

## Points of Interest    Village Walk

1. **Old Weigh Bridge:** This was used to weigh the cart loads of coal unloaded at this quay and at the pier in Keelbeg.
2. **Site of R.I.C.Barracks (now Fish Shop),** burned down during the War of Independence.
3. **Site of Unionhall House:** The house stood behind these gates where the present bungalow now stands. It was built circa 1800 by a member of the Limrick family and burned down by the I.R.A. in 1921. At that stage it was occupied by Colonel Speight and his wife Lucy (nee Limrick). The house was named after the Act of Union of 1801 and this in turn gave its name to the village. The Irish for Union Hall is Bréan Trá or Trá an Bhróin meaning "Strand of Lamentation".
4. **View of Pollgorm/Metal Bridge:** Opened in 1886 to replace a timber one built circa 1863 which was in danger of collapsing. Prior to 1970 there was a swivel to allow trawlers and traders access to the upper reaches of Glandore Harbour and Leap from where slate and other goods were exported.
5. **Keelbeg Harbour and Pier:** It has been a major fishing port over the last 200 years. It contained many old stores which were used for storing nets, salt for curing the fish, or, barking pans where nets were soaked in Cutch (bark extract) and boiling water in order to make them resistant to the salt water. Many people emigrated to the US and UK from this pier via Cobh. Up to 1970 coal and fertiliser were imported through the port by the local Farmers' Co-Operatives. It was also the site of two coastguard stations.
6. **Old Ferry Point:** Prior to the building of the bridges ferry boats operated from here, taking people to the landing steps or ferry point underneath the Glandore road.
7. **Tobar na gCapall:** Horses were watered at this well and behind it was another well used by humans
8. **Seafarers's Monument:** Erected in 2012 to the memory of all those from the locality who lost their lives at sea.
9. **Harrington's Lights:** The site of Thomas Harrington's Cottage, where from 1832-1838 miraculous fluorescent lights were seen to emanate from the house where he lay sick from pleurisy.
10. **Village Courthouse:** This building was still a functioning court up the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It was the scene of a great Fenian Trial in 1863. Across the road from it was Páirc A'Phón or the Pound Field in which animals were impounded.
11. **Church of Ireland:** Erected circa 1829 and replaced the ruined church and graveyard, known as the Teampall Bán or White Church
12. **Site of Village Forge:** This was the site of the old village forge which operated up to the mid 1960's.
13. **Old Water Tank:** Water from Tobar na gCaoláin flowed into this tank was then piped to the houses and to the village pumps up to the early 1960's.
14. **Site of Methodist Church:** The village's Methodist Church or the "Preaching House" as it was affectionately known. Built in 1893 on land donated by Captain Townsend, it was often used by Cornish and Manx fishermen. It finally closed in 1955.

15. **The Blackfield/GAA pitch:** It is so named as it was once the site of a cutaway bog. In former years flax was grown here and in 1970 the Land Commission handed it over to the local community to be developed for the good of all.
16. **St. Bridget's Church:** Built 1831 it was completely reconstructed in 1927. It was designed by Ashlin Coleman Architects of Dublin and rebuilt by Coffey Builders of Midleton.