# PREVIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FLORA OF CO. LONGFORD.

In comparison with other parts of Ireland, Co. Longford has not recieved very much attention from botanists. The earlier records in "Cybele Hibernica" are mainly by Mr. M.F. Foot or Mr. Edgeworth. These are not very detailed and have all been superseded by Praeger in "Irish Topographical Botany."

The earliest herbarium specimens for the county in the National Herbarium at Glasnevin were collected by Dr. David Moore in May 1871. The location given is Rockingham or Rackingham, Co. Longford. No such townland exists on present day maps and enquires to date have not revealed its location in the county. The specimens collected by Dr. Moore were :- Dryopteris dilata, Thelypteris palustris and Barbarea vulgaris.

The earliest recorded detailed study of the area was carried out by Richard M. Barrington and Richard P. Vowell, mainly in June of 1885. This was their "Report on the Flora of the Shores of Lough Ree." This work was published by the Royal Irish Acadamy and read on February the 28th, 1887. Barrington and Vowell recorded many new species for the area and collected a great wealth of herbarium specimens, all of which exist to this day in the National Herbarium. As their attention was focussed solely on Lough Ree they seldom mention the county in which they were working. Most of their records can be placed in one or other of the three counties surrounding Lough Ree (Roscommon, Westmeath and Longford) from references to townlands of Lake Islands. A list of species which they recorded in County Longford is included in this flora.

The first studies of the county in particular were by Robert Lloyd Praeger. He visited the area in June of 1885, 1898, 1899 and in August of 1900 in preparation for his publication "Irish Topographical Botany." These visits were of at least two day's duration. He used Granard, Longford and probably Ballymahon as bases. In this way he covered quite a large part of the county. Praeger's work still forms the basis of the vice-county records for Co. Longford as it does for most of the rest of Ireland. Herbarium specimens indicate that he again visited the county in 1933 but his stay was brief and he may have been passing through.

In "The Way That I Went" Praeger gives the following opinion of Co. Longford.:- "It is for the most part an undulating agricultural area - pleasant country, but it contains little to give pause to either the naturalist or the antiquary." A list of species recorded by Praeger is also included on subsequent pages.

After these earlier attentions the county appears to have been abandoned by naturalists for a long period of time.

Taraxacum palustre was recorded for the county by D.P. Young and the record is entered in the B.S.B.I. plant records for 1958.

The Dublin Naturalists' Field Club visited the county in 1966 as part of their Whit weekend outing. During this visit Mr. H. Hudson added Coronilla varia to the vice county records. This species still occurs at the original station. (Scrule bridge.)

In July 1968 Minn Maura Scannell paid a visit to the Lough Gowna area and added some specimens to the National Herbarium. In 1970 she also recorded Senecio sylvaticus (N.E. of Roosky). (A rare species in the county.)

Since then other records have been added by; Dr. M.A. Farragher, Mr. R. Rohu, S.A. Stewart, Mr. Colman Lynham, (per. Mr. A. Brady) and Dr. P.L. Curran.

Lough Ree has also received some attention from continental maturalists in recent years. Mr. Johannes Klein of Delft, Netherlands was the first to record Prunus padus on Lough Ree (1975.) in a doctoral thesis entitled "An Irish Landscape".

Probably the most significant additions to the flora of the county in recent times have been made by Mr. P. Hessel and Dr. W.V Rubers of Utrecht University, Netherlands in 1971. Their work, "Flore of the Shannon", which was part of a doctoral thesis, has added man first records to the county. A species list recorded by Hessel and Rubers is included on subuequent pages.

A list of species collected by some of these naturalists an preserved at the National Herbarium is included on subsequent pages.

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# BARRINGTON AND VOWELL

# Flora of Shores of Lough Ree

#### LIST OF SPECIES

NAME Ranunculus circinatus Sibth.

Ranunculus aquatilis L.

Ranunculus psudofluitans Syme.

Ranunculus hederceus L.

Papaver rhoeas, L.

Papaver dubium L.

Names -

2014 CA

Papaver hybridum L.

Erophila verna (L.) Cheval. Coronopus squamatus (Ascherson) Stellaria pallustris Retz,

Geranium pyrenaicum Burn. Fil. Geranium lucidum, L.

Lathyrus palustris L.

Myriophyllum spicatum L. Sempervivum tectorum L. Cicuta virosa L. LOCATION Drain by banks of Inny, below Ballymahon and in Royal Canal.

