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ESTATE: DILLON (CLONBROCK)




Associated Families




- [Dillon \(Clonbrock\)](#) (*Lord Clonbrock*)
- [O'Kelly \(Gallagh & Ticooly\)](#)
- [Dillon \(Earl of Roscommon\)](#)
- [Dickson \(Kildimo\)](#)
- [Greene \(Old Abbey\)](#)

Description

The Dillons were a Norman family who initially received grants of land in Westmeath and who later acquired properties in neighbouring counties including Roscommon and Galway. Lord Clonbrock was listed as a resident proprietor in county Galway in 1824. At the time of Griffith's Valuation, Lord Clonbrock was one of the principal lessors in the parishes of Ahascragh, Fohanagh, Killalaghtan and Killosolan in the barony of Kilconnell and Killoran in the barony of Longford. In the 1870s the Clonbrock estate in county Galway amounted to over 28,000 acres. Lands, house and demesne at Cahir, barony of Clonmacnowen, owned by James Dillon, were offered for sale in the Encumbered Estates court in July 1854. In 1906 Lord Clonbrock held over 2000 acres of untenanted land and the mansion house at Clonbrock. The Dillon's county Limerick estate appears to have come into their possession through the marriage in 1776 of the first Baron with Letitia Greene of Old Abbey, county Limerick, the only child of John Greene. James Kelly was the agent for the county Limerick estate in the early 19th century. The county Limerick estate was situated in the baronies of Connello Lower and Shanid. The Clonbrock Papers contain a printed notice of the sale of lands held in fee by Lord Clonbrock amounting to about 2395 acres and the lands of Loughill and Coonagh held under the See of Limerick circa 600 acres, dated 19 Dec 1829 MS 35705 (5). Correspondence expressing interest in the purchase of the Dillon's county Limerick estate was received from David Roche of Carass, Robert Maunsell and Stephen Dickson who bought the property in 1831, see MS 35,727 (10).

Houses

House Name / Description	Townland	Civil Parish	PLU	DED	Barony	County	Map Ref
<p>The Cottage (H800)</p> <p>At the time of Griffith's Valuation, Patrick Trumple was leasing this house, in the townland of Cloonmain, parish of Killoran, from the Clonbrock estate. It is still extant and occupied.</p> 	Cloonmain	Killoran	Loughrea	Kilreekil 124	Leitrim	Galway	<p>Lat/Lon: 53.24306 -8.44792</p> <p>OSI Ref: M701215 Discovery map #46. OS Sheet #98.</p>
<p>Ticooly/Tycooly (H825)</p> <p>Occupied by the O'Kellys in the 18th and early 19th centuries. By the time of Griffith's Valuation it was part of the Clonbrock estate and was valued at £16. A building on a slightly different site, is noted as Tycooly House on the 25-inch Ordnance map of the 1890s. There is still an extant property at this site.</p> 	Ticooly (O'Kelly)	Killosolan	Mountbellew	Killian 150	Tiaquin	Galway	<p>Lat/Lon: 53.46519 -8.39755</p> <p>OSI Ref: M736462 Discovery map #47. OS Sheet #46.</p>
<p>Ballyeighter (H826)</p> <p>In 1814 Ballyeighter was the residence of Anthony Donnellan. Lewis records Balleighter as the seat of P. Donnellan. By 1855 it was being leased by Lord Clonbrock's estate to Martin Coolahan and was valued at £8. The Coolahans continued to own the property until the mid-20th century when it was divided by the Land Commission who also demolished the house. There is no trace of Ballyeighter now.</p>	Ballyeighter	Aughrim	Ballinasloe	Oatfield 15	Clonmacnowen	Galway	<p>Lat/Lon: 53.28746 -8.33591</p> <p>OSI Ref: M776264 Discovery map #47. OS Sheet #87.</p>
<p>Clonbrock (H899)</p> <p>Designed by William Leeson and built in the 1780s. In 1837 Lewis recorded it as the seat of Lord Clonbrock. In 1786 Wilson refers to Clonbrock as the seat of R. Dillon. At the time of Griffith's Valuation the house at Clonbrock was valued at £100. In 1906 it was valued at £135. The house was badly damaged by fire in the 1980s and only one wing is now inhabited.</p> 	Clonbrock Demesne	Fohanagh	Mountbellew	Clonbrock 147	Kilconnell	Galway	<p>Lat/Lon: 53.40682 -8.38498</p> <p>OSI Ref: M744397 Discovery map #47. OS Sheet #60.</p>

