built in 1878 replacing an earlier pre-1834 dwelling; it is a mildly picturesque one and a half-storey building with dark rubble walls with cream brick quoins and dressings, and a steeply-pitched overhanging gabled roof. The Ballynahinch lodge (Listed HB 19/06/003D) built in 1883 is similar to the Lisburn Lodge, but has cut stone where the former has brick. He may have developed the gardens north of the house which retains planting from the 18th century, including a champion *Taxus baccata* which, c. 2001, had a girth of 4.62m at 0.3m and a height of 14.2m. A Monterey cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) here is also a Champion, at 38m being the second tallest of its kind in Ireland. Ogilvie Blair Graham II (1865-1928) came into possession of Larchfield in 1910 and was followed by his son Ogilvie Blair Graham III (1891-1971), from whom the present owner bought it in 1968. Private. SMR: DOWN 15:30 enclosure or tree ring.

LISBURN CASTLE GARDENS, County Antrim (AP LISBURN AND CASTLEREAGH 08) AN/095 REGISTERED GRADE A

An extensive area within the town of Lisburn forms a green space with paths and decorative planting (7 acres/2.84ha). 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 foliated

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 mid to late 17th 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 through an HLF funded scheme. The top terrace wall is 283ft (86m) long; 2nd terrace wall 205ft (62.5m); third terrace wall 10ft (52m) and bottom terrace wall is 130ft (39.5m) with each terrace being 30-32ft (10m) wide. 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 19/16/007) and the Egret Fountain of c1870 (Listed HB 19/16/015). A portion of the 17th century Castle gate still exists (Listed HB 19/16/002). There is a monument to Sir Richard Wallace of 1892 (Listed HB 19/16/008) 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 DEMESNE, County Down (AP LISBURN AND CASTLEREAGH 08)
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Public park (109 acres/44ha) located 7.7 miles (12.3km) south-west of Lisburn, 4.6 miles (8.4km) north-east of Lurgan and lying on the north-west side of the town of Moira. Formerly an important 17th and 18th century formal landscape, whose house was demolished around 1812; significant residual features survive. There is no record of a house at this location until 1651 when a Major Burgh (or de Burgh), who was quartered in Charlemont Fort near Moy, supposedly built a brick house here. Not many years later, possibly around 1655, this dwelling was purchased by George Rawdon (1604-84), a native of Yorkshire, who came to Ireland c.1631 to manage the estate of Edward Conway (1594-1655), 2nd Viscount Killultagh, in south-west Antrim. From then onwards he went on to accumulate a large estate in the immediate vicinity of Moira and elsewhere, establishing market towns at both Moira (1669) and Ballynahinch (1682). He served as MP for Down (1659) and Carlingford (1661-65), and in his latter years was knighted, but there is no record of his having rebuilt, enlarged or remodeled the existing house at Moira, possibly as he was living much of the time in Lisburn or Brookhill. When he died in 1683, his properties passed to his surviving son, Sir Arthur Rawdon (1622-95), who like his father was a military man and sat as MP for County Down. He is best remembered however for transforming the Moira demesne, beginning with the building a new country house, possibly on the site of the old dwelling. From watercolours by Gabriel Beranger (1799), a painting by Thomas Robinson of Col. Sharman (1798) and a demesne map (1780), we can deduce that this original house was a plain rectangular block of five bays and three stories with hipped roof covered with shingles. It was approached from the Main-street up a gentle slope via a grand avenue of trees and in all probability there was a walled forecourt enclosure in front of the house, as was the fashion of the day. The house at this stage had lower outer sections and outbuildings to the house (stables and coaches houses) and as was typical of a gentleman's country houses of this era, the surrounding gardens were laid out in a rigidly geometric fashion incorporating lots of clipped hedges and tree lined vistas. Harris in 1744 mentioned 'the walks, vistas, and espaliers regular and grown to perfection and furnished with variety of good fruit. The garden is adorned with a pretty labyrinth, ponds, canals, and wood cut out in vistas, at the bottom of which is a decoy...'. To the rear of the house were large parterres with a wide tree-lined vista flanked an extensive wilderness (formal grove) each side culminating in a ha-ha beyond which was open meadow (later in the 18th century this meadow was planted with trees). To the north-west beyond the wilderness was the duck decoy to trap wild fowl shown on the 1780 Daniel Mulllan map as a

rectangle but without its pipes, suggesting it was already redundant by this time. Within the Wilderness each side of the central vista were a series long canals, the earthworks of which can still be seen. The grounds also had two small pavilion-like structures, one to the far north-west of the house within the wilderness and marked 'hermitage' on later maps; the lay other in the parkland to the east and was probably a dovecote. Closer to the house was a bowling greens, bosquets (formal groves), orchards, a lavender lawn, and a kitchen garden. The latter was indicated on the 1780 map to lie south-west of the house in an area now covered in housing. It was here that there was a large stove or hothouse, the first recorded of its kind in Ireland - 'ye conservatory' mentioned by Captain Thomas Bellingham in June 1690. It was built to accommodate some of the plants that James Harlow had brought for Sir Arthur in his celebrated expedition from Jamaica in April 1692; these included 20 cases each with 50 plants, some seeds and a great many ferns. Sir Arthur, a friend of Hans Sloane (1660-1753) who came from Co. Down, had a passion for plants and his large collection of rare and tender plants made Moira famous throughout the British Isles. He employed an English gardener, Thomas Harrison and took advice from the noted botanist William Sherrard, who paid several visits to Moira. In 1695 Sir Arthur was succeeded by his son, Sir John Rawdon (1690-1724), who was followed by his son, also John (1720-93), who was created Earl of Moira in 1761. The former enlarged the house adding two-bay three-storey sections with (slightly set back) curved end bays, and seemingly shallower roofs hidden behind heavily corniced parapets topped with an eagle-like finial. Each end were single-storey wings, with their roofs also hidden behind parapets, embellished with urns, whilst to the east end there was a pavilion with flanking walls. He also built St. John's Church in 1721, which was incorporated into the formal layout of the Moira gardens, being directly aligned on the house and approached by a wide tree-lined avenue. He did not have his father's interest in plants however, reporting to Sir Hans Sloane in 1711 that 'most of those southern plants are withered to nothing' an outcome he blamed on 'carelessness of servants and death of Mr. Harlow not long since'. His successor, the Earl of Moira, seems to have greater interest in his grandfather's legacy, and it was reported to Sloane in 1735 that even though he was a 'youth of between 15 and 16 years' he had 'great taste himself for gardening and knows most of our plants'. However, except for some extensive tree planting on the west side of the demesne, he does not appear he added much to the property and with the acquisition of Montalto in the 1760s his ties to Moira were loosened and sometime around 1775 it was leased to Colonel William Sharman (1731-1803), MP for Lisburn (1783-90). In 1800 the demesne was sold to Thomas Bateson (1752-1811) of Orangefield, who from 1805 appears to have left the house vacant; it was eventually demolished, probably by Thomas Bateson's son and heir, Robert (1782-1863) around 1811-12. The land was used for farming and remaining garden features including trees gradually disappeared. In the later 1970s the central portion of the site (about 38.5 acres/15.5ha) was acquired by the then Lisburn Borough Council and opened as a public park with a children's play area. The land to the south-west, meanwhile, was given over to housing, and was fully developed from c.1980. Public access. SMR: DOWN 13:9 folly or hermitage, 13:10 site of castle and 13:11 enclosure or tree ring.

**PORTMORE, County Antrim (AP LISBURN AND CASTLEREAGH 08) AN/059
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Residual features in registered area (16.7 acres/7.7ha) associated with an important 17th-century house on the south-east side of Portmore Lough (595 acres/240ha), lying on the south-east side of Lough Neagh, 9.1 miles (14.6km) north-west of Lisburn. The site of a residence with associated demesne created from 1664 by Edward Conway (1623-83), Viscount Killultagh, on the ruins of a fortress that Bagenal in 1586 described as an 'old defaced castle which still beareth the name of one Sir Miles Tracey' - the land having been acquired by Viscount Killultagh's grandfather Sir Fulke Conway in 1611. The new mansion, which was 'delightfully situated near the east end of Lough Beg, on an eminence commanding a fine prospect of Lough Neagh, Lough Beg, Ram's

Island, the Old Church Island' was completed around 1669, but unfortunately we know comparatively little about its architecture. During the Cromwellian era it was occupied 'for many years' by Dr. Jeremy Taylor, afterwards Bishop of Down and Dromore'. In 1803 John Moore Johnston (b.1747), then Conway's agent, published an account in the Downpatrick (1803) edition of *Heterogenea or Medley for the Benefit of the Poor*, telling us that the stables however were '140 feet in length, 35 in breadth and 40 feet high' and having 'accommodation for two troops of horse, with rooms for the men, marble cisterns, pumps, &c. the stables, castles, towers, &c.' He also said that after the 'whole building was taken down in 1761' the walls were left standing surrounding the 'bowling green, gardens, towers &c.'. He mentioned also 'a little distance from this (on the western side of the lough) was the deer park, 'which contained about two thousand acres' and observed that 'about thirty years ago this was one of the most romantic and delightful places perhaps in Ireland' and that at that time it was 'stocked with deer, pheasants, jays, turkeys, hares, rabbits and other kinds of game' and contained 'many large oak and other timber trees' and told us that 'Earl Conway made canals here, duck-coys, quays for pleasure broads &c'. From the Conway papers we know that the deer park was enclosed 1664-70, deer being introduced in 1665 ('with deer and game for hunting'). There was also a duck decoy. According to Arthur Stringer's remarkable manual *The Experienced Huntsman* (1714) based on his activities as keeper at Portmore, the deer park in his time covered 'three thousand areas of land, with a thousand brace of red and fallow deer therein...I killed 54 brace of [fallow] bucks and 4 brace of [red deer] stags in a season'. By the 1770s the deer park, then much reduced in size, was still 'one of the most romantic and delightful places' as Johnson remarked. The deer park boundaries are marked on Lendrick's 1780 Map of Country Antrim ('Earl of Hertford's Deer Park'). In 1761 the house at Portmore was demolished by Francis Seymour Conway (1718-94), Baron Conway, later 1st Marquess of Hertford), with the timber and stone 'sold out to different purchasers by private sale' and the land subsequently let for farming. In 1771 a 'neat lodge' was reportedly built for Conway in the park and later this was owned by Mr. Jebb and Mr. Mairs. Much of the land of the demesne was cleared by the end of the 18th century save a section forming a peninsula with the lough which was enclosed by a wall; this was called the Hogg, or Little Deer-park and parts of the wall are still visible. This park too was cultivated and leased to tenants from about 1804. Around the house some of the garden features, including the wall around the bowling green and some towers were left standing and were apparently still visible in the early 19th century. Nothing conspicuous is depicted on the 1832 OS map, however, the name 'Portmore House' merely designating a small dwelling, while the OS Memoirs stated 'nothing now remains this once healthy and splendid seat, but the wall surrounding the bowling green, a few pear and other fruit trees and some dilapidated patches of the castle and stabling walls'. All obvious features of the house and its large associated stable block have long vanished, but surviving archaeological features include a rectangular walled garden ((1.25 acres/0.5ha) and a square raised platform on its south-east side (225ft x 234ft (or 69m x 71m). Much else no doubt also remains in an area of rich archaeological potential. Private area. SMR: ANT 62:7 site of house.

**PURDYSBURN HOUSE, County Down (AP LISBURN AND CASTLEREAGH 08) D/101
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Walled demesne park (200 acres/87ha) with reinstated walled garden, lying 1.3 miles (2km) south of Newtownbreda, some 3 miles (5km) east of Dunmurry and 3.8 miles (5.9km) south of Belfast centre. House of 1825 was demolished in 1965, but large sections of park survive, outbuildings and substantial relics of once well known walled garden which lay on ground below the house; it had a formal geometric garden of a Saint Andrew form (diagonal crosses) dating to about c.1730 with a central axial canal was added to the layout in the mid-19th century. The earliest reference to the house named 'Purdysburn' is from a document dated 1712, indicating that a residence had been built here by James Willson (1680-1741), a successful merchant with

Carrickfergus and Belfast links, who had started to acquire blocks of lands in the area from at least 1708. It is not clear if his new house was *de novo* (built on a greenfield site) or whether it incorporated an earlier building. In 1741 James Wilson was succeeded by his son Hill Willson (1707-1773) and embarked upon a major rebuilding programme at Purdysburn. Indeed, the remodelling of house and gardens appears to have already started in the late 1730s, as indicated by a date stone of 1740 in the summerhouse in the walled garden. When writing in 1744, Walter Harris was able to refer to 'a house and pretty improvements of Hill Willson Esq.' at Purdysburn; the property was designated on Kennedy's 'Map of the County of Down' dated 1755 and on Taylor & Skinner of 1777. While the house was later remodelled substantially in the 1820s, the main formal gardens as created in c.1735-45 period remained unchanged when shown on the 1834 edition of the Ordnance Survey map. This formal garden was created below the east side of the house on lower ground and took the form of a parallelogram, that is to say it was a quadrilateral with opposed sides parallel. It was (and is still) enclosed with brick-lined walls, 115 x 100 metres, and was laid out with circuit paths enclosing a radial path design focussed on a large central 'rond'. It is likely that at the focus of the garden layout lay the statue of Hercules with his club in lead that was reported stolen by the *Belfast News Letter* in July 1773. For some years after this the property appears to have lain vacant or leased out until 1811 when the demesne was sold to the successful Belfast merchant and banker Narcissus Batt (1767-1840), who rebuilt the dwelling in fashionable Tudor Revival Style in 1825. Prior to his rebuilding the house he appears to have been responsible for creating much of the landscape park, though we know there were trees, notably oaks, growing here by this stage dating from the 1730s; some veteran oaks can still be seen at Purdysburn and may date to this era, but little was seemingly planted in the second half of the 18th-century. Narcissus extended the demesne so that the park was extended beyond what is now called the Hospital-road. Here there was 63 acres (25.5ha) of parkland brought into the property, and following tree-planting in the 1820s containing the Hazelbank Wood, alongside the river, and the Whinnyhill Wood, north of the river, both still present. He built a gatelodge in the south-west corner, the Ballylesson Lodge, close to the river, leading onto two avenues. The lodge is now demolished but the gate screen survives (Listed HB 25/17/007); it consists of a pair of hexagonal cut-stone piers with ogee caps, and ornate iron carriage gates believed to have been designed by Thomas Hopper and is therefore of c.1825. It is now largely smothered in greenery. In the centre of this western sector of the park there was open parkland meadow with a tree covered mount in the centre (Scheduled DOW 009:032); this is now surrounded by the buildings of the former Belvoir Park Hospital. East of the Hospital-road he planted extensive woods each side of the meandering course of the river (Hydebank Wood); much of the area west of the house site and walled garden remains wooded today, save for an open area of parkland in the centre, which now has prison units. According to the 1830s Memoirs much of the planting at Purdysburn at this time was firs. The park also included three miniature lakes and in south extension to the walled garden built a sham medieval tower, clearly designed as a decorative folly to be seen from the house terrace. The new house, when he eventually got around to building it in 1825, was designed by the celebrated London architect Thomas Hopper (1776-1856), who was working in Ulster at the time for the 2nd Earl of Gosford; it was built in the Tudor-Jacobean style and was one of the earliest examples of this revival style in Ireland. Narcissus enjoyed his house so much that he fell over the banisters to his death at a party there in January 1840. The property subsequently passed to Narcissus Batt's older son, Robert Batt (1795-1866), who was responsible for remodelling the formal gardens below the house; within the garden the old *patte d'oie* layout of radiating paths lined with clipped yew hedges was modified to incorporate a long pond or canal running down the centre, parallel to the east and west outside walls. The yew hedges were retained and adapted, though new hedges were planted alongside the canal with seats placed at intervals on the gravel paths facing the water. Features such as pergolas were added later in the 19th century as was a pet's cemetery. With Robert Batt's death in 1866 it passed to his son, Robert Narcissus Batt (1844-1891) who, in

his will, directed that the Purdysburn estate should be left to the Belfast General Hospital 'for whatever use they saw fit'. After his death it was purchased by Belfast Corporation for £29,500 who decided to establish a new asylum on the eastern side of the park, west of the Hospital-road. The new complex itself was built on the 'Villa Colony' principle and designed by George T. Hine, the Consulting Architect to the English Lunacy Commissioners, 'on a scale for 1,500 patients', with Belfast Architects Tulloch and Fitzsimmons overseeing the building work. In the main part of the park a new Infectious Diseases Hospital, the city's first municipal hospital was built to designs by Young and McKenzie. This opened in 1906; later known as the 'Purdysburn Fever Hospital' and later still 'Belvoir Park Hospital,' it continued in use until 2006. The central portion of the estate, around the house, remained largely untouched until 1965, when the house (which had previously been used by both patients and asylum staff) was demolished. To the immediate east of its site new modern-style government office blocks were built in the early 1970s, with a Territorial Army base constructed to the north of this around 1988 and, to the south, a prison, 'Hydebank Young Offenders Centre and Prison,' in the early 1980s. The pond in the walled garden, incorrectly and misleadingly labelled the 'Union Jack Garden', was cleaned out in 1991 and the diagonal paths replanted with conifers, but subsequently became neglected and overgrown. However in 2017-18 the walled garden was magnificently restored and dedicated to the memory of deceased Prison Service officers; the central canal was replaced with an axial lawn, while most of the axial yew paths were replanted with yew. The area to the south of the walled garden still contains the castellated folly tower and a rockery. There are remaining demesne walls along the road and much woodland and parkland with mature trees survives here. Institutional, access by arrangement.

**SEYMOUR HILL, County Antrim (AP LISBURN AND CASTLEREAGH 08) AN/119
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Late Georgian parkland (23.6 acres/9.6ha) and house (Listed HB 19/19/001), lying 0.5 miles (0.8km) south-west of Dunmurry and 2.8 miles (4.5km) north-east of Lisburn. There was a house and bleach green here from at least the 1780s called 'Seymour Hill' - the name being derived from the local landlord, Francis Seymour Conway (1718-94), Baron Conway and after 1794, 1st Marquess of Hertford. The present house, which is a five bay, two storey over basement rectangular block with attic level, rendered walls, vermiculated quoins and an overhanging hipped roof on paired brackets, was the result of an 1820s remodelling of an earlier house by William Charley (1790-1838), the third son of John Charley (1744-1812) of Finaghy House. He had bought the property in 1822, formerly a house with bleach green of c.1780 from Robert Johnson in 1822 and subsequently engaged a local architect John McHenry (MacHenry) 'to remodel and reconstruct it at a cost of £5,000'. North of the house on gently sloping ground William Charley built a yard enclosed by two-storey hipped-roof blocks with basalt rubble walls, incorporating earlier 'stables' marked on a map of 1813. The yard was extended to the north with the creation of a second yard in the 1840s (Listed HB 19/19/002) by William Charley (1826-90), who inherited the house and after 1846 became sole owner of the family firm of J. & W. Charley & Co., which had by that time transferred its operations to Seymour Hill; by 1837 it is said to have been turning out between 20,000 and 25,000 pieces, about half of the total output of the whole of the parish. During 1941 the yard complex of outbuildings was used to shelter evacuees from the Belfast Blitz, with up to one hundred women and children believed to have been housed there. In the later 1950s the complex, by that time like the rest of Seymour Hill in the hands of the NI Housing Trust, was converted to mews dwellings, which won a Civic Trust Award in 1960. The eastern range in the southern yard appears to have been largely rebuilt during the conversion. The dwellings were refurbished c.1990s. The park planting was focussed on the Derryaghy-river to the north and north-east of the house; according to Mullan's map of 1788 a perimeter shelterbelt south of the river was planned or had been established by then in three sections; these remain today and were broadened out in the 1820s with planting to the south, around the house and to the north of the

river, which remains heavily planted. Indeed, save a very good piece to open parkscape with dotted isolated trees to the east of the house, including many fine mature trees including cedar. Much of the surviving parkland today is actually under woodland, while the rest is under modern housing developments. On the western side of the property the Derryaghy River, which flows from west to south-east through the property, a mill pond created in the 18th century to power a mill to the north; in the Victorian era this served as lake in the park with a boat house at its eastern end. A late addition to the park was the walled garden (1.2 acres/0.47ha), now enclosed within housing estates, which lies not far to the west of the house. It was built in the 1840s and has a rectangular plan, stone walls, with curved corners at east and south and entrance in north-east with brick-surround. Some of the former shelterbelt of trees around the garden survives and there are several glass houses inside the walls as the garden is now a nursery which is open to the public. The main entrance into the park lay north west of the house and south of the river, where a small symmetrical porter's lodge with hipped roof behind a parapet and Tuscan portico was built c.1830; it was demolished c.1950 with its gate screen. The entrance it served is still used as a pedestrian pathway and has low rubble-built wall and piers. Following William Charley's death in 1890, the house as well as the business was left to his son Edward (1859-1932), who acquired the freehold for all his holdings in the area in the 1890s, which were later left to his brother Captain Arthur Charley (1870-1944). Shortly after Captain Charley's death, the business was sold off. In 1946 Seymour Hill itself was acquired by the Northern Ireland Housing Trust, who in the following years laid out a large housing estate in the grounds. By 1970 the house had become disused and in 1986 it was almost completely destroyed by vandals; it was subsequently restored by Belfast Improved Housing (six one-person flats with a warden's flat in the attic and laundry facilities in the basement), reopening in 1990. It is now in the hands of Helm Housing.

Public access to grounds.

**SPRINGFIELD, County Antrim (AP LISBURN AND CASTLEREAGH 08) AN/066
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Late 18th century parkland in townland of Magheragall, lying 3.2 miles (5.2km) west of Lisburn and 4.3 miles (7km) north-east of Hillsborough. The registered parkland area (31.6 acres/12.8ha) is the eastern section of a larger park (total 70 acres/28ha), the western part of which has been despoiled in recent decades with various suburban type dwellings and associated planting. The present house (Listed HB 19/03/004) is the focal point of the surviving intact eastern section of the park; it is a substantial west-facing two-storey mid-Victorian mildly Italianate mansion with overhanging hipped roof on paired brackets built around 1857 to a design of the architect Thomas Jackson. Originally it was roughly square in plan, but later in the 19th century it was extended to the north doubling the footprint. It replaced an earlier more modest dwelling in the western sector of the park, which still survives (Listed HB19/03/005) and is located on a height at the southern end of the yards/outbuildings complex. It faces south-west and is a long single-storey gentrified farmhouse with painted roughcast walls, a slated gabled roof and a symmetrical front with central canted porch and is a rebuilding of c.1800 of an earlier house. Atkinson, writing in 1817, described it as 'a model of English neatness and beauty, the vermillion roof...being happily combined with the snowy whiteness of its walls, and with the verdure of its lawn and plantations'. At that time the property belonged to a Major Houghton, having acquired the lease from Edward Wakefield c.1811 who had acquired it from Captain Robert Redman (1720-88). The present park both in the east and west was most likely created by Wakefield in the 1790s and later improved by Houghton and his son, who remained here until the 1850s. Many fine mature trees survive. Until the 1850s the kitchen garden lay immediately east of the cottage residence; The *Ordnance Survey Memoirs* of 1837 contain a detailed account of the garden at that time. Around 1855 Springfield was inherited by Captain Haughton's daughter and her husband Joseph Richardson (1821-1906), whose father was the founder of the linen manufacturing firm of J.N. Richardson, Sons & Owden. They built the present house around 1857-59 to the east of the old dwelling,

removing the old kitchen garden in the process and enlarging the parkland to the east and north. The old house became a service building. New walled kitchen gardens were built north of the new house; these are enclosed by stone walls with some brickwork and divided by walls into three sections; furthest from the house are two of the walled gardens (1.2 acres/0.48ha), that on the west containing glasshouses and cold-frames and the larger section (0.8 acres/0.32ha) on the west. Between these and the house is another walled garden (0.87 acres/0.35ha) which formerly has two large lean-to south-west facing conservatories just north-west of the house. The glasshouses are now gone and the two furthest gardens under grass, but the garden behind the house is still ornamental with mowed lawns and boxed edged flower beds. This garden's then very colourful planting, when owned by Joseph Robert Richardson (d.1924), was described in some detail in an article in *Irish Gardening* of 1915 (August issue). The park has had two carriage drives since the 18th-century. The main one for the old house is from the south-west and curves gently up to the older house, while the former service drive from south, became the main drive after the 1850s with the new house. The southern entrance has a lodge (HB 10/03/003) of c.1870, possibly by Jackson, with symmetrical frontage, projecting outer bays and a central projecting gabled porch, now in private hands. This gateway, possibly of the same date, has a pair of slim granite piers with anthemion finials, along with decorative cast-iron gates and matching outer railings which rise off low rendered walls. The western gates also have a surviving lodge (HB 19/03/006), built c.1845, being a single-storey hipped-roof structure with a symmetrical front with projecting porch, rendered walls and mildly Classical overtones, also now a private residence; the accompanying original gateway has been removed. In 1928 the property was sold to Mr. Fergus Wilson (1872-1957), a director and later Chairman of the Blackstaff Spinning & Weaving Company, and again sold in 1963 when the property was divided with the old house becoming a residence again and its grounds in more recent years developed with suburban dwelling. Consequently, much of the old western part of the park has been lost. SMR7 ANT063:056/rath and SMR7/ ANT 063:036/ecclesiastical site; SMR7/ ANT 007:118]/ souterrain and SMR7/ ANT 007:124/fortified house unlocated. Private

**WALLACE PARK, County Antrim (AP LISBURN AND CASTLEREAGH 08) AN/122
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Public Park (31.3 acres/12.7ha), formerly known as the 'People's Park', lies on the north-east side of Lisburn. The area is partly walled and with two entrances with matching gate lodges; one, the east, is off the Belsize Road, while the west is off the Magheralave Road. The park was created in 1885 on land presented to the people of Lisburn by the local landlord, Sir Richard Wallace (1818-90), on an area formerly the outer park for Castle House, his Lisburn residence. Sir Richard, who took on his mother's maiden name, was the illegitimate son (or possibly half-brother) of the bachelor Richard Seymour-Conway, 4th Marquis of Hertford (1800-70), whose unentailed estates he had inherited. Created a Baronet in 1871, he sat as MP for Lisburn (1873-85), but became more widely-known for his acts of philanthropy, contributing large sums to help the poor of Paris in the wake of the siege of the city in 1870-71, for which he was made a *Commandeur de la légion d'honneur*. The land selected for the park, which slopes from north down to south and is steeper in the north than the south, is bordered by the Lisburn to Belfast railway line to the south. It was largely taken up by fields let to tenants, a reservoir to the north-west, and, roughly in the centre, a cricket pitch used by Lisburn Cricket Club since 1854. Sir Richard provided £4,000 towards the park's creation and the work was probably overseen by local architect John McHenry, who is known to have designed the lodges. The park, which is mostly grassed, was designed around the cricket pitch with a main central path sweeping around the pitch on the south in an arch from the entrance on the east (Belfast Road) to the west (Magheralave Road) with a network of arterial or subsidiary paths extending north and south. A band of woodland already existed on the park's northern perimeter; this was extended in a significant tree-planting programme, notably limes and copper beech along the paths, all of which took up much of the park's budget. The entrance

gates and lodges are original to the park and both lodges and gate screens at the main entrances on the Belsize and Magheralave Roads are largely identical. They were built in 1884-85 to designs by architect John McHenry and are single-storey late Georgian Style buildings in red brick with rendered plinths and dressings, slated hipped roofs with rendered eaves courses. Both were abandoned in c.1990 with the Magheralave lodge reduced to a roofless shell after being gutted by fire in 2000. Hearth Housing Association acquired the pair shortly after this and restored them in 2004-05. The original railings, gates and iron piers — like many others — were removed in the 1940s for the war effort with the present ones, which replicate their predecessors, installed c.1992. There were once formal flower beds in grass at the east entrance. The park originally contained one of the five drinking fountains (by Charles Auguste Lebourg) that Wallace presented to the town. It was in a central position, to the south of the main path, but was moved in the 1980s to Market Square in the centre of the town. The completed park was formally handed over to the Town Commissioners in June 1885; the park was renamed 'Wallace Park' in honour of the benefactor on his death in 1890. The original park had been furnished with a bandstand located on what are now playing fields to the south-east; however, by 1900 a new bandstand, located north of the main path, was built; it is octagonal, with slim metal columns supporting a lead hipped roof rising to a central pinnacle with weathervane, all largely rebuilt in 2011, save the columns which appear to remain of the original. Like many other such public spaces, Wallace Park evolved to keep pace with trends in leisure activities. In the 1890s a cycle track was introduced and by 1902 the former reservoir at the north-west had been absorbed into the grounds and made into a pond for boating (and skating in winter), complete with paths around it. New tennis courts were laid out, whilst the large field to the east of the cricket pitch was utilised for the playing of football and other sports. Children's playground facilities, however, were a relatively late introduction, map evidence suggesting they made their appearance after 1945. Other post-war changes included the building of a pavilion for the tennis courts and the construction of lavatories. Private access.

AREA PLAN – MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09

CAIRNDHU, County Antrim (AP MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09) AN/013

REGISTERED GRADE B

Small Parkland (registered area 27.2 acres/11ha) associated with a summer residence of 1881-2 (Listed HB 06/03/007), located on a beautiful sloping site overlooking the sea, some 0.73 miles (1.118km) south-east of Ballygalley (it is in Ballygalley townland); 3.22 miles (5.18km) north-west of Larne and adjacent to the north side of Carncastle Lodge (Carnfunnock Country Park). A former much smaller house on the same site called Sea View had relatively little associated planting and was, as the name implies, very exposed to the sea below to the east. This earlier house had belonged to the Agnew family of Kilwaughter Castle, but in the 1850s passed to two Scottish relations, Robert Stewart Agnew and James Charles Agnew. The latter developed 'Carncastle Lodge' demesne in the adjoining townland of Carnfunnock, while the former lived at Sea View until he died in 1872. In 1878 the property was bought as an occasional residence by the very wealthy thread manufacturer from Paisley, John Stewart Clark (1829-1907), who renamed it 'Cairndhu'. While he retained a part of the old modest west facing house, the residence, now facing north, was substantially built anew. He put down a new approach avenue and laid out professionally designed associated park with effective shelter belts, though the site already benefited from the shelter belts of the adjoining property of Carncastle Lodge. Clark's main residence was Kilinside House, Kirkcudbrightshire, until the late 1890s, when he acquired Dundas Castle, South Queensferry, so Cairndhu for him was only a summer residence, though over the years he enlarged the house - the last major work being done in 1906 when the south wing was added to a design of S.P. Close, who was probably also responsible for the earlier works. The

house today, which has the air of an Alfred Hitchcock film prop, has been described as ‘a large multi-gabled house of asymmetrical plan and irregular outline, designed in a vaguely Tudor style, mostly of two storeys but rising to three storeys in part and characterised by its profusion of gables and bays.’ It has a dramatic overhanging and steeply-pitched roof, terracotta ridge tiles and (generally) tall, sandstone chimneystacks. To the south and north-east there is an extensive, decorative timber verandah and balcony, while the main entrance faces north via a square plan porch with entrances to east and west accessed from the verandah. Steeply terraced lawns were developed around the house with a tennis court east of these and a level area south of the house, used for croquet about 1900, with more terraces on its west, the latter of which had flowerbeds. The area all around the dwelling house has several curving walks with good shrubs and many large trees including many large *Cupressus macrocarpa* (Monterey Cypress) planted for their tolerance of the salty sea air. The Clarks’ land steward and head gardener Hugh Henderson, from Scotland (1844-1914) was directly responsible for much of the layout of the planting; many of the mature trees present today are the result of his work. The walled kitchen garden (1.3 acres/0.53ha), which occupied a square area, lay a short distance west of the house on higher ground; it was compartmented with privet and young beech and entered through a gate in the south. There were glasshouses (partly extant) against the north-west kitchen garden wall with potting sheds and boiler-house behind. A short distance west of the main house Clark built a two-storey stable complex in the 1880s (Listed HB 06/03/009), of black stone rubble with sandstone quoins; this was extended in the north-east in 1904-5. Two gate lodges were built, both of which survive; the main entrance lodge (Listed HB 06/03/007) is an asymmetric, single to one and a half-storey, picturesque composition in squared, rock-faced sandstone, with steeply-pitched gables, overhanging slated roof with bargeboards and exposed rafter ends, and a central, sandstone chimneystack, probably designed by S.P. Close. The other gate lodge is set on the drive to the western edge of the property - it is a much plainer three-opening wide single-storey structure with a porch similar to its main entrance counterpart. John Stewart Clark died in 1907 and Cairndhu was occupied by his widow until her death in 1910, and then by their daughters. A second of the Clarks’ three daughters, Edith S. (1871-1964), married Thomas James Dixon (1868-1950), later Sir Thomas, in 1906 and they came to live in Cairndhu in 1918. An unpublished and undated typescript by E.M. Dempsey (MBR garden files) states that Edith’s ‘pride and joy was the Old World garden with the cherry tree walk to the wishing well, the maze, and the new heather garden which she had created towards Ballygally [sic] Head. She engaged the artist, Mr Stanley Prosser, then living at Ballygalley, to paint a series of garden scenes’. The cherry tree walk and well were in the eastern part of the walled garden. Thomas James Dixon added a servants’ dining hall to the north-eastern corner in 1937 and, in the same year he bought the neighbouring Carncastle Lodge estate. In February 1948 the Dixons gave Cairndhu to the Hospitals Authority for use as a convalescent home, which was officially opened in December of the following year. The hospital closed in 1986 and ownership passed to Larne Borough Council. It was acquired in 1994 from the council by commercial group Andras House Ltd who in 2005 sold it on to a private developer. The northern end of the old demesne is now a golf course (not in the registered area) Cairndhu is in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Private.

**CARNFUNNOCK COUNTRY PARK, County Antrim (AP MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09) AN/136
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Mid-Victorian parkland (147.4 acres/56.6ha), created for a house that no longer exists on sloping ground that offers magnificent views eastwards over the sea and to Island Magee. It lies above the Antrim Coast Road, 0.72 miles (1.16km) south-east of Ballygalley and 2.9 miles (4.6km) north-west of Larne. The park was created in the 1850s by James Charles Agnew (1794-1880), whose brother had inherited from his father (in 1847), the adjacent demesne to the north, Cairndhu, formerly Sea View. Located in the townland of Carnfunnock on land acquired by his father in 1823, Agnew called his new house Cairncastle Lodge. It was an irregular part two, part one and a

half-storey Tudor/ Jacobean style house with Flemish gables, tall chimneystacks and finials, built in a U-plan with castellated entrance arch on the east side. The house was approached by two sweeping avenues, one to the north and the other from the south, each with gate lodges along the recently opened Coast Road. Both these lodges (Listed HB 06/03/003) reflect something of the appearance of the former house as they have similar features, including gables, label moulding and tall chimneys, although both are solely Tudor rather than Jacobean in inspiration. Dean speculates that both may have been designed by English architect James Sands; if is the case then the main house *may* have been by him also. The parkland is arranged to reflect the setting of the demesne in the curve of Carnfunnock Bay. The parkland created for the house in the 1850s was bounded on all sides by broad-leaved tree belts, with a woodland block on the west perimeter to help shield winds; the latter, containing a high percentage of evergreens, contained walks and a summer house in the Victorian era (the site of this is now a look out). The two avenues to the house were enclosed within narrow tree belts that served to enclose a large ovoid lawn below the house whose eastern tree screen narrowed in the centre to allow views of the bay. More open parkland lay west and south-west of the house, partly subdivided by a narrow tree screen that sheltered the lane to the farm yard, built 240m south-west of the house. The house itself was enclosed by trees as was the walled kitchen garden which was built immediately north of the house on sloping ground. It is a large sub-rectangular walled garden (1.65 acres/0.67ha), enclosed by stone walls with internal brick-lining and brick coping, outside of which on the north and west sides are narrow slips. The garden's east wall still has iron clamps for fruit trees and since at least the 1930s, if not from the 1850s, the garden has had at least two glasshouses (now gone). In 1865 the house and demesne were sold to James Chaine (1841-85) of the Chaine family of Muckamore, where the family owned a series of linen beetling and bleach mills on the Six Mile Water. In 1885 it passed to his sons, James and William, and in 1937 was bought by Sir Thomas and Lady Edith Dixon who owned the neighbouring 'Cairndhu.' The Dixons had the dwelling house at Cairncastle Lodge demolished and, in 1947, a one-storey house they called 'Carnfunnock House' was built on the site, which they used for occasional visits, their main home being by this time, Wilmont House, Dunmurry. Sir Thomas died in 1950 and Lady Edith sold Carnfunnock to Larne Borough Council in 1957, which subsequently leased the house to the Larne Lions Club for use for visitors and as a holiday home for the elderly, and developed the land as a public amenity. In late 1980s, the area was landscaped and opened as a public park in 1990—Carnfunnock Country Park. Part of the redevelopment in 1990 included the walled garden (Ferguson and McIlveen), which saw a 'Time Garden' being made wherein is a display of sundials showing how time was measured at different eras and by different cultures. The same project also saw the creation of a small amphitheatre, pergolas, flower, rose, rock and water gardens. In 1991 a hornbeam maze arranged in the shape of Northern Ireland was added north-west of the walled garden. Today only the northern drive is used and a new reception building has been built north-east of the dwelling house. There is a caravan park south of the dwelling house and also a golf driving range, promenade, slipway, lookout and trails. The park is in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Public access is at the northern gate lodge and there are car parks on both sides of the public road. Public amenity.

**CASTLE DOBBS, County Antrim (AP MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09) AN/014
REGISTERED GRADE A***

Good surviving 18th-century demesne (401.3 acres/162.4ha) with architecturally very important house of 1751-54 (Listed HB 22/13/001A), located 2.9 miles (4.7km) north-east of Carrickfergus Castle and 2 miles (3.3km) south-west of Whitehead. The house stands in a splendid position overlooking Belfast Lough and the County Down shore. Significantly, Castle Dobbs is one of the few large country seats in Ulster which has remained in the same family since the early 17th century. The Dobb's are descended from John Dobbs (c.1575-1618), an Elizabethan soldier/administrator who arrived to Ireland in 1599 as treasurer for Sir Henry Docwra; he was a

grandson of Sir Richard Dobbs (1531-73), Lord Mayor of London. He married (1603) Margaret (1575-1620) the daughter of John Dalway of Ballyhill and settled on land which he appears to have initially leased from the Dalways, and where by 1610 had he had built 'a fayre castle...called Dobbes Castle, about w'ch he intends to buyld a bawne of stone.' The ruins of this 'castle' (Scheduled SMR7/ANT053:001) stand to the west of today's residence, adjacent to the walled garden; it appears to have been a four-storey rectangular building of stone rubble with south-west north-east axis of which only the north-east end survives, with window loops and some timber (modern replacements) lintels. There is no sign of a bawn, but it is may have stood on the east and north-east side. The house or 'castle' evidently flanked a small stream, which was placed under cover during the landscaping of the mid/late 18th century. This house, which seems to have survived the 1641 Rebellion, was superseded at some point in the later 17th century by a second house, most probably lying a close distance from it. Nothing apparently survives of this house and unfortunately, as yet, no illustration has surfaced, but it was built by Richard Dobbs (1634-1701), son of Hercules Dobbs (1613-34), most probably at some stage after the death of his wife, Dorothy Williams, in 1665, when Dobbs and his five children returned from England where they had been residing intermittently. Richard Dobbs had wide interests ranging from poetry, to horticulture, natural history, riding and hunting and it's likely his new house and associated gardens were substantial. The house was certainly complete by 1683 when he referred to 'my house', in his well known account *A brief description of County Antrim*, where in he stated that the residence had 'a fine view of the whole bay and lough of Carrickfergus, and in a few years may be remarkable for the orchards and gardening about it'. A number of features associated with this house survived to be depicted on the 1830s OS 6-inch map, notably the 'Dutch Garden' - a long rectangular area south of the old house, 67m (220ft) x 35m (115ft), with south-east, north-west axis, possibly a former parterre with surrounding walks that incorporated yew trees and limes, some of which survive as dwarf stands. A series of orchards to the south and south-east of this garden probably belong to this era and no doubt future archaeological fieldwork will pick up many more features of this former residence, as the area, which is now under woodland, remains relatively undisturbed. In 1701 Richard Dobbs was succeeded by his son Richard Dobbs II (1660-1711), a military man, who in turn was succeeded by his son Arthur Dobbs (1689-1765), a man like his grandfather with wide interests, but who also became a very distinguished public and colonial administrator. He was MP for Carrickfergus (1727-60) and succeeded Edward Lovett Pearce as Surveyor-General of Ireland, supervising the construction of the new Irish Parliament Building in Dublin. He purchased 400,000 acres in North Carolina and was appointed governor of the colony in 1753. By this stage he was building a new house at Castle Dobbs, work of which started around 1751 and was still underway when Pococke visited in 1752, observing that 'Mr Dobbs is now building on a very fine spot on rising ground' and noting the old house was a low situation behind a hill. The new house, one of the grandest in Ireland of its time, was based closely on a plan and elevation (Plate 64) in James Gibbs's *Book of Architecture* (1728), a widely read architectural pattern book of the time, a copy of which Dobbs had in his library (with the plate missing). Save for some differences, for example the presence of a basement, Dobb's new house, designed by an unknown hand, followed closely Gibbs's very masculine Palladian plan with flanking wings. It consists of a main two-storey over high basement hipped roof double-pile block, complete with double staircase and breakfront, flanked by much lower two-storey quadrants with roundel windows, which linked to two-storey wings. Abutting the north-eastern (outer) corner of the eastern front wing is a two-storey rubble-built hipped roof range, with a similar range set to the east of this at a right angle. These ranges were part of an extensive collection of pre-1840s outbuildings which stood to this side and to the north-west of the house, most of which have been demolished. He also undertook associated landscaping work, though unfortunately much of this had been altered by the time we have the earliest map of the demesne in 1800 (this map, which is presently in the house, has a cartouche of the south front of the house as it was before alterations in the 1840s). The Palladian house appears to have had a

largely formal demesne layout with a long straight terraced walk flanking the south side of the building, bordering a very large rectangular lawn, which lead onto a straight tree-lined avenue extending to the old mail coach road (Carrickfergus to Larne), the line of which was altered in the 1850s to make the present Larne Road (thus leaving a long stretch of the old demesne wall moribund). Dobbs had little or no time to enjoy his new house as he left Ireland to become the Royal Governor of North Carolina in 1754 and remained there until he died in 1765 (he was buried there). Today, Arthur Dobbs is remembered for his recognition of *Dionaea muscipula* (Venus fly-trap), whilst serving as governor. He was succeeded by his son Conway Richard Dobbs (1727-1811). During his long ownership he put down extensive plantations of oak and beech to the west, north and north-east of the house, including 'Planting Hill' and it is likely he also built the demesne wall. A walled kitchen garden, known as the 'Lower Garden', was built, probably in the 1770s lying some 260m south-west of the house within the newly planted wood alongside the meandering Kilroot River. This garden with a parallelogram plan (1.25 acres/0.5ha), has stone walls lined with brick on the inside. The location was so sheltered the local climate was said to be very clement, so much so that peaches ripened in it on the wall in the open, that is, without glass. The garden is now largely overgrown, but was used in recent decades for breeding pheasants. There is a path leading down to a door in its north-east facing wall near where there is a metal arbour, no longer planted up. The OS six-inch map of the 1850s designates an area adjacent to it on the east 'Nursery' and a free-standing rectangular building to the north-east 'Green House'. Nearby to the garden on the south is a chestnut walk, while to the south-west of this on the river an artificial small pond on the river with a salmon leap. In 1811 Richard Dobbs was succeeded by his son Richard Conway Dobbs (1753-1840), who according to the OS Memoirs of 1838 neglected both the gardens and outbuildings, probably in part due to lack of resources (the extensive American family estates in Carolina had been confiscated by the new American government). However, his son, Conway Richard Dobbs II (1796-1886), who inherited in January 1840, did not suffer from any lack of finances; he had married a rich heiress, Charlotte Maria Sinclair, daughter of an industrial magnet, who lived at Fort William, Belfast. Both the house and landscape were modified by him; indeed, the property has little changed subsequently. Conway Richard Dobbs and his wife first approached Sir Charles Lanyon in 1844-45 with a view to modernising the house and providing more bedrooms in the west wing; they also wanted to fill in the space between the wings and front pavilions with suites of rooms. A series of planning proposals (undated and unsigned) were subsequently proposed for the house by Lanyon and an unidentified architect; the long term plan was to convert the whole mansion into a 19th-century magnate's Palazzo and some charming landscape views (1854-55) of what this would have looked like were prepared by the miniature painter James Howard Burgess, then an art tutor to the Dobb's children. These plans were never fully realised, most of the new building work being focussed on remodelling and extending the wings to incorporate the pavilions and adjacent yards. On the garden front the main block was recased to the first floor cornice, while at the entrance the old curved perron of steps (recorded in a sketch of 1843) was replaced by the present flights and lower loggia. Work stopped on the house around 1849/50, possibly due to the reduced rents due to the famine. Also in the early 1850s a new range of farm buildings were built at the north end of the demesne (Listed HB 22/13/001E); this takes the form of an H-shaped complex of relatively long, narrow multi-bay single-storey blocks, with rubble walls, brick dressings, slate roofs with gabled ends. West of the house at the end of the broadwalk terrace beside the old 17th century ruin, a series of old courtyards and farm buildings were cleared away and replaced with a second walled garden, known today as the 'Upper Garden' (Listed HB 22/13/001H). It is rectangular in plan (0.42 acres/0.17ha) with curved north wall and coursed basalt walls with projecting coping.. The north face of the south wall is lined with single-storey lean-to potting sheds, well preserved, while the brick-lined south side of the south wall, facing onto the broadwalk had a long (140ft/42m) range of lean-to glasshouses (vinery/peaches/nectarines). The west end of this range was demolished c.1980 and today the surviving range is 77ft (23m) long; it no longer has its small glass panes, but

nonetheless the glasshouse could probably qualify as the old surviving timber glasshouse in Ulster. Also built at this time (c.1845-50) was the Gardener's Cottage (Listed HB 22/13/001B) to the west of the upper walled garden. Probably also designed by Lanyon, it is a one and a half-storey Tudoresque building with rubble walls, granite quoins and dressings, overhanging slated roof with decorative barge boards and a small cut-stone chimneystack with clay pots; it appears it was never actually used as the head gardener's house. At the same time as building work was being undertaken on the house and out buildings, the parkland was professionally re-designed, the landscaper responsible as yet not identified. As usual at this time, this work not only involved tree planting but also extensive land drainage operations. In the front lawn of the house, an area of about 55 acres (22ha) south and south-west of the house, divided into two sections, a series of around sixteen irregular and different sized tree clumps were planted. One of these clumps south of the house was later used to house a family mausoleum. The old entrance south-east of the house on the old coach road was retained (with a gate lodge) and a circuit drive made flanking the east side of the lawn to the house. The woods on the west side of the lawn, which contained the Kilroot River, was dissected with a series of paths, 'Glenside Walks', alongside the river, incorporating a series of bridges and a summer house just north of the lower garden, while outside of this wood on the west side a new approach avenue to the house was made from an entrance (with lodge) in the south-west corner of the demesne. This new approach avenue, which involved making earthen cuttings and embankments, became the principal approach to the house from the 1850s (not currently used). It was flanked on its west by an extension to the parkland with a large meadow (52 acres/21ha), delimited with tree belts on its west, south and north sides. North of the house a single lake (1.5 acres with small island) was created out of two small lakes or ponds at this time, as was the weir with curved falls, but the three-span bridge (Listed HB 22/13/001F) appears to be an 18th century structure; it has granite abutments, coursed basalt rubble spandrels and parapets, sandstone pillars and rounded saddle-back coping to parapet. There is a cast-iron mechanism fixed to the north side of the bridge. This bridge carries an 18th century avenue, now the principal entrance into the property with a lodge (see below). Just north of the lake on the river, a bridge was built to provide access to the farmyard; it is a single span bridge (Listed HB 22/13/001G) with random rubble abutments, spandrels, parapets and curved vermiculated sandstone coping, dated 1855. The area north of the house, along the river and around the lake, has been the focus of exotic tree and shrub planting, both recently and in the past. The grass plat in front of the house boasts a fine Wellingtonia and there are a number of others in the vicinity. There are also old chestnut trees to the west of the carriage drive and south-east of the house a hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus* 'Pendula'), which is a champion and is, in fact, both Irish height (19.5m) and girth champion. At one time there were five gate lodges, one in the north, two in the east, one in the south and one in the west. Two remain, notably the North Lodge (Listed HB 22/13/001C), which opens off Tongue Loanen and is a single-storey Classical Style lodge of c.1830. The neighbouring gate screen is relatively plain, with square piers in squared rock-faced stone and simple wrought-iron spearhead carriage gates. SMR: ANT 47:16 two circular raths, 47:17 enclosure, 47:46? souterrain, 53:1 fortification, 53:2 enclosure? tree ring. Private.

**CHAIINE PARK, County Antrim (AP MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09) AN/029
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Small public park (3.5 acres/1.4ha) located between the Coast-road and the sea, 0.7 miles (1.1km) north-east of Larne Main-street. Described as "a pretty pleasure garden, well equipped with seats and shelters in a perfect suntrap on the seashore" in the Borough of Larne *Official Guide*, the park occupies a steep slope down towards the sea, facing east and backed on the north by a wooded hill. The site was donated in the 1920s by the Chaine family to the people of Larne and serves as a memorial to the family, in particular James Chaine (1841-85) M.P. of Cairncastle Lodge, who developed the port of Larne Harbour, revived the Larne-Stranraer route in 1872 and later

transatlantic crossings. The park retains its 1920s layout, with paths meandering throughout, steps, bedding and seats. There are shelters, grassed areas and streams leading to a pond. There are clumps of shrubs and a few flower beds. A few trees grow in the north side; to the south is the public park, the 'Town Park' with the Glenarm-road forming the western boundary. To the south-east of the park is a rath (SMR: ANT 35:19), which has been adapted as a private burial ground, enclosed by high wrought iron railings (Listed HB 06/08/006). The entrance, facing north-west, has a pair of gates similar to the railings and a metal plaque fixed to the left gate 'These railings enclose the private burial ground of James Chaîne...his family and heirs'. A kiln (HB 06/08/007) can be accessed from the north of the park. The park is on the route of the promenade from which the iconic Chaîne Memorial Tower, an 1888 replica of an Irish round tower, at the mouth of Larne Harbour, commemorating James Chaîne, can be seen. Public amenity.

**CLEGGAN LODGE, County Antrim (AP MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09) AN/121
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Demesne (475 acres/192ha) of 18th century date incorporating a hunting lodge, later adapted as a county house (Listed HB 07/05/006) with an associated mid 19th-century landscape park. It lies just north-east of The Sheddings, 4.68 miles (7.64km) north-east of Broughshane and 6.4 miles (10km) south-west of Glenarm. In the 17th and 18th century the lands here belonged to the O'Hara's of The Route and Crebilly and in the early 18th century 'Claggin' belonged to Henry O'Hara son of Teige (living 1689). It is first shown on Taylor's and Skinner's map of 1777 with the name 'Clagan' belonging to 'O'Hara Esq.' and is also depicted on the 1780 Lendrick map of county Antrim. The property remained with the O'Haras until at least 1823 and at some stage before 1830 it was leased to Charles, Earl O'Neill of Shane's Castle (1779-1841), who was himself a relation of the O'Haras. O'Neill appears to have remodelled the old residence, building a large south-east facing thatched cottage orné, one and half-stories high with projecting canted bays and a multitude of dormers. Although large, it was built for use as a hunting lodge. Fraser described it in 1838 as, '... the beautiful hunting seat of Earl O'Neill's.' and earlier in 1833 Lieutenant Boteler in the OS Memoirs wrote that 'In the townland of Cleggan is the hunting lodge of Earl O'Neill, who resides there but for a short time during the shooting season' and is 'surrounded by plantations of a considerable extent'. A small vignette of the building, on an estate map believed to date from 1832, shows the main front section of the house as today, but with a thatched roof. It is worth noting that the Earl had another orné dwelling on Ram's Island, (built c.1812), and his father, the Hon. John O'Neill, had built similar rustic houses at Brecart and Toome ('Raymond Cottage'). The extensive plantations were almost certainly put down by the Earl O'Neill specifically for the purpose of providing cover for game, which the OS Memoirs noted were 'chiefly consisting of fir and larch and extends over about 200 acres'. The Earl O'Neill died in 1841 and by the late 1850s was back in the hands of a John O'Hara, indicating that the O'Neill had only leased and not bought the property. It was subsequently leased to an Englishman, Thomas Fisher in 1862, who bought it outright in 1864, later passing to James Fisher and then his son, John Fisher in 1874. The Fisher's made a small lake with an island in the park south-east of the house and added isolated specimen trees to the open meadows of the park, but they did not remove woodland to increase the parkland area. Walks were made in the woods and a summer house built north-east of the house. A ha-ha was made separating the house from parkland and a kitchen garden (1 acres/0.4ha) was made immediately north-west of the house adjacent to the yards. In 1896 the property was bought by Edward, 2nd Baron O'Neill, (the son of William Chichester O'Neill), who replaced the thatch with slates and made internal alterations. Around this time extensive areas of woodland were felled north of the house converting the area into farmland. Further extensive changes were carried out by Sir Hugh O'Neill after inheriting the house in 1927, with major additions to the rear of the property, including a 'chauffeur's house, motor house and offices'. Further woodland was subsequently felled so that today it has lost much of its original woodland aspect, though there are still good mature trees in the surviving

woodland and in the parkland. A rockery was made in the glen by the present owners grandfather post-1927 and in 1978 the house was restored and re-roofed in 1978, with further extensions to the rear being made in 1988 to designs by Consarc Partnership and Robert McKinstry. To the north of the house there is a complex of mid to later 20th century farm buildings and to the south-west there is the U-shaped outbuilding, shown on the 1832 OS map, and now converted into three holiday cottages. There is a gate lodge next to the main entrance off Carnlough Road; this is a relatively plain single-storey structure with hipped roof, this is shown on the 1857 OS map. According to Dean there was a secondary gate lodge of similar date but this does not appear to have been marked on any of the OS maps. A cultivated and productive garden is still kept at the house in immaculate order, including herbaceous borders, a hot house and frames. This present garden is post-1927. 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 (AP MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09) AN/018
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Parkland (Registered area 32 acres/13.1ha) associated with a Scottish Baronial House known as Craigdun Castle (Listed HB 07/02/009A) lying in Craigs townland, 4.8 miles (7.8km) north-west of Ballymena and 4.8 miles (7.75km) north-east of Portglenone. House was built *de novo* on a site just north-west of a flax mill about 1867 by Edmund McNeill (1821-1915), a colourful character known as 'Long Eddie,' because of his extreme height, who had been a sheep rancher in Australia (1839-47), later working as a land agent based in Ballycastle, when he married in 1851. The land here belonged to the Agnews until about 1825 when it was acquired by John McNeill of Parkmount, Belfast, later to become one of the founders of the Ulster Bank. His son John leased the property to Edmund McNeill, when then appears to have commissioned the building of this Scots baronial-style mansion, which he called Craigdun. It was completed in 1867 at a cost, according to the valuers, of 'about £6,000' and was probably designed by the firm of Lanyon, Lynn and Lanyon, although there is no known documentary proof to support this. It does however bear resemblance to other buildings by the firm; it is built of coursed basalt with lighter stone dressings and quoins, and consists of a large, three-storey, many gabled block with substantial five-storey tower to the north-west corner. The main entrance is to the west face of the tower with the door itself set within a semicircular-arched recess. As one would expect, decoration is fairly subdued, however, there is an armorial panel above the entrance and there are some gargoyles on the south front. To the east side of the house a short, single-storey service wing culminates in a squat, turret-like pavilion with steeply-pitched, conical roof. Attached to the north of this there is a large, L-shaped outbuilding which encloses the north and east sides of a courtyard, with a separate structure (extending from the main house) enclosing the western side. The outbuildings, which are part single and part two-storey, match the house both in terms of style and materials. There is a more extensive, detached complex of outbuildings further to the north, similar in style (and date) to those next to the house. The house was inevitably accompanied by a professionally designed parkland landscape, though by contrast to the house, rather modest in scale, probably reflecting the relatively small acreage of the lease. The rectilinear area of the park was entirely bordered by shelterbelts which today survive as fine, mature trees. The only place where a perimeter shelterbelt is now lacking is in the north-east. Today the trees in three shelterbelts on east, south and west are broadleaved species while those in the north shelterbelt are mixed broadleaved and coniferous. There are walks through the woodland at the east and south. The parkland also still has good, mature trees, including exotics. There is a champion tree—an outstanding, mature sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) south of the dwelling house which, about the 1990s, had a girth of 11m. It has been recorded as a girth champion. Just west of the walled garden and north of the stables, which are to the north of the dwelling house, are several exotic trees. The service drive is tree-lined. The walled garden, to the north-east of the house complex, occupies a rectangular area (1.02 acres/0.41ha) with north-east

south-west axis built as part of the house complex with stone walls, rendered on the inside. In the south-east corner there is a baronial pavilion similar to that at the end of the service wing of the house with circular stone conical roof with an iron weather-vane. Outside the centre of the south wall is a rectangular building. The garden used to have straight, intersecting paths which ran between rectangular plots with flowers and vegetables in the 1990s but the whole central area is now one large lawn, delimited by a path with beds between the path and enclosing walls. The walls still have some trained fruit trees. There used to be three glass houses, one island one in the north-west and two lean-to with grapes, peaches and tomatoes, one against the inside of the wall in the south-east. There was also a large, elaborate conservatory which straddled the south wall. This was a focal point of the garden and contained two wisterias and a passion flower. Different highly colourful displays of flowering plants in pots, such as cinerarias, primula, Schizanthus and azaleas in spring, hydrangeas in early summer and begonias, geraniums and gloxinias in August, were placed on the white painted stages and benches. This was a noted garden until the 1970s and its flowers and vegetables were exhibited in shows in Ballymena and Ballymoney, where they often won prizes. Outside the long south-eastern wall a lawn was enclosed from the park with a sinuous hedge (0.34 acres/0.14ha) with flower beds against the wall; the beds had different varieties of floribunda, edged in the 1950s, by a long, curvaceous bed of over 600 red begonias. Shrubs presently occupy these beds and the lawn is maintained. In addition to planting trees the park also involved laying down avenues and gates; of note is a decorative cast iron gate screen to the main entrance of the Dunminning Road (Listed HB07/02/009B) to the south edge of park. This has quadrant railings, square piers with ball and spike finials, and a central carriage gateway. A gate lodge, presumably contemporary with the main house, is shown to the east of the gateway on an 1886 map of the demesne, and the OS map of 1903. This was demolished at some point in the mid-1900s. Another gate lodge stood at the western gateway, built some time between 1886 and 1903; this, too, has been demolished. Edmund McNeill sold the demesne about 1912 to John Percy Stott, a businessman from Ballymoney, Co Antrim, who died in 1949. His daughter inherited it and married Commander R.P. Martin. In 1960 they built a new home for themselves, calling it Craigdun, to the south-west of the original building; unfortunately, this building off the Carclinty Road, seriously damaged the historic integrity of the park; it is now a nursing home. Around this time the big house was presented to the health board for use as a holiday home, (The 'Peter Stott Martin House'), for multiple sclerosis patients, with Commander and Mrs Martin undertaking to maintain the grounds. It was sold by the health board in 1993 and reconverted to a private home which was again sold to private buyers. It featured in the final of the BBC House of the Year programme in 2011. Private.

**DRUMALIS, County Antrim (AP MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09) AN/024
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Late-Victorian park and ornamental grounds (27.1 acres/10.0ha) with house of 1879-81 (Listed HB 06/08/005), located on the north-east side of Larne, between the Glenarm-road and the coast. Drumalis (Drumasliss) is sited on what had been an elevated and exposed spot atop a barren headland - the house and grounds having been created *de novo* by (Sir) Hugh Huston Smiley (1841-1909), son of local merchant and clockmaker John Smiley (1796-1876), who married a textile heiress, Anne Kerr (d.1930) from Paisley. He was well connected as his sister married the sister of Ernest Simpson, original husband of the Duchess of Windsor. Lady Smiley remained at Drumalis after her husband's death in 1909 and it was from here that her friend, Sir Edward Carson, organised the famous UVF 'gun-running' operation of 24th April 1914. The house, which took a number of years to build (1879-81) is a restrained Italianate two-storey rambling mansion with irregular plan dominated by a three stage-central tower and a four-stage turret. It has a hipped roof with eaves, full height canted bays, projecting portico, first floor cambered-headed windows, decorative iron cresting, solid parapets on turret and tower. There is an ornate timber

veranda to the south-west corner, a similar styled timber porch to the south-west. The architect is unknown. but almost certainly to have been Samuel P. Close (1842-1945), who added the tower and porch in 1892; further changes by Close followed in 1896 when a large ballroom and conservatory was built at the end of the south return. In 1910 the architect Samuel Stevenson (1859-1924) extended the northern return to its present L-shaped form, built a new veranda with conical roof added (since altered) and raised one of the bays. The associated ground has shelter belts of trees planted around the house, which define the site and have been successful in protecting the gardens from the salty sea breezes, though they limit the vistas. A substantial rubble-stone outer demesne wall still survives along the north perimeter with the Bankheads Lane running outside it; however much of the former demesne wall alongside the Glenarm Road was removed in the 1930s to allow houses to be built here. The main avenue curves up to the house from the Glenarm-road where there is a gate lodge (Listed HB 06/08/004), still occupied and designed by S.P. Close; there were formerly two other avenues with gate lodges (now demolished), one from the Glenarm-road and the other from the Curran-road, all avenues being lined with trees; in addition, there were two other entrances into the property without gate lodges. North-east of the house is the complex of stables, coach houses and byres, the building of which resulted in the removal of the side of a hill to create land on the flat. This abuts the demesne wall to the rear running alongside Bankheads Lane. Similarly, the adjacent former kitchen garden (2.1 acres/0.85ha) incorporates the demesne wall on its north side. This garden is mostly walled, save for a section at the west end; internally the land slopes down to north-wall to catch the sun. Glasshouses were erected against the south-facing wall; also a free standing glasshouse. A cart entrance at the north-east corner gave access to the stables on the east side. Pedestrian entrance at east end of south wall. From the early 1980s well into the 1990s the walled garden was used successfully as a Nursery Garden and some empty buildings and glasshouses from this period remain. The layout of the grounds around the house is quite typical for its period, being surrounded by sloping lawns, embanked by balustrading on the western and southern sides. The latter is terraced with good stone work and hedges. Steps connected areas, which are now grassed but once would have had flower beds - a number of paths meet at a sun dial south-west of the house. A pond and rose garden were added later; its original iron pergolas and supports survive. There is a recently restored rockery, probably once a fernery also. Clipped hedges are still a feature throughout the property. In 1927 Lady Smiley sold the property to William Crawford, who is said to have started Ireland's first electric light company. Mr. Crawford may have had plans to develop the site for housing, but nothing came of this and in 1930 The Cross and Passion order assumed ownership. They had plans, not realised, for a rear kitchen extension in 1938. In 1967 the ballroom and conservatory to the east were demolished (along with the outbuildings which stood to this side) and a large new retreat house extension containing 55 bedrooms, dining hall, library, lounge, Servery and chapel was begun. Designed by Patrick Haughey this was opened in Spring 1970. This section was remodeled and extended in 2002-03, with the original house refurbished at the same time. Since 1930, land to the southern and western side of the grounds has been given over to housing; more recently land for development was lost through compulsory purchase. Consequently, a large area of former parkland along the south side of the property, including a gate entrance and lode on the Curran-road, have been lost also to housing development - Landsdowne Crescent and Corran Manor housing estates were all originally part of the property. Those grounds retained by the order are beautifully maintained and survive as a fine example of late Victorian garden, all too rare in Ulster. Drumalis remains with the Convent of the Cross and Passion and is privately owned

**DRUMNASOLE, County Antrim (AP MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09) AN/025
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Demesne of about 230 acres (93ha) enclosing a late Regency classical house of c.1816-18 about 2 miles (3.5K) north of Carnlough and just south of Garron Tower on the east Antrim coast. It

occupies largely undulating ground between the Coast Road (built 1832-42) and the dramatic steep wooded escarpment of the Garron Plateau on the west, extending over part of four townlands, Drumnasole, Burnside, Newtown and Ballyvelligan. Formerly part of the extensive estates of the Earls of Antrim from at least the late 16th century, the earliest house here, which lay close to the present mansion, appears to have dated to the early 18th century when (in 1707) the property was leased by Randall MacDonnell (1680-1721), 4th Earl of Antrim, to John Donaldson. His family retained possession until 1772 when the 'mansion house' as well as a stable, barn, malt kiln, brew house, orchard, kitchen garden and plantations of ash, fir and sycamore were placed on the market. The property was held by Francis Shaw of Ballyclare from 1775-1801 and subsequently sold to an East India Company merchant, Francis Turnly (1765-1845) in 1808. His first action was to build a school house (Listed HB 06/01/023) in 1810 on the old Largy Road, which prior to the building of the Antrim Coast Road in 1832-42 was the east boundary of what was then a small demesne of about 65 acres (26ha). He began the new mansion around 1816 and the following year, when the house was still being built, it was described by the Rev. Richard Stewart Dobbs and being 'most commodious and excellent, 63 feet square'. Built for a reputed £7,000, it is a two-storey cube-like classical house faced in basalt with sandstone quoins (Listed HB 06/01/025). Much of the present planting around the house belongs to this era, though the deciduous woodland on the Garron escarpment to the west is earlier, possibly of medieval origin. In the 1830s the house was described as being 'beautifully situated on a gently sloping ground at the base of a precipitous and wooded hill and in the midst of considerable plantations', which over a decade later was echoed by another traveller who remarked on the 'sequestered dell, surrounded by perpendicular precipices, embosomed in the midst of thriving plantations' that he stated had been put down by Turnly. Following the completion of the Coast Road in the 1840s the parkland was expanded east with new plantings flanking the road and the Black Burn River on the south. Following the closure of the Old Largy Road, a new gate lodge was added on the south-east side of the demesne (Listed HB 06/01/023) by an unknown architect for Francis John Seymour Turnly (1862-1934); this was built in the Picturesque style with wave and foil bargeboards and hipknobs; it is flanked by a gate screen with four square cast iron piers, a pair of central carriage gates and a double-curved screen railing each side. Archaeological sites in the demesne include a flint-knapping site (SMR: 7-Ant 025/030), a fortification site (SMR: 7-Ant 025/031) and field systems on the Garron Plateau (SMR:7-Ant 025/029). Access private.

**GARRON TOWER, County Antrim (AP MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09) AN/031
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Mid-19th century demesne (196 acres/79.3ha) with house of 1848-54 (Listed HB 06/01/027) located on a plateau in a spectacular position above the County Antrim coast, 3.8 miles (6.1km) north of Carnlough and 4.2 miles (6.73km) south-east of Cushendall. Known as 'The Largy', in Galboly Townland, this 700ft high plateau has some natural shelter on the west side from steeply rising ground and this has been clothed with trees. The house, now St. Killian's College,, was built *de novo* as a summer residence for the redoubtable Lady Frances Anne Vane, Marchioness of Londonderry, the daughter of Sir Henry Vane Tempest and Lady Anne Catherine, Countess of Antrim in her own right. When her mother died in 1834, the title, along with most of the Antrim (Glenarm) estate, passed to her aunt, Lady Charlotte Kerr, Frances receiving only twenty townlands. Afterwards, she decided to establish a summer residence on these lands, initially favouring restoring Dunluce Castle, but, on the advice of Charles Campbell, a builder from Newtownards, who had worked extensively for Lord Londonderry at Wynyrd Park, Co. Durham and later at Mount Stewart, she settled on Garron Point in the Carnlough area. The foundation stone was laid by Lady Frances in February 1848 and construction commenced under the direction of Campbell with the ground floor finished by July that year. The architect Charles Campbell died in late 1850 and the completion was left in the hands of his son, William, until 1851, by which time only peripheral sections needed to be completed. The end product was an

austere but romantic asymmetric cliff top castle of black basalt, facing south with roughly L-shaped in plan. To east is a three-storey octagonal tower at one end of a long building with a turret at the other end. The principal front is flanked by a terrace with a battery of eight cannon (George III Royal cipher) and a castellated retaining wall, which runs from a turret northwards through a canted 'embrasure', to a larger curved one adjacent to the east side of the main building. Lying on higher ground to the north is the stable block built in 1860 to designs by Lanyon & Lynn and converted for use as St MacNissi's school dormitory in 1951. A two-storey gabled building, it is laid out on three sides around a rectangular court with a wall across the fourth side which contains a pair of iron gates with square piers. At the main gateway to the south-west of the house there is a gate lodge, built in 1854 possibly to a design by Nicholas Fitzsimmons. The accompanying gate screen is comprised of a set of four cast-iron piers with Gothic fretwork and finials, and a set of carriage and pedestrian gates with quatrefoil decoration. The walled garden (2.27 acres/0.92ha) was located immediately west of the dwelling and flanking the road; it occupied a long roughly rectangular area (153m x 62m) with a long range of glasshouses against the north wall and a small frame yard with boiler house etc to the rear. This was demolished in the 1950s and replaced with St. MacNissi's College Chapel (HB 06/01/038) and remaining area of the garden is now occupied by various administrative buildings. The parkland landscape and gardens, were laid out by George Porteous, head gardener, who had been brought over from Wynyard Park in 1851; he was later land steward. He planted extensive woodlands on the slopes both above the house (hazel, ash, Scots pine) and on the slopes below. Some exotics, notably Eucalyptus globulus and cedars were planted to help check soil erosion along the road. The parkland, framed by these trees looking south from the house terrace and gardens, is an important feature of the castle setting, the view enhanced by clumps in the middle distance, and in the 19th century further clumps up the hillside to the south-west; in recent years the view of the park from the terrace has become partly obscured by modern planting, while a relatively modern car park here also detracts from the fine setting. The main ornamental grounds in the Victorian era were on the terrace in front of the south of the castle; today this area is occupied by a large expanse of lawn flanked on one side by clipped evergreen shrubs in a regular arrangement. Until 1900 there were informally laid out shrubs mixed with Irish yews and monkey puzzles in the area and then around 1900 when the house was a hotel, there were rectangular flower beds and urns. Further south there was a rose garden, later occupied by a pitch and put course. At the rear of the house a line of Irish yews, still largely present, flanked the clifftop promenade, while the area to its west and overlooked by the castle windows were formerly extensive lawns, divided into large sections by low clipped hedges; this area has now been largely covered by house extensions and outbuildings. The area north of the castle was never more than open fields flanked by the Dunmaul (Dunmall) promontory fort (Scheduled SMR7/ANT 20:003) which contains a reservoir for fire fighting installed in 1863. The ice house is also located on the Iron Age promontory fort, to the north of the main house. Built in 1849 by Charles Campbell, it is constructed of rubble stone and brick on a rectangular plan, with a vaulted roof and one small rectangular opening facing east. It is excavated into the side of a mound on the north side of the fort, with the top mostly grassed over. The interior is brick-lined with a steep drop into the chamber beyond the entrance. Lady Londonderry seems to have spent at least part of the summer months at Garron right up until her death in 1865. After this, the building appears to have lain idle, occupied only by servants. In 1889, it was rented by Henry MacNeill of Larne. Leased by MacNeill from 1898, it opened as a hotel in 1899. Much of the original contents were sold at public auction in 1911. MacNeill's firm bought the house in 1914, but afterwards it was badly damaged in an accidental fire and again in 1922. It closed as a hotel in 1939 and from 1941-46 was occupied by residents evacuated from Clifton House, Belfast. In 1950, the house was acquired for use as a boarding school ('St. Nissi's College') by the RC Diocese of Down and Connor. New classroom blocks were subsequently added to the rear of the building, along with a large freestanding 'neo-Italianate' chapel to the west (1956) and other college-related structures, all to

designs by Patrick Gregory. In 2010 St. MacNissi's College and two other County Antrim schools amalgamated to become St Killian's College. Promontory fort SMR: ANT 20:3. School.

GLEBE HOUSE (AHOGHILL), County Antrim (MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09) AN/032
REGISTERED GRADE B

Small Regency parkland (20.1 acres/8.11ha) formerly with house of 1815 (demolished), located 1.24 miles (2km) south of Ahoghill and 4.1 miles (6.6km) south-west of Ballymena on the B93. According to Lewis, writing in 1837, the Glebe house that was here was built in 1815 at a cost of £1,600, £1,500 loaned by the Board of First Fruits, with the remainder a gift. It remained in church hands until 1945 when it was acquired by Captain Terence O'Neill (1914 to 1990), later Baron O'Neill of the Maine, leader of the Unionist Party (1969 to 1970) and Prime Minister of Northern Ireland from 1963 who, upon his resignation in 1969, sold it to a Mr. Samuel Getty in 1969, and returned to live in England. Mr. Getty remained in residence until 1985. The old glebe house, now replaced with a modern dwelling, stands in the northern part of the property, approached from the north-east by a short, straight carriage drive, now lined with poplar, which until recent years used to have a gate lodge; a secondary entrance, for safety, was created during the O'Neill's time there. The park is characteristically enclosed on all sides by perimeter shelter belts, all of them planted as part of the original 1815 layout. In addition, and also of 1815, is an internal screen flanking the avenue of its south-east side. The original park also boasted a number of small tree clumps in the open meadow or 'lawn'. Remarkably, this park as created in 1815 survives intact. It has been noted that the trees throughout the demesne were carefully chosen as regards height in relation to one another, colour of foliage and flowers, and range of flowering time from early, for example, winter flowering quince and ornamental crabs, which flower in March, and several varieties of flowering cherry. After 1945 when Captain Terence and Mrs Kathleen Jean O'Neill (née Whitaker of Pylewell Park, 1915-2008), later Lord and Lady of the Maine, moved there and Jean O'Neill, created a notable ornamental and productive garden, with good plants set out to advantage in compartments. Jean O'Neill was well known in horticultural circles as a knowledgeable plainswoman, author (notably on the history of plants), Fellow of the Linnaean Society, Chairperson of the National Trust Gardens Committee and a gardener's advisor to the National Trust. There were herbaceous borders, an arboretum planted by Lord O'Neill and a woodland garden where rhododendrons and azaleas were a speciality; these included varieties of many colours from light cream, light apricot, pink and white to scarlet and yellow. The yellow variety, *Rhododendron campylocarpum*, said by Craig Wallace to be generally regarded as the 'most beautiful of yellow rhododendrons,' was one of several propagated originally at Pylewell Park. Mrs O'Neill's father, Mr W Ingham Whitaker, in earlier years, grew and introduced rhododendrons of his own raising there; he was a founder member of The Rhododendron Association and a prize-winner in its shows. Some of the planting from this era remains. The gate lodge c.1840 has been demolished. Private.

