Beginning of the End

1925 Following the death of Lord Ardilaun in 1915 and Lady Ardilaun in 1925, the estate was inherited by their nephew Bishop Plunket.

1939 Following the sale of the house to Dublin Corporation for £55,000, a fine art auction of the contents was held.

1943 A fire broke out turning the building to ruin.

1968 The house was demolished by a wrecking ball.

Almost at once, flames shot out of the top windows of the east wing, in which the fire began.

On Christmas Eve 1943, the mansion was engulfed and brought to ruin by a large fire. The house had been unoccupied for several decades and was in the ownership of Dublin Corporation. The blaze was discovered around midnight by the caretaker Mr. Hugh Savage who summoned the fire brigade. The fire raged through the east wing and by 4.30am much of the building was engulfed. A.R.P. equipment including gas masks, boots and highly flammable chemicals stored in the building throughout the Emergency were destroyed. Despite the great efforts of the local fire services, the fire burned for three days.

The ruined shell survived for 25 years before a wrecking ball was employed to finally demolish what remained of the house. Many locals still have fond childhood memories of the ruins.

The story of St Anne's survives through these people with a new generation of volunteer archaeologists helping to unearth and resurrect the story of a local palatial mansion.



Evening Herald 1891-current, 14.08.1962, page 5 ST. ANNE'S PARK PLANNING The burnt-out mansion at St. Anne's Park, Clontarf, Would not City the - Timmons, T.D. be decision to that he added, in consulaken, ith the Streets Commitconsideration tation with the Streets Counter the tation with the Streets of the final stages of the F_{L} . tec of the final scheme. All

ress 1931-1995, 10.12.1936, page 6 BISHOP PLUNKET'S RESIDENCE

CORPORATION NEGOTIATING PURCHASE OF MANSION

AND' GROUNDS

REPORT that negotiations had been completed by the Dublin Corporation, with Bishop Plunkett, for the purchase of St. Anne's mansion and gardens at Clontarf, and a demesne covering 480 acres, was denied by Mr. J. P. Keane, City Manager, when approached by an IRISH PRESS repre-

It is a fact, however, that negotiations for the purchase of property are in the prestages, and that the . Committee of the Corwith the · propose to examine property.

This prospective housing site has extensive frontages on Howth Road. and from Raheny strand to Dollymount. It is stated that the site would be an ideal one for building development No concrete plans, it: is understood, have been made by the Corporation authorities pending the outcome of the negotiations









DUBLIN MANSIOI DESTROYED







WELL-KNOWN MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION OF PERIOD FURNITURE, OLD WATERFORD GLASS, LIBRARY OF BOOKS, NAPOLEONIC AUTOGRAPHS, OLD SILVER, BIJOUETERIE, AND OIL PAINTINGS.





Comhairle Cathrach Bhaile Átha Cliath Dublin City Council









Archaeolozy and Duile hericaze