V

St. Martin's well, Inchclerun etc.

River Inny, etc. The form with floating leaves only observed.

Rare, between Clooneigh river and Lanesborough

Common on Leinster side, but not observed on Connaught shore

Cultivated ground at Elfeet Bay. Not uncommon.

Seen only in a corn field at Elfeet Bay.

Near Ballymahon.

Roadside near Ballymahon.

In a drain near Killtoom, both sides of the lake, near Lanesboro and along river Inny. Frequent.

Rare. Ballymahon church yard.

Road near Cashel lodge and Inchcleraun Island.

Temple Island near Lanesboro. Banks of river Inny and several places on west side of Shannon near Athlone

River Inny etc.

Old walls (ruins) near Elfeet Bay.

On both sdes of lake south of Laesboro

VI

# Near Ballymahon. Aegopodium podagaria L. Near Lanesboro and by River Inny. Oenanthe fistulosa L. Common. Anthriscus caucalis Bieb. L. Lanesboro Cultivated ground, Elfeet Bay. Valerianella locusta (L.) Betcke Only seen in a bog near Derrymacor Vaccinium oxycoccus L. lough. April 1996 . Near St. Martin's well, and Origanum vulgare L. - . roadside near Ballymahon and Lanesborough. Only near St. Martin's well, opposite Acinos arvensis (Lam) Dandy Island of Inchinagh Only seen near Ballymahon. Stachys palustris x sylvatica Sm. Lanesborough Lamium moluccellifolium Fr. Cultivated ground near Lough Lithospermum arvense L. Slawen and on Island of Clawinch and Black Island. Near Derrymacar Lough. Utricularia minor L. Near Ballymahon Chenopdium bonus-henricus L. By the River Inny, Derrymacar etc. Rumex.hydrolapathum. Huds. on east shore; Clooneigh river - west shore. A venerable tree on Inchclaraun Island A species growing in abundance Potamogeton lucens I.. in the River Inny, below Ballymahon (unconfirmed). Plentiful in the lake; a form closely Potamogeton gramineus L. approaching P. lucens occurred. the River Inny a different form was gathered

LOCATION

Potamogeton pectinatus L. gathered in the Inny

Taxus baccata L.

A long form resembling P. flagellatus was

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NAME	LOCATION
Sagittaria sagittifolia L.	River Inny and many other localities
Elodea canadensis, Mich.	Shannon at Athlone, River Inny etc. said to be disappearing
Cladium mariscus, Brown	Near Ballykeeran on Killinure Bay bog between lake and Kiltoom. Derrymacar lough and Doonis and Creegan lough etc.
Rhynchospora alba, Vahl.	Derrymacar bog and one or two other places
Carex disticha, Huds.	Abundant on banks of Inny etc.
Carex paniculata L.	Noticed in most of the swamps on east side S. of Lanesborough. Also near Clooneigh river, a depauper- ated form, approaching C. paradox, most frequent
Carex remota L.	Roadside near Ballymahon.
Carex filformis L.	Shores of inner Lough, Temple island plentiful and Rathcline
Carex hostiana (C. hornschuchiana Hoppe.)	C lendocarne Common. The variety xanthocarpa Degl. was gathered at Rathcline.
Carex riparia, Curtis.	Drain near Ballymahon.
Glyceria maxima (Hartm.) G.`aquatica Sm.	By Shannon, at Athlone and Royal Canal
Catapodium rigidum L.	Near Ballymahon
Equisetum telmateia Dhrh. (E. maximum L.)	Near Lanesborough

VII

# LIST OF SPECIES FOUND IN CO. LONGFORD

#### ΒY

## ROBERT LLOYD PRAEGER

NAME

LOCATION

Thalictrum minus L. subsp. minus

" flavum L.

Ranunculus trichophyllus Chaix

" heterophyllus Fries

" aquatilis subsp. peltatus Shrank

" scleratus L.

" lingua L.

Papaver rhoeas L.

" argemone L.

Fumaria muralis Sond. ex Koch. subsp. boraei (Jord.) Pugsl.

" bastardii Bor. (F. confusa)

Rorippa amphibia L. Bess. (Nasturtium amphibium)

Alliaria petiolata (Bieb.) Cavara & Grande

Erysimum cheiranthoides L.

Brassica rapa L.

Sinapus alba L. (Brassica alba)

Coronopus squamatus (Forsk) Aschers

Lepidium heterophyllum (Benth) (L. hirtum) Raphanus raphanistrum L.