GLENARM CASTLE, County Antrim (AP MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09) AN/033
REGISTERED GRADE A*

Large demesne (1,425 acres/577ha) with multi-period house (Listed HB 07/02/001) in the Glens of Antrim, 14.6 miles (23.6km) north-east of Ballymena and 9.7 miles (15.6km) north-west of Larne. Noted for its beauty and large extent, the demesne occupies much of the lower reaches of the picturesque valley of the Glenarm River, extending some 4.8 miles (7.7km) from the sea with an average width of 0.5 miles (0.8km). The original castle, built by John Bissets (Bysets) in 1242, was located on the other side of the river in the centre of the village. The Bissets were Normans, but in the course of time became MacEóin Bissets of the Glens, whose heiress in the 1390 married into the MacDonnells, Lords of the Isles, then based in the Hebrides. After this, the MacEóin Bissets ruled from Glenarm with the support of the MacDonnell clan, who jointly founded a friary here in 1445 on the coast. In 1522 the MacEóin Bissets were defeated in battle by the O'Donnells

and the MacDonnells subsequently took possession of Glenarm and all of Bissets' lands. However, the MacDonnells, who since the 19th-century have spelt their name McDonnell, did not make Glenarm their principal seat until the 18th-century; prior to this it was Dunluce (until the 1640s) and then Ballymagarry (until the 1750s). In 1597 the MacDonnells partially pulled down the old castle in Glenarm, which stood on the site of the old courthouse, but then repaired it in 1600 and leased it to the Donaldsons, then kinsmen of the MacDonnells. Instead, from 1603 Sir Randal 'Arranach' MacDonnell (d.1636), later 1st Earl of Antrim, decided to build for himself a 'fine new house' on a *de novo* site the opposite bank of the river, away from the village, whilst at the same time the entire village itself was laid out afresh with houses and burgess plots to their rere. This decision followed Randal's being granted around 333,400 statute acres, known as the Route and the Glynns in May 1603 by the newly crowned king James I in gratitude for loyalty and military support; the grant stipulated that Randal should build a respectable residence in the four baronies of his estate. His new building at Glenarm, which may have begun as a Scottish style fortified house, perhaps like nearby Ballygalley, was subsequently considerably enlarged into a double pile house in 1636. The stone coat of arms, which would have once been placed above the front door, still survives today on the front of the Barbican gatehouse and reads: *With the Leave of God this castle was built by Randle McDonnell knight Earl of Antrim having to wife Dame Aelis O'Neill in the year of our Lord God 1636*. Only six years later, in 1642, 'Lord Antrim's pleasant house' was destroyed by invading Scots covenanter armies under General Robert Munro. It was to remain roofless for ninety years; Sir Randal's successor, Randal Óg, Second Earl of Antrim (1609-1682), raised to be Marquess of Antrim in 1644, appears to have made no attempt to rebuild Glenarm. However, his younger brother, Alexander MacDonnell (1615-99), who succeeded to the Glenarm property and later the title Third Earl of Antrim in 1682, did build a wing onto the ruin at Glenarm; fine bolection doorcase mouldings survive from this building, which served the earl during the hunting season. Around this time a stone bridge was built over the Glenarm River at what is now the Barbican to carry the public road from The Vennel and Castle-street across what is now the demesne to the Staidkilly-road and onto Ballymena; this bridge was swept away in a flood and replaced in 1713 with the present segmental twin arched bridge (Listed HB 06/02/001H). For the third and fourth Earls of Antrim, Glenarm was their principal sporting estate; it had a deer park created in the early 17th century to the east of the town high above the bay (217 statute acres); in the 1780s it appears that the third earl enclosed the Great Deer Park which occupied the whole of the centre and upper reaches of the Glenarm valley, covering 2996 statute acres. Richard Dobbs hunted here in 1683 and mentioned glen being 'clad with underwood', where he had the 'pleasantest hunting for Buck that ever I saw'. Randal, the Fourth Earl (1680-1721), the last Catholic holder of the title, was particularly fond of hunting at Glenarm, as was his son Alexander, the Fifth Earl of Antrim (1713-75), who, when he came of age in 1734 ordered a survey by land surveyor Archibald Stewart of his holdings (152,000 acres) including Glenarm demesne and the Great Deer Park (these are presently held in the castle). At that time the demesne included what is now Demesne Upper townland and the northern part of the present demesne, 264 acres in total. The village settlement also then extended on the west bank of the river with fourteen holdings of houses or cabins with gardens, including a mill. The Great Deer Park, lying 1.2 miles (2km) from the house, had a single storey two bay square pavilion with sprocketed roof on the east bank of the river, near or on the same site as presently occupied by the 19th-century Deerpark Cottage (Listed HB 06/02/001N); presumably this was built in late 17th or early 18th-century as a dining or banqueting house for those hunting in the park. The main house itself at this time was still a ruin; in 1740 it was reported that 'the walls seem to be entire and for the most part sound, while Pocock in 1752 observed it as 'an old house with good room in it, without a roof'. The out offices of the castle are fitted up to accommodate the Earl during the hunting season'. In the 1740s Alexander, the 5th earl, then living at Ballymagarry, near Dunluce, started to carry out extensive improvements at Glenarm and may well have decided at that stage to rebuild the mansion. A new road was laid down on the west side of the valley along to 150-

200ft contours, known today as the Munie Road, and the land between this new road and the river was incorporated into the demesne, being formerly part of the townlands of Tully, Carnave and Glore. Similarly, an area of between 250m and 300m wide on the east bank of the river, formerly parts of the townland of Mullaghnconnelly, Upper Libert (Libbert West) and Town Parks were brought into the demesne and planted with trees with walls built each side of the valley defining the new demesne boundaries; in this way the Great Deer Park was integrated into the one large continuous demesne. Being devoted to horse-racing, the fifth earl also is reported to have built a 'horse course' and stables above the Munie-road on the west side of the valley, probably in Bellaire, but all trace of this has gone. Close to the house on the west bank of the river, perhaps near the former medieval/post-medieval church site of Templeoughter (ANT 029:007), he is reported to have made 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 the family's main seat at Ballymagarry was burnt 'by the carelessness of servants' and the fifth Earl finally resolved to move to Glenarm. An engineer from Whitehaven, Cumbria, Christopher Myers (1717-89), was engaged to rebuild the house, which 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 roof (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, showing the building enclosed within a network of walled courts and gardens with the church behind, built in 1763 beside the ruins of the old abbey in the Strawberry Hill Gothic-style, the earliest gothic revival church in Ireland; it was consecrated in 1769. Also depicted is a circular grass 'plat' in front of the house with enclosing sweep and 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 (rebuilt 1713) and around the house to Ballymena. Along side the road, below the house, is the lime avenue, which still exists and arches over the driveway. In 1775 Randal William, the Sixth Earl of Antrim and later first Marquess (1749-1791), succeeded to the now much reduced estates, which suffered from excessive spending, mostly on gambling, during the time of the fifth earl. Although Randal spent much of his time in his grand Dublin residence (Antrim House), he embarked on creating a landscape park to the south of the house, sweeping away most of the village houses on the west bank of the river, removing most of the court walls around the house and the formal glass plat with its statue of Hercules. Alterations to the house to the house were also undertaken, notably the roof, castellating the rere parapets and altering the upper front windows. Fortunately, his plans for side extensions, one envisioned large reception rooms with Adamesque interior, another for a Gothic room, never came to pass. His changes 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'. Milton stated that the house '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...'. The picturesque quality of the Great Deer Park had ensured that it was included within the new landscape park, with carriage drives from the house extending on both sides of the glen into the deer park. On the opposite side of the river from the old late 17th-early 18th-century banqueting house pavilion, the sixth earl built a fashionable *cottage orné* with gothic openings for his wife Letitia. The cottage features on one of a pair of fine sepia drawings of the deer park done John James Barralet (1747-89); this cottage fell into decay after 1801 and was demolished in 1844. Not long after Barralet did his drawings, in August 1789, the earl advertised the sale of the woods in the Great Deer Park, being 'fully grown

oak, ash, birch, elm &c', presumably for financial reasons. This was followed by a considerable reduction in the size of the Great Deer Park in the 1790s to a newly walled area of 832 acres, with the remaining 2.164 acres, mostly grassland, subdivided into fields and leased to tenants. Felling was first mentioned in 1792 in Charles Abbot's *Journal Tour in Ireland* (Mss, Kew), while newspaper advertisements make reference to tree felling in the Great Deer Park in 1793 (*Belfast News-Letter*, August 1793) and later reports mention that old oak trees from the deer park were used to build the brig *Shillelagh*, launched in Belfast in 1793. John Templeton's diary indicates that some felling in the Great Deer Park was still going on in August 1810. The OS Memoirs of September 1830 stated there were still mature oak woods left on the east side of the glen, but the 1830s OS 6-inch map shows the whole park covered by scrub. The earl, who became a marquess in 1789, died in 1791 leaving no sons, so the family estate went to his three daughters, with provision that both it and the title of earl should then be inherited by the senior male of the next generation. Anne Katherine, the eldest daughter, was now Countess of Antrim in her own right. She married Sir Henry Vane Tempest in 1799 and in 1803-07 undertook a programme of modernisation to the house. They 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. Following Sir Henry Vane Tempest's death in 1813, Anne Katherine remarried Edmund Phelps, who assumed the name Macdonnell, and it was he who engaged Richard Morrison 1821 to remodel the house at Glenarm in a Jacobean-style. Drawings for the exterior were exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1823 and work proceeded until 1828 when the present corner towers had been added and south-east wing; for reasons that remain unclear it was not until 1840 that Lanyon was engaged by Phelps to complete the work, mostly following the original specifications, including the addition of a gothic-style porch. Morrison also designed the present dramatic gothic-style Barbican Gate, built in 1825 (Listed HB 07/02/003), together with its associated river walls and towers, behind which is the lime walk. This followed the closure of the public road, which formerly passed over the bridge here and across the demesne below the house; the public road now crossed further down river (Listed HB 06/02/001H), which connected onto the new Coast Road. While work on the house stopped around 1825, this did not effect the building of the large rectangular (3.5 acres/1.4ha) walled kitchen garden (Listed HB06/02/001F), located 200m north-west of the castle, which superseded an enclosed kitchen garden shown on a map of 1779. It slopes from west down to east and is enclosed by a tall (roughly 3m) random rubble walls, the west being brick-faced internally, with a long, single-storey lean-to greenhouse on the north wall (Listed HB 06/02/001C). The glass house contains mature orange trees which, unusually, are trained up the wall and across the roof, nectarines, peaches, and also geraniums and other semi-hardy pot plants. It was built around 1870, superseding an earlier one and has a timber frame and a low brick base with the gables, the sloping roof, and the vertical south wall, all glazed; the base of the vertical glazed section and to the top of the sloped glazing are a line of openings, operated by a geared mechanism. The glasshouse underwent a substantial conservation in the 1990s as did the rere potting sheds and bothy, whose limestone wall coursing following the contour, with 'rhomboid' window openings, faces into an enclosed frame yard which was added in the early 1840s, complete with mushroom house c.1910, at one end (now a restaurant) and at the other, the head gardener's house, a plain gabled two-storey rendered house of c.1875 with a large rere return (Listed 06/02/001Q). The garden has four entrances. Two are in the north wall at either side of the glass house, the one at the west being a doorway leading to the garden house, while the other is a gateway leading to a second, productive walled garden. A second gateway lies in the south wall opposite the glass house. A door in the east wall leads to a path through trees. Outside the walled garden it is flanked by a pair of fastigate yews and some cypresses, beyond which lies the dwelling house. A ring of clipped yew planted in the 1860s, c.25m diameter, occupies the eastern part of the walled garden. On the east side of the circle is a fine, early flowering magnolia, the lemon-scented *Magnolia Denudata*. The walled garden has been restored

around this old circular feature and has been open to the public since 2005. The basis of the current design is a series of rectangular compartments formed by either hedges or pleached trees, some lime. A grassed avenue runs the length of the garden from west to east on an axis with the centre of a yew ring (SMR7/ ANT 29:49) in which there is a sundial, surrounded by four, almost white marble, Corinthian capitals from the Georgian era. The four finely-carved capitals, which are placed symmetrically round the sundial inside the yew ring, are from Ballyscullion. The Bruce Hervey coat of arms against the inside of the west wall of the large walled garden is from the same place. West of the yew ring is a pair of serpentine beech hedges leading to a beech ring [(SMR7/ANT 29:55) also 25m in diameter, but planted in the 1960s. The slope of the garden allows an ornamental flow of water from west to east with two parallel rills which run over black and white rolled pebbles on either side of a path leading down to a rectangular pool installed in the 1970s. In the south-west compartment is a grassed cork-screw prospect mound added around 2000. Following late 19th century precedent, herbaceous borders have been planted against the north and east walls, largely the work of the late Nigel Marshall, one time head gardener at Mount Stewart. As was standard in both 18th and 19th century parklands, the walled garden was well secluded with trees on all sides, both to screen its walls from the park and give shelter from the winds. Consequently, the garden was enclosed by trees; on the north side the limited area of parkland here has been cleverly landscaped with substantial shelter belts and a large clump (now much denuded) around an open parkland meadow. Behind the trees to the east lie the castle stables and outbuildings arranged around two irregularly-shaped courtyards constructed in 1875 replacing a larger courtyard complex which was destroyed by fire the previous year. To the north of the courtyard complex is a cattle yard with various pens and stalls. To the north-west of the main outbuilding complex, on the opposite side of the drive, is the 'Bull's House', a gabled one and a half-storey 'picturesque' byre of c.1870, now used as a veterinary surgery. The main farm building for the demesne are located roughly a mile south-west of the Castle, to the west of Glenarm River, 'Castle Farm', the residence of the Glenarm Estate home farm manager, was built in 1855. It is a vaguely Tudoresque, asymmetric, two-storey dwelling with large, gabled bay and attached gabled porch to front, overhanging roof and label mouldings. To the north of the house there is a farm yard with single and two-storey farm buildings contemporary with the house. These have whitewashed stone walls with double pitched, natural slate roofs. Within the yard itself are mid-20th century open sheds with curved, corrugated roofs on steel lattice trusses. An extant lease of the Castle Farm, dating from 1857, mentions the farm steading and offices, thrashing machine..[and]..water power'. Situated on the northern side of the Castle Farm outbuildings, close to what used to be the saw mill (c.1855), is the (former) saw miller's house. This is slightly earlier than the mill, c.1852, and the building is much plainer than the neighbouring farm manager's house, being a simple, gabled, two-storey, rubble-built structure, with its south wall set on the squint. Records suggest that the saw mill remained in operation until at least 1921. Within the Great Deer Park at the southern end of the demesne is a segmental iron foot bridge with timber walkway, spanning the Glenarm River. Photographic and map evidence suggests that this bridge was put in place within the demesne sometime between 1857 and 1872, however, it was relocated to its present position in 1991. Over 300m south-east of the Sheds Bridge is 'Lord Antrim's Cottage' (Listed HB 06/02/001N), idyllically sited on a well-wooded rise overlooking the Glenarm River. This is a somewhat rambling, picturesque two-storey house, the present appearance of which dates largely from work carried out in 1920 by Blackwood and Jury. Formerly it had been an early 19th century cottage orné, which had been later raised a storey and transformed into the gamekeeper's house, which it remained until around 1875. The building is sited close to or perhaps on the site of the elegant pavilion depicted in the Great Deer Park on Stewart's 1734 map. Below it, close to the river, and discretely hidden, is a small hydroelectric generator, built c.2000. About 450m south-west of Lord Antrim's Cottage, on the opposite side of the river, is an octagonal enclosure [SMR7/ANT 29:015]; this is the private burial ground of the McDonnell family, also known as O'Neill's burial ground. In 1875 a new

residence was built for the gamekeeper 600m south-west of the castle on the farm house drive off the Munie-road. It is a relatively simple, two-storey gabled basalt composition (Listed HB 06/02/001L) with overhanging roof and shaped bargeboards and never designed to be seen from the park, being originally well screened by woods; a kennel building lies immediately to its south. Immediately below this house, but within woodland on the bank of the river, is an ice house, evidently built around 1840 (Listed HB 06/02/001-IHR 07624:000:00). It is a small, earth-covered, domed structure, brick-lined and covered in earth with bushes growing out from it; to the north there is a broad-arched opening with rough stone dressings. In the 19th-century there was a wooden ornamental thatched summer house immediately to its south ('The Rustic Cottage') and 80m south-east was the 'Rustic Bridge' over the river; later replaced with an iron foot-bridge. Not far north in the same wood are the wall foundations of what is believed to be the site of the medieval and post-medieval church and graveyard of St. Marys, Templeoughter (ANT 29:007), while in the open parkscape 150m south-west are traces of a large circular earthwork, 100m diameter which appears to be the remains of a late Neolithic henge monument (Scheduled Ant 029:044). The parkland at Glenarm is extensive and well maintained with much replanting of isolated/parkland trees over recent decades. The arboretum at the castle has several exotics and one of the sycamores (*Acer pseudoplatanus f. variegatum*) is a champion tree, and at 23m is the second tallest of its kind in Ireland. When Randal Mark Kerr McDonnell (1878-1932) inherited in 1918 to become the 7th Earl of Antrim, the once extensive Glenarm estates had been sold through the various Land Acts, notably the 1902 Act. With a reduced income, the 7th Earl decided in 1928 to lease approximately 442 acres (179ha) to the Department for Agriculture for 150 years, that is to say until the year 2078. This area was planted with Spruce, larch and Scots pine; it is currently managed by the Forest Service (DAERD). A year later in 1929, the house was burnt, later to be rebuilt by Imrie and Angell of London; in 1967 a further fire destroyed the wing of the house, much of which was subsequently reconstructed in much reduced form by Donald Insall. In 1932 Randal John Somerled McDonnell, 8th Earl of Antrim (1911-1977) inherited the property; among other things he was an energetic supporter of the National Trust, becoming its chairman for the whole of the UK from 1965 to 1977. It had been his intention to give the trust protective covenant over part of the Glenarm demesne; this did not happen until 1980 when his son Alexander Randal McDonnell, now the 9th Earl of Antrim, gave the National Trust protective covenants over 658 acres of the lower glen in the south of the demesne and transferred its management to the Ulster Trust for Nature Conservation, now Ulster Wildlife, that had been formed two years previously. In 1992 (check) the 9th Earl transferred the demesne to the ownership of his son, Randal McDonnell, Viscount Dunluce. 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 popular a tea room. The Barbican gate lodge was leased to the Landmark Trust in 2003 for 99 years; the building has been restored and is used as a holiday house. DAERA (Forest Service) administer 442 acres (179ha) of the demesne, mostly in the deer park. As well as the, 'Barbican' (1825) and Town lodges (1845), there are three other gate lodges, all built in the mid- to later-19th century—the Lothian Lodge (1870), to the north outside the demesne walls (given to the parish as the priest's house), and the Farm Lodge and Gamekeeper's Lodge, the last two off Munie Road to the western boundary of the demesne. ASSI Woodland (parts of the Deer Park, 345 acres/160ha). 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. Privately owned.

**HILLMOUNT, County Antrim (AP MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09) AN/008
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Modest-sized mid-Georgian parkland (42.8 acres/17.3ha) with mill-owners house of c.1760 with additions (Listed HB 07/02/004), located in the townland of Craigs in the valley of the River Maine, 1.32 miles (2.12km) north-west of Cullybackey and 4.3 miles (6.7km) north-west of

Ballymena. The dwelling house faces east towards the associated bleach works in the river valley, with the outbuildings behind to the west. The earliest record of the house is on Taylor's and Skinner's map of 1778 as the home of 'Hill Esq', with Lendrick's 1780 *Map of Antrim* showing Mr Charles Hill as owner. On architectural grounds the building, a symmetrical five-bay, three-storey gabled central section looks to date around 1760, while its flanking tall, single-storey, bow-fronted pavilion-like wings are Regency, perhaps 1800. The long former stable and carriage block to the rere, a one and a half-storey, gabled and rendered building is probably contemporary with the main block of the house. Further outbuildings, mainly to the west and south of the stable block, have been added to the site in the late 19th or early 20th century. The parkland for a house of this scale is quite modest and shown on the 1830s OS map; it also no doubt dates to the 1760s or 1770s. There was a block of woodland north-west of the house and perimeter screens on all sides. The Scots pines, and other trees of the shelter belt along the Hillmount Road, have been captured by Robert Welch (1859-1936) in the background of his post 1900 photographs of Hillmount bleach green. In the late 19th century more perimeter planting was put down further out to the north. A lime avenue sweeps up to the entrance and in front of the house lies an oval lake with two islands (0.8 acres/0.33ha) backed by mature trees and its north and east sides; these comprise beech, oak and Scots pine. This lake was created in the 18th century as a reservoir for the associated linen bleach works. It is fed from a tributary of the River Maine that bisects the demesne from north to south and is traversed within it by both the main drive and by a path leading to the artificial lake. North-west of the house was the kitchen garden (1.17 acres/0.47ha) screened by trees and dense shrubberies. It had one stone wall against which was a glass house, there until 1933, at least with the remaining sides being enclosed with clipped hedges. In 1990 a small 'tomato' house which held tomatoes and peaches from the big dismantled glass house was still extant. Soon after 1970 a new productive garden was begun close to the house, with a new glass house at the north of the dwelling house constructed from wood from the big dismantled one; alpinists are also in this area. There were two gate lodges, both built by Robert Young in the 1850s, both demolished, though elements of the back lodge may be incorporated in the present building on the site. Robert Young occupied Hill Mount from 1825 to his death in 1872. Both house and business remained with the Youngs until 1885, after which they were sold to the firm of J.W. Frazer and Thomas Haughton & Co. Ltd., the Frazer family taking up residence. A descendent, J.W. Frazer and his wife, Betty, moved there about 1965. It was she who, from 1970, developed the garden. Mrs Frazer died in 1993. Soon after 1970 19th-century additions to the dwelling house were demolished and a stand of thirty beech trees felled. In the space they created an alpine and productive garden north of the dwelling house. Also from 1970 the lake margin, which had been a dense ring of *Rhododendron ponticum* and laurel, was cleared, and the edge stone revetted and a border and path created around it. Daffodils, hostas and astilbises are planted at the most exposed rim of the lake while elsewhere there are shrubs which provide a setting for moisture-loving, flowering perennials. The larger island is edged with *Cotoneaster horizontalis*, which extends out over the water, and *Bergenia* 'Ballawley', while the interior is planted with small shrubs with colourful foliage. The smaller island is a scree garden. Since soon after 1970 the islands were connected to the mainland by a wooden walkway from the north-east. In former times the larger island had a summer house and two places where a rowing boat could berth. The making of the present garden is recorded in, *In an Irish Garden*, by Sybil Connolly and Helen Dillon. Private.

**KILWAUGHTER CASTLE, County Antrim (MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09) AN/046
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Regency era parkland (172.6 acres/69.8ha), probably the work of landscape gardener John Sutherland, provides setting for the now ruinous house (Listed HB 06/07/003), located 2.5 miles (4km) south-west of Larne and 9.5 miles (15km) north-west of Carrickfergus. It was built between 1806-10 to a design of John Nash in his romantic castle style for Edward Jones Agnew, a leading

Belfast merchant. The building incorporates a Scottish style plantation house built for Andrew Agnew in 1622. While many of the Agnews in County Antrim, were originally *O'Gnimh*, the Agnew family at Kilwaughter claimed their ancestor was actually Phillip d'Agneaux, one of John de Courcy's retinue of knights, who was granted the Lordship of Larne. He is believed to have been responsible for the impressive Norman motte that stands 200m north of the house (Scheduled ANT 40:005). A second motte, Rorysglen (ANT 40:006) lies just west of the demesne. There is no direct evidence for an associated village at Kilwaughter, but there was a medieval church (Killochre/Upper Church) and graveyard (ANT 40:031) lying partially under the outbuildings north-west of the castle. The church is no more, but the graveyard is a walled polygonal area with a gate in the north-west corner, still in use in the 1830s. Whatever the Agnews themselves later claimed about their ancestry, the documentary evidence indicates that they were descended from Sir Patrick Agnew (1578-1661) of Lochnaw Castle, Wigtownshire, who in 1616 took a lease on an extensive estate in County Antrim from Randal MacDonnell, the first Earl of Antrim (d.1636), who he knew personally; indeed, they were probably friends. Patrick's son by his first wife Janet Shaw, was Andrew Agnew (1600-59) and once he came of age, he took over the running of the family's Irish estate, working as a sub-tenant and rent collector for the Earl of Antrim. He subsequently built his strong house at Kilwaughter in 1622, which today lies within the body of the Regency castle ruin; it consisted of a four-storey T-shaped Scottish strong-house with a full-height staircase in the rear projection (Scheduled ANT 40:008). In 1642 he married his cousin Eleanor Shaw, whose father James had helped to build Ballygalley Castle (1620-25) on the coast, a similar house to Kilwaughter and the only Scottish fortified house to survive as a dwelling in Ulster. The house evidently survived the 1641 Rebellion, but the Agnews were subsequently ejected from Kilwaughter for a short time in the Cromwellian era (1648-52), but regained possession. The hearth money rolls of 1669 tell us that at that time it possessed six hearths, while Dobbs, writing in 1683, merely describes it as 'built castle ways with a barn [i.e. bawn] wall', suggesting that the original 1622 house and bawn had not been substantially remodelled by that date. The Agnew family continued to take the Kilwaughter rents until 1707, when they sold their interest to Patrick Agnew (d.1724), the great grand-son of the builder in 1622, who later bought out the interest of the mesne lord, converting Kilwaughter into a freehold. Patrick Agnew was succeeded in turn by his son of the same name and his grandson, William Agnew (fl. 1760). His two sons both died unmarried and on his death Kilwaughter passed to his grandson, Edward Jones (d.1834), the son of Belfast merchant Valentine Jones and his third wife, Eleanor, the only daughter of William Agnew. Edward adopted the name Agnew when he succeeded to the estate as stipulated in his grandfather's will. As soon as he inherited the Agnew estate he commissioned James Williamson in 1788 to survey a 'Book of Maps' of the Agnew estates (this book is presently at Glenarm Castle); one of the surveys shows Kilwaughter Castle in 1788 as a long rectangular block with a long range of offices immediately to the rear. There was no bawn and the house clearly had been enlarged and remodelled at some earlier stage in the 18th-century. Of interest, the Post-Chaise Companion of 1803 described the house then as 'the elegant seat of Mr. Agnew'. On the 1788 map the house faces south-west, fronting a long narrow grass plat in the late 17th/early 18th-century manner, with a tree-line avenue beyond (328m/1090ft) long, now removed by a modern quarry. The demesne was, typically for the pre-landscape park era, divided up into enclosures, including a number of large orchards and a substantial rectangular kitchen garden, possibly walled, to the east of the house flanked by the river, which had been channelled alongside to form an ornamental canal. In 1803, inspired by John Nash's rebuilding of Killymoon Castle for his Stewart cousins, Edward Jones Agnew MP, engaged Nash to remodel Kilwaughter in the same castellated style. Work began in 1806 and was completed with the installation of a flat roof in 1810, the Clerk of Works for the project being a local architect and builder John Neilson (1770-1827), who later emigrated to the United States. Nash took the existing structure and added a much larger wing to the east, complete with broad, three-storey circular tower to the south end and a narrower four-storey tower to the north. To the west side of the original building, at the end of what is believed

to have been the bawn wall, he added a further tower, square in plan with a smaller tower rising from its roof. Finally, he unified the whole with castellations, bartizan turrets, render, and a series of (mainly) flat-arched windows with an odd combination of straightforward 'Georgian' glazing bars and elaborate gothick timber tracery, with label mouldings over. To the north side of the castle there is a large group of single and two-storey outbuildings arranged informally around two farm yards, and comprising of three main blocks from east to west. These are shown much as present on the OS map of 1832, and appear to be largely contemporary with the early 19th century extension of the main house itself. A new walled kitchen garden was built at this time c.1806 some 300m north of the house; it is a rectangle (1.91 acres/0.77ha) with east-west axis and round corners on both west side and a large sweeping arc on the east side. The walls are built of basalt rubble to the exterior, with a coping of limestone blocks now much deteriorated. Large limestone buttress walls project at outer corners and at intermediate points on south wall and east wall. The segmental-arched main entrance faces east and has a buttress to the right now incorporated into a modern garden shed. There is a flat-arched pedestrian doorway near the centre of the south wall, and against the wall on the north side, is a long low rubble-built lean-to block. The interior faces of the wall are lined with brickwork except for central portions of north and south sides which are of basalt rubble, with some courses of brickwork continuous around south side. Within the garden there is an intermediate wall (a 'fruit wall') running across the garden from north to south, constructed of coursed, squared limestone blocks with overhanging sandstone coping slabs. Along the north side of the boundary wall of the garden, on the inside, the top of the wall ramps up to a higher level where the former greenhouse stood; the original greenhouses are now gone, but terraced areas still remain, supported on the south side by low segmental arcading. The inner face of the wall behind greenhouse area has various rectangular window and door openings mainly in a derelict state. The walled garden was clearly made as part of the creation of the parkland, which took place alongside the building of the new house 1806-10. It is a professional designed layout and while we have no evidence yet, it is very probably the work of the celebrated landscape gardener, John Sutherland (1745-1826), who designed nearly all the landscape parks associated with Nash's country house work in Ireland. Characteristically for a Sutherland landscape there is an artificial lake (5.8 acres/2.36ha) lying 300m south-east of the castle in the parkland, formed by damming a stream and enclosed by woods on all sides except the west where the lake water is visible across the parkland. There were circuit drives around the lake, which linked with the main approach avenue entering the demesne on the south-east side of the park. There were thick perimeter belts along the north perimeter of the park, enclosing the walled garden and its slip garden to its north, while on the west of the park the perimeter woodland belts were particularly substantial. The house itself was enclosed and framed by woodland, screening the rear yards to the north-west and the path to the walled garden. According to the OS Memoirs of 1840 the woods then comprised 'all sorts of forest trees', comprising beech, oak, elm, fir and larch. The 1840 OS Memoirs writer considered that the total area under trees in the parkland was 54 Irish acres. (88 statute acres). Also according to the Memoirs there were 'extensive and tastefully laid out' ornamental gardens around the house, especially on the west side. Later in the century more isolated parkland trees were added to the park and exotics like monkey puzzles planted close vicinity of the house. East of the lake and close to the demesne entrance on a hillside there is an ice house (Listed HB 06/07/002), which dates to the making of the park c.1806-10. Of rectangular and oblong form, this is largely brick built and made up of a vaulted passage leading into domed circular chamber, all raised above ground level and covered with soil and vegetation. The main entrance faces east and is segmental arched and flanked by with projecting basalt buttresses. Close by is the main gateway into the park comprising a gate screen which was probably designed by Nash and consists of a pair of octagonal castellated turrets in snecked squared rubble, (now partly rendered), and screen walls of similar appearance; the structure originally included a central four-centred arch gateway, but this was removed during World War II to allow access for army vehicles. The associated gate lodge (Listed

HB 06/07/001A), which may be slight later than the gate screen, is a picturesque gabled building with projecting porch (itself set within a gable), rubble walls, overhanging roof with decorative bargeboards, and lattice windows with unusual 'awning' hoods. To the rear (north) there is a large one and a half storey gabled extension, added in 1998. The other (south-west) gate lodge c.1830, is a simple one and a half storey two-bay building, with basalt rubble walls and a slated gabled roof, but completely devoid of decoration. The house and park as created by Edward Jones Agnew remains largely unaltered well into the 20th century; when Edward died leaving an heir, William, aged ten, his unmarried sister Margaret Jones (d. 1848) took on the management of the estate, earning a benevolent reputation during the difficult years of the famine. William Agnew (d. 1891) was commonly known as Squire Agnew, was reputedly murdered and buried in Paris in 1891. On his death his property passed to his niece, Augusta, Countess Balzani and her descendants, the last of whom died in 1975. However, from 1892 the property was leased to John Galt Smith, a linen merchant based in New York. Galt Smith died in 1899 and his American-born wife, Elizabeth, continued to reside there until the lease ran its term in 1922. Much of the contents were auctioned shortly after she left, with several pieces returning to her home in the US. The Kilwaughter estate was finally sold by her executors in 1982. The castle, which was requisitioned for military use during the Second World War, was abandoned afterwards and became in 1951 derelict; it is now a roofless shell. In recent decades a large lime quarry, Kilwaughter minerals, has expanded into the south-west section of the park. 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.

**MAGHERAMORNE (BALLYLIG), Co. Antrim (AP MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09) AN/109
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Small Victorian demesne parkland (81.3 acres/32.9ha), partly walled, with house of 1881 (Listed HB 06/05/017) on a coastal site, 3 miles (4.9km) south-east of Larne and 5 miles (8km) north-west of Whitehead. The present house was preceded by an earlier house of 1817 located on the east side of the demesne, just west of the 1881 stable block (Listed HB 06/05/023). It was called Ballylig House, after the townland, and was built by Agnew Farrell, who leased the land from Arthur Hill-Trevor, second Viscount Dungannon (1763-1837). There was some planting associated with this house, mainly along the stream in a very attractive deep, narrow glen that bisects the demesne from south-west to north-east. The OS Memoirs of 1835 mentioned that the demesne then contained 55 acres under 'planting or shrubberies and ornamental grounds' with 'every variety of forest tree, but chiefly fir, larch and beech', which were 'tastefully laid out and in its diversity and disposition constitutes the greatest ornament of Larne Lough...There are numerous well contrived and pretty walks throughout the grounds, the extreme diversity in the formation of which admit of much variety'. Also associated with this period was the building of an ice house into the side of a hill close to the shore on the north-east (Listed HB 06/05/033). This is of rectangular and circular form, constructed mainly of brick, and consists of a vaulted passage (facing west) leading to a domical end chamber. In 1824 these lands were sold to John Irving 'of London,' proprietor of the adjacent limestone quarries, whose agent occupied the house. It was during this time that the present shore road was built, considerably improving the Larne-Carrickfergus road. In 1842 property was acquired by Charles McGarel (d.1876) of Belgrave Square, London, who remodelled and considerably enlarged Ballylig, renaming it 'Magheramorne House' and built a wall along the coast road. The planting was extended with new wood blocks on the south-west side of the demesne, on the west side of the Ballylig-road with parkland to the north and north-west of the house. After the death of Charles McGarel in 1876 the demesne passed to his brother-in-law James MacNaghten Hogg (1823-90) on condition that he assumed the additional name of McGarel. He succeeded his father as 2nd Baronet Hogg in 1876 and for many years had been chairperson of the London Metropolitan Board of Works for which he received a KCB. In 1878 he was created 1st Baron Magheramorne of Magheramorne, and in the

same year commissioned architect Samuel P. Close of Belfast to build the present Maghermorne House in the 'Elizabethan Style' on a *de novo* site 180m north-west of the old house on the opposite side of the glen and on much lower ground. Built in 1878-80 with James Henry as the contractor, this is a large two and a half-storey rectangular Tudor-style mansion with squared rubble walls, red sandstone quoins and dressings, a steeply-pitched roof with multiple gables and dormers. Samuel Close also built an attractive stable yard (listed HB06.05.023) beside the old house, which remained standing and served for years as a Masonic hall (now demolished). The grounds were substantially refashioned around the new building, forming the basis of much of the landscaping we see today. On the rear or seaward side of the new mansion a series of three large terraces were constructed. A central path, at right angles to the façade of the house, bisects the top two. The upper terrace, which is rectangular, is paved and has seats with steps down to a lower one which is rectangular with a semicircular extension. This is grassed with symmetrically-placed urns, clipped shrubs, and parterres with colourful flowering plants. The focus of this area is a stone fountain in a circular pool. These terraces are enclosed by high clipped yew hedging which follows the line of the semi-circle. Leading down from this terrace is another flight of steps, broken halfway, down to a lower rectilinear area with a central classical-style figure sculpture. The high steep slope between the two terraces appears to have been a rockery. On the lowest level are palms and, an enclosing belt of rhododendron and other shrubs. Beyond this mature exotics, including evergreens provide a backdrop on all three sides, with a view of the sea between the trees from north round to north-east. South-west of the dwelling house are views to grass with woodland rising above. The kitchen garden that serviced these gardens and the produced household fruit and vegetables reeds was located 350m east of the house close to the Shore Road, where it had its own road entrance. It was a small rectangular walled area (0.8 acres/0.33ha), on the north side of the existing brick walled kitchen garden (1.2 acres/0.52ha), which contained a glasshouse and potting sheds; both were abandoned in the 1960s and what survives is now covered with woodland. The extensive tree planting that accompanied the 1880s house saw the putting down good shelterbelts along the road and around the property, extending the woodlands to the north-west and enhancing the plantations along the glen, which today is densely wooded with mixed trees, mainly beech. South of the dwelling house there is bamboo, escallonia, holly, rhododendron and other shrubs. Paths through the woodland lead off the original main carriage drive to north-east and south-west. The woodland paths are well-kept and the woods are full of wild flowers. The more westerly glen is particularly picturesque today with the north-easterly path running adjacent to the stream for some length. The main area of parkland meadow, north of the dwelling house and east of the main avenue has mature specimen trees including a weeping ash and conifers. Elsewhere in the demesne are more mature specimen trees including two champions—a Summit Cedar (*Athrotaxis laxifolia*) which, at 20.5m, is the Irish Height Champion of its kind, and a Grand Fir (*Abies grandis*). The old demesne entrance off the 'high' or Ballylig Road was superseded in the 1880s by two off the Shore Road. The main entrance, to the north-west, has a carriage drive that curves from north-west to south-east and today is a lime avenue with bulbs around the base of each tree. This drive is on a scarp with parkland falling to the north-east and a wooded slope to the south-west. The second new carriage drive, east of the original was also constructed and ran down over the stream and curved westwards to join the main drive just north-west of the dwelling house. There were gate lodges associated with both 1880s entrances, that on the north-west (Listed HB 06/05/016) is by S.P. Close and is an attractive one and half-storey dwelling which like the house has steeply pitched gables, basalt walls with sandstone quoins and dressings. In 1890 Magheramorne passed to James's son, James Douglas McGarel Hogg (1861-1903) 2nd Baron Magheramorne, after whose death it was sold to Colonel James Martin McCalmont (1847-1913), MP for East Antrim (1885-1913). For some years after Col. McCalmont's death it appears to have lain vacant and left in the hands of a caretaker. In 1932 it was purchased by Major Harold Robinson, who is said introduced new planting and generally improved the demesne. At some point in the 1950s a plot at the northern edge of the demesne

(facing the roadside and immediately north of the house) was given up for a small housing development ('New Park'), and before 1965 the Magheramorne House itself had become an old peoples home. It was later converted to a hotel and the grounds adapted to a low maintenance regime whilst retaining the bare bones of a late Victorian layout. In the 1990s the hotel made a new wider entrance off the shore road, a short distance down from the old main entrance. The hotel closed in the later 1990s and in 2000 the property was sold to Mr. Rex Maughan and became the headquarters of Forever Living Products Ireland Ltd. Mound SMR: ANT 41:41. Private.

**PEOPLE'S PARK, BALLYMENA, Co. Antrim (AP MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09) AN/152
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Public park (24 acres/9.8ha) opened in 1870 on the northern perimeter of Ballymena, 0.5 miles (0.9km) north of the town's Harryville Bridge on the Braid River. The area, part of the townland of Ballyloughan, was formerly fields with a large artificially-dammed mill pond on the south, fed by two streams, which worked Robert Morton's flour mill, later Robert Morton and Company Ltd; originally there were two mill races from the south of the pond. The land for the park was donated to the town by Sir Robert Alexander Shafto Adair (1811-1886) 2nd Baronet, who, in 1873, became Lord Waveney of South Elmham. He was instrumental in advancing the idea of a public park 'for pleasure and recreation' for the town, for financing it and indeed for playing role in the planning of the landscape itself. The Adair family were the leading family in the area and owned Ballymena Castle demesne but, by this time, had lived at Flixton Hall, Suffolk for many years. Sir Shafto Adair, however, took a particular interest in the town, had Ballymena Castle rebuilt in the 1850s, and lived there for a period every year. The park was opened on August 9th 1870 and the Adair family had responsibility for its running until 1900 when that was handed over to Ballymena Urban District Council; in 1939 the administering authority became Ballymena Borough Council. The park, when opened in August 1870, was described as being 'conveniently and beautifully situated' and comprised 'every variety of scenery-from a bold ridge, the pleasing mound, the grassy slope and undulating surface, to the dead level of a cricket ground'. It was planned that when 'thoroughly completed, the sward will be dotted with rustic arbours, floral gems, and ornamental shrubbery, as well as decorated with plantation belts and a pleasing expanse of ever-present water'. The focal point of the new park was the mill pond, which was reduced in size to a lake of 3.86 acres (1.56ha) known as the 'Park Dam', with a tree-covered small island in the north-west, which is now frequented by many species of wildfowl, including swans. Stout basalt walls 8ft high walls, were built around the new park, most of which remain on the north and west. On the south-west side off the Ballymoney Road, it was given a lodge for the park keeper who was known as the sergeant. This building (Listed HB 07/18/08) is in the style of Ballymena Castle which Sir Shafto Adair had had rebuilt in the 1850s; it has an extant bell and a plaque with the town crest with 7 towers and date of 1870. To the south-east are the headquarters of the Homefirst Community Trust, formerly Alexandra Cottage Hospital which was added to the original site in 1882, while to the south-west is a school, Ballymena Primary School, on the site of the District National Model School of 1848. There are many mature trees from this park's early years, notably some fine stands of mature Scots pines, with walks curving through them, and two main avenues crossing each other at right angles, one running west to east from the gate lodge along the north of the pond and the other running north to south to the west of the pond. A notable feature of the park is the classical statue of a female figure (HB 07/18/10) set in a commanding position on the summit of Todd's Hill, nicknamed 'The Big Woman in the Park'. This is a copy by M.H. Blanchard & Co. of the muse of 'Armed Science', designed by Sir Shafto Adair with the English sculptor John Bell (1811-1895). The original was exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1855 and donated shortly after to the Royal Regiment of Artillery. The park copy was made in London in 1874 and placed in the park with a plaque to commemorate John Poyntz, the 5th Earl Spencer's visit to Ballymena with Countess Spencer on August 12th 1872 in connection with the official

opening of the park. The copy is in terracotta and is on a stone plinth; it was restored in the 1970s. Another feature is the cast iron drinking fountain (HB 07/18/09) situated on the main avenue east of the gate lodge. It bears the inscription: 'Presented to the People of Ballymena by Sir Frederick Adair, Bart. 1909'. Frederick Edward Shafto Adair (1860-1915), Fourth Baronet was a nephew of Sir Shafto, and had inherited the demesne. The fountain, made in Belfast by Messrs Musgrave & Co., has four conjoined bowls into which water spouted from the mouths of four fish under a shell-decorated dome; each bowl formerly had a tin mug attached by a chain. The park has undergone changes over the years such as additional paths and a picnic area, tennis courts, bowling green, putting and football and a children's playground and crazy golf. Lighting was installed along the central path in 1978 and in 1995 three entrance gates were erected. A tree survey was carried out in 1995 and the 440 trees were tagged and mapped. In 1997 plans for the park's refurbishment were drawn up and Phase 1 completed in that year with Phase 2 being completed in December 2001. This included a two-storey pavilion (2001) with changing rooms and toilets and, upstairs, committee room and kitchen. In 2002 the park won the Urban Green Space class of the *Local Government News* design competition. Public access, Ballymena Borough Council.

**PORTGLENONE HOUSE, County Antrim (AP MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09) AN/058
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Regency era demesne parkland (222.5 acres/90ha) with house of 1823 (Listed HB 07/06/010) the townland of Garvaghy, bordering the east bank of the River Bann, adjoining the village of Portglenone to the north and lying 7.8 miles (12.5km) west of Ballymena. While the present house dates to the 1820s, the demesne started to be developed in the early 18th century by Francis Hutchinson (1660-1739), who was appointed Bishop of Down and Connor in 1721 and came to live in 'Portglenone Castle' in 1730. Located south of the High Street in a commanding position over the crossing point of the River Bann, there had been a castle here since the 16th century, when it was the residence of Captain Sir Francis Stafford, Elizabethan governor of Ulster. Nothing now survives of this castle, which appears to have been transformed into a 'mansion house' sometime in the 18th-century. It was demolished by Bishop Nathaniel Alexander (1760-1840), after he purchased the property from 'John Hamilton O'Hara's widow' in 1822 and proceeded to build on a *de novo* site, 160m south-east, a fine new residence more fitting to his status as Bishop of Down and Connor (1804-23); earlier he had been Bishop of Clonfert (1802-04), Killaloe (1804) and as it was still building at Portglenone he was made Bishop of Meath (1823-40). The new house is a tall, distinctly Regency three-bay, three-storey over basement square block with returns to north, a stucco façade with arched window recesses, pilasters, and an overhanging hipped roof set on modillioned eaves. To the south and north there are full-height, bowed bays, and to the east front, a large tetra-style Ionic portico with dentilled cornice and balustrade parapet. The latter was added in the late 1840s by Rev. Nathaniel Alexander MP (1815-53), the builder's grandson, whose son Robert Jackson Alexander (1843-84) undertook further improvements in 1860 under the supervision of Fitzgibbon Louch. He did so, having bought back the property which was sold through the Incumbered Estates Courts in 1855. Prior to this sale the timber of the demesne had 'been valued by Mr Scott in the years 1849 at seven or eight thousand pounds' which it was noted had been 'planted with great care and taste'. The woodland areas, largely beech, planted within the new landscape park of the 1820s were extensive, and mostly remarkably still in place. This includes the perimeter park screen along the Ballymena road on the east and along the river on the west. The two blocks that form the Bishop's Well Plantation in the park centre are also still in place, as are the two small, but visually very important woodlands north and east of the house itself. South-east of the stable and coach yard, which had been enlarged c.1850 into a double courtyard (most of which was cleared away in the latter half of the 20th century) lies the 'Icehouse Plantation', wherein is the ice house, built in the 1820s. Those plantations in the east section of the park, east of the Ballymena road, are all also still in place

with little change in their outline from the 1820s; these include the Chapel Plantation and the Rock Plantation bordering the Ballymena road, plus the Well Plantation in the north, and the eastern perimeter woodland, known as the 'Top Plantation'. The only exceptions are the smaller Norton's Plantation in the centre and Hogg's Strip on the north, both now removed in recent decades. The largest of the parkland woods is the 55 acre (22ha) block on the demesne's southern boundary known as the 'Decoy Wood'. It gained this name because it incorporated a four pipe decoy pond, which ceased functioning by 1834 as it is not shown on the OS map for that year; it was probably built sometime in the 18th century to provide fowl for the inhabitants of the previous mansion. Considering their age, it is hardly surprising that these woods have a ground flora that 'contain extensive colonies of Ancient Woodland indicator species such as Bluebell, Wood anemone and Wild garlic, which take centuries of woodland cover to establish and flourish' (NIEA booklet). The Decoy Wood, together with the Rock Plantation on the east side of the Ballymena road, are now managed by the Forest Service as a 'Forest Park'; their combined area today covers 60ha (150 acres). The Forest Service have augmented the beech planting since the 1950s and maintain a thinning, rather than felling programme; the thinned beech are used commercially and it is a forest area, rather than a forest park. Beech is predominant species but there are also small stands of ash, birch, oak, larch, Norway spruce and Scots pine, and areas of mixed species including oak. Forest Service have added further paths and ponds, the later about 1970. In a glade in this wood is a commemorative plot to Augustine Henry, who was reputedly born nearby. The glade was laid out and opened in 1969 with specimens of some 30 species, including rhododendron, which he discovered or introduced to Europe from the Far East. The plot has been hard to maintain due to theft. There is also a commemorative plaque to the US Army. While the park in its present form was laid out and planted in the 1820s, there were trees in the area around the house that belonged to the old mansion demolished in 1822, some of which it appears were retained as isolated trees in the open parkscape that originally surrounded the house on the east, south and west. Today the open meadows or lawns south-east of the house is obstructed by the abbey building (Listed HB 07/06/040), while the small woodland to the north is original and may well in part also pre-date the 1820s. Indeed, it appears that part of this wood occupies the area of Bishop Hutchinson's orchards that he planted in the 1730s 'with special varieties of trees purchased in Dublin'. In the 1830s the OS Memoir writers observed that the demesne was 'beautifully diversified and there is a considerable quantity of planting which is judiciously disposed' noting that 'there are some very fine copper beeches, yews and cypresses near the house' which it believed were 'planted by the celebrated Bishop Hutchinson, who was one of the bishops tried by James II and whose residence stood near the present house.' Today few parkland trees remain at Portglenone, although some new copper beech have been planted east of the house. It is likely that some of the stone from the old pre 1820s house was used to build the original walled kitchen garden (1.72 acres/0.7ha), which lies 190m north-west of the house. It borders the river and is a flat, roughly rhomboid in plan, enclosed by stone walls, and now under grass. An OS memoir of 1833 says that this was 'good garden and hothouses' with 'suitable offices at a short distance from the house'. When the Rev. Nathaniel Alexander MP, the builder's grandson, was undertaking work on the mansion in the late 1840s he decided that he wanted a second walled garden, which was built abutting the south-east of the original. This has a rectangular area (1.1 acres/0.44ha) with walls of stone on the outside and brick on the inside, with three wide entrances and two narrow ones. This was probably built principally as an ornamental garden, with the fruit, vegetables and possibly also the cut flowers confined to the older garden. The division of this new garden by a free standing wall, possibly a fruit wall, into two separate area is original; the western area is today under trees, while the larger eastern area is well maintained by the monks as a private contemplative gardens for their use. It has a large lawn in the centre with a small circular pond and there is a lean-to glass house. The OS six-inch map of 1933 shows two rectangular buildings along the northern wall, which may be glass houses. The walled garden is approached from a path to the rear of the mansion; the area west of the

mansion today is a private monks' garden while there are some colourful shrubs and flowers just to the east of the dwelling house. In the late 1840s the Rev. Nathaniel Alexander also built a front gate lodge, which is a plain, single-storey, three-bay house, with overhanging hipped roof, large Tudoresque chimney pots, and an orné-style timber porch. A second lodge was added in 1870 by J.S. Alexander at the northern entrance, a one and a half storey house with overhanging gabled roof, a decorative wooden veranda and semicircular-arched window openings; this seemed to serve also as the head gardener's house. In 1909 Young described the house as 'a splendid mansion standing in pleasant grounds of twelve acres'. In the late 19th century the property passed into the hands of two brothers, neither of whom had children, namely Robert Jackson Alexander (1843-84) and John Staples Alexander (1844-1901). On the latter's death it was inherited by a cousin, Robert Arthur Maloney Alexander (1867-68), who for whatever reason decided not to take up residence until 1917. Consequently, during the period 1901-1916 the demesne and estate were managed by Miss Annie Young, daughter of James Young of Fenaghy (d.1892). During the Second World War the mansion was occupied by American Army officers and 'apparently...used as a centre of entertainment for the troops'. In 1944 it was inherited by Major Robert Christopher Alexander (1900-68), who decided not to live here and sold it to the Cistercian Community of Mount Melleray Abbey, Co Waterford. In 1951 it became an abbey of the Order of Cistercians of the Strict Observance (Trappists), the first in Northern Ireland since those of the Reformation. Our Lady of Bethlehem Abbey, as the new establishment was later named, initially utilised the existing house and outbuildings but, in August 1962, work was commenced on a new purpose-built abbey complex, including a monks' graveyard on the east. to the south of the old building, to designs by Patrick Murray. For many years a successful dairy farm with a herd which included pedigree Ayrshires was run, poultry and pigs were kept and attempts were made at beekeeping. Today, as most of the monks are elderly, much of the demesne is let for farming: there are sheep and cows, and organic vegetables are grown. Portglenone House serves as a repository and guest house for visitors to the abbey. There is a cafe in the basement and a shop attached. The southern third of the demesne has been administered since 1950 by DAERA (Forestry Service) as it was not suitable for the Order's cattle. There is access to it by water, and by road from the Ballymena Road, with a car park in the south-east. It has trails, including an Augustine Henry Trail, and Memorial Grove. SMR: LDY 31:32 Bishop's Well, 31:33 Holy Well, 31:34 Lady's Well, 31:35 mound (?Norman motte); 31:36 fortification. Site partly private, partly abbey, partly DAERA (Forest Service) where there is public access.

**RANDOM COTTAGE, County Antrim (AP MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09) AN/153
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Private garden of 1954 (4.28 acres/1.73ha), lying 2 miles (3.3km) south-east of Ballymena and 1 mile (1.5km) north-east of the Larne Roundabout, Motorway Junction 10. The garden, on a flat piece of land with good neutral loam in the townland of Crebilly, was created around a bungalow of the same date. The garden is divided into compartments with mixed planting of interesting plants set out amongst eye catching artefacts and seats. It is protected by perimeter shelter belts alongside both roads, and by a second shelterbelt of broad-leaved trees on a bank along the north-east side of the Kennelbridge road. There is a long standing shelterbelt belonging to the adjoining demesne of Crebilly house. Shelter planting in the garden is mainly coniferous - Scots pine and larch under planted with rhododendron, laurel and cotoneaster. It also includes a variety of well place birches. West of the house is an arboretum started in 1988, which covers much of the garden. Trees came from the Slieve Donard Nursery, latterly from Mid-Ulster Nursery, Seaford and Mallet Court, Taunton. Trees are planted 10m apart separated by grassy rides and now in the shape of two circles with additional clumps of rhododendron and azaleas. The fruit and vegetable garden is enclosed by a hedge. Private

RED HALL, County Antrim (AP MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09) AN/071
REGISTERED GRADE A

Well wooded demesne (307 acres/124ha) with important house that incorporates 17th, 18th and 19th century elements (Listed HB 06/05/013A & B), set in a commanding position overlooking Larne Lough and Island Magee, lying 2.1 miles (3.4km) north-west of Whitehead and 5.7 miles (9.13km) south-east of Larne. The whole demesne slopes from west down to east, with the slope becoming steeper at the west. In the north-east, and running from west to east is a steep-sided glen cut in the chalk by a stream, variously spelt Aldfraochan, Aldfreck, but Alt-fraechan on recent maps, the scene of two battles in 1597, one between MacDonnells and MacQuillans and the second between MacDonnells and the Crown forces, the MacDonnells winning both. It has been claimed that the site of the present house at Red Hall (townland formerly known as 'Irve' or 'Irwe') was then occupied by a tower house of the Clannaboy O'Neills, which superseded the Norman motte (SMR7/ ANT 47:006) that stands nearby on an eminence in the south-east of the demesne. In support of this view, it has been noted that some of the walls of the house foundation are almost seven feet thick with evidence of battering. The earliest documentary evidence for a dwelling here however, is after 1609 when Sir James Edmunstone (1537-1618), 6th Laird of Duntreath, Stirlingshire, leased for ever the Braidisland, alas Templecorran, estate from John Dalway in 1609 on behalf of his eldest son William (d.1629), later the 7th Laird of Duntreath and a staunch Presbyterian. It was unusual for a senior member of a Scottish clan to move to Ireland, but the family at the time was financially embarrassed and land in Ulster was cheap. William Edmonstone moved to County Antrim and built a house at Red Hall around 1614, probably incorporating an earlier castle. He succeeded as laird in 1618, but remained at Red Hall until his death in 1629, after which his son, Archibald (d.1637), the 8th Laird, managed to redeem Duntreath and part of the family's mortgaged estate. After this time, the Duntreath lairds divided their time between Scotland and Red Hall, which being a principal clan seat was perhaps likely to be larger than most other plantation houses in Ulster; in the fashion of the time was probably also surrounded by a series of walled courts and gardens. In 1637 Archibald was succeeded by his son, also called Archibald (d.1689), who in turn was succeeded by another Archibald (1680-1767), who was a minor in 1689. This Archibald later sat in the Dublin Parliament as MP for Carrickfergus (1715-1727) and was evidently responsible for transforming the demesne in the years after he came of age in 1701. This involved laying down an impressive formal axial layout of long tree-lined avenues and subdividing other areas into regular straight sided and tree-lined fields. The house itself was enclosed within a large rectangular box of straight tree avenues, 350m (north-south) x 220m (east west) with two short three lined beech avenues, within the box, aligned on the north and south facades of the house. The straight avenue delimiting the east side of this 'box' extends both north and south to a length of 900m linking the Glen-road (now an internal demesne road) with the south side of the demesne. Outside this box on the west is the what was the main approach avenue off the Hillhead-road going straight downhill (320m), it is tree-lined and flanked by banks on the outside (still present). On the opposite side of the 'box' on axis with this avenue and the house, is a long tree-lined vista extending downslope at least 583m; this is now the main drive into the property, but until the 1840s was just a grassy ride, although a farm drive is shown on the OS six-inch map of 1833 adjacent and parallel to it. This line vista, later avenue, was lined by two parallel rows of evenly-planted oak and beech, with later underplanting of holly and laurel, giving an evergreen screen. Today the old trees are very mature and form a shady tunnel, which slopes gently up in the direction of the dwelling house. This formal landscape layout was probably undertaken sometime in the two decades after 1701, perhaps around the same time as the famous figurative and floral plasterwork ceilings were installed in the house, c.1720. The walled kitchen garden, which occupies a short rectangular area (1.44 acres/0.58ha) on the north side of the 'box' and north of the stable /farm yard (Listed HB 06/05/013C) probably also dates to the early 18th-century and was therefore part of this early formal layout. Some of its high (15ft) rubble walls however, may be partly rebuilt, while the south side of the garden adjoins the

stable/farm yard which appears to be largely early 19th century in date, though with additions made in the 1840s and 1869. The garden has curved north-east and north-west corners. While no doubt originally laid out in the traditional manner for fruit, vegetables and flowers, the garden was re-organised in the 1870s and laid out in a grand formal manner, entered from the centre of the west wall into an ornamental area defined by a semi-circular yew hedge; this led down steps into the main area subdivided by cross paths into four quadrants. Glass houses were against the north wall with potting sheds to the rear. Now largely overgrown, since the 1990s the garden has been used by a syndicate for pheasant rearing, but box and yew edging, some fruit trees, including some with mistletoe, survives. Following the death of Archibald Edmonstone in 1767, the family were increasingly focussed on their Scottish affairs. Initially, Archibald's son, another Archibald (1717-1807), the 11th Laird of Duntreath, was very involved in Irish politics, being a Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod in the Dublin Parliament (1763-65), but after his father's death in 1767 he became a very active MP for the Dumbartonshire and was rarely in Ireland. Ultimately, he disposed of Red Hall in 1784, selling it to Richard Gervase (Gervas) Ker (1757-1822) for £24,500, thus bringing about an end to 175 years of his family's association with County Antrim. In the 1790s Richard Ker refurbished the old house, adding one-storey three-bay symmetric wings each side of the house to accommodate a large dining room and drawing room. A colour watercolour of the house, claimed to be dated 1801, would indicate these wings were added in the 1790s (family papers indicate 1793), though some of the plasterwork here is very similar to rooms in George Dance's 1804 additions to Mount Stewart, county Down. Around this time the landscape was also remodelled into a fashionable landscape park with the aid, so it has been claimed, of the celebrated landscape gardener, John Sutherland (1745-1826); around the same time, in 1792, Sutherland was busy re-landscaping Portavo near Groomsport, for Richard's brother, David Ker. The main planting additions of the 1790s were substantial perimeter tree belts along the entire (straight) line of western edge of the park; its average thickness is 60m, but in the north this tree belt extends out to 130m width. The existing tree planting in the glen valley on the north was extended; a series of four small woodland blocks were added to the park to the south of the house and isolated trees, notably horse chestnut, dotted about the open turf of the park. The main entrance was changed from immediately west of the house to a new gate on the south side of the demesne, just outside Ballycarry, which led onto an informal avenue; this seems to have had a small building on the OS 1833 map, later to be replaced c.1850 by Ballycarry gate lodge. Aside from the addition of exotic trees into the park later in the Victorian era, the park layout has remained almost entirely unaltered to this day. An OS memoir of 1835 tells us that 'The garden is small but the demesne ornamental and pleasure grounds are very extensive, and the plantings of firs, larch and beech very tastefully varied and laid out,' and a later one of 1839 adds that 'The ornamental ground and planting round the house consists of about 50 acres of all sorts of forest trees; oldest planted about 1760, latest in 1835.' Shrubberies are also mentioned in the memoirs and a travel account of 1823 remarks on the beauties of the lawn and forest. Richard Gervas Ker died at Redhall on October 4th 1822, aged sixty-six and he was succeeded by a nephew, David Guardi Ker, MP for Downpatrick (1779-1844). As he also owned Portavo and Montalto houses, inevitably his time was divided among the properties. He was however very keen on agricultural improvement and established the Templecorran Farming Society in 1834 and annual ploughing matches begun at Red Hall. In 1835 he built a threshing mill at the side of a drive just over 100m north-west of the main house; water is piped to it. In 1844 Red Hall and the other Ker houses passed to David's son, David Stewart Ker (1816-78), who for any years leased the property before eventually selling it in 1869 to John McAuley or MacAulay (1823-1912), a wealthy flour mill owner from Crumlin. MacAulay set about transforming the property and between 1869-75 he re-clad the house and wings with cement rendered walls, moulded quoins, decorative window surrounds, mansard roof, gabled dormers, large chimneystacks and large Italianate tower - generally turning the plain but elegant 18th century house into a rather grim Victorian pile. He added to the farm buildings north of the house where there is a gateway, with a ball finial and an

inset date in stone inscribed with initials 'JM' (John McAuley), and date 1869. With the building of the new coastal Larne-Carrickfergus-road in the late 1840s, he decided once he took over Red Hall to use the early 18th-century oak grass ride as the main avenue to the house. In doing so he engaged architect Thomas Allason (1790-1852) to build a gate lodge and screen (Listed HB 06/05/011). He simply faithfully reproduced a gate lodge published in John Claudius Loudon's (1833) *Cottage, Farm and Villa Architecture*. Around the same time a new gate lodge was also built in the north gates; this has clipped eaves and lattice paned windows. John MacAulay had a particular passion for tree planting and was said to particularly like conifers and put into the grounds many American trees and cypresses. There are many exotic conifers in the woodland south of the glen, some of which are now very large. South-east of the house planted a magnificent Wellingtonia avenue and in the vicinity of the house are four trees which have been identified as champions: two Lawson Cypress trees (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*) one of which, at 38.5m, is the Irish Height Champion of its kind, a Dawn Redwood (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*) which, at 2.7m, is the third greatest-girthed of its kind in Ireland and an Indian Chestnut tree (*Aesculus indica*). The present owners of the demesne, counted 192 different species of tree and shrub here in the 1990s. The ground south and east of the house was terraced by him to relieve the steep slope; there are sets of steps which run through these terraces accentuated by shallow urns on stands, which may have once contained plants. A short path leads from the last set of steps to a classic Victorian circular fountain, now gone, and continues through the exotic trees. Below the east front, there appears to have been a circular feature, probably a flower bed. Urns on stands matching those at the steps were also arranged symmetrically at the west front of the dwelling house, along with garden benches. An early 20th century photograph taken by William Alfred Green (1870-1958) of the west front shows other Victorian features-plants such as Pampas grass and deciduous and evergreen shrubs. Just below the terraces and the east facade of the house McAuley added a small circular turret of basalt rubble with conical roof (Listed HB 06/05/013F), possibly to give shelter for a gate keeper, for adjacent to it is a gate screen with white limestone gate piers with tall, pyramidal caps (Listed HB 06/05/013E). As already noted above, the walled garden was also re-modelled by McAuley making very much more ornamental. In 1903 McAuley sold Red Hall, this time to a William John Porrit (d.1918), an English wool merchant. Around 1921 it was acquired by a George L. Reade who sold off much of the land and little interest in the house, leasing it to Vice-Admiral J.W.L. McClintock (1874-1929) in 1927, whose family later acquired the property. During the Second World War there was army occupation and the tarmacadamming of one of the lime avenues dates to this. The descendants of Vice-Admiral McClintock remain in possession of Red Hall. There are three gate lodges. SMR: ANT 47:4 Tower House 17th 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. Private. Open to the public on occasion, for example, on European Heritage Open Days.

**SEA PARK (SEAPARK) HOUSE, Co. Antrim (AP MID AND EAST ANTRIM 09) AN/016
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Regency era parkland (19.4 acres/7.87ha) with a house 1804 (Listed HB 22/07/011A), 1.9 miles (2.9km) south-west of Carrickfergus Castle and 1.1 miles (1.7km) east of Greenisland. The park, which occupies flat land on the lough shore, lost part of its original extent as a result of road-widening scheme in 1965 to facilitate the creation of the Belfast-road dual carriageway. The main entrance on the south, which had its gate screen was removed at this time, gives access onto a carriage drive that runs east almost to the shore and then north to the house, which according to the OS Memoirs of 1840, was 'originally erected in 1804'. It is shown on Williamson's revised survey of 1808 and is marked, as 'Seapark' on James O'Kane's map of Carrickfergus of 1821. It appears to have been built by Thomas Ludford Stewart, then agent to Lord Donegall and later Sovereign (i.e. Mayor) of Belfast (1817-18). Later it was occupied by his son William, who sold the lease in 1841, by which time it was rented to the Rev. John Chaine (c.1800-62, Dean of Down and

Connor from 1839-55). At this stage the house was a relatively low two-storey rectangular rendered building whose south-west front and rear both had a three-bay centre flanked each side by projecting full height canted bays. The house was more than doubled in size in 1855-59 to designs of Thomas Jackson for John Owden (1799-1870), a native of Sussex, and partner in the linen manufacturing firm of Richardson, Sons & Owden, owners of Bessbrook Mills. He extended the house on the coastal south-east side with full height round bowed ends, made additions on the north-west side, including a square tower, added a classical veranda (or colonnade) with Tuscan columns to the front and at right angles built a large exceptionally grand conservatory, embellished with closely grouped elliptical headed windows each separated by an Ionic column; the latter building has been converted to a garage in recent years. While building the house, Jackson also designed a new gate lodge (Listed HB 22/07/022B) at the western side of the drive off Belfast Road. It is a single-storey Italianate building with a rusticated rendered walls an overhanging hipped roof on brackets, a large central chimneystack, and a symmetrical frontage with Ionic portico. While Owden also embellished the grounds, the basic layout remained the same at when created at the start of the century. Woodland screens were planted along the west or road side, on the north perimeter and south of the house, to create a lawn south-west of the mansion. The trees are predominantly deciduous with some exotic evergreens. An OS memoir (1840) says that it then had 16 acres of 'prettily ornamented grounds'. North-west of the main house there was an ornamental garden with a summer house, laid out geometrically with a central oval area. There is a garden house at the west of it and it is near the secondary entrance. North-east of the main house is a stone wall inset into grass which is said to have held a seat. From here there are fine views up the lough to Belfast and there was a walk to a grotto or fernery just north of the walled garden; this is brick and was glazed and was photographed by R J Welch. The walled garden, originally 1.28 acres (0.52ha) was remodelled in the 1850s into a square area (1.11 acres/0.45ha) with an enclosed frame yard to its north; part of this area was reduced by the 1960s road widening. The garden walls are of brick with rounded corners. At the north in the 1990s the walls of a peach house were still extant, with a new green house within them, and the floor of a palm house to the north-east of the peach house. North of the first green house was another small green house with brick base. From 1977 until 1993, it was used by Carrickfergus Borough Council as a nursery. The remains of the outbuildings originally belonging to the property lie close to the walled garden, some of which was demolished during the road scheme of the 1960s and the remainder is disused and overgrown. East of the main house is a flat, terraced lawn bounded at the coast and at the south-west by a stone balustrade with a path at a lower level below. South-west of the main house was another area with a formal ornamental garden. In the south there are grass, walks and fine trees. The park has coastal path from the north-east to the south-east where there is a stone look out tower and a footbridge across to rocks on which there is a 'Bathing House' (Listed HB 22/07/011C); this is built of basalt rubble with a high level pointed arch doorway facing the shore and several windows of similar shape looking out to the lough. There is a slipway east of the main house with a boathouse (Listed HB 22/07/011D), built in the late 19th century. It is an unusual structure built, or rather formed, into a grassy bank that acts as the roof. The front, which faces out to the lough, is faced in semi-coursed basalt rubble and has two segmental-headed arches (with metal gates), and a small brick-dressed roundel opening above. Within is a single-cell with a vaulted ceiling in brick and a quarry tile floor, which is now badly damaged due, presumably to the lapping of water from the lough. Following the death of John Owden and his wife in 1870 and 1871 respectively, Seapark passed to their daughter, Margaret (1842-1917) and her husband, Thomas Greer (1837-1905), also a partner in Richardson, Sons & Owden, and MP for Carrickfergus 1880-85. Their son, Thomas McGregor Greer (1869-1941), inherited the property in 1917, but as he already lived at Tullylagan Manor near Cookstown, he appears to have used the house merely as a summer residence. Around 1928 the property was bought by Sir George Smith Clarke (1861-1935), formerly of the shipbuilding firm of Workman Clarke, later passing to his son, Sir George Ernest Clarke (1882-1950). It was sold a few

years after the war and converted to an old people's home. By 1993 it had been vacated but was taken back into private hands in the later 1990s and restored as a private home once again.

AREA PLAN – MID ULSTER 10

AMPERTAINE HOUSE (UPPERLANDS) County Londonderry (AP MID ULSTER 10) L/036 REGISTERED GRADE A

Mid-Victorian parkland (14.6 acres/5.9ha registered area) with house of 1854, sometimes spelt Amportane or Ampertain (Listed HB 08/02/002), backed by the Upperlands mill complex, and located 2.8 miles (4.54km) north-east of Maghera and 59 miles (9.5km) south-west of Kilrea. This is a modest parkland with mature shelter belts enclosing the former mill-owner's residence that had been built for William Clark, the founder of William Clark & Sons, linen manufacturers. It replaced small thatched cottage, built about the year 1813 and 'surrounded with a plantation of fir', lying to the north-east close to the mill buildings. The family milling business had been started in the 1730s by William's great grandfather and further developed by his son Alexander (1723-1806) and again by his son and William's father, Alexander Clark (1785-1871). William (1816-1904) bought out his younger brother and established the firm of William Clarke & Sons in 1862 and added greatly to the mills in the 1880s and 1890s, belatedly introducing steam power in 1891. Earlier, in 1853 he had married Marianne Newport of Suirville, Waterford, and it is said that he commenced building Ampertaine House for her that same year in what was then a field just south of his father's house and mill. It was probably finished in 1854 and was a substantial symmetrical seven-bay two-storey over high basement Georgian style building with rendered walls, bracketed eaves course and square plan. On its north-east side there was a conservatory, added around 1910 by Alexander Wallace Clark (1857-1937), it was demolished post 1986 after being seriously damaged in a storm. Its high octagonal plinth base survives as a feature adjacent to the house. A square three-bay two-storey extension was also added at this time to the north-west corner of the house. Round the house are lawns and large shrubs, with mature trees beyond. The rectangular walled garden (0.55 acres/0.22ha) is now under grass, but still had box-edged beds, vegetables and fruit trees in the 1990s; its south-west wall is low and topped by handsome, decorative wrought iron railings, a feature also seen at a number of other mid-Victorian gardens, notably Larchfield and Gilford. The ruin of a long rectangular glasshouse (66ft/20m) lies close to the outside of the north-west corner of the walled garden; the entrance to the glass house was from the walled garden and there is a lean-to stove house for it in the walled garden. The ornamental 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 and north of the walled garden. This includes a well-proportioned, stone-edged, circular pond with a central stone fountain. A gravel path surrounds it and there are apple trees. Other features are herbaceous borders, roses, and rockery. In 1991, south-west of the house, was a tennis court. South of the walled garden part of the parkland has unfortunately been lost and the park seriously diminished by a housing estate of five detached houses, known as Gortrade Wood around 2000. The small park is enclosed by good mature perimeter tree belts with further trees screen the walled garden, house and flanking the avenue which accesses from the south-west corner where there is a gate lodge of c.1870 (Listed HB 08/02/003); this is situated on the south side of Kilrea Road, directly opposite the main entrance. Now derelict, it is a small single-storey dwelling and replaced an earlier lodge. The gate screen opposite has square rendered outer piers with oversailing caps (one now missing), and low curving rendered walls, decorative wrought-iron railings and matching carriage and pedestrian gates. The last of the Clark family to live at Ampertaine was Aubrey Alexander Maxwell Clark (b.1925), a Director of William Clark & Sons, who appears to have vacated the property in the mid-1980s, after which it was sold to the present owners. The Upperlands mill itself, which in the

latter half of the 20th century diversified into the production of 'bonded' textiles 'laminated, needled and non-woven fabrics' was bought by the firm of Ulster Weavers in 2004. House and grounds on the market again and sold 2017. Private.

AUGHENTAIN CASTLE, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/001

REGISTERED GRADE A

Mid-Victorian demesne parkland (285 acres/115ha) laid out to accompany house of 1860-63, subsequently demolished to make way for present 1958 house by architect Claude Phillimore. Located 2.4 miles north-east of Fivemiletown and 4.9 miles (7.9km) west of Clogher, it lies in the townland of Ballyness - the real 'Aughentaine (Aughentain) Castle' is in fact an early 17th century ruin 2.2 miles (3.6km) to the west (Scheduled TYR 058:012). While there is a tale that Hamilton Browne (d.1848), of Comber House, Co. Londonderry, acquired the land here around 1800 with the intention of creating a house and demesne, the work did not begin until the 1850s when his son Thomas Richardson Browne (1810-82) made the park from 1855-60, prior to the building of the house. In what was clearly a professionally designed landscape, extensive plantations were laid down to best accommodate the land, which slopes down from north to south with the Blackwater River flowing through the eastern part from north to south. Planting was focussed on the valley sides, with good perimeter shelter planting, especially on the east (Beacon Hill). Some of the once important plantations on the north side of the old demesne, notably Pea Hill Wood and Sheppard's Wood, have been now been submerged into an extensive blanket of modern conifer forestry plantations. A number of roads were diverted in making the demesne, notably a road that ran south-north to the west of the river and the moving southwards of present Aghintain-road. It may be noted that the Cottage Wood and the park clumps south of the walled garden were all laid out in the 1850s in anticipation of these road changes which took place in the 1860s. The walled garden, reached by a steep path, also was built before the house and was present by 1858; it occupies a large trapezoidal area (1.43 acres/0.58ha) enclosed by high brick walls. It formerly was surrounded on all sides by slips (average width 8m/25ft), enclosed by banks and hedges, giving the kitchen garden a former area of 2.14 acres (0.86ha); these slips have now more-or-less disappeared. Inside the garden the ground slopes gradually to the south and was laid out in the standard traditional kitchen garden manner with inside circuit paths and two cross paths, dividing the area into quadrants. The long south facing wall was lined for much of its length (60m) by a series of co-joined lean-to high glasshouses, traces of which remain. One glasshouse survives (50ft/15m) containing datura, grapes, peaches, apricots and camellia. There is a door in the north wall and, against the outside of the north wall, a potting shed. There were formerly Irish yews in the garden centre, now the area is almost entirely under grass save for a few cultivated plots in front of the glasshouses. As we would expect, the walled garden is enclosed by woodland, though that on its south has been felled in recent years. With the creation of the parkland came carefully laid out new drives and inevitably, bridges; the most noteworthy of these lies south-west of the house and carries the rear drive from the Aghintain Road over the River Blackwater (Listed HB 13/01/050). Another bridge, also associated with the late 1850s landscaping is located along a drive to the north of the house (Listed HB 13/01/051). The original house, built between 1860-63 on the site of an old farmhouse, was in an Italianate style with an irregular plan and with walls of local ashlar. Designed by William Robert Farrell of Dublin and his then partner Isaac Farrell (1798-1877), it was a two storey building but distinguished by four-stage square campaniles at each end. Having been sold in 1954 on the death of Mervyn Knox-Browne (1880-1954), the house was demolished on the grounds that 'restoration and upkeep would be too costly' and in its place the present house was built in 1958 to designs by the distinguished architect Claude Phillimore, 4th Baron Phillimore (1911-1994). This new residence is a relatively long, low, two-storey hipped-roof rendered building of asymmetric plan in a Neo-Regency Style, with a lengthy two-storey wing to the south with a large L-shaped projection extending northwards, as well as various - largely curved - bays. To the north front there is a large pedimented breakfront and extending from the

ground level of this is a Tuscan colonnade. A short distance to the west of the house is the stable yard which contains an L-shaped two-storey hipped-roof block which would appear to have been built to serve the 1860s mansion, but which seems to have been converted to living accommodation in recent years. The north of the house is flanked by a large rectangular forecourt, beyond which lies a large lawn looking onto a large lake on higher ground with a tiny island (2 acres/0.83ha), which was part of the 1850s landscape design (labelled 'fish pond' on the 1858 map), but was enlarged in the late 19th century, and given a boat house at the north end; in recent decades gunnera has been planted north of the lake. The area is enclosed with handsome, mature, deciduous trees. West of the house and stable block Major Hamilton Stubber planted an arboretum. This is in grass on sloping ground and a summer house built there East of the house is Ballyness Glen and south of the house are new ornamental gardens for the new house were designed by the English landscape designer Percy Stephen Cane (1881-1976). He created a level flagged area and two parallel terraces running from west to east south of the house. The flags were derived from Albert Square, Belfast. In the 1990s there were beds in the flagged area with herbaceous material, but formerly roses. A set of central steps leads down through them and the ground slopes down below the terraces. Rhododendron and other shrubs cascade below the terraces and into the parkland to the south. The crane sculptures on the terrace are a symbol of longevity. There are shrubs between the terraces and mature trees to west and east with yew trees in the front and taller trees behind. Excellent distant views can be seen from the house over Cane's double terraces and tree tops on lower ground. Private.

**BALLYSCULLION HOUSE, Co. Londonderry (AP MID ULSTER 10) L/026
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Early Victorian park (271 acres/109ha) for house of 1848-49 (Listed HB 08/09/011A) on the west shore of Lough Beg in the townland of Ballyscullion West and Ballyscullion West Intake, lying 1 mile (1.7km) east of Bellaghy and 4.5 miles (7.3km) south of Portglenone. While the designed landscape we see today is almost entirely associated with the late 1840s house, the demesne has an earlier distinguished ancestry being the location of the remarkable palace built for Frederick Augustus Hervey (1730-1803), the 4th Earl of Bristol and Bishop of Derry. After the land, which was formerly part of the Massereene estate, was surveyed in December 1786, work begun on the palace in early 1787 and by November 1789 the main house, a circular domed building, was reported as being completed, the architect being Michael Shanahan (1731-1811) and Francis Sandys, who went on to superintend building the Earl Bishop's famous house at Ickworth. The pavilions and their linking concave quadrants were never finished however, and following the Earl Bishop's death on the continent in 1803, the property was abandoned by his heir, the Rev. (later Sir) Henry Hervey Aston Bruce (1752-1822), as he preferred the Earl Bishop's other residence at Downhill. The grand portico now graces the front of St George's Church in Belfast and other fixtures found new homes; the famous double-corkscrew staircase for example went to Shane's Castle. The ruin subsequently largely became rubble though the foundations can still be found in the woodland today north-west of the present house. Although the Earl-Bishop reportedly chose the site for his palace because it was 'beautiful and salubrious' and '... not to be inferior to any Italian scenery', he made little attempt to undertake any associated landscaping. Consequently, the site as shown on the 1830s OS map, was almost entirely devoid of trees, save for parts of Brown's wood to the north and The Cleggan to the east. It was Sir Henry Hervey Bruce's grandson, Lt. Col. Henry Stewart Beresford Bruce (1824-1908), who decided to return to Ballyscullion and build a new house and park on the site, encouraged no doubt by his marrying (1846) Marriette Hill from nearby Bellaghy Castle. We learn from newspaper reports that work on the new house, probably designed by (Sir) Charles Lanyon, was underway by October 1848 and was completed within a year. It is a typical early Victorian Italianate villa, five bay and two-storeys over concealed basement, roughly square in plan with rendered walls, an overhanging roof on bracketed eaves, and to the east front, a cut-sandstone Tuscan portico. 'Alterations' were carried out by R.T.

McGuckin for Sir Harry Mulholland in 1939, which (externally at least) appear to have involved the building of the single-storey northern addition. Some distance to the west of the house, immediate north and north-west of the walled garden, there is a stableyard and farmyard (Listed HB 08/09/011B). Partly contemporary with the house, the buildings here were extended in the late 19th-century and again in the mid to later 1900s. The large rectangular walled garden (2.61/1.06 acres) is enclosed by stone (and partly brick) walls. In one corner is a built-in summer house. The garden was formerly subdivided with a smaller section in the north being essentially ornamental and the larger southern section devoted to kitchen produce; the latter contained free standing glasshouses. Today the garden is largely under lawns with marquee and used for weddings. A rectangular enclosure adjacent to the west side of the garden (1.4 acres/0.6ha) was formerly orchard; its northern end is now part of the farmyard complex. The deciduous woodland belts on the south and east sides of the garden, are an important feature of the landscape design, screening the garden from the park and providing shelter. The park is typically enclosed on its north and west sides along the roads with perimeter woodland screens, defining the park boundary, outside of which there is a demesne wall. The main avenue approach to the house is from the north, curving around the woodland block that engulfs the old palace buildings, and allowing good views of the lough before arriving at the house. Some 200m west along the Ballyscullion-road is the tradesman's entrance which has a late 19th-century gate lodge - a small single-storey double-pile dwelling of relatively plain appearance and much 'modernised' in recent years. On the east and south-east, the parkland opens out onto Lough Beg with the view broken by carefully disposed small woodlands, The Cleggan, the Quay Plantation, Spotswood, Spear's Wood and Scullion's Wood; these were also planned as shelter belts in what is flat exposed land. The lough was considered an extended part of the layout of the demesne and the tree-covered island to the south, Church Island, has an eye-catcher on it in the form of a false church tower and spire attached to the mediaeval church ruins (SMR7/ LDY 042:014). When originally planned, the lough level was higher and there would have been direct access to it from the quay south-east of the house. A channel has been cut from the quay to the open water. Church Island no longer an island. A hill in, or in the vicinity of, the demesne from which the folly can be seen is known as 'Folly Brae'. After H.S.B. Bruce's death in 1908, the house appears to have been occupied by his second son, Stewart Armit MacDonald Bruce (1858-37), after whose demise it was sold to Sir Harry Mulholland (1888-1971), Speaker of the House of Commons for NI (1929-45) and the third son of Henry Lyle Mulholland, 2nd Baron Dunleath. During WWII the demesne, like many others, became a military base first used for the British 202nd Engineering Combat Battalion and later by US troops (October 1943-May 1944) in preparation for the D-Day landings. The house remains within the Mulholland family. SMR LDY 37:25 crannog and 37:37 enclosure, 42:14 church on Church Island. Private, used as a wedding venue.

**BLESSINGBOURNE (ANNAGH), County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/007
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Regency park in the Picturesque-tradition (219 acres/88.8ha) created around 1800-3 for a gentlemen's seat in the thatched cottage orné style, later built around 1810, on the north-east side of Fivemiletown and 5.85 miles (9.4km) south-west of Clogher. Also known as 'Annagh Demesne', the Regency cottage was subsequently replaced in 1874 on a *de novo* location by the present large Elizabethian-style mansion (Listed HB 13/01/003A). The original house, referred to as, 'a romantic thatched cottage' was in a central location in the park looking south over a natural lake, Lough Fadda (18.8 acres/7.6ha). Both it and the park created as an occasional residence for Col. Hugh Montgomery (1779-1838), known as 'Colonel Eclipse' - a widely travelled man, who lived a carefree bachelor until 1821. He inherited the property from his father in 1797, Hugh Montgomery (1739-97) of Castle Hume, whose uncle, Col. Margetson Armar (d.1773), had purchased the Fivemiletown estate in 1731. Col. Armar left the property to his nephew, who went on to develop Fivemiletown itself, but never actually lived there. The cottage, of 1810, described

in the 1830s OS Memoirs as 'a very neat building built in the cottage style', had an L-plan, with the main house being 1½-storey rectangular three-bay building with bowed ends, steep thatched roof, large reception rooms with large windows that extended close to the ground. A projecting bay with three windows served as the entrance in the centre and the attic floor was lit, not by dormers but by windows in the bowed gable ends. As was often typical of Regency gentleman's 'cottages' (for example at Castlewellan), there rere service wing was a full two storey range; this was linked to the slated stables and offices to the rere, part of which survives within the present stable yard (Listed HB 13/01/003B). The present large rectilinear partly walled garden (1.76 acres/0.71ha), which lies around 120m north-east of the cottage, appears to have been built at the same time as the cottage. The ground slopes steeply up to the north-west and it is walled on the north. It is sheltered and gets the sun all day. Maps do not show any buildings associated with the garden until the 1870s when lean-to glasshouses are built onto the south-west facing wall with ranges of potting sheds to the rere. The head gardener's house was close to these glasshouses, replaced in 1970s by a modern bungalow. During World War 2 the walled garden was intensively farmed; prior to this it had a notable extensive flower garden with bedding at the south-west on either side of the path and rose pergolas apart from a large fruit and vegetable garden. The gardens are mentioned in Robinson's *Garden Annual & Almanac* of 1908, p 236. Today the garden is largely under grass; one glasshouses survives with the bases of other visible, while in this immediate area are beds with some flowers and fruit. The garden is still approached from the house by a rhododendron walk. A feature of the Regency park was a belt of trees screening and protecting the southern flank of the garden; this important belt survives, though broken in more recent years by a poorly sited tennis court. This screen still extends down to the lake, where it formerly met with the eastern demesne perimeter screen, now submerged into forestry plantations. The most substantial woodlands in the original park,. which largely survives, was border the west and north-west side of the lake and extending as perimeter planting alongside the Aghingow-road northwards. This enclosed the 'lawn' between the cottage and the lake, planted, as was the Regency fashion, with isolated parkland trees. The planting of the park, which was begun in 1800-02 some time before the cottage, from the outset extended beyond the Aghinglow-road to the Murley-road; it was almost certainly the intention at the time to close the Aghinglow-road, but this never happened. After Col. Hugh Montgomery's death in 1838, the property passed to his son Hugh Ralph Severin Montgomery (1821-44), following whose untimely demise it was left to his infant son Hugh De Fellenberg Montgomery (1844-1924). In his short tenure Hugh Ralph Severin, did have time to built a pretty Tudor style gate lodge (Listed HB 13/01/006) at the main entrance along Aghinglow-road (recently renovated). He came of age in 1865 and married in 1870 (Mary S.J. Maude) and that same year commissioned his friend the architect Frederick Pepys Cockerell (1833-78) to design a new much grander seat on a height to the south of the original dwelling. The style chosen, described at the time as 'Elizabethian', is a two and a half-storey mansion with an irregular plan with a roughly rectangular main block and a relatively large single-storey section to the north-east. AS finished in 1874, it has squared stone walls, ashlar dressings, various gabled bays, parapets, finely-cut finials and an array of large mullioned and transomed windows. The de-facto front faces north-west with a memorable doorway whose concave pediment has an armorial fist with dagger as a finial and 'spandrel' panels with hounds in relief. A wide gravel terrace, edged by urns flanks the house and at south-west end ther is a large flat terrace, probably designed as a croquet-lawn, but later adapted as a tennis-court. From the south-east facade and leading downhill from the terrace towards Lough Fadda is a straight, formal path, also contemporary with the house. On either side there were once lawns with shrubs in groups. About 1964 evergreens and rhododendrons were removed to allow a clear view. There are also fine chestnut and lime trees in the area south-west of the house. South of the house, on the south shore of Lough Fadda there was a rockery with 2 small ponds, ornamental footbridges and a summer house; one of the bridges has been replaced by planks. The rockery's large rocks remain and there is a path through them. At the gate lodge,

which has its own garden with clipped hedges and topiary, including a topiary chair, an attractive, partly-clipped, mature weeping beech tree with a seat underneath it and, near the 'Cottage,' a weeping ash. At the east of Lough Fadda, where there is now woodland, may have been the position of the wild garden or wilderness, which had become overgrown before World War 2. There are also some fine, older, mature trees here. Hugh De Fellenberg Montgomery, who became a prominent Unionist and sat as a senator in the Stormont Parliament from 1922, died in 1924. He was succeeded by his eldest son, Major-General Hugh Maude De Fellenberg Montgomery (1870-1954). During the WW2 the demesne was occupied by the American Army's 8th Field Artillery Regiment - commemorated today by a recent oak sapling. In 1954 the property passed to the younger son, Peter Stephen Montgomery (1909-1988) and then to a cousin Capt. Robert Lowry, with whose descendants it remains. The property now serves as a venue for weddings, with the former outbuildings converted to self-catering accommodation and business use, as well as a small carriage and costume museum. There is also a mountain bike trail within the grounds. Two enclosures, probably raths, on the site SMR: TYR 64:27 and 28. Privately owned.

