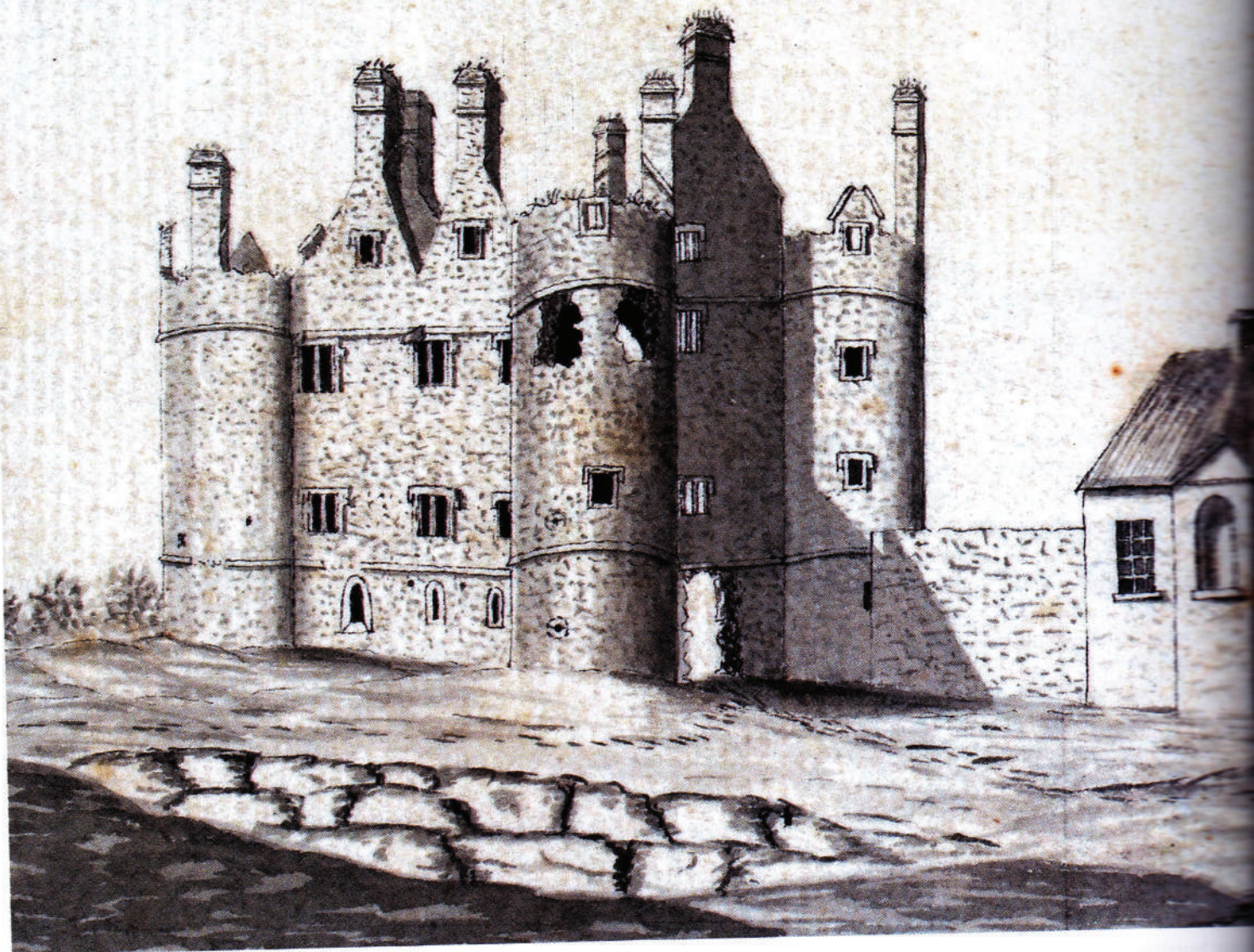


Killenure: past and present



Cornelia McCarthy traces the cultural milieu of the inhabitants of Killenure Castle, County Tipperary, home to the Cooper family for almost three centuries



The accent of one's birthplace lingers in the mind and in the heart as does one's speech.¹ Creating a dramatic silhouette on the Tipperary landscape, the accent of Killenure Castle, has lingered in the hearts and minds of those who have lived and worked there for generations. The birthplace and childhood home of 18th-century antiquarian Austin Cooper, and the current home of an architect and a designer, it is a place that continues to inspire.

Just five miles from the Rock of Cashel, Killenure Castle has seen the dawn of five centuries. From the gentle pastoral landscape rise the steep gables and sturdy towers of the ruinless late-medieval fortified house. Once owned by the powerful O'Dwyer clan, the castle's ruin is attributed to Cromwell's forces. Incorporated into the later Georgian house, an intact tower of the otherwise ruined castle, lim-