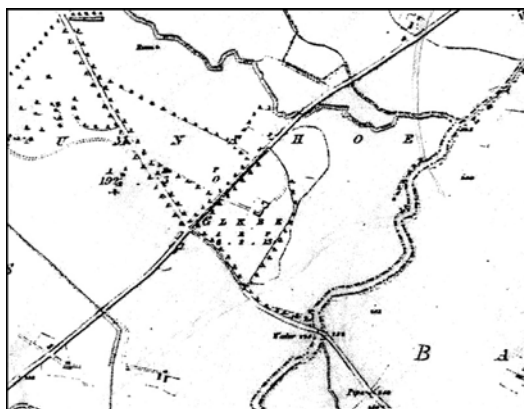


Historical Development of the Area

Historically archival sources name two ecclesiastical sites in the general vicinity of the Millbrook Junction — one at Kilwaughter to the north (Cill-uachtair, the “upper church”) and the Church of Rathiung (now Raloo) to the south. Both are mentioned in the *Taxation of Pope Nicholas* (Kilwaughter under the name “the Church of Killochre”) and valued at 5 marks and 6 marks respectively. For Kilwaughter the *Terrier* enters “ Ecclesia de Killoghter - It has half a plowland in Glebe, it pays, Proxies, 8s. Refections, 8s.; Synodals, 2s.’, whilst at Raloo the same source notes: ‘Ecclesia de Raloo hath a quarterland glebe; it pays Proxies, 5s; Synodals, 5s; Refections, 2s’. Both were described as decayed by *The Visitation Book* in 1622 when of Raloo the description ran ‘Noe cure nor able to maynteyne any, the people resort to the next church’. The site of the Kilwaughter church is widely thought to have been near the graveyard of Kiliwaughter Castle and had disappeared by the time the Parliamentary Commissioners made their report of the area in 1657 -

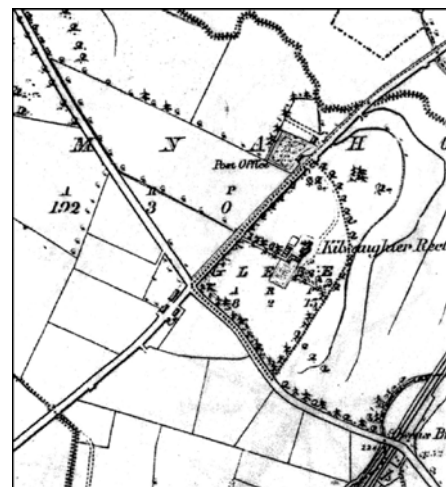
It is bounded on the east, by the Parish of Inver (Larne); on the south, by the river of Inver (Larne Water); on the west, by the mearings between the baronies of Antrim and Glenarm; and on the north, by the Parish of Killyglen. It extends a mile and half in length, and in breadth, a mile. No glebe belonging thereto, neither is there any church”

traveled along the Antrim Highway, as described by Richard Dobbs in 1683 through Kilwaughter and past the Agnew demesne which was adorned by John Nash’s Castle from 1802 or went southwards to Ballynure across highland in Inver parish at Raloo. Various late 18th century maps including those of Taylor & Skinner and those contained within the Antrim Papers show that a road existed at that time which joined these two highways although this was not important enough by the early 1800s to be included upon many county plans. This is the crossroads at the western end of the dual carriageway which still exists leading northwards over Shanes Hill to Ballymena and southwards to Carrickfergus. The Millbrook Junction seems to have been created at the same time as the new Larne Road - probably in the 1820s. The work involved in this project seems to have been considerable as it necessitated carving through a large hillock on the southern and western sides of the junction. A glebe quickly developed on the southwestern side of this crossroads which became Kilwaughter rectory. This property was owned by the Agnews of Kilwaughter, the local landlords, and the site still exists largely in its same form as a Garden Centre. In the 1830s three small houses developed on the Ballynure side of the junction and by the 1920s the northern property had become the Millbrook Post Office.



Millbrook Junction 1832-3

The Millbrook junction is situated on a new line of road built in the 1820s from Ballynure to Larne which was cut north of the Larne River at Drumnahoe. Previously traffic moving from Larne westwards either



Millbrook junction 1852

The Larne Road improvements of 1965-6 dualed the 1820s roadway and widened it. This removed the southern houses on the Ballynure side of the junction.