**CALEDON, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) – T/008
REGISTERED GRADE A***

The walled demesne at Caledon is one of Ireland'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. Occupying 1004 acres (406ha), it is edged by the River Blackwater and Ulster Canal 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. Originally known as Kinard, the property had been home to Sir Phelim Roe O'Neill, a major Gaelic landowner who led the 1641 Rebellion in Ulster and was executed in 1653; his castle lay outside the demesne, just west of the village and was reportedly demolished by the Earl of Cork and Orrey. Two years later the estate was granted by Charles II to William Hamilton who built himself a house on the property, stated in the 1740s to have been then 'old, low and though full of rooms, not very large', adjoining the road 'in the suburbs of Caledon, evidently just south of the village. The estate, whose name had been changed to Caledon, passed into the hands of John Boyle, the 5th Earl of Cork and Orrey (1707-1762), following his marriage to Margaret, grand daughter and heir of William Hamilton in 1738. Boyle, whose principal English seat was Marston in Somerset (still extant), was a noted scholar and friend of Swift. He was reportedly captivated by the infinite beauties of Caledon', the demesne then being 'fifty acres diversified by wood and water; three parts bounded by a large and broad river and a fourth walled in'. He abandoned the magnificence of Marston in 1739 to 'fix at Caledon where I hope to find that repose which my soul so much longs after'. He embellished Caledon during two periods, 1738-40 and 1746-50, after which he grew bored and returned to England. During this time he created an important rococo garden, about which much is known of its hey-day, but very little survives. His first major act in 1739 was to close the old road to Glaslough which passed through the demesne 'for the sake of living cheap and private' and in 1740 wrote 'my trees flourish, my lawn looks green and my walks nice...my gardens are encompassed by a river, whose borders are covered with goodly trees, the boast and glory of the county Tyrone'. He placed seats, inscriptions and statues within his gardens, and was reportedly very fond of elms, which he 'put in all our plantations'; one planted in the village survived until 1923. In 1746 he was making 'daily additions to its beautys, gardens, groves and above all a hermitage'. This hermitage lay in the bend of the river on the south-west side of the present demesne ('Hermitage Wood') and here Orrey would entertain friends. It was described by Mrs Delany in 1748 as being a 'hermit's cell made of the roots of trees, the floor paved with

pebbles' with 'a couch made of matting, little wooden stools, a table with a manuscript on it', surrounded by an acre of ground 'planted with all varieties of trees, shrubs and flowers' with 'an abundance of little winding walks' and flanked by 'an orchard, a flower garden, a physic garden and a kitchen garden'; the Hermitage Wood today contains vestiges of old yew and lime walks which may belong to this period (survey needed), while an inscribed stone in the woods here may also belong to this period. Around the same time (June 1747) Orrey also built his unique 'Ivory Palace' - an ornamental Bone House whose ruin still survives beside the Blackwater River (Listed 13/10/082). This remarkable and unique building, based on one that once existed at Kedleston, was originally backed by woodland; it is oblong with a rere apse (probably for a statue) and with open front facing south, its roof (now gone but probably bone) being supported on four columns (originally arched) and two responds all lined with knuckle-bones of what appear to be sheep, supplied by, so we are told by Orrey, 'the butchers and tanners of Tyrone'. Instead of building a grand new residence, Orrey opted to live in the old Hamilton house, while spending the summers in a lodge he built in the demesne; its former location 'Orrey Hill', is not identified, but may have been the farm yard of Annaghroe, the Agent's House for the estate until 1904. In 1755 John Orrey and his wife returned to live at Marston and in 1777, their profligate son, Edmund, 7th Earl of Cork and Orrey, sold the estate (17,038 acres, IPM) in 1777, then in a poor condition, to James Alexander MP, later 1st Earl of Caledon (1730-1802). Alexander was the youngest son of an alderman of Londonderry, who during his service with the East India Company in Bengal (1752-77) amassed a fortune reputedly around £150,00 and returned to Ireland a wealthy 'nabob' aged only forty-two in 1772. Following his purchase of the Caledon estate, he engaged in 1779 the Dublin based English architect Thomas Cooley (1740-84) to design a relatively unostentatious two-storey seven-bay Classical house with pedimented breakfront centre and central curved bow on garden front (Listed HB 13/10/004); his signed designs which are in the house may have been based on a James Wyatt original. Following Cooley's death in 1784 work continued on the house under architect Davis Whitmore. It is probable that Cooley also designed the coachyard quadrangle (Listed HB 13/10/023), known in the 19th century as 'The Square Yard', lying opposite the house to the north-west, screened by some fine specimen cedars and oaks. The yard is enclosed by two-storey ranges (Limestone with sandstone trim, render removed) entered through a tall pedimented round arch with cupola surmount. Behind this lies the Farm Yard, originally an open square with a two-storey range also by Cooley flanking its northern side, behind which lay a narrow Cow Yard. In the woodland east of the yard is the dog's graveyard (a 'safe' is also shown here on the 1818 map), while the south-east sector of the coachyard is linked to the north-east side of the house basement by a remarkable stone-vaulted service tunnel (Listed HB 13/10/013), also built in the 1780s, which is 340ft (104m) long and like that at Castlecoole was wide enough for tradesman's carts to drive up. Adjacent to the west side of the coachyard and farmyard are a series walled enclosures, a small piggery at the north end; a fowl yard (later dog kennels) and a laundry yard at the south end, the latter entered through a Victorian era horse-show opening (Listed HB 13/10/025) like one at Tynan. Close-by is an attractive one storey colonnaded building with pediment, the Dowager Cottage (Listed HB 13/10/026), very probably designed by Nash but not built until the 1820s. This gives access to a large walled garden on the slopes adjoining the west of the yards. This walled garden (not listed), built in the early 1780s, has an irregular four-sided polygon plan (2.25 acres/0.9ha); in 1863 a lean-to glasshouse (80 ft/24m long) was built by architect James Boyd against the north wall (peaches and nectarines), while a frame yard was made in the north-west section of the garden; glasshouses including a vinery and cold-frames are still present here, while against the north side of the north wall are late Victorian lean-to ranges, including boiler house and various potting sheds. The garden was largely devoted to kitchen produce, vegetables, fruit and cut flowers; today the area is under mowed grass with a hard court tennis court. This walled garden was extended considerably, c.1800-07 on the west side by the addition of another large walled enclosure (2.9 acres/1.17ha), subdivided symmetrically into three: a central long rectangular area (1.65 acres/0.67ha) flanked each side by trapezoid

enclosures ('back gardens'), that on the east (0.63 acres/0.26ha) and west (0.24 acres/0.58ha), the latter now the 'Plum Garden'. The central area, referred to as the 'Flower Garden' on Sherrard's 1816 map and designed as an ornamental garden, had a large lean-to glasshouse (200ft/61m long) built at its north end in 1807-08, the work being undertaken by the 'Mr. Lilly', almost certainly the carpenter and timber merchant, Charles Lilly. Estate accounts indicate these hothouses were designed by the landscape gardener John Sutherland, who no doubt was probably responsible for the layout of these later walled gardens. The glasshouses here (now gone), including no doubt the rere lean-to ranges (now ruined), cost the enormous sum of £2,024. 11½s. in 1808. There are presently two small modern glasshouses on the site. The central section of this garden was remodelled in the 1860s, its axial paths lined with fastigate Irish yews, which have now grown to enormous sizes. A fountain on its main axial path is an original feature of this garden and was fed from a pump house located in the wood south-east of the garden where there is a small pond and former engine house. West of this garden lay the former estate nursery, while to its north-west is the mid-19th century head gardener's house (Listed HB13/10/020) - a gable-ended three-bay two storey building with mullioned windows and camed glass. North-east of the former piggery and farm yard lies the ice house, probably c.1820 in date; In the winter of 1863 it was recorded that estate staff were supplied with two gallons of whiskey, bread and cheese to fill this ice-house. The celebrated landscape gardener John Sutherland, who worked on many Nash houses, was responsible for designing the landscape park; his work had started by at least 1807 when 24,000 trees were planted and while some planting had certainly taken place prior to 1802 the park in its present form was undoubtedly largely his work. It is not however clear if the Cooley house was ever used much by James, 1st Earl of Caledon for it was stated to be in a poor state of repair by the early 1800s. On inheriting the estate in 1802, Du Pre Alexander, now the 2nd Earl of Caledon, visited Nash in his offices in London with a view to remodelling Caledon. Nash paid his first visit to Caledon in 1808 (he later re-visited in 1810), by which time De Pre Alexander was in the new colony of Cape of Good Hope where he was serving as its first British Governor (1806-1811). Nash's work on the main house, which involved adding a screen of Ionic columns between two domes pavilions, was mostly undertaken between 1809 and 1811. In 1812 he was also engaged to design the main entrance into the park, built with a pair of matching gabled lodges each with Wyatt windows and Coade coat of arms, which flanked piers surmounted with Coade 'Grecian sphinxes' (all Coade stone here was supplied in 1813 for £98.16s.11d) with decorative wrought iron gates (Listed HB 13/10/005). The north gate and gate lodge (Listed HB 13/10/15-16), comprising a primitive Doric tetrastyle pedimented portico in ashlar (limestone with Dungannon sandstone trim), were also designed by Nash and is similar to the Park Square lodges in Regent's Park; having housed a schoolroom for many years, this lodge became sadly dilapidated, but has recently been restored. Nash also designed a timber steeple for St. John's Church in the village, the work here being undertaken by Belfast architect James Boyd of Newry in 1809-10 (replaced 1830). During the 1820s the second earl devoted his attention to rebuilding the village town of Caledon, but following Nash's death in May 1835 he engaged the English architect Thomas Hopper to carry out alterations to the house, notably by building the present entrance portico at the east end and adding a third floor; he was evidently assisted by Newry architect Thomas J. Duff who engaged McAnaspie brothers based in Dublin to create the family arms inserted into the pediment. Following De Pre's death in 1839, his son James Alexander, the 3rd earl (1812-55) decided to erect a testimonial in honour of his father; this was designed by architect William Murray (1789-1849) who had already designed buildings in the village including the market house; his monument (Listed HB 13/10/011), blown up in the 1970s, took the form of a Doric Column on a plinth with four flanking lions, surmounted by a statue of the 2nd earl by well-known Dublin sculptor Thomas Kirk. It was placed in a long rectangular enclosure (1.7 acres/0.69ha) and at the time fastigate Irish yews were planted outside the base of the plinth; later c.1880 lines of monkey puzzles (*Araucaria araucana*) were planted each side of the path (360ft/110m long) leading up to the monument from the Killylear Road, where it is entered

through a fine cast iron gate with side screens (Listed HB 13/10/012). The outstanding landscape park that John Sutherland created for the 2nd earl in 1807-10 has remained largely intact; his woodland planting was focussed in the south side of the park, mainly around the yards and gardens, south-west of the house and above the banks of the Blackwater to the south with further plantations on the east bank of the river (in county Armagh). There were also plantations on the north perimeter, where a large lake with island had been planned by Sutherland; in the event this lake was never made, but rather a four-pipe duck decoy enclosed by woodland was constructed. The park meadows around the house and on the northern side of the park were well endowed with tree clumps and isolated trees, carefully positioned for best effect as seen from the approach avenues. In the 1820s further improvements were made on the advice of the English artist and landscape designer, William Sawrey Gilpin (1761-1843), who came here twice; his works included the upper two terraces on the south side of the house, made in 1827 as a 'parterre garden' with myrtles planted on the terrace walls; the earl of Caledon himself decided to add a lower third compartment a few years later. Other alterations by Gilpin may have included the straight western avenue created at this time (the back avenue) and tree belts along the parks south-western perimeter. The gate lodge here is a later addition - it lies opposite the back avenue and Glaslough gate is an imposing multi-gabled Tudor style building of limestone ashlar believed to be the work of Thomas J. Duff of Newry in the mid-1830s (Listed HB 13/10/054); he is also believed to have designed the Tynan gate lodge. Following the construction of the Ulster Canal through the east part of the demesne and Blackwater in the early 1840s, the 3rd earl commissioned the landscape gardener James Fraser (1793-1863) to undertake more improvements in the park; he was assisted in this work by the Dublin landscape gardener Maurice Armour. New plantations put down at this time east of the Blackwater are probably their work; also additional landscaping south of the river was undertaken and to provide access to this, an iron suspension bridge (1845) with deck width of 10 ft known as 'The White Bridge', was built across the Blackwater south of the house (Listed HB 13/10/029); it was designed by James Drudge of Bath, one of three known by him in Northern Ireland. Part of the scheme south of the river was the building of an eight-pipe duck decoy covering 2½-acres in 1846; the largest in Ireland and similar to one made at Lakenheath in Suffolk, it was designed by an English specialist William Skelton who managed it for many years. The decoy ceased operating around 1875, but in its heyday, according to Payne-Gallaway, it caught 2,000 to 3,000 fowl in a season. Around 1850 Fraser designed a substantial lake (5.9 acres/2.4ha) lying to the west of the main entrance gates; this lake on its north side was equipped with a boat house and hydraulic ram; there were also separate fish ponds here, presumably to help stock the lake. Changes made to the park by the 4th Earl of Caledon, James Alexander (1846-1898), who inherited in 1855, reflected his travel and sporting interests. He had ranched in the American west and brought back a bear, which was housed in wrought iron cages opposite the stable yard (Listed HB 13/10/24). He introduced red deer into the park in 1868; later fallow deer were introduced and towards the end of the century a wapiti hind from Canada. The 4th earl's most significant addition to the demesne however, was the creation of a pinetum in what had previously been open parkland west of the walled gardens. Begun in the 1860s, it has one of the most notable tree collections in Ulster with many champions; some of these include a number of Giant Sequoia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*) 48m x 7.53m and 52m x 6.34, the latter being the Irish height champion and 2nd tallest tree in Ireland; Sitka Spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) 50.2m x 7.47m, the Irish girth champion and another 54m x 5.86m being 2nd tallest of its kind in Ireland & 6th tallest tree in Ireland; a Coastal Redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) 38.5m x 7.46m; Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), 36.5m x 6.14m, being the Irish girth champion; a Grand Fir (*Abies grandis*) 49m x 4.91m, being the 4th tallest of its kind in Ireland; Low's Fir (*Abies concolor* var. *lowiana*), 48.8m x 4.83m, being Irish height and girth champion; Noble Fir (*Abies procera* Glauca Group) 42m x 4.82m, being 2nd tallest of kind in Ireland; Grand Fir (*Abies grandis*) 52m x 4.75m being Irish height champion and 13th tallest tree in Ireland; Western Hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*) 40.4 x 4.55m, being 2nd tallest of its kind in Ireland; Turkey Oak

(*Quercus Cerris*) 33.1m x 4.52m, being Irish height champion; Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) 26.4m x 4.38m being 2nd greatest girth of its kind in Ireland; Crimean Pine (*Pinus nigra* var. *caramanica*) 40.7 x 3.51m, being Irish height champion; Lawson Cypress (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana* 'Triompf van Boskoop') 28.5 x 3.47m, being Irish height and girth champion; Oriental Spruce (*Picea orientalis*) 33.8 x 3.44m, being Irish height champion & 2nd greatest girth of its kind in Ireland; King Boris's Fir (*Abies borisii-regis*), 42m x 3.33m, being Irish height champion; Monkey Puzzle (*Araucaria araucana*) 30.5m x 3.27m being Irish Height Champion; Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*), 39m x 2.81m, being 2nd tallest of its kind in Ireland; Western Yellow Pine (*Pinus ponderosa*), 35.7m x 2.38m, being Irish height and girth champion; and Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*), 13.8m x 2.16m. Exotics were also planted elsewhere in the park; north-east of the decoy for example there is a notable avenue of giant sequoia. There are SMR: sites, SMR: TYR 71:1 Caledon Cross and well, 71:2 enclosure/tree ring. And ARM 11:16 enclosure and 11:22 site of graveyard. Designated an ASSI in March 2010 with Tynan

**CLOGHER PARK, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/011
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Episcopal walled demesne of 17th-century origin with surviving registered 18th-century parkland (registered area 128.4 acres/52ha) located on the south-east side of the Main-street, Clogher, lying 6.7 miles (10.8km) south-west of Ballygawley and 19 miles (30km) north-east of Enniskillen. The present house (Listed HB 13/02/002A + entrance and lodge), which replaced an earlier 18th century house, ceased being a bishop's palace in 1850 when the diocese of Clogher was united to that of Armagh. The building is constricted by the road through the village on the north side, the cathedral to the west and a steep slope on the south side. The park and demesne spreads out from the former palace to the east and south, incorporating undulating land that includes a significant hill with a well-known hillfort (SMR7/TYR 050:033). The main entrance is north of the palace off Main Street, while the secondary entrance is south of this. Both have gate lodges—Front Lodge and South Lodge respectively. The demesne, whose landscape park (the present registered area) retains an elegance of proportion with good mature planting, was laid out in the eighteenth century and once covered 560 acres (226ha) extending to the north, east and south, with a deer park (110.5 acres/44.7ha) in the south-east. The demesne with the former palace, the hillfort, the cathedral, the former monastic site and the town, forms once of richest heritage areas in Ulster and is of enormous archaeological importance. St. Macartan's Cathedral as been an ecclesiastical site since at least the 11th century, with traditions stretching back to the early Christian period. The original palace may have been the work of Bishop Richard Tenison (1642-97, incumbent from 1690/91) who in 1696 wrote that he was 'now building a hermitage at Clogher, where I will...end my life in religious retirement.' According to Canon Leslie, Tenison's successor, Bishop St. George Ashe (1657-1717/18), 'repaired the See House and improved the See lands'. His successor, John Stearne (1660-1745), an individual who was renowned for his charity and hospitality and features often in Swift's correspondence, rebuilt the cathedral in 1744 and *may* also have made alterations to both the house and its grounds, as the 1833 *OS Memoirs* noted he 'expended 3,000 pounds in building and improvements'. The present building, which is a relatively plain Classical ashlar faced block of three-storeys over a basement, fully exposed on the east or garden side was built for Bishop Robert Tottenham in 1820-23, to designs of Sligo architect William Warren with David Henry of Dublin, contractor. It incorporates an eastern wing said to date from 1779 and a western wing built around 1817. The seven-bay garden facade a fully-exposed arcaded rusticated basement, which projects beyond the façade to form a terrace. The coach and stables ranges were located south-west side of the palace, and included houses for a steward, a gardener and a gate keeper's lodge. The unusually large walled kitchen garden however was located nearly 500m south of the palace, adjacent to what used to be a public road on the perimeter of the demesne. It has a trapezoidal shape (4.81 acres/1.95ha); the 1830s OS map show it had at that time a 'hot house' against the north wall. The walls survive and the

garden is now under grass. The garden is not shown on James Leonard's survey of the demesne in 1745 and was probably added by Bishop Robert Clayton (1695-1758), who also walled the demesne. Prior to Bishop Clayton's improvements to the demesne in the 1745-58 period, the park had been given a formal landscape by John Stearne, who was bishop between 1717-1745. A series of wide formal terraces were created immediately below the garden front of the house, crossed at right angles by a straight path with steps that lead down to a circular formal water basin at the bottom of the hill. Aerial images suggest the hill below these terraces was dissected by a series of parallel paths in the sloping lawn. Mrs Delany, who came here in August 1748, said there were 'four beautiful swans' on the basin. She also said that the 'steep hill' immediately beyond the pond was 'covered with fir', noting that Mrs Clayton was 'going to make a grotto' in the side of it. There is no evidence that he did, but an ice house was made in this little wood above the basin (Listed HB13/02/012). The formal layout below the house also included a long rectangular canal which extended 100m north of basin, meeting what appears to have been another long water basin angled north-east south-west, a feature which appears on LiDAR images. Mrs Delany notes that when she was there in 1748 the bishop was 'very busy' making the demesne 'very pretty', but not with formal but 'irregular planting' in the new naturalistic style then becoming fashionable. The Clogher demesne never had any extensive woodland planting; Clayton added the narrow perimeter belts to the on the west and small blocks of woodland and clumps throughout the demesne. It was probably he who naturalised the basin and canals below the house and removed the terraces and formal paths, so that the natural 'lawn' swept up to the house windows. His successor Bishop John Garnet (1709-82), completed the planting, notably in the deer park which he added to the south-east of the demesne. The date of the decoy pond in the demesne east of the house has not been established, but it was probably added by Clayton and appears to be a single pipe decoy. The very fine mature lime clumps around a beech encircled fort were probably planted by Clayton and while many parkland trees have been felled over the past century, there are still a number that are now ageing, while a few new trees have been added near the pond. Not many changes took place to the park in the 19th century. A Moss house, shown on the 1830s OS map in a small wood on the eastern perimeter of the demesne was probably erected in the early 19th century when these structures were fashionable. In the early 1820s Robert Tottenham in 1820-23 is said to have also spent £300 on the installation of a hydraulic ram 'invented by Montgolfier' which threw water 'to the height of 110 feet, supplying the town, palace and offices. He also built the front gate lodge (Listed HB 13/02/002B) when the palace was being rebuilt; it is a small, but memorable single-storey Classical Style gabled dwelling in render and sandstone with a symmetrical frontage dominated by a large Tuscan portico with pediment. The South Lodge, set back from the road to the south, is late 19th century and is an asymmetric one and a half-storey house with a steeply-pitched overhanging gabled roof. In 1850 the diocese of Clogher was united to that of Armagh, and, now redundant, the palace and demesne were sold by the church to Rev. John Grey Porter (1790-1873) of Belle Isle, Co. Fermanagh, whose father, John Porter (1751-1819) had actually served as Bishop of Clogher from 1797 until his death. Porter renamed the property 'Clogher Park' and after their marriage in 1851, leased it to his third daughter, Elizabeth (d.1902), and her husband, John William Ellison (later Ellison McCartney, 1818-1904), MP for Tyrone 1874-85. The property was eventually bequeathed to Thomas Stewart Ellison McCartney (1854-1946), who assumed the name Porter by Royal License in 1875. In 1922 he sold the house and grounds to the R.C. Diocese of Clogher, apparently much to the chagrin of some of the local Orangemen, who seem to have regarded this as something of a security risk, the estate being close to the recently-established border with the Irish Free State. The house and its attendant outbuildings were subsequently converted for use as a convent by the Sisters of St. Louis, who remained there until the late 1960s. After this the house and 19 acres of grounds were acquired by the Sisters of Mercy, Enniskillen, who in conjunction with local health authorities established a residential home ('St. Macartan's, Clogher', opened 1978), with new buildings built on the site of the outbuildings to the south-west. 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.

CORRICK, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/049

REGISTERED GRADE B

Later 18th-century parkland (172 acres/69.8ha) associated with an 1860s Italianate house (Listed HB 13/02/003) incorporating earlier elements. The park, is bounded by the River Blackwater on east and south, and lies 1 mile (1.7km) north-east of Clogher and 1.3 miles (2.1km) south-west of Augher. The townland of Corrick became part of the holdings of the Diocese of Clogher in the Plantation era, and towards the end of the 17th century the land was leased by Bishop St. George Ashe to his agent, John Story I (1648-1735) of Bingfield Hall, Hexham, Northumberland. Story sold his property in England to facilitate settling in Ireland, and so he had money to invest in building a house c.1700 and a fashionable formal demesne, which maps indicate comprised a straight tree-lined approach avenue with north-west axis, 276m long, presently lined with mature beech trees, and with what appears to have been a tree-lined vista at right-angles extending from the new house to the south-west for c.270m and another corresponding vista to the north-east, neither of which survives. In 1735 John Story was succeeded by his son, Thomas (1678-1768), then his son John II (1708-80), from whom it passed to a nephew, Rev. John Benjamin Story I (1764-1844), Chancellor of Clogher. There is no positive evidence yet available to indicate when the demesne was deformed or transformed into a 'natural' landscape park, but this probably happened in the last two decades of the 18th-century, when two new informal approach avenues were put down, one from the north-west of the house (presently in use) and another from the east of the park, 130m north-west of Corrick Bridge (now no longer in use). The latter had a second route through a small woodland block. Perimeter planting was put down on the east of the property, but strangely not on the north side from a single line of trees alongside the road. The parkland areas on the north of the demesne, where visible from the approach avenues, were decorated with isolated trees, and while other features of the demesne, like the yard and walled garden were screened by trees, Corrick never had large block plantations. A notable small plantation or clump is the planting of a rath in the south of the park (Scheduled TYR 059:044) with beech trees. There is a smaller circular tree clump, c. 19.5m in diameter, south-west of the house on the summit of a steep hill (TYR059:042); it has a domed interior and there are good views all round from it. East of this and south of the house is the roughly square walled garden (0.97 acres/0.39ha) which is probably contemporary with the rest of the park. In 1990 there was a glass house against the north wall and a sun dial; besides apple and plum trees, there were a few potatoes and a few flowers. In 1844 ownership of the property passed to John Benjamin II (c.1795-1862), whose brother, Rev. William Storey (c.1800-88), the next owner, rebuilt much of the house in 1863 to designs, it is said, by Lanyon, Lynn & Lanyon. It is an asymmetrical two-storey building in an unadorned Italianate Style, which has been considerably extended in recent years; the original section can still be discerned from the front (eastern) side. The walls are rendered and the overhanging gable-ended slated roof has a shallow pitch, with a shallow pyramidal roof to the tower. To the south and west are large Modern Style extensions, which in terms of area are at least 4-5 times the size of the original building. Corrick was inherited by the Rev. William Storey's son, John Benjamin III (1850-1926), a noted eye surgeon, who left it to his daughter, Eleanor Constance and her husband, John Brooksbank Garnett (1875-1946). In 1994 the Garnett's daughter sold Corrick to Mrs Jean Beacom (d.2011). By this point the house was derelict, but Mrs Beacom restored the building, which then opened as a hotel in 1996. There are three gate lodges, all of which pre-date the 1850s; the first two of these have been demolished along with their gate screens. SMR: TYR 59:42 enclosures and 59:44 rath and tree ring. Private.

DAISY HILL, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/014
REGISTERED GRADE B

Regency era parkland (91.5 acres/37ha) associated with a gable-ended 1920s farmhouse (Listed HB 13/02/027) that replaced an earlier dwelling whose origins date back to the early 18th-century. The house sits on a hill in the townland of Lisboy on the north side of Findermore, 1.65 miles (2.7km) south-west of Clogher and 4.8 miles (7.7km) north-east of Fivemiletown. During the Plantation era these lands formed part of the holdings of the Diocese of Clogher and by 1655 had been leased to the 12th Baron Howth. The Gledstones family must have bought or leased the place sometime prior to 1738, when George Gledstone (d.1738), who is described as 'of Daisyhill', owned the property, which is marked (as 'Lisbuie') on Taylors and Skinner's 1777 map. The Gledstones remained until at least the 1790s; in 1800 a James Adams may have been here, by 1833 it was the residence John Webb, and by 1837 occupied by Captain Andrew Miller (c.1783-1850); by 1877 it was the resident of Andrew Miller Simpson, possibly his nephew. The house, a gable-ended two storey rectangular block, was burnt during the troubles of 1921-22, but rebuilt quickly afterwards using much of the fabric of the old building. In the 18th-century it appears to have been a large farmhouse located close to the road, with outbuildings to the north and north-east of the house. There may have been some planting, but it appears that only in the early 19th-century the lands to the south, each side of what was then a public road (later the avenue) was planted with parkland trees and three small irregular blocks of woodland including an area of deciduous trees at the lake south of the house. Just west of the house itself a rath known as 'Fanny's Fort' (TYR 058:025) was incorporated into the landscaping. By the early 1840s what had been a public road close to the house was closed and a gate lodge built on the Findermore-road in the early 1840s; it still exists but has been greatly extended in relatively recent years and is now to all intents and purposes a modern building. At the same time a new parkland avenue, still in use, was laid down in the east sector of the demesne with an associated gate lodge and screen (Listed HB 13/02/029/030). This is a relatively plain single-storey rectangular building with a symmetrical three-bay frontage with screen of painted stone square bevelled piers with oversailing pyramidal caps and wrought-iron carriage and pedestrian gates. At this time also (1840s) an extensive block of woodland perimeter planting was put down on the Findermore-road each side of this eastern gate lodge and screen. West of the house is a small rectangular walled garden (0.8 acres/0.32ha), now covered in trees. In 1990 there was a glass house in the walled garden and the east part was a rockery. This walled garden was built in the later 19th-century, replacing an earlier kitchen garden on the south-east side of the house, flanking the short approach drive up to the dwelling. There is a rectangular forecourt in front of the house itself and ornamental gardens to either side of the dwelling (west and east), but they are now gone and the area, like the walled garden, is now tree-covered, mainly with deciduous trees. An arch at the east of the forecourt led to the ornamental gardens beyond where there was summer house and a well. The property was in the ownership of the Stewart family by the late 1930s and still in their hands in the 1990s. 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.

DRUM MANOR (OAKLANDS), County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/016
REGISTERED GRADE A

Compact and well designed multiphase demesne (635 acres/257 acres) with ruined mansion (Listed HB 09/04/006), in the townland of Oaklands, 2.9 miles (4.7km) west of Cookstown and 9.9 miles (15.9km) north-west of Dungannon. The demesne is bounded on its three sides by public roads and as an indication of its former splendour, 2.3 miles (3.7km) of the Drum-road from Cookstown was re-aligned in the 18th-century directly onto the east (formerly the front) facade of the house. Initially, named Manor Richardson after the property, part of the Plantation estate of 'Creighballes', was sold in 1617 to Alexander Richardson (1585-1630), of Smeaton, East Lothian, eldest son of Sir James Richardson of Smeaton (1558-1625) and descendant of Burgesses of

Jedburgh (Roxborough). In 1619 he is recorded as having there 'a bawne of clay and stone, being rough-cast and lime, 90 feet square, with four flankers, and a timber house in it, in which he, with his family, is now dwelling'. He died in Augher and was succeeded by his son The Rev. Sir William Richardson (1615-1673), whose eldest son, Archibald, inherited the Augher (Spur Royal) estate from his mother Mary Erskine. (1620-80), while the younger son, Alexander (1635-86) succeeded to Manor Richardson. His eldest son, William Richardson (c.1660-1741) inherited both Drum (as it Manor Richardson was now invariably called) and Derrygally in 1686, the latter from his mother, Margaret Goodlatte (1645-1710). William died in 1741 and was succeeded by his son David (d.c.1797) who married Margaret Wallace. It is evident that the original plantation house had been expanded and upgraded by this period, but it is not clear whether it was William or his son who transformed the demesne. However, it was David who rebuilt the house, information about which is provided by a crude but detailed plan captioned 'account of what money lay'd out in building a house in Drum in ye year 1744'. This shows the ground floor layout of a double-fronted – probably symmetrical – dwelling with a central hall, with a 'big parler' to the left and a 'lodging room' and closet behind this. To the other side of the hall there was a 'little parler' with a closet off and a kitchen to the rear of these rooms. This house is labelled as 'Drum' on Taylors and Skinner's road map of 1777-78, and it is mentioned as 'the seat of Mr. Richardson' in Wilson's *Post-chaise companion* of 1786. At some stage between 1720 and 1750 the road from Cookstown to Omagh was re-aligned, with 2.93 miles (4.7km) aligned as a straight-road directly on the front facade of the house. Originally this road would have passed through the beside, or close to the house and bawn and through the demesne, but now was diverted, so that at a distance of 350m from the house, the road turned left to Omagh around the demesne boundary and another road to the right leading to Kildress to the north. The 1830s OS map shows that one mile of this straight road was tree lined like an avenue and no doubt originally there was a straight tree-lined avenue from the road and front gate to the house itself. Relics of features on the OS 1830s map indicate that the geometric early 18th-century landscape probably had a tree-lined avenue/vista aligned on the south facade and parallel to this on the west side, were two walled gardens (combined 2.2 acres/0.9ha), both of which survived until the remodelling of the park in 1870. At the bottom of the lower walled garden was a small canal or rectangular pond. East of the walled garden was a rather unusual water feature, of two concentric circles, and it's likely the lakes, so much a feature of the late 18th-century landscape were formal straight sided canals originally. With David Richardson's death around 1797. the property was inherited by his son, William Richardson (d.1823), who married Isabella Brady, co-heiress to the Clonervy demesne and estate, north-east of Cavan. It is likely that they were responsible for re-landscaping the demesne as a fashionable landscape park, which was clearly designed by a professional landscape gardener, who, as so often in Ireland, remains unknown. The new layout involved removing formal straight tree-lined avenues and putting down a sinuous front drive that divided as it entered the grounds, the left going to the house, the right to the outbuildings. The park was enclosed on its perimeter along the roads by tree belts; those belts on the north and east were narrow, though on the south and west side much more substantial. Two lakes were created south-west and south-east of the house, the latter within sight of the mansion and flanking the old walled garden, which itself was typically now surrounded by woodlands, hiding it from view and provide shelter to the produce being grown. The stable yard behind the house was also hidden by woodland and around the demesne were substantial woodland clumps with large number of isolated parkland trees, so indicative of Picturesque landscapes of the era. In 1823 Major William Stewart Richardson (d.1866), succeeded his father, later assumed the additional name of Brady on succeeding to his mother's third of Clonervy in 1841. It was probably partly due to the prospect of the added income from the Cavan lands that prompted Major Richardson Brady to rebuild Drum itself in 1829, renaming the new house 'Oaklands'. The new building incorporated parts of the 1744 dwelling as was clear from the agreement of July 1829 with the architect Patrick O'Farrell (Blackwatertown, Co. Armagh) for 'a new front to Drum house and making alterations therein'.

The new mansion was in a Tudor-Gothic style, largely rectangular of two-stories with ashlar walls incorporating various bays complete with castellations, buttresses and pinnacles, whilst the roof had a relatively shallow-pitch and was largely hidden behind a parapet with embellishments similar to the bays. The east-facing front was double-gabled with a central gabled porch flanked by the square single-storey bays, the walls of which are all still extant. In 1866 the Major's daughter and sole heiress, Augusta (d.1908) inherited the demesne; that same year she married Viscount Stuart, later the 5th Earl of Castle Stewart (d.1914), of nearby Stewart Hall. The carried out a major enlargement and remodelling of the house in 1869 to designs of the architect William Hastings, assisted by Timothy Hevey. The interior was re-ordered, with the entrance moved from the east to the north. Unfortunately, this house was demolished in 1975 and only the ground floor level walls and a four-stage square tower to the north-western corner remain. Also remaining are remnants of an impressive terrace that was added to the south front of the house with bastion-like projections and stone balustrade, forming one end of a long magnificent broadwalk 319m (1,046ft) long, with a summer house at the west end. The broadwalk was part of a major re-landscaping of the grounds around the house; as with the Regency Landscape park, this new work was clearly also done by a professional garden designer, possibly Ninian Niven or someone of his status. The old 18th century walled gardens were removed from the south-west side of the house, thus allowing the broadwalk to be made and opening up views down to the lakes which themselves were remodelled into a west lake (3.18 acres/1.29ha); a middle lake (1.68 acres/0.68ha) and an east lake (3.02 acres/1.22ha), two of which still survive. North-east of the house another pair of lakes were made (combined 4.82 acres/1.95ha), but these have long ceased to survive. On the west of the demesne the old Kildress-Drumshambo-road, which formed the old west boundary of the demesne was closed (in the 1850s) and the demesne expanded in the 1860s to include an additional 90 acres (36.7ha) of parkland through which ran a new sinuous carriage drive, entering the demesne from the north-west corner on the Drum Road; this drive was lined with beech trees and survives today as the 'Kildress Path'. Where this avenue met the road there is a gate lodge and screen surviving (Listed HB 09/04/006). This is a Tudor-Gothic style one and a half storey dwelling, designed by Hastings around 1870. Due to the realignment of the road in 1964, the rere lodge is located some distance south of the roadside. The gate screen, which has been re-located closer to the present road, has square cut-stone pillars, and original (1870) iron gates and (to one side) curving spearhead railings. The main gate lodge, east of the house, is in the same Tudor-Gothic style (Listed HB 09/04/008) also designed and built by Hastings in 1870, being a one and a half storey dwelling with gable-ends with kneelers and a gabled projecting porch with buttresses. There is here a grand cut-limestone Tudor Gothic gate screen, complete with pointed arch entrance, castellations, buttresses, octagonal miniature turret and arrow loops. The gateway itself has a drip moulding with carved stops, and over this is the carved armorial of then owners Lord and Lady Castle Stewart. Extending either side of the screen is a cut-stone wall, that to the south having had a vehicle gateway inserted into it in relatively recent years, to allow access to a private dwelling, this part of the demesne being not included in the present Forest Service holdings. What were the yards to the rere of the house have now been demolished and serve as a car park; however, at some distance west, at the end of the Broadwalk, is the walled garden, as built in 1869-79. This takes the form of a rectangle, divided into two equal sized squares, the west ((0.99 acres/0.4ha) and east (1.01 acres/0.4ha) with rubble-stone walls, partly lined with brick inside. The west garden had a small glass house in the north-west corner until around 1977 and a conservatory against the north wall until just before then. In the 1970s Crosbie Cochrane laid it out the garden with meandering paths and shrubs with expansive lawn, which is what it survives as today. The east garden was laid out with boxwood in a geometrical pattern and now has meandering paths in lawn with shrubs. To the north-western corner of the eastern walled garden there is a neat two-storey gardener's house of c.1869, with gable ends, symmetrical three-bay frontage, limestone rubble walls, slate roof, a lean-to to the north and (later) lean-to extension to the rear. This dwelling backs on to the neighbouring walled garden, whose walls are

brick-lined to this side. The garden layout around the house necessitated a network of paths, notably to the south, where the main pleasure grounds were located, but also to the north where a new avenue was laid to approach the new front of the house; close to the north-west of the ruins of the house survives a bridge which carried the new avenue over a minor ravine.; this has parapet walls of coursed sandstone with short square piers, over a skew-archway of brick vaulting, with a notched brickwork drip moulding. There are two smaller stone bridges along the paths near the lakes to the south of the house. The 1870 pleasure grounds were filled with new trees and shrubs and there remains today a good collection of mature native and exotic tree and shrub species. This includes some magnificent cedars south-east of the house and four champion trees, two of which are Irish Girth Champions, namely a *Chamaecyparis obtusa* 'Crippsii' (Hinoki cypress), one lining a walk, and a *Tsuga heterophylla* (Western hemlock), which has a girth of 5.96m. This lies north-east of the house and there are other old hemlocks south of the house between the two easternmost loughs. The two other champion trees are An *Acer platanoides* (Norway maple) and a *Quercus x turneri* (Turner's oak). A *Cupressus macrocarpa* (Monterey cypress) and a *Pseudotsuga menziesii* (Douglas fir) are also listed on the Tree Register of Ireland. Lord and Lady Castle Stewart, who enlarged the house in 1869 and created the gardens, had two daughters, but no son. As a result, when Lord Castle Stewart died in 1914, he was succeeded in his titles and paternal estates by a cousin and in the Richardson-Brady estate by one of his daughters, Lady Muriel (d.1928), who had married Archibald Maxwell Close of Drumbanagher, Co. Armagh in 1891. Drum Manor remained with the Close family until 1964, when the house and demesne were sold to the Northern Ireland Ministry of Agriculture, who opened it as a forest park in 1970. The house was not re-used and in 1975 the interior was dismantled by the Forest Service, and the roof and upper portions of the walls taken down. The remainder was conserved as a shell with a garden created within the ruins. The realignment southwards of what is now Drum Road (A505) in 1964 saw the cutting off of part of the northern end of the former demesne, and since 1970 a portion of land to the north-eastern corner has been in private hands, and several houses have been built upon it. The Forest Service have maintained the pleasure ground to the south of the house, but the open parkland meadows of the demesne were from 1965 infilled with rectangular plots of 'native' and exotic forestry planting with each rectangle containing the same tree species; they include stands of *Araucana araucana* (Monkey puzzle) and *Thuja plicata* (Western redwood cedar). The property was designated a Forest Park in 1970, the site remains a well maintained public amenity, with good facilities, administered by DAERA (Forest Service). SMR: TYR 29:20 standing stone and 21 enclosure.

**DRUMCAIRNE HOUSE, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/017
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Early Victorian demesne (277 acres/112ha) with house of 1834-5 (Listed HB 09/08/007), notable for its remarkable terraced walled garden, lies 1.50 miles (2.4km) east of Stewartstown and 3.35 miles (5.4km) north-east Coalisland. The *de novo* house was built by Edward Houston Caulfield (1807-83), son of Colonel James Caulfield (1782-1833) of Mullantain, a descendant of Rev. Charles Caulfield (1686-1768), Rector of Arboe and Donagherry, a younger son of William, 2nd Viscount Charlemont. The site was clearly chosen to take advantage of the wonderful, extensive views of Lough Neagh and Coney Island to the east and of the Mountains of Mourne beyond. It was newly built in 1835 and is an east facing two-storey three-bay house with eaved roof, large square windows, ground floor French windows and a Tuscan portico with coupled columns. At the rear of the south end there is an extension comprising a narrow lower return which links to a larger hipped-roof block of similar height to the west. Northwards there is also a mid-20th century extension. Immediately north-west there is a square courtyard for offices flanked on two sides by rectangular two-storey gable-ended ranges; it is enclosed to the north by a roughcast wall with an unusual parapet with triangular (ziggurat-like) crenellations. Around his new house and outbuildings, Edward Caulfield created a large demesne over the next couple of decades, clearing

away a road and some houses to the north of the house, carrying out an extensive planting scheme and creating the terraced 'Italian-style' walled garden lying 345m north-west of the house. This comprises a roughly square walled enclosure (2.65 acres/1.07ha) divided into three steep terraces with a diagonal path with north-west south-east axis running down the centre, with flights of steps giving access to each terrace. There are also corresponding steps and paths at each end of the garden. Early 20th century post-cards and a water colour dated 1914 by K. A. Caulfeild, now in the Ulster Museum, MAGNI, show how it looked in its heyday. Fastigate Irish yew trees extended across a level lawn, at the west of which rose a steep, terraced slope, ascended by steps in 4 sets, flanked by urns filled with flowering plants on plinths. The terraces were flanked by rhododendrons and trees, mostly deciduous, and there was a statue of Diana on the top terrace, backed by deciduous woodland (This area is now owned by FS who removed the statue for safety.) The area around the terraced garden down to the house was planted up with woodland, part of very extensive tree planting in the demesne that was to continue in stages until the close of the century. The perimeter of the demesne was enclosed in a more or less continuous shelter belt, parts of which, mainly deciduous woods, survive, including the 'Far Drumcairne Wood,' on the northern perimeter; Kilcoony Wood to the north of the house; part of 'Old Wood,' north-east of the house. Other woods include 'Ballynagowan Wood,' 'Fern Wood,' west of the house, and 'The Solitude' north of the house. Today, apart from the north-east and the south-east, the demesne is almost entirely forested with a mixture of broad leaved and conifer trees; the tops of some exotic species, including a line of sequoia, protrude above the forest planting. Within the woods Caulfeild created a series of gardens, garden buildings and ponds. At the south-east of the house there was a Japanese garden and the stream close to the entrance and perimeter had been harnessed to form a long lake or pond (0.86 acres/0.35ha) with two islands. At the east end of a wood called 'The Solitude' in the northern sector of the park was a summer house with a western opening. It is inside the remains of a sub-rectangular undressed stone structure, which also has an opening at the west, called 'Coney's Cell', essentially a garden grotto. Outside the walled terraced garden to the south-east on the path back to the house was a small oval lake/pond (0.3 acres/0.12ha) with a small island (there are now two ponds). South-east of the house itself the garden is terraced and grassed and surrounded with mature rhododendrons, azaleas and trees. There were fine shrubs around this terrace and daffodils in spring, while on the east side there were several different kinds of mature oak trees and, just north of the carriage drive, a chestnut tree which provides very early autumn colour. The demesne had two gate lodges one to the south along Ballygittle Road, and the other to the north-east along Drumkern Road. The southern lodge, one of the most memorable of its kind in the country, was a one and a half-storey picturesque dwelling with steeply-pitched gable-ended thatched roof with decorative pierced bargeboards and tall, diamond-plan chimneystacks - a photograph of which was used to illustrate the cover of Dean's *The Gate Lodges of Ulster*. It probably dated from the 1840s; it was demolished at some point between 1906 and 1935. The north-eastern lodge was a smaller, single-storey structure of c.1860. It was of the same similar picturesque style as its southern counterpart, but plainer and less memorable, having a slate roof of lesser pitch, central gabled porch and windows with lattice panes. This lodge appears to have stood until c.1990, but had been demolished by 1994. Both lodges had their own gardens with the lodges being covered with creeper, as were the main house and the summer house. In 1883, Drumcairne was inherited by Edward's son, James Alfred Caulfeild (1830-1913), who became the 7th Viscount Charlemont in 1892, after the death of his distant cousin, the 3rd Earl of Charlemont. It later passed to his nephew, James Edward Geale Caulfeild (b.1880), after whose death in 1949 most of the demesne (about 70ha) was sold to the Northern Ireland Ministry of Agriculture; it currently belongs to Forest Service NI and is open to the public. The house continued to be occupied by the Caulfeild family until c.1946, after which it appears to have been let to Captain James Huey Hamill Pollock, who served as High Sheriff of County Tyrone in 1963. It was he who built a new walled kitchen garden in the open parkland east of the house near the Drumkern Road. It is rectangular with

brick walls, a bothy at the north-east corner on the outside and two glasshouses. The house was still in Caulfield ownership in 1978, but was sold in the following decade to a Mr Rushe and was put up for sale again in 1993. Today 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 DAERA (Forest Service), with public access, but no facilities other than a car park.

FARDROSS, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/048

REGISTERED GRADE B

Regency era parkland (136 acres/55ha) with 17th century house (Listed HB 13/02/034) located 1.9 miles (3.1km) south-west of Clogher and 4.87 miles (7.84km) north-east of Fivemiletown. The River Blackwater meanders through the demesne beginning in the south-east and flowing north towards the house and then west south of the house and then northwards. The long low two-storey gable-ended rectangular house, originally facing north, and appears to date to the 1670s when the land was leased by the Diocese of Clogher to James Gledstances I, who was involved in the relief of Derry in 1688. The house subsequently passed to his son James Gledstances II (c.1690-c.1745); to his son Thomas Gledstances (d. 1778) and then to his daughter, Katherine, married to Charles King (1737-c.1799), of St. Angelo, Co. Fermanagh, (MP for Swords 1776-83 and Belturbet 1797-99). By 1804 the lease passed to Katherine's nephew Whitney Upton, who assumed his mother's maiden name of Gledstances and appears to have been Whitney Upton Gledstances to planted the present parkland. There appear to be no traces of any formal late 17th or early 18th century layout, though one would have expected a straight avenue aligned on the north-east facade of the house. The tree planting of the early 1800s was focussed on the area around the house and offices to its south and on each side of the river Blackwater to the west and south-west of the house. These plantations, permitting the demesne to be called by the OS in 1835 as 'prettily wooded', remain in place today; in addition the park was extended to the north-west and east by Moutray Vance (Hornidge) Gledstances (1845-1917), not long after he had inherited it from his uncle Ambrose Upton Gledstances I (1802-71) in 1871. He laid down a new approach avenue from the Fardross-road on the north-east leading to the house front, now located at the east end of the building. This avenue has a simple iron-gate screen which appears to be of late 19th century date; this has slim cast-iron piers with ball finials and wrought-iron carriage gates with 'hooped' railings. New plantations were put down along the river to the south and south-east of the house and isolated parkland trees planted in the meadows south, north and north east of the house. Many of these trees survive today as very fine, mature trees. As one may have expected, some exotics were also included. There is an island in it south-east of the house and the river is crossed by a footbridge and other bridges in the north-western section. He also seems to have been responsible for refurbishing the house and for clearing away the old offices ranges south of the house and building a new complex of offices to the immediate west of the house arranged around two yards. Today there is a conservatory south of the house. Much of this work was no doubt made easier by the fact that the lease had been bought from the church around 1869-70. He also added a new rectangular walled garden south-west of the house (0.87 acres/0.35ha) with east-west axis and potting sheds on the south wall; this has currently been adapted as a farm yard; the earlier pre-1870s kitchen garden, probably enclosed by a hedge, lay south of the house and river. In 1917 Fardross was inherited by Moutray's his eldest son, Ambrose Upton Gledstances II (1876-1957). At some point in or just before 1973 the demesne and wider estate was sold to Robert Grosvenor, 5th Duke of Westminster (1910-79) and farmed. The whole property was acquired by the Department of Agriculture (DAERA, Forest Service) before 1990 and part of the demesne is now a forest park open to the public, with most of the demesne land farmed. The house privately occupied. There is a platform rath in the vicinity. SMR: TYR 64:33

FAVOUR ROYAL, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/018
REGISTERED GRADE B

Demesne with 17th-century origins (235 acres/95ha) with ruins of large mansion of 1824-5 (Listed HB 13/03/004) located in a valley with the River Blackwater on the north-side, lying 3.24 miles (5.24km) east of Augher and 3 miles (4.9km) west of Aughnacloy, straddling the border with Monaghan. No dwelling is recorded here until 1670, but the townland of Aghamoyle (Favour or Favor Royal) was part of a 1610 Plantation grant of 'Portclare and Ballykillgirie' to Sir Thomas Ridgeway, who sold it in 1622 to Sir James Erskine (d.1636). On his death, Erskine's estate was divided between his two granddaughters: the one who married William Richardson got Augher (Spur Royal) and the other who married John Mountray received Favour Royal. Shortly before or shortly after their marriage in 1670, the Moutrays built a house on the present site whose date-stone with its inscription '*Welcom to come in as welcom to go by 1670*', has been incorporated in the walls of the present ruined mansion of 1825. Confusingly, perhaps, the name they adopted for the new seat, 'Favour Royal', was originally applied to a plantation house and bawn built by Ridgeway to the north in the townland of Lismore. We have no descriptions or illustrations of the 1670 house and none of the yard ranges to the east of the house, now in a poor condition, appear to be earlier than the 1820s mansion, so there are few clues on this question. From the 1670s the property was to long remain in the same family, passing from one generation to the next, beginning with James Moutray I (d.1718-19), who was MP for Augher 1692-1703. He was succeeded by his son John II (1701-79); his eldest son, James III Moutray (1722-1777), MP for Augher in 1761 and 1768, built a house in the north-western corner of the demesne 'Killybrick' or 'Fort Pleasant'. Just as we are short of evidence as the former appearance of the house, we know very little of the early landscape as there are few obvious residual features of any early formal landscape surviving. The earliest demesne feature we can date is the walled garden (Listed HB 13/03/012), to the east of the house, which had (now removed) a keystone over the garden entrance on the west with the date 1720; this entrance had a dressed early Georgian surround. The garden is rectangular in plan (2.4 acres/0.96ha) with slip gardens on the west, south and east, giving the garden a total acreage of 5.34 acres (2.16 acres). The garden is enclosed by tall walls are constructed in roughly squared rubble stone and lined in brick with the segmental-headed main access to the north and other entrances to the west, south and east. As with the western entrance, the doorway to the eastern wall has also lost its cut stone surround. There are ruinous remains of glasshouse to the north-western corner. In the eastern slip, which served as the forcing yard, there is the, now abandoned, gardener's house, a single / one and a half-storey (seemingly hearth-lobby) vernacular dwelling with gabled ends and a large gabled porch. The outer slips, used for growing surplus garden produce, were enclosed with hedges, now grown into trees; those on the west side have been removed recently. The garden must have been built by John II Moutray, after he inherited in 1719 and married in 1720 Elizabeth daughter of Alexander Montgomery of Ballyleck, County Monaghan. It's likely the garden was part of a larger geometric landscape layout, but nothing seems to have survived of this. One of the apprentice garden boys employed in an around 1816 was a local boy called John Hughes, would go on to become the Catholic Archbishop of New York in 1842. As James III Moutray died without issue in 1777, the property passed to his brother Rev. Anketell I (1730-1801), who appears to have been responsible for transforming the demesne into the present landscape park. This involved removing the early formal features and agricultural field boundaries and in their place putting down sinuous woods, woodland clumps and wide open meadow expanses. In the middle ground west of the house the river was dammed to create a lake with island (3.5 acres/1.4ha), now drained, adjacent to which is a bridge (Listed HB 13/03/026), carrying the new parkland main drive over a stream flowing from the Blackwater River in the north, to the lake; It is a small rubble-built structure with a single segmental arch with dressed voussoirs and a parapet with rubble battlements. The landscaping of the new parkscape involved laying down a network of sinuous carriage drives, all no doubt planned to take advantage of the views. The drives facilitated five entrance into the demesne,

two lie on the Favour Royal Road (where the demesne is walled), both originally with gate lodges. The main entrance is west of the house near the Favour Royal Bridge over the Blackwater; its 1820s gate lodge (Listed HB 13/03/005), probably by Hargrave, lies on the opposite side of the road; it is a small Tudoresque single-storey (with attic) gable-ended dwelling with squared rubble walls and an overhanging roof with bracketed eaves. There is a gate screen on the opposite side of the road with quadrant walls; from here the carriage drive runs southwards to the lake, over the bridge and onto the house. Much of the woodland planting was to the south and south-west of the house along a tributary of the Blackwater that now forms the county and international Border. A striking feature of the western area of the parkland landscape was a church added in 1834 (Listed HB 13/03/001). Known as St. Mary's Church, it is the (C of I) parish church of St. Mary's Portclare and is a small single-storey cruciform structure with two-stage square tower with slender pinnacles, and an overall with Scottish feel. It has its own entrance from the Favour Royal Road and its gateway (Listed HB13/03/011) has a pair of square cut-stone piers with outsized ball finials and a later wrought-iron carriage gate. Another feature of the park was added earlier, perhaps around 1810; this is the Garden Cottage (Listed HB 13/03/008) south-east of the house on gently sloping ground in partly wooded surroundings. Now sadly abandoned and in disrepair, it is a small picturesque dwelling in the *cottage orné* tradition - a popular feature of Regency era parklands in Ireland. It has a central one and a half-storey section flanked by single-storey wings of differing sizes, all with gabled ends, overhanging roofs, later slated but probably originally thatched. The walls are rendered with brick chimneystacks and a circular two-stage tower to the centre of the rere, formerly graced with a conical roof, possibly also originally thatched. The building incorporated a canted bay covered by the roof, which oversails to the this side and is supported on two battered stone columns. The entrance was on the south and the cottage was placed on the south edge of what appears to have been an ornamental grove of shrubs traversed by paths. The builder of the cottage was no doubt the Rev. Anketell's only son and heir, John Corry Moutray (1771-1859), who also built the present house in 1824-25 after the old mansion was destroyed in an accidental fire in 1823. Seriously damaged by a fire in 2011 and now abandoned, the later house was commissioned in 1824 from the Dublin-based architect John Hargrave, and completed in 1825 with freestone quarried nearby (original plans of the house survive). It is a square two-and-a-half to three-storey roughly square triple-pile main block, north facing, in an austere Tudor Gothic style that extended to its interior. Extending eastwards from the south-east corner is long and much lower two-storey L-shaped service wing and a much smaller single-storey projection to the north-east. The large label-moulded windows display Perpendicular Gothic tracery, its entrance elevation is three bay with a central castellated *porte-cochère*; the garden front is five bays, where the drawing room has a central single-storey crenellated canted bay window. The house has a long attached stable range with yard to the east, also built at the same time as the house and subsequently unaltered, though both now lie abandoned and on the Heritage at Risk Register. Further east is the weigh house and pigsty (HB 13/03/025) and beyond that lies the farm yard (HB 13/03/027) - a relatively large, irregular-shaped yard with the south-west side skewed formed of ranges of rubble buildings of various dates incorporating various elliptical and segmental-headed carriage arches and doorways, all now abandoned, roofless and partly overgrown. Following John Corry's death in 1859, the demesne passed to his son, Anketell II (1797-1869), after whose death Favour Royal was inherited by his brother, Rev. John James Moutray (1802-86), who left it to his fourth son, Anketell III (1844-1927), who had the misfortune of being attacked and kidnapped at Favour Royal during the troubles of 1922. His son, Anketell Gerald Moutray (b.1882) died in 19[?], but his widow continued to reside in the house until her death at the beginning of 1975. To that date the house, outbuildings, walled garden and park all survived remarkably intact. The park was noted for its deciduous woodland and parkland trees; Robert Young in 1909 mentioned the presence then of 'fine old trees still standing of two hundred years' growth'. South of the house still stands a large ash tree and near it an unusual variegated ash. In 1976 the house and grounds were sold, with

the Department of Agriculture (Forestry Service) acquiring most of the land, and Mr. Herbert Craig acquiring the house and a smaller area of ground. The house was put up for sale again in 1994, but has remained vacant and was damaged in a malicious fire in April 2011. Much of the demesne was heavily planted by DAERA (Forest Service) with forest trees. SMR: TYR 59:63 rath and 64, an enclosure.

**KILLYBRICK HOUSE, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/069
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Late-Georgian parkland (68 acres/27.6ha) bounded on the north by the Blackwater River, with Early Victorian house (Listed HB 13/03/009), in the townland of Favour Royal, lying 3.24 miles (5.24km) east of Augher and 3 miles (4.9km) west of Aughnacloy. The property was originally part of the Moutray family demesne of Favour (Favor) Royal to which it adjoins. It was created as a separate property by James Mountray (1722-1777), MP for Augher in 1761 and 1768, who wanted a separate house of his own while his father, John II (1701-79) still lived in Favour Royal. We don't know exactly when work on a house here began; there may have been an early residence here as Brett Ingram mentions a 'James Mulligan living in Killybrick in 1665'. There was certainly a dwelling here by 1774 and in 1777 it was marked as 'Fort Pleasant' on Taylors and Skinner's road map. An estate map drawn up in 1804 depicts that the original dwelling as a single storey dwelling, with a symmetrical three bay frontage and gable ends with attic windows, located on the north end of the yard, which itself was enclosed by single/1½-storey ranges to the east, west and south. On James Moutray's death in 1777, Killybrick (Killibrick) seems to have been left vacant as James had no children and was left to his nephew, Leslie Moutray (b.1769), who being a minor at the time, resulted in the contents of the house and farm being auctioned and the property leased until around 1791, when Leslie briefly moved in, but by 1797 had passed it to his cousin, John Corry Moutray (1771-1859), who leased it again from 1801. When Killybrick was depicted on the 1830s OS map it had a three-sided courtyard (open on the east) and woodland blocks which belonged to the 18th-century Favour Royal demesne planting, notably Killybrick Wood (12.7 acres/5.1ha) to the north, and Sim's Wood to the north-west (outside the registered area) also still present today; the latter appears to be an area of over three acres designated 'Wood' on James McKenna's map of 1804 *A map of part of Killy-brick*. The prominent rath on the west side of the park (Scheduled-SMR7 TYR 059:050), comprising two banks and ditches, has also been under trees (beech) since the late 18th-century; it may have been enhanced as a landscape feature in the 19th-century. The perimeter belt south-east of the house along the Favour Royal Road (still present) appears to have been put down in the early 19th century after the road was built. In the early 1840s a new country house was built at Killybrick after it was acquired by John Corry Moutray's third son, Whitney Moutray (c.1802-82), probably around 1842; he was resident by the time of his marriage to Annabella Crawford (Auburn, Co. Dublin) in April 1843, so the house must have been built between 1841 and that date. The new residence (architect unknown, but possibly William Farrell) was constructed in the east section of the courtyard in a commanding position facing east; it is a solid two-storey over basement symmetrical five-bay block, with hipped roof, dentilled eaves, large windows and chamfered dressings, all faced in local square coursed buff pink sandstone. To the south side of the return there is a large modern conservatory that appears to be of c.1995. The yard to the rear is enclosed on the western side by a long gable-ended stable block with arched openings to its yard side, with two slightly lower ranges to the north end of the yard with an entrance between them and a rubble wall enclosing the space between the house and the easterly of these ranges to the eastern side of the yard. The building of the house was accompanied by the planting of isolated parkland trees in the 'lawn' north-east of the house and other isolated trees were placed in the meadows to the west, where they were visible from the entrance drive off the Favour Royal Road, south-west of the house. The gate screen here is relatively plain, with low sweeping quadrant rubble walls with dressed coping and a narrow carriage gate with simple iron gates (which appear to be replacements) and a pair of short

square cut-stone piers with shallow pyramidal caps, with similar shorter end piers to the walls. Directly across the road from the gateway is the lodge, now an L-shaped single-storey dwelling. The approach drive forks with one arm going to the yard and passing what had been a small 20th-century partly walled garden. This covers a sub-rectangular area, which in the 1990s the garden still had some box and was also used for pheasants, but is now occupied by a tennis court. An advertisement for a 'Killybrick garden enclosed' in the *Belfast Newsletter* of November 6-10, 1778, probably refers to an enclosed garden shown on McKenna's 1804 map, and early OS maps as a long rectangular area south-east of the house adjoining the southernmost perimeter. It had a gate in the east corner to the public road and a second gate in the diagonally opposite corner near the outbuildings. The garden later formed part of the perimeter shelter belts, while the area immediately south of the house was made into a pleasure ground for the new 1840s house and shown on the 1850s OS map to have comprised a network of meandering paths with a small pond as a focal feature and probably features lawns with irregular shaped beds of shrubs and flowers in the Early Victorian fashion. In the 1860s the house and park were leased to Whitney's younger brother, Henry Moutray (1814-75), who stayed on until 1873 when he acquired Killymoon Castle. It is likely he made changes to the main house at this time, notably the more picturesque detailing of the return and adding the fine canted bay on the south facade. The next occupant was Henry's nephew, Anketell Moutray III (1844-1927), who took up residence after his marriage (in 1873). Anketell III inherited Favour Royal in 1886 and by 1888 Killybrick was being occupied by his newly-married younger brother Charles Frederick Moutray (1846-1927), with Misses Caroline and Annie Moutray recorded as residents in 1895, and a solitary 'Miss Moutray' from around 1907. Killybrick seems to have remained a Moutray family home until at least the 1946. By the late 1970s had been sold to a Mr. and Mrs. Purdon, with the present owner acquiring the property before 1990. House private.

**KILLYFADDY MANOR, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/065
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Regency-era parkland (176.2 acres/71.2ha) with house of 1822-24 (Listed HB 13/02/005) with good outbuildings, 2.1 miles (3.4km) north-west of Clogher and 6.4 miles (10.4km) south-east of Fintona. Attractive setting with backdrop of wooded hills, artificial lake and mature parkland trees, this place was admired by Atkinson as early as 1833. Much of which we see today was created in the early decades of the 19th century, but its origins go back to the early 17th century when William Glegge was granted the proportion (2,000 acres) of 'Derrybard and Killany' in 1609. Glegg sold his holdings to Sir Anthony Cope in 1611, whose son Sir Richard, was re-granted the Killany part of this holding in 1630 as the 'Manor of Killyfaddy'. There is no historic evidence for a dwelling here by this time though there is a record that 'the manor' was sold in 1640 to brothers John (d.c.1675), Robert (d.1669) and David Cairnes (d.c.1675), who were based in Donegal. The property here remained in the ownership of various members of the Cairnes family until 1781 when 'the Manor and Lands of Killyfaddy and its several sub-denominations' were put up for sale. At some stage subsequent to this John Waring Maxwell (d.1802) of Finnebrogue, Co.. Down bought the property, but David Cairnes must have been permitted to stay as he died 'at his house, Killyfaddy' in August 1819. Killyfaddy had been inherited by J.W. Waring's second son, Robert Warring Maxwell (1790-1855), was resident at Killyfaddy in 1821 when he married Isabella, daughter of John Corry Moutray of Favour Royal. Soon after his marriage, possibly the same year, a new house at Killyfaddy was commissioned from the Dublin architect William Farrell, possibly inspired by the work at Colebrooke (1820-23). The same contractors were engaged, Thomas Colbourne of Dublin and Richard Richards of Roscommon, and the two buildings overlapped, as the contractors were accused in court of moving materials from one site to the other. The house, probably finished by 1824, is a solid three bay, two-storey over basement classical-style house with squared rubble walls and a slated hipped roof on dentilled brackets. The three-bay front has an Ionic porch, the windows either side being set within shallow full-height recesses, with the

central window over the porch tripartite, with cut-stone mullions with scrolled brackets supporting a hood moulding. Originally there was a large return to the north side of the building, whilst there was a long narrow late 19th-century range on the immediate north-west of the house, cleared away in recent years. The parkland, which was professionally designed, incorporated extensive deciduous plantations, which the OS Memoirs in the 1833 stated the 'proprietor is constantly enlarging' and at the time 'amounted to 83 and a half statute acres, namely 35 and a half acres in Killyfaddy, 19 and a half in Aghadrummin, 14 acres 16 perches in Carntallmore, 8 acres 16 perches in Mallaberry'. The planting did not take the normal form of continuous perimeter belts enclosing parkland, but rather large continuous sinuous woodland blocks, mostly interlinked, extending around the park to the road boundaries on the south and east and beyond the Aghafad-road to the west where there were extensive blocks, so much so it is perhaps surprising Aghafad-road was not closed and incorporated into the park as so often happened. Sadly many of these woodland today have now gone. An important feature of the park was an irregularly-shaped artificial lake (9.67 acres/3.9ha) to the east of the house; it had a circular island at the south end and there was a walk along part of its southern shore.; the north-western part of this lake is now just marshy ground. Its construction is referred to in a memoir of 1833-5 'At a great expense and much labour he [Robert Waring Maxwell] has formed an artificial sheet of ornamental waters on the east side of the house, covering about 8 acres with a small island in the centre which is planted'. A sluice at the east of the artificial lake controls the water. The kitchen garden (1.74 acres/0.7ha) lies directly to the west of the house, being an almost square, partly-walled garden. It seems that in recent times there was one wall (the north?) and hedges on the other 3 sides; it may once all have been walled; its western boundary has been removed in recent years. Parallel to the northern perimeter is a double brick hot wall with pegs and 3 extant fireplaces. The remains of a garden house are at the north-east corner and close-by the remains free-standing glass house. The OS six-inch maps of 1834 and 1858 shows the garden divided into 4 equal panels with a central probably decorative circular feature. The area is now grazed with the adjacent field to the west. On its north side is a rectangular farm yard, which is later than the house, park and walled garden and was built possibly in the 1840s; it has large two-storey ranges that now contain a dwelling or dwellings. After Robert Waring Maxwell's death in 1855, the property passed to his nephew, Fitz Ameline Maxwell Anketell (1825-1905), who in turn left it to his eldest son, Reginald (1861-1937). The property was sold around 1960. Modern rather intrusive farm buildings have been built north of the house yard in recent years and an equestrian exercise ring beyond. One disused overgrown gate lodge of three survives, the South-West Lodge c.1830, opposite the Aghintain-road; the other two lodges have gone. The house is private. SMR: TYR 58:16 enclosure and SMR7/TYR58:016, claimed (wrongly) as a crannog.

KILLYMOON CASTLE, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/024

REGISTERED GRADE A*

Regency parkland in the Picturesque tradition (448.5 acres/141ha) for an outstanding castellated house (Listed HB 09/05/001) by John Nash, architect to the Prince Regent, on the south-east side of Cookstown and 8.5 miles (13.6km) north of Dungannon. The parkland, beautifully placed on a small hill above the confluence of the Ballinderry and Killymoon Rivers, was designed by celebrated landscape gardener John Sutherland with possible later improvements by the picturesque exponent, William Sawry Gilpin. It has been reckoned by many in the past to be one of the finest designed landscapes in Ireland, while the house, unlike any of Nash's other houses in these islands, has survived largely unaltered since it was built in 1803-07. The present house stands on the site of the mid-18th century Stewart family manor house and demesne still retains some fine, indeed exceptional, mid-18th century buildings. The Stewart association with Killymoon however, extends back to 1634, when James Stewart I (d.1679), a Scottish presbyterian, purchased land in the area said to have been previously held by Shane Roe O'Neill, a son of Shane 'the proud' O'Neill (c.1530-67). James, who had migrated to Ulster around 1619,

settled on land leased from the See of Armagh at Ballymenagh, to the north-east of present-day Cookstown. In the 1660s he expanded his holdings buying the perpetual lease of the lands of 'Cookstown' itself, to the west of Killymoon, previously held from the Archdiocese by Dr. Allan Cook (Cooke), who had founded a small settlement there. He was still living at Ballymenagh in 1666 when the hearth money returns record that Killymoon was then occupied by two tenants, each with a single hearth abode. However, when William Stewart I (1625-1706) inherited his father's estate in 1679 he was styled 'of Killymoon' in deeds of that year, indicating that a house had been built by this stage. No doubt it was located on the site of the present castle or in the area occupied by the yards to the north and probably faced north onto what was then the public road to Ardtrea. William, who sat as MP for Charlemont in 1690, died in 1706 and Killymoon passed to his eldest son James Stewart II (1665-1726). The next owner was James II's son, William Stewart II (1710-97), MP for County Tyrone 1747-68, who in c.1750 transformed Cookstown by laying out the distinctive long main street. Earlier he had transformed Killymoon, c.1730, by extending/rebuilding the earlier house and adding fine outbuildings which still stand. The house seems to have faced north-north-east probably onto a courtyard as was the fashion with an wide no doubt originally tree-lined avenue extending north-north-east to what was then the public road, partly then re-aligned as the Castle Road. The wall marking the east side of the walled garden and pleasure ground marks the west boundary of this front avenue. Parallel to this avenue on its west flank is a magnificent long two-storey stable block range (Listed HB 09/05/001A), built c.1730. It has formally arranged front opening with walls of squared rubble with quoins and Gibbs Style dressings (to the doorways to front and the upper floor windows to the rear) both in ashlar stone, with a finely carved stone eaves course (to the front) and stone parapets and kneelers. Its breakfront, with three large elliptical-headed carriage openings, is also clad in ashlar stone, whilst the roof is steeply-pitched and slated. To the south-facing gable there is an upper level roundel (with clock face) and a bellcote. There is a section to the north added around 1810-20. Contemporary with this is a smaller building, later adapted as a saw mill (Listed HB 09/05/001A). It stands to the east of the yards and may have straddled the public road, still present in 1777 when shown on the Taylor and Skinner map. Like the stable block, this building, which may originally have been a threshing mill, has rubble walls with cut-stone quoins, parapets, eaves and string courses, and dressings (to the ground level openings); part of the gables are in brick, whilst the roof is slated. The front (south-west facing) façade is symmetrical with a large central semicircular-arched doorway and two windows to the ground floor and two above (the last two recent insertions). A 'buttress', with archway, to the north-eastern corner of the building projects over what was the mill race; it appears to have been part of a sluice. East of the stableyard, fine ashlar gate piers, presently surmounted by eagles, are also about c.1730-40 in date; they have been clearly re-located and may originally have flanked the entrance gates into the front court of the 1730s mansion. The associated landscape with this house would have been formal/geometric and clear relics of this landscape can be discerned surviving in the later park notably a straight avenue, formerly tree-lined, currently 0.35 miles (0.57km) long, but originally half a mile long, flanking the Drummond Wood and aligned on the house. Another tree-lined vista would have extended south-west-south from the house crossing the Killymoon-river where there was formally a bridge. The Killymoon-Drapersfield-road, with east-north-east axis was clearly another element of the old formal landscape. West of the house, what was the pleasure ground in the early 19th-century, appears to have been an enclosed garden in the 18th-century; the line of ancient yew trees, possibly originally a hedge, seemed to form part of the south boundary of this garden. In addition to these features in the demesne, William Stewart, a Presbyterian himself, was also responsible for the building of a Presbyterian meeting house within Killymoon demesne. There is a tradition that Killymoon house was burnt in 1799, but none of the family correspondence, then pre-occupied with the possibility of a local United Irishmen uprising, makes any mention of this. It is more likely that following the death of William Stewart II in 1797, his son and successor, James Stewart III (1741-1812), decided to build a new mansion. He was a well-liked figure who

succeeded his father as MP for County Tyrone (1768-1812) and was a prominent member of the Volunteer movement. He was also wealthy as in 1772 he had married Elizabeth Molesworth, daughter of the 3rd Viscount Molesworth, who in 1794 became a co-heiress of her late brother, the 4th Viscount Molesworth. With a new house in mind, Stewart contacted the London architect Robert Woodgate in late 1799 (by then based in Dublin) and over the next two years Woodgate produced various sketches and plans to be build 'on the wall of the old house upon its present foundation' at Killymoon. For various reasons however, Woodgate was dropped and in 1801 Stewart asked renowned London based architect John Nash (then based in Dover-street) to produce plans for a new house. At that time Nash had begun experimenting with a new castle style at his own home on the Isle of Wight and at Luscombe Park in Devon. Stewart may have been attracted to the style because the fear of an insurgency was still prevalent in his family and the illusion that a 'castle-style' house might provide better protection. Building work started in 1803 under Nash's clerk-of-works Williams Bevens, who was later to supervise Nash's Kilwaughter Castle. Work seems to have been finished by 1805, though it was not until 1807 that the well known English furniture maker, Thomas Tatham (1762-1818) was engaged to furnish the house. The completed house, which unlike other Nash houses, has not been altered internally, is one of the most distinctive and architecturally important country houses in Ireland, a building of international significance. Described by Alistair Rowan as 'one of the most brilliant examples of the picturesque castle style evolved by John Nash and...also one of the earliest', it is a solid building, but one with enough interplay of features and architectural finesse to render it more of an ornament than an imposition. It is largely Norman in inspiration (called 'Saxon' at the time), but like many other picturesque-buildings, not historically cohesive, containing elements of Gothic and Tudor. Two to three-storey over a substantial basement (contemporary with the house), the walls are built of regular coursed tooled ashlar with ashlar dressings (Dungannon and Cookstown Sandstone with some Portland limestone) with machicolated castellations throughout. The roof, designed originally by Nash to be flat, is hidden from view. The style incorporates many Norman Revival elements (called 'Saxon' at the time) notably its round arched windows and round arched opening on the porte-cochère, all possibly the input of Thomas Hopper (1776-1856) who worked for Nash at this time; indeed, these are the earliest examples of Norman-revival in Ireland. Other details include a crenellated round tower with machicolation, oriel windows, an octagonal tower and two storey porte-cochère with octagonal Tudor turrets. Around 1818 the Dublin architect John Bowden (d.1822) was commissioned to build a ballroom extension on to the north side of the house, forming part of the west facade facing onto the pleasure grounds; this probably replaced a remaining portion of the old house and has a ceiling identical with the nearby Cofl Church at Kildress, which Stewart partly funded. North of the house and stable yard is a farmyard built probably at around the same time and across the old mid-18th-century axis to the house. It has a roughly triangular plan, to the north and eastern sides of which are two long single-storey rubble-built ranges. Probably cattle sheds, these have a series of brick-dressed elliptical-headed openings to their yard-facing fronts and single-pitch roofs now covered in corrugated cladding. The rear wall of the eastern range contains a mid 18th-century looking doorway that contrasts with the front of the building, which looks early 19th century. To the east of these building are structures of largely mid to later 20th century construction, including a long single-storey brick building with gabled ends, and to the east of these, several large barns. To the west and north-west of the farm are three former walled gardens, now grass paddock, enclosed by walls that are part mid-18th-century, others c.1810. The main wall garden (1.48 acres/0.6ha), built 1803, is a long rectangular area (440ft (134m) x 144ft (44m) with north-west south-east axis, flanking the pleasure ground on its south side. It has tall rubble walls (partly brick-lined) that have collapsed in places. There are lean-to greenhouses (ruined) along the south facing north wall; these glasshouses, which incorporate unusual ashlar base walls, were still used until the 1960s and look as if they may date from the early 19th century when the present garden was made.; if so they are a very rare survival in Ireland. In the south wall there is a Tudor-arched pedestrian gateway with

decorative wrought-iron gate and set against the north end of the east wall is a small ruinous two-storey gabled house with rubble walls with brick dressings, the former gardener's house. The pleasure ground on the west side of the house (4.62 acres (1.87ha) now just rough grazing ground, originally comprised a network of meandering paths set in lawns with shrubs and trees. The parkland to the south-west, south and south-east of the castle appears to have been laid out at around the same time as the house, though records are limited. We know some trees for Killymoon came from Lisburn nurseryman William Johnson and the park itself was evidently designed by the celebrated landscape gardener John Sutherland, who was on friendly terms with the Steward; indeed, the famous portrait of Sutherland by Martin Creggan was painted in the Stewart's Dublin house. Sutherland also regularly worked with Nash on associated picturesque landscapes to complement the buildings. The design has no continuous classic perimeter shelter belts, but rather the parkland is composed of large irregular woodland blocks with sinuous edges, many inter-linked to each other. There are large expanses of lawn meadow lie in the park centre, crossed and enclosed by the two rivers with woodland blocks judiciously placed beyond. Substantial woodland blocks were planted on the west along the river (still present) and to the north, now much diminished by a golf course, while the largest woodland, Drummond Wood, still deciduous, remains with its original outline and of critical visual importance in the park. Isolated trees and clumps decorate the open expanses; formerly there were very many more but farming has seen the removal of many over the past century. The park used to be traversed by an extensive network of walks and carriage drives, all carefully laid out as to enjoy the various views through the park. Some built features were added to enhance the park, most notably a carefully located parkland bridge 300m east of the castle which carries a drive over the Ballinderry River and was probably specially designed by either Nash or Sutherland; currently in rather poor condition it has four segmental arches and cut-water piers. South of the house, close to the river with a backing of woodland and an associated garden was 'The Cottage'. This was built by Elizabeth Stewart in 1803 with the aid of workman supervised by William Bevans, which implies it was probably designed by Nash and was almost certainly a *cottage orné* of the kind then very popular in Ireland. A small nearby bridge over the river was also built by Elizabeth Stewart at the same time. On the south-west perimeter of the park, half a mile from the house just south of a sharp bend in the Ballinderry River was a 'Temple', marked on the 1834 OS map; this may be the temple that Frederick Trench of Heywood (Queen's County) advised on in October 1795; it was cleared away sometime in the late 19th century. The park drives led to at least five exits with gate lodges all now demolished; one lay at the east end of the Killymoon-road; another was at the Cloghog Gate; another off the Grange Road and the main parkland entrance on the west. The latter by Nash had a segmental arch spanning the gate and an associated Tudor-style lodge that Dean believed to be a rustic version of Humphry Repton's entrance to Blaise Castle. There are still magnificent views across the parkland from the house and despite the loss much original planting (screens, clumps and isolated trees), the landscape remains remarkably intact. The park and was widely praised for its beauty and design by visitors in the 19th century. The landscape gardener W.S. Gilpin for example admired it when he came here in the 1830s and John Burgess in 1822 noted how 'very walk and drive brought us into new features....the grandeur of the timber, particularly the oaks and sycamore, quite give you the idea of a scene of Claude Lorraine's'. In the 1840s Paxton, the gardener to the Duke of Devonshire, wrote that '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'. Around this time also (April 1841), the *Irish Penny Journal* wrote expansively on 'the beauty of many of its features, and the fineness of its timber', noting that the views in this demesne are indeed such as might naturally be expected in conjunction with a mansion of such magnificence, and will, as we are persuaded, not create a feeling of disappointment in the minds of any, whether artist or pleasure tourist, who may be led by our remarks to visit them.' Following the death of James