House Name / Description	Townland	Civil Parish	PLU	DED	Barony	County	Map Ref
<p>Ballybaun (H955) At the time of Griffith's Valuation, Lord Clonbrock owned a mill, gate house and other buildings valued at £35 in the townland of Ballybaun, parish of Ahascragh. The gate house is still extant and occupied. Local sources suggest it was at one time used as a school for children in the area.</p> 	Ballybaun	Ahascragh	Mountbellew	Clonbrock 147	Kilconnell	Galway	Lat/Lon: 53.41496 -8.36850 OSI Ref: M755406 Discovery map #47. OS Sheet #61.
<p>Doon House (H965) At the time of Griffith's Valuation Charles Filgate was leasing a house valued at £5 and 400 acres from the Clonbrock estate. In the 1830s, he is noted in the Ordnance Survey name books as the agent for several county Galway estates, including the Mahons of Castlegar and the Blakeney of Abbert. Doon House was constructed within a ring fort and the remains of the building still exist.</p>	Doon Upper	Fohanagh	Mountbellew	Clonbrock 147	Kilconnell	Galway	Lat/Lon: 53.37442 -8.40121 OSI Ref: M733361 Discovery map #47. OS Sheet #73.
<p>South Park (H991) At the time of Griffith's Valuation, Lawrence Kerrans was leasing a property valued at £11 from the Clonbrock estate at Kilglass, parish of Ahascragh. It is not named on the first edition Ordnance Survey Map but is labelled South Park on the 25-inch edition produced in the 1890s. The house is still extant and occupied.</p> 	Kilglass	Ahascragh	Mountbellew	Clonbrock 147	Clonmacnowen	Galway	Lat/Lon: 53.41056 -8.33989 OSI Ref: M774401 Discovery map #47. OS Sheet #61.
<p>Creggaun House (H992) Bar Kelly was living at Cregan in 1749. At the time of the first Ordnance Survey it is mentioned as the home of Captain Masters. William Masters was leasing a house valued at £16 in Creggaun townland, parish of Ahascragh, from the Clonbrock estate at the time of Griffith's Valuation. This property is no longer extant.</p>	Creggaun	Ahascragh	Ballinasloe	Killure 2	Clonmacnowen	Galway	Lat/Lon: 53.35953 -8.26287 OSI Ref: M825344 Discovery map #47. OS Sheet #74.
<p>Clooncannon/Cloncannon/Runnamead (H994) Far Kelly was resident at Cloncannon in 1749. It is described in the Ordnance Survey Name Books as the residence of William Kelly. This property was offered for sale in the Encumbered Estates in July 1850. At that time it was occupied by Mathew C. Browne. John and Edward Lennon were occupying this property, valued at £9, at the time of Griffith's Valuation. It was part of a holding of almost 400 acres. Joseph Trumperant Potts laid the foundation stone for his house known as Runnymede in 1866 ("Saunders Newsletter", 23 June 1866). It is labelled as Runnamead House on the 25-inch Ordnance Survey map of the 1890s. In 1906 a house valued at £10 at Clooncannon Kelly was part of the Clonbrock estate together with almost 400 acres of untenanted land.. It is no longer extant.</p>	Clooncannon (Kelly)	Ahascragh	Mountbellew	Clonbrock 147	Clonmacnowen	Galway	Lat/Lon: 53.43033 -8.33854 OSI Ref: M775423 Discovery map #47. OS Sheet #61.
<p>Caher (H1004) Lewis records Caher as the seat of J. Dillon in 1837. The house at Caher, with a demesne, the property of James Dillon, were offered for sale in the Encumbered Estates court in July 1854. Samuel Wade was leasing a property valued at £17 at Caher, in the parish of Kilcloony, barony of Clonmacnowen, from the Clancarty estate at the time of Griffith's Valuation. The ruins of the house and stable block are still visible.</p> 	Caher	Kilcloony	Ballinasloe	Ballinasloe Rural 4	Clonmacnowen	Galway	Lat/Lon: 53.31635 -8.28212 OSI Ref: M812296 Discovery map #47. OS Sheet #87.

