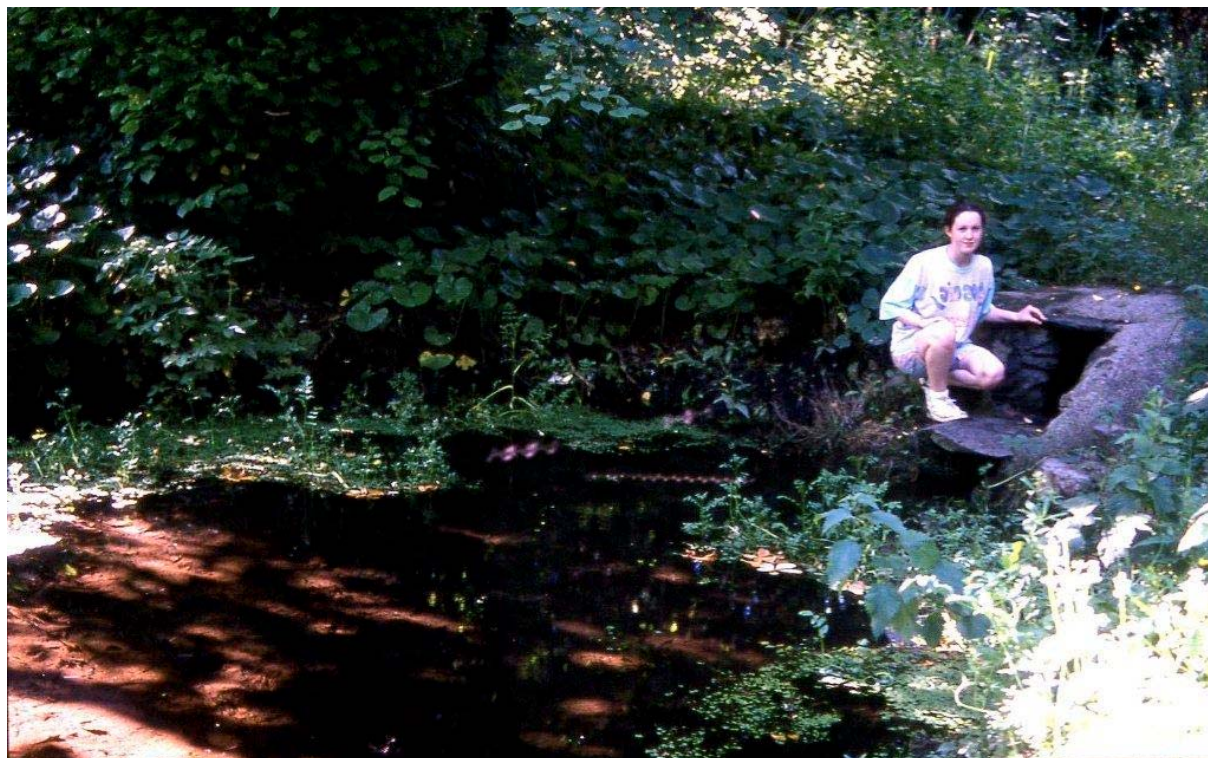


## HIDDEN GEMS AND FORGOTTEN PEOPLE

### NAAS LOCAL HISTORY GROUP



### ST. PATRICK'S WELL – OLDTOWN

During the forty-four years of his ministry St. Patrick paid several visits to Naas. The site of his tent was the green of the fort, what is now St. David's churchyard. In the wood at Oldtown is a holy well named for St. Patrick. He is credited with baptising the King of Leinster and his two sons at the well. In former times the well was a place of pilgrimage on March 17<sup>th</sup>, St. Patrick's Day.

Oldtown has been the home of the de Burgh family since the early 18th century. The house, one of the first Palladian houses to be built in Ireland (c.1790), was designed by Thomas Burgh engineer and Surveyor General of Ireland. His most notable buildings were Dr. Steven's Hospital, the Royal Barracks and the Library of Trinity College.