Stewart III in 1812, his son William Stewart III (b.1780), carried on the family tradition and sat as MP for the county from 1818 until 1830. William left no legitimate heirs to pass this magnificent demesne on to, and both the Killymoon and Cookstown estates passed to his unmarried sister, Mary Eleanor Stewart and thereafter to the family of his other sister, Louisa, the wife of Henry John Clements of Ashfield, Co. Cavan. Due to enormous debts accumulated by their brother, however, all of the family property had to be put up for auction. Thus 'Lot No.1 – The mansion house and demesne of Killymoon' with its 'profusion of beautiful and valuable timber of the finest growth...watered by two rivers which unite under the windows of the house...[and] well stocked with pheasants and other game', was advertised for auction in 1851 through the Incumbered Estate Courts. It passed through many hands subsequently, mostly buyers being only interested in the value of the timber, though somehow the place survived and it was bought in 1873 by Henry Moutray (1814-75), the brother of Anketell Moutray of Favour Royal. He died shortly afterwards and Killymoon was left to his ten year-old son, Mervyn Stewart Thomas Moutray (1865-1919). Upon coming of age, Mr. Moutray took up residence in the house and farmed the surrounding land. He subsequently sold off the eastern fringes of the demesne that had been cut off by the building of the GNR line to Cookstown in the later 1870s, and in 1889 ground to the north-western corner, north of the main drive, was given over for a golf course. It was he who was responsible for the terraced garden south of the garden with its axial flights of steps and circular basin at bottom. M.S.T. Moutray sold Killymoon in 1917 to Gerald G Macaura of Skibbereen, County Cork for £15,000. Over the next few years the new owner cut down much of the remaining timber and sold off land to the south-east to local farmers, with a large plot in the north-eastern corner acquired by a Mr. Quinn who re-sold it to John Adair for a new golf course, which has since expanded to become the present course belonging to Killymoon Golf Club. In c.1923 Mr. Macaura sold the remainder of the demesne to John Coulter (one of the farmers who had already acquired some of the ground to the south-east), with Mr. Coulter also taking the Killymoon Castle itself- for an extra £100, it is said, on top of the asking price for the land. The property remains with his descendants. The north and north-east side of the demesne park (118 acres/48ha) is now occupied by the Killymoon Golf Club, but fortunately this layout does not infringe upon the integrity of this nationally important parkland, albeit now much denuded of trees. SMR: TYR 39:22 Hill Fort-Drummond Fort in the vicinity. House private

Lissan, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/025

REGISTERED GRADE A

Later 18th-century parkland (395 acres/160ha) with large Georgian house (Listed HB 09/03/008A) located outside Churchtown on the county boundary, 2.5 miles (4km) north-west of Cookstown and 3.9 miles (6.3km) west-south-west of Moneymore. Whilst it contains some fairly modern replacement conifer plantations, this well wooded demesne parkland, through which the Lissan Water river flows from one end to the other, has retained its 18th-century layout with remarkably few alterations. The house which lies in a central position, facing south-east, has its origins in the 17th-century, though the original early 17th century dwelling, described by Thomas Ashe in 1703 as 'small tenement which has three or four pretty rooms in it...' seems to have been located a little to the west of the present house, where the 'creamery' now stands. That first house appears to have been already built around 1620 when Thomas Staples (c.1585-1653), a native of Yate Court, near Bristol, acquired the lease in the area. He had moved to Ireland in around 1610 and went to live at the Draper's Company's recently-established settlement at Moneymore, where his house is shown on Thomas Raven's map of c.1635. He married Charity Jones, the daughter and heiress of Sir Baptist Jones, the agent for the Vintner's Company, Bellaghy, and acquired a lease of land from the Archdiocese of Armagh at Lissan where he set up an iron works. In 1628 he was created a baronet (of Lissan and Faughanvale) by King Charles I. Most likely on account of the value of the ironworks, Sir Thomas's house at Lissan was not attacked in 1641; instead, Sir Phelim O'Neill ordered Niall Og O'Quinn 'to take and to guard the Staples house at Lissan and to keep the family

safe from pillaging.' Lissan was in turn inherited by Thomas's three sons, firstly, Sir Baptist Staples, 2nd Bt. (1625-72), then by Sir Alexander Staples, 3rd Bt. (1625-1673) and finally by Sir Robert Staples, 4th Bt. (1643-1714). Like his father he married (1682) an heiress, Mary Vesey (1667-1748), daughter of the Archbishop of Tuam, and with her wealth was able to improve the demesne; indeed, the history of the demesne as we know it today starts with this marriage though building work it seems mostly had to wait until the 1690s. We have useful details of Robert Staples's 'very great improvements' from a report written by Thomas Ashe in 1703 for the Archbishop of Armagh. Robert's new house, which lies at the core of the present mansion, was described by Ashe as 'an extraordinary good stone house, the rooms are very noble, lofty and large'. He described the various rooms of the house, mentioning the 'good cellars' (which still exist), the 'handsome staircase' and other rooms as well as 'good garrets over those chambers' and noting 'the house is well shingled'. From this description the house sounds to have been a standard house of the period, with steep roof and dormers, perhaps like Beaulieu, Co. Louth. Also typically for the period the house faced directly onto what Ashe described as 'two handsome courts at the entrance' which were 'inclos'd with good stone walls'; these would no doubt have formed part of a standard (for that time) geometric landscape layout with a straight tree-lined avenue aligned directly on these walled entrance courts fronting the house. Other improvements at the time included new 'farm buildings, byres, gardens and orchards, water mills for cutting timber, a large fishpond, good stone bridges...and even ornamental cascades.' Much of this was subsequently replaced in the 18th century, but the fish pond (1.2/0.5ha) survives as a lake north of the house, though it may originally have had straight edges as was then the fashion, while the late 17th century house evidently had steep elaborate terraced gardens flanking its north and east sides; in season these slopes are now covered in daffodils, *Gunnera manicata*, and other plants. The present outbuildings (Listed HB 09/03/008B) lying south-west of the house may in part belong to this era. The very old walnut trees that used to grace the large yard were probably mid-or late 18th-century in date. The late 17th century gardens and orchards described by Ashe as 'being very large and well kept' and being 'finely enclosed with quick set hedges' with 'a pretty river or brook run[ning] by the side of them', no doubt lay in the area south of the yards and also occupied part or all of the present walled garden; the pretty brook is probably the water channel that runs into the river from the bottom of the garden. In 1714 the property passed to Robert's son, Sir John Staples, 5th Bt., (1684-1730), who was in turn succeeded by his brother, Sir Alexander, 6th Bt. (1693-1742). Sir Alexander's son, Sir Robert, 7th Bt. (1740-1816) inherited (1758) a long lease of the estate of Dunmore, near Durrow, Co. Leix (Queen's County) and both he and his successor, Sir Robert, 8th Bt. (1772-1832) lived both there and in Dublin, not Lissan. Thus during this period the property was occupied by a younger brother of the Sir Alexander, 6th Bt., Rev. Thomas Staples (1702-62), followed by his son, Rt. Hon. John Staples (1736-1820), who held the lease of Lissan jointly with the 7th and 8th baronets. John Staples, who succeeded at Lissan in 1762, was a Privy Councilor and sat as an MP for over 35 years, and, like several of his ancestors, married (1764) a wealthy co-heiress, Harriet Conolly (1739-71), the daughter of William Conolly of Castletown, Co. Kildare; subsequently, in 1774 he married Harriet (Henrietta) (1745-1813), daughter of the 3rd Viscount Molesworth. With the considerable marriage portions that both wives brought he was able to completely transform both the landscape and buildings of Lissan. Indeed, notwithstanding its long history, the Lissan demesne we see today is largely the product of this one period. Unfortunately, detail records do not survive as to this work, but according to both Sampson in 1802 and Samuel Lewis in 1837 the noted Sardinian engineer/architect, Davis Ducart (d.1781), who from 1769 was involved as an engineer with the Staples's 'Tyrone Mining Company', was also involved at Lissan, building the White Bridge (Listed HB 09/03/008F) just north-east of the house (for a number of years Ducart in the 1770s Duckart/Ducart lived at Torrent Hill, Drumreagh Etra, east of Coalisland, 7.3 miles (11.9km) distance). The bridge is an attractive four-arched masonry bridge with cut-stone voussoirs to graded segmental arches, and projecting abutment piers of battered form with set-backs, which terminate in tapering cut-stone pedestal piers with moulded

cornicing. There is a projecting cut-stone stringcourse at carriageway level forming the base for balustrading, which was originally of a Chinese-inspired fretwork pattern but has been replaced by a crude timber balustrading of more simplified pattern. Cascades were built in connection with the bridge at the same time, the curved wall of which still remains a short distance downstream, but hidden by overgrowth. Lewis refers to the bridge correctly as 'picturesque' and it is clear that its construction coincided with the creation of the present landscape park. Whether or not he undertook the landscaping at Lissan at this time, as some have advocated, is another question, but it seems unlikely, as there is no evidence he had ever undertaken such work anywhere else. The 'naturalised' landscape park at Lissan was created as a balance between large sinuous blocks of woodland and open parkland meadows, the latter carefully positioned so as to give scale and a sense of relief from the density of the woodland. Thus, as is the norm with 18th-century landscape parks, visitors enter the property through some woodland, before moving into the light with the different avenue courses designed to take in as many views as possible, alternating from light into dark. The Lissan Water river, being a significant feature of the property, is a focal feature, and is planted one side, mostly the east side, (but not both) along its course. Much of the woodland planted at this time were beech but some oak was included, while closer to the house the range was more varied - Sampson in 1802 for example mentioned 'beech, larch, lime, chestnut, sycamore, with ash, firs and pines, by far the greatest part planted by the present proprietor'. Sadly, while the woodlands all retain their original layout or outline, large areas have been replaced with commercial conifers, for example the long Heather Moss Wood in the south of the park, through which the main entrance drive passed, had its fine beech woodland replaced in the 1990s by the Forest Service (at the time the wood was infested with *Rhododendron ponticum*). The largest woodland block, Lissan Wood on the north, as well as woodland west of the walled garden and Laurel-bridge have been replanted with conifers, but fortunately the core areas around the house and along the entire banks of the Lissan Water river retain their mature deciduous woodland. The open parkland meadows have lost many of their isolated trees, but south of the house the front 'lawn' and Lissan Water meadow to its immediate south, retain some isolated trees, such as lime, Monkey Puzzle (late Victorian) and a very large yew which must date to the 17th century. There are excellent wild flowers including many bluebells and snowdrops. The walled garden (Listed HB 09/03/008C), which lies close to the house on the south-east, was also laid out as part of the landscape design in the 1770s, on part of the ground previously occupied by the old kitchen garden and orchard. The garden (5.26 acres/2.13ha), including the slips along the north side, occupies a large irregular roughly rectangular area enclosed by stone walls with the ground sloping from north to south, as was common in such gardens to permit maximum heat onto the growing produce. The division of the garden with the slips to the north (1.33 acres/0.54ha) and the main garden to the south (2.93 acres/1.59ha) may be original to the garden. The slips on the north, which were further subdivided and linked to each other through semi-circular arched openings and flanked on the east side by the rere wall of the barn, were entered via a vehicular gateway with iron gate, contained a melon ground, pineapple house, mushroom house, and had potting sheds, bothies and a boiler house (with a sunked pit) against its south wall (most of these have now gone and the area currently overgrown). On the south side of the same wall was the main glasshouse range (about 40m length) which was composed of a central projecting section (the conservatory) with two lean-to flanking 'wings' each side. The latter would have contained vines, peaches and nectarines among other things, while the central conservatory, aligned on the main garden path, contained more ornamental plants notably camellias and prize chrysanthemums. The entire glass house was heated with brick chimneys projecting at each end. The central projecting glasshouse, from which (it was recalled) flowers were once taken in pots to the church on donkey carts, was demolished after the Great War, but the two large lean-to 'wings' survived until the 1970s. In the 1950s the glasshouses still contained vines, peaches, nectarines and tomatoes. From photographs these glasshouses look to have been built around the 1870s, replacing earlier glasshouses shown on earlier maps. Sometimes in the

second half of the 19th-century an additional slip garden was added to the east side of the garden; this was enclosed with hedges and contained, in addition to vegetable produce, some cold frames; part of this area is now used as the public car park. The main garden itself, now a grass paddock with regenerating trees, was formerly subdivided with a network of gravel paths, many edged with either lawn strips or clipped box and the main path flanked by herbaceous borders. The garden in the area around the glasshouses was maintained until the 1970s and indeed Mrs Dolling continued to use the garden to propagate trees into the 1980s. The main entrance into the garden, lying in the centre of the east wall, and consists of a Tudor arched opening with brick dressings and an iron gate with spearhead railings of Victorian date. The gardener's house (included in the garden listing), which unusually is was free-standing building in the garden, now sadly derelict, was an attractive two-storey rubble-built gable-ended dwelling of c.1840, with an overhanging slate roof. The building is of two sections, a two-storey cottage to the west end and a shed to the east end (now roofless). Other features of the 1770s park include the Laurel Bridge (Listed HB 09/03/008G) on the western approach to the house; this is a single-arched rubble-built structure with cut-stone voussoirs to the segmental arch on the east face, which also has a slightly raised double keystone of classical type. On the west face (which was not visible to visitors) the voussoirs are more roughly hewn, without a classical keystone. The parapets, which have been rebuilt, incorporate a stone inscribed 'Erected by A. McNally'. Also of the same period, c.1770, is Harry's Bridge (Listed HB 09/03/008H) to the south of the house; this slightly humped bridge is a single-arched masonry structure which carries the main driveway to Lissan House over the Lissan Water river. As with the Laurel Bridge the segmental arch has more finely cut voussoirs on one side (the west). The ice house (Listed HB 09/03/008D), located to the north of the yard, was also probably built in the 1760s or 1770s. It has an ovoid plan and is constructed of handmade bricks with a hemispherical brick-vaulted dome covered in earth and vegetation and approached by a short brick vaulted passage facing north. Most of the outbuilding (HB/09/03/008B) to the west of the house, approached though an elliptical -headed gateway, also appear to belong to the 1760s and 1770s, though they clearly incorporate earlier buildings as well as later additions. The irregular yard consists of four blocks: the Great Barn, to the west; the Agent's House and Donkey House, to the north side and joining the main house; the Turf Barn, which occupies the south end of the east side and abuts the Creamery; and the Creamery, which runs at right angles from the Turf Barn to the main house which it joins at its north-east corner. The rectangular 'creamery' (the term relates to its function in the Edwardian era) may well contain fabric of the early 17th century house; in the ground adjacent to the end of the Creamery is a cast iron weighbridge inscribed 'A and W Smith & Co. Glasgow 1876'. The single-storey turf barn with its arcaded openings along its two sides, now in a very poor condition, could well be late 17th century in date and could be the building that Ashe in 1703 mentioned as a 'large long turf houses and houses for hay etc. open on all sides for aire but cover'd on the topp'. The Great Barn, a long two-storey 10-bay building, with a slated roof with a chimneystack and some vents, is probably c.1770, while the Agent's house and Donkey House may be later 18th century. Also in conjunction with the creation of the park and its many buildings, work was also undertaken by John Staples on the main house, which was 'Georgianised', with the main block taking on much of its present extent and appearance. This involved extending the main facade by a couple of bays so the front door was centrally placed in the facade, replacing the steep roof and dormers with the present top floor and installing sash windows. After John Staples died in 1820 the joint lease of Lissan was taken up by his son, Thomas (1775-1865), a successful Dublin barrister, who, after Sir Robert Staples died childless in 1832, became the 9th baronet Being leasehold properties, (and not subject to entail), Sir Robert Staples was able to leave Dunmore as well as his portion of Lissan to his illegitimate son, Edmond. Thus Lissan continued to be held jointly until 1837 when it was split between the two holders, with part being sold off in 1854. Having succeeded to the property in 1820, Thomas Staples added the single-storey 'music room' to the west end around 1825, added a porch and altered the roof line with the effect that the roof was disguised behind a parapet. This

latter change gave a loft to the house, and meant that the top windows were no longer overshadowed by the roof. In the demesne he added the gate lodge and gate-screen to the south off the Drumglass-road (Listed HB 09/03/008I); this lodge, c.1825-30 is a single-storey building with an overhanging slate roof with a central diagonally set (Tudoresque) chimney. The front is symmetrical with a central doorway with a single window either side. In 1865 the property passed to Sir Nathaniel Staples, 10th Bt. (1817-99), the son of Sir Robert's younger brother, Rev. John Molesworth Staples (1776-1859), but he did not move to Lissan until 1872, when his widowed aunt died. At some point c.1875-80, Sir Nathaniel Staples, 10th Bt., introduced plate glass to most of the windows of the house, added the clock-tower projection to the west end and glazed in the 1820s porch. He soon went further and around 1880 subsumed the porch into a vast some say ugly porte-cochere, originally crowned by two turrets (of which the stumps remain), and completely dominating the entrance front. The effect of these changes is to give the house a sternly late-Victorian aspect and disguise its Regency, Georgian and 17th-century lineage.' Around the same time the parapet, added in the 1820s, was removed and the roof given its present overhang. The last major changes took place just before or after Sir Nathaniel's death in 1899 when 'an additional bay was added to the entrance front at the west end. His eldest son, Sir John Molesworth Staples, 11th Bt., (1847-1933), was the next owner, however, due to mental instability, the running of the estate was given over to his younger brother Robert Ponsonby Staples (1853-1943), the noted painter and political activist, who succeeded as 12th baronet in 1933. Around 1902 he added the generator house (Listed HB 09/03/008E) to the north-east of the house to house a hydro-electric turbine to generate electricity for Lissan House and for a saw mill in one of the outbuildings. Originally single-storey, the upper level was added in 1914, to raise the turbine higher in case of flooding. The power was conveyed to the house via overhead cables leading to the attic level of the building, but the cables are now underground. Sir Robert's son, Sir Robert George Alexander Staples, 13th Bt. (1894-1970), inherited what was effectively a bankrupt estate and neither he nor his two daughters could afford to live there. He moved to England to work and left Lissan in the hands of a manager, Harry Dolling (d.1986), who subdivided the house into apartments (which were subsequently tenanted) and sold most of the remaining contents. Mr. Dolling married Sir Robert's eldest daughter Hazel Marion Staples (1923-2006) in 1970, and the couple made Lissan their home. Having no known living heirs, Mrs. Dolling bequeathed the estate to the Friends of Lissan Trust. The property passed to the Trust on her death in 2006 and in 2010 work commenced on the restoration of the house, with the building opening to the public in Spring 2012. It is the Trust's aim to restore the rest of the estate buildings and the walled garden in the coming years. DAERA (Forest Service) planting. SMR: TYR 29:9 and 10 raths, 29:11 counterscarp rath, 29:44 tree ring, 29:52 enclosure.

LOUGHRY, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/026

REGISTERED GRADE A

Mid-Georgian demesne park (220 acres/89ha) with house (Listed HB 09/05/020A) occupying undulating land rising from a river valley 1.4 miles (2.2km) south of Cookstown and 3.7 miles (5.9km) north-west of Stewartstown. The layout and its woodlands, which are very focussed around the Killymoon River, are largely a product of the 1770s, but this demesne can trace its origin to 1611 when the 'Manor of Tullahoge' was granted to Robert Lindesay, Chief Harbinger and Comptroller of the Royal Artillery. Robert died before 1619, and in that year Pynnar reported that his widow, Janet, and her family were living in a 'timber house' on the southern side of the Killymoon River (close to the present village of Tullahogue), surrounded by a 'good strong bawne of earth, with a quick-set hedge upon it and ditch about it.' (this area is now covered in woodland). Robert Lindesay's son, Robert II 'of Loughry and Tullahoge' (c.1604-74), was re-granted his father's lands by King Charles I in 1630 (as 'Manor Lindesay') and is said to have built a new residence on the present location in 1632. After this building was destroyed in the 1641 Rebellion, a new house on the same site was evidently built by 1666 when the hearth returns

indicate the presence of a dwelling at Loughry. Following Robert's death in 1674 more building work was undertaken by his son Robert III (d.1691), a 'refugee and defender in Derry during the siege', for he and his wife Anne's initials appear on a date stone of 1680, which can be found on the return to the north side of the present house. Some of the original walls of this house survive and from the front, which faces east-north-east it appears to have been not too dissimilar to nearby Springhill (1690s) having a symmetrical five-bay two-storey facade with windows grouped towards the centre, steeply pitched roof and gable ends, but unlike Springhill it is a double pile house. It was rebuilt after a fire in the 18th century and again partly rebuilt in the 1890s after another fire destroyed the upper floors. Today it rather incongruously stands amidst various late 20th century administrative buildings. Its landscape setting in the late 17th century would almost certainly have followed the standard pattern and had an enclosed front forecourt with a straight tree-lined avenue aligned on the forecourt gates and the front of the house, while the house side would have been flanked with enclosed yards containing gardens, orchards and utility buildings.. The first edition OS map seems to have relics of at least two surviving tree-lined vistas or avenues to the north from this period, which would have been part of a larger formal landscape. Unfortunately, the mid-18th century fire is known to have destroyed most of the family papers, so we have no early maps of the demesne. This house and demesne were inherited in 1691 by Robert Lindesay IV (1679-1742), who served as MP for Co. Tyrone from 1729-33 and was later Judge of the Common Pleas, while his wife (he married in 1707) Elizabeth's brother was Henry Singleton, Chief Justice of Common Pleas afterwards Master of the Rolls. Robert was friend and legal advisor to Swift, who was a visitor to the demesne, notably in 1722 when he is supposed to have used a plain 18th-century single-room pavilion lying 35m south-east of the house on a steep bank overhanging the river. Known as 'Swift's House' (Listed HB 09/05/020B), it is square in plan with whitewashed walls, slated pyramidal roof surmounted by a ball finial. The pavilion, marked as 'summer house' on the 1850s OS map, was most likely originally linked to the house with allée of trees. In 1742 the property was inherited by John Lindesay (1686-1761), who rebuilt the house after an accidental fire in 1750. He in turn was succeeded by his son Robert Lindsay V (1747-1832), who sat as MP for Dundalk in 1781-83. Assistant Barrister County Tyrone, married 1775 his second cousin Jane, dau and co-heir of Thomas Mauleverer of Arncliffe Hall in Yorkshire. It was this marriage no doubt that provided the funds to undertake major landscaping at Loughry creating the present landscape park, whose woodland, which remains overwhelmingly deciduous, retains its original outline today. The focus of the planting was the Killymoon river with continuous planting along its south banks through the townland of Loughry for 1.11 miles (1.78km). East of the house there is discontinuous planting along the river from which the parkland sweeps away from the river to the north-east, past the house and originally to the perimeter planting along the road. In the 20th century the agricultural/administrative buildings have divided this parkland into two sections, both sections of which fortunately still retain many of their isolated mature trees (through sadly little attempt has been made to renew this landscape with replacement planting by the present owners). Paths were laid out each side of the river, with a network of different paths in the woods on the south side, linked to a wooden/metal bridges, in addition to Loughry bridge (IHR: 04859). A 'grotto' is marked on the north bank of the river south-west of the walled garden; although not marked on the 1830s map this is likely to have been contemporary with the parkland and date to the 1760s or 1770s. Just north of Loughry bridge was a corn mill and kiln (IHR: 04858), which was carefully screened from view by woodland and remained in operation after the landscape park had been created. Also contemporary with the park was the kitchen garden just north-west of the house; this was a long rectangular area (1.96 acres/0.79ha), later in the 19th century reduced to 1.3 acres (0.53ha). The east area survives as a grass paddock; about 1990 at least there was a small collection of fruit trees in it. There was an orchard to the south and an ice house near the river, which was gone by 1934. The post-1750 house is marked (as 'Loughry – Lindsay Esq.') on Taylor's and Skinner's road map of 1777, and the first 'accurate' representation of its plan is shown on the OS map of 1833-34. On this, the main

block to the south is shown, along with the long return to the north and some projections to the south-west, an arrangement which is by and large repeated on the revised map of 1857. Following the death of Robert V, Loughry in 1832 the property came to his grandson, John Lindesay (1808-48), who in turn left the family estate to his uncle, Frederick Lindesay I (1792-1871), who married (1823) Agnes, eldest dau and co-heiress of Sir Edwin Bayntun Sandys Bt of Miserden Park, Gloucestershire and Hadlington Hall Oxfordshire. He undertook a number of additions, notably in 1863 building the long rectangular gable-ended two-storey saw mill and offices on lower ground to the west of the house and parallel to the river (HB 09/05/020D); it include a square powerhouse with pyramidal roof over the millrace. He also built the main west demesne gateway off the Killycolp-road with its rusticated square stone piers topped with a griffin and a swan respectively; the griffin and swan figures represent his marriage to Agnes Sandys, who was represented by the griffin, while the Lindesay crest has long been the swan (gate piers known to college students today as the 'Duck and the Devil'). The lodge here was demolished around 2000, while gateway was widened with 1960s metal gates, and stone outer walls of similar date. Unfortunately the fortune that came with the Sandys marriage was subsequently dissipated by Frederick's second son, Frederick John Sandys ('Fritz') (1830-77), who extended the house and led an extravagant lifestyle resulting in debts of £42,000, from which the family never really recovered. Joshua Lindesay (b.1838-1893), attempted to rectify this by leading a frugal existence and appears to have vacated Loughry during the 1880s, living within the much more modest Rock Lodge, to the south of the demesne. The wider estate had to be sold off and after Joshua's death in 1893, the house and its grounds were bought by a cousin of the Lindesay's, the Cookstown businessman John Wilson Fleming. Just before or just after the sale, the upper floor of the house was damaged in a fire. Wilson restored the building in its present two-storey form in 1902 and added some additional offices to the rere. In 1906 he sold the house and demesne to the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, who adapted and extended the existing buildings, and in January 1908 opened the Ulster Dairy School on the site. In 1922. Following Partition, the School was handed over to the Northern Ireland Ministry of Agriculture and in 1949 it became Loughry Agricultural College. Originally catering for solely female students, (with the aim of training farmer's wives of the future and enabling students to work on farms or in the poultry and dairy industries), the college admitted male students for the first time in 1962. By the 1970s the main emphasis of the college shifted from dairying to food courses. This expansion both in terms of student numbers and scope lead to the building of new structures on the site from the 1960s onwards, most notably the large modern style complex to the south end of the original house. SMR: TYR 38:13 rath, 38:31 enclosure and 38:30 cist burial. College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (Cafe). Private.

**MARTRAY HOUSE, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/053
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Early Victorian landscape park 101 acres (41ha) with large natural lake (14.6 acres/5.9ha) and house of c.1845 (Listed HB 13/09/001) in an impressive location in Coolageery townland, one mile (1.57km) north-east of Ballygawley and 4.38 miles (7.05km) north-west of Aughnacloy. The rectangular yard to the rere of the house, shown on the 1834 OS map, seems to date to the 1820s, and relates to an earlier house on or near the site that was acquired from the Gorges family in 1811 by Sir John Stewart (1757-1825), Solicitor General of Ireland 1798-1800. Sir John developed the town of Ballygawley and lived at Ballygawley House, to the north-west of the town, which passed to his eldest son, Sir Hugh Stewart (1792-1854), while his second son, Captain Mervyn (Meryan) Stewart (1794-1885) received the predecessor of present Martray House; he was living there by 1822 and built the existing house around 1845-46. We know nothing of the earlier house, the land of Martray demesne was part of the Manor of Moyenner (or 'Moynah'), created during the Plantation and granted to William Turvin. Like many other grantees, Turvin seems to have sold this off relatively quickly to Sir Gerald Lowther (1589-1660), who in turn sold it

to Archibald Hamilton in c.1628, whose second son Hugh Hamilton (d.1679), Lord Glenawley from 1660, left it to his daughter Nichola Sophia Hamilton (d.1713), who married secondly General Richard Gorges (1662-1728), of Kilbrew, Co. Meath, with the Ballygawley estate left their son Richard Gorges of Kilbrew (d.1780). While Mervyn Stewart built the present house in the mid-1840s, the park was largely in place by that time and appears to have been started in the 1820s with narrow perimeter belts along the west, north and north-east boundaries, along the approach to the stable yard and in the area to the east of the stable yard, which appears to have been laid out as a shrubbery with a network of paths. By the 1830s planting was confined to the north side of the lake, but by the 1850s, with the park and perimeter woodlands had expanded south of the lake to the public road, where the south entrance was made. The lake itself, fed by streams. It is said to be very deep (40ft) and by the late 19th century had a boat house on the west side of the lough. By the 1850s the parkland lawn south of the house had also been made with its scatter of isolated trees. Today a perimeter shelterbelt with mature trees remains at the west and north-west and there is still an area of woodland east of the house and another at the lough on the north shore, both with mature trees. All the woodland today are mixed. Martray Fort, a rath on the summit of a hill east of the house, is shown on the OS six-inch map of 1858 covered with a clump of trees which is likely landscaping pertaining to the demesne. The 1840s house is a five-bay two-storey gable-ended block, only one room deep with a cut-stone façade and symmetrical frontage with a projecting castellated single-storey flat-roofed porch to the centre. Directly behind this main block is a long two-storey return which forms the eastern side of a large quadrangle of outbuildings enclosing what was originally the stable yard, which appears to date to the 1820s. Both gate lodges into the park seems to be contemporary with the house; the west lodge (Listed HB 13/09/051) on the Martray-road is a one and a half-storey dwelling is brick with gable-ends, a steeply-pitched overhanging roof and a return of relatively recent construction. Its gate screen has gently curving railings, square stone piers and decorative iron carriage gates. The entrance further north along the same road has a broadly similar gate screen, but with shorter railings (and a taller cut-stone base) and pyramidal caps to the piers. The south lodge (Listed HB 13/09/010) is similar to the west lodge, but sadly has been cut off from the demesne due to the realignment of the Dungannon Road. J.A.K. Dean has wrongly suggested both lodges are by John Hargrave, but he was dead by 1833; the lodges were built in the 1840s. There was no clear kitchen garden; the meadow north-west of the yard was formerly divided, presumably by a hedge, with the north section being used as a productive garden in the 1850s (1.4 acres/0.57ha); by the end of the 20th century this area was under orchard. The property was put up for sale through the Incumbered Estates Courts in 1855, but it appears that Mervyn Stewart managed to retain the property by 1858. However, he was left short of money, for when he died in 1885, aged ninety-one, Martray was found to be mortgaged to the bank. His eldest surviving son, George Vesey Stewart, (1832-1920), who had become a successful emigration agent, overseeing the settlement of over 4,000 people to New Zealand, decided to settle there himself once he had completed dealing with his father's affairs. Martray and its lands were sold to John Givan (1837-95), MP for Monaghan 1880-83, but after his death in 1895 the property with empty house, remained on the market unsold for ten years until purchased by a William Bailey in 1905. It subsequently passed through quite a number of owners, including a Robert Mercier, Thomas Erskine, Anthony Sloane and eventually the Glass family from Bushmills, who sold it in 1988. There is no sign of ornamental gardens; the former owners prior to 1988 apparently had 'grazed to the door.' House private. Martray Fort, SMR: TYR 53:8 is in the vicinity, also a rath TYR 53:9

MOYOLA PARK, County Londonderry (AP MID ULSTER 10) L/016

REGISTERED GRADE A

Landscape park (266 acres/107.7ha) with house of 1768 (Listed HB 08/10/001) on north side of Castledawson, 2.5 miles (4km) north-east of Magherafelt and 6.6 miles (10.7km) south-east of Maghera. This well designed and attractively situated demesne, through which the Moyola River

flows, incorporates 17th, 18th and 19th century phases of landscaping. Although a golf course unfortunately intrudes upon its south-east perimeter today, the park retains 30 acre (11.9ha) of unspoiled meadow or 'lawn', south-east of the house together with good stands of mature trees in shelter belts and woodland throughout the demesne. The history of the demesne effectively begins with Thomas Dawson, the eldest son of Christopher Dawson, a native of Westmorland (Acorn Bank) who settled in Drogheda in 1611 where he built a house. In 1633 Thomas had the resources to buy the 'eight townlands of Moyola' that had been granted to Sir Thomas Phillips in 1612, of which one was Tamniaran (Maola Tomniaran), where is located the demesne, known since the 1840s as Moyola Park. With the land came also a house that had been erected by Phillips on the west side of the river. According to the OS Memoirs of 1835 the 'foundations of the walls and terraces' (SMR:42:07) of this house lay close to what was then a Chapel of Ease, built in 1694 by Thomas Dawson III for the use of his family and estate workers, the site being later occupied by the present parish church of c.1870, Christ Church (Listed HB 08/10/003). The exact location of the original Phillips/Dawson house and its garden terraces is not clear; it could have been either side of the church. Thomas's son and heir, Thomas Dawson II (c.1630-83), Deputy-Commissary of Musters of the Army, purchased the lease of the Manor of Moneymore (1673) from the Draper's Company and was also grants the lands of Fennor near Slane under the Act of Settlement. His second son Thomas III (1655-1731/32) succeeded in 1683 and served as MP for Antrim 1695-99 and 1694, but seemed to be resident much of the time as Castledawson, which he renamed Dawson's Bridge. In 1694, in addition to building the Chapel of Ease' he erected a new family mansion on a different site some 316m (1,040ft) north-east-north of the chapel and east of Canny Island; its exact location can be determined as it stood at the apex of two known straight avenues. which were laid out as part of the formal landscape of the new house., One of these was a straight approach lime avenue, still surviving (240m/790ft) and an 'avenue three miles in length opening to a magnificence view of Lough Neagh to which it extends', relics of which survive with axis south-east north-west. In 1704 his only son was killed in the capture of Gibraltar and no doubt it was this which prompted him to sell his Castledawson and Moneymore property to his immensely successful and wealthy younger brother, Joshua Dawson (1660-1724/5), confirmed by private act of parliament in June 1708. He served as Under-secretary for Ireland 1700-14 and Secretary of State for the Lord Justices in 1710, the same year he built what is now the Mansion House in Dawson-street, Dublin. In 1713 he carried out further work on the house at Castledawson, which in addition to avenues would have been surrounded by walled enclosures containing gardens, orchards, yards, outbuildings and no doubt had an enclosed forecourt in front of the house, which probably faced south-west. None of this survives, though archaeological remains should be present below ground. Some of the associated trees included 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, probably part of this late 17/ early 18th century landscape. There are four of these original trees remaining. Some notable trees surviving also include a sessile Oak (*Quercus petraea* 'Cochleata'), 5.87m girth and 28.5m high (Irish height and girth champion); a large walnut (*Juglans nigra*) 4.16m girth and 20.5m high and a Delavay's Silver Fir (*Abies delavayi* var. *georgei*), 2.7m girth and 20.5, high (Irish girth and height Champion). The adjacent town of Dawson's Bridge (Castledawson) was created in its present form by Joshua from 1710-1714 by grants of cheap lands and perpetuity leases to protestants; he built a horse barracks here in 1714. On his death in March 1724/25, he was succeeded by his eldest son Arthur I Dawson (1689-1775), MP for Co. Londonderry (1729-42), married Jane, sister of Charles O'Neill of Shane's Castle, he was a lawyer, afterwards one of the Barons of the Exchequer and appeared to live most of the time in Dublin with houses in Molesworth-street and Clontarf. Not until the later 1760s when he retired from his official positions that he returned to Castledawson and it was at this point he decided (rather late in life) to build a new (the present) house. It was located 900m (2,90ft) north-west of the old residence and was initially known as 'The Lodge', probably because the old house and its associated yards and courts were not demolished until some years later. The

house is a two-storey over basement hipped roof block in squared rubble (it was originally rendered) and cut-stone with a five-bay frontage with central cut-stone pedimented breakfront. Over the entrance is a pedimented portico reached via a broad sweep of stone and the south-western side has a full-height canted bay in cut-stone, which may have been added c.1840s; this is balanced by another bay on the north-eastern side (now hidden to the front by the northern wing). The roof, which is partly obscured by a stone parapet is slated and has large rendered chimneystacks. Yard building were built on its north-east, later replaced in the 1840s, and a long rectangular walled kitchen garden (3.08 acres/1.2ha) with north-east south-west axis. Some landscaping was undertaken on the west side of the river opposite the house, which much of Tamnaran south-east of the house was cleared, but the parkland was never really finished by Arthur I, who died in 1774 without issue. He left his 'considerable fortune' to his nephew Arthur II Dawson (1745-1822) 'a most eminent banker of this city'. Arthur II was a partner in Newcomen's bank and an active MP for various constituencies and having inherited appears to have rarely visited Castledawson. Matters were to change dramatically when Arthur's son, the Rt. Hon George Robert Dawson (1790-1856), brother-in-law to Sir Robert Peel inherited the property in 1822. Although he was an active MP for Co. Londonderry (1815-30, later Harwich 1830-32) and held many senior offices of state, including Secretary of the Board of Admiralty, he managed to spend much more time at Castledawson and was an enthusiastic 'improver', remodelling both the house and the parkland, which he renamed Moyola Park. Indeed, in January 1820, two years before he actually inherited, the *Register of Trees in County Londonderry 1768-1911*, record that he was supplementing the existing ancient oak woodlands and planting 11,700 trees, including 2,100 oak, 650 ash, 1,050 beech, 1,000 Scotch elm and others (registered under 'Ballynocker'). The paired yews on the riverside walk may belong to this period. Indeed, Moyola Park as it appears now is largely his work. Most of the parkland planting to the south and south east of the house belong to this era, so a visitor in 1847 was able to admire the 'beautiful lawn' in front of the house 'containing I should suppose 100 acres indented here and there with clumps of choice trees and shrubs, which by its avenue from the town is asserted by many gentlemen to resemble the Phoenix Park, Dublin'. The pleasure grounds south-west and north-east of the house were also noted as having been laid out 'in the most tasteful manner and are planted with rare shrubs and flowers under the skilful management of Mr. Samuel Henderson, the Gardener'. Exotic planting from this time includes a *Cryptomeria* known to have been planted in 1851. The visitor of 1847 also noted behind the house to the north, 'The Shilgroe', an ancient wood 'in which are most stately trees of oak, beech, scarlet maple &c., to be found in the province, some of which are fourteen feet in girth and fifty feet of clean trunk'. However, at the time of his visit in 1847 the features that most attracted notice were two iron suspension bridges across the River Moyola. These were erected in 1846 and 1847 by Messrs. Dredge & Co, engineers from Bath. The first to be erected (in 1846) had 'a span of 81 feet and seven broad', ('wide enough for carriages'), while the other (erected 1847) was '150 feet by five'. The latter bridge, which links 'Canny Island' to both banks of the river south of the house, survives (Listed HB 08/10/032); the other half a mile north has now gone. It may be noted that this and an example at Caledon (built in 1845) are the only surviving examples of suspension bridges in Ireland made by James Dredge. Just south-west of the house is a weir in the river which in 1847 had 'a working fall of 2½-feet 'and many hundred horse power to corn, flour and bleach mills, at and below the town' and 'at the weir was by 1847 'a self-acting forcing pump, denominated a 'Ram', made by Mr. Hamilton of Belfast, a Plumber. It is a most ingenious piece of mechanism, by which the water is raised to the top of the castle, 75 feet above the level of the river'. It was planned that water would also be 'conveyed through the pleasure grounds and gardens for purposes of irrigation', but it's not known if this ever happened. In 1847 it was also noted that a gate lodge had just been completed at Hillhead 'a beautiful entrance and lodge' that was 'built of punched basalt and chase design', which intended to be the main entrance. This has octagonal stone gate piers and an irregular single-storey lodge on a L-plan with simple serrated bargeboards (Listed HB 08/10/023); it was extended to the rear in c.2010,

with the extension overshadowing the original structure somewhat; the avenue here, which once passed through the park 'lawn' is no longer used. The village gate lodge (Listed HB 08/10/002), not mentioned in 1847, appears to have also been built around this time; it is the plainest of the three lodges. The third gate lodge on the Hillhead Road to the north-east of the demesne (Listed HB 08/10/024) was built by Col. Robert Peel Dawson in the 1860s and was once a notably attractive building in the picturesque manner, one and half stories with facing Flemish Bond brickwork (now rendered over), stone quoins and windows dressings, its steep gables decorated with attractive bargeboards. The accompanying gate screen is unusual, having large sweeps of picket fencing set between slim octagonal stone piers with 'coronet'-like caps, with the piers either side of the carriage gate matching those to the Moyola Road entrance. George Dawson was succeeded in 1856 by his eldest son, Col. Robert Peel Dawson (1818-77). His only child, Mary (d.1924) married Lord Adolphus Chichester (d.1901), son of the 4th Marquess of Donegall, who created a football pitch in 1881 at the south-western corner of the demesne for the local 'Moyola Park Association Football Club', founded several years earlier. Moyola Park was left to Mary and Adolphus's granddaughter, Marion Caroline (1904-76) and her husband Captain James Clark (1884-1933), who assumed the additional surname of Chichester. Their son, James Dawson Chichester-Clark (1923-2002), was Prime Minister of Northern Ireland between 1969 and 1971 and was created Baron Moyola in the latter year. In the 20th 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 was converted into a golf course, being an extension of the course on the western side of the river (the Gravend course) of the river, with one of the drives over the river itself; the damage to the park has fortunately been confined to the perimeter areas. To the eastern side Bridge Street and the main drive, on a site once occupied by a pre-1830s corn mill is the new ground and clubhouse of Moyola Park AFC, built in 2009. Private. SMR LDY 42:5 enclosure, 42:7 castle site and 42:29 church site.

PARKANAUR, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/030
REGISTERED GRADE A

Victorian landscape park with Regency origins (420 acres/170ha) enclosing an Elizabethian-style house of 1839-43 (Listed HB 13/13/002), 3.4 miles (5.4km) west of Dungannon and 1.1 miles (1.8km) south-west of Castlecaulfield. The demesne lies on undulating ground which is well planted with a mixture of mature trees in both woodland and parkland, including some unusual trees, exotics and forest planting. From the 1990 DAERA (Forest Service) have been developing the site as an oak woodland and for native conifers; it is sometimes referred to now as 'a lowland broad-leaved estate'. Historically the land here belonged to the O'Donnelly's, one of the 'household families' of the O'Neill's of Tyrone. In 1610 this land became part of the grant - 'the Manor of Aghloske' (alas Castlecaulfield) – given by King James I to Sir Toby Caulfield (1565-1627), 1st Baron Caulfield. It remained with the Caulfields until 1771 when the townland of Edenacrannon and adjacent townlands of Stakernagh, Terrenure, Tullyallen and Killymoyle were sold for £13,500 by James Caulfield, (1728-99), 1st Earl of Charlemont, to Ynyr Burges, alas John Burches (1723-92), the Dublin-born Secretary of the East India Company, who lived at East Ham in Essex. In 1774 an estate map by Oliver Beckett was produced of what was to become the demesne, then divided to three tenant holdings. In the event Burges never built a house here and Instead, it passed on his death in 1792 to a nephew, John Henry Burges (1766-1822), of Woodpark, Co. Armagh, who subsequently in the 1790s planted 21,115 trees and 91,000 quicks here at a cost of £197-8-10d followed in 1802-04 by building a modest two-storey house 'Edenfield' which forms the core of the present mansion. This house was set 115m north from what was then the Castlecaulfield-Ballygalley public road. It is depicted on a map of 1807 by John Graham as a two-storey plain house with Wyatt-windows. Edenfield (the name derives from he

townland name) served as an occasional residence until 1820 when John Henry moved there permanently from England, though in their absence tree planting had continued with Stakernagh top belt planted in 1811; oak and beech about the waterfall and river walks in 1818, and in 1820, when they take up residence plant variegated sycamore and weeping ashes in front of the house and commenced the 'Rose Garden'. This lay to the east of the house where the oval path of the present pleasure gardens seem to define what was the old boundary (wall or hedge) of this garden, later pinetum. In 1821 the house is enlarged by building what at the time was called 'The Cottage' part - namely the library, ante-room and small drawing room, so house became on plan a long rectangular block with south-east-south axis. Following his death in 1822, his son and heir John Ynyr Burges (1798-1889) inherited the Irish estates. In 1824 he engaged John Kinley Tenor to produce a survey of the demesne and every year added to the plantings in the demesne. In 1833 he married Lady Caroline Clements (1802-69), daughter of 2nd Earl of Leitrim; this no doubt encouraged him to modify and extend his Irish seat, while the choice of style may also have been influenced by the Tudor-revival of Lough Rynn, the Earl of Leitrim's house, begun in 1833. However, the finances for upgrading the house did not become available until 1838 until he inherited the English family seats of East Ham and Thorpe Hall, Ilford, Essex, following the death of his relative, Margaret, Dowager Countess Poulett. Until this he undertook piecemeal improvements to the demesne; in 1833 built the school house and planted rhododendrons for the first time along the river. The following year 1839 Burges commissioned Newry architect Thomas Duff (1792-1848) to extend and remodel the house in a Tudor-Elizabethan style, which by now he had renamed 'Parkanaur'. Work proceeded in three main stages until 1848, externally, while work on interior was not finished until the early 1850s. The end product was a large and complex house, basically C-shaped in plan, with walls of cut-stone and squared rubble, a relatively steeply-pitched slated roof with a wealth of gables, and an abundance of Tudoresque detailing including mullioned and transomed windows, label moulding, octagonal shafts between bays, parapets, finials and kneelers to the gables, and tall cut-stone chimneystacks. The earlier two-storey house is in the centre, this being relatively low embellished in 1839-40 with a large cut-stone porch and tall chimneys. Also remodelled in 1839-40 was the taller 2½-storey L-shaped section on the west end with its projecting full-height gabled bay. Duff started work on the east end from 1841, this being a long single-storey screen wall with buttresses and Tudor-arched windows, which hide a long row gable-fronted coach houses and terminates to the east end in a barbican. The three-storey double-pile west wing and the two-storey T-shaped service wing to the north are all part of Duff's 1843 commission and are of more uniform appearance, the former having detailing similar the western end of the front elevation. The service wing is much plainer, but has a later octagonal gothic style turret to the eastern gable. Also built by Duff is the service yard with continuous ranges to the north, east and west, octagonal cupola and a high south wall with octagonal tower (apparently for hanging meat) to its western end. While work on the house was being undertaken the 'new line' of Ballygawley Road was being built - this road had been diverted away to the south to its present position from 1839 a plan that was first put in place as early as 1807. To achieve this land had to be acquired from Lord Charlemont and indeed it was not until 1849 that the townland of Cullenfad was finally bought from Charlemont. The old road subsequently became an internal demesne driveway which to the west of the walled garden and south of the park lawn is lined with fine beech trees ('The beech avenue'). New entrances had to be made into the park, notable the main entrance which lies in the south-east section of the park, off the Parkanaur-road and opposite the Torrent River. Both gate lodge and gates (Listed HB 13/13/003) are also probably by Thomas Duff in 1849-50, which Dean has shown is derived from a design by P.F. Robinson. The lodge, known today as the 'Gothic Lodge' is a 1½-storey asymmetrical Tudor-style house in ashlar with tall chimney, a gabled porch and a square bay, with a half-dormer over the latter. The adjacent gate screen has sturdy octagonal stone piers with concave caps with original-looking decorative iron carriage and pedestrian gates, and railings. The new walled garden (Listed HB 13/13/004) was built alongside the south side of the old public

road, in 1852. As we might expect for a Victorian walled garden, it has a rigid rectangular plan (1.8 acres/0.73ha) with a slip garden to the north-west (1.05 acres/0.43ha), the latter is not enclosed by walls, probably originally with clipped hedges. It had ceased to grow produce by the 1950s but there were then still some cold frames in the upper portion; the river ran through the lower section supplying the garden with a convenient water supply. There is a centrally placed gate in the north-west wall of the walled garden giving access to the slip garden, while there is a pedestrian entrance in the north-east wall with a handsome iron gate made in 1870 by John Patterson, blacksmith in Castlecaulfield. The walls around the garden, 15ft (4.5m) high, are of stone with brick-lining on all four wall inside; as normal in walled gardens, the brick coursing follows the slope of the ground inside the garden (north-west to south-east). In the south-east corner is a three-stage square brick tower whose gabled roof has corbie-steps with ashlar coping. The top floor has narrow windows with ashlar surrounds and access to upper floors internally was by ladder. The building served as a potting shed with the upper floors used to store bulbs, roots and seed, where they were safe from mice. The main feature of the garden, demolished in recent years (though also listed) was a fine glasshouse, comprising two lean-to ranges or 'wings' and a projecting central canted conservatory against the north-east facing wall. This was built in 1873 by the Scottish firm of James (or John) Boyd & Sons (Paisley) for £250. It contained peaches, nectarines and vines with the central section presumably devoted to more ornamental plants. Entry into the garden for the gentry was via steps directly down the hillside (now overgrown) and through a door into the conservatory and so into the garden. Over this door on the north side is still a large console supporting an ashlar block, which may have once supported a coat of arms. Until the 1950s a tall clipped hedge each side of the path leading into this door hid from the sight of visitors the cold frames lined up on the west side and the lean-to potting sheds on their left (east side) - all have now gone and this part of the garden very overgrown. While the wooden glasshouse frame has been removed, its base brick wall remains, complete with enclosed 6-inch heating pipes. The walled garden was in full cultivation until the 1960s with a flower border down the centre on axis with the conservatory and backed by tall clipped hedges (yew or box). After the Dept. of Agriculture took over most of the demesne in 1978 the Forest Service also assumed ownership of the walled garden, but the school retained use of it and vegetables continued to be cultivated here until 1983, while the glasshouse continued to be used to supply house plants for the school into the 1990s; it was dismantled about 2006. In 2010 the Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society with voluntary support rejuvenated the gardens over a period of ten years, restored the paths, put down lawns and have grown vegetables and flowers. Part of the west end is now under allotments, while the Parkanaur residential school have a polytunnel at the east end which they use for plant sales. Usually the head gardener's house lies adjacent to the walled garden, but here the house, known as Pleasantview or Cullion House, lies on the south side of the public road overlooking the garden; it was built around 1870. East of the house, just above the walled garden, is the pleasure ground, sometimes called the Upper Garden. This has been a garden from at least the 1820s a rose garden with sundial, developed as an oval area crossed down the long axis by a straight path with pairs of yews at intervals. Until the 1950s the area within the oval was well kept lawns with elaborate bedding out schemes and isolated ornamental shrubs. Outside the ovals were (and still are) exotic trees and shrubs. The house itself formally had formal bedding out schemes on the raised terrace flanking the west side of the house. This now has lawn plots, fountain and sundial at the north end and a swimming pool built here in the 1970s. The idea of the terrace was to permit expansive views of the parkland, but sadly trees now block many of these views. The parkland or west lawn and the area to its south and south-east have been retained as parkland by the Forest Service, though sadly all the many other areas of open parkscape that contributed to the beauty of Parkanaur have been infilled with commercial trees. The west lawn has lost a number of fine parkland cedars here over the past few decades, but still retains good cedars, oaks, Scots Pine and beech. To the south inside the ha-ha is a good *Fagus sylvatica* var. *tortuosa* (Dwarf beech). The house terrace gives access down onto the river where

planting has been north and east of the house since the 1820s. In 1842 walks were laid down each side of the river with associated planting, which is recorded as including 'Pinus, Ilex, Portugal laurel, Holly, Double Hawthorn and Rhododendron'. Planting extended west of the house in the 1850s and near a stone arch over the walk, 250m west of the house and beyond the ha-ha there is some notable planting with impressive *Sequoiadenendron giganteum*, *Thuja plicata*, *Liriodendron tulipifera* and others. A notable feature north-west of the house is a large pond or lake with island, sometimes called the duck pond, created just north of the river and still maintained by the Forest Service with its water lilies; the lake it seems provided water to the big house via a pump. Every year John Ynyr Burges added to the plantations; once the Cullenfad townland to the south was acquired in 1849, he was able to plant this up with a mixture of open parkland meadows (alongside the road) with trees on the heights above. Much of the planting was completed by 1867 and in 1872 he decided to build an ornamental wooden summer house in the popular 'Swiss Cottage' style atop the hill at the very south end of Cullenfad. While Regency cottages where sometimes wrongly called 'Swiss' cottages there was a Victorian fashion for more genuine alpine style buildings following the example of Prince Albert's Swiss Cottage in Osborne in 1854-55. The summer house or chalet at Parkanaur had trees around it and was approached by a carriage drive from the house. It survived until the 1940s and has since been demolished, though its floor can be discerned in the woodland. In 1889 John Ynyr Burges died and Ynyr Henry Burges (1843-1908) inherited Parkanaur and from him it passed to his daughter, Edith Alice Burges (1860-1942), who married Arthur Howard Frere (1860-1931). The property remained in Burges ownership to 1955, before being sold in 1958 to Thomas Doran, a locally-born man who had migrated to the USA as a teenager where he founded a greetings card business and made a fortune. Mr. Doran purchased the house in order to facilitate his friend, Rev Gerry Eakins, in developing a new centre for the education of handicapped young adults. The house reopened in 1960 as 'The Thomas Doran Training Centre' (Parkanaur College), and much of the building continues in this role today. In 1976 the Dept. of Agriculture (Forest Service) bought 161 hectares and subsequently more land was acquired, 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 DAERA (Forest Service)). SMR: TYR 54:39 crannog?. House private.

**POMEROY HOUSE, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/031
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Demesne parkland of largely Regency date (410 acres/166 ha), flanking the east side of the village of the planned 18th-century (c.1770) hill-top village Pomeroy, about 9 miles (14km) from Dungannon. The park was enlarged on its west perimeter in the 1850s but otherwise remained fundamentally unaltered from the early 19th century until 1960s, when the Forest Service (DAERA) started to plant extensive coniferous plantations here. The house, demolished c.1970, was a plain classical five-bay house of three-stories over a basement with hipped roof, built 1789-92 for Robert Lowry (1748-1802); a single-storey extension c.1850 was added on its east side by his son Robert William Lowry (1787-1869), possibly in celebration of the marriage of his son, Robert William Lowry (1816-99) to an heiress in 1852. Unusually, the house was orientated north-west facing the rectangular late 18th century stable yard a mere 80 feet (25m) distant from the front door; the south side of this yard still survives. Later in the 19th century a second rectangular yard was added on its north side, some ranges of which also still survive; further north of this a kennel building c.1860 survives. Also to the north, on alignment with the house and yards is a straight avenue of length 385m (0.24 miles) defined by a ditch on one side and by substantial banks on both sides; mature oak trees and younger beech have been planted atop these banks. This formal avenue may indicate that an earlier house had been originally planned on the site of the 1789-92 house by the Rev. James Lowry of Tullyhogue (1707-87) who inherited this property from his father in 1729 (he in turn had bought the property from Speaker Conolly in

1719); however, there is no documentary or cartographic evidence for such an early house and it is very likely that the house of 1789-92 was *de novo*. A rectangular walled kitchen garden for fruit, vegetables and flowers (1.8 acres/0.8ha), also of late 18th century date, was built 530ft (160m) directly east of the house on lower ground; it has stone walls with no brick lining; those on the south and east sides survive intact, while those of the north and west have been partly demolished; an impressive beech tree has grown into the south-east corner of the garden wall. The garden had a free standing glasshouse in its east sector (there was another conservatory adjacent to the house); the whole garden area is now covered with mature deciduous trees, while the 'garden wood' on its north side has been replaced with coniferous trees. The area between the house and the walled garden was formerly a pleasure ground with ornamental trees and shrubs set in extensive mowed lawns; this area is now densely covered with undergrowth, but and it would appear some exotics have survived here. The parkland, which has been overplanted over much of its former extent, save for the area south of the house site, was typical of the Picturesque-style. The central element of this parkland was a large open meadow ('The Lawn') south of the house; this partly remains but unfortunately a house has been erected within it, c.1980. This meadow was flanked on its west perimeter by a curving approach avenue leading to the house from the main entrance on the Slate Quarry Road, where there was a gate lodge (The East Lodge, demolished c.1960); a wide sweeping gate screen with rendered quadrant walls, remains in place at this entrance (not listed). Another avenue, joining the latter on its west side, led to a second entrance on the Tanderagee Road; this had a gate lodge on the opposite side of the road (The West Lodge, rebuilt 1878 and still present albeit much altered). The park, originally created from what had been bog land on heavy clays, had extensive woodland plantations, evidently mostly beech, but also some oak, covering around 180 acres (70ha) laid out in blocks both along the road perimeter to the south and west and within the demesne (Town Plantation, Doctor Plantation, Lake Wood, McCrory's Plantation, Lock's Plantation, Parkmanany Wood, Garden Wood and others), interspersed with open meadows, the latter being dotted with isolated trees and small clumps. In the south-west section of the park, flanking the west avenue, were a series of three inter-linked artificial lakes, which was fed from water from the north-east. According to Samuel Lewis in 1837 the main lake was made in the shape of Ireland at a scale of 1-inch to 1-mile and stated by him to lie adjacent to 'an abundant' spring; this lake remains as a shallow boggy area enclosed in what is now coniferous woodland. Indeed, most of the former parkland, both its historic woodland and open parkland, have been planted up with conifers since 1958 (when the property was acquired by Forest Service, DAERA; the only deciduous woodland areas now surviving are around the house (mainly beech) and Traynor's Wood lying on the south-east section of the park. Some clumps of old Scots pine also survive in the demesne. The site of the 1789-92 mansion is now a car park (disused), while the area immediately to its south, was used in the 1970s to build a rather dull complex of buildings, which served as a Forestry School; it was used for training FS staff members and various outside organisations and it is now abandoned. In the vicinity of the house the FS in 1966 planned to plant an arboretum covering about 3h to be laid out in a grid system, but this was never undertaken. North of the house the FS laid out the 'Grace Drennan Woodland Trail' in memory of Grace Drennan (died 1974), a lecturer in biology in Stranmillis College, Belfast, as a tribute to her interest in the use of State Forests for education. On land not owned by DAERA, now outside the demesne on the south side of the road, is the Alexander Vault (Listed HB 09/02/010), built in a Classical-style with flat roof c.1870 enclosed by a low wall with decorative cast-iron railings; now stranded in the middle of a field, this was originally approached by an avenue (800ft (245m) long of Monkey Puzzles (*Araucaria araucana*), of which only one now survives. SMR: TYR 37:3 and 37:4 both enclosures.

**AUGHNACLOY (RAVELLEA), THE THISTLE, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T-046
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Extensive ditches and planted banks are laid 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 created for Acheson Moore (1691-1770) to demonstrate his strong Jacobite sympathies probably in the 1740s, when he laid out the adjacent village of Aughnacloy in its present form. Having succeeded to his estates here in 1712, including the demesne of Garvey, and serving as MP for forty-four years (1716-58), he was an improving landowner, promoting industry in the area. His landscape at Ravella (townland is spelt Ravellea) did not draw any public comment until after his death, when in 1777 the Rev. Campbell remarked that: 'Instead of following nature, in ornamenting his demesne, he [Moore] too up the whimsical thought of cutting it into the form of a thistle. 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 fields branching from thence delineated the leaves.' The shape could be seen from his house at Ravella, locally known as Ravella Castle, which was on a hill at the south west end. It was possibly best viewed from the first floor windows. The house has long gone, but the thistle remains in good condition, apart from some hedge loss. The full original disposition of woodland blocks, tree belts, clumps and buildings is not yet entirely clear, but tree-lined avenues evidently surrounded the thistle on each side, while another ran down the centre on axis with the house. The remarkable 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 Ordnance Survey map of 1850. Aerial photography has made it comparatively easy to discern the layout today. The house at Ravella evidently did not survive long after Moore's death in 1770 and today nothing survives of the house or its outbuildings; however, his grandson, Nathaniel Montgomery-Moore (1757-1834) commissioned the architect Francis Johnson to build a fine mansion in nearby Garvey demesne in 1810-12; this was dismantled in 1821 and now survives as a gaunt ruined shell. The banks and ditches of the Ravella layout are Scheduled. SMR: TYR 60:42 The Thistle. Private.

**ROCKWOOD, County Londonderry (AP MID ULSTER 10) L-051
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Twentieth-century garden (4.5 acres/1.8ha) with 1924 house outside Upperlands on the Kilrea-road, 3 miles (5km) north-east of Maghera and 5.54 miles (8.9km) south-west of Kilrea. Ornamental grounds laid out around an extensive mainly two-storey residence of asymmetric plan with a pitched roof and various gabled ends, built in 1924 for the then newly married Henry Francis Clark (1904-77) and Sybil Emily Clark (1905-2002); Henry Clark, who served as High Sheriff of Londonderry in 1957 and became an M.B.E. in 1962, was a grandson of William Clark (1816-1904) of Ampertaine, founder of the nearby linen manufactory, William Clarke & Sons. Henry himself became Chairman and Managing Director of William Clark & Sons in 1964. The grounds, which were purposely created for the house in the 1920s have been fully maintained ever since. There is a good belt of trees around the whole perimeter of the site, a good lawn behind the house, a summer house, pond and in the north side a vegetable garden, the latter occupying a substantial area (0.79 acres/0.32ha) relative to the rest of the property. The shelter belt trees are now mature. Maintained by Mrs. Clark from that time until shortly before her death in 2002. Private.

**SPRINGHILL, County Londonderry (AP MID ULSTER 10) L/021
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Georgian demesne (163.5 acres/66.2ha) incorporating early 18th century formal garden features and a well-preserved house of 1697 (Listed HB 09/06/024A), lying south-east of Moneymore (0.68 miles/1.1km) and 4.6 miles (7.4km) north-east of Cookstown. The National Trust acquired the

historic core of demesne in 1957 (81.5 acres/32.9ha) with much of the woodland west of the Springhill-road (47.4 acres/19.2), taken over and managed by the Forest Service ('Springhill Forest'). The demesne origins go back to William Conyngham (d.1666), originally from North Ayrshire, who settled in Ulster in the early 17th-century and became an enterprising landowner eventually holding properties in Armagh, Londonderry and Tyrone. He lived in Armagh, though as early as 1609 he may have also have held some form of residence in Ballindrum, the townland where Springhill is situated. At that time however, the land, formerly O'Cahan territory, was in the possession of the Salters Company of London. By 1654-56 however, William Conyngham definitely held land in Ballindrum (130 acres) in freehold from the company; it was held jointly with Captain Henry Finch 'of Coagh', an Alderman of Derry and 1658 Conyngham acquired 350 acres of the townland from Captain Henry Finch for £200. The 1658 indenture refers to "all tofts, houses, barnes...orchards and gardens", which seems to imply a dwelling on the land by that date, but the evidence is not clear. Nor is it definite that William Conyngham settled in Ballindrum before he died in 1666, but his son William 'Good-Will' Conynham (d.1721) is addressed as being 'of Ballindrum' by 1690, so he must have been living somewhere here prior to the completion of the present house in 1697. In his 1680 marriage contract to Ann Upton (d.1753) of Castle Upton, Co. Antrim, 'Good-Will' Conynham had committed himself to building 'a convenient dwelling house of lime and stone, two stories high, with necessary office houses, gardens and orchards', so he may have started building not long after that date. Dendrochronological dating on the oak timbers by QUB carried out on behalf of HED (then NIEA) in 2012 would suggest that work started on the main house in the 1680s and possibly also the barn, with the two side pavilions flanking the court in front of the house being built in 1696-7. The Williamite Wars may have slowed progress and the fact that the name 'Springhill' (derived from a near by stream) cannot be dated to before the early 1700s may indicate work was not finished until then. In his will of December 1720, 'Good Will' Conynham mentions the 'dwelling house, barn, stable, brew house, turf house, cow house with sheds thereunto belonging...my old orchard, new orchard, cherry garden, washing green, pond garden, stackyard and green garden'. Two years later, in 1722, survey maps of 'Ballydrum' and the 'Demains of Springhill' were drawn up by John Maclanachan; these show many of the features of the demesne we see today, including the main block of the house, the pavilions to the front of it and the barn to the east of these, the formal axial layout with the main drive and those extending from it to east and west. At the centre of the ensemble is the main house, described by Rowan as 'one of the prettiest houses in Ulster' - it is also very distinctive, retaining its original late 17th-century elements being a substantial two-storey over basement gabled main block, harled and whitewashed, with an attic level within its steeply-pitched slate roof, square chimneystacks of brick and a central full-height rere return. The front façade is (almost) symmetrical with a central doorway, a simple moulded stone surround, very much in a late 17th century manner, approached via a broad, but shallow, flight of stone steps with low sweeping walls. The single storey wings each side of the main block with their canted fronts and extensive rere returns were added probably by Col. William Conyngham around 1775, although there appears to be no definitive evidence for a precise date. The main block faced onto an courtyard as was standard practice at that time in formal garden layouts, entered through gates (probably wrought iron), as shown on Maclanachan's Ballydrum map and flanked each side by long gable-ended single-storey pavilions (Listed HB 09/06/024B), both dated to the mid-1690s and both with harled whitewashed walls and Holborn gables; their small pointed windows being a later feature. These pavilions were seemingly built as the 'office houses' required by the 1680 will, with on the west pavilion housing the harness room, stable boy and servant accommodation, while the east pavilion probably had the brew house, slaughter house and more servant accommodation. On the long axis of the house each side are service yards, mostly harled and whitewashed, those on the east comprising some of the original late 17th century outbuildings, while those on the west were mostly added in the 1770s. The long rectangular yard immediately east of the east pavilion is the old washing green or laundry yard on the north side of which is the

Costume Display House (Listed HB 09/06/024I), a long one and a half storey gable-ended range, so-called because it now houses part of the National Trust's costume collection. The next yard used to contain the bleaching green and is divided by low rubble walls from the old drying yard (at the lower end) with the square turf house (probably 17th century) in the far corner and beside it a small rectangular space now occupied by a modern herb garden; the latter has planted borders, stone path around a camomile lawn with painted low railings matching those alongside the bleaching green. At the top end, adjacent to the barn, is a small square yard that may once have served as a stackyard; now it is a 'Dutch Garden'. The beds, restored in 2008 from old photographs, are filled with roses and there is perimeter border at the foot of the walls with a shell house in the east corner with a slated roof and seat. At the north is a sundial. The garden once used to hold the celebrated McCartney Rose (*rosa bracteata*), which grew beside the wall by the barn and is thought to have been a cutting from the original plant brought from China in 1794 by McCartney (the rosea parent of the yellow 'Mermaid'); it died in the harsh winter of 2010. The barn (Listed HB 09/06/024C), which lies adjacent to the west end of the 'Dutch Garden' and at the west end of the farm yard a relatively large one and a half storey gabled building with rubble walls, a slated roof and a bellcote in the form of a miniature triumphal arch. Tree-ring dating of a lintel suggests this building was constructed in or just after 1694 and is shown on the 1722 map. The farmyard (HB 09/06/024J, known once as the hay yard, at the easternmost of the yards, has a piggery (east range) and cow byres all built around 1860. At the west side of the house the service yards were laid down by Col. William Conyngham in the 1770s; indeed, a letter has survived dated 1774 stating that 'Your masons have completed your new stockyard'. Like those buildings on the east, these ranges are stone built of local basalt (from south of Ballindrum), harled and whitewashed, including the Coach house (Listed HB 09/06/024D), which had stables, a hay loft over and a pend that permitted access to the grass-covered dovecote yard, which has two-storey range containing a barn and cart shed (Listed HB 09/06/024E) with a round three-stage dovecote or pigeon house attached to the south-gable; it has slit openings, a conical slate roof and weather vane. On the south the rear projection of the house is aligned upon a straight avenue of beech trees, known as the 'Beech Walk', though it was a carriage drive and was part of the original layout of c.1700. It has an south-east north-west axis and in its original form extended from the house to a semicircle of mixed trees, including holly, round a folly, an eye-catcher tower with blocks of woodland on either side, a distance of 373m (1,225ft); in its present form the avenue is 223m (1,107ft) long. South-east of the house, about a quarter of the way along the avenue, is a substantial stone-lined ha-ha, made by the National Trust in the 1960s to aid drainage; there is a path within the beech avenue as far as the bridge over the ha-ha, after it now becomes grass. The trees are spaced 14.1m (46ft) apart across the avenue; by the early 1970s many of the original beech trees, which had been trained (as was the fashion in the early 18th century) with clean straight boles, had fallen, while a fungal beech bark disease threatened the rest, so most were felled around 1976 and new ones planted in 1984; one original tree survives near the house. Unfortunately, the new saplings were planted without having been carefully nursery trained to develop clean straight boles, nor have the trees subsequently been pruned; consequently, the height and rhythm of the old avenue has been lost, while branches now obscure the views up and down the avenue. The avenue is at first level and, south of the ha-ha, then rises gradually to a low hill on the summit of which is the folly was created in 1791. It is a two-storey, crenellated circular stone tower (now roofless and floorless), with a pointed arch doorway at the south-east and four, pointed arch window openings, symmetrically spaced; it must have replaced an earlier building as a plaque has been found there with the inscription 'GC ANO DOM 1731'. On the opposite north side of the house there was originally another tree-lined avenue that extended from the front forecourt to the road (254m/835ft); this is now the line of the main entrance, but originally it did not provide vehicle access (just horses). The avenue was evidently lined with oak, but most were removed when the north side of the house was made into the 'lawn' of a landscape park around 1770s and the avenue and its flanking enclosures were

completely removed to create the required open meadow, though part of the old oak avenue tree line is still shown on the 1834 OS Map and some of these trees survive today. In the 1840s this avenue was re-instated, but this time made the main avenue with vehicle access, complete with gate lodge (Listed HB 09/06/024A). The areas flanking the avenue remained parkland; originally in the early 18th-century these areas were orchards as shown on the 1722 map. In the original c.1700 layout this axial avenue was crossed at right angles by another at the gates into the forecourt; later, evidently in the 1790s, the line, west of the forecourt, was moved further to the north to its present position and a new main entrance from the road was made; this new entrance was given two small gate lodges, each facing each other inside the gates; one of these survives, being a very small rectangular gabled building with gothic windows and door (Listed HB 09/06/024F). Prior to this change in the 1790s, this tree-lined cross avenue extended 612m (2009ft) in length and 525m (1,722ft) from the forecourt entrance to beyond the edge of the demesne where it was aligned on a house and farmyard Dousksy townland, possibly then the agent's house; today some of this avenue still exists (244m/800ft). As shown on the 1722 map, yet another tree-lined vista ran along the east side of what is now the pleasure grounds, parallel to the front avenue, but trace of this appears to have long gone. The 'South Grove' on the 1722 Springhill map to the east of the house occupies part of the area now the present walled garden, the area of which is lightly indicated on the 1722 Ballydrum map. It seems likely that the walled garden was made by George Butle Conyngham (d.1765) who inherited Springhill on the death of his uncle 'Good-Will' in 1721; he married (1721) Anne Peacocke (d.1754), the niece of Good-Will's wife, Ann. The walled garden has high stone walls enclosing a trapezoidal area (2.94 acres/1.19ha) with a vehicular entrance mid-way along the south-west, on either side of which, on the outside, are beds with laurel, and so on. Inside, the southern section has long been planted with conifer trees and, more recently, the northern section has become a community garden, that is, one where local people can grow their own produce; it has a large polytunnel. The first edition OS Map of 1834 show a pond in the south sector of the garden, while the north sector has a large central oval bed with radiating paths and beds, clearly incorporating an ornamental element. By 1862 the garden was sub-divided into rectilinear panels, but with pond still shown between planted borders. By 1900 the south end was under orchard. In the 20 century the layout was altered to take glass houses and fruit trees. The area flanking the south-west of the walled garden was probably the original ornamental garden and there are several yew here of considerable age, which most likely formed part of such a garden. On the 1722 Ballydrum map the area behind the house is shown as enclosed, bordered by a cross avenue extending from the Springhill-road with gates giving access opposite the Beech Walk and house return. In 1765 the property was inherited by Colonel William Conyngham (1723-84), MP for Dundalk from 1776-83 who ten years later married Jane (d.1788), only daughter of James Hamilton of Brown Hall, Co. Donegal and widow of John Hamilton of Castlefin in the same county. When he inherited the grounds of Springhill they would already have been considered very outdated, so it seems highly probable that it was he who transformed the grounds, whilst also adding the wings to the gable ends, possibly on the occasion of his marriage in 1775; in 1774 there is a record that he was finishing building the stockyard, so the ancillary service yards west of the house also built by him at this time. The landscape work entailed removing the orchard and other enclosure boundaries together with the tree-lined avenues in front of the house and creating a parkland here with a 'lawn'; on its east side a woodland was planted. Strangely, on the south side of the house, the Beech walk was left in place, but the paddocks each side of it and beyond the folly tower were made into parkland, while narrow shelter belts were planted along the Springhill-road. He was also probably responsible for building the demesne wall at this time. By 1802 Sampson was able to mention the 'finest trees of the county' in the demesne by that time and the following species— 'sweet chestnuts, yews, silver firs, stone pines, balm of Gilead (*Abies balsamea*), firs, beech, oak, ash with many other varieties of forest trees and shrubs'. The OS Memoir of 1836 tell us that 'The house is almost hidden by the venerable and lofty trees which surround it. There is a

considerable extent of ground under wood, much of which is said to be natural and is very fine and old. The principal descriptions are ash'. Also should mentioned are fine stands of yew surviving on the site, one of which is recorded in the Tree Council of Ireland's most recent list and comes in the category 'Tree with Character'. The OS Memoirs also mentioned that 'the ornamental and pleasure grounds are extensive and well laid out, as is also the garden' - these pleasure ground were probably created in the Regency era by George Lenox-Conyngham (1752-1816), who in 1788 had inherited Springhill on the death of his uncle David (1728-88), who, like his brother Col. William, had died childless. George Lenox-Conyngham was the son of their sister Anne (1724-77) and her husband Clotworthy Lenox of Derry (1707-85). George may also have been responsible for the last major change to the house itself, adding the dining room to the rear of the west wing c.1790s; he suffered from depression later in life and killed himself at Springhill in 1816. By this stage both house and park had assumed much of its present form. George was succeeded by his son, William ('Wims') Lenox-Conyngham (1792-1858), who was reputedly a tree lover and may have planted the magnificent copper beech west of the house. He was followed in turn by his son, William Fitzwilliam (1824-1906), later Sir William. He became the agent for the Drapers Company and rebuilt the Manor House at Moneymore, which was later occupied by his two unmarried sisters. His eldest son, Lt. Col. William Arbuthnot Lenox-Conyngham (1857-1938) moved to Springhill in 1907 with his wife, Mina (1866-1961), who was later to write and account of the house and its residents, later published as *An Old Ulster House*. During WWII the property was requisitioned by the military, firstly the Berkshire Infantry, and later by American troops, before being returned to the family in late 1944; the are still remains of the concrete bases of Nissen huts erected by the US army at the south corner of the demesne on Tower Hill. In 1956, William Lowry Lenox-Conyngham (1903-57), the son of William Arbuthnot and Mina, offered the property to the National Trust. His offer was accepted just before his death the following year, and the house was subsequently renovated and opened to the public in April 1960. National Trust with public access. SMR: LDY 46:24 and 48:13, 48:14 all raths.

**STUART HALL, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/058
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Mid-Georgian demesne (287 acres/116ha), sometimes spelt Stewart Hall, whose house of 1783 has been demolished, lying 2.3 miles (3.7km) north-east of Stewartstown and 5.9 miles (9.3km) south-east of Cookstown. Historically part of Eary or Irry, there is no evidence for a 17th century dwelling here, but the area of the demesne was part of a large 1608 Plantation grant to a Scottish undertaker, Sir Andrew Stewart (1560-c.1629), 3rd Lord Ochiltree (until c.1615) and Lord Stewart, Baron of Castlestewart (from 1619). Sir Andrew built a thatched 'castle' on the site of the present-day Castlefarm (Scheduled TYR 039:010) outside Stewartstown, and by 1622 the town had started to develop with 'a great many poor Irish houses inhabited with Brittish families'. His son Andrew, the 2nd Lord Castlestewart (d.1639) acquired further holdings including land purchased in 1615 from another planter Robert Stewart, where he built the stronghold of Roughtan Castle in 1618 (Scheduled TYR 046: 002). The history of the family over next century is complicated, suffice to say that in 1629 their lands were divided between Andrew the 2nd Lord Castle Stewart (Castle Forward) and his brother Col. Robert Stewart (1598-1662), who acquired by purchase part of the Manor of Castle Stewart to the east of Stewartstown, including Eary. Eventually, following the death of John Stewart, the 5th Lord Castle Stewart in 1685 without issue, the title and lands were inherited by Robert Stewart (1646-86) of Eary, the grandson of the aforementioned Col. Robert Stewart, who became 6th Lord. His son Andrew, (1672-1715) must have remained at Castle Farm until at least 1710 as the fine surviving stable block there is unlikely to predate 1700. It seems to have been Andrew however who decided to move the family seat to Eary, which he named Stewart Hall, probably sometime between 1710 and 1715. His son Robert (1700-42) finished this work and sold off the old seat at Castle Farm to John Huston of Craigs, Co. Antrim. We know little of new seat at Stewart Hall, later renamed Stuart Hall, but evidence from

the OS maps shows that it was, as we would expect, set in a formal geometric designed landscape. The house faced north-east and had a straight, no doubt tree-lined, avenue aligned on its front facade and it order to extend its length to 225m, the public road (Mountjoy Road) was diverted; no doubt the line of this avenue was continued as a tree-lined vista further to the north-east. To the south-west of the house there was a long tree-lined vista, extending 600m and crossing what would have been a formal canal or sheet of water, later made into a naturalised lake. A feature which may date from this early period is a complex landscape feature (SMR7/TRY 39:046) located on the north perimeter of the demesne; it comprises five concentric banks, planted with trees, with ditches between. The biggest ring being is 45m diameter and the innermost is about 3m in diameter. Other early landscape features appear not to have survived, as sometime probably during the 1770s the demesne was professionally remodelled on a large scale and transformed into a landscape park. The fact that 'fully grown oak, ash and sycamore' was being sold from Stuart Hall in November 1811 might indicate earlier planting. The new park was focussed on a rebuilding of the house in 1783 (it incorporated a date stone subsequently lost) for Robert Stewart's son, Andrew Thomas Stewart-Moore (1725-1809). Unlike his father and grandfather, Andrew's actions indicate he was a socially conscious individual and very keen to increase his family's standing in what ever way possible. In 1768 for example, he petitioned the Irish House of Lords for recognition of the title of 9th Lord Castlestewart, which he eventually reclaimed in 1774. He also acquired the Manor of Orritor (to the west of Stewartstown) and in the 1790s changed the family name from Stewart to Stuart. His new house was a relatively large rectangular five-bay harled two-storey over a sandstone basement hipped roof mansion of the relatively simple, but dignified, late Georgian type; it must have been finished by 1786 when it was described in the *Post-chaise companion* as 'a most superb edifice'. Around the same time a new large courtyard range for stables and carriages in a quarter-circle was added to the west side of the house (Listed HB 09/11/013B). This is enclosed to the south by a long curving range, which is two-storey to the south-east with a central two-storey part hipped part gabled section (which projects slightly to the north side), with a further two-storey section beyond this and another single-storey portion to the north-west end. To the west side is a long straight two-storey wing with central gabled breakfront with octagonal cupola and to the north are two single-storey blocks, that to the west longer. To the immediate west of the large yard are farm buildings (Listed HB 09/11/013C) arranged in a small C-shaped group to the north; those to the south arranged in a backwards L-shape. These are single-storey and built in a mixture of rubble and brick with slated gabled and hipped roofs. They back on to a stack yard of irregular plan enclosed by a rubble wall (of varying height) with two circular folly towers (Listed HB09/11/013D) to the south-western corner; these were added to the south slip of the adjacent walled garden in the 1840s. The walled kitchen garden (Listed HB 09/11/03D), which is quite grandiose by local standards, comprises a rectilinear area shaped like a parallelogram (1.94 acres/0.78ha) enclosed by rubble stone walls, rebuilt in parts with regular brickwork with stone coping and cut-stone quoins. Unusually, the garden was built or rebuilt in different phases as is clear from the wall construction. The original garden, set on a level terrace, almost certainly dates to the period of the house rebuilding and the landscape park, c.1770-80, but the east wall at least was rebuilt in 1832 as is clear from a datestone in an elliptical-headed archway with ashlar surrounds and voussoirs. The gateway has wrought-iron spearhead gates, which looks mid to later 19th century. The garden is enclosed on all sides with substantial slip gardens, bringing the total area of the garden to 3.42 acres (1.38ha); the slips vary in width, with the west slip being 54 ft (16.5m) wide; the east slip 33.9ft (10m) wide, the south slip 35ft (10.8m) wide and the northern slip 43ft (13m) wide. The northern slip contained the working frame yard and still has potting sheds and stores standing as a short range of lean-to buildings against the outside of the north wall; most of these buildings look later 18th century in date. By the early 1850s a long range of glasshouses had been erected against the south face of the north wall; these may be the same as those that survived in the 1930s when they contained vines as well as figs and peaches. These glasshouse ranges must have been added

by Robert Stuart (1784-54), 2nd Earl Castle Stewart, who inherited in 1809. He must also have been responsible for building the two folly towers at the east end of the south slip of the garden as they were in place 1853; these are two-stage and constructed largely in brick, with that to the south (which is situated on lower ground) having a 'basement' level constructed in rubble. The main stage has tall pointed arch openings with smaller pointed arch openings to the upper level and a castellated parapet. The taller tower contains a fireplace (with later Victorian cast-iron inset). To the west of the lower northern tower the yard wall itself is castellated and has a tiny corner bartizan. As is so often the case with Irish parklands, the designer responsible for the park layout at Stuart Hall park in the 1770s is unknown, but it was clearly professionally undertaken by someone of the status of John Sutherland, responsible for nearby Killymoon around 1800. It involved planting thick perimeter belts on the north, east and west of the demesne with substantial woodland planting south of the house and stream (Oghill Wood) and around the walled garden and yards. The park to the west of the walled garden was characterised by large irregular island woodland clumps (inc. Larkin's Plantation and Raw's Plantation), while the park north of the house and the Mountjoy Road, was characterised by the planting of numerous small clumps and isolated trees. A small oblong lake (1.24 acres/0.5ha) with an island was formed immediately south of the house probably from an earlier canal feature; this was drained circa 1840-50. North of the house a ha-ha was built separating the parkland from the grazing at the north-east. There was a circuit drive through the perimeter belts of the northern part of the demesne; close to the circular earthworks (noted above) a 'moss house' or summer house with moss roof, is marked on the 1853 OS map. The park has three entrances whose carriage drives all converge north-west of the house. The most impressive entrance lies on the west of the demesne off Castlefarm Road (Listed HB 09/11/013F) and has six ashlar piers with ornate cast iron railings and gates dating to about 1840. There was originally a lodge at this entrance, but this was cleared away in the mid 1900s. There are two entrances off the Mountjoy Road, one of which retains a Victorian semicircular gate screen with square ashlar piers and decorative cast-iron gates and railings around 1860 (Listed HB09/11/013E). The latter gates date to the same period as when the main house had a somewhat ill-conceived large three-stage baronial tower added to the south-east, along with a large rear return, and in an effort to lend the whole unity, a castellated parapet was applied to the original section; the house was also refurbished at the same time (1859-60) and gas lighting installed in 1861. This work was possibly undertaken by Charles Henry Lynn for Charles Knox Stuart (1810-74), the 4th Earl Castle Stewart, who inherited the property from his brother in 1857. His son and heir, Henry James Stuart (1837-1914), 5th Earl married (1866) Augusta Richardson Brady (d.1908) the heiress to Drum Manor and assumed the additional name of Richardson. Henry died without male heirs and although he was able to pass Drum to his daughter, Lady Muriel (d.1928), his title and the rest of the estate was inherited by a cousin, Andrew John Stuart (1841-1921), 6th Earl, a grandson of the 2nd Earl. Andrew's third son, Arthur Stuart (1889-1961), 7th Earl, married a daughter of American businessman and philanthropist Solomon R. Guggenheim in 1920; he succeeded in 1921 and was in turn followed by his third son, Arthur Patrick Avondale Stuart (b.1928), 8th Earl Castle Stewart and the present owner of Stuart Hall. The house at Stuart Hall was lowered by a story at some point in the mid-1900s (probably following WWII); it was subsequently damaged in a terrorist bomb in 1972 it was later demolished with a bungalow erected on a site north of the original house in 1987. An attractive area of woodland planting has been created south-west of the house at the stream with little bridges, paths and a seat. There are mature trees and shrubs such as azalea and bulbs. Just east of the old house are two pillars which are eye catchers and frame the view from the old house to the lough. From the ha-ha there are fine views of the parkland with its varied mature trees and the woodland beyond. There is a borrowed view of Lough Neagh to the east, and the Mountains of Mourne.. House private. Tyr 39:46 – tree ring.

