



Turning the Sod

L To R: M. Conlon, S. Sweeney, T. McGovern (Contractor), G. McCabe, M. Brady, P. Higgins.
Machine Operator: M. McGovern.

Picture right: Rockbreaking

Fencing the field and surroundings were undertaken in 1997/1998. The erection of the stand, storage facilities and toilets was the final piece in the jigsaw in 1998 providing supporters with comfort to cheer on their club teams at all ages. The committee



were successful in securing grants from The National Lottery Sport and Recreation Funding on 3 occasions, the GAA and Department of Education totalling £35,000.00. In 1995 a small piece of land adjoining the pitch was purchased from Pdraig Regan.

The fruition of years of toil and enduring ambition seen the official opening in June 1996. The Agenda of St Michael's v Boyle followed by the Boyle Marching Band with the official opening by Dr Hugh Gibbons and blessing by Canon Tonra. The attractive inter county challenge of Roscommon v Cavan followed at 4pm and after that a sit down meal was provided for all by the ladies of the club in the national school. The county board stated "it is an incredible achievement in light of challenges facing the GAA". Chairman Gerry McCabe said the opening was the beginning of something new and not the end of a development. This has proved true with the continuation of works in the upgrading of the boundary wall, the commencement of Tús workers at the grounds and the purchase and provision of gym equipment for team training in 2000.

