

Upperchurch Area Cemeteries

This list of cemeteries in the Upperchurch area was compiled prior to a recent trip to Ireland. My intent was to visit as many as possible, take some pictures and check out the readable inscriptions for names of interest. In the beginning it was not at all certain that these cemeteries were still in existence or would be accessible if I was able to physically locate them.

We were able to find and visit the graveyards at Upperchurch, Moyaliffe. Templebeg, Drombane (no cemetery), and Ballycahill. We could not find anything at the Clogher location but did not venture in on foot. As for the Glebe, Rossmore, Clonoulty and Goldengrove locations, we just ran out of time.

These churches are labeled by the nearest townland as shown on the map (Ordnance Survey Maps - Discovery Series #59 & #66). In two cases I knew from other sources that these churches had adjacent, or very nearby, associated cemeteries. With the others I was uncertain about the presence of a cemetery because the maps do not indicate the existence of cemeteries or graveyards. Some were labeled with the word "Church" and others were designated with a black cross that I represent with a plus sign. My understanding is that this black cross designates an active church.

I am indebted to Pete Schermerhorn (in the glorious Berkshire hills of western Massachusetts) for his help with the following additional sources

- Discovery and Townland Index maps
- The Archaeological Inventory of North Tipperary
- Mitchell's "A Guide to Irish Churches and Graveyards",
- Ordnance Survey letters from 1840

Pete added the following advice. "I should mention that I have found Mitchell's book to be far from complete. Usually, it's a case of a completely missed graveyard, but there are cases where he does not mention an attached graveyard which I know exists. So you might want to glance at all of the current church locations."

In addition, there are many cases of Catholics being buried in the Church of Ireland graveyards so it would be good advice to check every graveyard.

Upperchurch RC Parish

Moyaliff Civil Parish

Moyaliff: S 043 559 Church (Cemetery)

Let's start with Moyaliff CP. The site at Moyaliff townland has a graveyard, according to Mitchell. The OSL describes the church ruin there and then says "There is a small graveyard attached to it in which there are many headstones but none ancient or curious." [of course, this is from 1840 <gr>]. The AINT sort-of disagrees: "Architectural fragments

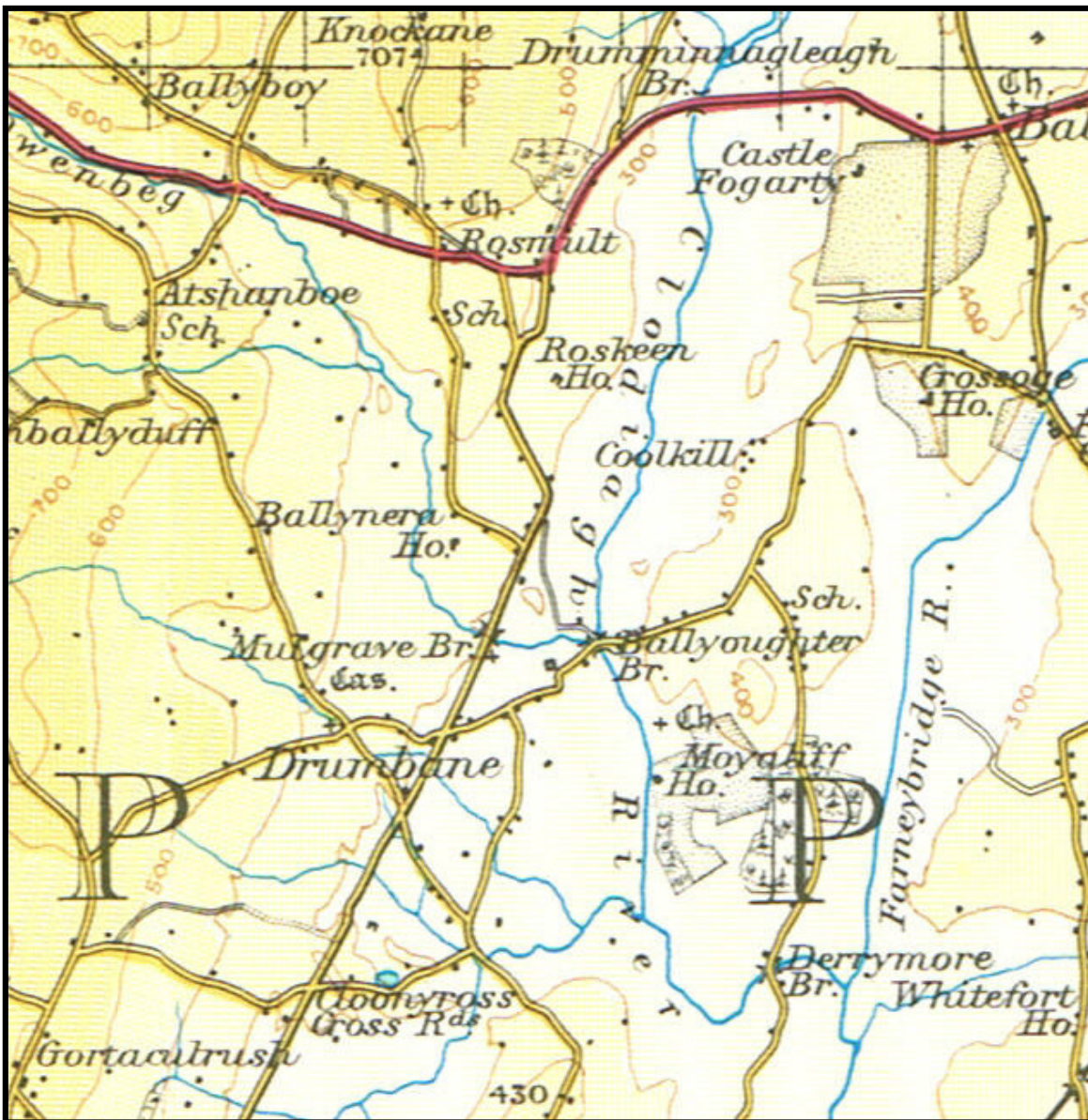
have been reused as grave-markers including a window jamb outside the S wall of the church."