**AUGHER CASTLE (SPUR ROYAL), County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/002
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Late Georgian landscape park (162.8 acres/65.8ha) for castle of 1610-14 with 1831-2 extension (Listed HB 13/03/001) in the townland of Castlehill on the west side of Augher village, 1.46 miles (2.35km) north-east of Clogher. The park occupies hilly drumlin country with the River Blackwater forming its north-west boundary and its centre dominated by a large natural lake (20.1 acres/8.12ha), which makes for a spectacular setting for both the house and park. While the demesne was founded in the early 17th century, prior to this the lake was depicted on a map c.1601 by Bartlett, showing a fortified crannog belonging to the O'Neills with an enclosure on the western side of the lake. In December 1610 the site was included in the grant of territory 'called Portclare and Ballykillgirie' made by King James I to Sir Thomas Ridgeway, the then 'Vice-Treasurer and Treasurer at Wars in Ireland'. Almost immediately, Ridgeway, who came over in person, brought with him twelve English carpenters and ten masons to build a 'wardable castle' within a large square 'bawn of lyme and stone' with four round flankers, which (according to Pynnar) also contained a house. The castle was unusually sophisticated among Ulster's plantation buildings, being star-shaped in plan, the square three-storey tower having triangular bays that project from the centre of each side. The shape on plan resembles the emblem on the reverse side of the 'spur royal', a Jacobean gold coin. One of the four circular flankers survives (TYR 059: 039). Financial difficulties compelled Ridgeway to mortgage the castle to Lord Balfour in 1621, who sold his interest to the Bishop of Clogher. The following year (1622) Ridgeway, sold the entire estate to Sir James Erskine. A mistake was later found in the original 1610 grant and in July 1640 King Charles I made a re-grant of the lands to Erskine, 'to be called the Manor of Favour Royall'. Sir James died in 1636 and in 1641 his third son and heir, Rev. Archibald Erskine successfully repelled an attack on the castle by Sir Phelim O'Neill and Rory Maguire. Archibald died in 1645 and the whole estate was divided between his two daughters, with Mary (b.1618), who married William Richardson I (1615-73) receiving the western Augher portion of the property, which became known as 'Spur Royal, with the rest - 'Favour Royal' given to Ann and her husband, John Moutray. Spur Royal later passed to William and Mary Richardson's son, Archibald Richardson (c.1640-1700), MP for Augher (1692-93) and it was during his time that the castle was burnt by Lt. Col. Thomas Lloyd in 1689 and shortly afterwards dismantled on the instructions of the Irish Parliament. How much was dismantled however, is not very clear. William Richardson (b.1679), who succeeded in 1700, may have initially lived in Dublin as when Mrs Delany (Mary Granville Delany) drew an ink sketch of the castle in 1754 the castle appeared quite intact with its parapets and windows though the bawn walls and two towers were in a ruined state. Where the Richardson's lived in the 18th-century is not clear and confusing as they invariably give their address as Augher or Castlehill, Augher. William Richardson, who married (1709) Lettice, dau of William Wray, may have lived at Springtown, east of Clogher where they had a very modest house or lived in the town of Augher itself. He was succeeded by his son, James Mervyn Richardson (d.1753) and then by his brother, St. George Richardson (c.1718-1777), who appears to have built a plain two-storey house of c.1730-40 within the main street neighbouring village of Augher. He was MP for Augher (1755-60) and having married Elizabeth, dau of, and heir of, Benjamin Bunbury of Co. Tipperary, he was not short of money. However, it was his son, Sir William Richardson (1749-1830) who made the first moves towards rebuilding the castle. This followed his marriage in 1787 to Mary, daughter and co-heir of William Newburgh of Ballyhaise, Co. Cavan; he was created a baronet the same year. In 1791 when Grose depicted Augher castle the two round towers on the lake side had been rebuilt and given conical roofs, though the bawn wall remained; by 1796 however, when depicted in a sketch by Capt. Smith, the bawn wall had been removed, while the towers remained. At the same time, in the 1790s, the parkland was being laid out and was evidently finished when visited by John McEvoy for his *Statistical Survey* of 1802. McEvoy admired Richardson's 'good taste' in his plantings, which were in 'a flourishing state'. The plantings, all originally deciduous, was clearly professionally undertaken. On the east side they comprised shelter belts alongside the road (the

Knockmany-road) leading north out of Augher; by the time the 1830s OS map was produced, this road had been diverted to the east, so additional plantings were subsequently put down alongside this new road in the 1840s. More woodland strips were planted on Cottage Hill, north-west of the castle, and around the walled garden, also evidently built in the 1790s. The main focus of parkland planting however, was on the west side of the lake, between the lake, the River Blackwater and the old Augher-Clogher-road; the latter line was realigned and diverted to the south by the Grand Jury in 1824. The main gates into the demesne were placed at the Farranetra, then on the old road; these gates were flanked by circular sentry-box lodges, later superseded by a gate lodge in the 1840s. A similar pair of circular lodges were also placed at the park entrance off the old Knockmary-road; these were superseded by a lodgeless gate sweep c.1855; of the latter Dean remarked that they were 'in the form of castle chess pieces', being 'six octagonal stone crenellated pillars flanking ogee sweeps, wicket and carriage gates in very decorative Great Exhibition ironwork'. This main drive from the east, the line of which is still present, meanders through parkland to the north-east, over a bridge, and originally passed near the walled garden and up to the castle. The parkland each side of this avenue was designed to be seen both from the avenue itself and from the house, and comprised isolated trees, clumps and carefully positioned woodland belts and screens. Also built with the parkland was the walled garden and an adjacent farm building. The walled garden (1.63 acres/0.66ha) survives, albeit now covered in concrete; it has a trapezoidal shape with brick lined walls; adjoining the north wall on the outside is a bothy which is shown on the OS six-inch map of 1834. The walled garden is adjoined at the south by a stable yard and farm which since the 1980s have been in separate ownership; the latter is a square yard enclosed by long ranges of outbuildings on all sides, with those to the eastern and southern sides probably of late 18th-century construction. Having invested in rebuilding the old castle and laid down a landscape park, Richardson appears to have had second thoughts about living at Augher. In June 1812, when he was himself in America serving in the America Wars (he also served in the first America War), he put his 'elegant household furniture' and entire contents of the castle for sale by auction, including 'pleasure boats and sails'. Subsequently, in October 1817 there was an auction of all his Leicester and South Down Ewes, which it appears he bred. Sir William Richardson died in Bath, October 1830 and was succeeded by his son, Sir James Mervyn Richardson-Bunbury (1781-1851), who it seems, immediately set about planning to enlarge the castle. He engaged a local Sligo architect, William Warren, and work was undertaken in 1831-32. The new building was attached to the old house in the form of a symmetrical seven-bay two-storey cut-stone block with arcaded central section flanked by subtly angled wings all topped with castellations and miniature bartizans. In the process, the north bawn circular tower was removed, presumably because it obstructed views. The adoption of the castle style was no doubt encouraged by the widespread menace at that time in the Augher district of Ribbonsmen attacking houses and people. Sir James may have had financial difficulties almost as soon as he finished, because in August 1834 an advertisement appeared to the sale or letting of the castle and demesne, with its '250 acres, beautifully laid out with woodland' and the 'castle only three years built and fit to accommodate a large family' with 'extensive offices and a large walled-in garden'. However, it was not sold as Sir James was still resident in 1839. He was succeeded by his eldest son, Rev. Sir John Richardson-Bunbury (1813-1909), who leased the castle and demesne in the 1850s to John Jervis O'Ferrall Carmichael-Ferrall (1820-1904), who was a captain in the Royal Navy; his son John Carmichael-Ferrall (1855-1924) inherited the lease and after he died in Bath in May 1924, it appears the castle and demesne reverted back to the Rev. Sir John Richardson-Bunbury's grandson, Mervyn William Richardson-Bunbury (1874-1953), who sold the castle in 1940 to Colonel Fred Tracey. Col. Tracey remained there until 1972, after which it was purchased by a Mr. Lecky of Belfast. The next owner (in 1976) was William Nethercott of Newtownbutler, with Joe and Maureen Beattie acquiring it in the 1980s. It was sold to a Mrs. Finlay in 1990, and was on the market again in Spring 2011. There is a c.1970s dwelling house on the hill to the north-west of the castle [*possibly* built by the aforementioned Col. Tracey], which

appears to be under separate ownership. SMR: TYR 59:39 castle and bawn, 40 rath and 41 crannog? House private.

**TULLYLAGAN MANOR, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/079
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Late Victorian/Edwardian park (46.6 acres/19.9ha) with Regency house, subsequently remodelled 1904 (Listed HB 09/05/019) on flat land bordering the Killymoon-river, 3.32 miles (5.35km) south of Cookstown and 6.15 miles (9.91km) north of Dungannon. The demesne occupies both banks of the meandering river for 0.7 miles (1.1km) and except for the very south portion where the house stands, most of this area was covered by bleach greens, mill and race until the late 19th century. The house, originally called 'New Hamburg' was built in 1828 to a design by architect Thomas Jackson of Belfast and was a mill owner's house, built for Thomas Greer junior (1761-1840). It is not known when the first mill was built on the site, though the townland of Tullylagan is known to have had a 'good bawne of clay and stone' in 1619 then belonging to Captain Alexander Sanderson, a Scot. There was certainly a mill here by 1762, indeed within the townland there was 'corn mill, bleaching mill and tuck mill' and eight years later Robert Sanderson leased ten acres there 'for bleaching and use of dam and water courses etc.' to a 'merchant' of Dungannon, James Greer (1728-92). His brother, Thomas Greer (1724-1803), a leading Quaker and one of Ulster's most prominent linen merchants of the later 1700s, subsequently acquired the bleachworks, known as 'New Hamburg' (variously spelt 'New Hambro' or 'Hamborough' for £2,000. Initially, he ran these work in partnership with another firm but after that developed problems, he and his son, Thomas junior (1761-1840), took control of New Hamburg again in 1796. Like his father, Thomas continued the bleaching of linen at Tullylagan, whilst living at Rhone Hill, however his eldest son Thomas (1790-1870) moved there after his marriage in 1824, building a new house in 1828, designed by fellow Quaker Thomas Jackson, to the south of the bleach mill itself. His new house was classical in style of three-bays and two stories with walls of coursed ashlar sandstone, hipped roof, wide eaves on modillion brackets. This original house had a modest park or more correctly, pleasure ground, around the house of 14 acres (5.9ha) with a narrow tree belts along the road to the south and a trapezoidal productive garden (3. acres/0.52ha) to the west of the house; until the 1990s this still contained some box-hedging and fruit trees. In 1853 the younger Thomas Greer advertised the whole property (now known as 'Tullylagan House') for letting, but whether it was actually found a tenant is not certain, for he was back living there in 1858 and remained there for the rest of his life. In 1870 the house was inherited by Frederick Greer (1828-1907), a naval officer, and in 1888 he leased the house and grounds to Washington Kinley, who stayed on until 1898. Around 1903 he leased it to his cousin, Major Thomas MacGregor Greer (1869-1941), initially on a twenty year lease. Major Greer, was a pioneer of motoring and an early supporter of Harry Ferguson, who prototype tractors were trialled on the demesne. In 1904 he commissioned Alfred Henry Hart and Percy Leslie Waterhouse to prepare designs for a new house at Tullylagan. The plans, which were exhibited at the Royal Academy the following year, were in a neo-Tudor Cotswold style. They were not acted upon, however, and instead the existing house was enlarged by following the example of Montalto House in Co. Down, and digging out the basement around the house and making it the ground floor - an operation that inevitably involved removal of large quantities of earth around. He also abandoned the old mill and made the present park, planting mostly deciduous trees alongside the river to the north for 0.7 miles (1.1km). Included in this were exotic trees and shrubs, while a garden was laid out in the Lutyens-style to the east of the remodelled house. There is evidence of many ornamental features, with rockeries, paths and walks, a pergola with brick columns and a box maze, many incorporated within an elaborate water garden. to the north-east of the house. Mr. MacGregor Greer lived at Tullylagan until his death in June 1941 after which the gardens became very overgrown. The property was sold to the present owner in the 1980s, and around 1994 a hotel was built a hotel to the north of the house, re-utilising some of the former mill buildings. The hotel is currently leased out whilst

the house remains a private dwelling. The house is private. Public access to the hotel and part of the grounds.

**THE MANOR HOUSE, BENBURB, County Tyrone (AP MID ULSTER 10) T/006
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Late Victorian park (48 acres/19.5ha) with 'manor house' of 1887 (HB 13/11/016) on south side of the Benburb village, located 5.6 miles (9km) north-west of Armagh and 3.27 (5.3km) south-west of Moy. Within the park lies an early 17th century bawn (Scheduled TYR 61:002) set on the edge of a cliff overlooking the Blackwater River to the south, close to the site of a late 16th century stronghold belonging to Shane O'Neill. Under the Plantation settlement 'the castle and town of Benburbe' became part of the 'Manor of Benburbe' and was granted to (Sir) Richard Wingfield (1550-1634), Lord Powerscourt from 1618. Work on bawn probably began around 1615; Pynnar's 1619 survey recorded 'a bawne of lyme and stone 120 feet square, 14 feet high, with two flankers, in which there is built in each a good house, three stories high, and is inhabited with an English gentleman, with his wife and family. There is also a church in building, 70 feet long and 24 broad, with 8 large windows, and now is ready to have the roof set up'. The bawn, often now referred to as 'Wingfield's Castle' or 'Benburb Castle', survives with well-preserved flankers, many gun loops and a postern gate giving access to the river. To the south-east of it, on the summit of a spur, but lower than the rock outcrop, is an oval mound (TYR61:024), possibly the site of Shane O'Neil's castle. The Wingfields themselves were never interested in living here, with the estate being administered by agents, some of whom might have occupied the bawn. It was probably attacked in 1641 (no documentary evidence), and its subsequent history is not clear, as there is no record of its being occupied in the later 17th and 18th centuries. The present single-storey dwelling within the enclosure was built some time before 1835, by which time the bawn itself was simply serving as a private property. The Wingfield family continued to hold Benburb until 1877 when Mervyn Wingfield (1836-1904), 7th Viscount Powerscourt, sold the estate to James Bruce. At that time the south side of the street of Benburb was taken up with a number of dwellings with long garden plots stretching southwards to just north of the river, where there was a small plantation. Sometime around 1840 some were cleared away to build a large residence known as 'Benburb House' for the Wingfield's agent. After Bruce acquired the property in 1877 this was all swept away save the picturesque stone building fronting on to the main street just north-west of the demesne (the old estate office) which survived demolition. James Bruce (1835-1917), who built the present Manor House in 1889-90, was a partner in the Belfast distillers Dunville and Co. His house, built to designs of William Henry Lynn, is a large, robust, and somewhat austere red brick 'free' Tudor Style building, with an institutional appearance. It is set roughly on a east-west axis parallel with the main street and has an irregular plan, mainly two and a half-stories in height with multiple gables and dormers, and is devoid of conspicuous decoration save for a balustrade above the entrance porch. A large conservatory added to the eastern end in 1897-98, survived until the 1950s when it was demolished to make way for the present large hall extension. Since then the most significant external change to the building has been the replacement of the original window frames. Bruce's stable yard (HB 13/11/018) is located to the immediate north of the 1950s hall extension at the eastern side of the Manor House. It comprises a neat two-storey quadrangle of brick-built ranges with steeply-pitched slated roofs, which are fronted to the eastern side by a double-pile barbican style entrance, whose front (eastern) pile has a faux close-stud timber frame upper level, with a large gable over with decorative bargeboards and finial over the carriage entrance itself and a tall square cupola with steeply-pitched pyramidal roof and clock face. The associated parkland for Bruce's house was made up by removing the houses and their long garden strips extending steeply down towards the river in the south. A wall was built along the road with a narrow tree belt planted on the inside. South of the manor itself verdant parkland - the 'lawn', was created down slope with a scatter isolated trees, some now fine mature trees notably horse chestnut. A perimeter belt around the graveyard and along the road to the east

was planted, together with a thickening of plantation on the sides of the river to the south and south-west of the house. This is now dense woodland on both sides of the river, with many fine mature beech and chestnuts, but also cypress and cedars trees, occupying the whole of the slope down to the river in which there are woodland walks. Both the bawn and church became eye catchers from the front 'lawn' (meadow), while the area west of the walled garden towards Rockwood, more parkland meadow was created, which likewise is fringed by shelter belts on all sides and with a clump of mature conifers. The walled garden and kennels to the north-west were screened also by trees. There is a terraced broadwalk which flanks the south side of the mansion running east-west into the lower section of the walled garden on the west side, thus closely integrating the walled garden into the rest of the ornamental grounds. This walled kitchen garden (0.68 acres/0.28ha) is rectangular and walled on the west and north with stone; there is a hedge along the east. Internally, the ground slopes to the south and is terraced while the wall is stepped. The full length of the north wall supported glasshouses; save for one section these have now gone, though their bases remain. The original access through some of the glass houses to the range of potting sheds and boiler house appear to be still extant. The potting sheds are in good order and used by craft workers. The glasshouses faced down onto a central north-south path which met the broadwalk in the lower section. South of this the lower, southern, part of the garden is grassed, until the 1990s it had geometric beds. There is a wagon gateway in the west wall. There is some ornamental planting near the house, mainly beds flanking the broadwalk. South-west of the house there is laurel, Portuguese laurel and rhododendron, and also an area of bamboo. There are two main entrances into the park; the main gate to the north-east has a pair of square sandstone piers with a vaguely Renaissance feel, having arched panels to their shafts. The wrought-iron gates are original and have Bruce's crest thereon. To the east of the gateway a brick wall with stone coping leads eastwards (with an additional smaller pier to this side), whilst to the immediate north-west of the gate is the lodge. Built in 1888-89, and similar in style to the Manor House, it is also undoubtedly the work of W.H. Lynn. It is a rectangular one and a half-storey dwelling with red brick and sandstone walls with a steeply-pitched overhanging slate roof and a large open gabled porch which is tied in with the walling and acts as a pedestrian gate. The second entrance and gate lodge into the park pre-dates the manor and originally gave access to the mill on the river; it is located just north of the Maydown Bridge on the south-east corner of the park; the lodge here (Listed HB 13/11/046) appears to date to early 1830s and is a small three bay building, one-storey high. The builder of the manor James Bruce died childless in 1917 and the house, grounds and the wider estate were sold to a consortium who planned to convert the house into a hotel, but nothing came of this and much of the outlying lands sold in 1935. The building appears to have remained vacant until the beginning of WWII when it was requisitioned by the War Office for use as a military hospital. When the war ended the estate was put up for sale and in 1946 it was acquired for by the RC Parish of Clonfeacle. Local clergy originally intended the building to be used as an orphanage or a collegiate, but in 1949 they sold to an American branch of The Servites, a Catholic order who had been looking to establish a priory in Ireland for some years up to this. The property is still in their possession. SMR: TYR 61:2 bawn, Benburb Castle, 61:24 mound and 61:25 enclosure. The priory and the house in the bawn are private. The grounds are open to the public.

AREA PLAN – NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN - 11

BALLEE HOUSE, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/024 REGISTERED GRADE B

Complex of Georgian house, outbuildings and associated grounds (11.7 acres/4.7ha) in the Lower Lecale, 3.7 miles (6km) south-east of Downpatrick. The main house is a relatively compact, but not insubstantial, two-storey double-pile and gable-ended house with attic and cellar, ostensibly

'Georgian' but possibly largely late 17th century (Listed HB 18/09/048). Apart from a small classical portico over the entrance, the building is devoid of decoration; it faces east with a courtyard to the rear flanked on the north by an 18th-century stable range (Listed HB 18/09/048). In the field west of the office buildings is a two-storey gabled pigeon house of early 18th-century date, restored in the 1980s (Listed HB 18/09/50). North-east of the house is a graveyard with Ballee Parish church, largely 18th century but with medieval origins, while adjacent to the graveyard and just north of the house is the walled kitchen garden (0.8 acres/0.3ha) - irregularly shaped with stone walls; the south wall is faced with brick. The garden contains a WC with four seats. The garden served at times as an orchard, reverting back to being a standard kitchen garden on a few occasions; presently half the area is ornamental and the other half for training horses. There are very few mature shelter trees, these being around the lawn in front of the house flanking the sweeping carriage drive. The house may have begun life as a tower house; the celebrated Mrs. Mary Delany came here to visit the Johnstons in August 1750 and described the house as 'very tiny (but very neat)', suggesting it was a lot smaller than the present building. Charles Johnston had been acting as agent for Dr. Patrick Delany, the Dean of Down at the time. In 1770 the Johnstons put Ballee House up for let. The advertisement for the property in the *Belfast News-Letter* of 24th July of that year describes the dwelling house as 'good and new' and 'in perfect order', suggesting that it had been renovated -and perhaps extended- not long prior to this. The property was let to Matthew Forde Jnr., the son of Matthew Forde of Seaforde House, in 1778 and then bought in 1787 and described in the 1803 *Post Chaise Companion* as an 'elegant sporting lodge the residence of Matthew Forde Esq.'. From 1830 to 1964 it was in the possession of the Stitt family and then sold to Frank Maxwell who planted a few dozen beech trees and eighty Scots Pines, many to the east of the house between the carriage drive and the road; the winds here however make any tree planting a challenge. Maxwell remained at Ballee until his death at the age of ninety-seven in January 2008. SMR: DOWN 38:27 church site. Private

**BALLYDUGAN HOUSE, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/105
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Mid-Georgian demesne (115 acres/45.5ha) with house of 1781 (Listed HB 18/09/042) on a summit facing south-east, located 1.7 miles (2.7km) south-west of Downpatrick and 4 miles (6.4km) north-east of Clough. While the present house and associated planting belong to the 1770s, the origin of the demesne can be traced to 1626 when Thomas Cromwell, Viscount Lecale, granted the townland of Ballydugan to Richard West (d.1644), former High Sheriff of Down (1610) and MP for Downpatrick (1613). Here West built a house, described by Harris in 1744 as 'a large strong house with a draw-bridge and turrets for defence' which was 'burned down by the treachery of Irish servants in the Rebellion of 1641.' The property remained with West's descendants, - Roger West I (1621-86), Henry West I (1659-90), Henry West II (d.1780), but the house was not rebuilt, Henry West II reported to be living in 'one of the out offices' in 1744. This remained the case until 1781 when Henry West III (c.1740-87) built the main three-storey section of the present mansion. The main section of his house is a tall double-pile symmetrical five-bay three-storey over basement block with gable ends and rendered walls. Adjacent to the north gabled end is a large two-storey over basement hipped roof extension, said to have been built in 1815, but possibly added by Richard Keown after he acquired the property in 1819, with map evidence suggesting it *may* be post c.1833. This section is also rendered and has a bowed front with the ground and first floor windows set within tall shallow recesses. To the immediate west of the house there is a large roughly square stable yard enclosed by a wall to the south and by long two-storey rubble-built ranges to the east and west. Evidence indicates that the eastern range is of pre-1833 construction, and possibly contemporary with the main block of the house. The western block may in part be pre-1833, but it was either replaced, or assumed its present length at some date before 1858. It was probably at this point that the longer block attached to the northern end of this range was constructed. South-west of the yard is an attractive modern

sunken ornamental and productive garden criss-crossed by formally laid-out paths with beds with trellises. The perimeter is revetted with stone and stone steps lead down into it from west and east. The original kitchen garden, which dates to the building of the house in the 1780s, is partly walled, but is now covered by woodland; it lies some distance (285m) north-east of the house and has an irregular plan (1.84 acres/0.75ha) with stone walls and partly incorporates what appears to be a wall of the original early 17th century bawn (Scheduled SMR7/DWN 037:22). About 1990 there was a very large, central, mature English yew tree within it. The original demesne planting was confined to the area immediately around the house and yards, with trees lining the drive to the walled garden to the north-east and the access drive on the south-east. Subsequent planting was carried out in the 1840s to the south-west and south-east of the house in the form of clumps and some perimeter planting. This was probably the work of William Keown Boyd (1816-77), who inherited or bought the property from the executors of his cousin Richard Keown (c.1770-1829), who himself had bought the demesne from the West family in 1819. During William Keown Boyd's ownership part of the demesne to the south was alienated by the realignment of Ballydugan Road (stranding a gate lodge in the process), with the construction of the Downpatrick and Newcastle Railway line cutting off part of the northern end in 1869. Around 1895 the house and grounds were purchased by Stephen Perceval Maxwell (1850-1934), the son of Robert Perceval Maxwell of Finnebrogue. It later passed to his nephew, Gerard Henry Aubrey Perceval Maxwell, who was living there in 1957. It was subsequently sold to the Mackie family, with who it remains. The 20th century has seen more substantial perimeter belt plants on the south demesne perimeter and a woodland block on the north perimeter; otherwise, the layout of the planting has changed relatively little over the past two centuries. In front of the house, where there is a broad, crescent-shaped plat at the specimen trees such as mature cedar, holly and fastigate yew. The carriage turning drive is backed by trees while, south-west of the house, the carriage drive is lined with clipped laurel. 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 once very fine demesne of Hollymount, which has now completely gone)

BALLYEDMOND (FORT HAMILTON), County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/001 REGISTERED GRADE B

Late-Georgian demesne 73 acres/29.6ha) with house of 1849-50 (Listed HB 16/05/017) occupies a raised beech zone on the northern shore of Carlingford Lough, 2.9 miles (4.7km) south-east of Rostrevor and 6.2 miles (10km) west of Kilkeel. There is a house marked 'Ballyedmond, Pollock Esq.' on Taylor's and Skinner's map of 1777 and a year later the property –referred to as 'a bathing lodge and farm', was advertised for let and then in 1789 and 1790 for sale and described as 'the lodge of Edmond Hill' in which 'lodge, offices and ground are in good order', with a small rent charge payable to the Needham estate. Williamson's 1810 map of County Down, shows what is evidently the same house as 'Ft. Hamilton', with a tree-lined drive extending from the Old Killowen Road (the 'old line') straight down to the house; this avenue still exists but subsequently cut in length by the building of the New Killowen Road c.1820. In 1806 the celebrated author Maria Edgeworth (1767-1849) visited 'Fort Hamilton' when it was in the hands of her aunt, Mrs Margaret Ruxton. Edgeworth sketched the house and described it as resembling a two-storey 'slated English or Welsh farmhouse' facing Carlingford Lough with a 'low and ugly in front with a brown door...[and] narrow paned sash windows'. This house, according to her aunt, was formerly the home of a family called Hamilton (hence the name), who must have acquired or leased it in 1790. By 1814 however, Ambrose Leet's 'Directory of Noted Places' recorded 'Ballyedmund' as belonged to Councillor Alexander Stewart (1753-1845) who at some stage had a 'judicial appointment' in India. He appears to have rebuilt, extended, or substantially refurbished the existing dwelling in the late 1820s for in April 1829 it was being advertised for letting and described as 'well adapted for a nobleman's or a gentleman's family', furnished 'in the modern style' with its grounds 'well laid down'. The 1836 valuation classed it as 'newly built' and it is

described as 'a good plain 2-storey house with additions and in good order' in the OS Memoirs, it is also shown on the 1834 OS six-inch map with the basis of the present network of parkland carriage drives in place, together with the long narrow (143m x 50m) walled kitchen garden (1.8 acres/0.7ha) in place. The walls are of stone, with a brick lining at the south-west, while the ground is sloping with a small stream running alongside the east wall. The 1834 OS map shows an orchard adjacent to the east side of the garden, removed by the 1850s. The demesne planting was limited in 1834 to a series of clumps around the house and according to the OS memoirs comprised 'ash, beech, sycamore, and scotch and larch firs'. In February 1845 Councillor Alexander Stewart, 'Father of the Irish Bar and oldest magistrate in Downshire' died, followed by his wife, Sophia Stewart, in 1848, to be succeeded at Ballyedmond by their nephew Alexander Stewart (1801-83), who proceeded quickly to demolish the old house and build a new one in 1849, sometimes referred to as Ballyedmond 'Castle'. Charles Lanyon is believed to have been the architect and there are some resemblances with the original College building at Queen's University, (which is of the later 1840s), but there is no documentary evidence linking him with Ballyedmond. The new house, a roughly rectangular asymmetric brick-built Tudor style mansion, has all the hallmarks of the genre including gabled bays of differing sizes, a battlemented entrance tower, oriels and mullioned and transomed windows, moulded architraves, dripstones and tall prominent chimneystacks. Roughly 200m north-west of the house, adjacent to the walled garden, were built at this time also a collection of outbuildings arranged around a relatively long, narrow stable and coach yard. This yard is enclosed to the south by a tall brick wall whose gateway has prominent 'gabled' brick-built buttressed pillars, in a style which echoes that of the main house. To the immediate north of this main yard is a considerably smaller yard with a rubble and brick piggery/kennel range to the north side and to the north again, set on sloping ground, is a two-storey dwelling house, probably built as the head gardener's house. Much of the extensive planting in the demesne shown on the 1860 OS map may have been in place by the rebuilding of the house in the late 1840s. From at least 1834 the demesne possessed a gate lodge, originally opposite the main gateway off Killowen Road, but now set back from the road due to later 20th century realignment; the lodge is now demolished. There was a perimeter belt along the New Killowen Road with extensive woodland between this and the house, while parkland to south of the house and the shore was characterised by a series of large clumps. More clumps and irregular blocks of woodland filled the parkland area to the west of the walled garden and house. The lawns south of the house were terraced with flights of steps that were later extended down towards the lough. South-east of the house was a rockery with two ponds at different levels between which was a cascade. Alexander Stewart acquired the freehold to Ballyedmond from the Kilmorey estate in 1875, and continued to live there until his death in 1883. After his widow's death in 1897 it was sold to a Mr. Thomson, and again in 1902 to Dr William Kelly Patterson, who, in the same year was granted a temporary (13mth) license to use the house a 'lunatic asylum'. Whether this was actually followed up is not clear, but what is interesting from the historical and architectural points of view is that a detailed plan of the house was drawn up to [presumably to accompany the application for the license] which lists the functions of all of the rooms. In 1907 the property was purchased by the Nugent family. During the war the demesne was occupied (1943) by part of the US 10th Infantry (5th Infantry Division). It was sold in 1955 and then leased to a Mary Sinclair who converted it to a hotel ('Ballyedmond Castle Hotel'). The house was sold in 1968 to Harris Hotels Ltd. and suffered terrorist damage in the early 1970s. It was attacked again in the later 1970s and reduced to a roofless shell. The present owner bought the property in the mid-1980s and commenced complete restoration of the house in 1987, whilst developing part of the western side of the demesne for his business interests. The demesne was surrounded by a new tall brick wall in the 1990s along with the main gateway. The house restoration included the addition of the ballroom section to the west end of the building, and the building over the formerly open yard to the east end. The park plantations were enhanced with the advice of John Campbell (Dunadry) and the ornamental grounds were subject to substantial new additions from

1988 advised in part by Crosbie Cochrane; the terraces were the given new pink gravel paths, flight of steps decorated with iron urns, and a large cast fountain said to have come from the 1851 Great Exhibition in the Crystal Palace. South-west of the house, where there used to be tennis courts, a new series of granite steps leads down to a large circular herbaceous border, divided into quadrants by brick paths, with a marble column sculpture in the centre, believed to have come from the 1994 Chelsea Flower Show. North of the house a pink gravel forecourt has a balustrade that comes from Baronscourt at the east of which a fountain was placed in the 1980s. Running north of the forecourt and aligned on the house is a modern wooden pergola with rose gardens with brick arbours on each side. North-west of the house is a modern rhododendron and magnolia walk. The walled garden was subject to a major transformation in more recent years with the construction of enormous and grandiose glass house ranges on high balustraded terraces at its northern end ('The Orangery') with a Renaissance style perron, whose curved steps are flanked each side by cascades leading down to a basin of water. The steps were acquired by the owner from Robinson and Cleaver, once one of Belfast's principal department stores. Various statues of lead and marble, some on raised columns, have been collected from various parts of Europe. The remainder of the garden is under mowed lawn with long axial flower beds and an assortment of stone urns, obelisks and columns. A new productive fruit and vegetable garden was created south of the old walled garden; the fruit cage in the vegetable garden was based on the design of the Palm House at Kew. SMR: DOWN 54:13 enclosure/tree ring? & 54:14 megalith: chambered grave. Private.

**BALLYMOYER, County Armagh (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) A/004
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Mid-Georgian demesne (surviving registered area 76.5 acres/31ha) with houses of 1775 and 1857 (both demolished), lying 2.95 miles (4.75km) north-east of Newtownhamilton and 1.2 miles (1.9km) south-west of Whitecross. Demesne created in the mid-1770s by Sir Walter Synott (1742-1821), grandson of Richard Synnot (d.1727), the Registrar of the See of Armagh. Coote, writing in 1804, remarks that Sir Walter's efforts at Ballymoyer had 'quite altered the face of this country', while Lewis's 1837 *Topographical Dictionary*, said the lands at Ballymoyer had previously been 'heathy and barren', before Walter Synott 'erected a house...constructed good roads...planted forest trees...'. His house, shown on Taylors and Skinner's map of 1777, was built around 1775 and is shown in early photographs as a typically mid- to later Georgian rectangular three-storey block with gently curving bowed bays to the (north-facing) front. The house stood on the east bank of the Ballintemple/Creggan-river which enters the demesne in the south, flows north and then to the east. Most of the extensive late 18th century planting was focussed on the course of this river, much of which forms a glen, with a width of between 50m and 100m planting on each bank though the demesne. The planting was mostly oak, beech and ash. In 1821 Ballymoyer passed to Sir Walter's eldest son, Marcus Synnot (1771-1855), who appears to have purchased the freehold. His son and heir, also named Marcus (1816-74), built a new, larger house on to the side of the old one around 1857. This was a large Classical-Style three-storey front 'wing', (in effect a new house), on the gently rising ground to the north-east side of the old residence. This new building, which he intended for the use of his widowed mother and unmarried sister, with the older dwelling (now in reality a mere return) reserved for himself. The architect may have been William Joseph Barre who carried work to the neighbouring parish church in 1863-65. The stable yard and outbuildings were sited on the north-west of the house on the opposite side of the river. In the 1850s an impressive new yard was built in the form of a curving (horse shoe-like) range of outbuildings was constructed to the immediate north of an impressive stable yard range. In 1913 the property was inherited by Brigadier General Arthur Henry Seton Hart-Synnot (d.1942), a distinguished soldier with a colourful life. He never spent much time in Ireland and in 1937 gave the property to the National Trust. The house was demolished around that time and most of the other buildings once belonging to the demesne have been cleared away also, including a gate

lodge north-east of the house and a summer house along the river bank to the south of the house. Sections of the stable yard range and the horse-shoe range survive; the latter are not in National Trust ownership. The tree planted glen is leased to the Forest Service (DAERA) and there is public access. SMR ARM 21:47 souterrain.

BALLYTRIM, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/043

REGISTERED GRADE A

Regency-era demesne (75.6 acres/30.6ha) with west-facing house of c.1825-30 (Listed HB 18/04/025) lying on the south side of the Ballytrim-road, 1.5 miles (2.4km) west of Killyleagh and 3 miles (4.8km) east of Crossgar. There appears to have been a cottage in Ballytrim from at least the 1650s, possibly located at the 'Stump', when Gilbert Howe (c.1626-1708), an agent for the Hamilton estate, lived here followed by his descendants, who sold the property around 1817-8 to John Lowry (1778-1842), a Downpatrick notary. Lowry subsequently built the present house in the south side of the property and started to create the parkland in the 1820s. His house is a three-bay two-storey west facing square block with hipped roof and roughcast walls with a rere wing on the north linking to a narrow U-shaped courtyard at the back, enclosed by service ranges and at the north end by a tall wall with an elliptical-headed carriage arch. While some planting was in place by 1834, notably the extensive wood to the east known as Shane's Wood, it is likely that most of the present park was actually made in the 1840s by John Lowry's son, Thomas Kennedy Lowry, the author of the *Hamilton Manuscripts* (1867), who served as a JP in Jamaica from 1867. The entrance to the main drive appears to have been built either in the late 1830s or 1840s; it has a curving gate screen with a carriage and pedestrian gate, and five unusual octagonal stone piers with mushroom-like caps and wrought iron railings. As the stone walled kitchen garden was also not in place by 1834, it is evident that it too was either built in the late 1830s or in the 1840s. It lies adjacent to the house on the south-east side and generally rectangular in plan (0.8 acres/0.3ha), but whose long north wall curves inwards to help the wall-fruit catch the sun. The garden slopes upwards from west to east and has two entrances, one in the north wall and one in the north-west wall. The latter is approached through a metal arbour with climbers. The garden is divided between a large area under grass on the east, which was an orchard until recently, while the west sector is a working garden with a series of beds and several rectangular glass houses, one against the north-west wall and the others free-standing and parallel to it. There are fruit walls at the north and south and a centrally-growing weeping ash has a conversation seat around it. The house overlooks a oval small lake (1.16 acres/0.47ha) to its south-west with the 1840s parkland lying to the south-west, west and north-west of the house, enclosed by perimeter belts along the western and northern side, flanking the Tullykin and Ballytrim roads; these trees mostly remain and are deciduous and mature. Today there is a more recent woodland just south of the oval lake, while there is an extensive wood on the west and south shore of Shane's Lough, which was either planted by John Lowry in the 1820s or pre-dates his ownership. Rachael Cunningham made a detailed study of Shane's Wood, which is composed of mixed coniferous and deciduous trees. By 1991 some tree planting had taken place outside it at the west and also south of this—broadleaves and larch. South of the house are birch and larch trees which were planted in the 1980s, while the house looks down to lawns with specimen trees: A *Quercus ilex* west of the house had an iron seat around it. The parkland has some good old trees, while new oak trees were planted in the 1980s. There are good specimen trees along the original carriage drive; one walnut tree was lost prior to 1991 on the west side of the drive. At the north end of the property, on the site supposedly once occupied by a tower house (for which there is no evidence), Thomas Kennedy Lowry built in the 1850s a two-storey range known as the 'Stump', which contained two 'cottier' dwellings. These dwellings were built into the side of an embankment and to the south of them he added a battlemented folly 'bawn' wall, together with, at the south end, a three-stage battlemented clock tower with doorway on its south face and with various pointed arch slit window openings. Thomas Kennedy Lowry died in 1872 and in 1874 the

Ballytrim estate was sold at auction to William Pentland Ringland (d.1883), the sale documents (November 1874) mentioning the 'large and productive walled in garden attached to the house, well stocked with fruit trees'. It was sold in 1920 and again in 1925 when acquired by Thomas McClinton, who died in 1960. After this it was bought in auction by James Glencairn Cunningham, (formerly of Glencairn, Belfast) with whose descendant it remains. In the 1980s the house known as the 'Stump' was adapted as offices and showroom for locally made furniture; subsequently, a number of other modern utility buildings were added to its vicinity as the furniture business expanded. SMR 24:41. Private.

**BALLYWARD LODGE, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/087
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Regency parkland (134 acres/54.2ha), partly walled, with house of 1811 (Listed HB 17/10/007A) on generally level ground with large lake, lying 4.67 miles (7.5km) north-west of Castlewellan and 10.4 miles (16.7km) south-east of Banbridge. It is set in good quality parkland in a beautiful position, with views of a lake and Mourne Mountains. The close proximity of the house to the lake and the use of the term 'lodge', may suggest the place began life as a shooting lodge, but there is no evidence for this. According to the OS Memoirs of 1836, the present house was constructed in 1811 by William Beers (1759-1828), who like his father Francis Charles Beers, appears to have been an agent for the Annesley estate. Work on the park was continued by his son Francis Charles Beers, who 'out of respect' in 1850 for his maternal uncle Rev. John Leslie of Kincairgie Castle, County Donegal, assumed the additional surname of Leslie. The house is an unusual, low, one and a half/ two-storey dwelling with a five-bay south-east facing front facade with dormers rising through the eaves and a full-height central porch projection. To the rear it has a roughly central, full-height return of larger size than the main front section, with a smaller return to the north end and, to the south-western corner, a small, two-stage castellated 'tower'. The walls are finished in brilliant white painted render, which serve to emphasize its somewhat sprawling disparate appearance. To rear of the house is a stable yard arranged in an L-shaped formation (Listed HB 17/10/007B0; one of the buildings has a doorway 'keystone' with the date '1811' upon it. West and south-west of this yard are modern agricultural buildings erected since 2002. To the south and contemporary with the house, is a rectangular walled garden (1.5 acres/0.6ha), divided into two sections, the larger northern section (0.85 acres/0.34ha) being historically the kitchen garden and the south portion being the orchard. Field stone walls 2.5m high surround the orchard, now empty, while a two-storey, gable-ended gardener's cottage of c.1860 at bisects the west of the wall. Adjacent to cottage is a modern vehicular access gate set into a rubble wall, with unusual piers each topped with five closely-grouped pyramidal capping stones. This wall also 2.5m high has a wrought iron gate in a opening in the wall which leads to the former kitchen garden (0.85 acres/0.34ha). Wall is topped with brick on the south facing side, previously for fruit. The glasshouse is gone. This north garden is brick-enclosed on three-sides with field stone on the outside; this was previously the fruit, vegetable and flower garden set out in the traditional manner with box edged and ravel paths. It was functioning but over grown in 1954 when the next owner of the property, Commander Higginson, turned it into a formal ornamental garden with large shrubs, some clipped, round the walls, wide herbaceous beds, gravel paths, box, and grass plats. The planting is informal but statuary, urns and evergreen trees increase the formality and provide vertical interest. Today the garden is largely under lawn with cross paths. Much of the present plant material came from the Daisy Hill and Slieve Donard Nurseries and, towards the end of Commander Higginson's life, from Kane and Seaforde. The Commander also kept garden records. The parkland has the traditional attributes of front and back avenue; the main entrance off Ballyward Road north-east of the house has a gate screen with a pair of tall, square, stone piers, each with a frieze with a paterae and above this a cornice and pyramidal cap. The lodge, which appears to date to around 1825 when an extension was made to the house, is also listed (Listed HB 17/10/007C) and is set to the west side of the drive

just behind the gate screen. The perimeter screens along the northern side of the park are original to the layout, while the OS 1830s map shows substantial perimeter planting along the west side and also some on the south-west side, with a few clumps both east and west of the house. By the 1850s there were more parkland trees and more planting had taken place adjacent to the lake south of the house. This layout remained pretty much unchanged until the 20th century, the trees being largely beech, oak and silver birch. Wetter areas have holly, birch and Scots pine. The south-west part of the park has been very liable to floods, so it was drained and planted with tree in the 20th century. The lake which had become seriously silted was reduced in size, so the western area also planted in trees. North of the A50 road close to the tradesman's entrance lies the remains of a duck decoy which must date to the original 1811 park, though most examples are earlier and belong to the 18th-century. It originally would have had four 'pipes' from the central pond; the pond itself is now overgrown. In 1866 Ballyward passed to Captain John Leslie (d.1913) who, c.1868, appears to have acquired the freehold of the property (from John Sharman Crawford) and shortly afterwards leased it to Frederick George Patterson. Captain Leslie was back in residence in 1884 and appears to have remained there, for most of the time at least, for the rest of his life. In 1923 the demesne was sold to a Dr. John Hanna McBurney, who seems to have held on to it until at least 1934. In 1954 the house and most of the demesne was acquired by Wing Commander John Higginson, who did much to restore the demesne itself, and who later made covenants with both the National Trust and the DOENI for the protection of large parts of the woods and wetlands belonging to the estate. Commander Higginson died in 2000 and the property was sold to the present owner in 2001. Part of the demesne including 27ha of woods, and also wetlands and a heronry is managed by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency. SMR: DOWN 42:56 & 42:57 enclosures, 42:58 crannog? & 42:59 platform rath. Private. c.27ha are managed by NIEA and the NT has a restrictive covenant on the property.

**CASTLEWARD, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/010
REGISTERED GRADE A***

Mid-Georgian coastal walled demesne (874 acres/354ha) of late 16th-century origin, lying 4.8 miles (7.7km) north-east of Downpatrick and 2.6 miles (4.2km) west of Strangford. Occupies undulating ground on the shore of Strangford Lough, noted for its succession of houses, each with its own associated landscape. The earliest is associated with the tower house c.1590 by the lough shore, enlarged in the 17th-century; the second phase is the early 18th century 'Queen Anne House' and its formal designed landscape, substantial parts of which survive; and finally, there is the present mansion house of 1760-65 with its contemporary landscape park and associated features, all of which have survived remarkably intact, making Castle Ward, both in terms of historic design, survival and location, one of Ireland's premier designed landscapes. Originally known as 'Carrick na Shennagh' or 'Carrickshannagh' (Fox's rock), from medieval times the land here belonged to the Audleys, a Norman family who are traditionally believed to have arrived in Ulster with John de Courcy in the 1170s. Documentary evidence is pretty sketchy, but their impressive tower house at Audleystown, shows they were in possession of these land by at least the late 15th century. Earliest documentary reference to the townland however states that Bernard Ward, who died in September 1584, held 'Carrickshannagh' under the Earl of Kildare as part of the Manor of Ardglass. The exact date of the Castle Ward tower house is not known, but it was probably built by the Kildare estate, perhaps around 1560, before being leased and sold to an Englishman, Bernard Ward from Cheshire, perhaps around 1575-80. It measures 8.6m x 7.8m and rises 15m to the top of its double stepped battlements, has a gothic arch entrance with pock marking and a straight intramural stair internally. As the rebuilding of the yard in 1858 lowered the surrounding ground level, evidence of a bawn has gone, save possibly for a circular structure to its south. Bernard was succeeded at Castle Ward by his son Nicholas Ward (b.c1562), who was Clerk, Comptroller and Surveyor-General of the Ordnance and later Deputy Governor of Lands. He was succeeded by his third son Bernard Ward (1606-66) and he in turn by his son Nicholas Ward

MP (b.1630), who married (1652) a co-heiress, Sarah Buckworth, daughter of the Bishop of Dromore and it was probably during Nicholas Ward's time, perhaps around 1670 that the Castle Ward accommodation was enlarged by a two-storey gable-ended block added to the south wall of the tower house; no doubt there were gardens to the west, while the area around the dwelling would have been divided up into various courts in the fashion of the period. Nicholas Ward's son, Bernard (1654-90) was killed in an infamous duel in Downpatrick in 1690. He left his only son, Michael Ward (1683-1759) a minor aged seven; it was Michael who built up the family powerbase and transformed Castle Ward. Having entered in Inner Temple and the Irish Bar in 1700, he rose by 1727 to be a Justice of the King's Bench; he was also a 'shrewd businessman and active promoter of the linen trade' and was a wealthy man by the time he married (1710) Anne Catherine, daughter and co-heiress of James Hamilton of Bangor. Not surprisingly, he started to focus on building a new house at Castle Ward that was more appropriate to his wealth and status; while solid evidence is lacking, it appears that by 1713-14 he had started to build a mansion 125m west-north-west of the tower house on a slight eminence. Although the house survived until the 1840s, when it was known as the 'Green House', we have no detailed surviving drawings; there is a glimpse of the house on a Mrs Delany sketch dated 1762; there are elevation sketches on George Johnson's 1755 map and on Murdock Mackenzie maritime chart of 1755, while it appears on James Boyd's map of the demesne dated 1813 and the 1835 OS map edition. From this evidence and from an excavation on the site in 2009-09, we know that the house was stone built and 14m square, of two-stories over a basement, probably five-bays, with a steeply pitched hipped roof with dormers and two chimneys - in short a typical house of the era. It faced north, no doubt onto a walled entrance courtyard, while the south facade gazed over the extensive formal gardens below. At a later stage, possibly in the 1770s, the house was given flanking wings and in the early 19th-century these wings were modified and enlarged; the house was eventually demolished around 1850 by Major Nugent. The surrounding gardens for the new mansion appear to have been created in stages; we have no surviving contemporary map detailing the layout, but from the 1813 demesne map, documentary evidence and surviving features on the ground it is possible to build up a picture. Probably one of the earliest surviving feature are the yew terraces lying about 140m south-east below the house site. These appears to date to 1720 or perhaps a bit earlier and occupy sloping ground to form three level terraces, each 62m long, 2.5m high and each planted with common yews 7.5m apart. There are 12 trees on the top terrace, 13 on the middle one and 9 along the bottom level, but originally there were an equal number on each terrace. The yews were undoubtedly originally clipped, but by Victorian times had grown over the paths to form tunnels; around 2000 they were clipped back. The terraces faced down onto a level piece of ground, now damp, but possibly originally supporting a bosquet of some description with a gazebo, marked on the 1813 map. Below the house on the south-west, 50m distant, was the smaller of two ornamental canals, 158m long with north-west south-east axis. This canal was infilled in the 19th-century, but the larger canal, known as 'The Temple Water' still exists. It lies 90m north-west of the house site, has a length of 452m (1,484ft), width of 46m (150ft) and axis south-west north-east with an apse-shaped east end and was centred on Audley's Castle. Except for a reference to 'digging the canal' around 1723, there is a lack of documentary evidence for their construction, though they were both probably in place by 1727 when a letter mentioned that 'carp and tench have come to Castle Ward' - a clear reference to the stocking of the canals. On the north side of the Temple Water there is a narrow subsidiary canal, 165m (543ft) long, which seems to have served as a stew pond or holding tank for the supply of fish for the table. The ponds were drained every five to seven years to clear them of eels which eat the spawn. In addition to carp and tench, they also held rudd and roach, this being one of the earliest documented case of roach in Ireland. On the Boyd's 1813 map the small canal is called the 'old canal', but it had been drained by the time of the 1834 OS map. However, the double rows of lime trees that flanked the water survived to become quite a feature of the gardens in the Victorian era; the remaining limes were felled in 1983 and replanted with two double rows of lime

trees. Other features of the formal gardens have now gone; they included a 'Mount', probably with a cork-screw path, made before 1725 to view the gardens; it lay at the west end of the garden proper 200m (670ft) south-west of the end of the Temple Water and was removed around 1850. Other features included a duck decoy north-west of the Temple Water of about 1720; a grotto above the Temple Water, which appeared in one of Mrs Delany's sketches (1762) and at the north end of the garden there was by 1725 a 'Fir Tree Park' planted to provide an evergreen backdrop to the gardens. Numerous other features are mentioned in documents, various walks, orchards, the kitchen garden, which unfortunately cannot be located. Beyond the garden areas Judge Michael was able to put into practice ideas to improve the land, being a noted agricultural improver and innovator (he was a foundation member of the Dublin Society in 1731); for example, he introduced the practice of marling into Ulster. He laid out the demesne with large and regular fields, some of which survive today, and in the 1740s he enclosed his new demesne with 10km of rubble masonry walls around 1.80m high; many of these were demolished when the park enlarged in the 19th century, but his original walls can still be traced along the north sides. It was also during the judge's lifetime that Lady Anne Temple was built (Listed HB 18/08/080), probably around 1750 on a rocky bluff in a commanding position over looking the Temple Water and Strangford Lough. This classical building, with its superimposed portico and dressings of Bath-stone, was copied from a pattern book (Edward Hoppus, 1736, Book 4 of Palladio's *Four Books of Architecture*); in 1762 it was sketched by Mrs Delany, who called it 'Lady Anne Ward's Temple', Anne being the wife of Judge Michael's son Bernard, later 1st Viscount Bangor, who he married in 1747; she was Lady Anne Blight (1714-89), daughter of the 1st Earl of Darnley. Arthur Young admired the view from the temple in July 1776 and later William Ashford painted his fine view of the park looking through the columns of the temple portico in 1787. Sometime in the mid-19th-century this building was enlarged as a house for the head gardener, these additions being removed in 1967 when architect Robert McKinstry restored it to its 1750s appearance, though the rere elevation remains a eyesore. On the opposite south-east side of the Temple Water, there is an ice house, probably added here in the 1760s but it could be a bit later (Listed HB 18/08/079). Judge Michael Ward died 21 February 1759 to be succeeded by his son Bernard Ward (1719-1781), who had earlier been elected MP for Co. Down and was, after many requests, raised as Baron Bangor (1770) and then Viscount Bangor in 1781 shortly before he died. It is evident that Bernard, who had a good working relationship with his father, had already put into motion plans to create a landscape park as a prelude to building a new house. There is correspondence dating to October 1757 to disposing 'in yea best manner of ye enclosed grounds' - Bernard, who was already well versed in the newly fashionable natural landscaping through his friendship with Lord Adam Gordon (1726-1801), focussed on the south of the demesne for his new park, where the high ground offered splendid views over the lough and offered an excellent location for the new house. It was Gordon who arranged for the Wards to visit the Gothick mansion of Inveraray Castle in Argyllshire which inspired the gothick at Castle Ward; indeed, John Adam (1721-92) the supervising architect there at the time may have drawn the initial proposals for Castle Ward. The house as built (Listed HB 18/08/066) is a three-storey over basement rectangular block with ashlar walls of Bath stone, famous because the front facade, that facing south-west, has a conventional Palladian design with pedimented breakfront, rusticated ground level, an abundance of finely executed Classical detailing including hoods over the first floor openings, and a dentilled parapet with urns, while the other facade overlooking Strangford Lough is in the then fashionable Strawberry Hill Georgian Gothick, complete with pointed arch openings, label moulding and spiky pinnacles. To the short north-west and south-east sides have large full-height canted bays, that to the south-east having the projecting entrance porch at ground level, added in the 1870s. Unfortunately, no building records survive, but it's evident building the house had begun in 1761 and was advanced by late 1762 when Gordon wrote about their 'new castle of which I hear a very good report'. By Spring 1764 work on the interiors had begun and was largely finished by May 1767. In characteristic Irish fashion of the era the house stood enclosed on all sides by sweeping

lawns, with the coach and stable yard discretely hidden from view 54m to the north-west on lower ground. The Coach and Stable Yard (Listed HB 18/08/066) has two-storey hipped roof ranges with largely roughcast walls and small upper floor windows, enclosing a square. Built at the same time as the house, its utilitarian and unpretentious form indicates that it was always intended to be screened from the park. Originally had its carriage entrances in the middle of the east and west sides, giving easy access to the sweep in front of the house and lying very much at the centre of the network of carriage drives in the park as shown on Boyd's 1813 map. In the late 1820s Edward Southwell, 3rd Viscount Bangor, simplified the carriage circulation in the park, which resulted in the replacement of the yard's two carriage entrances with one on the north-east corner. At this time the yard was linked to the house basement by a covered passage, which flanked a small inner yard (Listed HB 18/08/065) which is enclosed by low ranges between the stable yard and house; in the 1850s this area housed a small gasworks. North-west of the yard lay the original walled kitchen garden (5.33 acres/2.3ha), before it was replaced by the present walled garden north of the Temple Water in the late 1820s. Labelled the 'New Garden' on the 1813 map, it was a four-sided oblong enclosure with gently sloping ground with a southerly aspect. A rectangular building lay at the south-west end roughly where the rockery is today; this was the hot house range, which included a peach house, mentioned in a 1808 chancery petition. By the 1834 OS map edition the hot houses were removed, but the area was now a flower garden, its west end corner chopped off by the new drive to the stable yard made in the late 1820s. by the mid 19th century most of the walls had been demolished and the area transformed into a formal garden with terraces and a sunked parterre, known as the Windsor Garden. Around 1767 when Bernard had more-or-less completed the house, he commissioned the landscape artist Jonathan Fisher (1740-1809) to paint a series of pictures depicting the newly finished house in its parkland setting; these are in the house to this day and show the park in its early phase when many pre-existing field boundaries still had to be removed to make way for the wide open lawn expanses that characterise the parkland. With the house, placed centrally in the landscape and carefully positioned to take advantage of the views of the lough, the surrounding park was typically enclosed by perimeter belt planting that varied in thickness from one section to the next, both along the Strangford-road and around the shore of Strangford Bay - a good deal of the latter being pre-existing (The Ladies Walk). Much of the land inside these perimeter woodlands were open lawns, but carefully subdivided by internal woodland screens, notably at Slieveroe in the south section of the park, and below the Ballycultra drive, the latter being developed in mid-Victorian times by Major Nugent into a larger block of woodland known as the Windmill Plantation; indeed, Nugent was to significantly beef up many of the internal woodland belts and screens. Closer to the house, there was a small but critically positioned woodland block just to the south-east, while to the north and north-west, more extensive areas of woodland engulfed the yards, walled garden and beyond. The original park layout, as shown on the 1813 map, shows two approach avenues, namely the long Downpatrick Drive from the west (the main drive) and the Ballyculter Drive from the south. The Downpatrick drive, which has a lodge added around 1845 (Listed HB 18/08/081/2), was laid out along the hill contour to enjoy magnificent views of the park on its north side, while the south slopes above were flanked by woodland screens, later enlarged by Nugent in the 1840s into the Mountain Wood. The Ballyculter Avenue from the south, whose Classical gate screen was added in the late 1820s (Listed HB/08/063), originally had an avenue that ran along a ridge providing views down onto the park landscape, which in its final approach turned though a wooded glade and proceeded to the mansion. However, a parallel avenue was subsequently laid down downslope (the present drive) offering much quicker access, though scenically an uneventful route, resulting in the original avenue becoming defunct by the early 1800s. Just beyond the west lawn of the house lie the considerable earthworks associated with the former courses of the two avenues as they approached the house front (well depicted on Fisher's paintings); these are but part of a massive amount of earth movement around the house associated with the creation of the landscape park. This involved digging the house basement;

sinking the area for the yards, levelling the lawn on the west front and creating a platform for the house, which sweeps down gracefully to the east lawn, which then had a ha-ha, traces of which can be seen on the ground. South of the east lawn Bernard Ward created a small deer park for fallow deer as part of the original landscape park design (62 acres/25ha) occupying rocky uneven terrain, much of which remains. Prior to 1810 the deer park had already seen changes as it is then divided into 'old' and 'new' deer parks. Around 1860 the east lawn below the house and the deer park were united after removal of the separating wall allowing deer to be visible beneath the house windows, very much a Victorian fashion; this park continued to stock deer until the 1920s. With the death of Bernard Ward, 1st Viscount Bangor in 1781, the Ward estates were inherited by his eldest son, Nicholas (1753-1827), who unfortunately for Castle Ward, was mentally ill and declared legally insane, so the estate was placed in chancery, which meant it was managed by a board of guardians. For the next forty-six years Castle Ward was poorly managed and went into a period of decline; Bernard's second son and heir following the death of his elder brother, Edward Ward (1753-1812), died in comparative poverty. Eventually, when the insane Nicholas died in 1827, the family estates were inherited by Edward Ward's son, Edward Southwell Ward, who became the 3rd Viscount Bangor (1790-1837). He set about refurbishing the house, which was by all accounts in a poor state, remodelling the stableyard and replacing what had been an orchard north of the Temple into the walled garden in the early 1830s. The new garden was rectangular (3.62 acres/1.46ha) with north-west, south-east axis and a curving wall enclosing the north-west end. The walls are of stone with an internal face of brick; the main entrance was placed centrally through the south wall, while other entrances were made in the centre of the curving wall and at the south-east end. There are no structures shown on the 1834 OS map suggesting that the garden had only just been completed. Its heyday came in the late Victorian and Edward era when it contained a large number of glass houses and other buildings. Around 1902 we know that the hot houses in the garden contained grapes, peaches, figs, melons, and tomatoes, as well as exotic plants, that the enclosure was well stocked with apples, pears, cherries and other fruit and that it also contained extensive vegetable plots and herbaceous borders. No doubt Edward Southwell Ward, the 3rd Viscount, had many more plans for Castle Ward, but he died very young in 1837. His wife Harriet Margaret Maxwell (d.1880), a daughter of Lord Farnham of Co. Cavan, married again in 1841, Major Andrew Savage Nugent (1809-1889) of Portaferry House and he assumed control of the demesne until the 3rd Viscount's son, Edward Ward (1827-1881), came of age. Nugent oversaw the last great changes to the demesne, extending the park, putting down new plantations and erecting new buildings, mostly in the 1840s and 1850s, during and after the famine years when labour was cheap. Possibly his earliest improvement was the planting of what became known as the Mountain Wood in 1844, when the existing planting along the Downpatrick Drive was considerably extended uphill and along the high ridge forming the backdrop to the park to create the largest wood in the demesne. Further to the west beyond the Downpatrick gate lodge in an offshoot of the park he put down the Mallard Plantation, probably in the early 1850s; the area had previously been called 'Mount Poverty', presumably a reference to the labourers who lived there. South of the house and alongside the Ballycultra Drive he greatly expanded the woodland here, putting down the Windmill Plantation, probably in the late 1840s. His biggest change however, which mostly took place in the 1850s was the extension of the park over the Audleystown peninsula to form a seamless part of the park. The extension involved clearing a hamlet below Audleystown Castle, plus removing a few more clachans and network of small fields, and in their place a combination of open parkland lawn and woodlands. New plantations consisted of the extensive Audleystown Wood and that of Terenichol, Island Hill and Green Row, separated by the castle with its surrounding open space. The new plantations carefully were placed on prominent ridges extending down to the shore giving the impression of being more extensive than they really were. A circular walk was made around and through Audleystown wood and a small bathing house erected at Portanearllagh, between the walk and the shore. West of the bathhouse a large 50 acre open meadow or lawn was created with a number of circular

clumps judiciously positioned to add to the aesthetic effect of the landscaping. The new additions transformed the parkland, providing a new scenic dimension to the landscape park and greatly increasing the depth of view within the demesne, especially from the house. The 1840s saw the transformation of the old 18th-century walled kitchen garden into a formal terraced garden. Most the surrounding walls had already been removed and much of the area was being used as a flower garden. In its place the Major created a garden of four levels forming three terraces and a rectangular sunken area, the latter being filled with a parterre said to have consisted of sixty-one beds, known as 'The Windsor Garden'. The garden was painted by Mary Ward around 1858, depicting not only the parterre, showing the line of Irish yews on the top terrace, with two urns with plants and stone eagles, the latter have been replaced in recent years. The parterre, which in 1902 contained 'tuberous begonias, blue lobelia, and yellow pyrethrum' was restored to its original splendour in 2017. Major Nugent's other significant contribution to Castle Ward was the rebuilding of the farm yard around the old tower house, mostly undertaken in the 1850s, at a time when many other demesne farmyards were being upgraded as 'model farms'. The biggest intervention here was building of the square cattle yard (Listed HB 18/08/069) on the south-west side of the tower house (Scheduled); this involved the lowering of the ground level around the castle and building long rubble-built gabled ranges abutting each other on the north-west side (demolished 1964); south-west side (The Byre) and the north-east (demolished 1950s), the latter side with a gate screen with stepped parapet between this and the castle itself. To the north-west there is a long single-storey rubble-built block with an uneven gabled slate roof, containing a workshop (Listed HB 18/08/070) with a largely open shorter gabled block containing a saw mill (Listed HB 18/08/071) abutting this at an angle to the north. During 1978-79 this mill was restored to working order under an Enterprise Ulster scheme. A few metres to the north-east of this there is a large L-shaped collection of buildings which contained a flour or corn mill (Listed HB 18/08/073), also largely rebuilt in the 1850s. This is made up of a squat, square three-stage rubble-built tower (similar in style to the castle, but smaller) which is abutted to the west and north by relatively large part two part single-storey rubble-built blocks with uneven gabled slate roofs. To the east is a two-storey granary (HB 18/08/074) rebuilt in 1858 with tall gable parapets and a series of arched openings to the western side of the ground floor. Abutting this to the north-east is a single-storey gable-ended slaughterhouse (Listed HB 18/08/075), whilst along the coast a short distance to the south is an L-shaped quay (Listed HB 18/08/078). At the time the yard was being remodeled a lead mine was opened on Dickson's Island in 1854; it had an engine house and a number of shafts and survived until 1865 when it was put up for sale. The building called 'Bonito' whose garden faces the island (still inhabited) was built as the residence of the mining agent in 1863. The boathouse, which incorporates parts of the mine buildings was built in the late 19th-century (Listed HB 18/08/084). North of the yard Nugent built a two-storey gable-ended three-bay house called Terenichol, approached by a straight road delimited by tall hedges; at some stage around 1900 this was enlarged with an extra bay each end, but was reduced again to its original size by the National Trust around 2005. South of the farm yard a gas plant was built in 1858 when Castleward was fitted with seventy lights. An investigation carried out by the UAS in 2012 cleared the site revealing the foundations of the purifier house, retort house, coal store and gasholder tank. The plant remained in operation until around 1901. Coal was unloaded on the Coal Quay (scheduled monument), overlooked by an entrance arched gate in the demesne wall with crow stepped gables and flanked by a crenellated wall, the crenellations and decorative gable over the gate were also added by Major Nugent. It is likely that the North Lodge (Listed HB 18/08/002) was also built in the major's time around 1860. This was the last gate lodge into the demesne to be built and served as the back entrance and road that led to the kitchen garden and eventually the Downpatrick Avenue and farmyard. It is a 1½-storey gabled house with rubble walls and brick dressings, label mouldings and overhanging roof with decorative bargeboards; empty for many years, renovated in 1089. The Downpatrick gate lodge (Listed HB 18/08/081 & 2) was built around 1845; and is a symmetrical three-bay 1½-storey gabled dwelling with decorative

bargeboards, overhanging roof and a Tudor style chimneystack. The iron gate screen is an ornate Gothic Revival affair with 'wedding cake' railings with 'tracery heads' and similarly styled open octagonal piers. Finally the Ballyculter gate (Listed HB 18/08/063) has a Classical-style screen c.1835 with tall square stone piers with vermiculated shafts, oversailing cornices, ball finials and sweeps of iron railings that rise from low walls. The neighbouring lodge is a late Georgian-style single-storey dwelling with rendered walls, hipped roof and label moulding, extended c.1870. It is not clear when Major Nugent retired, but it appears that Edward, the 4th Viscount, who never got married, much preferred to live in London and follow his main interests of travelling and yachting. It seems that he waited until about 1860, but having come home does not appear to have done much extra to works already undertaken by Nugent. He died in 1881 and was succeeded by his younger brother, Henry William Ward (1828-1911), who became the 5th Viscount. He was a retired army officer and had married Mary King, an amateur naturalist who had published works on microscopy, astronomy and entomology; she was also a watercolourist, but was killed by a steam engine in Birr, King's County, in 1869. In 1874 Henry married Elizabeth Eccles from Co. Wicklow. Henry was an agricultural improver, interested in cattle breeding and farming methods. He was also a collector of trees and developed a Pinetum at Caste Ward south-west of the Windsor Garden. An article written in 1902 gives an impressive account of its spruces, pines, firs and cypress trees and shrubs, many of which were relatively new introductions. The sources of the collection is not clear; many were probably obtained from collections elsewhere in Britain and Ireland. The 1902 article mentions that the seed of the *Pittosporum moyii* was sent from Rome by Admiral Ward. It also mentioned is the *Picea veitchii*, 'lately introduced by Messrs Veitch and Son, London', suggesting that the 5th Viscount was obtaining other material from this nursery. The Tree Council of Ireland recorded there today an *Athrotaxis laxifolia* (Summit Cedar) 2.78 x 16.5m Irish girth champion. Other trees recorded elsewhere at Castle Ward include a few very large Wych Elms (*Ulmus glabra*) one being 5.04 x 05 x 24m Irish girth champion; the other 4.45 at 1.2 x 20.5m. Also a large Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) 3.39 x 29.5m Irish height champion. Near a Wellingtonia at the north end of the pinetum, within the area once enclosed by the 18th-century walled garden, is a large rockery of unknown date, but possible made by the 5th Viscount just after he inherited in 1881. There is a painting in the house showing it in full flower in its heyday c.1900. It then as now had a dark evergreen background screening the old garden wall behind; the rockery became very overgrown and neglected in the 1970-80s but was restored in the 1990s. Among the final acts of the 5th Viscount was to build better accommodation for staff by rebuilding the Green Row cottages around 1900 - a continuous row of nine houses original erected in the 1820s. They consist of two groups of double cottages, one-storey high, with an attic roof with dormers and bargeboards (Listed HB 18/08/125). The 5th Viscount was succeeded in 1911 by Lt. Colonel Maxwell Richard Crosbie Ward (1868-1950) the 6th Viscount. On his death in 1950, his son and heir, Edward Henry Ward (1905-1993), the 7th Viscount, the writer and broadcaster, decided to give the property to the National Trust in December 1950. With funding from the Ulster Land Fund and the Ministry of Finance, it was transferred to the trust in April 1952 and opened to the public in 1953, the house being opened in 1955. By agreement with the trust the Dowager, Lady Bangor, continued to live in the house; she left Caste Ward in 1968. Further areas were subsequently acquired from the family in 1968 when 22ha on the Audleystown-road was acquired, the dower house (Terenichol) with 8 acres of scrubland and a reversionary interest in the woodlands leased to Forest Service (83ha). In 1977 Baroness de Ros permitted the trust an informal right of way to construct the Strangford Path from the Black Causeway at Castle Ward along the east shore of the bay to Strangford Village; in 1998 management of this was transferred to the RSPB who purchased the foreshore in 1989. In 1983 the National Trust wisely acquired 12ha of the woodland (Nugent's Wood) in the landscape park of Portaferry House to ensure the protection against unsightly development of this important vista from Castle Ward. SMR DOWN 31:5 late 16th-early 17th century tower house Old Castle Ward, 31:6 15th 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 (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/011
REGISTERED GRADE A***

Regency landscape park in partly walled demesne of 1,144 acres (463ha) with an 1850s baronial castle (Listed HB 18/12/001) and world famous arboretum on the south facing slopes of the Mourne Mountains close to the sea, flanking the north-west side of Castlewellan village, 4.3 miles (6.9km) north-west of Newcastle and 10.7 miles (17.3km) south-west of Downpatrick. Appreciation of this important designed landscape requires an understanding of its development, each phase having left its imprint in the form of landscape features. Initially the property of the Magennises, it was acquired in the 1740s by the Annesley family, who created a formal landscape here with lime avenue, walled garden and the Grange yards. In the early 19th century, when they Annesleys built a villa facing the lake, the landscape was transformed, almost certainly by the celebrated landscape gardener, John Sutherland, into an informal landscape park, with open lawns enclosed by irregular woods and screens with sinuous edges. The Victorian era saw the Annesleys make modifications to the park and build the present baronial castle in the 1850s. The walled garden was enlarged and from the 1870s became an internationally recognised arboretum. In the 1960s the demesne was transferred to the government and became 'Forest Park', open to the public. From medieval times these lands belonged to the Magennises, though the earliest specific mention of the Castlewellan Magennises dates to the 1520s when their territory extended into the Lecale to include Dundrum. At that time the Magennis residence at Castlewellan was centered on a crannog in the lake and perhaps an accompanying settlement on the shore. It seems likely that by the late 16th-century they built themselves a fortified or strong house near the crannog, or at least within Clarkhill townland. This would have been close to the public road to Dromore and Rathfriland, which prior to the 1750s passed along side the north shore of the lake from the area that is now Castlewellan village. An inscribed granite roadside monolith stands by the lakeshore here with the date 1675 and the letters S.O.C. Adroitly, the Magennises of this district managed to retain their lands into the early 18th-century, when in 1741 Arthur Magennis of Corgary (d.1753) put the freehold of the Manor of Castlewellan for sale. The buyer was William Annesley of Dublin (c.1710-70), later raised to the peerage as 1st Baron Annesley (1758) and 1st Viscount Glerawly (1766). William was the great-grandson of Francis Annesley (c.1585-1660), Viscount Valentia, who had established the family as important landowners in this area of Down in 1615/16, notably around Clough. Six years later he added to his holding by buying lands around Newcastle. Although William Annesley may have begun drainage operations on his Castlewellan lands in the 1740s, there is no evidence he undertook any building work until his father died in 1750s, leaving him most of his Ulster properties and a substantial legacy. Mrs. Delany, who described Annesley as 'a very honest man in all his dealings', reported in July 1751 that he had by that time 'walled in and planted with oak, three hundred and fifty acres of ground for a park' and that 'Mr Annesley is going to build a town'. By 1755 he had laid out a network of formal lime avenues, one of which survives, a walled garden (4.9 acres) and started to lay out the town. By 1755 Kennedy's Map of County Down shows he had built a mansion north of the lake and the public road alongside the lake was diverted shortly after this. The service court yards for the new house and demesne, now known as 'The Grange' (Listed HB 18/12/006), was begun around 1755 and completed by September 1758, when Mrs Delany again visited and mentioned the 'three large courts', noting that 'above a hundred and twenty labourers' were being 'constantly employed and fifteen hundred pounds a year expended upon improvements'. The old town was laid out in the 1750s and early 1760s with the 'Old Square' being built first. For all his work at improving Castlewellan however, Annesley preferred to live in Dublin and died at home in Clontarf in 1770. He was succeeded by his elder son, Frances Charles Annesley (1740-1802), 2nd Viscount Glerawly and later 1st Earl Annesley. Although he and his wife, Mary Grove, initially

