



TULLY CASTLE

Ulster-Scots Translation

TULLY CAISSLE

Tha Coontie o Fermanagh

Historie

Eftèr tha Flittin o tha Yarl's in 1607, the croon tuk owre tha lanns o Gaelick chiefs in Ulstèr an made oot grants o big bits o it tae English an Scotch 'plantèrs' - providin the' pit up strang biggins an brocht owre settlers leal tae tha kaing. In 16&10, Sur Jhone Hume o Polwarth in Berwickshire wus gien a grant o 2000 acres at Tully, knowed by tha name o 'Carrynroe', an had bigged a caissle on Tully Point by 16&13. Tha caissle niver lastit lang but. Sur Jhone Hume dee'd in 16&39 an wus fallaed wi his sin, Sur George. In 16&41, Rory Maguire set oot tae tak bak tha lanns o his familie. He cum wi a big nummer o bakkers on tha day afore Christmas, an fun tha caissle fu o weemin an weans, but maist o tha menfowk wus awa. Ledie Marie Hume surrennèr't, jalouse'in she an tha rest o thaim wud be spared, but on Christmas Day tha Maguires murdèr't 60 weemin an weans an 15 men, sparin nane but tha Humes. Tha caissle wus burnt an tha Humes niver cum bak. Caissle Hume, a classical hoose, wus bigged by Sur Gustavus Hume in 172&8-9, in a differin place, an then eftèr its day, Ely Lodge wus bigged.

Tha Steid

Tha caissle is stuid t tha heid o a brae that rins doon sooth on Tully Point on tha W. shore o Lower Lough Erne. Theday maist fowk cum frae owre tha dry grunn tae tha noarth, but at tha furst tha ingaun wus throch a yett in tha middle o tha S. bawn waa, either frae a boat at Sand Bay or by a fitpad that bends aff roon tae tha W., aiblins frae tha wee toun o 24 families that we'r telt tha Humes had bigged along wi tha caissle.

A Trip roon tha Caissle

Frae tha ootside tha caissle wus brave an strang. Quhan ye waak roon tha ootside o tha caissle an bawn ye'll can see that tha caissle is thrie flairs heich, wi stane waas that battèr in. On tha N. side, turrets at tha tap o tha touer sit oot tae gie protection til tha waik corners, an fower flanker touers at tha corners o tha bawn had wee musket slats that gien sicht o aa tha waas. Tha Aist side o tha bawn is tha maist intact an gies ye tha best idea o tha defences. Gin ye waak furst o aa roon tha noarth an aist sides o tha caissle, haein a leuk at tha strenth o tha defences, ye can cum up tae tha inside o tha caissle, lake aaboadie daen bak then, frae tha sooth.

Ben tha bawn tha caissle leuks mair hamely. Tha twa flankers on tha aist side wus wee hooses, wi stane flairs an guid hairths, but tha SE. flanker haes forbye a dorr on tha furst flair that run oot tae a wee timmer pletfoarm fur defence. Flegstones gart ye tak tha richt pad ben tha coort-yaird, either tae flankers or tae tha caissle, an tha rest o tha grunn micht hae bin plantit oot: a layed-oot

gairden tae baith sides o tha middle pad an herbs in tha pairts up agin tha caissle.

Tha wundaes up on tha furst flair o tha caissle is bigger on tha sooth side nor on onie ither, baith fur tae get tha sin an a sicht o tha gairden, and by raison o it bein tha maist safe side, protectit by tha bawn. Lake ye'll can see frae tha draa'in o tha caissle as it wus, tha roof o tha caissle wus theeckit. Its turrets micht hae bin roofed wi stane or wuid shing'ls. Tha flankers wud hae bin roofed wi stane. Tha roon turret stickin oot in a corner neuk o tha caissle aqween tha ingaun biggins an tha main biggins is a twustin stair frae tha furst flair up tae tha laft.

Ben tha caissle furst o aa ye cum on a stair haw. At tha stairt o tha 16 hunnèrs big stairs wus a newins, but Tully had yin. We can see quhaur it wus frae tha line o it on tha waa. It startit aff strai-cht, an then twustit roon a bit afore getting up tae tha furst flair. Tha road up tae tha seyconn flair wus up tha mair auld-farrant twustin stane stair.