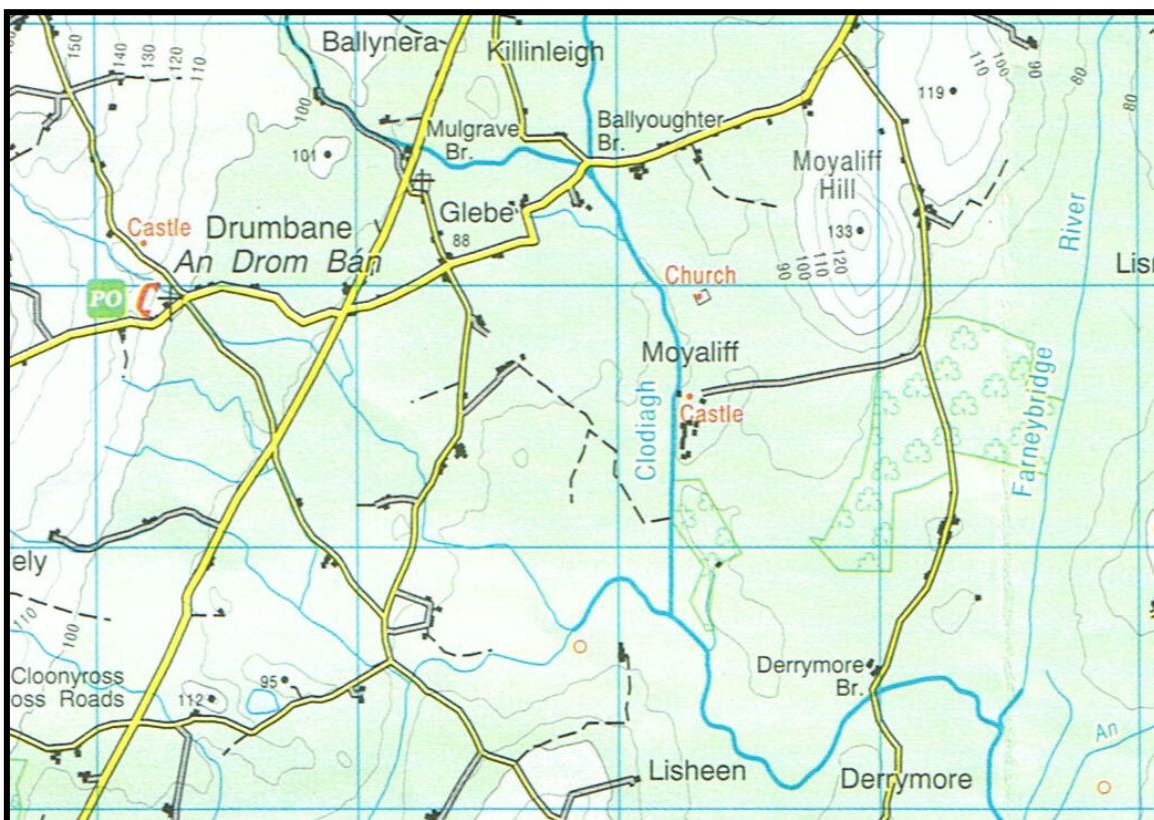
Drumbane: S 023 559 +

The Drumbane church (black cross means an "active" church) is RC, and Mitchell indicates no attached graveyard. Not mentioned in other sources.

Glebe: S 033 563 +

Glebe. This is a current C of I church, with an attached graveyard - according to Mitchell. No other references.





Upperchurch Parish

Upperchurch: R 988 612 + (Cemetery)

Upperchurch civil parish. The church in Upperchurch village is in Cappanleigh townland, is Church of Ireland and has an attached graveyard, according to Mitchell. The OS letters say: "The old Church of this Parish was situated in the Townland of - - - [apparently, the transcriber couldn't read J O'D's writing here] but no part of it remains at present. The Parish Chapel is built at the west side of the large graveyard which belonged to it; the old Church was on the east side of the same." Here is most of what the AINT says: "Situated on high ground on top of a hillock which slopes SE down to the main graveyard. The church was formerly located in