(1766) did live at Castlewellsan where they built a shell house close to the lake (long gone), in 1772 he purchased a house and lands at Mount Panther, near Clough, which he considerably enlarged and made his home. He died in 1802 without any legitimate children and consequently, his younger brother, Richard Annesley MP (1745-1824), succeeded as 2nd Earl Annesley. Prior to this Richard Annesley, a barrister, had lived in Dublin and derived his income from his appointment as Commissioner of Customs and later Excise, whilst also having married an heiress, Anne Lambert (1752-1822). He preferred to stay in Dublin, but as he also inherited substantial estates in Ulster, which he needed to visit on a regular basis, he decided to build a villa on the shore of Castlewellsan Lough. Built around 1803-4 and known as 'The Cottage' this a typical Regency villa, being split between a one-storey house with grand rooms and a two-storey rere for servants. The house, which faced north, was described in 1809 as a 'cottage of superb splendour [that] has been lately erected by the present Earl. Skill and taste, seem to have dictated the situation, construction and concomitant appendages of this mansion'. The house was given a new parkland setting, almost certainly by John Sutherland (1745-1828), who was on very close terms with the family and had already undertaken work at Mount Panther. Typically, Sutherland made full use of the local characteristics of the site at Castlewellsan to create a highly accomplished designed landscape in the Brownian tradition. The new parkland comprises three separate interconnecting areas - namely, the park around the dwelling; the park lying east of the old formal axial lime avenue (the Outer Park) and the park straddling the lake (the Southern Park). The park landscape around the house comprised what is today the Castle Lawn and what in the mid Victorian era became the Lower Castle Pleasure Grounds - typically lawn (meadow) dotted with isolated trees, mostly beech and oak and a few small clumps. There were two drives leading to the cottage, one from the village and the other from the east alongside the lake, the route formerly followed by the public road. Between the Cottage and the lake was a pleasure garden and on the slopes above lay an enormous folly known as the Gothic Temple, built in 1809-10 for 'rest and pleasure' and seems to have served as a prospect tower for the park. It comprised a two storey tower with octagonal steeple, flanked by single-storey one-bay castellated wings with a single-storey rectangular hall to the rere, lit by large gothic windows and with a plain glass lantern in the roof above; it was demolished in the 1850s. The old Grange yard, built in the 1750s, was surrounded by a narrow tree screen and the estate nursery occupied the area to its south. The Outer or East Park comprises a shallow valley, 0.6 miles long with north-west south-east axis framed by woodland and originally with the 18th century mill race flowing through its centre (later sunk underground). The avenue from the village passed along the south side of the area and the valley was decorated with a large number of isolated trees and clumps; indeed, the approach itself passed through the centre of a large clump on its journey. Characteristically, for a Sutherland landscape, this avenue was designed as a belt drive with an alternating revelation and concealment of the house along its approach. The third major part of the Regency parkland was that area lying south of the lake, the Southern Park. Whereas the inner and outer parkland areas, were designed to be admired as one passed through the landscape as well as from the house, the Southern Park was designed principally to be seen from the house and along its western approach. It was divided into three separate areas, comprising carefully designed open parkland meadows, each dotted with a scatter of trees, with flanking woodland blocks. Characteristically for this type of landscape was designed to project an image of infinity, in this case, the conceit that the parkland extended all the way to the Mourne Mountains, which towers splendidly behind. The park layout survived largely intact until the 1970s, since when unfortunately most of the open meadows have been infilled by Forest Service planting, thus ruining the whole carefully composed aesthetic effect. The new park was given a gate lodge and gates from the village, these being both replaced in the 1850s and 1860s. In 1818 Coade Stone (a form of artificial stone) eagles were ordered from London to decorate the piers; these now stand at the entrance to the Grange. Coade Stone urns and two Egyptian lions (lions couchant) were also ordered at this time and these appear also to have been used at this entrance. While the pleasure gardens associated with the Cottage lay below the house facing the

lake, the 1750s walled garden (4.9 acres) which lay above was devoted to kitchen produce. A large enclosure on the south-east side contained a large orchard with a frame yard for potting sheds in one corner. At some stage prior to the 1830s, but clearly after 1818, two vineries with a south facing aspect, were built in the south corner of this garden. These both survived into the early 1870s when they were photographed. The 2nd Earl Annesley died in 1824, he was succeeded by his son William Richard Annesley (1772-1838), the 3rd Earl Annesley. Not long afterwards, after an unsuccessful first marriage, he married Priscilla Cecilia, daughter of his agent, Hugh Moore. The couple decided against living at Castlewellan and opted to build a handsome seaside villa above Newcastle, which he called Donard Lodge. However, he didn't live long to enjoy his new maritime residence, for he died in 1838, aged sixty-six. His young wife continued to live at Donard Lodge, while her eldest son William Richard Annesley did not come of age in 1851. During these thirteen years, from 1839 to 1851, the Annesley estates were managed by the dowager countess's brother, the Rev. John R. Moore (1801-1888), the son of Capt Hugh Moore of Eglantine (1762-1848), himself a former agent of the family. The Rev. Moore had strong horticultural interests and years later in 1856 acquired for himself a small estate outside Saintfield, which he called Rowallane and transformed into a well-known garden. He himself lived in the Cottage at Castlewellan and during the 1840s carried out major landscaping works there. This included planting McKelvie's Wood, thereby completing the Outer Park, which he also enhanced by commissioning Sir Charles Lanyon in 1847 to build the Church of St Paul; the location was carefully chosen so that its pyramidal spire was on a direct axis down the Outer Park with the Gothic Temple, later the site of the castle. Equally dramatically, the Rev Moore also extended the demesne to the west and south-west to include much of the townland of Ballymaginaghy; this he block planted, thereby enclosing the whole lake with demesne planting. As part of the new landscape design, he left open a meadow on the west side of the lake, Ballymaginaghy Park; regrettably, this beautiful meadow was infilled with conifers in the 1980s. Moore continued to manage the demesne until the 3rd earl's eldest son, William Richard Annesley (1830-1874) assumed control in 1851. He almost immediately set about commissioning a new house at Castlewellan from Scottish architect William Burn, who produced drawing in 1851-52 for an austere baronial castle with Scottish and Irish elements, including round and square towers, bartizans and a gabled attic (Listed HB 18/12/001). The site of the Gothic Temple was chosen and building work was undertaken between 1855 and 1859 with the terraces added as an after thought in 1860 (also by Burn). It is said that the locally-sourced blue granodiorite from which it was made had caused difficulties for the masons and thus delayed the building programme; the cost was £18,128 and the work was undertaken by John Parker of Liverpool. Six years later Burn also designed four French baroque urns and a sundial for the terrace, now removed. In 1888-89 a large conservatory was added to the west end of the terrace. The Cottage residence below the new castle survived until about 1861 when it was demolished and the site made into a croquet lawn surrounded by a low box hedge with round bastions in the design, echoing the terrace. The area around it was transformed into an informal pleasure ground, while the walled garden behind the house was transformed into a magnificent new formal garden, later home of the world-famous arboretum. This work involved enlarging the old 1750s walled kitchen garden to create a rectangular enclosure of 12.2 acres/4.95ha (Listed HB 18/12/006), sloping south-east towards the mountains. It was designed in a spectacular style with a central axial path linking the two walled enclosures and with fountains in the centre of each. The largest of these in the Lower Garden was embellished a decade later with a large urn and subsequently enhanced with a bronze cast of herons. A series of subsidiary paths, with flight of steps, carried visitors around the perimeter, while the north-east corner of the Lower Garden was raised to create a viewing terrace, which supported an impressive range of glasshouses (included in HB/12/006). These were designed and built by Gray of Chelsea in 1870-71 and contained a vinery, divided internally into three sections, flanked by separate, gable-ended conservatories at each end. To the rear a new frame yard was built, replacing the earlier working yard in the south-west corner of the Lower Garden. Other

works also undertaken in the demesne by the fourth earl, included the erection of a new gate lodge from the town (Listed HB 18/12/007) at the head of the main drive. Built in 1861 to designs by William Burn it is a memorable picturesque single-storey dwelling with a symmetrical three-bay front with double gables and central projecting gabled open porch, all with extravagantly carved bargeboards and needle-like finials, with porch carried on two pairs of slim posts. In contrast to the lodge the gate, piers and screen are in a more sober, but magnificent Classical-style (Listed HB 18/12/008). Built a few years after the lodge, also to a Burn design, they comprise large square rusticated granite piers with corniced caps topped with urns, granite screen walls, pedestrian openings, all with high quality wrought iron gates incorporating monograms. The 4th earl died aged forty-four in 1874 and was succeeded by his younger brother Lt. Col. Hugh Annesley (1831-1908), the fifth Earl Annesley, who had previously served in the Kaffir Wars in South Africa (1851-53) and later in the Crimea War where he was injured at Alma (1854) and had travelled extensively around the world and aside from botany, his interests were also focussed on photography. The estates he inherited were heavily mortgaged to the sum of £120,000 as a result of his elder brother's extravagant building activities. Fortunately, Hugh had little appetite for building work, and was to focus much of his future activity at Castlewellan upon the gardens. Almost as soon as he inherited he embarked upon acquiring new plants, not just from British and Irish nurseries, but directly from abroad, with plants arriving at Castlewellan from India, Tasmania, New Zealand and Japan in Wardian glass cases. As he himself wrote, his collection activity was selective with the objective of introducing and acclimatizing 'exotic plants that are generally said to be tender, or half hardy'. He was critical; of the large number of plants at the time that were, as he remarked from sheer ignorance we put under glass' when 'in reality they would do quite as well in the open'. He was aided by the remarkably favourable maritime climate of Castlewellan and from being surrounded by trees, which reduced the risks from frost; rainfall was then about thirty-two inches. His head gardener, Limerick-born Thomas Ryan (1851-1910), who had been appointed in January 1881 was to play a major role in developing the gardens until he died. Trees and shrubs in the garden were to come from across the globe, notably from Australasia and South America. However, Hugh, who had been to Japan, had a particular fondness for Acers, bamboos and other plants from there, which he acquired from the famous nursery at Yokohama. The focus of Hugh's planting was within the enlarged walled garden (12.2 acres/4.95ha), but it did extend beyond this northwards and also to the Lower Castle Pleasure Grounds and along the north Lake shore walk. His plantings were carefully chosen in terms of the size and symmetry of the specimens and the suitability of their surroundings. In 1888-89 he added a large conservatory to the side of the castle, which he called the 'Winter Garden' Elsewhere in the gardens there were by that time no less than twenty-two glass houses at Castlewellan, including vineries, a stove and a temperate house on the terrace, large houses for peaches and nectarines in the Lower Garden, a another large house in the Upper Garden, plus glass houses in the Frame Yard for cucumbers, melons, water-lilies, orchids, Codiceums, Cattleya, plus a house for forcing hybrid rhododendrons, a Gardinia house, an orchard house and others. Among these glasshouses was a splendid iron curvilinear range that was almost certainly supplied by a product of the workshop of the famous ironmaster Richard Turner (1798-1881) whose Dublin foundry at Hammersmith, Ballsbridge, produced the earliest iron glasshouses (in the 1830s) and some of the best known, as the Palm House at Kew and the curvilinear ranges at Glasnevin, Dublin, and in the Botanic Gardens, Belfast. By the 1890s the arboretum at Castlewellan was becoming very well known beyond just gardening circles, with articles on the gardens and collection appearing not just in the leading garden and agricultural journals, but also in more popular outlets, such as the *Illustrated London News*, which featured Castlewellan on a number of occasions. In 1902 Lord Annesley was asked to address the *Royal Horticultural Society* and the following year published a large format book *Beautiful and Rare Trees and Plants* illustrated with around seventy full plate photographs taken by himself. The collections at the time were already becoming acknowledged as one of the premier collections in Ireland, if not in the United Kingdom as a whole. While Hugh Annesley's

focus was on his horticultural collections, he did make structural and architectural improvements to the property other than the addition of glasshouses. In the Lower Garden the central circular pond was enhanced with a large urn in the 1880s and not long later a sculpture of herons was added to the urn. In the Upper Garden a cast of a fountain with a Merboy was added to the garden centre, whose central path in the later nineteenth century had been transformed into a great herbaceous border, then all the rage, with a backing of clipped yews (both fountains included in the Listing HB 18/12/006). At the entrance to this border from the Lower Garden an elaborate wrought iron gate, featuring leafy terminals, heraldic motifs, models of insects and of course butterflies, was commissioned from Thomas Brown of Birmingham. Beyond the boundaries of the walled gardens, the earl enhanced the demesne by creating a number of small lakes which became the focus of exotic planting. At the old western entrance to the demesne, north of the islands, he created around 1885 the Cypress Pond, which was covered in lilies. Just north of the walled garden and a short distance from the frame yard, a small oval pond was enlarged and became the focus of planting. Further to the north in the early 1870s two ponds had been dug on the east slopes of Slievenaslatt in what was then the deer park, presumably to provide water for the deer; one known as the long pond and the other as the duck pond. In the 1880s these two ponds became the focus of exotic planting, while at this time the northern park was created through the purchase of tenant holdings and the removal of their small fields to create a large open meadow park alongside the Bannanstown Road. Here another lake, Mitchell's Lake, was created. Overlooking the Long Pond was built a single roomed castellated tea house around 1890. This had a small porch facing the pond, with a single wainscotted room and two windows, built one presumes to accommodate the late Victorian fashion for picnics. Another gazebo, known as the 'Moorish Tower' on the slopes at the western end of Castlewellan Lake commanding magnificent views. It was built in 1884 in two stories with diameter of twenty feet and lit by three oriental horse-show arches; the ruin was stabilised and cleared of growth by the Follies Trust in 2014-15. The later nineteenth century also saw two modest boat houses added to the lake shore below the castle. Following the death of Hugh Annesley, the fifth Earl Annesley in 1908, the property was inherited by his only son, Francis, who became the sixth Earl Annesley (1884-1914). He served in the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve and the Royal Flying Corps. Although he was married in 1909 to Evelyn Hester Mundy, he left no children when he was killed on a plane bound for France in November 1914. Consequently, in 1914 the management of the Annesley Estates passed to the late earl's sister, Lady Mabel Annesley (1881-1959). At the time most of the tenanted estate lands in Ireland had been, or were in the process of, being sold to the tenant occupiers in accordance with the 1903 Land Act. Lady Mabel, who was a distinguished watercolour artist and wood engraver in her own right, managed the property through the difficult period of the 'Troubles' in the early 1920s and again through the second world war when Castlewellan demesne was requisitioned by the army. In 1941 Mabel passed the property over to her son Gerald, while she herself departed for New Zealand in 1942, where she lived until 1953. Gerald Francis, had previously altered by deed poll his name from Sowerby to Annesley. He was interested in the arboretum and during his time he made attempts to build up the tree and shrub collections. A notable addition in the 1940s was the 350 feet long Eucryphia Walk in the Lower Garden, now a unique and well-known feature of the garden. It is composed mainly of *Eucryphia glutinosa* flanked by *E. cordifolia*. He also engaged with the world famous nearby nursery in the Newcastle, the Slieve Donard Nursery, which had been started by a former head gardener at Castlewellan, Jim Ryan, in 1904. One by-product of this relationship was *x Cupressocyparis leylandii* 'Castlewellan' (sometimes called 'Castlewellan Gold'), raised by the Castlewellan head gardener John Keown in 1962 and subsequently marketed by the nursery to become the most famous, or infamous, Irish cultivar of the 20th century. Although Gerald Annesley worked hard to keep the castle and demesne maintained, it had by this time lost supporting estates and financially could no longer continue to be managed by the family. Consequently, the property was sold to the Department of Agriculture, NI in 1967. Gerald Annesley and his family moved to

Shimna House on the Bryansford Road in Newcastle and here they resided for the next forty three years, until sold in 2007. In 1967 the Department of Agriculture, NI, purchased the demesne of Castlewellan and over the next two years invested considerably in the property, so that it was opened to the public in 1969 as a 'Forest Park'. The 12-acre walled garden was named the 'Annesley Garden' and around this time Castlewellan was recognised a UK 'National Arboretum' along with Westonbirt in Gloucestershire. The arboreum was expanded to nearly a hundred acres from its core of about twenty acres. Among the new areas added included the 'Spring Garden' (1972-74), the 'Dwarf Conifer Beds' (1976), the 'Rhododendron Garden' (1974-9), and the 'Winter Garden' (1969). The Lower Castle Pleasure Garden was made into the 'Autumn Wood' and planting along the lake was expanded. At the Cypress Pond a *Chamaecyparis* collection was added (1969). In the late-1970s the areas east of the walled garden, the Drumbuck Extension, was also added to the arboretum. Today the arboretum remains one of the foremost of its kind: The Tree Council of Ireland has identified no fewer than 16 Champion trees as well as three additional trees classified as Heritage Trees, a Brewer's spruce (*Picea breweriana*), a drooping juniper (*Juniperus flaccida*) and a Japanese umbrella tree (*Sciadopitys verticillata*). Of the Champion Trees eight are coniferous and eight broadleaved. A cabbage palm (*Cordyline indivisa*) and a northern pitch pine (*Pinus rigida*) are the Irish Height and Girth Champions, while a chusan palm (*Trachycarpus fortunei*), a Californian nutmeg tree (*Torreya californica*), which is also the second greatest-girthed of its species in Ireland, and a Monterey cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa* 'Lutea') are Irish Height Champions, an urn gum (*Eucalyptus urnigera*), a morinda spruce (*Picea smithiana*), a mountain hemlock (*Hesperopeuce mertensiana*), also the second tallest of its species in Ireland, a fern leaf beech (*Fagus sylvatica* var. *heterophylla*) and a red beech (*Nothofagus fusca*) are all Irish Girth Champions. An urn gum (*Eucalyptus urnigera*) and a Nikko fir (*Abies homolepis*) are the second greatest-girthed of their kind in Ireland and a nootka cypress (*Chamaecyparhes nootkatensis*) second tallest. Other trees classified as Champions are an Algerian fir (*Abies numidica*), a Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) and a Wellingtonia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*). Not all the Forest Service developments were so positive. The 1970s and 1980s saw the most of the Southern Parkland meadows being infilled with conifers, spoiling the planned views across the lake. The Ballymaginughy park meadow on the western shore of the lake was also regrettably infilled at this time. Elsewhere however the inner parkland below the castle and the outer parkland between the axial avenue and the village survived largely intact, though very little was done to ensure continuity in the planting of isolated trees and clumps. A large car park was added to the south side of the Grange Yard and the old back avenue was re-utilised as the exit for vehicles. The south range of the central court of the Grange was substantially re-modelled to provide the Forest Service administration offices and for public toilets, while in the east yard all the ranges were demolished except for the early nineteenth century dovecote (included in the Listing HB 18/12/006). Among the demolished buildings here included the enormous mid-eighteenth century barn, that had been the subject of much comment since the day of Mrs Delany in 1758. The yard today is used for caravan parking in summer, while a 'caravan park' was made by the Forest Service close to the Grange and an unsightly summer 'camp site' nearby. New roads in the demesne included one leading from the Grange to the lake shore, with footpaths beyond to the lake walk. Unfortunately, this latter road has led to the development of a small, but unattractive car park at the east end of the lake. Around this time the lake margins below the castle were stabilised with a not very beautiful stone and concrete edging and with a concrete path above. The castle was also acquired by the Department of Agriculture, NI, in 1967 along with the rest of the demesne. It was left empty and started to deteriorate with dry rot. In 1973 there was a terrorist bomb in the castle which damaged the main staircase; it was apparently believed at the time that troops were about to be billeted there. Fortunately, on the 6th June 1974 the Department of Agriculture signed a fifty year lease (for a small annual rent) of the castle to Cloverley Hall Limited, a religious (Christian) organisation whose central office were based at Cloverley Hall, Whitchurch in Shropshire. It was to be used as a Christian Conference Centre, with

the lessee responsible for maintaining the building and its terraces. Using largely voluntary help, the building was restored (including the main staircase) with grant aid from the Tourist Board and Historic Buildings Council. More recent developments at Castlewella include the building of the 'Peace Maze', which was completed in the summer of 2001. It was supposed to symbolise 'the long path to peace in Northern Ireland' and at the time its yew hedge walls were acclaimed as the world's largest permanent hedge maze. In 2012-13 the terrace glasshouses were restored and more recently conservation work was undertaken on the bothy and potting sheds in the Frame Yard, while conservation work, mostly external, was undertaken on the Outer or West Yard of the Grange. 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 DAERA (Forest Service). House private – Presbyterian Conference Centre.

**CHURCH HILL, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/133
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Ornamental grounds (5.5 acres/2.2ha) associated with gentrified farm house (Listed HB 18/13/003) located in the townland of Carnacaville, 1.45 miles (2.3km) north-west of Newcastle and 2.4 miles (3.8km) south-east of Castlewella. The house, which sits on a hill in a central position facing south-east, is a two-storey long rectangular gable-ended double-pile house with symmetrical front facade, a relatively steeply-pitched roof and rendered chimneystacks whose upper portions are arranged in diamond formation. The carriage drive divides round an oblong plat at the front of the house, much of which was built by James Cunningham in mid-18th century, though like many Irish country houses, it has been added to *ad hoc* in various periods, notably c.1800 and finally in 1920 with a rear extension. The Cunningham family kept the lease on the house until 1842 when sold to a Miss Small and later in the 1870s acquired by Mr. McKnight. In 1910 it was sold to Dr. John Bassett and sold to the present owner's father in 1933, who enlarged and remodeled the house shortly afterwards. The grounds have two blocks of dense deciduous woodland south-east of the house. There are also deciduous shelter belts on the perimeters, along field boundaries and around the tennis courts and ornamental gardens. The views of the Mountains of Mourne, in particular Slieve Croob, make a beautiful backdrop to the south of the gardens. There is also a borrowed view of the sea. The present gardens generally date to about 1923 when it seems that a series of geometrical compartments featuring different plants were laid out south of the house. One compartment of the garden was a rose garden with stone-edged beds and box and there were hydrangea within box edging. A children's garden was also edged with box. The heather garden was replanted in 1990. Inevitably, the garden contained many plants from nearby Slieve Donard Nursery; other material comes from Seaford nursery and Daisy Hill. The vegetable garden has hedges all around it and in the 1990s there was a glass house in a flower garden; this glass house had two vines and it was planned to replace the peach with a verbenaplumbago. The flower garden had irises, tulips, and geraniums. The gates and walling are listed [Listed HB 18/013/003]. Private.

**CROSSGAR HOUSE (TOBAR MHUIRE), County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11)
D/064**

REGISTERED GRADE A

Regency-era parkland (55 acres/22.3ha) on the south-east side of Crossgar village, 5.4 miles (8.7km) south-east of Saintfield. The first house here was built in 1813 by Edward Southwell Trotter (1772-1836), who changed his name to Ruthven in 1800 on account of his claim to be a descendent of the Earls of Gowrie. He was a colourful figure who served as MP for Downpatrick 1806-07, 1830-32 and Dublin 1832-36, and became an adherent of Daniel O'Connell. His house stood on roughly the same location as the present house and from the OS 1834 and a low one and

a half-storey sprawling house with a long main front section facing west, and a longer rear wing of complex plan to the east. The park comprised tree belts along the Downpatrick-road stretching north-east to encompass a kitchen garden on the north and another belt extending to the house enclosing an oval 'lawn' south-west of the house. The avenue swept up to the house from the Downpatrick road, south-west of the house, where there was a gate lodge which survived until the 1930s, although this original avenue was later (post 1860s) replaced by the present avenue which enters the park from the south corner of the property, also off the Downpatrick-road. In addition to building a house and park here, Edward Southwell Ruthven also began to develop the small hamlet set at a crossroads to the north, 'Everogue's Bridge'. Various attempts to re-establish himself in politics lead Ruthven into debt, so in 1823 he sold the whole of the Crossgar property to William Thompson (c.1766-1850), a Downpatrick merchant who having lived in the property until 1835, then leased it. It remained on lease until 1862, when his nephew James Cleland gained possession, who had previously lived at Rubane near Kircubbin which he rebuilt around 1857. Upon receiving Crossgar, he did much the same thing he had done at Rubane, demolishing the old house in 1864 and building a new home, which he then re-named, the new building becoming known as 'Tobar Mhuire' ('Mary's Well'- believed to be sited to the south of the main drive). The new house (Listed HB 14/04/005A), roughly square in plan, is a relatively plain and low, two-storey five-bay Italianate mansion with rendered façade, raised quoins and oversailing slated hipped roof on brackets. The building was deliberately orientated to take advantage of the view of the Mountains of Mourne with the entrance facing south-west. The north façade has a central recessed bay, whilst to the south side there is a modern conservatory extension. To the rear there extends large, but lower, triple-pile service wing which links to a large square stable yard enclosed by two-storey ranges with the large Modern Style chapel of 1960 enclosing the southern side. The western range extends southwards beyond the yard and terminates with a large square three-stage battlemented tower. As work on the house was being undertaken, a new walled garden was being built (1.63 acres/0.66ha) a short distance east of the stable yard. This is rectangular (104m x 63m) with east-west axis with rubble stone walls on the outside, tiles for coping, curved corners except for the northern corner, four entrances with the main entrance to the south-east corner consisting of a cream brick-dressed segmental-headed vehicle gateway with gabled bellcote over. A central path leads to an impressive glass house, the 'Vinery Conservatory', which was added to the garden four or five years later, c.1870. It is 145ft (44m) long and comprises a tall lean-to timber-framed structure, glazed throughout with a central taller section with canted front. It has heating and vents with a tiled floor and iron plant stand and is built onto a tall brick rear wall; backing onto this is a range of lean-to potting sheds with one upper room for bothy accommodation, and a privy. The brick wall against which the glass house is built, continues beyond either end of the glass house to the perimeter stone walls. There is an arch in the brick wall at either end which leads into a frame yard from which there is access to the range of potting sheds. The park was also transformed in 1864-66. A new avenue approach to the house was made to the south of the park and a gate lodge (Listed HB 18/04/021) built around 1875; it is a small single-storey house of basalt with a gable front porch and 1980s extension to the rear. Large areas of woodland were added to the existing parkscape, mainly beech, but some Scots Pine, along the north and east boundary, so that approximately half of the demesne was now covered in trees. The parkland lawn, which extended south-west in front of the house was terraced and given a formal layout of paths with a central path leading down via a sets of steps to a fountain, itself enclosed in a large semi-circular path. Near the house is a pair of fine Wellingtonias and a monkey puzzle with other specimen trees in the lawns further from the house. The lawns are surrounded by an arc of good mixed planting including cedar and yew trees, Portuguese laurel, rhododendron and mature deciduous trees. East of the house, between the out buildings and the walled garden is a raised bed which may have contained ornamental planting. There is a central path which may have been part of a formal approach to the central entrance and path of the walled garden. In the 1990s there were cherry trees against the wall on

the south side. South of the house in the woods is evidence of a fernery or rockery, but no surviving plant material. There is a conservatory at the south of the house. An open area of parkland to the west of the house within the tree belts evidently once had a lake; now gone and replaced by sport's fields. James Cleland died in 1875 and as none of the children married, so on the death of James Cleland Jnr. in 1925, the property passed to their cousins, the Sterling family, who sold it in c.1930 to William McCalla, a Belfast shipping agent. For part of WWII the house and grounds were occupied by Allied troops and Nissen huts erected on the lawns. After the War Tobar Mhuire was bought by a Mr. McDowell, who sold it soon afterwards to Lt. Col. Llewellyn Palmer, from whom the present owners, The Passionist Order, acquired it in 1949. The Order initially used premises for teaching, and the outbuildings were adapted for this purpose, with a chapel added (William Brady, architect) to the site in 1960. Teaching on the site ceased in 1980 and since then it has become a resource centre 'for spiritual, social and psychological help. The walled garden seems to have fallen out of use around this time and the conservatory and sheds became derelict. The garden was leased (30 years) to the Ulster Wildlife Trust in 1986 who shortly afterwards established a natural 'wild garden' within it and restored the buildings for use as offices, exhibition and conference space and a café. The glass house was also restored and the whole garden opened to the public in 1991. SMR DOWN 30:23 St Mary's Well. House private (Passionist Monastery) Walled garden UWT – open to the public.

**DELAMONT, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/016
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Regency-period parkland (206 acres/83ha) on the shore of Strangford Lough, 1.5 miles (2.5km) south-west of Killyleagh and 3.9 miles (6.3km) north-east of Downpatrick. The demesne, which is walled along the Downpatrick road, consists of drumlins and the house (HB 18/04/016) stands in a central position on a hill facing eastwards towards the Lough. The property has early 17th-century origins and is depicted on Thomas Raven's picture map of 1625, which shows a straight avenue leading to a not insubstantial one and a half-storey residence apparently on top of a drumlin, with mature trees and deer. A 1688 rental of the Hamilton estate shows that the Mullagh had been then leased to a Jonathan Sumers and appears to have remained tenanted until 1733, when it was sold to a Thomas Delahay (d.1747), his name being an obvious play upon his surname, giving his property a new title, 'Delamont', a move which suggests he probably built a new house. In 1793 it was sold to David Gordon (1759-1837), who inherited Florida Manor on the death of his elder brother in 1797. It is evident that David Gordon rebuilt Delamont house around 1793-95, as his father appears to have done at Florida Manor. His house is shown on the six-inch OS map of 1834 as a large, roughly U-shaped building. The woodland he planted around the house, largely beech and chestnut is still in place and covers about 12 acres (5ha). He also planted tree belts, mostly beech, along the Downpatrick-road north and south of the entrance. He kept the old, probably 17th century straight avenue approach, now disused, but added a gate lodge opposite these entrance gates, probably in the 1820s; this lodge is a small, relatively plain single-storey dwelling, originally rectangular in plan, but extended to the rear in recent years. The gate screen opposite is relatively unfussy with six low square stone piers with incised panels to the shafts and pyramidal caps, iron carriage gates with spear heads, flanking pedestrian gates and sweeping quadrant railings rising from low stone walls. Within the newly planted woods south-east of the house (today mostly larch and Scots Pine) stands a platform rath, 27m diameter on the drumlin summit (SMR7/DOW031:027) and appears to have been used as a garden feature; later it supported a water tank for the house. East of the house David Gordon also planted the 'Nut Wood' (1.2 acres/0.5ha). After his death in 1837, Delamont was inherited by his younger son, Rev. James Crawford Gordon (1796-1867), who remodelled and extended the house around 1840 in a Tudoresque manner. In 1841 he also added new farm buildings south-west of the house. The latter comprised a large two storey stable yard arranged around a roughly square courtyard; these ranges have been much altered in recent years with the block to the north converted to

offices, with that to the south apparently housing recreational facilities. East of the house the Rev. James made extensive formal grassed terraces with sets of steps; the brick piers are 20th century addition; these impressive terraces offered good views of the demesne and lough. He also added a new approach avenue south of the existing and built a gate lodge (Listed HB 18/04/017) around 1840; this is a symmetrical Tudoresque gabled house with central entrance with a steep gable on corbels. He also added to the planting, putting down isolated parkland trees tree blocks north and south of the demesne, but most notably planting the Kinnegar Wood south-east of the house along the lough shore. In this wood today are Corsican pine trees and one of the largest heronries in Ireland with a nearby bird hide sponsored by Esso. The Rev James Gordon, who later in life also inherited Florida Manor, died childless in 1867, leaving both Delamont and Florida Manor to a cousin, Robert Francis Gordon (1802-83), who never married and in turn left Delamont to a nephew Alexander Hamilton Miller Haven Gordon (1842-1910), while Florida Manor went to another nephew. Further improvements to the house were undertaken at Delamont by Robert Francis Gordon in the 1870s and it appears that the 'Long Walk' extending from the Downpatrick-road north-south to the house area, was laid down at this time; it is planted with beech. Some additional woodlands were also made by him, notable the Mullagh Plantation to the west of the Downpatrick-road and some additional planting each side of the Nut Wood east of the house. The walled garden (2.05 acres/0.83ha), originally built in the 1840s adjacent to the south side of the new avenue, was completely rebuilt around 1880 as a square area with the main axis path running north-south through the centre. It had a slip on the south side and a very narrow slip along its east side; its walls were of stone but brick-lined on the inside of the north wall. It has splendid brick terracing on its east side and until c.2000 had a lean-to glass house in the north-east corner which in the 1990s had vines. At that time there was also a square, free-standing glasshouse near the centre of the north wall, which may have been the peach house. There were 2 cordylines near the peach house. North-east of the garden a small orchard was made at the same time as the walled garden, its trees (apples) are still in place. In the 1920s the property belonged to Alexander Robert Gisborne Gordon (1882-1967), Sir Alexander from 1964), who sat as MP for East Down in the NI Parliament from 1929 to 1949 and a Senator from 1951 until 1964. He made extensive alterations to the house in the 1930s demolishing sixteen servant's rooms to the rear and removing a glazed porch; the subsequent owner Archibald Arundel Pugh (d.1995) again altered and remodelled the house into what one contemporary commentator described as a 'dog's dinner'. During the later 1970s plans were approved for the development of the site as a hotel complex, with marina, golf course and other leisure facilities, but these were fortunately not followed up, although the house was used for a time as a restaurant and for private functions. In 1985 the property was sold to the Belfast Education and Library Board, who opened the house as an outdoor education centre in 1987. Currently the demesne is in joint ownership of the BELB and Down District Council; the Board retain the house and the adjoining outbuildings, while the council manage most of the grounds, which was officially opened as Delamont County Park in 1992. The previous year, 1991, the walled garden was leased by the late John Cushnie who planted a rose garden and had plans to make a maze in the centre of the garden and various compartments each featuring a different type of garden. In the 1990s a new breach had been made in the wall, there were new stone-edged paths, a nursery, plant centre and tea room; his venture however subsequently closed and the garden is presently under grass. The council made a caravan and camp site north of the house, a miniature railway and children's play area and car park north—north-west of the house, and various paths laid out. The Long Walk pedestrian entrance became the main entrance while the old service entrance is blocked. SMR: DOWN 31:27 enclosure. The site is Delamont Country Park is open to the public. House private for Belfast Education & Library Board.

DERRYMORE HOUSE AND THE WOODHOUSE, County Armagh (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) A/013 & A/024

REGISTERED GRADE A

Late Georgian part-walled small landscape park 112.6 acres/45.6ha) with gentleman's *cottage orné* residence of c.1784 (Listed HB 16/23/010) flanking the south-east side of Bessbrook and lying 2.1 miles (3.35km) north-west of Newry; a mid-Victorian house of 1863 (Listed HB 16/23/013) with its own gate lodge occupies the north end of the park. The park was designed by the celebrated landscape gardener, John Sutherland (1745-1826) for the prominent politician Isaac Cory MP (1753-1813), while it is likely the house was also designed by Sutherland, who also practiced as an architect. The lands here, which were originally part of the patrimony of the O'Hanlons, Lord of Orion, were acquired around 1607 by Arthur Bagnall and in 1715/6 were inherited by the Needham family, later Earls of Kilmorey. The Needhams also inherited most of Newry, but the estate was neglected, encouraging interlopers, notably the Corrys, who were among the town's most successful merchant families. Edward Corry MP (1723-1792) and his son Isaac Corry MP (1753-1813), who became a Needham agent, jointly acquired Derrymore and other lands from George Needham on 22 July 1767 (£1.665) and in 1771 father and son agreed to partition these lands, including Derrymore. In 1776 Edward Corry stood down as MP for Newry in favour of his son, Isaac and this is the date that many in the past have claimed Derrymore was built. However, this is not correct; no house is marked on Taylor's and Skinner's road maps of 1777 and 1783 and although not mentioned either in Wilson's *Post Chaise Companion* of 1786, it was clearly present by late 1785 when Dr. William Drennan specifically mentions that Isaac Corry had built 'a wondrous neat little cottage about a mile from this town [Newry]...a place that you stumble upon unexpectedly, and makes you cry Ha! Ha! Ha!'; this points to a date in early 1785 or late 1784. The *cottage orné* tradition, very much part of the Picturesque Movement in Ireland, is usually associated with much smaller ornamental buildings built in remote spots of parklands for use of picnics or parties, but there were also a number of gentlemen's seats built in the same tradition; of these, all have now disappeared, or been substantially altered, save for Derrymore, which can be correctly called a unique survival. It is a U-shaped single-storey building, with a largely concealed basement, lime-washed roughcast walls, an overhanging thatched roof, and mainly flat-arched 'Georgian'-paned sash windows, with a curious pair of small gothick-style quatrefoil windows to the south end. It's remarkable survival is largely due to the fact that from the 1850s it belonged to the Richardsons, the owners of nearby Bessbrook mill, who never lived in the house, preferring instead to build themselves a new house, Woodhouse, at the north end of the park. Besides, Derrymore was itself never intended as a country house, but rather a casino or lodge for seasonal use, as is indicated by Sir Coote's comment (in 1803) that it was 'without exception the most elegant summer lodge I have ever seen'. Coote also approved of the surrounding designed landscape, remarking on the 'very fine improvements' at Derrymore, which in his opinion showed 'the correct and elegant taste of Mr Sutherland, who planned them and supervised their execution'. He also noted that the 'young plantations already display a fine appearance of wood, the approaches are extremely well planned'. An advert dated 1810 stated that 'the late Isaac Corry' had 'expended a great sum' on the grounds and 'judiciously planted about 100,000 trees'. This earliest known depiction of the park is the first edition OS map of the 1830s; this shows that the Sutherland parkscape was enclosed by regular narrow perimeter belts which follow the natural contours, with the house, positioned centrally on an elevated flat terrace, surrounded by wide expansive lawns, dotted with isolated trees and commanding fine views of the Mourne Mountains beyond. The smooth lines of the park were skilfully retained by concealing an escarpment by carefully positioned woodland belts dividing the low and high ground, while clumps/screens hide from view the yard and kitchen garden, the house itself being surrounded entirely by open lawns, giving the impression the landscape was much larger than it really was. The main vistas from the house were to the north-west from the entrance and to the east and south; unfortunately, the critical vista north and north-west from the entrance was lost

in the late 19th century when tree screens were planted blocking the views, partly because a small quarry (now filled with water) was made here at the time. The entrance drive off the Camlough-road following the same route today, open each side, as it crossed the lawns, and past the house, and extending into the large woodland that Isaac Corry planted in the north end of the park. Roughly 135m to the south-west of the house and carefully screened from view is the service yard - a small collection of outbuildings arranged around three sides of two courts, with the remaining (eastern) side of each court enclosed by a rubble wall with gateway. The south and west side of the north yard are evidently contemporary with Corry's yard, which in 1807 had 'stalls for 13 horses and standing for 4 carriages'; the rest of the yard complex is later 19th-century when the yard had become separate from the house, with the former in the hands of Robert Glenny, the owner of Derrymore Mill, situated to the north-east of the demesne. In 1881 the outbuildings were leased by the Glenny family to the 'Bessbrook Granite Company Ltd.', who appear to have added the buildings surrounding the southern yard. This company gave up the lease in around 1891, possibly due to bankruptcy, and it was taken up by the Richardsons, who appear to have subsequently acquired the freehold, reuniting the yard buildings with the house once again. How often Isaac Corry used his 'elegant summer lodge' is not clear. His mother Catherine Bristow (1731-1818) was recorded as living in 'Derramore' in 1796, which is perhaps not surprising; Isaac was unmarried and his father had died in 1792. As Isaac's career advanced, becoming Equerry to the Duke of Cumberland (1782-9); Education Commissioner 1788; Surveyor-General of the Ordnance (1788-1802); Surveyor General of Land (1788 for life) and Chancellor of the Exchequer (1799-1804), among other posts, it is likely he did not have a lot of time to spend in Derrymore. He did however welcome prominent guests here such as James Caulfield, the 1st Earl of Charlemont (1734-1799) and the Chief Secretary of Ireland, Robert Stewart, Viscount Castlereagh (1769-1822), the latter being his friend from their school days at the Royal School, Armagh. Castlereagh would visit his friend at Derrymore on his way to and from Dublin to Mount Stewart and it is said, probably with good justification, that the basis of the Act of Union (1801) was drawn up during these visits in the big drawing-room at Derrymore, known sometimes for that reason as 'The Treaty Room'. In August 1800, a few weeks after the Act of Union was passed, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces, Charles, 1st Marquess Cornwallis (1738-1805) stayed at Derrymore for two or three days, during his northern 'excursion'. However, Isaac Corry was elected MP for Newport in the Isle of Wight in 1806, and this, plus financial and health issues, made him decide that he no longer needed Derrymore, which was advertised to be let with '100 acres including plantations, some older and some 15 years flourishing growth' in the newspapers (*Belfast Commercial Chronicle*). There were no takers so in June 1810 it was offered for sale with 300 acres and bought by Lieutenant-Colonel (later Sir) William Young of Bailieborough, who acquired the whole demesne for £10,500 and 'spared no expense in rendering the house and offices commodious' (Isaac Corry himself died in his house in Merrion Square in 1813). Among Young's improvements before 1810 was the building of the square walled kitchen garden (1.38 acres/0.56ha) with stone walls and internal brick lining, replacing what was probably a hedged enclosure; the walled garden was surrounded by a substantial slip garden on all sides, though by the end of the 19th century these had been reduced to narrow slips, with only the roadside slip surviving as a useable area and served as the frame yard; the gardener's house ('Hortus Lodge') in the south-east corner of the garden, close to the entrance gates, was built around 1880 (Listed HB 16/23/008); it is a 1½-storey building of rock-faced local Newry granodiorite with brick dressing. Colonel Young may have been investing in Derrymore in the hope of selling it relatively quickly for a profit, as he put it on the market in September 1813. Unable to dispose of the property, it was re-advertised for sale or let in January 1815, and again in August 1825, with Young only finally managing to sell it in 1828- to a Newry merchant named Edward Smyth. It appears was Edward Smyth or his son Isaac who added the entrance hall to the house at the north end of the house, shown in place on the first edition OS map. By the late 1850s, it was in the hands of John and Henry Smyth, and up for sale once again, a

newspaper advertisement telling us that there were 'numerous and very capacious' reception rooms, a 'basement storey comprising a large suite of servants' apartments and a large and well proportioned entrance hall opening into a greenhouse and vinery'; the house retained a greenhouse within its central area until the 1950s. The house was bought in a public auction, 15th February, 1859, by John Grubb Richardson (1815-1890), the owner of nearby Bessbrook mill, whose father James Nicholson Richardson (1782-1847) of Glenmore had founded the firm which came to Bessbrook in 1845 taking over the Nicholson mills there. He afterwards built himself a new residence, the Woodhouse with associated gardens to the north and in 1864 a Friend's Meeting house nearby in the woods (see below). By this time the Derrymore-road had been built along the east side of the park, providing better access between the new town of Bessbrook and the Camlough-road. This reduced the size of the original park as originally it was intended to extent east to the Bessbrook-river, whose banks Sutherland had planted; today this plantation survives but is surrounded by housing estates. An entrance into the park was made off this new road beside the walled garden and eventually, probably around 1880, a gate lodge added (Listed HB 16/23/009), known as 'Rose cottage'; this is a single-storey three-bay house of Newry granodiorite. Derrymore house itself was split by the Richardsons into two separate residences with the intension of leasing them out; one section comprised the East Wing, much of the hall and an attached portion within what is now the open central yard. The other half of the house comprised the West Wing, the Treaty Room and most of the additions in what is now the yard. In the early 1860s George Bell and Alex Pringle are listed as the tenants with Bell occupying the eastern section; he was replaced by a Dr Lightburn in 1868, followed by Robert Johnston, another doctor, in 1870, and Edmonde M. Reynolds in 1883, whilst Alex Pringle occupied the neighbouring property until 1897. After this the latter remained vacant until 1904 when Wakefield Richardson is recorded as the occupant; in the same year Mrs. M. Reynolds is noted as living in the other half of the building. By 1913 the house was reported to be in 'a bad state of repair...falling to pieces', that it was 'a great loss to the owner...[and]...would have been pulled down but for its historic associations'. Mrs Reynolds was still there in 1929, with Annie Rodgers next door. The house remained in the ownership of John Grubb Richardson's daughter, Mrs Ethel [or Edith] Williams, and tenanted, until 1952, when both it and the demesne were offered to the National Trust in 1949. At that time the park was still suffering from the after effects of having been occupied by British and US army troops during the war. The park south and east of the house had been used for Nissen huts; parkland trees had been felled and concrete bases remained in what was always poor soil. A pond was made in the quarry where stone was used for local building. The demesne hosted the US Army Quartermaster Depot Q111-D (23 November 1943-August 1944). Today there are still substantial traces of army concrete tracks and Nissen bases in the area south of the walled garden. In 1952 the offer from John Richardson was formally accepted with forty-three acres of parkland. At that time what is now landscaped open space between the three wings was almost entirely filled with various additions, as well as the porch extension to the north end. After taking possession, the Trust demolished all of the additions, including the porch section, returning the building to what is believed to be its original late 18th century form. The house was officially opened to the public by Lady Margaret Wakehurst, wife of the Governor of Northern Ireland, in June 1957. It was cared for subsequently by Edmund Baillie and his two sisters and during their time the house was the victim of several bomb attacks in the 1970, on each occasion the damage being restored., and it is believed that most -if not all- of the original roof structure has been replaced. The National Trust had acquired Derrymore in 1952 as a gift from John. S.W. Richardson; the Richardson family however retained most of the property as they continued to occupy The Woodhouse at the north end of the park. This house, lying just over half a kilometre north north-west of Derrymore House itself is a large, irregular, picturesque building, two-storey but with varying roof levels and a profusion of gables of differing sizes, all sporting bargeboards and decorative tie-beams (Listed HB 16/23/013). The recent extension, whose form and detailing echoes the original, lies to the east, linking to it via a single-storey conservatory. It had been built

by John Grubb Richardson in 1860-61 and extended in 1878, when a large, taller double-pile section to the south was added, resulting in a doubling of the size of the building; the architect remains unknown. No doubt it was at this time that the house took on the decorative timberwork to the gables, these features much more in keeping with the later 1870s than the early 1860s. Shortly after the extension was complete, a green house was constructed to the eastern side. Two gate lodges were built to service the new house; one south of the house off High-street, Bessborough; the other off the Derrymore -road north of the house; the latter (Listed HB 16/23/004) built around 1880 is a three-bay 1½storey gabled building with stone walls and brick dressings, believed by Dean to be by the Quaker architect, Thomas Jackson. The accompanying gate screen has relatively short, square rock-faced granite piers with timber 'portcullis' carriage and pedestrian gates. In 1864 the Richardson's built a large Quaker meeting house in secluded surroundings less than 120m east of the Woodhouse. A large two-storey building, it is of irregular plan, consisting largely of a T-shaped gable-ended hall-like section with a slightly lower hipped-roof house-like block to the north-west corner, all with squared granite walls with rock-faced quoins and plinth and segmental-headed openings with brick dressings. John Grubb Richardson and his second wife (1853), Jane Wakefield of Moyallon, were keen gardeners, so perhaps not surprisingly, the natural rock outcrops around the house were developed into what were considered at the time outstanding rock gardens with a wide selection of plants. A flight of steps up over the rockery led towards a landscape rath (SMR7 ARM26: 007), which has been landscaped to form a secluded garden with a summer house and 'Wishing Chair', added to the decorations. The garden is a level roughly circular lawn enclosed by a low bank (there is no fosse) into which the Wishing Chair, a seat made of stones, has been inserted; a path lead out to the north-west. The entrance to the south passes through a pointed arch passage flanked each side by stone and boulders, probably originally used as a rockery. The rath is enclosed by woodland and additional planting of trees and shrubs made on its banks. In the 1940s there was a tennis court within the enclosure. Outside the rath runs the avenue connecting the Woodhouse and Derrymore, flanked by large stones linked by chains set on the grass verge; formerly the stones were painted white and the chains black. A rustic arch announced the path through the woods to Derrymore. These woods, largely planted by Sutherland, comprise oak, beech, larch, and some sycamores, but in the later 19th century the Richardsons added exotic planting, whilst also adding laurel, holly and rhododendrons. They also planted exotics elsewhere in the demesne, notably beside the walled garden where now stand two large Wellingtonias. A network of curving paths was created throughout the woodland. The Scots pines at the perimeter in the east were planted to hide Derramore Terrace. There were glasshouses and frames in the working quarters, where rustic stone buildings remain, one of which was decorated with false stalactites. Following his death in 1891, the Woodhouse and the rest of the Derrymore property passed to his twin daughters, Mrs Edith Williams (1859-1953) and Miss Anne Richardson (1859-1942). With the death of John Richardson on 21st December 1985, the residue of the Derrymore estate was left to the trust under his will; the gift included the Woodhouse and 30 acres of woodland. After this the house lay vacant, in large measure due the presence of an army helicopter landing station very close to it, making it difficult to let because of the constant noise. It was subject to theft and vandalism, and in the end burnt to the ground. The Woodhouse lay in ruins for several years and was then renovated by the South Ulster Housing Trust, who now own it, and subdivided for private housing with an adjacent car park on what was formerly lawn. SMR: ARM 26:7 enclosure/rath. Derrymore National Trust with public access. The Woodhouse is private.

**DROMANTINE HOUSE, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/082
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Late Georgian partly walled landscape park (327.2 acres/134.4ha) with a Regency-era house remodelled in 1861 (Listed HB 16/21/001), located above a large lake (11.4 acres/4.6ha) in a beautiful situation in undulating drumlin country, 6 miles (9.7km) north of Newry and 4 miles

(6.37km) south-west of Loughbrickland. In common with nearby Drumbanagher just across the Bann to the west, Dromantine has long been noted for its oak woodlands, some of which predates 18th and 19th-century park planting. In late medieval times the land here formed part of Magennis territory, which the clan managed to retain until forfeited due to participation in the 1641 Rebellion. The townland, then known as 'Ballydromintighan' formed part of the 'Manor of Glynwood (Glyn)', notorious as the site of a massacre in 1641, was granted in 1662 to Sir Hans Hamilton (d.1681), of Hamiltonsbawn, Co. Armagh, who rented it to a tenant, William Lucas, well known in his own day as the man who, acting on a warrant from the Lord deputy, the Duke of Ormonde, organised the assassination of the notorious rapparee, Redmond Count O'Hanlon. After Sir Hans' death in 1681 the property passed to his daughter Sarah, and her husband, Sir Robert Hamilton. At some point around 1736-40 the estate was purchased under the terms of the will of Joseph Innes of Belfast (d.1736), for his nephew, William Innes (d.1785), then a minor; the Innes family were of Scottish descent from Fife. The house was depicted by Harris on his 1744 Map of County Down, and later also depicted on Kennedy's 1755 map of the county, indicating the dwelling here was of some significance. On both maps the house is surrounded by woodland, more likely to be a late medieval wood survival than any plantation; this proposition is supported by the sale in late 1807/early 1808 of '2,000 oak and ash' from the 'Dromantine woods' with the timber being 'particularly worth the attention of ship builders', thus suggesting large trees of a century of more in age. By that stage Arthur Innes (d.1820) had inherited the property from his elder brother Charles Brice Innes, who died unmarried in 1804. It is believed (but supporting documentation is difficult to find) that the core of the present house was built by Arthur in 1806, two years after he had inherited. This was a large two-storey Neo-Classical house replacing the earlier dwellings that stood on the same site; it now forms the north part of the house. The parkland was evidently remodelled for the house and the extensive tree felling in 1807/08 may have been part of this process; this park is shown on Williamston's 1810 Map of County Down, complete with its artificial lake, whose water level is controlled by a 'hydraulic ram', as marked on the 1834 OS map; on the subsequent 1860 map this is marked 'tank'. However, at some stage after 1810, but before 1834, most likely around 1815-20, the park at Dromantine was completely remodelled and assumed its present layout; indeed the park layout has changed remarkably little in its entirety from its depiction on the 1834 OS map. The park that was shown on the earlier 1810 Williamson map had three entrances with drives to the house, none of which survived this later c.1815-20 remodelling. The c.1815-20 remodelling saw the public roads around the park re-aligned; the Dromantine-road which borders the park on the west side was straightened, while the Glen-road, which ran just south of the lake to the cross-roads at Glen Bridge was moved further south its present course, allowing the park to extend considerably by adding 154 acres (63ha) - part of this old road still survives as a demesne trackway giving access to Kilracken wood. None of the entrances shown on Williamson's 1810 map survived the re-modelling; on the 1810 map one of the main avenues to the house came off the Glen-road just south-west of the Pound Wood rath; another avenue entered the park from the south-west at the former Dromantine-Glen road junction and the third entrance lay just south of the walled garden, off the Dromantine-road. With the extension of the park to the south and the remodelling of the whole park c.1815-20, a new entrance was made west of the house and north of the walled garden leading onto a long sinuous woodland drive that brought the visitor to the house lawn and lake; in the 1850s this entrance was moved a short distance south to its present position and given a gate lodge. The main entrance, which remains the main entrance today, was made in Ballyblagh Townland in the new part of the park to the south-east of the lake, off the newly re-aligned Glen-road. This south-east entrance gave access, and still gives access, to the main drive, or rather drives, as the drives forks into two - one that sweeps around the lake on the east and the other around the lake to the west. The front lawn, being the open park meadow between the house and the lake, was originally 21 acres (8.5ha), but was reduced by a few acres on the north-east after the house was enlarged in 1860-61; the lawn was originally decorated with isolated parkland trees. The main

woodland blocks of the park were, and still are today, lying to the east and west of the house. To the north of these large woodland blocks and this inside a regular perimeter belt along the north boundary of the park, is a very large lawn or meadow, nearly a mile long and around 350m average width; this long lawn keeps its outline exactly as it was in the 1830s, though today it is subdivided to four fields, rather than one continuous meadow. The open turf south of the lake, the far lawn, was also designed as an open space that has remained unaltered, save for the absence of isolated parkland trees which once decorated this open space; this lawn was extended south in the 1860s to the cross roads between the Dromantine and Glen-road and is an important part of the parkland setting; one of the late 19th century approach drives into the park passed through this meadow, entering opposite the estate school-house. A 'decoy' marked on the 1834 OS map south-west of the lake seems to have already been abandoned by the 1830s; it would originally have comprised a central pond with projecting 'pipes', usually four, for trapping teal, mallard and other ducks; it is probably late 18th century in date, but could be earlier. To the immediate north of the house is what was originally the stable yard; this is square in plan and fully enclosed by two-storey hipped roof wings linked in the form of a quadrangle. Shown on the 1834 six-inch OS map and probably built for the house of 1806, the buildings were renovated in 2004 to provide additional conference rooms and facilities, with a corridor – the "African Link" – constructed at this time to join this section to the main conference centre. The builder of the house and park, Arthur Innes, died in 1828 and the property was inherited by his son and heir, Arthur Innes II, who married (1829) Mary Jervis, elder daughter of Admiral Wolseley of Rostrevor. However, Arthur died young in 1835 leaving his wife and infant son, Arthur Charles Innes (Cross), MP (1834-1902). His death was followed by an auction of his farming stock, cattle and farming implements as well as his carriage and horses and the demesne was let for grazing, and seemed to remain in mothballs until Arthur Charles Innes came of age in 1855. He subsequently embarked on new building projects; one of these appears to have been the kitchen garden, which lies in woodland south-west of the house. The original garden here was evidently enclosed with hedges, but a new smaller walled garden was created in its place; this occupies a square area (1.55 acres/0.63ha), enclosed by stone walls with brick-lining on the inside; there were narrow slips on its south and east sides and glasshouses along its south wall, some foundations of this still remain. Today the area is largely grass, but it was still kept up as a garden until the 1970s; subsequently it was used for pheasant rearing. In February 1857 Arthur Charles Innes announced that he required 'certain additions to his mansion' and engaged John Ramsay, the resident engineer of the Newry Navigation Company, to draw up plans. Later that year (July) one of the stable yard ranges burnt down, perhaps delaying the house project, because having sought contractors for the Ramsay scheme, he engaged the Dublin architect John McCurdy (1824-1885) to draw up another scheme for the house. The following years McCurdy drew up a second much grander scheme on Italianate palazzo lines; then in August 1860 Arthur Innes and his wife set off for Paris and were 'not expected to return until the extensive new building now in course of erection is completed'. The house of 1860-61 forms the southern corner of the present building. It has a cut-stone façade embellished with stone hoods and triangular and segmental pediments above the openings, raised quoins and a balustraded parapet that obscures the hipped roof. The front faces roughly south and what was a side wing faces roughly west. Both these faces are symmetrical with the nine-openings wide frontage having a broad five-openings wide central section which breaks forward slightly, with the openings to the ground floor of this set within semicircular-headed recesses and separated by pilasters which rise to a balcony-like sill course whose piers are topped with urns. The south-western face, meanwhile, has a recessed central portion whose ground floor is in the form of an arcade with detailing similar to that surrounding the central openings to the south-eastern side. Terracing were added at the house, now in lawns and a decorative fountain, which remains, added in the 20th-century. North and north-east of the house, mixed with the hardwoods, a modest arboretum was made; these gardens are mentioned in the *Garden Annual & Almanac* of 1908. Arthur's wife, Edith Clara Brabazon, died young in 1866

and he married secondly Jane Beauchamp Cross of Dartan in 1887 and assumed her name by Royal Licence. During his time at Dromantine Arthur devoted himself to agricultural improvement; successfully breeding prize cattle and managing the woods by advertising public auctions of timber two or three times every year, usually selling 'a large quantity of pit wood, ash, alder, oak and birch and small larch suitable for fencing'; other times the sales comprised 'Larch, Scotch, Ash and Oak and other varieties, suitable for Railways, Carpenters and Pit wood, together with large quantities of hazel, firkin hoops and rods'. On his death he was succeeded by his eldest son Arthur Charles Wolseley Innes-Cross (1888-1940), who sold off much of the estate around 1909. In 1911 he advertised a 'great unreserved clearance sale' of all horses, livestock, farm implements. The house and demesne were acquired by the Society of African Missions (SMA) in 1926 for use as a seminary. In the mid-1930s, mainly to accommodate students, both frontages of the house were extended in much the same style, with the long extension ('St. Brendan's wing') added to the north end of the west front completed in 1935, and the large chapel built at the end of this in 1937. Several years before this, the large three-storey block ('St. Patrick's wing') was erected to the east, with three-storey dormitory ('St. Colman's wing') attached to the south of this in the later 1950s, and an assembly / lecture hall built to the east. The seminary closed in 1972 and the buildings are now used by the SMA as a retreat and conference centre. A major renovation scheme was carried out to the whole building between 1996 and 2001. SMR: DOWN 40:21 rath, 40:22 enclosure, 40:38 feature & 40:48 circular enclosure. Access for Dromantine College. Private.

**DRUMBANAGHER, County Armagh (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) A/014
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Early Victorian walled landscape park (405 acres/164.3ha) incorporating ancient woodland and occupying undulating ground around the site of a series of different houses (now lost), lying 1.74 miles (2.9km) south-west of Poynt Pass and 6.9 miles (11km) north-west-north of Newry. The last mansion on the site, a large and magnificent pile designed by Edinburgh architect William Playfair, was demolished by its owner in 1951, but the present Picturesque-style park layout has survived remarkably well in the subsequent decades and also incorporates earlier designed landscape features, notably an early 18th-century ornamental canal, associated with earlier residences on the site. The demesne has origins going back to the Plantation, when the 'Manor of Knockduffe', estimated to be around 1,000 acres in Orior, was granted in 1610 to the servitor, Sir Garret Moore of Melifont, Co. Louth (1564-1627), 1st Viscount Moore of Drogheda. In the townland of Knockbodan, where Drumbanagher house was located, Moore had built by 1619 'a Bawne of Lime and Stone, very near 100 feet square, with two Flankers'. The 1622 survey tells us that one of the flankers had 'a good strong house of stone, 20 foot square, 3 stories high...the gates of this Bawne are fitt to be made stronger'. This building, which was later occupied by Garret's son Arthur (1604-35) was evidently destroyed in the 1641 rebellion. It may have been located closer to the Skegatillida townland boundary, where there is a stream, west of south-west of the site of the former Drumbanagher House; this is given some support by the fact that Robert Bell's map of 1813 shows what appears to be a large square-shaped earthworks, marked 'Rampert' south-west of the house site on the boundary with Skegatillida townland. Following the 1640s the site appears to have been abandoned for a time; the 1664 hearth money has no house here over a single hearth. However, sometime prior to 1680, Arthur Moore's son, John (d.1680) is recorded as being of 'Drumbanagher' as was his eldest son, Henry Moore (d.1697) and following his early death, his younger brother John Moore, MP (1675-1752). Their modest house, presumably built in the 1670s or late 1660s, is depicted on the southern section of Nevill's 'Map of the Glan Bogg' dated 1703 and shown as a one and a half-storey gabled and dormered dwelling with a lower, probably single-storey, section to one side. It is labelled 'Mr. Moore' and 'Drumbanagher' rather than 'Knockbodan'. The name 'Knockbodan' is however used on the 1760 Rocque County Armagh map, where the dwelling is depicted as a series of building in a square. Significantly, the Rocque

map shows very extensive woodlands covering much of what is now the landscape park, that is to say, much of Knockbodan and Skegatillida, but also Carrickback, the adjacent townland to the west, which is not in the park today; these woodlands were very likely rare survivals of pre-Plantation forests. Known at the time as the 'Great Wood of Drumbanagher', it was advertised for sale in April 1755 by Henry William Moore, MP (1725-62), after he succeeded to the property from his father John Moore in 1752. The 1755 sale advertisement was for '350 acres of fully grown oak, ash, birch, alder and hazel' lying 'on both sides of the canal', the latter comment no doubt included to encourage potential purchasers that they could transport the timber relatively easily using the newly built canal. In the event, the woods were not sold until April 1777, when Henry William's son, John Moore MP (1726-1806), who inherited in 1762, successfully advertised the timber with announcements in the papers for October and November that same year noting that felling was then taking place at Drumbanagher 'by retail'. Subsequent maps show that not all the timber in the demesne was evidently felled; the 'Knockbodan wood' east of the house (18 acres); Hare Park Wood (31 acres) and Minnise's Bank wood (14 acres) to the north-west of the stable yard are shown on the Robert Bell's demesne map of 1810; in addition many elements of the later parkland were in place by this time, including the perimeter belts along the south side of Skegatillida and much of the planting in Demoan townland, north of a large rectangular mill pond or basin (5.6 acres/2.26) that is also shown on Rocque's 1760 map and survived until the 1840s. The 1810 map shows elements of the early 18th-century formal landscape about which little is known, except that a formal long rectangular canal, marked 'Fish Pond' on the 1810 map, and shown on the 1830s and later OS map editions, lying south-east of the 1820s mansion, is clearly a relic of this early landscape; it has a length of 387 ft (118m) by 100ft (30.5m) and covers 0.87 acres (0.35ha) - a small island in the centre is possibly a later addition. The axis and location of the canal would suggest that the original house was probably located immediately west of the canal and probably was symmetrical to it. This canal still survives, but has become overgrown in the later 20th-century. As far as is currently known, no good illustration of the early house has survived; the most useful document regarding this is an estate map of 1784, on which there is a naïve sketch of a house of a distinctly early to mid Georgian form, two or perhaps three-storeys in height; it is probably the same building which Coote describes as 'a very excellent mansion house' in 1802. Bell's 1810 map was commissioned by John Moore, MP (1756-1834) after he succeeded to the family estates, then around 4,000 acres, from his father in 1809. Two years earlier, in 1807, Moore had gone into banking having been inspired by other banking successes at that time. Unfortunately, his bank, Moore, Macon and Foxall, based in Newry, crashed in 1817 leaving Moore ruined. Drumbanagher was accordingly placed on the market to be sold by public auction in May 1817, but not sold until April 1818 (in lots). Moore received £95,000 in total, which cleared his debts; he subsequently retreated to Fort Stewart, Co. Donegal, but sadly was never to visit Drumbanagher again. The demesne, including townlands of Knockbodan, Skegatillida, Carrickback and Demoan, an area of 1,081 acres was sold for £39,000 to Colonel Maxwell Close (1783-1867), the son of the Rev Samuel Close (1749-1817) of Elm Park, Co. Armagh, a family of Yorkshire origin. The sale notice of May 1817 refers to 'The mansion houses and offices' being 'superior to any in the county', while sales notices state 'the furniture of the house' would be sold separately. Unfortunately, the house was burnt down in 1820, so consequently Maxwell Close had to remain living at Elm Park and is consistently referred to as being 'of Elm Park' until the 1830s. In March 1820 in Bath Maxwell Close married Anna Elizabeth, sister of Charles Brownlow, later 1st Baron Lurgan. This marriage was significant for the future of Drumbanagher as Charles Brownlow was on friendly terms with William H. Playfair of Edinburgh (1790-1857), the leading Scottish architect, whose career had started in 1818 when he was commissioned to lay out Calton Hill. In 1833 he was commissioned to enlarge Brownlow House, County Armagh, for Charles Brownlow. However, by this stage, Lieut-Colonel Maxwell Close had already approached Playfair and a design for an Italianate agreed quickly. The designs were drawn up by Playfair in May 1829 and work commenced in April of the following year. The stone was imported from Scotland, and at one

point 70 stone cutters are said to have been employed in the construction. It consisted of a two-storey central block at right angles to which were three-storey wings. To the north was a more informally arranged mass of single and two-storey sections, including a four-storey square tower, and, to the east garden front, a two-storey octagonal tower. The most prominent feature of the house is the massive cut stone *porte cochère*. The exterior was completed around 1833, while contemporary sources give the impression that the mansion was completely finished in around 1836-37 - Playfair it may be added, designed most of the interior furniture, the reputed cost of the whole being around £80,000. James Fraser (1793-1863), the well-known landscape gardener and travel writer, writing in 1836 said it was 'by far the most beautiful and magnificent example in this kingdom of that rich variety of ['Italian Style'] architecture', It is quite likely indeed that Fraser, a Scot, was responsible for the landscape park, which was remodelled in the 1820s and early 1830s, possibly with the help of the then head gardener James Crichton, a founder of the Newry, Armagh and Dundalk Horticultural Society. The new park was extended 400m southwards in Knockbodan townland, with the old road being re-aligned south to its present course - the Drumbanagher Wall-road - the term being a reference to the fact that the new park was walled along the new road; the 18th century landscape was enclosed with ditches and banks. The park is characterised by the presence of many irregular meadow or 'lawns', all enclosed with irregular woodland blocks which mostly linking up with each other. Some of the woodland was retained from the 18th-century landscape, but there was also a good deal of new planting added in the 1820s. Many of the park cells were decorated with isolated trees and irregular clumps, particularly in new added areas on the south-east section of the park, where an attractive school house was built, now a private residence (Listed HB 16/21/023). An extensive network of many miles of circuit drives was laid out in the new park, all carefully laid out to take fully advantage of the parkland views, the main approach to the house being from the south-east (The Newry Entrance), where there the gate and lodge (Listed HB 16/21/026) are placed opposite a T-junction in the Drumbanagher-Wall-Road. This is a small single-storey structure, with a projecting porch, in the mid-Victorian of classical style, with stucco walls with heavy mouldings, and a balustraded parapet which obscures the hipped roof. To the rear and south there is a large L-shaped extension of 2003-4, which incorporates an extension of 1989, which in turn appears to have replaced an earlier (possibly original) section. The other lodge is situated at the entrance further west along Drumbanagher Wall Road, known locally as the 'Lissummunt' gate. Now abandoned and largely overgrown, this is of less ornate design, and gave access to a drive that ran through woodland, alongside a stream with cascades, up to the front lawn of the house. There was also an entrance on the east side off the Newry Road (A27) which had a gate lodge built in the 1840s (now demolished); this led onto a drive around the north side of the walled garden and garden builds, north of the house. The outbuildings, which are located a matter of metres to north-west of the site of the house, have been retained and consist of a series of single and two-storey ranges, arranged in two main groupings with other structures set beyond; all seem to be post date 1835 (the barn is dated 1844), though they occupy the site of the 18th-century stable and barn yards. The larger grouping to the south-east is linked to form a quadrangle with the main entrance to this enclosed yard to the south-western side. The south-western range here consists of what appears to have been the steward's house (to the north-west), a relatively large two-storey hipped roof structure with symmetrical stucco façade, topped with a balustrade-like parapet with urn finials, and decorative scrolled brackets supporting the sill and hood mouldings. The ranges enclosing the north-western yard are all single-storey and rubble-built with large cut granite quoins, while the far north-east are the remains of another yard, which appears to have contained piggeries. These yards no doubt were advanced for their time because Col. Maxwell Close engaged William Blacker (1776-1850) as his land agent. Blacker was one of the foremost agricultural writers of his time and was no doubt responsible for the establishment of the 'Drumbanagher Farming Society', which regularly hosted cattle shows and ploughing matches in the park. The adjacent walled garden (2.4 acres/0.97ha) occupies the same area as the 18th-

century kitchen garden, but the present walls are 1830s. The garden is divided into two separate areas;; the north section (1 acre/0.413ha) which has a curved north wall and the south section (1.38 acres/0.56ha). The dividing wall of the south section contained a long lean-to glasshouse, facing south-east, with an axis path aligned on the centre; no doubt once sported the main herbaceous border. The northern section had lean-to potting sheds (still present) along the dividing wall with cold frames; today both enclosed gardens are under grass. Beyond the walled garden to the south lay the pleasure grounds, now overgrown and a large parterre once flanked the east side of the house. There are surviving watercolours of these gardens showing the pleasure ground planting to have been of a high quality. During its 120-odd year existence, Drumbanagher appears to have undergone only minor alterations. For many years in the Victorian era their head gardener was Richard Allan (Allen) (1805-95). Some significant horticultural improvements took place in 1911 when Lady Muriel Close engaged Gertrude Jekyll (1843-1932) to design flower borders. During last war the house and park were requisitioned by the army, and occupied by British and American troops, which did much to hasten the demise of the house. In May 1947 there was a public auction of the contents of the military camp, including 180 Nissen huts, of which five were triple span huts. It was remarked at the time that the military encampment in the demesne had 'left scars in immerse concrete stretches, were the music of the lawn mower will never again be heard'. Like many other country dwellings throughout the UK and Ireland,, the Close family struggled to maintain the house in those rapidly changing post-war years. To make matters worse, substantial death duties incurred following the demise of Charles Close in 1946 and this proved the final straw, prompting his son to auction off the fittings and fixtures of the house in 1951 and then demolishing the building. Given Playfair's importance, the house's demolition was, as Ian Gow noted in 1998, 'a grievous loss to both Irish and Scottish architecture'. A much more modest modern dwelling was erected close by, which has the look of a typical 'middle class' suburban residence. For reasons unknown, the octagonal tower to the north and the *porte cochère* were spared, but whilst the latter has survived, the former has either completely collapsed or been recently dismantled. SMR: ARM 22:30 17th century plantation house. Half the area is DAERA (Forest Service) since 1960. Private.

**FINNABROGUE HOUSE, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/022
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Extensive walled late 18th-century landscape park (1,030 acres/417ha) which occupies a beautiful situation in undulating drumlin country by the meandering shores of Strangford Lough, 1.9 miles (2.7km) north of Downpatrick and 4.9 miles (7.9km) south-west of Killyleagh. It encompasses the townland of Finnabrogue, sometimes spelt Finnebrogue, and part of Ballyrenan, Ballygally and Ballynacraig. In the words of an entry in the OS Memoirs for 1836, it occupies 'very low ground forming a peninsula, the word Finnabrogue means "the tide's end"'. The house (Listed HB 18/18/001), one of the earliest unfortified houses in Ireland, dates to the 1660s, with some modifications made in the late 18th-century; it stand on elevated central position in the park, facing north. In late medieval times the land here belonged to the Cistercian abbey of Inch, located less than a mile to the south-west. There is some confusion about its early history; we do know that in 1628 Henry Maxwell (d.1646), the second son of the Very Rev Robert Maxwell (c.1550-1622), Dean of Armagh, (from Calderwood, Scotland) was leased in perpetuity the former Cistercian abbey of Inch and much of its lands by Thomas Cromwell, the first Earl of Ardglass. Finnebrogue does not seem to have been included; though there have been claims it was a monastic grange for Inch Abbey. One source claims it belonged to John Echlin (1612-1702), a brother of Jane Echlin (1615-46), wife of Henry Maxwell, and that following the destruction of Henry Maxwell's house at Inch in the 1641 Rebellion, Finnabrogue was gifted to Henry Maxwell by his brother-in-law, who went to live in Ardglass. This cannot yet be verified and there is nothing at the moment to suggest an early 17th-century house and bawn at Finnabrogue. Available documentation relates that Henry Maxwell's only son Robert (c.1643-1686) was 'of Killyleagh' in

1674. However, in 2012 a dendrochronological survey carried out by Queen's University Belfast on behalf of the Historic Environment Service indicated the house was built in 1663; interestingly, the first known mention of Finnebrogue is in a deed of 1699 which Roberts's son Henry (c.1669-1729) is mentioned as such. While the house was the subject of a remodelling in the 1790s, much of the 1660s house still exists. It was built on a classic H-plan comprising a double-pile central block or two-stories over a basement, flanked each side by single pile matching ranges, each three-stories over a basement. A feature popular in Ireland in the century following the Restoration was the concealment of the basement on the front facade, whilst allowing it to become a ground floor on the rear, necessitating the ground to slope down from front to rear. In common with so many other 17th-century houses, it had an attic level with dormers, apparently shown on an early illustration of the house since lost. There were no defensive features save perhaps for large dramatically formed oval loops on the 'inner' faces of the wings, which could have facilitated their use as gun loops - a theory supported by the remark in the OS Memoirs of c.1836 that the 'fine old house' was at one time 'a place of defence'. Writing in 1744 Walter Harris refers to the dwelling as a 'good house' of Robert Maxwell; it is shown on Kennedy's map of 1755 and also as a crude depiction on an estate map of 1772. The house was modified, mostly probably following the death of Edward Maxwell in 1792, when his sister, Mrs Dorothea Waring Maxwell (1753-1842) inherited the demesne. The Maxwells have a complicated family history, but suffice to say her husband John Waring (d.1802) was her cousin and as an heiress she decided to retain her name. Her brother had not lived at Finnebrogue for years, so it had become vacant and neglected; she raised the ceiling of the saloon on the first floor and as a result the roof of the entire centre was raised; new larger windows were inserted, a new staircase was added and classical detailing installed throughout. She also changed the designed landscape, replacing what would have been a geometric formal landscape associated with the 17th-century house. We would expect the house itself to have been enclosed by geometrically arranged courts, yards and gardens with an entrance court at the house front entered through gates that would have been aligned on an tree-lined avenue extending northwards; another tree-lined vista no doubt extended south, but the 'Fairy Gates' (Listed HB 18/18/001) presently on the Finnebrogue-road, while they may seem to be on alignment with the house, were in fact moved here, and most probably were the stone piers flanking the gates into the front court. The carved pillars, baroque in style, are of a light grey sandstone with panelled pilasters and moulded string-courses at pedestal and entablature level and have an ogee-form blocking course. They are identical to gate piers embedded into the garden wall of the castle gardens, Newtownards, which can be dated to 1675. In addition to avenues, the early demesne must have had blocks of trees for in 1744 Walter Harris in his *The Ancient and Present State of County Down* mentions the 'fair plantations' at Finnebrogue. There is little residual trace left of the early formal landscape on the 1830s OS map of the park and it is evident that the late 18th century 'naturalised' parkland, laid down in a Brownian-style, swept everything away; the landscape designer has not yet been established. The new landscape park, shown first on Williamson's Map of County Down in 1810, was of considerable size, extending east across the Killyleagh-road as far as the estuary and as far north as Ringmore Point; it also extended across the Church-road to take in Finnebrogue-lough (27.7 acres/11.2ha), then part of the estuary waters. In many other parts of Ireland at this time, these roads would probably have been closed and diverted, so it is unusual to have two public roads traverse a landscape park in this manner; the present line of the Killyleagh-road was actually made around the time that the park was being planted. The park layout, save for some refinements in the 1850s, has remained unchanged and is characterised by wide open meadows, known as lawns, bounded by irregular blocks of woodland, whose boundaries tend to follow the contours. Much of the parkland's thickest cover lies on the north and west sides to protect it from the prevailing winds. It is delimited on the south and east by regular perimeter belts, including belts around Bean Hill, with the more substantial woodland blocks on the west, the latter with carefully shaped sinuous outlines, notably Beatty's Wood and Gray's Plantation. North

of the Church-road the park again comprises a series of large and irregular shaped woods, notably Church Park Wood, Horse Park Wood, Cloghant Wood and Gully Wood, some flanking Finnebrogue Lough, other enclosing lawns, many of which, as throughout the whole park, were decorated with judiciously placed tree clumps and isolated trees. Characteristically, the lawns flanking the approach avenues were decorated with carefully positioned and selected trees. The main avenue to the house, at least in the early years of the park, was from the north or the Church-road side with the entrance south-east to the church, while the other entrance from the south off the Finnebrogue road from Downpatrick. Typically, both entrances pass through woodland (a classic feature of parkland design) before entering into the light with woodland on one side and park lawn on the other, before moving across the open parkscape with the course of the drive carefully laid down to obtain the best views. A separate carriage drive off the Church-road gave access to the north section of the park, allowing visitors to journey around the Finnebrogue lake. The kitchen garden is typically hidden within woodland and was accessed by a separate tradesman's entrance off the Church-road which links to the farm yard complex, itself quite close to the house, but carefully screened from it and on a lower level. The park lawns still retain some isolated trees, some of great age, though sadly the numbers had been seriously depleted since the 1950s. One of the ash trees (*Fraxinus excelsior*) is a champion and at 36.5m is the second tallest of its kind in Ireland. Most of the park was and remains overwhelmingly deciduous, the size and quality of the plantations has long been the focus of comment from visitors. A few additions and refinements were made in the 19th century, notably the 'Major's Plantation,' in the 1850s to provide additional screening and physical protection from winds in the Greystown section of the park. Many of the later woodland embellishments, both in the second half of the 19th-century and in the 20th-century were made to help in providing cover for game—Old Pen Plantation and New Pen Plantation, which are north of the dwelling house and near the Pheasantry, the latter located close to the north side of the Church-road near the church; needless to say, shooting was a significant pastime of the Maxwells over the centuries. It is likely the stable yard (Listed HB 18/18/001B) in part predates the landscape park; the Patrick Savage map of 1772 shows a long range here. The yard today is an irregular quadrangle enclosed by mainly two-storey rubble-stone and render buildings with hipped roofs of early and late 19th-century date. A 1935 plan of the stable yard within the Perceval-Maxwell Papers at PRONI, shows the different uses the buildings had at that date: the groom's house, garage, stables and wash house to the western range; laundry, loose boxes, ironing loft and basement stores to that to the north; stores, loose boxes, harness room and lofts to that to the east, with coal stores, stick house, paint shop and 'smith's shop' at basement level, and a garage, bakery and stores to the southern range. In the latter decades of the 20th century the yard was largely unused. In 1995, along with Finnebrogue House and the other remaining demesne buildings, it was sold and the dwelling house section 'modernised' shortly afterwards. At the north end of the tradesman's drive to the yard is the walled kitchen garden. Initially it would appear that the first kitchen garden, 360m north of house, was originally enclosed by hedges, but its present walled construction (Listed HB 18/18/001E) was done by John Waring Maxwell (1788-1869), who succeeded as a minor in 1802 when his father died. Indeed, the walled garden has a date stone, 'John Waring Maxwell Esq. 20 February 1802'. The main walled garden (3.35 acres/1.35ha) is a parallelogram in shape on a slight slope descending north-west to south-east and a long drainage ditch along its south-east side. The garden is subdivided into the main garden, almost a square (2.25 acres/0.91ha) with a slip garden or enclosed frame yard (1.08 acres/0.44ha) on its south-east. The main garden, now overgrown, was formerly subdivided by paths into six panels with box-edges; the path an axis path down the centre was aligned on a oval pond at the south-east end, the latter is still extant and fed by a small stream. The high walls around the main garden are largely of fieldstone rubble, but with brick lining to the inward side of the north-western wall. This side of the wall also has curved ends and a full-height, vehicle gateway close to its south-eastern end, with recent (post-1995) metal gates. At the intersection of the north-west and south-

west walls there is a small, single-storey, lean-to garden shed, possibly a bothy of perhaps c.1830-40 and restored in the 1990s, with rendered walls and gothic windows and doorways. The windows to its south-eastern façade are set at a high level, whilst there are small, high-level roundels to the (north-east) front. To the south-west of the bothy is a small, brick-dressed, pedestrian doorway with timber sheeted door. This leads into what was the pleasure garden. The south-eastern wall has an elliptical-arched vehicle gateway with brick dressings and timber sheeted double door; above this gateway is the 1802 datestone (above). Built against the inner side of the north-eastern wall there is an modern-style, two-storey, flat roofed house with single-storey glass house-like wings. This house is post-1995 and has been built on the site of the former lean-glass wood-framed houses, originally nearly 70m long and built at different phases from the 1870s. There were side of the wall had the boiler house (in a pit) and working garden houses including the bothy, apple store and stable for the garden ponies; these have all been largely rebuilt extended and linked to the former hard gardener's house at the east end, now a private dwelling. It is gabled two-storied house with symmetrical front and projecting gabled porch of c.1850. The glasshouses ranges on the wall included a vinery with external root bed, a peach house, other ranges but notably a heated fern house with amaryllis lilies, whose fine granite cut-stone base now forms part of the modern house. The adjacent smaller portion of the garden to the south-east was the frame yard with more glasshouses (freestanding) and hot and cold cold-frames, melon house and water tank, the latter was made of slate and filed with a hand pump. Within this party of the garden today is a large, roughly-H-shaped, single storey dwelling to the northern corner, constructed post-1995 around some of the mid- to later-19th century potting sheds and glass houses. The rest of the garden is now lawn. North-east of the garden in a higher level was an orchard, originally reached from the walled garden via a passage between the vinery and the fernery with steps leading up. The orchard, now gone, was established around the 1870s in the days of Robert Perceval Maxwell (1813-1905) and once boasted 60 varieties of apple, together with some plums. On the other side of the walled kitchen garden there was until around the 1870s a narrow garden slip outside the long south-west wall; it is not clear if this was for vegetables or ornamental plants but in the mid Victorian era it was integrated into an informal pleasure ground with a network of paths with exotic trees and shrubs. A focal point in the pleasure garden is a small, single-storey, canted summer house built against the garden wall. Brick-built and formerly rendered, this has a semicircular-headed opening to each of its three front facets, the central of which must have been the doorway. It seems to be marked on early maps suggesting it have been a more functional building at one time, later remodelled as a summer house. Besides rhododendron there are camellias ('newish' in 1991), a *Cryptomeria japonica Elegans* and an ash tree. During the 19th-century Finabrogue was one of the more progressive 'improving' demesnes in the country, the Maxwells and Perceval Maxwells being keen to encourage agricultural improvements. The first of these was John Waring Maxwell (1788-1869) who took no part in the management of the demesne and estate until 1817 being in active army service. That year he married an heiress Madelina Ker, sister of David Ker of Portavo and consequently had the financial ability to follow his interests, which proved to be farming especially cattle breeding - building up a renowned herd of purebred Shorthorn at Finabrogue. He was always keen to maintain good working relationships with his many tenants - lavish harvest homes were a memorable feature of his era. He established a 'model farmyard' within the northern part of the demesne flanking the east side of the Killyleagh-road and to the west of the windmill, which seems to have become disused by 1810 as it's depicted by Williamson without sails that year (it is shown with its sails on Kennedy's 1755 map). The Williamson map of 1810 also shows that there was already a building where the farmyard complex was located, this position being chosen so far north, presumably to avoid the flood plains further south. The present farmyard (Listed HB18/18/001A-I, N, O, T, U) was evidently established from around 1818 and by the 1830s had become a relatively large complex, incorporating a variety of buildings around a large rectangular courtyard flanking the road and a second smaller court to the north. By

the time of Waring Maxwell's death in 1869 it was probably the largest demesne farm complex in Ulster employing seventy-five full-time staff and nearly two hundred labourers. The yard complex was very much a manifestation of Waring Maxwell's enterprise and go-ahead attitude, always striving for the best in his line, purchasing the latest equipment in efforts to encourage his tenantry. It is difficult to ascertain when each of the farmyard's many buildings were built, but the layout, though informal, is not random. The early phase included two dwelling houses, one for the estate steward and other for a caretaker, extensive stables, a threshing barn with horse walk next to it, a granary, hayshed and other assorted sheds. Additions in the 1840 and 1850s included a big complex at the north end with large cow sheds, an enormous corn store and drying kiln, steam engine house and chimney grouping. There were 20th century additions, but almost all original buildings are constructed in rubble with slated gabled or hipped roofs, with a pyramidal roof to the granary. The farmyard is enclosed to the western side by a tall rubble wall, which lowers to the south. Close to the north and south ends of the wall are vehicle gateways with square (rubble) pillars with pyramidal caps and simple, wrought-iron gates. To the east the sweeping contours of the open meadow of Windmill Hill spreads out, which being parkland was and remains unencumbered with field boundaries save for one north of Sandquay Hill, which historically was just a timber fence. The east side of Windmill Hill was carefully framed by woodland blocks, notably Ringpeen Wood, Ballyhasin Wood, Nancy Wood and Sand Quay Wood, all assumed their present layout by the early 19th-century and have remained unaltered. Save for some clumps of woodland behind the south part of the farmyard complex, behind the steward's house, the yard surprisingly, was never screened from the parkscape, thus making this part of the designed landscape venerable to inappropriate developments. When John Waring Maxwell died in 1869 he was succeeded by his nephew, Robert Perceval (1813-1905), who had become officially known as Perceval-Maxwell in 1839. When he took over the property portfolio included not only the extensive Finnebrogue, but property elsewhere in Co Down and four other counties in Ireland, and also property in London and in Canada. He was said to have been 'one of the wealthiest commoners in Ireland'. His main contribution to the demesne was the erection of a gate lodge on the Finnebrogue-road; initial plans were drawn up by Belfast architect W.J. Gilliland in October 1884 and again in August 1885 and built in 1886, being a part two, part single-storey, picturesque, Free-style red brick building, with a steeply-pitched, slated gabled roof, tall, central chimneystack and decorative terracotta mouldings; to the rear there is a gabled, two-story jettied extension in rubble, brick and slate cladding, and to the south is a gabled timber conservatory. The accompanying gate screen is of the same date, although no plans of it appear to have survived. Gilliland also drew up plans to 'modernise' the house, which fortunately were abandoned. On Robert Perceval's death in 1905, the Finnebrogue estates passed to his grandson, Lt-Colonel Robert David Perceval Maxwell MP (1870-1932), while the family's extensive County Cork properties passed to his second son William. In 1932 Finnebrogue was inherited by Major John Robert Perceval Maxwell (1896-1963), a Unionist Politician. In 1934-35 he demolished much the late-19th century extensions to the rear of the house among other changes. During the war the army was resident in the demesne and felled many trees for pit props. In 1963 on his death Finnebrogue was sold with over 1000 acres of demesne land; the house itself passed out of family possession in 1996. The demesne is now divided among a number of owners, much of the area north of road forming a separate property. The parkland has been used to raise deer from 1996 and in the late 1990s a meat plant was unfortunately built in the west corner of the park, which has otherwise survived intact as an important heritage asset. SMR DOWN 31:32, 31:33, 31:36 enclosures. The demesne and the buildings within are under separate ownership. All private.