Elfeet Bay 1900: common on L. Ree

VIII

Ballymahon 1900; frequent on L. Ree

Granard 1898; Longford 1899

Below Drumsna (probably Roosky) 1900

Chapel Island in L. Ree 1897

Shannon below Roosky 1900

Ballymahon and Saints Island 1900

Ballymahon and Newtowncashel only. Common. Ballymahon 1900

Ballymahon 1900.

Granard 1899

Lough Forbes 1900

L. Forbes and near Roosky 1900

Newtowncashel 1900

L. Gowna and near Roosky

Newtowncashel and Ballymahon 1900

Newtowncashel and south Lanesboro 1900

L. Gowna 1900

6.8.1

Carn Clonhugh 1898

Viola odorata L.

" canina L. " tricolour L.

Polygala vulgaris L.

P. serpyllifolia Hose.
(P. serpyllacea)

Stellaria palustris Retz.

Moehringia trinervia (L.)Clairv (Arenaria trinervia L.)

Malva moschata L.

Geranium pyrenaicum L.

" lucidum L.

Rhamnus catharticus L.

Frangula alnus (Mill)

Ononis repens L.

Vicia angustifolia L.

Lathyrus palustris L. Rubus saxatilis L.

Geum rivale L.

Potentilla anglica Laichard Poterium sanguisorba L. Rosa arvensis Huds. Sorbus aria (L.) Cranz. (Pyrus aria) Saxifraga tridactylites L.

#### LOCATION

Killashee 1900 frequent and probably native Incherlaun 1897 and L. Ree Cloonee 1898

Longford 1898 Near Drumsna (Prob. Roosky) 1900

Lough Gowna 1900

Ballymahon and L. Forbes

Castlerea 1900, Longford, Moydow

Limestone rocks north of Ballymahon, 1900

Ballymahon 1900

Elfeet Bay 1900 Lough Ree only

Chapel Island on L. Ree 1897

Incherlaun on L. Ree 1897

Newtowncashel 1900

Reynoldstown 1899. Frequent.

River Inny below Ballymahon 1900

Elfeet Bay 1900. Frequent by L. Ree

Woolawn 1898, Ballymahon, Saint's Island

Ballymahon, L. Gowna 1900

St. Kevins 1899 - Miss Rose Smith?

Saints Island and near Roosky 1900.

Chapel Island 1897 and Elfeet bay.

Edgeworthstown 1899, Ballymahon and Cashel Lodge.

Parnassia palustris L.

Sedum telephium L.

S. anglicum Huds.

S. acre L.

Drosera anglica Huds.

Peplis portula L.

Myriophyllum verticillatum L.

M. spicatum L.

M. alterniflorum DC.

Cicuta virosa

Petroselinium crispum (Mill.) Nyman (P. sativum)

Sium latifolium L.

Berula erecta (Huds.) Coville. (Sium angustifolium)

Chaerophyllum temulentum (C. temulum)

Scandix pecten-veneris L.

Arthriscus caucalis Bieb. (A. vulgaris)

Oenanthe fistulosa L.

Torilis nodosa (L.) Gaertn. (Caucalis nodosa)

Galium boreale L.

Galium mollugo L.

## LOCATION

Woodlawn 1898 and frequent on Lough Ree.

Near Ballinalee "wild" 1864 Mr. Foot.

By Shannon below Roosky. 1900.

Newtownforbes 1900 and frequent on Lough Ree.

Trillicacurry 1898. Common in west.

Lough Gowna 1900, Carn Clonhugh 1898.

Longford 1898, and common in west half.

Woodlawn 1898. Frequent.

Woodlawn. Very frequent.

Derrymacar Lough 1900 and frequent along the Shannon.

Old castle on Elfeet bay 1900.

About the mouth of the Inny 1900.

Longford 1898, and frequent by the Inny.

Saints island 1899-Miss. R. Smith. Newtowncashel 1900. Woodlawn 1898.

Ballymahon 1900. Rare – west only.

Ballymahon 1900.

Ballymahon 1900

Elfeet bay 1900. Common on Lough Ree.

Saints island "looking wild" 1900.

Galium uliginosum L.

Valerianella rimosa Bast. (V. Auricula)

V. dentata (L.) Poll.

Filago germanica L.

Bidens ceruna L.

" tripartita L.

Anthemis cortula L.