the NW corner of the graveyard but the area is now occupied by burials and headstones, the earliest dated 1700. <snip> There are no architectural fragments visible in the graveyard which has been extended southward. There are at least two 18th-century headstones (dated 1734 and 1761) [what about the 1700 one, above?] in the NE quadrant, otherwise the headstones date to the 19th and 20th centuries."

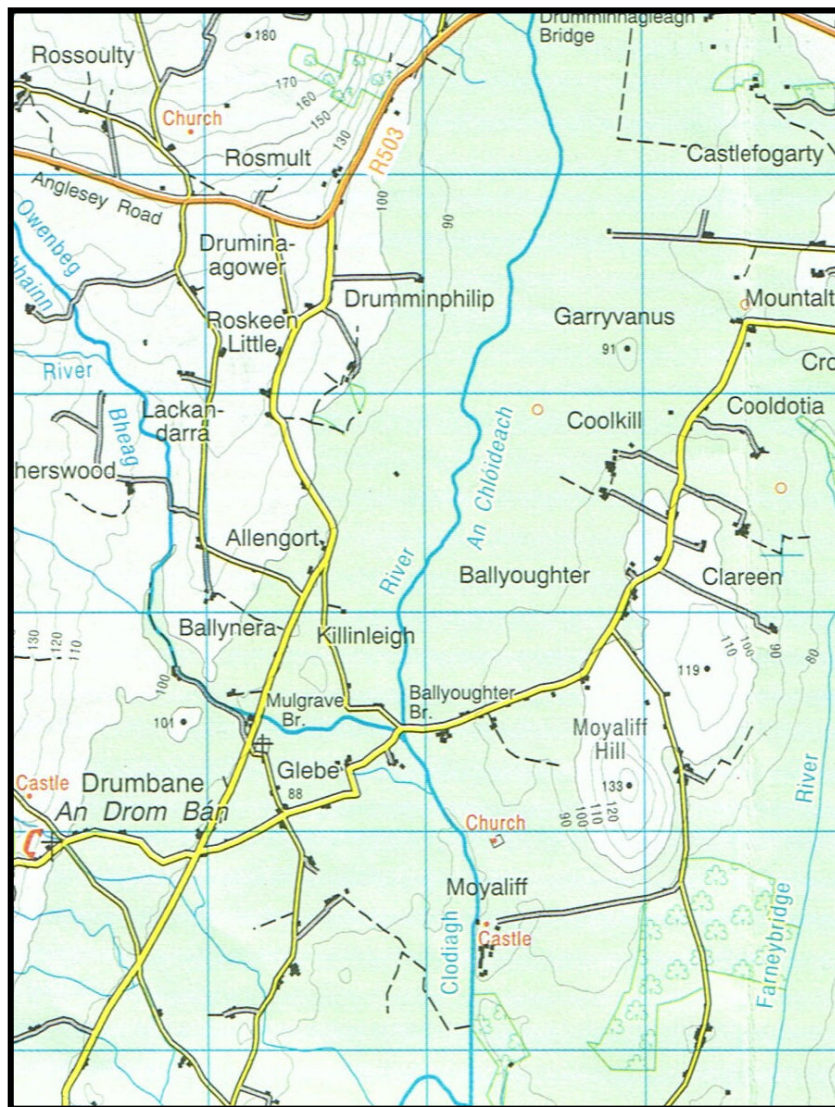
This was somewhat confusing since there was a church formerly located in the present village graveyard but it was a Catholic Church and had been there in the early 1920's. The present village church (Catholic) is located up the street and around the corner from the graveyard and is called the Sacred Heart Church. The "old church" on the east side of the graveyard mentioned by O'Donovan is shown on the Ordnance Survey maps from the 1840s as a Roman Catholic Chapel. This structure was probably built around the time of the Catholic Emancipation since the Upperchurch parish records begin in 1829. The second