Tha big ruim on tha noarth o tha stair haw maun hae yinst bin divid intae twa or mair ruims. A big barrel stane airch kivvers tha hale area. Tae tha aist is tha airch o a big kitchen hairth wi boles at baith enns fur breid-ovens. In tha middle o tha ruim is a square hole in tha airch ceilin. Dear knows quhit it wus fur: on tha face o it, it micht hae bin a murdèr-hole, but it's in a quare odd place. Tha wast enn o tha ruim micht hae bin a store, airms, mait an drink an aiblins quartèrs fur sarvints. Drains rin oot frae this enn o tha caissle an oot throch tha bawn waa on tha noarth.

On tha furst flair, tha dividin waa aqween tha twa ruims maun hae bin pit in effèr fur it rins up intae a wundae apenin. Tha ruim tae tha aist haes a wee corner hairth tucked in forenent tha kitchen hairth chimley breesht, an tha main wundae leukin sooth wus made bigger sometim. Tha ruim tae tha wast wud hae bin tha big guid room o tha caissle. It had a guid hairth in tha wast waa an a when o wundaes. Tha stane mouldins o tha wundaes is aa gaun but tha draa'in gies ye a notion o quhit-wye the' leuk't at tha stairt. A wundae near tha SW. corner wus blocked up, but in tha fill is a stane wi a roon hole in it. Aiblins tha Humes blocked tha wundae up in 16&41 fur getting readie fur onie attecks o tha Maguires, lea'in a hole fur muskets. Tha bits o rennyvations in tha wundaes an tha dividin waa micht hae bin daen quhan Sur George Hume fell intae tha caissle frae his faither. Anither thaing possible (athoot onie proof noo) is that tha Maguires tuk owre tha caissle an leaved in it fur a while, effèr tha Humes had left it.

Tha flair abane is noo awa, but ye'll can picthur tha sleepin quartèrs unnèr tha theeckit roof. The' wur a ruim forbye abane tha stair haw at his heicht, an ye can see its hairth an twa-licht wundae yit.

Scotch an Airish

Tha owreaa plan o this plantin caissle wus brocht by Sur Jhone Hume frae tha lallans o Scotlann, but bits o it haes plain eneuch cum frae tha Airish yins that bigged it. Tha waas is battèr't, mair thick at tha fit nor tha tap, a cliver wye o biggin that gies tha leuk o a skirt roon tha corners. Tha grunn-flair airch't vault wus bigged on tap o wattle foarm-wark, tha wye tha Airish daen it. An tha caissle's corner turrets, aye a Scotch thaing, wus changed by tha Airish that pit thaim up sae the'r no corbel't oot on wrocht free-stane (lake at Monea an Caissle Balfour) but the'r carried on rubble stane splays plaistèr't owre wi mortar. Tha uise o thatch on a thrie-storey caissle wudnae a bin common in Scotlann, but Airish hooses wus aye theeckit at tha stairt o tha 16 hunnèrs.

Tha Lough Erne Shrine

This shrine wus fun in 18&91 by fishermen aff Abbey point, Tully. It's in tha shape o a hoose, made o yew timmer wi a bronze civverin an maun hae yinst hel a precious relic. It maist likelie gaes bak tae tha 7 hunnèrs, an micht hae belanged tae yin o tha islann or lough-shore monaster-ies.

Mair Buiks

E. M. Jope, 'Scottish influences in the North of Ireland: castles with Scottish features, 1580-1640' in *Ulster J. Archaeol.* 14 (1951), 31-7; D. M. Waterman, 'Tully Castle' in *Ulster J. Archaeol.* 22 (1959), 123-6; W. K. Parke, *The Parish of Inishmacsaint* (1982).

Ither Caissles rin by tha Männystrie in tha coontie o Fermanagh: Monea Caissle, 6 mile N.W. o Inniskilling; Inniskilling Caissle; Caissle Airchdale, 4 mile W. o Irvinestoun; Caissle Balfour at Lisnaskea.