Matricaria matricaroides (Less.) Porter (M. discoidea.)

Carlina vulgaris L.

Arctium minus Bernh.

A. nemorosum Lejeune (A. intermedium)

Cardus pycnocephalus L.

C. acantoides L. (C. crispus)

Crepis vesicaria L. (C. taraxifolia)

C. biennis L.

Leontodon taraxicoides (Vill.) Merat. (L. hirtus)

L. hispidus L.

Tragopogon pratensis L.

Campanula rapunculoides L.

C. rotundifolia L.

Vaccinum oxycoccus L.

LOCATION

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Mouth of Bilberry river. 1900.

Newtowncashel 1900.

Newtowncashel & Lanesborough 1900.

Newtowncashel 1900.

Longford 1898, Ballymahon and Lanesborough.

Near Roosky 1900.

Newtowncashel and Saints island 1900.

Ballywillin on railway. 1900.

Newtowncashel 1900. Common on Lough Ree.

Killashee 1900.

Killashee and Ballymahon 1900.

Castlerea and Newtowncashel 1900.

Newtowncashel and Ballymahon 1900.

Saints island. 1899. Miss R. Smith.

Newtownforbes 1899, near Longford. 1898.

Woodlawn 1898 and frequent on Lough Ree.

Elfeet bay 1900 and Priest's Island. 1899.

Saints island 1899. Miss R. Smith.

Railway near Longford., 1900.

Castlerea, 1900. Common on Lough Ree.

Near Saints island 1899. Miss <sup>b</sup> R. Smith. Frequent in west.

LOCATION Trillickacurry 1898. Common in west of county, rare in east. Reynoldstown 1899. Near Roosky. Primula veris L. (P. officinalis) Newtowncashel. Lough Gowna 1900. Frequent on the Shannon. Newtowncashel 1900. Frequent on Lough Ree Near Ballymahon 1900. Common on Lough Ree. Collum point and Saints island on Lough Ree. Lough Gowna 1900. Carn Clonhugh Myosotis secunda A. Murr. (M. repens) 1898. North of Ballymahon 1900. 691 Newtowncashel 1900. Near Woodlawn 1898. Newtowncashel 1900. Elfeet bay and north of Ballymahon 1900. Lough Gowna 1900. Longford 1900 - Common on railway. Chaenorhinum minus (L.) Lange Lough Ree below Ballymahon 1900. Granard 1900. Common in the west. Granard 1900. Frequent. Moydow. 1898. Elfeet bay 1900. Woodlawn 1898. Urticularia vulgaris L. Trillicacurry 1898. Frequent in the west half of the counnty. Ballymahon 1900. Common by L. Ree. Mentha x verticillata L. (M. sativa)

Andomeda polifolia L.

Lysimachia vulgaris L.

Blackstonia perfollata L. (Huds,) (Chlora perfoliata)

Gentialella amarella (L.) Borner. (Gentiana amarella)

Gentianella campestris (L.) Borner. (Gentiana campestris)

Lithospermum officinale L.

Convolvulus arvensis L.

Solanum dulcamara L.

Hyoscyamus niger L.

Verbascum thapsus L.

Linaria vulgaris Mill,

Scropularia aquatica L.

Veronica agrestis L.

V. polita Fr.

V. montana L.

U. minor L.

Lycopus europeus L.

Origanum vulgare L.

Calamintha ascendens Jord. (C. officinalis)

Nepeta cataria L.

Scutellaria galericulata L.

Lamium amplexicaule L.

L. molucellifolium Fr. (L. intermedium)

L. hybridum Vill.

L. album L.

Teucrium scordium L.

Chenopodium bonus-henricus

Polygonum minus Huds.

Rumex hydrolapathum Huds.

Euphorbia exigua L.

Mercurialis perennis L.

Betula pendula Roth. (B. verrucosa.)

Salix pentandra L.

S. fragalis L.

S. purpurea L.

Populus tremula L. Elodea canadensis Michx.

#### LOCATION

Lough Gowna and Ballymahon 1900.

Elfeet bay 1900. Common along Lough Ree.

Newtowncashel and Elfeet Bay 1900.

Newtowncashel and Elfeet bay, abundant. 1900.

Lough Ree amd below Ballymahon 1900.

Newtowncashel 1900.

Ballymahon, Castlerea 1900. Lanesborough.

Lough Gowna and below Roosky (Drumsna) 1900.