church is the one that was located on the west side of the graveyard and was there in the 1920 and is commemorated by a plaque on the former site in the Upperchurch graveyard.

Templebeg Parish

Rosmult: S 029 593 Church

Now, Templebeg CP. The ruins of Templemichael Church is located in Rosmult townland. Mitchell places a graveyard there. The AINT says "The church is depicted on the current ed. OS 6-inch map in the N part of a subrectangular graveyard." The OS letters state "The walls of the church.....<snip> There is a large graveyard attached to it now much used as a public cemetery."



Clonoulty RC Parish

Clogher Parish

Clogher: S 040 516 Church

Clogher civil parish. The red Church ruin is where a graveyard exists, in Clogher townland - Mitchell.

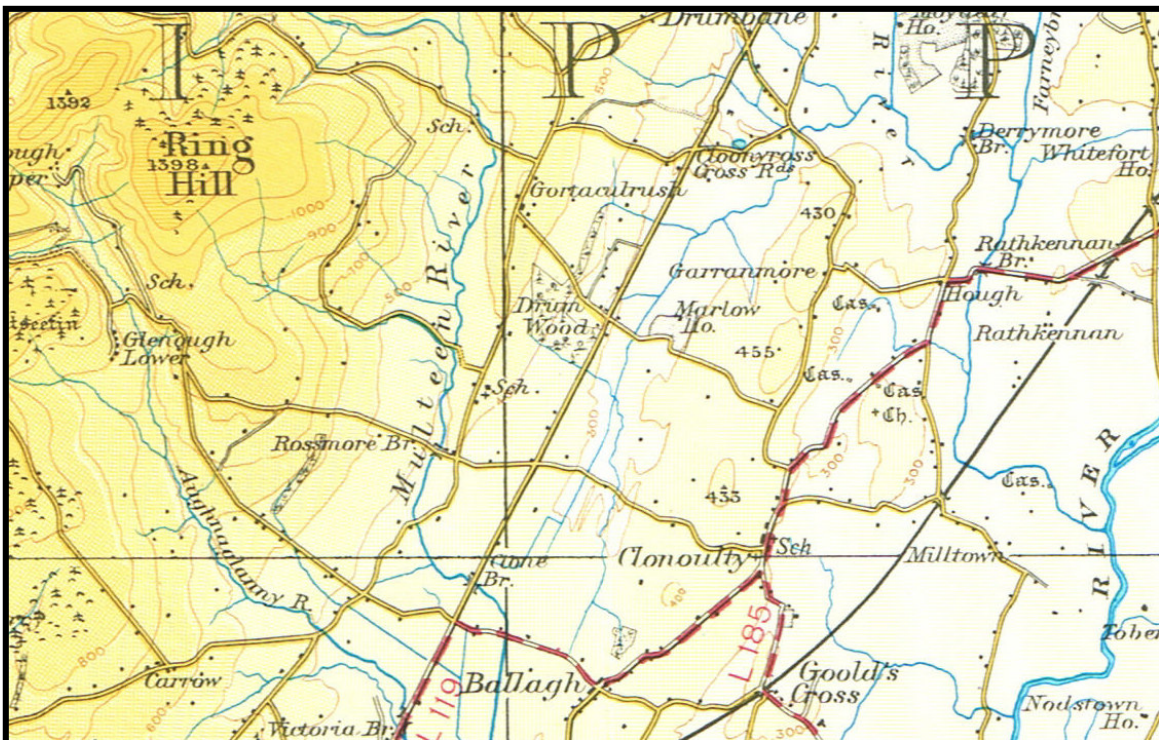
Rossmore: R998 518 +

The church you locate in Rossmore village is actually located in Drum townland, which places it in Clonoulty and not Clogher civil parish. Mitchell indicates the church is RC, and it does have an attached graveyard.