House Name / Description	Townland	Civil Parish	PLU	DED	Barony	County	Map Ref
Kylebrack (H1557) In 1906 Lord Clonbrock's estate held a property valued at £3 at Kylebrack West, barony of Leitrim, county Galway as well as over 100 acres of untenanted land. At the time of Griffith's Valuation, the townland was leased to tenants and this property appears to have been occupied by Michael Coleman.	Kylebrack West	Leitrim	Loughrea	Leitrim	Leitrim	Galway	Lat/Lon: 53.13783 -8.47074 OSI Ref: M685098 Discovery map #52. OS Sheet #116.
Killure (H4942) Writing in 1786, Wilson refers to Killure as the seat of Mr. Dillon. He appears to be referring to either Killure Castle or a property associated with it. The castle is described as "in ruins" on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1842 and the ruin of the tower house is still visible.	Killurecastle	Kilgerril	Ballinasloe	Killure	Clonmacnowen	Galway	Lat/Lon: 53.36393 -8.30196 OSI Ref: M799349 Discovery map #47. OS Sheet #74.

Archival sources

- [Galway County Library](#): VAUGHAN, James Edward. A survey of the estate of Lord Clonbrock, 1832. (copy of National Library of Ireland document).
- [National Archives of Ireland](#): Encumbered Estates' Court Rentals (O'Brien), James Dillon, 15 July 1854, Vol 30, MRGS 39/013 (microfilm copy in NUIG)
- [National Archives of Ireland](#): Atkinson/Trench of Cangort collection include records re lands held by the Dillons of Clonbrock, mainly 18th & 19th centuries. 99/56/10/
- [National Library of Ireland](#): Clonbrock Papers, see descriptive list 54 at <http://www.nli.ie/pdfs/mss%20lists/clonbrock.pdf>
- [National Library of Ireland](#): Clonbrock muniments: deeds & estate papers relating to Roscommon & other properties, 1522-1782. Ms.22,025.
- [National Library of Ireland](#): Dillon Family, muniments of Clonbrock, a volume containing original deeds & other documents re Dillon estates in various counties, 1522-1820. MS 22,025
- [Public Record Office, Northern Ireland](#): Correspondence of Luke Dillon of Clonbrock and his son Robert Dillon, about the borough of Lanesborough, circa 1754. T/3366
- [Representative Church Body Library](#): Commonplace Book of [Julia Molyneux who married William John Talbot of Mount Talbot in August 1897] containing photographs, sketches and autographs relating to some of the 'big houses' and their residents, 1897-1901.

Contemporary printed sources

Many of these resources are now available online. For a list with Web links please see the [Online Printed Sources Links](#)