Ballymahon 1900. Granard, Finea.

Below Roosky 1900. Abundant on Lough Ree.

Granard and Ballymahon 1900.

Lough Ree below Ballymahon 1900.

Lough Forbes 1900. Frequent on Lough Ree.

Newtowncashel abundant 1900.

Near Ballymahon 1900.

Lough Forbes 1900.

Castlerea 1900, Not rare.

Near Roosky 1900. Granard and Longford.

Elfeet bay on Lough Ree 1900.

Longford 1898, Common.

Anacamptis pyramidalis (L.) Rich. (Orchis pyramisalis.)

Gymnadenia conopsea (L.) R. Br. (Habenaria conopsea)

Platanthera bifolia (L.) Rich.

P. chlorantha (Custer) Reichb. (Habenaria bifolia)

Allium ursinum L.

Typha angustifolia L.

Sparaganium angustifolium Michx.

S. minimum Wallr.

Lemna trisulca L.

L. polyrhiza L.

Sagittaria sugittifolia L.

Potamogeton coloratus Hornem.

P. alpinus Balb.

P. grameus L. (P. heterophyleus.)

P. lucens L.

Eleocharis acicularis (L.) Roem & Schultz

E. qunqueflorus (F.X. Hartman) Schwartz. (Scirpus pauciflorus.)

Rhynchospora fusca (L.) Vahl.

Cladium marciscus (L.) Pohl. Carex diandra Shrank, (C. teretiuscula) C. curta Gooden.

#### LOCATION

Elfeet bay 1900. Priest's island. Lough Forbes.

Longford 1898. Saints island 1900,

Trillickacurry 1898, Frequent.

Lough Forbes 1900, Carn Clonhugh 1898.

Near Roosky 1900.

Lough Gowna 1900.

Canal north of Ballymahon 1900.

Woodlawn 1898.

Ballymahon 1900. Longford 1898.

Lough Ree below Ballymahon 1900.

Longford 1898. Inny mouth. Lanesborough.

Elfeet bay. Near Ballymahon 1900.

Lough Gowna 1900.

Lough Gowna 1900.

Canal at Killashee 1900. Lough Ree.

Lough Gowna. Canal at Ballymahon. 1900.

Lough Ree below Ballymahon 1900.

Roosky to Inny mouth. Frequent in the west of the county.

Derrymacar Lough 1900.

Woodlawn 1898. Frequent in west.

Carn Clonhugh 1898. Lough Forbes. Lough Gowna.

C. elata All. (C. hudsonii)

C. limosa L.

C. pallescens L.

C. laevigata Sm.

C. filiformis L.

C. pseudocyperus L.

C. acutiformis Ehrh. (C. paludosa)

C. vesicaria L.

Koeleria cristata (L.) Pers.

Glyceria maxima (Hartm.) Holmberg. (G. aquatica)

Bromus sterilis L.

Polystichum aculeatum (L.) Sw.

Dryopteris carthusiana (Vill.) H.P. Fuchs (Lastrea spinulosa)

D. aemula (Ait.) Kuntze (Lastrea aemula)

Thelypteris oreopteris (Ehrh.) Slosson.

T. palustris Schott.

Osmunda regalis L.

Botrychium lunaria (L.) Sw.

Lycopodium clavatum L.

Selaginella selaginoides (L.) Link.

Hymenophyllum tunbrigense (L.) Sm.

Cystopteris fragilis (L.) Bernh.

## LOCATION

Lough Forbes 1898. Woodlawn 1900.

Near Roosky 1900.

Longford 1898. Lough Forbes. Carn Clonhugh.

Woodlawn and Cloonee. 1898.

Derrymacar Lough. Saints island. 1900.

Lough Forbes 1900.

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Longford 1898. Frequent in west.

Lough Gowna and Lough Forbes.

Priest's Island, Lough Ree. 1899.

Near Killashee 1900. Frequent in the Royal canal.

Elfeet bay 1900. Priest's Island.

Longford 1898, Frequent.

Trillickacurry. Woodlawn 1900. Near Roosky 1900.

Lough Gowna 1900.

By Lough Gowna 1900.

Lough Ree below Ballymahon 1900.

Derrymacar Lough 1900.

Carn Clonhugh 1898.

Carn Clonhugh 1898.

Saints island. 1900.

6 miles south of Longford. Mr. Foot. 1864.

Cashel Lodge 1899. W. Dev. Kane.