Clonoulty Parish

Clonoulty: S 029 503

There are actually two current churches in the village of Clonoulty. The other one is at about 028 502, hidden in the clutter on the map below the green PO. This church is the RC one, in the townland of Clonoulty Curragh, and does not have a graveyard with it. The one you listed is in Clonoulty Churchquarter townland and does have a graveyard. As you are probably aware, here is Mitchell's advisory: "Generally, Church of Ireland graveyards should be examined irrespective of an ancestor's religion."



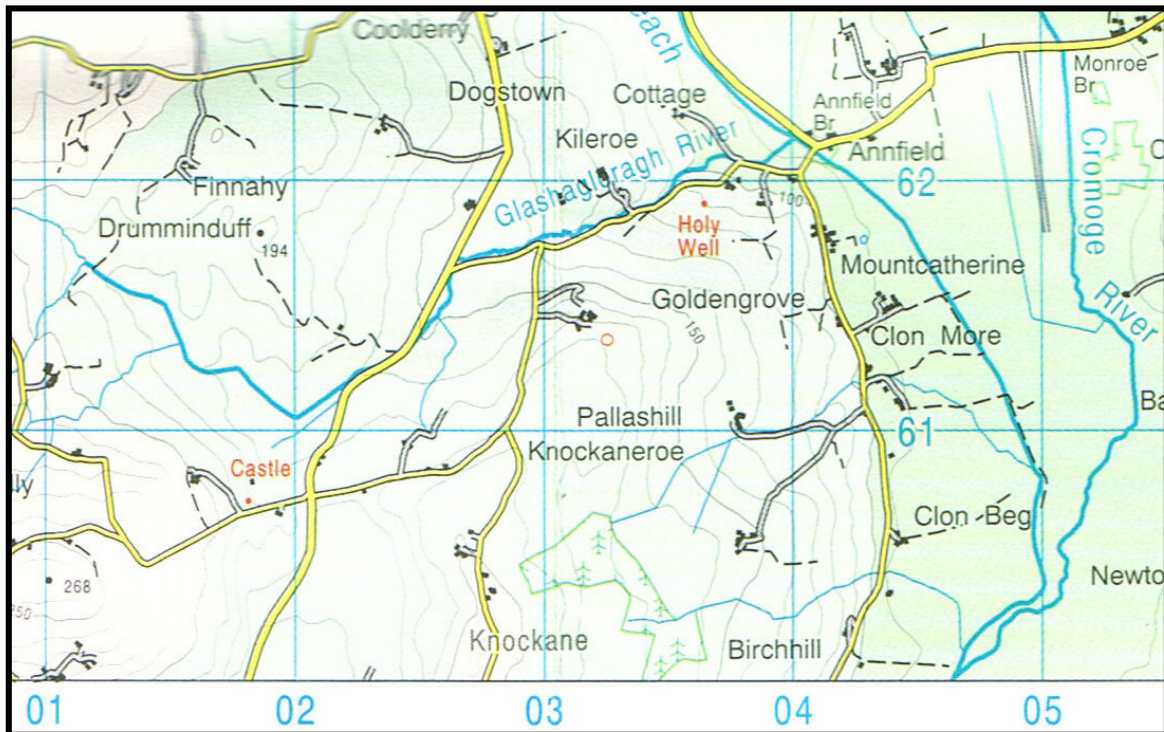


Ballycahill RC Parish

Inch Parish

Goldengrove: S036 620

Here is another graveyard that might be of interest to you. It is not shown on the Disc. map 59 at all, and is actually just barely across the civil parish border into Inch - but it's certainly in the area. It's in the townland of Goldengrove, at 036 620, just to the NW of the Holy Well marked on the Discovery map. Mitchell lists it. The AINT says: "A roughly square-shaped graveyard surrounded by a stone wall. It is sparsely populated with 19th- and 20th-century headstones and some rough stone markers. There are no pre-19th century headstones visible and there are no architectural fragments in the graveyard or in the wall, though this is largely obscured by ivy."



Ballycahill Parish

Ballycahill Cemetery: S065 597

There was an old church in ruins and an active graveyard located on the main road (R503, the Anglesey Road) that was readily accessible.