**FORKILL HOUSE, County Armagh (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) A/017
REGISTERED GRADE B**

Regency-era landscape park (66.3 acres/26.8ha) with house of c.1810 (Listed HB on the southern slopes of Tievecrom 1.2 miles (1.8km) south-east of Forkill and 8 miles (12.8km) south-west of

Newry. In 1703 the lands around Tievecrom, once part of the 'Manor of Stonebridge' were forfeited by the state and eventually purchased in 1742 by Richard Jackson (1722-87), connected to the Jackson family of Coleraine. The lands, the a rural backwater with an impoverished tenantry, then became part of the new 'Manor of Forkill', focussed on 'Forkill Lodge' that Jackson has built on the east side of the village that he had rebuilt as part of his scheme to improve the area and attract industry there. In 1787 following Jackson's death without any heirs, his estate, which amounted to property in Dublin, Cavan and Armagh passed to his wife (his Cavan lands), his widowed sister Susanna Barton (Dublin property), while Forkill lands were left in trust to nine Church of Ireland bishops and rectors, whose attempts to 'improve' resulted accusations of sectarianism and local unrest. Eventually, Nathaniel Alexander (1760-1840), of Portglenone House, Bishop of Clonfert and later Bishop of Meath, who had married a cousin of the former Richard Jackson, came into sole ownership. The house seems to have been built around 1810, as a year later there is a record of its being occupied by Col. George Jackson (1776-1840), Alexander's brother-in-law. In 1836 John Foxhall was living there, remaining until at least 1852, during which period the house was extended to the northern end. The original house of 1810, burnt in 1922, was a three-bay two-storey over basement south-west facing rectangular block with hipped roof; on its north-west side a tall three-bay three-storey gabled extension, still present, with pointed gothic windows on its front first and second floors added around 1840. It has a full height lean-to projection to the rear (east) along with a small single-storey lean-to, and to the south a two-storey gabled entrance projection, added post c.1924. The farmyard (Listed HB 16.15/031B) lies immediately to the north and comprises a roughly square cobbled farmyard, which is enclosed by two-storey outbuildings on the north, east and west sides, all of which appear to be built around 1810. The park, created out of heathland c.1810 has a substantial deciduous woodland belt running along its northern perimeter much of which still contains fine mature trees; it has a width of about 70 to 90m and is half a mile long - the west section partly replaced by conifers. Another deciduous woodland block lies north-east of the house, while a lake with two islands stands in the park east of the house (0.78 acres/0.31ha); this is artificial, created by damming and channelling a mountain stream. The park 'lawns' enclose the house of the south-west, south and east of the house, but most of its isolated mature trees were unfortunately felled in the 1940s. The is only one main avenue, this curves across what was the front lawn from a gateway and lodge (Listed HB 16/15/031C) lying to the south-west off the Captain's-road. It has an unusual gateway comprising a tall screen wall of squared rubble and large Tudor-arched opening; there is a similar stretch of walling on the opposite side of the road with a recessed area directly across from the gate to allow vehicles to turn. The gate itself is wrought-iron with decorative cast-iron finials, while the gate lodge, post 1862, is single-storied with rendered walls and an overhanging slated gabled roof with exposed rafter ends, projecting porch and (rear) lean-to, replacing an earlier lodge on the site. The avenue, originally open of both side as it cross the lawn, is now lined with field hedges and some trees. In the 19th-century ther was a second approach avenue, this coming from the west off the same road; this served more as a tradesman's entrance passing the walled garden - it has long been abandoned, but its former line is marked by a hedge row. The former productive kitchen garden, north-west of the house, was originally 0.41 acres (in 1830s) was expended later in the 19th-century to a rectangular flat area 0.81 acres (0.33ha), long axis, with long axis south-west north-east. The north-west side was delimited by a stone wall, which largely survives, with base of a lean-to glasshouse with base, stove and pipes still surviving in the 1990s; the building became a hay shed. The south-west side of the enclose was delimited by a hedge; a beech hedge now gone also delimited the north-east side. Until the 1980s the garden still had relics of box-edging and some fruit trees. North of the house on the summit of a steep sides rock outcrop near the 600 foot contour, a small circular turret was built, probably at the same time as the park was laid out c.1810. It is marked 'Summer house' on the 1830s OS map, and later marked 'turret'. Built to enjoy the view and presumably as a location for picnics, it has an external stair and several windows with brick lining. About 140m south-west there was a 20th century reservoir for the

home farm fed with mountain springs and on the south-east of the turret a 'duck pond' that has been claimed as the remains of a decoy, but there no evidence for this. By 1852 the ownership of Forkill had passed to one of Nathaniel's younger sons, Henry Alexander (1803-77) and in the early 1860s the house and demesne are recorded as being leased by Henry, (with a Thomas Bourne living there), with and much of the demesne rented out separately. Henry's son, Captain Granville Henry Jackson Alexander (1852-1930) seems to have been the first (and as it transpired, only) member of the family to reside at Forkill, taking up residence c.1880 and noted by Bassett as having spent '£6,000 to £7,000' on improvements by 1888. In gardening terms these improvements were focussed around the artificial lake in the park, which was transformed into the focus of an ornamental garden. A Walk was made around the lake, using the existing elaborate system of high banks; at one point on the south-east the path is around twenty-feet high, revetted with stone. A summer house was built on one of the two islands in the lake and a stone-line tunnel, closed at one end, made under the path, possibly to store a boat. In addition to a boat house by the lake, there was an ornamental stone building - a pointed arch opening and moulded granite coping and remains of a square turret, marked on the 1906 OS map. In the early 1900s Captain Alexander, under the terms of the 1903 Land Act, sold off much of the tenanted estate and following the destruction of the main (original) section of the house in the troubles of the early 1920s, he sold off both it and the demesne in 1924. In the 1940s and 50s it belonged to a Mr. Roberts, and is currently the property of Mr. Stephen Begley, who has undertaken a restoration of the lake and its ornamental gardens, building there an semi-circular iron bridge. The gate lodge has been enlarged and decorated many times during the 19th century. SMR: ARM 32:11 enclosure, rath and souterrain, 32:13 cashel and 32:17 Holy Well. DAERA (Forest Service) planting to the north-west. Private.

**GREEN PARK, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/078
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Mid- Georgian miniature walled landscape park (30 acres/12ha) with a house of 1771 (Listed HB 16/06/063) in a scenic coastal location just 0.6 miles (0.9km) above Rostrevor, 1.85 miles (2.98km) north-east of Warrenpoint and 7.2 miles (11.6km) south-west of Newry. The layout of this park with its mature perimeter belts, its clumps and its 'S'-shaped carriage drive, which curves gracefully uphill to the house front, has changed very little since it was created. The same is not true of the house however, which was more than doubled in size around 1816 when the present Regency seven-bay two-storey block was added to the front of the old house. Originally known as 'Moore Park', this earlier house was built in 1771 together with its 'offices, extremely good and convenient forming an enclosed court to the rere' (*Dublin Journal*, March 15, 1785). The enclosing park was made at the same time, its surrounding 'six-feet high walls' being completed in the summer of 1784. There is absolutely no evidence to indicate the presence of a dwelling in this location prior to 1771 when James or Hugh Moore, built the house *de novo*. Records indicate that they were local residents to the vicinity of Rostrevor from at least 1756, where they had had a bleach yard; Hugh Moore, possibly James's father, is described as a draper in 1775. Bradshaw in 1819 (General Directory for Newry area) said it was James Moore who actually built the first house. This was a tall rendered gable-ended five-bay two-storey over basement house facing south-east; in the fashion of the early and mid-18th century (the house was a little old fashioned for its time), the basement was exposed as a ground floor to the rere. The entrance was in a central, presumably gabled full-height one-bay projection, matching a similiar gabled projection to the rere. It was built in the corner of the 'enclosed court to there rere' and had a small walled garden (0.9 acres/0.31ha) flanking its north-west side; in the *Dublin Journal's* 1785 account this garden was described as being 'planted with the choicest wall and other fruit trees', and the first OS map edition of the 1830s show the garden under orchard, suggesting it had been orchard from the outset. It is not clear if the Moore's ever lived in the house, because as early as 1775 and again in 1776 the property was being offered for let. It is marked on Taylor and Skinner's road

map of 1777-78 and by 1785 it was being referred to as 'Green Park', and was being offered to let yet again. It may have been built as an investment, taking advantage of 'one of the most beautiful situations in that delightful county' (1785 advertisement words). William Wilson's *Post-chaise Companion* (1786) mentions it as 'Moore Park the seat of Mr. Moore' and Tyner in 1794 also refers to it as 'Moorpark...of Mr. Moor' noted by George Tyner in 1794, Matthew Sleator in 1806 mentions the Moore family as still being in possession. However, in 1819 Bradshaw states it had been occupied 'for a time, first by Mr. Strong and afterwards by a Mr. Broomfield' and in the 1785 advertisement, those wishing to let the property were being referred to 'John Stronge, Esq at Fairview near Tynan'. By 1808 it was the residence of Francis Carleton (d.1829), the son of Francis Carleton Senior (1713-91), a merchant of the City of Cork and the brother of Hugh Carleton, Viscount Carleton of Clare. He was the Collector of Customs at Newry from (1793-1819); he extended Greenpark around 1819 and remained there until his death in 1829. When the OS Memoirs were drafted in 1836 they mentioned that it was then 'the property of Mrs James O'Brien and now the residence of Lady Welsh..It is a good old house, much added to by the late Mr Carleton who was then tenant'. Carleton's 'additions' essentially transformed the house into a double-pile dwelling by adding on the front of the present house, an imposing seven-bay, two-storey rectangular rendered block over a high basement with hipped roof, raised quoins and Wyatt windows. The park was made in the 1770s, while the enclosing 'stone wall 6 feet high' was finished in 1784. A description in a holiday guide of 1896 runs '...lovely Green Park, all but buried in its wealth of sycamore, palm and pine trees'. The palms have now gone, but much of the original planting seems to have included sycamore (to better cope with the coastal conditions) in addition to oak and beech. Typically, the park is enclosed by a narrow (c.20-30m) quite even perimeter belts along the Green Park-road, by a wider perimeter belt along the north, where a small wood was also made screening the house and yards on the east. All of this is still present, as is a small wood made south-west of the house. The west perimeter only has partial tree belts and the south side there was none, presumably to ensure views to the coast. Within the park a long c.100m narrow clump was placed within the centre of the front 'lawn' - this also has survived though larger than originally designed; its shape was determined by the fact that there is a rock outcrop here.. The only significant alteration to the park since it was made was the subdivision in the late 19th century of the front 'lawn' into two 'fields', the boundary of which is now a somewhat incongruous hedgerow. Today there are still all the mature perimeter belts and clump as described, while over 200 trees of native species have been planted by the present owners to replace fallen and elderly trees. The single carriage entrance into the park off the Green Park-road has had a gate lodge since at least the 1830s; it was still present in 1952 and was demolished around 1970; there is a modern house on the site. The lawn or meadow also has some isolated mature parkland trees, mostly planted in the early and mid-Victoria era with some recent ones added. The small woodland east of the house seems to have been used as a woodland garden in the Victorian era, with a winding perimeter path and shrubs planted beneath the canopy; unfortunately *Rhododendron ponticum* is present here today; there are also prolific daffodils, bluebells and lords and ladies. The parkland lawn is separated from the house lawn at the front of the dwelling house by the carriage drive, with a practically vertical drop of about a metre on its outer edge down to the parkland; this was faced with iron park-style fencing until recent years; a short modern wooden vertical ladder provides access. South-east of the house there was a small Victorian shrubbery, some of the stone-edged paths of which are still present. The gravel forecourt at the front of the dwelling house has clumps of *rhododendron* to either side with, among other plants, daffodils, forsythia, ferns, lilies and montbretias. In addition there is a large mature Scots pine on the east side. Until the 1990s and for at least a hundred years, there were climbing roses at the front door. Much of the walled garden today is used as a sheltered, ornamental garden with lawns and small ornamental trees. There were two glass houses against the northernmost wall and the flue of the westerly one is extant in the wall. In the 1990s there was a freestanding glass house near the northernmost wall; the base of a cold frame is extant.

The north to south running wall has some old pear trees planted very close to it which may originally have been wall trained; in the north-west is an old apricot tree and there is also an extremely large, old greengage tree which still fruits prolifically. New apple trees have been planted in this area. There are two fastigate yew trees in the south corner. The well preserved fabric of the park is perhaps surprising considering that throughout its history it has had numerous different occupants, both tenants and owners. After Francis Carleton died in 1929, the lease was acquired by Mrs Margaret O'Brien, who later bought the property and then leased it for a few years to 'Lady Walsh' in 1835, before she herself took possession again. From around 1846, possibly earlier, the Dowager Countess Juliana Lorry-Corry, nee Butler (1783-1861), wife to her first cousin, Somerset Lowry-Corry, second Earl of Belmore (1774-1841) acquired the lease of Green Park for £200 per annum and lived there until she died in July 1861. It was then let to the Hon. Mary. C.A. Maude, widow of the Rev. Maude of Enniskillen, but by July 1865 was the home of Mrs Savage Hall and her daughters; eventually, Major Roger Hall bought the property in 1886. From 1912-16 it was owned by Henry Carden; from 1916-35 by Mrs Helen Hamilton; from 1835-41 by Frederick and Harriet Devenish-Meares; from 1941-48 by Col. Hall, although the house and park were requisitioned for the use of the US military 1943-44. In 1948 it was again sold, this time to Commander William E. Bellgrave and sold again in 1975. Private.

**HAWTHORNE HILL, County Armagh (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) A/020
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Regency-era landscape park (171 acres/69.2ha) with house of c.1808 (HB 16/15/029) on the east facing slopes of Slieve Gullion south of Killeevy in the townland of Annahaid, 5.13 miles (8.26km) south-west of Newry and 2.3 miles (3.7km) north-west of Jonesborough. From its layout, much of which survives, it may be considered an unusual example of a professionally designed landscape park in the Picturesque tradition, as it was created almost entirely on steeply sloping ground. There was no previous dwelling on the site, the house being *de novo*, and was built in this high location one presumes specifically to take advantage of the fine views; the name Hawthorn House apparently derived from the thorn trees that once covered the hill. It was built by Meredith Calcott Chambré (1742-1812), the eldest surviving son of Hunt Calcott Chambré (d.1782) of Carnew Castle, Co. Wicklow and his wife, the heiress Anna Maria Meredith, who he married in 1735. The land, a small estate of 1,281 acres, which was once part of the Foxall estates, had been inherited through the Merediths of Dublin, but is not clear why Meredith Calcott, a retired army officer and long married (1785) to Margaret, daughter and co-heir of George Faulkner of County Dublin, should want to build a house here so late in life. The house, not long built, when it was inherited by his eldest son Captain Hunt Walsh Chambré (1787-1848), who married (1813) Rebecca, only daughter of William Upton of County Limerick. He in turn was succeeded by his son Meredith Chambré (b.1814-79), a famously belligerent landlord, who survived an attempted assassination in 1852. The house, which was burnt to a shell in the early 1920s, was subsequently only partially rebuilt; its original appearance seems to have been a classical-style five-bay two-storey with basement rectangular block, with long axis facing west and east - the semi-derelict building there today seems to be a reduced section of the 1920s rebuild. It was bought by the Forest Service in 1968 though remained occupied by a member of Chambré family until the 1970s, after which it served for a time as an office. The yards (see below) lies screened below the house to the north-east and the house, which originally was enclosed with open parkland sweeping away in all directions up and downhill. Today the house, or what remains of it, has a much darker woodland atmosphere due to the large number of trees planted in its immediate vicinity in the 20th century. It lies in the very centre of the park and was and is still approached from the south by the main avenue, which turned east downhill to the Drumintee-road, where there is still a gate lodge on the opposite side of the road (Listed HB 16/15/001); this is a small, single-storey, rubble-built dwelling with a pyramidal slated roof rising to a central chimneystack - the building was extended to the rear c.1990s and is now over twice its original size. The approach

drive, having arrived at the west front of the house, continues north as a tradesman's entrance, past the farmyard complex, and exits the park on the Wood-road, as it still does today. When the park was created it was given narrow regular perimeter woodland screens on all sides save on the high ground to the west where substantial woodland blocks were planted that amounted to around 48 acres (19.7ha); when this section of the Drumintee-road was built c.1820 on the west side, further woodland screens were planted along its eastern side and the boundary of the demesne extended westwards. Many of these narrow perimeter screens on the north, east and south still retain mature deciduous trees, beech and oak, many of which may date to period of the park's creation; the woodland uphill of the house to the west also survives as a mainly deciduous wood with many mature oak and beech and with many paths winding through the wood; the Forest Service has widened and resurfaced many of the paths and it is possible to follow the 'Hawthorn Hill Trail' - a mile-long circular route. The main approach avenue from the Drumintee-road passes uphill through the centre of one of the park's mature beech perimeter belts, but once it turned north, it originally entered open parkland, which had judiciously planted clumps and isolated trees scattered over the landscape. Uphill from the house the top 'lawn' extended 100m to the main woodland, while the bottom 'lawn' below the house (30 acres/12ha) was bounded by the perimeter belts, but offered very expansive views of the landscape. These views are today part obscured by overgrown rhododendron and bamboo that once formed part of a terraces garden flanking the house; these terraces were linked by flights of stone steps. Hidden from view to the north is the attractive semi-coursed granite yard buildings, lying 112m (368ft) to the north-east on lower ground. It was built in stages from c.1810, 1840s and c.1900; was renovated in the late 1990s - modern glazed doors and glazed panels have been introduced into many of the openings, as well as an abundance of skylights. A modern disabled access extension has been added to the rear of the block to the northern end. The yard, which is entered via an elliptical-headed carriage archway to the south-eastern corner has been 'landscaped' with large areas of gravel bordered and intersected by attractively paved pathways. Above the yard is the walled kitchen garden (1.14 acres/0.46ha), which occupies a trapezoidal area, bounded by stone walls on the south, west and north, and by the yard outbuildings on the east. The interior slopes steeply down from west down to east; there are four entrances into the garden, three of which are original and two still with iron gates. It had a lean-to glasshouses, the tiled path and raised beds of which remain. The garden remained in use as a fruit and vegetable garden until the 1960s; its original path main layout survives, with a few old fruit trees - an old apple tree and two cherry trees. There are plans (2020) to make the central area into an open air theatre, with grass seats, as at Minack on the Cornish coast. There is a smaller walled enclosure to the north (0.47 acres/0.19ha), which originally was an ornamental garden; today it has modern planting by Hugh Conn with a large rock-edged pond. The Chambré family continued to live at Hawthorne Hill, the last owner being Charles Barclay MacPherson Chambré (1870-1950), whose son Alan Stuart Hunt Chambré (1908-1989), sold the land to the Department of Agriculture in 1951, with the house in 1968, though a member of the family continued to live in the house until the early 1970s when bomb threats forced its abandonment. Fortunately, the Forest Service did not clear-fell the woodland and replace them with conifers; the woods survived to be designated An Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and more recently in 1999 declared an ASSI (An Area of Special Scientific Interest). It was also made a Forest Nature Reserve. West of this old woodland of the park however, on the upper slopes just above, the Forest Service added an additional woodland belt of conifers, incorporating Douglas Fir, silver fir, larch, pine and spruce, with a small percentage of hardwoods. The lands above this up to the summit of Slieve Gullion (576m) has a variety of heathland with *Calluna vulgaris* the dominant plant. Forest Service provided a 'Summit Trail' though this. The outbuildings and walled gardens were placed on a long lease to the Slieve Gullion Development Company in 1992; this is now managed by the Newry, Mourne and District Council, who enlarged the extensive car-parking onto three terraces in 2018 and have put in plans (2020) plans to develop an outdoor venue in the walled garden. ASSI/AONB. Public amenity.

KILBRONEY, THE LODGE (GLENMORE), County Down (REGISTERED SITE - AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/076

Demesne park with many mature broadleaved trees (62 acres/25ha) lying on the south-east side of Rostrevor. The park abuts onto the lower slopes of the much older Rostrevor oak wood, and since the 19th century the park has been known locally as 'The Meadow'. The first house here, called 'The Lodge' was built in 1716 for Robert Ross, later Lord Mayor of Dublin in 1740. Passed to Major David Ross, father Robert Ross of Bladensburg (1766-1814); in 1850 to Col. Roxburgh; in 1864 to Albert Stratford George Canning and his mother, the Dowager Lady Garvagh; from 1919 owned by Major Lyon and his descendents, who sold the property in 1977 to the local council. Parkland was largely created in the later 18th century with narrow shelter belts along the north-west, north, south and south-east perimeter and the open parkscape dotted with isolated trees and clumps. During the 19th century these screens were reinforced with additional planting, while further isolated trees were planted in the grasslands; Stratford Canning, in addition to adding a zoo and aviary, also added an arboretum. The latter was planted around 'The Lodge' and to its south within a large woodland block which still survives, though the house itself was demolished by the local council in 1980. Trees in this area include Monterey pines, redwoods, monkey puzzles among holm oaks and Turkey oak. At the north end of the park near the pedestrian entry at Fairy Glen is a large holm oak (*Quercus ilex*) presumably a relic of the 18th century planting - known as 'Old Homer', it has a girth of 12ft (3.7m) and grows at an acute angle, winning Northern Ireland 'Tree of the Year' in 2016. The parkland had two avenue approaches leading to 'The Lodge', one from the village at the north-west and the other from the south at the Quay opposite May Cottage, the former steward's house; both had Victorian gate lodges (demolished 1970s), but both avenues are still in use. During the WW2 the demesne house a prisoner of war camp. After the local council acquire the property, they demolished the house and developed a visitor's car park in the south-east corner of the park with information area, café, tennis courts and children's play park. The park gives Rostrevor Wood, an extensive pre-18th century oak wood occupying the lower western slopes of Slieve Martin (1,595ft); in the 19th century this wood occupied 384 acres/155ha, but much of this woodland, especially on the north side, has been since replaced with coniferous plantations. Kilbroney Park is presently run by the Newry, Mourne and Down Council as an open space amenity.

**KILLYLEAGH CASTLE, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/029
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Coastal walled demesne of medieval and 17th-century origin with picturesque castle (Listed HB 18/03/001), whose present grounds (72.7 acres/17.27ha) lie on the west side of the town of Killyleagh, 4.4 miles (7km) east of Crossgar and 5.6 miles (9km) north-east of Downpatrick. Castle here is famous for its exotic skyline of turrets and conical roof dominating the adjacent town and the countryside for miles around. Much of which we see today was built from 1847-51, incorporating an early 17th-century core, but there are claims that it has Norman late-12th century origins, being thought to occupy the site of fortifications established by John de Courcy in the 1180s, with the south-western tower said to be a remnant of a 13th century castle which replaced a motte and bailey. This was held by the de Mandvilles in the early 1300s, but was later taken by the O'Neills. In 1561 Killyleagh and the entire Barony of Dufferin was granted to Hugo White (Le Blanc), whose descendants, John and Nicholas White, assigned these lands 'for a good valuable consideration' in 1610 to Sir James Hamilton (d.1643), later Viscount Clancarty, who made the castle his main residence in the 1620s and built a bawn. The house, built in the Scottish tradition of fortified houses, is depicted on the Raven 1625 map and had three-storeys with a two-level garret, a round tower on one side and a bartizan on the other. It was probably built around 1615 and included a rectangular bawn (Listed HB 18/03/001) on the south-east side; its original rubble-built and harled walls, or parts of them, survive on the long north-east and south-west sides, plus

a three-stage square flanker at the south-east end. The other flanker plus a attached four-stage round tower with conical roofs were added in the Victorian era, probably at the same time that architect Benjamin Ferry added the central Baronial style three-storey gatehouse in 1886 (Listed HB 18/03/002). The 1625 Raven map shows an extensive deer park of just under 1,500 acres lying to the west of the town; this deer park, whose area mainly coincides with the present Corporation Townland, was not re-established after the 1641 Rebellion. The 1625 map also indicates, or appears to indicate, formal gardens adjacent to the castle; the castle did have very impressive terraced formal terraced gardens flanking the south-west side of the castle - five impressive high stone walled terraces enclosed by side walls on the steep slopes below the castle - and it is likely some of these were made in the early 17th century, though they undoubtedly assumed their present form in the 1660s when Henry Hamilton (1647-75), 2nd Earl of Clanbrassill refurbished and restored and enlarged the castle and bawn (which he probably also enlarged) having been seriously damaged by Cromwellian forces in 1649, during the time of James Hamilton (c.1659), 2nd Viscount Clandeboyne and (from 1647) 1st Earl of Clanbrassill. In addition to building the terraces or hanging gardens, water features were also added notably a canal (fish pond) at the base of the terraces; this was 176ft (52) long, the same width of the terraces. These terraces, which occupied about 1.5 acres (0.62ha) were further embellished and restored around 1850 when work on the castle was being undertaken; the 1850s OS map shows two long rectangular buildings, possibly conservatories, on one of the terraces. Two of the central terraces have a single square corner pavilion on each, now overgrown, so it is not clear what age they may be. Today the terraces are maintained in lawns, with a swimming pool on one, and a tennis court on another, while the canal, much overgrown, is still somehow present. Another geometric water basin (now gone) was made at the bottom of a second walled enclosure adjacent to the terraces and flanking the south-west of the bawn; this was the walled kitchen garden (1.75 acres/0.71ha), which was expanded south around 1850 into what had previously been woodland, to make a much larger walled kitchen garden of 3.75 acres (1.52ha), labelled 'castle garden' - much of the new lower 'plateau' was under orchard by 1909. Later in the 19th century there were freestanding glasshouses; the upper slopes of the garden was still cultivated into the early 1950s, while the rest (box, fruit trees) had become somewhat overgrown; it has long been cleared and now a large grass paddock. The gardens did not really develop until after the 1850s because of the legal wrangling that last over twenty years following the death of the second Earl of Clanbrassill, who died without heirs (the second Earl it may be mentioned here was an early patron of Sir Hans Sloane who was brought up in Killyleagh). The family estates subsequently were divided in five, with Killyleagh eventually passing to James Hamilton of Neilsbrook, Co. Antrim, a nephew of 1st Viscount Clandeboyne. James left half of his portion to his daughter, Anne Stevenson, and the other to his brothers, Gawn (or Gawen) (d.1703) and William (d.1716). In 1697 the probate court drew up a deed of partition and divided everything including the castle itself, the brothers receiving the main house with the bawn and gate house given to Anne. As William died childless in 1716 and the castle passed to Gawn's son, also called Gawn, followed his descendants, Archibald (d.1747), yet another Gawn (1729-1805) and then to Archibald Hamilton Rowan (1752-1834), the noted United Irishman; by the time he came back from England to live in Killyleagh in 1806 the castle had fallen into a poor state of repair and were to remain. Things were to change however from 1834 when Archibald Rowan Hamilton (1818-60), aged only sixteen, succeeded his grandfather (his father Gwen and grandmother also died that year) at Killyleagh. He inherited an estate that was encumbered with a large mortgage, but with careful management in the 1840s and with the eventual help of a large fortune in 1848 from his father-in-law (he married 1842 Anne Caldwell), he was in the position to commission the foremost architect of the day in Ulster, Charles Lanyon, to remodel the castle. Work began in February 1849 and the house was tripled in size to what was essentially a triple-pile house with a dramatic baronial-style exterior, then quite novel, finished in rock-face stone with cut-stone dressings and render and topped with machicolations, bartizans (with steep conical roofs like the main towers), and crow-steps to the main gables. Much of its sophisticated

geometry is likely to have been the work of Henry Lynn who joined Lanyon's office that year, though Lanyon was undoubtedly responsible for the Renaissance Style terrace enclosed with a decorative stone balustrade facing the bawn. During this period the gate house and bawn remained with Anne Stevenson's descendants, with the bawn itself gradually filled with additional structures. In the late 1850s, however, Anne's three times great grandson, Frederick Temple Blackwood (1826-1902), 5th Baron Dufferin and Clandeboyne handed ownership of the plot to Archibald Rowan Hamilton who promptly removed the Georgian house there that had previously blocked the view of Strangford Lough. Frederick married Archibald Rowan Hamilton's daughter, Harriot Georgina (d.1902) in 1862 adding the Hamilton name to his own, and later paid to have the new gate house built - in suitable Baronial Style - for his brother-in-law, Gawn William Rowan Hamilton (1844-1930). This was built in 1886 to designs of Benjamin Ferry (listed HB 18/03/002). Except for the work in the terraces in the 1850s, all this building work did not much impact on the gardens or landscape, which at Killyleagh remained much unchanged from the days of Gawn Hamilton (1729-1805), when the park and woodland mostly still deciduous were evidently laid out on the west and south-west side of the castle. This includes wood screening the castle from the stable/farm yard (now in ruins and overgrown) with a line of mature lime trees at the north-east along the Shrigley-road outside the demesne wall are known as the 'Alphabet Trees' because there were 26 of them; one was lost in a storm towards the end of the 20th century. Writing in 1909, Young said 'in these grounds (west of the castle) there may be found, amongst specimen trees from India and South America, some of the finest and most ancient yew trees in the United Kingdom'. There are tree belts around the west sides of the terraced gardens, flanking to its west a lawn or meadow, which contains two tree clumps and has a narrow perimeter belt along the Coily Hill-road. There is another meadow south-west of the gardens, originally visible from the terraces with a perimeter along its south side. To the north and north-west of the Coily Hill-road, into the former 17th-century deer park, there are extensive demesne park deciduous plantations on the hills opposite Shrigley House and on Coily Hill itself (Ann's Grove Plantation). The outline of these plantations has not changed over the past 240 years and while they lie outside the registered parkland area, they and the surrounding fields do constitute an important part of the setting of this unique and important castle. SMR: DOWN 24:30 Castle fortification. Private.

**MONTALTO HOUSE, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/036
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Mid-Georgian walled landscape park (presently 533 acres/215.7ha) with early Victorian house (Listed (HB 18/06/001) on the south side of the town of Ballynahinch, 5.7 miles (9km) west of Crossgar and 8.7 miles (14km) south-east of Hillsborough. While the demesne has 17th-century origins, it assumed its present form in the mid and late 18th century, when a substantial house was built here, later remodelled in the mid-Victorian era, enclosed by a fine parkland in the 1770s/80, while retaining stands of mature woodland trees. Except for the intrusion of a small housing estate on its northern perimeter and a golf course on its western flank, the demesne, which occupies drumlin country, has survived remarkably unaltered over the past two centuries. In the late medieval period the lands here were known as Ballymaglave and belonged to the McCartan clan (MacArtáin), Lords of Kinelarty. They had a house on or close to the present mansion, but after Patrick Macartan's involvement in the Confederate Wars in the 1640s, his house and other lands in this area were granted around 1658-60 to Sir George Rawdon, 1st Bt. (1604-84) and Sir William Petty (1623-1687); subsequently, Rawdon acquired Petty's holding. The house is shown on the 1655 Petty Map and described in the accompanying terrier as a 'Thatcht House', but was only occasionally occupied by Rawdon; he lived at Brookhill and Lisburn, but following his marriage in 1654 he acquired a house and estate at Moira which became his principal residence. However, he devoted some energy over the next few decades to developing the town of Ballynahinch, where in 1782 he was granted the right to hold markets. The following year, 1683, the year before he died, a royal patent was issued granting him the 'Manor of

Kinelarty', with 'a demesne of 1,000 acres', recording that he had erected on the lands 'two mills there' and 'put the parish church in repair' and had created 'a considerable town, and in the middle thereof had set out a large market-place which was paved'. George's son and heir, Sir Arthur Rawdon (1622-95), and his son, Sir John Rawdon (1690-1724), both continued to live at Moira. Sir John's son, also John (1720-93), was created Earl of Moira in 1761. In spite of his title, however, he appears to have been less enamoured with the Moira estate than his predecessors, and at some point before 1770 began building Montalto and laying out the demesne around it. Around 1770 he went to live there permanently, letting the house at Moira to Colonel William Sharman of Lisburn. It was in July 1774 that Montalto was first mentioned by name in the *Belfast News Letter*, but the original surviving plasterwork inside the house suggests that Sir John Rawdon actually built the house a lot earlier; significantly, no residence of any import is marked on Kennedy's 1755 Map of County Down, but a date between 1755 and 1765 seems probable; Sir John Rawdon, it may be noted was raised to the peerage in 1762. He decided to name his new house 'Montalto', to reflect his interests in Italian architecture (the word Montalto is derived from the Italian 'high mountain'). That house, which was subsequently re-modelled in the mid-19th-century, is shown on the OS map for 1834 as a short rectangular block, with the entrance front facing south-west and the coach and stable yard on the north-west side. It is depicted (rather badly) on a late 18th-century landscape view of Montalto (Ker family); more accurately the north-east elevation is shown in a grandiloquent painting of the Battle of Ballynahinch by the artist Thomas Robinson (d.1810), who lived nearby and was clearly familiar with the house; and finally a small watercolour by a well-known Edinburgh based artist, William Greenlees, who visited Ireland, notably Ulster frequently in the 1830s/40s painting country houses. His illustration of the south-west entrance front of Montalto dates to March 1839 and typically for Greenlees is drawn with a naive handling of perspectives. It shows the yards as two-storey ranges in an open U-shape court (as on the OS 1834 map) and the house in the midst of a major remodelling and landscaping operation in which the rock below the house was excavated to create a new ground floor at basement level. From the illustration it is clear that the house, prior to these works, was a triple-pile block of two-storeys with no basement, with the southwest front composed of two-gabled ends and one full-height canted end, the latter positioned on the south end of the facade; a doorway with staircase gave access to the house at the opposite north end of the same facade. The south-east elevation has (as today) a central full height bay (called a semi-octagon on the 1830s valuation), while the Robinson painting shows that the north-east elevation mirrored that on the south-east. The house looks like *an hoc* jumble, but one can speculate that it began as a plain double-pile gable ended two-storey house, probably five bays, facing south-east with the yards to there; then - at a later date, an additional pile was added to the south-east front, with canted bay ends and a full height canted bay in the centre of the south-east front. Both phases were undoubtedly the work of Sir John Rawdon, who like his grandfather, who had a fine garden at Moira, was also a keen botanist and embarked from the 1770s, possibly earlier, on making a fine Arcadian parkland around his new house, which stood at the centre of the 600 acres he demarked to be enclosed for parkland. According to McComb's 1861 *Guide to Belfast*, using information derived from John Moore Johnston (b.1747) of Portmore, Rawdon's agent and 'Seneschal of Ballynahinch', we learn that Rawdon commenced his 'improvements' at Montalto in 1770 and 'expended about £30,000 upon them', saying that it was 'one of the best improved and most elegant demesnes in the country, having about 100,000 timber trees of various kinds growing on them'. The planting, it was noted was 'laid out on each side of a deep glen, though which the river runs. Rawdon was 'always planting, improving and embellishing' and had a 'good garden, a great variety of fruit-trees, a near pinery and grapery', some of which had been brought over from Moira when he moved, and that the demesne was 'adorned with shrubberies, temples, statues, ponds, and walks'. His park is first depicted on William Bryers 1790 map of the demesne and later on the 1834 edition of the OS map. At that time the irregular 'naturalised' parkland of grass, woodland and scattered trees of 'untouched' nature, epitomised by the work of 'Capability

Brown' in England, had become the established style for demesne design, replacing the formal geometric landscapes of the previous era. Typically, it comprised a judiciously laid out smooth open lawns, dotted with trees and clumps and framed by sinuous woodlands, belts and tree lined glades, all secluded from the outside world by encircling walls and tree belts. At its centre lies the house, which unlike mansions in earlier periods, stood free of gardens, offices and walled courts, with the parkland sweeping up to its windows. A lake (2.52 acres/1ha) was dug to the east of the house in the shape of a fish, designed so that it could occupy the middle distance view from the windows, while the park itself is traversed by carriageways, all carefully laid out so that family members and their visitors could enjoy the 'naturalistic' landscape to its best advantage. There were two main entrance drives into the park; one from the Grove-road on the west, which had a lodge pre-1834, and the other from the Dromore-road to the north; the southern avenue approach was not made until the 1840s. The park had narrow regular perimeter planting along the western side (the Grove-road), thickening towards the north-west, linking to the main woodland block to the north-west of the house, on the east slopes of Edenavaddy Hill. North-east of the house the extensive woodland known as the 'Low Wood', now just one large woodland, was at that time fragmented into smaller woodland blocks by open areas of lawn; here as elsewhere the boundaries between woodland and lawn was carefully defined by the topography to give the best effect of light and shade. Similarly, woodland belts and screens east, south and west of the house follow the contours. Much of the planting in the park, according to the 1830s OS Memoirs was 'oak, ash, sycamore, Scotch and larch firs' some of the trees in the demesne may be original. A sycamore here is recorded as a champion by the Tree Register of Ireland, as well as a *Liquidamber styraciflua* and a *Pinus nigra* pallas Pakkasiana. The 18th-century park also had a productive kitchen garden, which may have been enclosed by walls or hedges. It lay south of the house and is known to have had a 'grapery and pinery'; the grapery was most likely the building shown on the OS 1834 map lying in the north part of the garden. Sir John Rawdon, the first Earl of Moira, died in 1793 and not long afterwards, his fine parkland was the scene for the famous Battle of Ballynahinch (1798), which damaged not only the town but also the house (a Howitzer shell hit the roof) and some of the plantations with many saplings lost. His son and heir, Sir Francis Rawdon-Hastings (1754-1826), 2nd Earl of Moira and (after 1816) Marquis of Hastings, had by this time fought with some distinction in the American War of Independence. His interests had moved beyond Ireland, but it was the 1798 Rebellion and the damage to his property that made him decide to abandon Ireland; besides, he had in 1789 inherited estates in Leicestershire from his maternal uncle and started (1790) to build himself an English seat on the property, Donington Hall. As a result his Irish estates were put on the market; Montalto together with twelve townlands (8,444 acres/1,875ha) were bought by David Ker (1751-1811) of Portavo in 1802 for £92,000. He used the property as an 'occasional residence' and besides inserting some large windows into the house does not appear to have invested in any major changes to the property. Following his death in 1811, he was succeeded by his son David Ker (1779-1844) and in 1814 married Lady Selina Stewart (d.1871), daughter of Robert Stewart (1739-1821), the 1st Marquess of Londonderry. David, who sat as MP for Athlone 1820-26 and Downpatrick 1835-41, was very focussed on improving Portavo to the neglect of Montalto. By the late 1830s, however, the estate was effectively in the hands of his son, David Stewart Ker (1816-78), who started to make extensive alterations to the house, most notably, by quarrying the rock around it to create a new ground floor. This inevitably involved excavating an enormous quantity of rock and soil but also involved a massive landscaping around the house and with this a re-ordering of the landscape park. The earliest reference to this remarkable operation is April 1837 when the *OS Memoirs* recorded that, 'Montalto was a plain two-storey house; it is now undergoing additions and repairs in the following manner: the house is built on a rock which Mr. Ker has caused to be excavated round the foundation and under the house, thus forming an under-storey which is supported by numerous arches and pillars'. Thus the house was raised in height, but not by adding a new top storey on top of the building, but by creating a new one from below. In November later that same

year Montalto celebrated David Stewart Ker's coming of age, in which 'Ballynahinch was brilliantly illuminated' and 'ball & supper' held at 'the new farm yard where a spacious room tastefully lighted and ornamented with evergreens was opened to upwards of 1200 people' (Belfast *Newsletter*). The William Greenlees painting shows the house in March 1839 when the work on the house was still in progress; landscaping had not been completed and as yet no work was attempted remodelling the house, now standing on its new basement ground floor. By 1840 David Ker's health was declining and his son David Stewart Ker had more-or-less taken over the estate with the Ker agent at the time, William Stevenson. In 1842 he married the Hon. Anna Dorothy Blackwood (d.1862), daughter of Hans Blackwood, 3rd Baron Dufferin and Clandeboye, following which, it was announced that the couple intended making Montalto their home. This did not in fact happen until after 1844 when a fire burnt Portavo House and forced the issue. From that date over the next ten years work was undertaken on the house, essentially converting the old house into a restrained Classical-style building, even to the degree of keeping the full-height canted ends and the central full-height canted breakfront. However, the house was re-orientated to face south with the entrance at the base of the projecting breakfront in the centre of a symmetrical frontage. As in William Greenlee's watercolour sketch of 1838, the ground floor windows retain semi-circular heads, while the windows to the upper floors are flat-headed with those to the uppermost floor quite squat; all of these have sandstone dressings, with hoods to those to the first floor. In plan the house became U-shaped with the main three-storey block to the east and two-storey wings to the west, with lined render and cut-sandstone walls and a hipped slated roof partly hidden by a parapet. Further additions included a two storey hipped roof ballroom section to the south-west corner, a service wing to the rear and the outbuildings to the north-west. The large U-shaped range of outbuildings that stood to the west was completely demolished, whilst immediately around the house the ground was landscaped with the rock and earth left over from the excavations apparently piled up to form the mound to the north-east and perhaps also the terrace to the south. It was probably around this time that David Stewart Ker had a large series of chambers carved out of the rock 100m south of the mansion, to be used as a cold plunge bath (Listed HB 19/06/034). This is accessed via roughly cut stone steps which leads down into to an elliptical-headed entrance, and within there is a large chamber with vaulted brick ceiling and with elliptical-headed niches (in brick and rubble) along one side, and a channel in the floor where water has gathered. Cold baths and plunge pools were popular in the 18th-century and were part of a trend for coastal and spa bathing - all part of an aspiration for a long, healthy life. They were also believed to help cure disease such as gout. Invariably, they were located not in the house, but in the landscape, partly because they were patronized by men. The one at Montalto is unusually late in date, but the Kers were familiar with cold baths and had earlier built one at Portavoe - as over the generations the all seemed to suffer from gout. David senior sought 'soothing cold for gout' and even visited Bath with the express intention of finding a cure. Following the remodelling of the house in the 1840s, the U-shaped Coach/Stable yard to the rear (north-west) side was removed and relocated to the south-east where a fine new barn had been built in the 1830s. Here in the 1840s a stable block was built in conjunction with farm yard ranges (Listed HB 18/06/003). Restored in the later 1990s, these are arranged around a rectangular yard that is paved but has a large gravel-covered area in the centre. In the middle of the yard is a cast-iron plump (Listed HB 18/06/003B0). To the east of the yard (on the opposite side of the drive) there is a recently landscaped area, enclosed to the north and south by rubble walls and to the east by a large former shed which is thought to have housed a threshing mill. This is a single-storey structure with a basement level visible on the south gable, and a large curving 'buttress' section to the south-eastern corner. Similar in appearance to the blocks around the main yard it has large elliptical-headed openings to the west side with a mixture of smaller elliptical and semicircular openings to the other sides, all largely filled with timber doors. The building has been renovated and extended in recent years and now has two single-storey gabled end projections to the western side and a long two-storey gabled wing to the east. Another significant change in the

1840s was the removal of the kitchen garden from its former location to the south of the house to a new location further from the house and east of the lake, where it occupied a site close to water. This new productive garden occupied a long rectangular area, enclosed by hedges (one remains) in an area 2.64 acres (1.07ha). At its south end it had a frame yard, which contained a small lean-to glasshouse, the foundations of which remain. On the 1858 map there are a number of buildings in this area, so it is likely there was glasshouse here since the 1850s, as well as a potting shed or bothy. It is interesting that it was not walled; clearly the Ker's were being frugal and probably still relied upon the walled gardens at Portavoe. South of this kitchen garden a small footbridge crossed a stream down to a substantial single-storey dwelling called Drumnahill (Listed HB 18/06/017), built in the early 1840s almost certainly for the head gardener. In 1859 this house was the home of the 'Landscape Gardener' John Stevenson, who was probably also the head gardener at Montalto; he advertised himself in newspapers in 1859 as having been for thirty years 'similarly engaged' at Hopetoun in Scotland and Seaforde House. Presumably, he oversaw some of the landscape modifications that took place to Montalto in the 1840s and 1850s. One of these was the removal of the walled garden, which opened up vistas from the house to the south-east. Other modifications at this time took place in the south part of the park where the Spa Road, which formerly ran through a bog, was improved this was followed by the planting of perimeter belts alongside the road. Nearby on high ground a small deciduous wood was planted, known as 'Shackleton's Wood' which still exists. To the south-west and inside the new perimeter belts a house called Woodlands was built, replacing an earlier house, possibly for the estate huntsman; it has recently been rebuilt. Immediately to the west on a prominent drumlin lies Mutton Hill whose planting layout dates back to the 18th-century; indeed, the area has little changed over the last two centuries. Within the wood at Mutton Hill is a former gate lodge built in the 1850s giving access to the southern access drive, laid down at this time - it passed north-west, alongside woodland screens and through the area previously occupied by the old kitchen garden to the main house. The gate lodge was originally an attractive gothic-style single-storey building, similar to the gothic-style lodges at Mount Stewart and Grey Abbey; it is possible it was designed by Charles Campbell of Newtownards, who was working on the main house at the time. Mutton Hill it may be added here has relics of US army Nissen huts and concrete-road. Also landscaped and brought into the park in the 1840s was a long rectangular gable-ended labourer's cottage with sheepfold and two adjacent orchards just south of the old kitchen garden. The cottage, now known as the 'Tower Cottage' (Listed HB 18/06/04) was partly incorporated into a tree clump and surrounded by parkland lawns, while the cottage was remodelled with an adjacent folly tower, very possibly also designed by Campbell. This folly tower, clearly designed to be an eyecatcher across the new parkland area, has four stages, rendered part roughcast with an unusual ogee parapet with finials. The ground floor of the tower has a recessed gothic arched doorway with pointed arch windows to the next two levels over. The building was renovated in the 1990s. To the rear of the building there is a semicircular enclosure with 2m high wall and gateway to the south. In the open garden-like area to the front of the building there is a two stage stone 'podium' with panels and cornicing. Apparently this used to have a bell shaped top decorated with floral swags, but this has now been taken off. While most of David Stewart Ker's improvements to Montalto evidently took place in the 1840s and 50s, he did continue to make some changes in his later years, though he was increasingly constrained by financial difficulties; indeed, a large portion of their estates had to be sold through the Incumbered Estates Courts in 1862. One of his last significant additions was the town gate built in the 1860s on the south side of the Dromore-road (Listed HB 18/06/002). This has a broad, decorative gate screen of c.1867 by William Brown, with carriage gates to the centre with tall piers, and a curving outer screen terminating in shorter end piers. The main gate piers have square shafts in rock-faced basalt-like stone on bevelled plinths and have side 'jamb's' in sandstone to which the gates and railings attach. Each is topped with a fluted frieze with cornice and a swagged urn on ramped base, all in sandstone. The gates themselves (added, along with the railings, in the early 1900s to replace the

original timber versions) have a rising curve to the top and scroll decoration between the rails and short additional rails with spearheads. The contemporary lodge, a picturesque single-storey gabled dwelling with pointed arch windows and a projecting porch, has been demolished. Prior to commissioning a design for the gate screen from Brown, David Stewart Ker, had sought out ideas from architects George Aitchison the Younger and Turner & Drew, some of which were more grandiose. David Stewart Ker was declared bankrupt in 1872 with enormous debts (and a serious drink problem), so the estate was put in the hands of trustees with his eldest son and heir, Alfred David Ker (1843-77) assuming control, to be succeeded in 1877 by his younger brother, Captain Richard William Blackwood Ker (1850-1942), MP for County Down 1884-85 and East Down 1885-90. Captain Ker in 1881 founded 'Captain Ker's Famous Pack' - the County Down Stag Hounds, which resulted in the creation of a small deer park (25 acres/5ha) in the south-east of the demesne, east of the kitchen garden and south-east of the Low Wood; its purpose was to hold the deer for hunting. Eventually, the Ker family financial state of affairs got so bad that Montalto had to be put up for sale by the trustees in 1910 to be sold to Arthur Vesey Meade (1873-1953) 5th Earl of Clanwilliam - local rumour suggesting that the Kers actually lost it to him in a card game. Whatever the truth, Montalto was acquired by the 5th Earl of Clanwilliam in 1912 after his new wife, Muriel Mary Temple Stephenson (1876-1952) had refused to live in the Meade family home of Gill Hall, Co. Down, a huge late 17th century House (now demolished) that was said to be infested by ghosts. His wife was interested in gardening and at Montalto she made a small arboretum in the grounds south of the lake. This has some good specimen trees, including a very large *Sequoiadendron giganteum* (Wellingtonia or Grant Sequoia). On the east end of the lake (on the tail of the fish) she erected 'The Clanwilliam Gate' as a vista-stop comprising two tall brick piers with urns and a decorative iron gate incorporating '1913' and a coronet above. Like the Kers in the nineteenth century, the 5th Earl of Clanwilliam had relatively little interest in making many changes to the park. During the First World War the demesne was used as a training ground for the East Down UVF, which has been raised by the 5th Earl. During the Second World War the US army occupied the demesne, leaving several relics; there are Nissen Hut concrete bases on the south side of the lake drive; in Multon Hill and south of the bridge, WW2 two brick buildings (sentry boxes). In 1953 his son, John Herbert Meade (1914-89), 6th Earl of Clanwilliam, inherited Montalto and subsequently leased land on the western side of the demesne to Spa Golf Club for the creation of a new nine-hole course; in the 1960s this was expanded into an 18-hole course, which fortunately has not resulted in any seriously detrimental impact to the rest of the parkland, part of which it overlooks. At the north end of the park close to the town of Ballynahinch, he also sold a small portion of the park for a housing estate, this being the only really seriously detrimental alteration to the park over the past few centuries. In 1979 the 6th Earl sold the estate to a consortium of businessmen who used the house for conferences and the park for forestry and farming. They replanted parts of demesne parkland in 1896-89. In January 1985 an extensive fire resulted in the demolition of the north wing, the rear apartments and part of the rear of the south wing. The property was sold to the present owners in 1995, who have embarked on a major restoration of the house and its surrounding parkland. Part of the 1840s former stable and farm yard (Listed HB 16/06/003) was developed in 2011-12 as a wedding venue (opened in September 2012), known as the 'Carriage Rooms' with an adjacent small walled garden. In 2000 architect John O'Connell designed a wooden summer house and in 2016 wooden boat house for the lake. More recently a car park has been added near the farm yard and the adjacent yard extended as a large visitor centre with accompanying shop and restaurant. SMR DOWN 29:5 and 29:6 enclosures, 29:7 site of the Battle of Ballynahinch, 29:46 circular enclosure. Part golf course (Royal County Down). Park and gardens open to public; house private.

**MOUNT PANTHER, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/069
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Regency era walled landscape park (245 acres/99.1ha) with large Georgian house (Listed HB 08/11/048) close to the coast of Dundrum Bay, 1.32 miles (2.12km) north of the village of Dundrum, 0.96 miles (1.54km) south-west of Clogh and 4.16 miles (6.7km) north-east of Castlewellan. The north-east facing house, now ruinous, is centrally placed in the park on the northern side of Cloghram hill, and constitutes a very visible and dramatic feature in the landscape on the approach to Dundrum. Its parkland, designed by the celebrated landscape gardener, John Sutherland (1745-1822) survives largely intact though it has suffered some intrusive houses and a reduction in size due to the line of the main road being moved westwards in the 1970s through the edge of the demesne, leaving some of its walls and the demesne school house (Listed HB 08/11/049) stranded to the east. There is no evidence for a house here in the 17th-century when Cloghram and neighbouring townlands, formerly held by the McCartans, was owned by the Annesley family. The name 'Mount Panther' first appears in 1713 when Francis Annesley (1663-1750) leased the townland to his brother-in-law, the Rev. Charles Ward (1662-1724), Rector of Kilkeel and Treasurer of Down from 1704, the son of Nicholas Ward of Castle Ward. The name apparently derived from the local legend associated with the Great Cat of Clough - a beast said to have roamed the area in ancient days. In 1724 the property then passed to Ward's widow and then to their son, the Rev. Bernard Ward (c.1704-84), who from 1743, if not earlier, leased it to the Rev. Dr. Edward Matthews (c.1684-1755), Bernard's predecessor as Precentor of Down. In 1745, Matthews was joined there by Dr. Patrick Delaney (1685/6-1768) of Delville, Co. Dublin, the recently appointed Dean of Down, and his wife, the celebrated Mary Delany (1700-88). Mrs. Delaney gives us what is perhaps the earliest description of the site, referring to the house in June 1745 as 'very indifferent, but the situation pleasant'. While the house was later altered and enlarged, we do have an idea of the appearance of the house as Mrs Delany would have remembered it, because the building was surveyed in some detail by the *Archaeological Survey of Northern Ireland* in the early 1960s. It would appear the house was a five-bay two and a two or two-and-half storey rectangular house, two rooms deep, forming the centre of the present house, whose rooms were decorated with rococo-style friezes characteristic of the 1730s-50s. It may have had a straight avenue aligned on the front, but the park was so thoroughly landscaped later that nothing of this survives. Apart from a two-year break in the later 1740s, Mount Panther remained the Delaney's main residence in Down until 1764 or 1765, being sole occupants of the house following Rev. Matthew's death in 1755. After they vacated the property, Bernard Ward appears to have sold it in 1765 to John Smyth from Co. Louth, who is said to have been appointed British Resident in Christianstadt, Norway, in 1770, and shortly afterwards the demesne, complete with 'elegant new brick house remarkably well built, four or five rooms on a floor...large, lofty and well finished', corn mill, kiln and malt house, was put up for sale. We know from the plasterwork that the building was not 'new' so this was perhaps a sales pitch, while the present house is in fact stone with brick-lining. It was purchased in 1772 by Frances Charles Annesley (1740-1802), 2nd Viscount Glerawly, later the first Earl Annesley, who had succeeded to the Annesley estates focussed on Castlewellan in 1770. Unfortunately, there are no known surviving records relating to the considerable building works that were subsequently undertaken by the Viscount at Mount Panther, but once he had acquired the property, Frances Charles Annesley not only remodelled and enlarged the house, but added a very substantial yard and walled garden to the rear and engaged Sutherland to create a landscape park. The architect is unknown, but the style is distinctive and Sir Robert Taylor has been suggested as a possibility. The earlier house was extended each side giving it a front facade of eleven bays and raising the building to three storeys; to the rear a two-storey service wing was added on the north and a single-storey wing at the south rear, the entire being cased in a stucco, with the front façade sporting an abundance of classical detailing, including full-height fluted pilasters, a bracketed eaves, hoods on brackets to the ground floor and some of the first floor windows. To the

immediate rear of the house is a large rectangular courtyard enclosed on three sides by stable, coach and farm buildings, built in two stages but all present (as with the house) by the time Thomas Rowland produced a demesne map (then 206 acres) in 1799 for the Earl Annesley. Like the house, the yard today is in ruins, largely concrete-covered but now largely reclaimed by grass, with a large mid-20th century metal clad shed occupying much of the western third of the space. The west range is most impressive, a long two-storey structure, with off-centre three and a half-storey section with roundels and lunette, but now missing its cruciform roof. The south side of the yard has an even longer two-storey range, now largely roofless and in a state of dereliction. The north side of the yard has two two-storey blocks, separated by a gateway. Enclosing the yard on the south-east and south-west sides is a large irregular-shaped walled kitchen garden, 4.9 acres (1.99ha), with high rubble walls lined with brick; some of its walls still supported espaliered fruit in the 1990s. The garden was subdivided into two areas, with the area of the garden south-east of the farm forming the 'Little Garden', a square garden into which one entered from the house in its north corner. The north-west corner of the main garden has a roughly square two-storey brick house with a slated pyramidal roof with central brick chimneystack, and small upper floor windows; this is the gardener's house and must have been built in the early 19th century as it is not shown on the 1799 map; the house has a stone with the name of a 1940s gardener from Newcastle on it. This kitchen garden post-dates and an earlier 'good Orchard and Kitchen Garden' mentioned in *The Belfast Newsletter's* advertisement of 1770; Mrs Delany in 1750 refers to 'excellent gooseberries, currants, and potatoes' grown at Mount Panther. The OS six-inch map of 1834 shows the 1770s kitchen garden laid out in panels with regular rows of trees in the south which may have been an orchard. Aside from the gardener's house mentioned, the walled garden had various associated buildings, many of them post 1800 in date. The 1859 OS edition shows some island buildings in the western area and potting sheds along the north-west wall - essentially a long, single storey stone lean-to range. The name of a renovated building—'The Apple House'—probably reflects its former use as an apple store. The 'Small Garden' was probably always more ornamental than the main garden and visitors to the main garden would pass through it from the house. A 1913 photograph shows a long, wide, straight, level gravel path parallel with the yard south-east wall, with shrubs on one side and grass on the other. Along the grass are a row of standard roses, each with flowers at the base and each in a ring of flowers. Climbers are trained up the wall at regular intervals, while some way along the path is a clipped arch with a hedge across to the wall. While the 'Little Garden' was probably principally for ornamental rather than kitchen produce, there were also ornamental garden areas outside the walled enclosures; indeed, Rowland's map of 1799 marks a number of gardens at the dwelling house, namely a 'Pleasure Ground' (over an acre Irish measure), immediately north of the dwelling house; this is a rough rectangle with the carriage drive along the east and a long oval curving path inside it. There is also 'Flower Garden' (11perches). In 1989, in the area south-east of the house there was much rhododendron and yew and a possible walk with piles of rock on either side of an entrance to the walled garden; paths were also shown in this area from 1834. The 1770s landscape park was almost certainly the work of John Sutherland, who became the most celebrated landscape gardener of his day. Sutherland became something of a confidant to the Annesley family, both with the Earl and his brother, later the 2nd Earl, and it was the Annesleys who recommended him to the Commissioners of Mountjoy Square as a suitable person to design the square gardens. The park at Mount Panther is among amongst his earliest works, undertaken when he was in his thirties. The Rowland 1799 map and that of the OS 1834 map show the park layout clearly. The house was flanked by woodland with the larger area on the south-east; there is a second woodland block on the south-east perimeter, a smaller one on the north perimeter and a large wood block (now gone) in the south-east corner of the demesne. There were narrow and even perimeter belts along the road on the east and north side of the park, helping to enclose the front meadow or lawn, known as the 'East Lawn' in front of the house (71 acres/28.8ha), containing five significant clumps, four in the south-east and one in the south. The open meadow

north-west of the house was called the 'Rough Lawn' on the 1799 map; this was also given a narrow straight edged perimeter belt. This shelterbelts are a strong feature at Mount Panther and are distinctive features on the horizon, marking the limit of the park. Historically, the composition of these belts, screens and woodland blocks was beech; in 1770, prior to Sutherland's landscaping, the site already had 'thousands of full grown Oak, Ash, Elm and other valuable Trees' which no doubt were carefully integrated into the landscape. One particular clump, one south of the dwelling house near the southern boundary still survives with beautiful mature trees; it is shown on Rowland's map of 1799. North to east to south-east of the dwelling house parkland swept away from the house beyond which is the demesne wall and river beyond that, flowing into Dundrum Bay. Behind (west) of the house the land rises up to provide a backdrop, with the Mountains of Mourne west of that. Carriage drives, both still present, arrived at the front forecourt of the house from the north-west and south-east sides; the former, being the main approach, curved sinuously downhill around the east lawn to the entrance with gate lodge (the north lodge, now abandoned), crossing a mill pond, disguised as a small natural lake. The gate pillars, gates and other decorative ironwork at this entrance were brought to Mountpanther in the 1950s from Dunraven House, Malone Road, Belfast. The other drive goes down hill to the east lodge, much altered and extended; the gate screen here is a relatively simple affair with low harled curving walls sweeping to a carriage entrance with tall square rendered piers with cornices and curved caps; the gates are now in the yard. There was formerly a separate drive to the school house and a circuit drive inside the perimeter belts linked both entrances. 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. The pond by the north entrance is associated with a corn mill and later used for flax; shown on the 1799 and later maps, this is probably the same as a corn mill offered for sale in the 1770 sale advertisement. The former School House (Listed HB 18/11/049), now a dwelling east of the house and once within the park, is now on the alienated land on the eastern side of the A2; it is a U-shaped attractive single-storey building with projecting gabled end bays, harled walls and a mixture of gothick and flat-headed windows, built in 1822 by Major Rainey (d.1832) who bought the demesne in 1822 from Hugh Moore, whose father, Rev. Charles Moore (d.1807), Vicar of Kilmoody 1786-89, Rector of Moira from 1789, and one time agent to the Earls Annesley, had bought the property in January 1803 after Francis, the first Earl Annesley had died in 1802. The earl, who had entered into a bigamous marriage with the wife of his brother's gardener in 1797, died without legitimate heirs. In 1832 the demesne again changed hands being bought by John Reed Allen (d.1875) of Dunover for a reputed £12,000. J.R. Allen was succeeded by his son, George Reed Allen. After his death in 1929 the property was divided between four of his cousins, with Lt.-Col. Thomas Gracey receiving the house and the estate split between the three others. Shortly afterwards, in 1931, the house and much of the grounds were purchased by Patrick Fitzpatrick (1896-1957), a building contractor from Kilkeel. Mr. Fitzpatrick's son, During the 1939-45 war many valuable pieces of furniture from Belfast City Hall were stored at the house, and parts of the grounds were taken over by the US Army. Seamus Fitzpatrick, inherited the property in 1957 and he and his family remained living in the mansion until 1963 when it was vacated, the roof removed, and a new house built within the grounds to the east. Since then the redirecting of the Dundrum Road/construction of the A2 has resulted in the alienation of a large strip of the eastern part of the demesne, whilst several dwellings have since been built on the northern edge. DOW044:021 (possible rath/tree ring); IHR 11078:000:00 (threshing mill); IHR 3451 (mill complex). Private

**MOURNE PARK, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D-039
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Formerly known as Ballyrogan and Siberia, this demesne, founded in the 17th century, was largely created in its present form in the early 19th century. It covers 1,194 acres (484ha), largely walled

and including the mountain behind the house; the present registered area, which excludes the golf course of 112 acres (43ha) in the south-east, extends to 1,082 acres (438ha). The demesne park, enclosed behind a twelve foot high granite wall, occupies a remarkably fine site on the south facing slopes of Knockchree (Hill of the Deer) Mountain (OD 1,013ft/309m) and was much admired by 19th century travellers and artists. Magnificent stands of beech of late 18th and early 19th century date, planted along the Whitewater River to the west and north-west of the house, were photographed by R. Welch at the turn of the 20th century and many of these remain, together with other mixed mature plantings at the base of the mountain. The present neo-classical house (Listed HB 16/05/009A), a double-pile cube-like block, which together with the compactly designed yards to its rear (Listed HB16/05/009B), is entirely surrounded by parkland, giving it a particularly intimate relationship with its surrounding landscape. Unfortunately burnt to the ground in May 2013, this building, which sits on the site of a hunting box marked 'Siberia' on the Taylor & Skinner 1777, incorporated a number of phases in its history, beginning in 1807 when Robert Needham (1746-1818), later the 11th Viscount Kilmorey of Shavington Hall in Shropshire, built a plain south facing house here immediately on inheriting the property. In 1818, having been inherited by his brother, Francis Needham, 12th Viscount and 1st Earl of Kilmorey (1748-1832), the house, together with the rear yard, was further modified and as in 1807, this work was undertaken by a local journeyman-builder from Proleek, Co. Louth called Thadius Gallagher (Gallier). In the 1840s Francis Jack Needham, the 2nd Earl of Kilmorey (1787-1880), known as 'Black Jack', made some alterations to the house, notably moving the entrance to the side of the house, as was the fashion in the Victorian era, and adding new a new two-storey/three bay front with higher ceiling heights than the old house. In place of the old carriage sweep a square parterre terrace was added to the south front. The 3rd Earl, Francis Charles (1848-1915), who inherited in 1880, spent a lot of time at Mourne Park unlike his father and undertook many improvements, notably adding rectangular bays to the principal elevation of the mansion in 1892, probably by John Birch of London. Subsequently, his son, also called, Francis Charles (1883-1961), the 4th Earl, added a rather ungainly one-storey extension to the entrance front on the west side in 1920 (which survived the 2013 fire), partly to provide additional space for the furniture that had come to Mourne Park after the family sold their English seat. The family's absence in England for so much of the period prior to the 1880s contributed to the survival of the original enclosing landscape park that had been laid out around the 1807 house. While much of this original layout has remained essentially unaltered, some notable alterations have been made, the most damaging being the insertion of a golf course in the south-east sector and the unfortunate planting in the early 20th century of the Green Wood Avenue with lines of beech trees, now mature, which removes the parkland aspect from this area; a more positive alteration was the creation of the park lake in the 1880s. Clearly professionally designed by a landscape gardener, possibly William King, the original park of 1807 was given strong irregular perimeter belt planting on the south and eastern sides ('Bank Wood' and 'Greengate Wood' survive), which together with the substantial woods on the north and west (The Beech Wood and Tullyframe Wood) enclose a series of open meadows or 'lawns', themselves defined and broken by a series of large irregular plantations, notably the large 'Tree Gate Wood'. It is likely that parts of the woodland along the Whitewater River on the west side, where there are fine stands of beech, and portions of the 'Beech Wood' to the north predate the 1807 park layout and are 18th century in origin; indeed, it is reckoned that some of the trees along the Whitewater are possibly successors of primary woodland. In addition to beech, the early 19th century parkland woods contain pedunculate oak with ash, sweet chestnut, horse-chestnut, and lime; additions made in the 1840s contained Douglas fir, yew, larch and elm. A network of walks and carriage-drives were created through the woods, which included building a number of bridges, most notably one in the Bank Wood (Listed HB 16/05/008), while the house in the 1807 park was approached by three separate avenues, all from the Newry Road on the south. These avenues wound their way through the park and woods, each carefully designed so as to provide visitors with the best views of the house and landscape.

Also original to the layout was a fourth 'tradesman' avenue from the Ballymageogh Road on the east that gave access to the Grange yard and walled garden; this entrance was given a gate lodge in the 1820s (demolished in the 1990s) as was the Whitewater Gate entrance on the west, the latter replaced in the 1840s, though the original c.1820 classical gate piers and screen survive (Listed HB 16/05/007A). The Green Gate entrance was given a lodge in 1888-90, probably designed by John Birch of London (Listed HB 16/05/05), while in the 1840s a small 'gate lodge' was constructed in the woods north-west of the house to control the footpath access to the 'Beech Wood' from across a pedestrian footbridge over the River Whitewater at Tullyframe. The walled garden (Not listed. HB 16/05/068), which lies 0.5 miles (0.9km) directly east of the house, was built as part of the original 1807 landscape design; it has a rectangular form (1.9 acres/0.8ha) with north-west south axis, enclosed by high walls of squared and coursed granite rubble. Traces of the former glasshouses survives beside the west end wall and save for a few surviving fruit trees, the garden is now under grass. Immediately north of the garden are two surviving picturesque-style demesne workers cottages, c.1820, probably originally bothies (Listed HB16/05/060 A & B), while to the west of the garden stands the ruin of the granite built 'Grange Yard', which was also part of the original 1807 landscape and built as a farm yard; it was remodelled and expanded northwards in the later 19th century as a 'model farm' (Listed HB 16/05/058A-C). This yard, now roofless, provided stable accommodation, calf houses, tack room, carriage house, servant's housing and a covered hippodrome horse training arena, the latter a rare feature in Ireland. The substantial Kilkeel Golf Clubhouse, built in 2000, stands at the south-west corner of this yard. A significant 'improvement' to the park made by the 3rd earl was the construction of an artificial lake, now badly silted, in the central area of the park, 600ft (180m) south and south-east of the house; this takes the form of two co-joined ponds (20 acres/5.1ha) with three islands. A picturesque thatched boat-house, which appears in many early photographs, was erected at the west end of the lake (now collapsed), close to the sluice feeding water from a channel linked to the Whitewater River. In the wood close to this channel stands an ice house, probably of 1820s date; it has a low approach passage leading to a chamber (Listed HB 16/05/059). Another late 19th century 'improvement' included the building of the gardener's house (Listed separately as HB 16/05/009C), located at the very rear of the yard ranges behind the house. On the south front of the house the parterre was remodelled, being transformed into a three-stage terrace with central linking steps between levels; the main rectangular terrace (80ft (24.5m) x 190ft (58m), supported by granite ashlar walling, has two symmetrically placed ornamental ponds. A second terrace (70ft (21.5m) x 105ft (32m) was also created on the east side of the house with a sundial moved from elsewhere; it has a bronze dial inscribed 'Gardiner, Belfast Oct.1820' with etched Roman numeral and a scrolled gnomon. A rock face family mausoleum was later built just south of these terraces; the lid of this tomb is inscribed: 'Nicholas Needham Anley/ Born and died at/ Mourne Park/ 30.3.1943 – 13.2.1992/ Safe in your beloved Mourne/ Rest in peace'. In addition to architectural works, the 3rd Earl of Kilmorey, who was a tree enthusiastic, developed the pleasure grounds east of the house where he introduced many exotic trees and shrubs, these planted amidst a network of meandering paths. Among the trees of note today include an Oriental Plane (*Platanus orientalis*) with the second greatest girth of its kind in Ireland (5.9m at 1.2m); a very impressive monkey puzzle (*Araucaria araucana*) 3.63 x 21.5m; A Scot's Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) with the second greatest girth of its kind in Ireland (4.97 x 18.8m) and a Northern Catalpa (*Catalpa speciosa*) the second tallest of its kind with the greatest girth of its kind in Ireland (2.21 x 12.3m). Within this pleasure ground was been built in the 20th century a long rectangular enclosure, 100ft (30m) x 70ft (21.5m), now containing a concrete swimming pool, enclosed by a clipped yew hedge with a pergola approach and a pair of Wrought iron gates c.1900. Within this enclosure there was formerly a small Buddha statue on a concrete plinth and elsewhere in this garden was a white marble statue of a man in Grecian clothing (early 19th century) on a pedestal, inscribed 'Francis Jack, 13th Viscount and 2nd Earl of Kilmorey B.1787 D.1880'. There was an attempt to sell this in the house contents sale of April 2003; the attempt

was contested in court and judged (2005) to be a fixture in the gardens and covered by the property listing. Nearby there is a dog's cemetery, with the graves of Paddy (1923-40), Venus (1939-48) and others. During the last war many trees were felled from the park and woods; also during this time (October 1934-March 1944), the demesne was the Divisional Artillery HQ, HQ battery and 46th Field Artillery of the 5th Infantry Division of the American Army from October 1943-March 1944; many Nissen huts were erected in the grounds. On the death of Francis Charles, the 4th Earl of Kilmorey in 1961, the house remained with his wife and daughters who eventually sold the house and demesne in 2013. Prior to this, the south-east section of the park had been sold to the Kilkeel Golf Club in 1993 and a further 690 acres (280h) had been sold for forestry. The woods at Mourne Park have long been recognised for their importance and in 1986 they were the subject of a major tree survey by Professor Roy Tomlinson for the Environment Service (as it then was) of the DoE. The road at the south-west end of the park has been realigned. SMR: DOWN 55:3 stone faced rath, 55:12 enclosure/tree ring? 55:22 megalith: court grave and 55:23 standing stone. Private.

**MYRA CASTLE, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/040
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Early Victorian parkland (205.7 acres/83.2ha) with large castellated house of 1844 (Listed HB 18/08/092A) within the 16th-century lough-shore demesne of Walshestown, lying 4.79 miles (7.7km) north-east of Downpatrick and 2.6 miles (4.2km) west of Strangford. The original dwelling here, a tower house by the shore, now overlooks a largely deserted walled garden. The earliest reference to it is its inclusion on the 'Smith' map of 1580 and a Christopher Lynch evidently owned it in 1613. By around 1630 it was apparently occupied and perhaps owned by the Anderson family, though much of the townland of Walshestown (425 acres) appears to have been part of the Cromwell family's Downpatrick estate, then passed to the Southwell family, later Barons de Clifford. The building is oblong in plan of four stages with small turrets rising a stage higher at the north and south angles. Absence of external machicolation and presence of internal murder hole might indicate a late 16th-century date for the building. In the 18th century it was modified with larger windows and the rooms elegantly furnished when occupied by Robert Forester Anderson, who was recorded as occupying the castle in 1836. Following his death around 1840 the property passed to his daughter Jane, who in 1843 married her cousin Rowland Craig-Laurie (1810-96), of Redcastle, Kirkcudbrightshire. Shortly afterwards, the couple abandoned the old tower house and built themselves the present Myra Castle a short distance to the south, laying out the parkland around it. The new house was castellated and was of considerable size, though that is not at first apparent when visitors arrive as the entrance, which lies at the base of a square 5½-stage castellated tower lying at the west end of a roughly long rectangular house, whose long side facades are not at once visible. The building is in fact a large asymmetrical mansion, mostly 2½-storeys in height, with rendered walls, a hipped roof, castellated parapet and various towers, bays and projections. We do not have records of its construction, though the date 1844 is usually cited, while the name of the architect remains unknown. On the south side there is a projecting single-storey wing, which the 1857 map suggests was the original entrance, later moved the tower on the west end where a three-four stage rounded tower was added to the north-west end. To the eastern face of the building there is a central square projecting bay, directly east of which to a relatively large circular freestanding section, which is original to the house and formerly overlooked an artificial lake. A few metres south-east of the house is a late Victorian Chinese-style meat safe (Listed HB 18/08/092C), that apparently was in use until 1970 and restored in 2003. It is a small single-storey pavilion-like rendered building of square plan on a stone base, with a hipped roof and the entrance to the symmetrical three-bay western face flanked by windows with grills, with similar windows to the other faces. A balustraded terrace lies outside the house and there are metal aloes in urns along the balustrade, while north of the house at the far end of the pleasure grounds, 130m distant, lies

a large stable and farm yard, linked to the house by an underground service tunnel. The stable, coach and farm yard (Listed HB 18/08/091), has survived remarkably intact and is an unusually well preserved and maintained example of a Victorian model farm. Most of the yard is contemporary with the house with later 19th-century extensions, while the blocks in the yard centre are Edwardian. On the east side of the yard there is an intact gas house with retorts. The parkland extends out from the house to the north, west and most expansively to the south. though which the main avenue curves its way up to the house from a striking entrance gate and lodge (Listed HB 18/08/094) in the south-west corner of the park, off the Myra-road. This carriage-drive was put down in the 1860s, probably at the same time as the house entrance was moved to the west end; it passes a large natural pond on its west side, divided in 1991. Originally the main entrance entered the park west of the house off the Myra-road; this entrance still exists. The new 1860s lodge is a relatively large L-shaped two-storey rendered house with an overhanging hipped slated roof and a substantial segmental-headed window openings. The associated gate screen, which has replacement gates, extends from the west end of the lodge, is in a Tudor-Gothic-style with pointed carriage gateway on the west side linked to a three-stage octagonal tower with rere door, small pointed-arch openings and castellated parapet. The parkland is well endowed with isolated trees; these include Irish yew and some exotics, including a champion tree, a tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) with, just before 2005, a girth at 1.5m above ground level of 5.97m and a height of 26.5m. The park perimeter also boasts a sizable amount of mature woodland both around the house and north of Walshestown Castle. The wooded area around the house has a mixture of trees with some recent planting. North-east of Walshestown Castle was an area of commercial planting—Sitka spruce with a hardwood border; the spruce was felled c. 1950. There is a fine mature beech avenue along much of the Myra Road, from well south of the gate lodge to north-west of the house. The avenue was continued in the years before 1991 with new planting from seed including plane trees. The pleasure garden extends from the house north and includes a good collection of exotic trees and shrubs. This once fringed a west side roughly rectangular lake (1.1 acres/0.44ha), which lay below the east side of the house. There is an ice house in its bank and further south a stone Moghul-style summer house with stone seats was built overlooking the lake; this is still present though the lake itself along with a boat house was removed in the late Victorian era. The lake was fed by a small stream that still flows into the west side of the walled garden beside Walshestown Castle, where there is a small waterfall and a pond. The walled kitchen garden (2.32 acres/0.94ha) contains the old tower house, the bawn having disappeared before the 1830s. Prior to the 1840s the castle had a much smaller kitchen garden to its south, and this area plus a small quadrangular stable yard (demolished around 1860) that serviced the old castle, were both incorporated within the 1840s kitchen garden. In the centre of the garden, now a rather romantic grassy paddock, are the ruins of a long free standing wooden-framed glasshouse facing south-west that contained a vinery and was built in the late Victorian era; it was still used until the early 1980s. There is a pond in the west of the walled garden which is fed from the stream which gushes along its western perimeter from south to north. In the early 1990s there were still espaliered fruit trees (apple) and box. and there were also remains of the ornamental planting, such as cordylines, in a formal arrangement and a pedestal bird bath (or table). To the west of the walled garden, beside the stream and a well, is the garden house which, in the early 1990s was still occupied. In Miss Wallace's time there were still six gardeners and apparently there were once fourteen. Nearby is a pier (scheduled MRD206: 090) and a boat house, both built c.1850; the pier used by coal boats which came every two years, 'Everybody got 1/2ton coal all hands to work—coal cellars in the house—vaulted. Following Rowland Craig-Laurie's death in 1896 without heirs, the property passed to Rowland's brother Col. John Craig-Laurie (1821-1901), who also died without any male heir. The property was bought by The Rt. Hon, Col. Robert Hugh (1860-1929), from Downpatrick, a man of considerable wealth who was a Boar War veteran, lawyer, politician and Orangeman and one of the central organisers of early 20th-century Unionism. Among his many interests were music (writing the 'South Down

Militia'), history, local antiquities and yachting and he was one of Ulster's most prominent personalities. Myra was inherited by his only son, Brian, a Downpatrick solicitor, in December 1929, but as he died the following year (January 1930) in a boating accident, the property remained with Robert Hugh's wife Carolina Wilhelmina (nee Twigg, 1871-1960) and then in June 1960 passed to both her unmarried daughters, Gwendolen (Gwen) and Caroline Wallace. Myra Castle was sold in the late 1980s to David Good, son of Brigadier Ian Henry (Rupert) Good (1905-1989). DOW031:058 (possible rath/tree-ring); DOW031:008 (Tower House and two mediaeval coffin lids from the locality); DOW031:010: (possible church site, SE of tower house). Private.

