

Did you notice?

A column for the curious stroller

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15. St. Anne's and Glandore

There is much commentary on housing in the media these days, and some of the older Monkstown houses are currently up for sale. At the time of writing these include Glandore in Mounttown and St. Anne's on The Hill/Packenham Rd. These both date from the Victorian era when Monkstown was developing as an exclusive residential area.

Glandore 'a stone-built house of great quality' as described by Peter Pearson, was built by William Vesey, a brother of Viscount de Vesci, who, with Lord Longford was a prominent ground landlord in the area. Glandore was designed by the architects Deane and Woodward in the Venetian Gothic style. It is a very striking building with its steep pitched roof and tall chimney stacks; its gothic arches and pierced sandstone balconies. The latter are showing signs of deterioration from the effects of weather. Glandore was most recently used as a nursing home.

William Vesey was also responsible for the construction of St. John's church in 1858. Built so close to Monkstown Parish Church, it was unlikely to be filled to capacity. In recent times it was sold to the Roman Catholic Society of Pius X which continues to use the latin liturgy in its ceremonies.

William Vesey also gave his name to Vesey Terrace, built nearby. Viscount deVesci also held the title Baron Knapton, hence Knapton Rd.



St. Anne's is set dramatically on the side of the Hill and also dates from the mid nineteenth century. Designed for his own use by architect William Caldbeck, it

exhibits many original features. Extensive use is made of different coloured brickwork, of stucco and cast iron. There is a great variety of bay windows, of different types obviously intended to take advantage of the sea views which the site afforded. The elaborate turret in the grounds is a delightful feature. The iron gate leading onto the Hill at the Junction with Pakenham Rd. has a remarkable bracket. It looks like a soldier holding a weapon!

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