- [GRIFFITH'S VALUATION OF IRELAND \[Primary Valuation of Tenements\], 1850-1858](#): Loughrea Union, 152.
- [GRIFFITH'S VALUATION OF IRELAND \[Primary Valuation of Tenements\], 1850-1858](#): Mountbellew Union, 1 (Ballybaun), 9 (Clonbrock & Doon), 18 (Kilglass), 93 (Ticooly)
- [GRIFFITH'S VALUATION OF IRELAND \[Primary Valuation of Tenements\], 1850-1858](#): Ballinasloe Union, 7 (Creggaun), 8 (Ballyeighter), 22 (Caher)
- [BATEMAN, John. The great landowners of Great Britain and Ireland. London: Harrison, 1883](#): p.96
- [DUTTON, Hely. Statistical and agricultural survey of the county of Galway. Dublin: Royal Dublin Society, 1824](#): 412.
- [HUSSEY DE BURGH, U. H. The Landowners of Ireland. An alphabetical list of the owners of estates of 500 acres or £500 valuation and upwards in Ireland. Dublin: Hodges, Foster and Figgis, 1878. \[available online at \[www.askaboutireland.ie\]\(http://www.askaboutireland.ie\)\]](#): 87.
- [LEGG, Marie Louise \(ed\). Census of Elphin 1749. Dublin: Irish Manuscripts Commission, 2004](#): 256 (Cregan - Bar Kelly)
- [LEWIS, Samuel. A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland. London: S. Lewis & Co., 1837](#): Vol. II, 61 (Caher, Mackney)
- [LEWIS, Samuel. A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland. London: S. Lewis & Co., 1837](#): Vol. I, 632. (Clonbrock)
- [ORDNANCE SURVEY NAME BOOKS. County Galway. <http://places.galwaylibrary.ie/default.html>](#): Ahascragh Parish
- [PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS. Return of Untenanted Lands in Rural Districts, Distinguishing Demesnes on Which There is a Mansion.... HC 1906, c. 177](#): 325 (Kylebrack), 327 (Clonbrock & Clooncannon Kelly)
- [PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS. Return of names of proprietors and area and valuation of properties in counties in Ireland, held in fee or perpetuity or long leases at chief rents, 1876. \(412\) LXXX. 395](#): 148.
- [PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS. Return of owners of land of one acre and upwards, in the several counties in Ireland. HC 1876, LXXX](#): 294
- [SLATER, Isaac. Royal National Directory of Ireland: List of the principal seats. \(Manchester: 1894\)](#): xxv & 13 (Clonbrock)
- [TAYLOR, George & SKINNER, Andrew. Maps of the Roads of Ireland, surveyed in 1777 and corrected down to 1783. Facsimile of 2nd edition. Shannon: Irish University Press, 1969](#): 80.
- [WILSON, William. The Post-Chaise Companion or Travellers Directory Through Ireland. The author: Dublin, 1786](#): 132 (Clonbrock), 419 (Killure)

Modern printed sources

- [Analecta Hibernica](#): AINSWORTH, J.F.. *The Dillon Papers*. XX (1958), 17-55.
- [The Irish Genealogist](#): DILLON, Gerald. *Cnoc Diolún: a genealogical survey of the Dillon family in Ireland*. II (1943-55), 361-367.
- [The Irish Genealogist](#): DILLON, Gerald. *The Dillon peerages*. III (1958), 98-100.
- [BENCE-JONES, Mark. A Guide to Irish Country Houses. Revised ed. London: Constable, 1988](#): 86
- [GLIN, Knight of, GRIFFIN, D. J. & ROBINSON, N.K \(eds\). Vanishing Country Houses of Ireland. Dublin: Irish Architectural Archive/Irish Georgian Society, 1989](#): 69
- [HICKS, David. Irish country houses: a chronicle of change. Cork: The Collins Press, 2012](#): 238-252
- [MELVIN, Patrick. Estates and landed society in Galway. \(Dublin: Éamonn de Búrca, 2012\)](#): pp.92-95
- [MULLIGAN, Kevin. Vain transitory splendours: the Irish country house and the art of John Nankivell. Dublin: Irish Georgian Society, 2018](#): Clonbrock, pp.54-55.
- [NATIONAL LIBRARY OF IRELAND. Special Lists](#): Correspondence of Luke Dillon of Clonbrock and his son Robert Dillon, about the borough of Lanesborough in PRONI, circa 1754. No. 205
- [NATIONAL LIBRARY OF IRELAND. Reports on Private Collections](#): AINSWORTH, J.F. *Report on the Dillon papers, relating to Dillon, Greene, McKeogh & Donellan families and estates in Galway & Roscommon*. No.4.