**NARROW-WATER CASTLE, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/041
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Mid-Georgian landscape park (338 acres/136.8ha) with Tudor-style house of 1831-37 (Listed HB 16/11/019A) in a commanding position above the Newry (Clanrye) River, 1.6 miles (4.8km) north-west of Warrenpoint and 4.8 miles (7.7km). Narrowwater (Narrow-water/Narrow Water) demesne, established in the 17th-century, is still owned by the same family and has long been noted for its expansive woodlands, its trees and the settling and quality of its designed landscape, which was modified to its present form in the 1840s. The strategic importance of the 'narrows' just below the house and park is why a small castle was built here in the 1560s for an English garrison on what was then Magennis territory. It's a typical tower house, being rectangular in plan with three-storeys, an attic with closets and latrines contrived within the walls and an enclosing bawn. It exchanged hands numerous times between the Crown and the Magennises until 1670 when it was sold for a reputed £1,500 to Francis Hall (1635-1706), the son of William Hall, an Englishman (possibly from Devonshire) who is recorded as having arrived with his kinsman, Arthur Chichester, at Belfast in 1604 and who died at Red Bay, Co. Antrim, in 1640, where he managed iron works. Francis Hall's initial purchase from Joseph Deane (who acquired the property in 1661) was the townland of Narrow-water, plus eight surrounding townlands; he established himself quickly in local affairs being made High Sherriff of Co. Down in 1677. Initially, he occupied the old tower house for a few years, while he built himself a house 'Mount Hall' on an eminence 0.25 miles (0.41km) north-west of the old castle. Completed about 1673, we have no evidence what this house looked like, as it was subsequently enlarged and remodelled several times over the next 150 years. In 1706 Francis's son Roger Hall I (b.1655), succeeded to the family estates, and he in turn was succeeded by his son Toby Hall (1691-1734), who married (1712) Margaret (d.1758), a niece of the 19th Earl of Kildare. He was probably responsible for giving Mount Hall a fashionable formal designed landscape, such as lining the straight approach avenue from the south with trees and another straight avenue in a north-east direction, relics of which, including former regular looking demesne field boundaries, are still present on the 1800 estate map and the 1834 OS map. However, it was Toby's son Roger Hall (1716-1797), who transformed Narrow-water demesne into what it is today. He married (1740) Catherine, daughter of Rowland Savage of Portaferry and he set about undertaking what Walter Harris in 1744 noted were 'improvements'. He sat as a long serving MP, first for the borough of Longford (1757-60), then for Newry (1761-68) and finally for County Down (1768-76), supporting Lord Hillsborough's interest. In return Hillsborough supported Hall's plans to enlarge and redesign the town of Warrenpoint and improve its harbour facilities. In the later 1790s he engaged Patrick O'Hare, a Newry surveyor to help with the work at Warrenpoint; in 1800, following his death in 1797, O'Hare also produced a survey of the 'Narrow-water demesne' for Roger's son and heir, Savage Hall (1763-1801); until the 1830s the name 'Mount hall' was generally just used for the house rather than demesne and confusingly, the name 'Mount Hall' was still occasionally being used into the early 20th century. This very useful survey by O'Hare, illustrates the very extensive 'improvements' Roger Hall carried out to the demesne since he assumed control in 1734. A small drawing on the map shows the house of Mount Hall as it then appeared, the earliest representation we have, save for a distant view of the building in the background of a painting by the artist Jonathan Fisher in 1771 (Ulster Museum);

the latter show the house as a long low two-storey dwelling with dormers and hipped roof. The 1800 map shows the house was by then a long two story six-bay house with seven chimneys and two doors, which we know to have been classical in style and by that period enlarged and remodelled on a few occasions. The map also shows that over around 120 acres of woodland had been planted by 1800, notably in blocks north-west of the house and above the public road in both Narrow-water and Aghnamoira townlands, extending as far as the gate lodge, which is labelled as such on the map in Aghnamoira (in demolished). The trees planted were mainly oaks, including many evergreen oaks, sycamores, limes and beeches. Two of the woodland blocks are labelled on the map 'Grotto Wood South' and 'Grotto Wood North' and a paddock also 'Grotto Park'; this 'grotto' was described in an account of 1908 as being 'an old castle, overrun with ivy, seated on a solid rock', which was 'a pretty ruin or "ruin" it must be called, although part of it is modern construction'. This 18th-century folly summer house, perhaps originally a prospect tower, still survives high in the woods, about 0.4 miles (0.64km) north-west of the house and is marked, but not labelled on the 19th century OS maps. The 1800 map also shows that by that time extensive areas south-west and east of the house were then in parkland, while a two-acre grove and shrubbery lay east and south-east of the kitchen garden - the term shrubbery indicating it was largely ornamental. The kitchen garden, probably then a hedged enclosure, as shown on the 1800 map, occupies a similar area to the present walled garden, though smaller (2.5 acres); the present walled garden was built by Roger Hall (1791-1864), who succeeded his father Savage Hall in 1801 as a minor, though his guardian, James Moore of Arnos Vale, continued his father and grandfather's work at Warrenpoint, notably building the docks on behalf of the estate. When Roger Hall came of age in 1812, he married Barbara Savage of Portaferry the same year and continued works of improvement in the demesne. He must have built the present walled garden around 1820; it occupies a large trapezoidal area of 4.2 acres (1.7ha), enclosed by 15ft high stone walls, lined on the whole of the inside with bricks laid in a garden bond with no coping. The ground of the garden slopes north-west south-east and originally appears to have had a building, probably a glasshouse south of centre. By the 1840s a long free-standing glasshouse with lean-to potting sheds to the rere had been erected as freestanding building inside the centre of the long north-west wall; these potting sheds and the glasshouses bases with iron heating pipes survived as a feature in the garden until around 2017 when they were demolished. Outside the centre of the south-east wall is the gardener's house (Listed HB 16/11/020), converted into a modern dwelling in recent decades and now projecting into the garden. Flanking the north-west corner of the walled garden he built (probably at the same time) a farm yard quadrangle (now demolished); this was replaced in the later 19th century by a larger farmyard close-by, now in a semi-ruined condition. Like his grandfather, Roger Hall was an ardent agricultural improver, a member of the Down Society for Promoting Agriculture and founder of the Narrow-water and Warrenpoint Farming Society, the latter found in the 1820s, with ploughing matches being held in the park at Narrow-water every year. Roger's biggest improvement was to build a new house and modify the park and gardens. It's likely he had an ambition to do this as soon as he inherited in 1812 and may have approached local architect Thomas Duff (1792-1848) in the early 1820s when he was starting his career. However, work on the house did not actually start until 1831 and is shown on the 1834 six-inch OS map, although it was not fully finished internally until 1837. The finished house, built of Newry Granodiorite from Mullaghglass, Co. Armagh with trimming of Giffnock sandstone, is a large, exuberant Elizabethan Style structure, complete with bays, buttresses and half-dormers and a parapet liberally laced with tall pinnacles and chimneystacks. The main body of the building consists of a large two and a half-storey over semi-basement rectangular block set on an east-west axis to the south, with a large wing of similar height extending northwards from the east end and culminating in a taller two and a half stage rectangular entrance tower. Extending from the north-western corner of the house is a long two-storey former service wing [listed separately (HB 16/11/019B), which was created by remodeling the original later 17th and 18th-century dwelling. This wing faces on to a domestic yard, which is bounded to the north by a quadrangular stable

yard (Listed HB 16/11/021, but is open to the eastern side. A date stone on the western block of the stable yard indicates that it was built earlier in 1816; it is possible the whole yard was also built at that date, but that the eastern range was remodelled in the 1830s to tie in more closely with the new Elizabethan Style mansion. Sir Joseph Paxton, head gardener to the Duke of Devonshire, travelled from the Devonshire Irish seat of Lismore to Ulster specifically to visit Roger Hall in 1844 and according to Frederick Burbidge writing in 1894, he went to 'arrange the planting' of the grounds around the house 'in his characteristic manner'. It was probably on his advice that the splendid stone balustraded Italianate terraces with stone steps and urns were added on the south side of the house, though the detail of the design itself was probably the work of the English landscape designer and one-time pupil of Paxton, Edward Milner (1819-1884), possibly in conjunction with the architect William Farrell (d.1851), who is known to have worked for Roger Hall at this time. The horizontal ground was once filled with massed flower beds, as was then the fashion, no doubt facilitated by the newly constructed glasshouse in the walled garden and today remembered in photographs, but now grassed. The terrace commands fine view of the parkland front lawn and beyond, all modified in the 1840s after the new house was built, possibly following Paxton's professional advice. The front lawn (68.5 acres/29.9ha) lay east and south-east of the house extending to the Mound Road with perimeter tree belts planted along both this and the Warrenpoint road to the south. This extension of the front lawn, which was typically decorated with judiciously placed isolated trees and clumps, involved closing the old public road and replacing it with the new present Mound road 300m to the east. This left the old flax mill in a *cul de sac*, the mill itself being carefully hidden in a woodland block, while the old sluice stream and mill pond remained, dividing the lawn but hidden from view. Unfortunately, this landscaping achievement has been damaged in the later 20th-century by the construction of farm building south-west of the old mill in what was open parkland; furthermore, a water treatment plant alongside the Mound-road tree perimeter has further damaged the parkland setting. The back lawn (32 acres/13ha) south-west of the house and pleasure grounds, was largely created in the later 18th-century, and while it has lost most of its isolated trees, remains wonderfully intact. Beyond the front lawn to the north and north-west, the outer park also remains intact. In a small tree clump east of the walled garden is the ice house (HB 16/11/043), comprising an underground chamber accessed via an L-shaped passageway within which is a flight of steps, which descend from the south-east; though not marked on the 1834 OS map, this is probably late 18th century in date. Sometime in the early decades of the 19th century a duck decoy was made half a mile north-east of the house; this was a rectangular basin with four projecting 'pipes' and was enclosed within woodland; there was a second much smaller pond near it with unknown function; it is not known how long the decoy remained in operation, but it probably fell out of use in the late Victorian era. Adjacent to this on the north-west side was a small fallow deer park (63.7 acres/25.8ha) was made within the woodland planting in the 1840s; this still functioned as a deer park until at least 1900 and probably was abandoned like many others during the Great War. With the remodelling of the parkland in the 1840s, new carriage drives were created, all carefully laid out with a lot of re-landscaping, so as to best appreciate the parkland setting and provide a dramatic approach to the house. The main carriage drive entered the park opposite the old castle; this replaced an earlier entrance located further to the north-west. Probably built to designs by Thomas Duff, this entrance (Listed HB 16/11/018) consists of a pair of central gate piers set back from the road and screen walls which sweep out to matching outer piers close to the roadside. There was formerly a lodge here also, built into the screen wall on the eastern side of the gateway; this lodge was subsequently replaced by another designed by Vincent Craig in 1905. The building was badly damaged in a terrorist bomb in 1979 and subsequently demolished, a move which entailed the rebuilding of the wall to this side and the loss of some of its features, most notably a Tudor-arched wicket gate. A short distance away is a small granite mile stone (HB 16/11/050), a cuboid with a pyramidal top and the numeral '4' on the three road-facing sides of late 18th century date.; the '4' denotes the distance to Newry in Irish miles. The east entrance was

a lodge on the newly diverted Mount Road (Listed HB/11/023) c.1840 also probably by Duff; this is an asymmetrical L-shaped building with cut-granite walls, and a steeply pitched overhanging gabled roof with decorative bargeboards, an open porch supported by a granite Tuscan column, and mullioned and transomed windows. It was abandoned c.1970s and restored in 1994, but with a large (and somewhat overpowering) extension added to the rear. The accompanying gate screen, which appears to have repositioned further northwards in recent years, has wrought ironwork by Samuel Weir, whitesmith of Newry. There were two other gate lodges, both now demolished; one off the Greenan-road opposite the Mill Dam and the other off the Warrenpoint road towards Newry; the latter was marked on the 1800 map and gave access to a carriage drive through the woods, close to where there is presently a large quarry. The pleasure grounds, which covered 10 acres (4ha) and extended north-west to the walled garden and beyond were approached by two grand flights of stone steps from the terraced parterre. These pleasure grounds were to assume greater importance after Roger's death in 1864, when more exotic plants became available with the expansion of empire. Known in his latter years as 'the old squire', Roger died without issue and the Hall estates passed to his younger brother Samuel Madden Hall (1800-73) and was then left to his nephew William James Hall (1835-96) who had fought in the Crimean war and served with distinction at the siege of Sevastopol. Upon his death in 1896 his eldest son Roger Hall III (1864-1914), a captain in the 1st Battalion Royal Fusiliers, took over the family estates, much of which was about to be sold through the Land Acts. Both William James Hall and his son Roger III were plant enthusiasts, building up the collections in the pleasure grounds. These grounds were described in the *Ulster Gazette* in 1896 as having a 'path along the crest of the hill [leading] to a pretty rustic bower' from which there was a serpentine path bringing visitors 'into a scene of almost tropical splendour. This little paradise' we were told 'was reclaimed some years ago from rocky barren ground and converted by Mr. Morrison, the present land Stewart and head gardener'. The visitor then described the 'gigantic ferns and palms, rude stone arches, covered with friendly lichen, an artificial pond with water-lilies, miniature paths - all combine to create such a picture as we can imagine was in the mind of the owner of the garden. The 'rustic bower' which is now shown on the OS maps, was described in 1908 as being 'tastefully constructed' and 'opening to the morning sun inlaid with seats all round with a circular rustic table in the centre. The floor is paved with variegated pebbles and surmounted by a carved golden eagle with outspread wings'. By the 1880s the gardens were becoming well known and the famous horticulturalist William Robinson visited in Spring 1894. By that stage Tom Smith of the celebrated Daisy Hill Nursery in Newry had started to supply plants to the pleasure grounds and did over the next few decades, re-designing parts of the pleasure grounds, notably creating the 'rocky valley', which the well known and opinionated horticulturalist and Curator of the Trinity College Botanic Gardens in Dublin, Frederick W.T. Burbidge (1847-1905) believed to be 'one of the boldest and best, because most natural, of rock gardens' that he had ever seen, stating it had the 'merit of fitting the place, and the stones of which it is mainly composed are in many cases enormous natural boulders covered with Mosses and Lichens, Saxifrages and Ferns, so as to individually become little rock gardens of themselves, appearing to spring or crop up naturally from a carpet of Megaseas, Bamboos, Osmundas, and other hardy Ferns'. He also noted 'one or two bold stone arches, or rather square-headed stone doorways that lends to them an air of antiquity, and you can pass through one of these and descend a rude stone stair into a rocky valley- that is one of the best features of the place' and one that lends seeming height and dignity to the higher portions, covered with the larger and taller growing vegetation'. A feature of the garden for Burbidge was the enormous *Gunnera manicata* then only comparatively recently having been introduced into Europe; he listed a very impressive range of plants growing in the rock garden and pleasure grounds and also noted that in spring and early summer, Narrow-water then was 'a very paradise of bulbous plants— Snowdrops, Crocuses, Narcissi, Irises, Liliiums, etc.' Spring-time he remarked was 'perhaps, the best time in which to see Narrow Water, when the knolls in the park are golden with double Daffodils in such solid masses as only come to pass with age on a suitable

soil'. He also commended the Scottish head gardener, John Morrison (1848-1915) for the 'good taste and keeping bestowed upon the whole place'. Subsequently, Armytage Moore, well-known plantsman and owner of Rowallane, created a Robinsonian Garden within the pleasure grounds, although much of it was already 'Robinsonian' in character. One of the main walks in the pleasure grounds led to a gate in the centre of the south-west wall of the walled garden; this lead directly onto a very long herbaceous border, with another at the central intersection focussed on the main south-east facing glasshouse. Articles in prominent garden journals at the end of the 19th and early 20th-centuries make particular mention of the pleasure gardens and some of its remarkable trees were noted in *Trees of Great Britain and Ireland* of 1909 and 1910. Exotics still survive, some recorded on the Tree Council of Ireland database. Champion trees at Narrow-water recorded include a wild cherry (*Prunus avium*) of 4.11 @ 0.8 x 27.3m- being tallest of its kind in Ireland with the second greatest girth of its kind in Ireland. There is a sycamore) *Acer pseudoplatanus* 'Atropurpureum') of 3.21 x 23.5m, the second tallest of its kind in Ireland and the Irish girth champion and an oak (*Quercus robur* "Variegata") of 2.45 x 19.5, the Irish height and girth champion. With the death of Roger Hall III in 1914 and the death of his distinguished head gardener John Morrison in 1915, and with the loss of the income from the landed family estates, the gardens went into a long show decline. He was succeeded by his son Roger Toby Hall (1894-1939), also a captain in the royal fusiliers. This Roger had been awarded the military cross for gallantry in the field from King George V in 1917 and in 1919 after recuperating from war injuries married Marie de Lourdes in Gibraltar, a Roman Catholic. In 1939 the house and grounds were commandeered by the military with 250 soldiers said to have been billeted within the mansion and around 2000 within the farm buildings. Returning to Hall family hands after the war, the house was run as a hotel, and then, in 1952, divided into twelve apartments. In 1999 it was converted for a time into a function/conference centre. It remains a private family home, often used as a wedding venue. SMR: DOWN 51:38 enclosure. The south east corner of the demesne beyond the Mound-road is a golf course, fortunately out of sight of the park and not included in the registered area. Private.

**RADEMON, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/073
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Georgian demesne (236.8 acres/95.8ha), with 17th-century origins for house rebuilt in the 1950s (HB 18/05/030), located one mile (1.6km) west of Crossgar and 4.25 miles (6.84km) east of Ballynahinch. The demesne, which is nearly all walled-in, undulates and the house is on a height in the north-west, facing south-west, with an entrance to the south-west, where there was a gate lodge, and another from the north-east. While much of the present demesne woodland, which includes extensive areas on the east side of the demesne, though replanted for the most part, is of 18th-century origin, the demesne itself dates back to at least the mid-17th century. The *Census of Ireland* for 1659 lists one 'Walter Johnstone' of 'Rademane' and following the 1660 Restoration of Charles II he was re-granted his lands here. No doubt there was a house here but more direct evidence is lacking; however, in O'Donoghue's (1896) *Life of William Carleton*, the story is related of an attempt to rob the house by the 'celebrated' Redmond O'Hanlon (c.1640-81), with the latter 'imitating the whining of a large house-dog' in order to gain entry. The Johnston's remained here into the 18th-century and Hugh Johnston (1685-1737), who married (1710) Elizabeth Graham (1685-1759) of Ballyheridan, Co. Armagh, may have laid out a formal demesne landscape here. When his son inherited, Arthur Johnston (1721-1814), the house was of sufficient importance to have been marked on the 1743 Walter Harris map and later depicted on the 1755 Kennedy map with trees around it. It is likely there was a straight tree-lined avenue from Rademon-bridge to the south extending north-east up to the house, 310m distance. Arthur Johnston, educated as a lawyer, was MP for Killyleagh (1769-76), having purchased his parliamentary seat from William Blackwood. It was he who planted the extensive woodlands in the east of the demesne and engaged someone to lay out a park in the western area. To achieve

this a public road, which divided the property into two sections needed to be closed, though the northern line of this road, from the farm yard ranges northwards, remains in use as an internal demesne drive. The old straight avenue that aligned on the front of the house also had to be cleared. The main entrance, which had a gate lodge by the 1840s, was made just north of the Rademon Bridge on the Church-road; the lodge here was a small single-storey building with the entrance to its short canted end and gothic windows, which survived until about 1970, while the present entrance here is wholly modern construction dating from about 2000 or later. Woodland was planted along the river, inside the gates and across the south of the demesne, leaving an open 'lawn' or meadow south of the house. Some of the outbuildings (Listed HB 18/05/029), flanking the east side of the old road, belong to this period; these being part single, part two-storey ranges of rubble stone. Subsequently in the late Victorian and Edwardian eras, additional ranges were added to the complex, many built of different contrasting materials giving the complex an eclectic appearance. North of the outbuildings and east of the house was the kitchen garden, partly walled, which took the form of a long rectangle (1 acres/0.4ha); in the 1990s it was still partly cultivated and had a glass house. The OS six-inch map of 1858 to 60 shows regularly-planted trees south of it which may have been an orchard. The completed park is depicted on Williamson's Map of County Down in 1810 and later on the 1834 OS map. The corn and flax mill (Listed HB 18/05/028), south of the river beside Rademon Bridge in Carnacally was part of Johnson's holdings and may have been established by the Johnston family, but by the late 18th-century it was leased out; in 1811 there are records of the lessees declaring bankruptcy. Arthur Johnston died aged eighty-nine in December 1814 leaving no children, so Rademon passed to his nephew John Crawford (1745-1829) of Crawfordsburn, the son of his sister, Mabel (1722-72). As John already had an estate, he appears to have given his son Arthur Johnston Crawford (1786-1826) the use of Rademon. Before his death, Arthur came to an agreement with his father to break the entail of the family properties in favour of his sister Mabel Fridiswid (1785-1844) and her husband William Sharman. And so, following John's demise in 1829, Mabel and William inherited the both estates, with that latter assuming the additional name of Crawford. William Sharman Crawford 1780-1861) used Crawfordsburn as his main residence, so much so that in 1834 Rademon House and 100 acres of demesne land were advertised for letting, though it seems by 1841, if not earlier, he was occasionally using the property as some improvements were made, notably adding a small lake or pond in the park south of the house. During this time Robert Johnston, almost certainly a relation who lived at Ballywoolen House, seemed to manage the Rademon property. Sharman Crawford sat as MP for Dundalk (1835-37) and Rochdale (1841-52) and was a popular landlord, so much so, that following his death in 1861, his tenants at Rademon erected a large obelisk memorial (Listed HB 18/05/032) within the demesne to the south of the house; this was erected in 1864-65 of ashlar sandstone with square panels to each face of the plinth and a bronze relief plaque on the north side with two classical style female figures flanking a draped oval containing profile portrait of Sharman Crawford and is signed 'S[amuel] F[erres] Lynn' and dated 1864. The panel to the east side of the plinth contains an inscription referring to the subscription for the monument raised by the tenantry. To the south side is Sharman Crawford's coat of arms and to the west is a further inscription containing some details of his life and career. Both Crawfordsburn and Rademon subsequently passed to William's eldest son, John Sharman Crawford (1809-94), with the latter leased (or given over to) to a younger brother, James Sharman Crawford (1812-78). Following James's death the property appears to have been given to another brother, Arthur (1811-91) who leased to a Dr. R.B. Davidson (to c.1890), who was followed by William Davidson. In 1894, Arthur's son, Robert Gordon Sharman Crawford (1853-1934) inherited all of the family lands, and appears to have divided his time living at both. During his tenure as owner of Rademon he served as MP for East Belfast (1914-18), Mid-Down (1921-22) and subsequently as a member of the Northern Ireland Senate. In 1930 R.G. Sharman Crawford sold Rademon David Douglas Reid (1872-1939), MP for East Down (1918-22) and Down (1922-39). It remained in the Reid family, but appears to have been leased during the 1950s. Prior to this

during the WWI 1943 the demesne was occupied by American Troops. In 1955 the house was gutted by an accidental fire, but soon afterwards was rebuilt to a design by architect Claud Phillimore, who reduced the main three-storey central section by a storey and raised the wings, thus producing the present nine-bay two-storey building. The demesne was sold around 1960 to Lt. Cdr. James Osborne King (d.1995), later passing to his son, James King. It was purchased by the present owner in the early 2000s.

**RINGDUFFERIN, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/050
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Small Georgian coastal parkland of 136 acres (55.1ha) with house of c.1795 incorporating earlier elements (Listed HB 18/02/010) on Strangford Lough, 2.4 miles (3.9km) north of Killyleagh; 5.7 miles (9.3km) north-east of Crossgar and 3.4 miles (5.47km) south-east of Killinchy. House lies a short distance west of the site of a 'castle' built by John White sometime before 1602 'on a neck of land' he had leased from Sir Ralph Lane, 'called Ringdufferin' or 'Randuffren' as it is called in the *Calender of State Papers* (1601-3). Several years later this became part of the large territories in County Down granted by King James I to Sir James Hamilton (d.1632), later 1st Viscount Clancuboye. In 1636 Alexander Baillie, later spelt Bailie (1587-1682) of Inishargy received the lands of Ringdufferin on mortgage from Hamilton, his grandson, also called Alexander, becoming the absolute owner in 1674. While he himself lived in Inishargy (Innishargie), he most likely improved White's house at Ringdufferin at some stage post 1636, possibly in the 1640s when his two sons, John and Edward, would have been looking for a home of their own. Nothing of this house survives, although the 'castle, site of' is marked on the 1859 OS map edition. However, the tall rubble walls flanking the seaward side of the garden do appear to be 17th in date; it is evident from map analysis that south-east of the 'castle' lay a walled rectangular enclosure, formerly an orchard, and now covered with trees. Both this former orchard and the walled garden lie on the same axis indicating strongly that they both belong at least in part to a modest late 17th or early 18th century formal courtyard layout associated with the original house on the site of the castle. The question as to when the house was moved from the old castle site to its present position remains to be answered with solid evidence, but it is apparent that the original straight approach to the house was aligned on the present house, suggesting a house on or near the present one before 1750; much of this straight approach is now a public road running north-east side of the present avenue. It is likely therefore that the present house was begun by Edward Baillie (1690-1774), who seems to have inherited as a minor following the death of his father Alexander Bailie around 1700; in 1682 both his grandfather Edward Bailie (1625-82) and his great grand father Alexander Bailie (1587-1682) died. When he inherited Ringdufferin he also inherited his grand mother's (Elizabeth Dunbar) estate at Toye, and therefore had the resources to build a new house, probably around or after 1730. Ringdufferin was certainly an important enough house by 1743 to be marked on Walter Harris's map of County Down and again on Kennedy's 1755 map. The present walled garden (1.61 acres/0.65ha) probably belongs to this period, though some of its random rubble walls are likely to be earlier. This garden today, which retains its traditional path layout (paths now in grass), remains fully cultivated, mostly ornamental, with wide borders, mature yew features, wall fruit and many fine plants, including a very long herbaceous border. Edward, who lived to the age of eighty-four, was succeeded in 1775 by his son James Bailie (1735-1810), who, perhaps rather late in life, married in 1793 Sophia Loudon (Lewdon). Possibly around the time of his marriage in 1793, it is evident that he transformed the property, both creating the landscape park and enlarging and remodelling the present building that had been erected by his father. Except for a wing later added to the south-east, the house remains much as it was c.1795, whose main, block facing south-west, has a symmetrical five-bay frontage, two-storey over basement, with the openings widely spaced and relatively small and a parapet with a Roman statue perched on top. To the rear it has an irregular plan with a long centrally placed return, another on the north-west and a number on the south-east, all part of separate building phases.

The landscaping involved removing the straight (presumably tree-lined) in front of the house to create front parkland 'lawn', as was the fashion of the period, with a new avenue curving around the lawn to the south and then along the shore line around Danes Point to the public road at the old entrance. About 0.3 miles (0.5km) of the old straight approach remained in use (it is now a public road) to give access to the yards by diverting around the front park and the walled garden. Trees were planted along side the new coastal avenue and a small woodland block (4.4 acres/1.8ha) on the north-west side of the 'lawn', while the lawn itself was given isolated parkland trees. The latter woodland block survives, known as the 'Oak Meadows' is notably damp with drainage ditches and a pond. In the 20th century shrubs, notably rhododendrons and camellias have been planted in the wood; there are also tree ferns, Japanese maples, skunk cabbages and a range of other plants. Castle Island, a peninsular to the south, was also probably planted in the 1790s with two semi-circles of trees. James Bailie died in 1810 and was succeeded by his son, also James Bailie (1797-1863), who trained as a barrister and played a significant role in local affairs; inevitably perhaps, living by the lough he was an enthusiastic sailor, and built a racing boat known as the 'Royal Oak' in 1812, which, according to lore, won every race it entered; it remained in the boat house until 1970 when given to the rowing museum in Henley. He in turn was succeeded at Ringdufferin by Major James Bailie (1823-96), who previously had served in the army (87th R.I. Fusiliers), spending ten years in India, being there during the Mutiny. He added to the planting at Ringdufferin and many mature trees east and west of the house are his, including a champion tree, a Monterey Cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*); which was measured (Tree Council of Ireland) as 12.65 @ 0.2 x 31.7m, being Irish girth champion and 2nd greatest girthed tree in Ireland. Following his death the small estate (670 acres) was struggling to survive and his widow took advantage of the Land Act provisions to sell lands to the tenants. As he had no sons, his three daughters inherited on the death of their mother in 1919. With the death of Louisa Bailie in 1941 the line came to an end and house and grounds were sold in 1945 to John (Jack) Pringle Mackie (1897-1988) and his wife Kathleen, with whose family it remains. In the post 1945 era planting at Ringdufferin increased; native and exotic trees were planted as specimens in mown grass to the south west of the house and along the avenue along the shore. The range is impressive considering the salty coastal conditions and includes Monterey Pine (*Pinus radiata*), Tasmania Blue Gun (*Eucalyptus globulus*); Dawn Redwood (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*); Chilean yew (*Podocarpus andinus*); Cut-leaf beech (*Fagus sylvatica asplenifolia*) and *Quercus cerris* (Turkey oak). Until the 19th century a windmill (HB 18/02/020) lay 0.2 miles (0.3km.) due west of the house. The house listing includes outbuildings, walling, the watch tower and gates. SMR DOWN 24:14 enclosure, 24:15 tower house and 24:39 enclosure. Private.

**ROSTREVOR HOUSE, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/052
REGISTERED GRADE A**

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 18th 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 18th 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 16/06/060B). 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 (then Curator, Castlewellan) for HED. The house on 29 acres was sold in 2017 and the house subsequently restored with large sections of the 1960s extensions removed. Private.

**ROWALLANE, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/053
REGISTERED GRADE A***

Robinsonian gardens of international significance integrated within a modest mid-Victorian parkland (240 acres/97ha) with house of 1861 (Listed HB 18/01/033), located 0.92 miles (1.5km) south of Saintfield and 3.9 miles (6.3km) north-east of Ballynahinch. Rowallane today is the end product of three phases of development; the early phase from the 1860s which saw the Rev. John Moore (1801-1888) transform what had been poor farmland into a parkland with fine gardens; the second phase from 1903 when the Rev. Moore's nephew, Hugh Armytage Moore (1873-1954) created an extensive Robinsonian garden, principally with an enormous collection of woody plants and finally from 1955 the National Trust have restored, maintained and further developed the gardens and its plant collection for public enjoyment. Rev. John Moore purchased the lands at Rowallane in 1858 using part of a fortune he inherited from his father, Hugh Moore (1762-1848) of Mount Panther, near Dundrum. His father, like his father and grandfather before

him, had been the agent to the Earls Annesley, and was descended from a Scot, Colonel John Mure (or Muir) from Rowallan in Ayrshire, who served in the Williamite armies and received a grant of land in Donegal. Before acquiring the Rowallane property, the Rev. Moore had spent twenty years as Vicar of Kilcoo, near Newcastle, before retiring in 1853; however, following the death of his brother-in-law, the third Earl Annesley in 1838, he managed the Annesley estates on behalf of his sister Priscilla, until his nephew, William Richard, 4th Earl Annesley came of age (1830-1874). One of his activities during this time had a direct bearing on Rowallane; the creation of an extensive woodland garden on the slopes above his sister's home, Donard Lodge in Newcastle. Traversed by a network of winding paths, it covered over eighty-acres with waterfalls, cascades, bridges, seats and numerous other garden features. Thus Moore was no garden novice when he bought the small farm in the townland of Creevyloughgare just south of Saintfield in 1858 and clearly intended making a garden here from the outset. His initial purchase was 507 acres of undulating largely treeless landscape divided into small fields for grazing with stones everywhere close to the surface. The approach was down a lane from the north, connected to the Lisrooder-road to the west. In 1868 and 1873 he purchased a further 400 acres in Leggygowan townland to the east, which allowed him to make an entrance from the Saintfield road to the east; by 1876 his total holding was 982 acres. In 1860-61 he commenced enlarging and remodelling the relatively modest existing dwelling to create the present country house, adding the stable yard and walled garden (dated 1864) to the south of it. The house (Listed HB 18/01/033) is a long, asymmetric two-storey building of pleasing, but relatively plain appearance, its irregular lines owing much to the fact of it having been constructed around an earlier smaller dwelling (itself dating from sometime between 1834 and 1858). The plan is basically that of a long rectangle with a slightly taller (almost tower-like) square section to the south-western corner. The walls are rendered and painted and the roof overhung with exposed rafter ends, plain bargeboards and rendered chimneystacks. An inscription on west elevation notes it was work of the builder William Lowry and was built in 1861, though in fact it was not completed until 1864. It may be added here that it was enlarged and remodelled by Blackwood and Jury in 1931 and the present double-gabled seven-bay entrance front belongs to this period. Once work on the house was completed, Moore built the stable yard to the south-west - this being roughly square in plan and enclosed on all sides with two-storey gabled ranges to the east and west, and single-storey ones to the north and south. It is cobbled on two sides and entered through a castellated gothic gateway, dated 1867, flanked by a tall slender church-like three-four stage square bell tower with lattice-paned pointed arch windows and a large oculus on two sides of the third stages, and an unusual parapet with tall square corner piers and lattice railings. This dominates the adjacent walled garden, as no doubt was the intention. The approach to the yard was lined with eight pairs of fastigate yews, clipped into tulip shapes in the early 20th-century. The rustic style of the yard was extended into the walled garden, a D-shape area (1.02 acres/0.41ha) with an I-shaped walled slip garden to the south (0.33 acres/0.13ha). A brick-arched gateway, which links the two garden areas, has a plaque dated 1864 and above this a Coade-stone finial. The garden walls have horizontal bands of glazed wall tiles, shaped and pierced to train espaliered fruit-trees, rather than using nails in the walls or wires. These tiles were patented by Richard Foxley of Towchester in the 1850s and are not known to have been used elsewhere in Ireland. Many were replaced by the National Trust in the 1990s, as have the ornamental glazed terra cotta path edgings. The path layout remains much as it was in Moore's day, though the main gate gates were added in 1928 and the summer house the previous year. In the 19th century the walled garden was largely devoted to kitchen produce; many of its fruit trees were sourced in 1869 from Ogle's Grove Nursery, near Hillsborough. As work progressed on the house and yards, Moore has teams of workmen clearing the land of field stones and removing many of the little field boundaries; some of these were gathered to make cairns and revetments, both still features of the garden. A surviving order to Charles Howden of Laurel Bank Nursery in 1861, indicates that Moore was supplied with 2,250 Scotch pine and larch, 1,000 oaks and 500 other hardwoods, including beech,

elm and Sweet Chestnut, many of which would have been for the mixed shelterbelts he was planting, notably on the west where the main pleasure ground was being laid out flanking the avenue. He was also buying more exotic conifers such as Wellingtonia, deodar, Lawson cypress, monkey puzzle, *Thuja plicata* and Monterey pine, some fine specimens of which still survive. One of these is a large *Araucaria araucana* (Monkey puzzle) and *Pseudotsuga menziesii* (Douglas fir), the latter being near the large ornamental pond that the Revd. Moore made close to the west avenue. As at Donard Lodge, Moore's style, likely to have been inspired by the 18th-century landscape at Tollymore, was 'Romantic picturesque'. This is best demonstrated on the east avenue, which was created following the acquisition of land in the townland of Leggygowan in 1868-73. Work began on making this avenue in 1873 when Moore engaged an engineer to blast and remove large quantities of rock to facilitate an easy gradient; by June 1875 some 239 cubic yards had been cut with over 1,000 cubic yards by June 1877 when work was completed. As a result of all this blasting, the new avenue is flanked dramatically by exposed rocky outcrops, around which Moore planted trees to enhance the setting. Along this avenue he also built a sequence of rustic ornamental structures, a stone bridge, primitive seats, ornamental cairns of stones from the Mourne district's Shimna-river. The final few hundred yards up to the house from this new avenue was planted with *Cedrus deodara*, again evoking the spirit of Tollymore. The Rev. Moore died childless in 1888, leaving the property for ten years to his nephew, James Hugh Moore Garrett, son of his sister Caroline, who lived with him in the last years of his life. However, he also stipulated that the property be left to another nephew on his twenty-fifth birthday in 1898, Hugh Armytage-Moore. In the ten years leading up to this inheritance, Rowallane was occupied not by Garrett but by another nephew, the Rev. George Raphael Moore, who planted many years during his tenure. Although Hugh Armytage-Moore (1873-1954) himself did not move into Rowallane until 1917, he started to improve the property from at least 1903 and fortunately for Rowallane, he turned out to be one of the great plantsmen of his era transforming Rowallane into one of the country's best known gardens. Although his parents had a garden in Co. Cavan, he was 'blooded' as he phrased it by Thomas Ryan, the famous head gardener at Castlewellan to the 5th Earl Annesley. The already existing ties between the Moore family and the Annesleys was strengthened by the marriage of Hugh Armytage-Moore's sister to the fifth Earl Annesley, while Hugh himself, like so many of his predecessors became the agent for the Earl Annesley, a position he retained until the outbreak of the Great War in 1914. It was this experience that allowed Armytage-Moore to develop a wide knowledge of plants, gardens, nurseries, other garden owners and become friendly with the keepers at Glasnevin, Kew and Glasnevin and plant collectors such as Forrest, Ward and Wilson, whose explorations alone provided him with the basis of at least 300 of the plants he raised at Rowallane. At Rowallane itself, Armytage-Moore with the aid of his gifted head gardener, William Watson (1858-1927), started from 1903 adding new areas to the existing gardens, initially an eleven-acre zone to the south-east of the house, which became known as the Lower Garden. This new area was laid out in a succession of small enclosures, each one with its own planting characteristics. Plants included *Desfontainia spinosa*, *Cornus kousa chinensis* and a collection of evergreen nothofagus. A large outcrop of rock at the southern end was made into a miniature mountain rock garden in 1904-05 with mostly small shrubs and rare alpine. At the time this rock garden, then a popular feature in pleasure grounds, received a good deal of praise and publicity; it was neglected in the post war year, but was restored by the National Trust in 1955-64. The central attraction of the Lower Garden was and remains, the Spring Ground, an area of over five acres that is filled with rhododendrons and azaleas offering breathtaking panoramas. Set against a background of Scots pine and beech, the planting here is enlivened with carefully chosen magnolias, sorbus, Viburnum, junipers and others to add variety and texture. Rhododendrons were Armytage-Moore's great speciality, and in recent years there has been an ongoing programme of propagation and replanting of his old varieties. In his uncle's walled garden Armytage-Moore replaced large areas of the kitchen stuff with rare plants and today the area is notable for its magnolias,

rhododendrons, climbers and penstemons; the latter collection of penstemons built up from 1981 was accepted as a National Collection in 1985 by the NCCPG. The garden has a notable range of herbaceous perennials, such as bergenia, celmisia, meconopsis, rodgersia and candelabra primula, including *Primula* 'Rowallane Rose'. Not less than twenty-two plants today bear the Rowallane name, some of the best known are found in the walled garden, such as *Crococsmia masoniorum* 'Rowallane'; the original *Chaenomeles x superba* 'Rowallane', which still produces its crimson flowers freely, the original *Viburnum plicatum tomentosum* 'Rowallane' and perhaps the best known of all, *Hypericum* 'Rowallane', notable for its large yellow flowers. The year following Hugh's death in December 1954, his nephew, K.M. Goodbody sold Rowallane to the National Trust, the money (£52,000) coming from the Ulster Land Fund; the house itself was handed over to the Trust after the death of Hugh's widow, Jane Armytage-Moore, the tenant for life, in 1960. The Trust retained Armytage-Moore's head gardener, John Hanvey Senior (1934-71), later engaging his son John Hanvey, junior, both of whom worked with Jean, Lady O'Neill of the Maine, who acted as garden manager at Rowallane from May 1956 to 1975; from 1981-2000 Mike Snowden was head gardener. The demesne area at the time of National Trust acquisition consisted of 207 acres (87 acres in Creevyloughgare and 126 acres in Leggygowan); much of the western parts of Creevyloughgare and eastern area of Leggygowan had already been sold, including Thompson's Hill. The gardens were opened to the public in 1956 and the first guide book to the gardens in 1958. In 1964 Graham Stuart Thomas produced a detailed report on the garden's management, plotting the way forward for the trust for preserving the garden's legacy, whilst introducing new elements. The original 1950s car parking area was removed and replaced in 1971 with the present car park north of the garden, requiring access bridges to be erected and a ticket kiosk. Around this time the gravel apron in front of the house was replaced with panels of lawn and a central path to prevent parking in front of the house. By 1990 the main eastern drive was proving too narrow for the increasing amount of traffic into the garden, a new avenue was made to the car park just outside the main garden area through the 'Caravan Field'; this was designed to fully integrate into the character of the landscape. A significant structural addition to the pleasure grounds took place in 1987 when an ornate late Victorian octagonal bandstand was moved here from the promenade, Newcastle, Co. Down; it has a concave roof with a decorative scrolled wrought-iron finial, supported on slim cast-iron columns with equally decorative wrought and cast-iron brackets and 'freize' and slightly plainer railings. During the 1980s the shelter belts around the Lower Garden were considerably reinforced and the west drive was grassed over. Also during the 1980s the nursery south of the walled garden was fenced, a glasshouse added (1985) followed by Poly-tunnels (2002). In 1995 a gardener's bothy, machinery building and yard were discretely added to the south, while a composting and storage area erected close to the east drive north-east of the Holly Rock area. The 1990s saw the start of a programme of propagation, replanting and restoration of the old rhododendrons. Traditionally, the path network through the Pleasure Grounds at Rowallane has been mowed grass rather than gravel paths to harmonise with the Robinsonian atmosphere of the gardens. Unfortunately, from 2015 the trust has put down many wide gravel paths through the gardens. Around this time a restaurant was made in the ground floor of the house and the rere area improved with an outdoor paved area. A great deal has been written about Rowallane in pages of *Irish Gardening*, *Country Life* and many other journals. The house is the Regional Office of the National Trust. SMR: DOWN 23:3. National Trust gardens open. Public access.

**SAINTFIELD HOUSE, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/056
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Mid Georgian walled Landscape park (364 acres/147ha) with an earlier 1740s house (Listed HB 18/01/030) in undulating drumlin country, flanking the north side of the village of Saintfield, 8.6 miles (13.8km) south-east of Lisburn and 5 miles (8km) north-east of Ballynahinch. Occupying parts of the townlands Glasdrumman and Lisdalgan, the layout of the park, with its woodlands,

belts and screens, almost certainly designed by a professional landscape designer in the 1760s, has survived intact to the present day, the only major change being the addition of woods on the east side following the realignment of the Belfast road. We don't have any knowledge about the pre 1760s landscape, but the demesne's origins lie in the acquisition of these lands in 1709 by Nicholas Price I (c.1665-1738) of Hollymount, Co. Down. His youngest son, Nicholas Price II (1700-42) settled in the vicinity and is styled 'of Saintfield' in contemporary documents. 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 Francis Price MP (1728-94) succeeded his father to the property in 1742, he built the present mansion, probably around 1744 or 45 - a tall five-bay gable-ended double pile house of three storeys over a basement. The flanking wings, which incorporated high pyramidal roof, were added by his son Nicholas Price (1754-1840), former Black Rod in the Irish Parliament, after he sold the family house in Dublin c. 1800. Little trace of the early and mid-18th century formal landscape survives, though some of the woodland planting undoubtedly has its origin in this early period, while the walled boundary of the demesne was probably largely built in the 1740s when the house was being erected. The core of the present informal landscape park was evidently 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 1st Earl Camden in 1779. This landscape process involved closing public roads, putting down new winding carriage drives, building a ha-ha in front of the house and making a small lake (2.1 acres/0.85ha) 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 ice house (Listed HB 18/01/041), north of the yard, probably belongs to this era. Venerable trees that were part of this landscape were lost and damage caused to the woods by The Big Wind of January 1839. The large walled garden (2.91 acres/1.18ha), located south of yard, was probably built c.1760-80, but assumed its present form much later, being divided into three parts during the 1840s. The northern section (0.95 acres/0.38ha), now covered with agricultural buildings, formerly contained the glasshouses (now gone), built against its north-wall by the yard, overlooking an ornamental garden with curved southern stone wall (lined with brick on south side); the middle section (0.91 acrs/0.37ha) and the bottom or south section (1.3 acres/0.53ha) were devoted to kitchen stuff and cold frames (in south-east corner). The garden has long since ceased to be kept as a garden. Francis's son and heir, Nicholas Price III (1754-1840) inherited the property in 1794, and four years later, around the time of the Battle of Saintfield, the house was occupied for several days by the United Irishmen. Nicholas is thought to have added the wings to the house around 1800 and built three gate lodges around 1810 - including the town gate and the west gate, the latter being placed opposite the entrance; both lodges were in a Regency Gothick style with hipped roof, distinctive canted bays and naive Y-traceried lancet windows; both may have been the work of George Dance, the Younger. The west gate lodge, which lay west of the house on what was then the Belfast-road, was described by Dean as 'choice Georgian Gothick'; it is now effectively lost though has retained its gate screen, which also appears to be of c.1810; this is a relatively broad affair with long quadrant walls in rubble with fine tall square cut-stone Classical Style rusticated gate and end piers, with fluted friezes and oversailing caps, and decorative iron gates. A large length of the demesne wall is still standing to the south of this gateway. The town gate lodge (Listed HB 18/01/018), was described by Dean as 'an unusually commodious single-storey structure with a wider than normal three-bay symmetrical front elevation' with front canted bay, hipped roof and wide eaves. The third lodge built c.1810 was at the north gate along the Belfast-road; this has no gate screen to boast of, but has retained its lodge, albeit in a much extended and modernised c.1960s form. The northern gateway, at the north-eastern end of the demesne along Belfast Road, has no gate screen to boast of, but has retained its pre-1830s lodge, albeit in a much extended

and modernised c.1960s form; this gave access to the kennels and the yard. To the south of this, another long stretch of the demesne wall is still in place, with another long stretch to the south of this (beyond a significant gap) leading up to what was the east gate. Created after the laying out of the Belfast Road in 1847 this entrance originally had a Tudoresque lodge, possibly designed by James Sands. The entrance itself is no longer in use and the lodge has been demolished, and all that remains are parts of the outer walling of the gate screen which have cut-stone coping and short square rubble piers. Another length of demesne walling is still in place to the south of this. The cutting of the new Belfast road in 1847 took place the same year that James Blackwood (d.1855) of Strangford, assumed the name Price; he had married Elizabeth Anne Price (d.1867), the only child and heir of Nicholas II Price, who died in 1840. The expansion of the demesne to the east, that accompanied the new road, was also followed by additional landscaping on the east side of the park. This included the planting of a large woodland block and laying down a new main avenue approach through this wood. Elizabeth and James's son, James Charles Price (1813-94) was the next owner, followed by his son, James Nugent Price (1844-1927), whose descendant still retains the property. 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 (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/059
REGISTERED GRADE A**

A high quality 18th 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 17th 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 18th 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 18th 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-18th 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 field 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 19th 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 Eucryphias. The northern section of the garden contains a commercial nursery, established after the Fordes’ 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 the late Patrick Forde; among the plants here are an enormous *Rhododendron arboretum*, a superb Crimean pine (*Pinus nigra caramanica*) and a good collection of azaras. During the war Seaforde, like many other demesnes, was requisitioned by the army, housing

British and later American army; from June 1942 it was Headquarters, 1st Armor (1st Armored Division) 1942 Supply Battalion (less two Truck Companies) (1st Armored Division); from 24 October 1943. the 5th Reconnaissance Troop, Mechanised (5th Infantry Division) from 24 October 1943. 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 (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/065
REGISTERED GRADE A***

Remarkable 18th-century designed landscape (1,184 acres/479.2ha), beautifully situated in the shadow of the towering Mourne Mountains alongside the rocky banks of Shimna-river, lying on the south side of Bryansford village, 2.2 miles (3.5km) north-west of Newcastle and 2.6 miles (4.12km) south of Castlewellan. The demesne is internationally famous for its woody parkland, its incomparable setting, its romantic streams and waterfalls, its early plantations which extend up into the foothills of the mountains, and above all for its many 18th-century embellishments by or in the style of Thomas Wright (1716-77), the Wizard of Durham. Despite the demolition of the mansion in the 1950s, together with the loss of much of its parkland to forestry, plus inappropriately located caravan and car parks, the property retains a great deal of magic and remains a popular location for day-visitors. It's origins go back to the late Medieval period, when Tollymore (Ballytullymore) was the property of the Magennis family of Upper Iveagh. In 1611, Bryan MacHugh Aghorley Magennis (d.1628), received royal confirmation of his ownership to the area, being granted seven and a half townlands (including the area which now contains the park), from King James I. After his grandson Bernard Maginnis, a Protestant, died without heirs in the 1660s, the property passed to his aunt, Bryan's only daughter, Ellen (1614-1653), who was married (1634) to William Hamilton (1614-1680), a nephew of Sir James Hamilton (d.1643), 1st Viscount Clancarty, thus Tollymore passed peacefully into settler hands. The 1674 transfer deed described Tollymore as comprising 300 plantation acres 'of wood and underwood, 200 acres of furze and heath and 200 acres of moors'. In due course William Hamilton's son, James Hamilton (1651-1700) MP inherited the old Maginnis lands and nine years later in 1689, made an influential marriage to the Hon. Anne Mordaunt (1625-1675) daughter of the 1st Viscount Mordaunt of Avalon; which greatly helped his active and successful political career. Their home was 'Tollymore Manor', which confusingly was actually located not in the present demesne, but 1km east towards Newcastle; however, from the 1690s onwards James, who was appointed Commissioner of Forfeited Estates in 1699, started to acquire land in and around Dundalk, where they family eventually built their seat. His only son James Hamilton (1691-1758), later Lord Limerick (1719) and Earl of Clanbrassil (of the second creation) in 1728. He was brought up in Dundalk and was politically active from an early age becoming MP for Dundalk in 1715; in November 1719 he was raised to the peerage as Viscount Limerick, went on a number of Continental 'Grand Tours' from 1716-24 and in 1728 made an enormously important marriage to Henrietta, daughter of William Bentinck, the 1st Duke of Portland. One of his first acts on coming of age in 1712 had been to embark upon building a deer park in Tollymore (1712-15) covering 297ha, made for hunting deer, which he was to improve and enlarge in subsequent decades. His first big improvement was the creation of a straight road directly south from what is now the Bryansford gate, across the river to a 'Huntsman's Lodge' (now gone) where he would have stayed when visiting the park; in creating this road a bridge was built over the Shimna-river in 1726, now called the 'Old Bridge' (Listed HB 18/13/030). It is a impressive rubble-built structure, later 'repaired' in 1822, which springs from the rock out crops to the bank and has a single elliptical arch, with dressed voussoirs in red granite. It has a date stone which reads 'I.H. 1726' and in the 19th century had pedestrian metal suspension bridges each side. Pococke in 1752 made special mention of this 'handsome bridge' where the rocky cliffs 'on each side may be twenty feet deep'. No sooner than he completed the bridge, when he ordered his first 'parcel' of trees from Holland, some 11,000 trees being

dispatched from Rotterdam in November 1728 together with a consignment of wine. In 1740 he created the 'New Deer Park' of some 140ha, thus enlarging the park to 439ha in total. There are surviving payments for 'work on the deerpark' wall in 1740 and payments to tenants for 'loss of ground taken from him by the "New Deerpark"'. Four years later Walter Harris remarked upon the 'excellent venison' to be had in the park and its fine woods, which he noted were 'cut into ridings and vistles'. These 'ridings and vistles' were later depicted on Bernard Scalé's 1760 map of the park - cutting through the extensive woodlands that already existed by time, some in part having been planted the Viscount Limerick, other parts no doubt part of the 300 Plantation or Irish acres of woodland recorded here in 1674. Through the Viscount's marriage links to the family of the Duke of Portland, he became friendly with Thomas Wright (1716-77), the Wizard of Durham, who he invited to come to Ireland in 1746-47, ostensibly to tutor his children and to compile a survey of the antiquities of County Louth, which resulted in 'Louthiana' (1748). Wright stayed at Dundalk for over a year and during that time visited Tollymore, where he advised on landscaping and designing buildings to enhance the grounds. At Tollymore he was evidently directly or indirectly responsible for the development of the park's famous buildings until his death in 1777. During this period from the 1740s until the 1770s, the deer park was transformed into a demesne, eventually becoming the main seat of the family - this being the result of Lord Limerick spending an increasing amount of time there. When Bishop Pocock visited Tollymore, five years after Wright's departure from Ireland, he found that 'Lord Limerick has built a thatch'd open place to dine in, which is very Romantick' and noted that 'above the north side of this he had begun to built a pretty lodge, two rooms of which are finished designing to spend the Summer months here'. The thatched structure, probably a Wright design, is long gone, but the 'pretty lodge' was the beginning of what became the family mansion in a commanding position above the river and a focal point of the demesne (demolished 1952, now the lower car park). The house that Pocock saw being build, was a plain two-storey block with one bay on either side of a canted three-sided bow - the latter feature very rare in Ireland at that time, but one favoured by Wright. The house is shown on Scalé's 1760 map; subsequently between 1760 and 1777 it was enlarged with flanking one-storey three bay wings together with three one-storey ranges forming the sides of a quadrangle to the rere; by this stage the main entrance was in the east range. The house with its canted bay south front was depicted on a well-known engraving by Thomas Milton after John James Barralet in 1787 with the lawn spreading away from the house in classic Brownian fashion and the Irish Sea visible in the background. Also shown on Scalé's 1760 demesne map was the 'coach house', now known as the Clanbrassill Barn (Listed HB 18/13/023), lying to the north of the house site. Built around 1756-7 this is a rubble-built, two storey gabled, gothick barn built in a 'Wrightian' Gothic-style, with granite pinnacles on each corner and at the west end a small bellcote-like structure with a crocketed spire. Around 1780 it was flanked with a decorative 'Wrightian' Gothick gateway decorated with round boulders, known locally as 'bap stones', so characteristic of Tollymore's ornamental Wright buildings. A few years later the barn was made to look like a church, when the east end was crowned by an octagonal tower supporting a granite spire crowned with a bap-stone and weathercock. The south face of the belfry has a clock made in 1785 (Rudhall, Gloucester). Probably the earliest of the 'Wrightian' style bridges, possibly built before 1760 in the time of Lord Limerick (difficult to discern on map) is the so-called Horn Bridge (Listed HB 18/13/025), which lies a short distance south-west of the house site carrying a drive over a (now largely culverted) stream. The bridge is mainly harled and has a single, small, pointed arch. Either side of the arch are quatrefoil recesses and end 'pilaster' piers. The outer ends of the face of the bridge are set back slightly with an oversailing castellated parapet. that once supported curved whale bones - thus the bridge's name. In 1756 Viscount Limerick was raised as the first Earl of Clanbrassill, by which time he had retired from what was an active public life, which in latter years had been focussed on developing Dundalk. He was succeeded by his son, James Hamilton, the second Earl of Clanbrassill (1730-1798), who was then MP for Midleton. The second earl was to advance his father's work at Tollymore considerably, adding many buildings

that were designed by Wright or influenced by him. However, this work did not start seriously until the 1770s, following the completion of the house in the 1760s and early 1770s with its side wings and rear courtyard ranges, all depicted on the Scalé's beautifully produced demesne map of 1777. It is clear that it was only following this considerable house enlargement that Clanbrassill started to spend much of his time at Tollymore and in doing so was to focus attention on developing the demesne. The 1777 map also shows that he had also completed the parkland planting north of the north of the Shimna-river, which now assumed a classic Brownian parkland layout that it was to retain until the mid-20th-century. Narrow regular shelter belts were planted alongside the Bryansford-road to the north, with open lawns or meadows below and to the east of the house, edged with sinuous woodland blocks and covered with clumps and isolated trees, so the park lawns merged seamlessly with the woodlands behind. Two large lawns also existed west and should-west of the house, allowing distant views up the valley from the house; large section of the river itself were also free of woodland. Beyond the park the woodland took over and this was expanded considerably by the earl, who was inspired by the extensive planting of trees, and of larch in particular, at Dunkeld in Perthshire by John Murray, 4th Duke of Atholl (1755-1830); he may also have been inspired by rocky glen at Dunkeld with Ossian's Hall (1755), which resembles Tollymore in many ways. Loudon tells us that the Earl of Clanbrassill began his serious woodland planting 'about 1700 or perhaps a few years before'; the main period of planting however seems to have been the decade following 1777 when he planted 337,318 trees as he himself recorded in his almanac for 1789. Among these were 25,478 larch, Silver Fir and Scotch pine. He appears also to have been the author of a book published in 1783 *An Account of the Method of Raising and planting the Pinus Sylvestris, that is, Scotch Fir, or Pine, as now practiced in Scotland*. The earl was also interested in adding new species of trees and shrubs and started a collection west of the house; at the time the terms 'arboretum' or 'pinetum' were not yet in use, but effectively he created an arboretum at Tollymore, probably the earliest in Ireland. Its prize tree and a tree closely associated with Tollymore is the dwarf spruce, *Picea abies* 'Clanbrassilliana', which according to Loudon writing in 1844 was discovered by Clanbrassill whilst out hunting at Moira, Co. Down; what is reputed to be the original tree survives today in the arboretum. It might be added here that the 2nd earl's mother, Harriet Bentinck (1705-92), as the Dowager Countess of Clanbrassill, built up a very important collection of trees and shrubs from 1760 at her home in Templeogue at Cypress Grove. The Earl of Clanbrassill was a member of the Society of the Dilettanti along with his friend John Montagu, the Marquess of Monthermer (1735-1770); following the pre-mature death of the Marquis in 1770, Clanbrassill constructed a grotto-like hermitage cell, romantically set into the steep rocky ravine of the Shimna-river in the centre of the park (Listed HB 18/13/035). It is approached from the east via a set of stone steps and a narrow path, while the building is a small, roughly circular cell constructed of mortared sharply pointed tufa style stones with corbelled roof. Another passage from the cell on the west led to a wooden bridge crossing the river; in the 1840s this was replaced with a metal suspension foot bridge, demolished in 1936. Further upriver at the west end of the demesne he built Parnell's Bridge (HB 18/13/027), a handsome rubble single-span bridge with datestone '1774', probably named after Sir John Parnell (1774-1801, one time Irish Chancellor and friend of Clanbrassill). It was not until the late 1770s however that we see Clanbrassill start to add ornamental buildings to the demesne in earnest, starting evidently with the eastern approach, where he constructed the gothic Barbican Gates (Listed HB 18/13/037). Almost certainly designed by Wright himself, this rubble built slightly harled building comprised a tall central pointed arch surmounted by a castellated parapet on brackets flanked each side by round castellated towers. The two-level towers are relatively squat, have bevelled bases, pointed arch ground floor doorways (to both east and west), a mid-level string course, upper level trefoil openings (to east and west) and a castellated parapet also on brackets with bap-stone supports. The doorway to the north tower is open and serves as a pedestrian entrance. To the north side there was matching gate lodge added in c.1810, but this has been demolished. Opposite the old west entrance to the demesne on the

Bryansford-Hilltown road in Aghacullion, Lord Clanbrassill built around 1780 a hexagonal roadside tower (Listed HB 18/13/043), in the Wrightian manner with blind gothic arches and quatrefoil loopholes, surmounted by a slender conical spirelet with bap-stone decoration - restored by the Follies Trust in 2010-11. Also restored by the trust were a pair of gate piers (Listed HB 18/13/42) located further east down the same road, also on its north side; these likewise are built in the Wrightian manner and comprise a pair of cylindrical rubble rendered gateposts with a loop-like slit on the south side of each pier. Nearby on the opposite side of the road in Tullymore demesne, he erected a rubble-built gothick gateway tower set in the wall (Listed HB 18/13/040), again in a Wrightian style. The tower is square in plan with a cornice, capped with a tall pyramidal spire with bap stones to each face and a granite cap with ball finial. To the north and south faces are pointed arch recesses with a springing course and bap stones either side of the arch itself; the actual gate itself has been blocked. Locally this structure, also restored by the Follies Trust, is known as 'The Cut-throat Tower' - a man having apparently cut his own throat here. Also built in 1780 on the eastern side of the park was the Wrightian-style Clanbrassill Bridge, sometimes known as the Ivy-bridge (Listed HB 18/13/033), a single rubble built bridge with accompanying small gothick turrets, which carries a carriage drive over the Shimna River. It has a single pointed arch, with rough stone voussoirs and set in the centre of its parapet to the west side is a granite dressed panel with the monogram of the 2nd Earl Clanbrassill with a similar dressed panel to the opposite parapet with the date '1780'. At each parapet end (but free standing) is set a small square turret with castellated parapet and pyramidal spire. To the west of this bridge is Tollymore's most photographed feature, Foley's Bridge (Listed HB 18/13/031), a dramatic hump-backed, rubble-built footbridge that rises out of the rocky sides of the river. It is inscribed '1787' and 'Ht. Foley', referring to Clanbrassill's two young nieces, both called Harriet. Lord Clanbrassill himself married (1774) Grace (1743-1813), daughter of Thomas Foley. The previous year Clanbrassill had built the distinctive gothick granite gate screen, the Bryansford Gate (Listed HB 18/13/019A), the last of the Wrightian gothick embellishment to the demesne. Dramatically positioned at the head of the old entrance to the park, framing the Clanbrassill barn and steeple with the mountains in the background, this consists of a tall, delicate central pointed carriage arch whose castellated parapet has crocketed pinnacles in the corners and a date stone '1786' below the parapet. There are foiled flying buttresses each side (a distinctive Wright feature) and a pair of pointed arched pedestrian entrances in the flanking screen below. The pretty single storey gothick gate lodge (Listed HB 18/13/019B) inside these gates was added in 1802, but skillfully extended in the late Victorian period. The rear is now dominated by a modern, lean-to like extension that was added in the later 1970s. Around about 1780 the Earl of Clanbrassill also added the nearby walled kitchen garden, now largely a car park, on what was the nursery in 1760. This flanked the west side of the Clanbrassill Barn and occupies a roughly rectangular area (2.76 acres/1.12ha) divided into two sections, built on ground sloping down from north to south. In order to break the steepness of the slope, the land of the garden was landscaped into an upper section (1.12 acres/0.65ha) and lower section (1.13 acres/0.46ha), the two being separated by revetment wall. An early photograph dating to around 1860-65 shows the walled garden to be dominated by a very impressive and unusual gable-ended central wood-framed conservatory flanked by low but wide lean-to glasshouses ranges, the latter of which would have contained the vinery and peach houses; these all look as if they were built in the 1840s. Between these glasshouses and the central revetment wall the area was occupied by elaborate formal gardens incorporating numerous urns and statues. The first glasshouses in the garden were erected in 1811 for £223 when glasshouses were still rare in Ireland. In 1798 the 2nd earl died without issue and the park passed to his sister Anne, the wife of Robert Jocelyn, 1st Earl of Roden (1731-97). Their son, Robert (1756-1820), 2nd Earl of Roden, who inherited the estate in 1802, started to make improvements starting with building the Bryansford and Barbican gate lodges (the latter now demolished). In 1805 made new forty-acre deer park enclosed by 'a fence so as to move deer near the Barbican Gate that they be seen from the house'. In 1815 he erected a granite obelisk

monument to the east of the house, in memory of his second son, James Blight Jocelyn, who met an untimely death in 1812 aged only twenty-three (Listed HB 18/13/034). The Earl and his successor, Robert (1788-1870), the 3rd Earl, further developed Bryansford itself, making it 'a pleasing place of residence for those persons that like a quiet retreat.' A Roman Catholic Church was built at the eastern edge of the village in 1820, school houses in 1823 and 1826, with some labourers' dwellings and the large dower house ('The Nest') around the same time. The 3rd Earl also constructed a water powered saw mill within the demesne, built in a mountain chalet style, near the site of the Old Hermitage, itself long gone by that stage. The mill by a by-product of the extensive larch plantations of the 2nd Earl of Clanbrassill, regarded as high quality timber used for new railways and pit-props. Early in the 20th century old oak from Tollymore was used to fit out the interior of the White Star Liners, including the *Titanic*. To provide a greater reservoir of water a dam was built across a stream to create the present lake close to the mill. The 3rd earl continued planting trees at Tollymore, both in the park and plantation. By 1906 there were around 1,000 acres of 'profitable woodland' at Tollymore, mainly larch, beech and oak, with planting annually with a dozen men employed in the woods, with saplings in the Edwardian era coming from Cumberland (density of 3,000 saplings per acre); the saw mill employed five sawyers. At some stage in the 1840s the 3rd earl abandoned his father's miniature deer park and instead planted what had now become a magnificent line of Himalayan cedars (*Cedrus deodara*), a tree that was first introduced into the British isles in 1831 - these trees are today one of the great sights of Tollymore. He added more isolated trees to decorate the lawns of the parkland; some 18th-century parkland trees also still survive including a large oak (*Quercus robur*) designated by the Tree Council of Ireland as a Heritage Tree, together with a yew (*Taxus baccata*), that stands at a height of 15m with girth of 4.76m, one of the many yews planted in the eighteenth century. The arboretum to the west of the house site was also developed by the 3rd earl, having been started in the 1760s by the 2nd Earl of Clanbrassill. The land here slopes down from north to south and there is a circular path through it. There were once two summer houses in it. Some of the trees are labelled. In 1964 a list of the trees in it was published by the Forest Service when there were approximately 180 different species, excluding the flowering shrubs. Roughly two-thirds of the trees are conifers while the rest are broadleaved. The Tree Council of Ireland has identified three Champion Trees: a Hondo spruce (*Picea jezoensis*), which is Irish Height and Girth Champion, a gum-topped stringybark (*Eucalyptus delegatensis*), which is Irish Girth Champion, and a silver fir (*Abies alba*). The cork oak (*Quercus suber*) has been designated a Heritage Tree by the Irish Tree Council. Some Lawson cypress (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*) trees have recently (2012) had to be felled due to the disease *Phytophthora lateralis*. The 3rd earl also enlarged the house itself, transforming it from a sporting lodge to significant mansion, this work, which principally involved rebuilding the wings as two-storey ranges, was undertaken in the 1830s. Like many other demesnes in Georgian and early and Mid Victorian Irelands, the grounds were open to the public but in 1860 they were closed by order of the Earl of Roden as the 'privilege was abused'; instead freedom of access was limited to two days per week, which continued well into the 20th-century; in 1906 around 10,000 visited the place annually. On the death of the 3rd earl in 1870, his grandson inherited, Robert Jocelyn (1846-80), the 4th Earl of Roden and during his time in 1878 the old 19th-century centre block of the mansion was accidentally but in a fire; it was subsequently rebuilt under the direction of James Rawson Carroll of Dublin who added a high, and ungainly, mansard roof to the house. A few years earlier in 1876 he engaged the architect John Birch to build a one and half storey rectangular Tudor-Revival lodge at the old western entrance to the demesne (Listed HB 18/13/044); the design featured in Birch's book *Picturesque Lodges*, published in 1879. The 4th earl died of cholera in 1880, after which the property was inherited by his uncle John Strange Jocelyn, the 5th Earl (1823-97), followed in 1897 by his cousin William Henry Jocelyn, the 6th Earl (1842-1910) and then the latter's brother Robert Oade Jocelyn (1845-1915). From the 1860s the areas around the house developed as mowed lawns and gassed terraces, incorporating flower beds and a fountain, the base of which survives. A list of trees and

shrubs, with some dates of planting was compiled in 1937 by the then Countess of Roden and appears as Appendix 3 in the Earl of Roden's 2005 book on Tollymore. At the south of this is the Lion's Mouth Fountain (Listed HB 18/13/024), almost certainly placed here by the 2nd Earl of Roden around 1810-20. An azalea walk today flanks the path that leads down southwards towards and under the Horn Bridge. There was once a rockery. Tollymore Park remained solely in Roden hands until 1930 when Robert Soame Jocelyn, the 8th Earl (1883-1956) sold two thirds of the land to the Ministry of Agriculture for forestation purposes. In 1940 the remaining third was bought by the Ministry and during World War II Tollymore House and part of the grounds were requisitioned by the Army and the house occupied from November 1940 by 250 members of the 179th Field Ambulance. After the War the house fell into a state of disrepair and was demolished by Lord Roden in 1952. In 1955 Tollymore, the first state forest to be designated a Forest Park, was opened to the public. A modern-style Tea House was built in 1978-79 to designs of Campbell Architects (Listed HB 18/13/096). The demesne has continued to be developed for timber production, recreation, conservation and education purposes since then, and though the house itself may have disappeared, most of the park's 18th and early 19th century, gates, bridges and lodges have survived. SMR: DOWN 49:3 cairn, 49:3 cashel, 49:14 stone chair, 49:15 cultivation ridges and 49:19 mound or enclosure? DAERA (Forest Service) public access.

**TYRELLA HOUSE, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/095
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Later 18th-century coastal parkland (162 acres/56.7ha) with largely late Georgian house incorporating both earlier and later elements (Listed HB 18/10/074), lying 4.5 miles (4km) east of Dundrum and 5.5 miles (5.6km) south-east of Clough, close to the north shore of Dundrum Bay. Due to its close proximity to the sea, the plantations, which have remained largely unchanged in layout since at least 1800, are focussed in larger woodland blocks with few of the usual isolated parkland trees, clumps and belts. Without these woodlands the house would be very exposed to the winds, yet there is evidence that there was a house here by 1755 when it is clearly depicted on Kennedy's County Down map of that year. Earlier, in 1744 Walter Harris refers to 'Tereda, a small village, the lands about which, being now the estate of Mr. Banks of Belfast, formerly of the Hamilton's of Tullamore'. Most likely this is a reference to Thomas Banks, a prominent Belfast citizen, but following his death in 1746 the lease reverted back to George Hamilton (1698-1770), whose father Hugh had bought this townland in the 1720s on the occasion of the latter marriage. It seems probable that he had built a house here, perhaps in the 1730s, but the buildings architect would indicate that the present house was built by his son, also called George Hamilton (1734-96), probably in the 1780s, at which time the landscape park was most likely planted. It was certainly mature enough in 1810 to be fairly accurately depicted on James Williamson's Map of County Down. On his death in 1796 the property passed to his nephew, the Rev. George Hamilton and it was around his death (d.1833) that the demesne was first depicted on OS maps; the outline of the plantations shown on that map remain largely unaltered. The main area of woodland, as one might expect, lies just south of the house, providing shelter against the salt breezes and the second lies south of the walled garden to provide protection for the garden produce; much of the latter is now denuded with no sign of any replanting. The yard north of the house is also screened with woodland and there is a partial shelterbelt of low, but mature, trees along the boundary with the public road, for example at the main entrance, while north-east of the house and close to the public road is wooded. There is open parkland turf east and west of the house with some specimen trees near the house, east, south-east and south of it; among them are oak, holly, Scots pine and yew. The walled garden, north-west of the house, is contemporary with the creation of the parkland, that is to say it was built around the 1780s, and unusually takes the form of an oval half-moon (2.35 acres/0.95ha) with a long south straight wall and a curved north wall, the use of the long curved wall being to help gain maximum sunlight for the wall-fruit. Inside the garden the ground slopes down from north-east to south-west, also to gain maximum sunlight for the garden

produce. There is a drive from the farm yard, which is adjacent to the east, to a cart entrance in the north. Today this entrance is used to gain access to a house built in 1987 with its ornamental garden built in the west part of the walled garden. There are glasshouses and a potting shed. The OS six-inch map of 1860 shows a central, rectangular island building, which may have been a glass house, surrounded by panels. The glasshouse that lies beside the main house facing the west lawn was built in the Edwardian era, around 1904, and was restored in 2011. The park has three entrances off the Clanmaghery Road. The main entrance (Listed HB 18/10/073), east of the house and near the Church has a gate lodge (Listed HB 18/10/072); this is a low expansive dwelling with hipped roof, bowed bay and gothic openings, the latter suggesting it was built in the 1820s, possibly the work of Arthur Hill Montgomery, who purchased the demesne c.1825-30. The building appears to have originally consisted of the northern section only, the return added some time after 1858, possibly c.1860; the gate screen may be of this date also. This leads onto a long carriage drive that curves gently round to the front of the house where there is a wide forecourt. There are two short service drives north of the house, both to the farm yard. The more easterly has a gate lodge (Listed HB 18/10/073), which is a picturesque Tudor building with steeply-pitched overhanging roof, decorative barge boards and 'diagonal' chimneystack, dating to around 1860. When George Hamilton died in 1796, he bequeathed Tyrella to his nephew, (Rev.) George Hamilton III (d.1833), who probably built the low rubble wall along side the road to the north and east and remains largely intact. He may also have built much of the house as we know it today as the building does in parts have a Regency appearance, notably the main (south-facing) hipped roof two-storey square block, which has a four bay front, incorporating Wyatt-windows and a shallow projecting three window bay on the west side. The 'Toy Fort' (Listed HB 18/10/075) or folly, located north-east of the house may also have been built by Rev George Hamilton; it comprises a square enclosure bounded by a castellated and battered wall. To the eastern side, facing the sea, is an elevated rampart, on either end of which are small cannon; the OS six-inch map of 1858 designates 'Flag Staff' here, but no building. There are some stone urns here and there and a sundial on a pillar in the lawn west of the house. In 1808 George inherited another estate, Hampton Hall, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin, from his late brother, Alexander. By the mid-1820s he had ran into money difficulties and in 1824 was forced to mortgage the Dublin property; it was probably at this point that he sold Tyrella, for by at least 1834 it was in the possession of Arthur Hill Montgomery. Arthur, a younger son of Rev. Hugh Montgomery of Rosemount, Greyabbey, died in 1867 and his widow, Matilda, is recorded as living there until 1876, with her son Col. Hugh Parker Montgomery (1829-1901). In 1878 distillery owner James Craig (1828-1900) of Craigavon House, Belfast, acquired it as a summer residence. His son, Major Clarence Craig (d.1938), an older brother of Sir James Craig (1871-1940), 1st Viscount Craigavon, the first Prime Minister of Northern Ireland. He enlarged the house, presumably with help from his brother the architect Vincent Craig (1869-1925), remodelling parts of the house here, where the building's west side has a distinctly Edwardian feel with several large mullioned and transomed windows and some roundels with small square panes, whilst glasshouse is also of this date. Members of the Craig family undoubtedly must have visited the Japan-British Exhibition in the White City, London, in 1910 - the largest international exposition of the Empire of Japan, because like many other country houses owners in the decade following 1910, the Craigs created a Japanese Garden at Tyrella. This was located in the wood immediately south of the house, comprising paths linked to a variety of buildings, sculptures and other features. The garden was abandoned in the 1940s, but structures associated with it survive, albeit in ruined condition, notably the 'Spider Lodge', which like some of the other structures is made to a high quality and could indeed have been bought by the Craigs during the disposal of the exhibition itself. The Spider Lodge is located on the south-east of the wood and is composed of wood with herringbone parquet flooring and wooden panelling on walls. It looked down onto a rock garden, the creation of which may have led to the building of the Japanese Garden. One striking feature that survives is a Japanese Pagoda (marked 'monument' on OS maps) and a Japanese Summer house. Included with the layout was a

'Japanese Water Garden' with island with bamboo. Planting along paths still includes *Ruscus aculeatus* (butcher's bloom) and snowdrops in season, with areas of moss and fern covered rocks from the Giant's Causeway. Tropical plants like tree ferns and *Fatsia japonica* are still present, as are myrtles, many very mature, cordylines, rhododendrons, magnolias and camellias. Major Craig retained the property until 1921, when a William J. Neill, a coal merchant, assumed ownership. Mr Neill was still there in 1929, but by 1937 the house may have been vacant, for at this date the Belfast Tuberculosis Committee were considering purchasing the property for use as a sanatorium. John Corbett acquired the property in 1949, and it remains with his descendant. The walled garden and farm buildings to the north of the house appear to have been a separate property since at least the 1980s. SMR7 DWN 044:053 (souterrain); DWN 044:027 (souterrain). Private.

**WARRENPOINT PARK, County Down (AP NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN 11) D/157
REGISTERED GRADE A**

Small Edwardian public park (2.76 acres/1/12ha) on the south side of Warrenpoint, 6.26 miles (10km) south-east of Newry. The arrival of the railway in 1849 and the tramway from Rostrevor led to the growth of this summer resort in the later 19th-century. With the establishment of the locally accountable UDC under the local government reforms of 1898, the newly-elected councillors immediately explored ways of furthering the town's tourist appeal, and foremost amongst these were plans for a municipal park. However, it was not until the end of 1906, that a suitable plot was secured on a 999-year lease at a rate of £12 a year from Captain Hall of Narrow Water Castle. This was a rectangular plot neatly bounded by the regularly laid-out townscape with Queen-street on the north-east; Prince's street on the south-west, Great George's Street South on the north-west and Osborne Promenade on the south-east. After this work on the park proceeded quickly with the landscaping undertaken by Thomas Smith of Daisy Hill Nurseries, Newry. In 1907 it began to be planted out and quotations for railings were sought. It was enclosed by a low brick wall surmounted by railings with pedestrian entrances at the corners of the main body of the park. Differences of opinion in the Council led to two separate companies being involved in making the railings; the more expensive quotation from Musgrave of Belfast was adopted for the front railing and gate, while the cheaper quotation for less elaborate railings from Bayliss, Jones and Bayliss of Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, was adopted for the rest of the park. The Council's chairperson, James Savage, personally paid for the difference for the Musgrave railings and gate. Sadly, these railings and gate (except the gate posts) were removed in 1943 for the war effort, though many believe they never got to be used for this purpose and instead were dumped in the sea. The railings were renewed again in 2007. The focal point of the garden is the bandstand (Listed HB 16/12/025) often regarded as undoubtedly one of the finest, if not *the* finest in Ulster. Produced for £300 by Scotland's foremost manufacturer of ornamental ironwork, Walter MacFarlane & Company of the Saracen Foundry, Glasgow, it is an elegant decorative octagonal structure of 1906-07 in cast-iron with a curved sheeted metal roof topped with a lantern sporting fretwork sides and a steep metal cap sweeping up to a pointy finial. The roof is edged with delicate cresting that, directly over the steps to the painted concrete band platform, incorporates the Warrenpoint Urban District Council plaque - a jolly, brightly painted emblem showing rabbits against a sunburst background. The roof rests on slender column supports with embossed foliate shaft motifs and pierced brackets, and stretching between each are railings which enclose the performance area. Smith designed the park symmetrically with a central path running from the north-west down to the south-east and four paths at right angles to it. 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 of the park was of good quality. Unfortunately, a detailed record of the planting was not made. Today mature trees surround the

park on the three sides and edge the formal central cross paths, while there are circulating paths, lawns, and neat shrub borders and well dug beds of seasonal bedding plants. The official opening took place in July 1908 and the council advertised for a park caretaker in 1911 at £1 a week. The park was subsequently used for entertainment both for local people and visiting tourists. For example in August 1911 there was a 'magnificent Fete, Carnival and Pageant' with prizes distributed by Captain and Mrs Hall followed by music of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. Subsequent additions to the park included the public toilets in 1928 (HB 16/12/029), near the Queen-street entrance; they are contemporary with those in the town square (HB 16/11/042). The pavilion or shelter (HB 16/12/030) is a small neo-classical structure dating to 1937. The gardener's bothy at the north-east is said to be quite early, but actually made date to the 1940s. A croquet lawn and putting green were proposed for the park in 1959 and 'clock golf' available for a number of years. An early feature are Tennis courts made on the flat ground at the south west end. Park affairs were run by a Council Park sub-committee, but with new electoral divisions the town council was dissolved in 1972 and from following year the Newry and Mourne District Council had responsibility for the park. Warrenpoint received its first prize for best kept small town in 1988 and 1997 helped greatly (it is usually acknowledged) by the good condition of the park. In 1993 the park itself received an award for outstanding presentation. The park was refurbished in honour of its centenary in 2007. More recently the park was subject to a part HLF-funded rejuvenation 'Parks for People' programme (opened August 2018), involving the upgrading of facilities, including tennis courts and children's play area; the 1930s pavilion has been restored as the park's interpretive centre.

Glossary of Terminology

Alley, ally, allée: Walkway lined with trees or walk through a grove or a tunnel arbour

Bason, basin: In period 1660-170 these are Ornamental pond, often whafed/revetted with timber. Sometimes had *a jet d'eau*. Shape usually circular, sometimes a half moon, octagonal or rectangular.

Belt: Narrow plantation in a park, usually no more than thirty metres wide.

Belvedere: A tower built for the prospect

Bosquet/boscape: Ornamental grove or shrubbery pieced by walks. At first geometric patterns, but by early 18th-century incorporated many sinuous shapes.

Brownian: In the parkland style of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown (1716-83)

Canal: Long narrow rectangular sheet of ornamental water in 1660-1740 designed landscape.

Claire-voie: Section of garden wall lowered to permit unimpeded views.

Clumps: Two or more trees groups together in parkland

Decoy: Pond with attached curved water channels, known as pipes, designed to attract and net wildfowl.

Designed Landscape: An area of land that has been aesthetically modified to accommodate a wide range of ornamental or landscape types, such as private, public or institution parks and gardens, cemeteries and memorial parks, new towns and riversides.

Demesne: Land held by the manor house in fee

Dower House: Moderately large residence for widow or an elderly couple who have handed the 'big house' and estate over to their children.

Espalier: Fruit trees trained along metal or wood supports to form a fence, against a wall or free-standing

Frame Yard: Yard usually beside the kitchen garden where cold frames lie and propagation is undertaken.

Gardenesque: Style of planting design in which individual plants are allowed to develop in natural character as fully as possible.

Glacis: Gentle grassed slope or bank below a garden terrace.

Grass plat: Level area of cut grass, usually rectangular or square in shape and bounded by paths of sand or gravel.

Grove: General term for plantations.

Ha-ha: A ditch one side of which has a retaining wall . A devise used in 18th-century parklands to keep stock out from areas around the house, while permitting uninterrupted views

Hot Bed: Raised bed filled with rotting manure and covered with grass, providing moist heat for cultivation of melons and other succulent vegetables.

Hot Wall: Brick garden walls with internal flues, heated with hot air from furnaces. Popular until widespread adoption of glasshouses heated by boilers and pipes in 1840s

Lawn/laune: In early deer parks the lawns were the grass areas where deer grazed; in landscape parks the term was used for expansive areas of grass over which there was an open view, usually in front of the house.

Parterre: Level division of ground laid out in an ornamental design of paths, flower borders, grass, statuary etc.

Perron: Platform approached by paired flights of steps

Pleaching/plashing: Technique of interweaving boughs of a line of trees to create a hedge or a bower or in the laying of a quick hedge

Pleasure Grounds: Intensively gardened land with lawns, usually near or around a country house

Pollard:: Tree cut periodically above the grazing for fuel and poles

Picturesque: Style of landscape design popular in the late Georgian era. It was influenced in the manner of pictures, in particular the works of Lorrain and Poussin.

Prospect: Term used for a broad view in a designed landscape, often the direction indicated by cardinal points, for example a 'south prospect'. that is from the south looking north.

Quincunx: a planting pattern, usually fruit trees, with four trees marking the corners of a square and a fifth marking the centre

Slip Garden:/the slips: Ground immediately outside the main walled garden for growing extra fruit and vegetables. Usually bounded by banks, ditches, hedges, sometimes walls

Robinsonian: An informal gardening style promoted by William Robinson 1838-1935, landscape gardener, editor, author, publisher.

Slip Garden: Additional enclosed area(s) outside the kitchen garden, often the location for the frame yard

Wilderness; Term for grove, a plantation for recreation, usually with walks in a geometric arrangement

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The above texts for the register which were last updated in 2020. Every year more research is undertaken into these and other historic parks and gardens in Northern Ireland, resulting in new information continually coming to light, so these entries may need to be updated from time to time to incorporate new data. Any corrections or queries should be directed to the Historic Environment

Register of Parks, Gardens and Demesnes of Special Historic Interest (NI) - November 2020

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