

This poem was written by Mrs Annie Lydon of Newbrook.
She gave a copy of it to the father of Tom Quinn, Castle Carra in the 1960s.

LOUGH CARRA IN COUNTY MAYO

Many poems have been written on Killarney
Many songs have been sung in its praise
Its lakes they will say have no equal
Or its woodlands and beautiful braes
Ah! But what of our lovely Lough Carra?
It's about time the stranger would know
There is no lake in Ireland as famous
As Lough Carra in County Mayo

On a fine summer day what a pleasure
To just get away from it all
And bathe in the clear sparkling waters
Or explore the famed ruins of Moorehall
The home of a great Irish writer
As the pages of history will show
And it stands on the shores of Lough Carra
This beautiful lake in Mayo

So dear strangers who come to our country
In search of excitement and thrills
And your dreaming of lovely Killarney
The Wicklow or Donegal hills
Come and see this great lake with cool waters
And white marl bed down below
And take with you sweet memories and pictures
From Lough Carra in County Mayo

See our abbey at famed Ballintubber
That was built in the age of great peers
The most ancient of all Irish churches
And preserved seven hundred long years
A symbol of great Irish history
It's just a short distance below
The shores of our lovely Lough Carra
The beautiful lake in Mayo

An for sportsmen real keen on the shooting
Your stroll with the gun would be pleasant
Through the woodlands of famed Castle Carra
The haunts of the woodcock and pheasant
And for anglers who aim at good fishing
It may interest you to know
A fourteen pound trout has been taken
At Church Island in Co Mayo

All around this lake, oh, so famous
In addition to ancient Moorehall
Is Burriscarra and the home of De Staunton
Castle Burke, Castle Carra and all
The scene of great beauty and splendour
With ivy clad castles to show
You're on the right road to Lough Carra
This beautiful lake in Mayo

Mrs Annie Lydon